

MORRISTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVENTS REPORT

(December 8, 2011)

UPDATES/NEWS AND OTHER INFORMATION

- I wish to thank so many in our community who have reached out to Maintenance Supervisor Joe Lakins and his wife Leigh Anne Lakins during the loss of their home to fire on December 1, 2011. Joe and Leigh Anne have been so encouraged and uplifted by all the phone calls, visits, and generous donations. Many good friends, colleagues, and total strangers have combined to make this devastating time manageable and durable. Thank you Morristown and Hamblen County!
- We are taking bids on our concession rights contract for 2012-2014. Any vendor interested is asked to contact the Directors office for details and specifications. A pre-bid meeting will be held January 5, 2012, and the bid opening will be January 12, 2012, at 10:00 am, at Parks and Recreation.
- Staff is preparing the 2012 Program Calendar for all areas of operation.
- It is that time for **2012 MORRISTOWN PARKS & RECREATION SHELTER RESERVATIONS** - Reservations for Fred Miller, Frank Lorino and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parks will be taken beginning 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 3, 2012, at the Parks and Recreation Office, 415 West Louise Avenue. The reservation fee for the shelters is \$25/\$35 for half day and \$40/\$55 for full day. **Reservations will not be confirmed until the application form and payment are received.** Additional information may be obtained by calling the Parks and Recreation Office at 586-0260.
- **Public Invitation to Recreation Summit January 26, 2012**, at Rose Center in Prater Hall, from 5:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. All area recreation providers (public and other agency providers) will be invited to participate. Recreation providers will set up booths for giving and receiving input from the public. The Summit is one of the key factors that originated out of the Morristown-Hamblen County Community Profile Steering Committee on the Arts, Culture, and Recreation. The following participation letter has been sent out to area recreation providers.

To: Recreation Summit Providers

This Recreation Summit is for **YOU!**

(All public, private, profit, non-profit recreation providers!)

Don't miss this great opportunity to showcase/highlight/promote your organization, program, facility, or activities. Wow! We identified 134 area Morristown and Hamblen County recreation, arts and leisure providers! Make plans to be present to provide informational materials, and allow the public to ask questions about your organization, program, facility, and activity.

First and for most we need to know if your organization, program, and activity is going to participate. If you are we need the following: Do you need electricity, tables, chairs, and who is coming (address, phone, email) to represent your organization, program, facility, and activity. Please email these back to me at cprice@mymorristown.com or fax 423-318-1544. We will be glad to provide a name card/identification for your organization that will be placed at your booth. If you already have a name card/identification please bring it along as well.

We will have a court stenographer present to record comments from the public. The stenographer will be set up in private so those that make comments about programs, facilities, and activities can do so without interruption. We will compile a list of all who participated, written transcripts of comments from the public, summary of recreation summit, and future recommendations.

Remember this is your summit! To help us at Parks and Recreation we would like to have some advance notice of who is participating. Please email or fax your booth information and commitment to me **by January 13, 2012**. We love advance notice but we will not turn any recreation providers away. I by choice did not set a deadline only a commitment! Remember the 6 P's – Prior - planning - prevents - pitifully - poor - performances. We also request that you spread the word about the summit to your program leadership, board, helpers, and users! This is a great opportunity to further recreation, arts, and leisure in our area.

- The Wayne Hansard Park - **Dewald-McDaniel Field** (200 foot Little League baseball) will receive lighting assistance through the Morristown Utilities Board Round up Program. Staff is in the process of working up project specification and cost with M.U.S. staff. This has been a long standing need within our department and we are very grateful for the M.U.S. board for the wonderful support. We also want to thank all Morristown Utilities members who so graciously support the roundup program. This will truly help our Little League programming on the west end of Morristown.
- Staff has a plan of action on construction of the **Hughes Amphitheater for Fred Miller Park**. The amphitheater is ordered and should arrive soon. Coordination of and site work preparation has been coordinated with assistance from our Public Works department. The half hexagon amphitheater is through the generosity of Mrs. Becky Hughes Stuart in memorial of her mother Peggy Joan Hughes, and in honor of her father Richard Hughes. This new facility will have electricity and will be used for our special events programming. The 24'x 12' amphitheater, with concrete floor and landscaping will becoming the home area for various holiday activities/events, car shows, movies in the park, Pickin in the Park, and many more community events and partnerships. It will be called the Hughes Amphitheater. The location for the Hughes Amphitheater will be on the East side of the park. Park maintenance staff will undertake the construction of the Hughes Amphitheater over the winter and have it completed for next year's usage.
- **Talley-Ward Usage** – The Morristown boxing program has moved to a new location. The additional space will now be utilized for special programming and other program options.

- **Dog Park** – Staff continues project development to open the closed Jaycee Park (off 25-E) to allow plans for the park to be used as our Morristown Dog Park facility. After review with the Knox County Parks and Recreation dog park coordinator we have a better plan of action to convert Jaycee Park. We need a bit more funding to revamp fencing/gate modifications that will enclose the dugout and bleacher areas as part of the park. It is vital to use the current concrete that is under the bleachers and benches. The donations we have on hand of \$2,771 could update fencing needs and do signage. I have asked City Administrator Tony Cox to see if he could secure up to \$5,000 toward the project. This request will be considered at the December Council meetings. We will have the park open sometime after the first of the year. A definite date will be selected in the near future to coordinate the opening.
- **Frank Lorino Park Tennis Courts** – The current maintenance need is apparent that we need to reseal and color coat our 8 courts in the near future. The project is taken under advisement until the new budget year when it will be one of departments prioritized needs. We have received letters of concern from the Lakeway Tennis Association, East High School Tennis, and West High School Tennis.
- **Butterfly Garden** – Staff has project plan in place to make it more hardscape in appearances and more maintenance friendly. We have received a commitment from Morristown Utilities for lighting for the project. We will still have the wildflowers, but add knockout roses, crape myrtles, along with a permanent border and hard surface walking area. The action would require some financial help from the private sector and park maintenance budget to secure the project. We also hope to get assistance from Public Works “Raider Crew” on the pervious concrete installation over the winter months to make this a reality.
- The **Popkin Fields** flooding issues are being monitored by staff and we are waiting on the adjacent land owners to review flood basin plans and revisit issues by the owners engineering team.
- The **new restroom and concession facility** for the Frank Lorino Park Holt and Rogers football fields is in the final punch-out phase. The prefabricated, all concrete structure will simply change program logistics in that area of the park during Tee Ball and Football seasons. **This is simply an awesome improvement!**
- Recreation Services Division Tier II **Benchmarking** program. Staff is conducting review of TDEC benchmarking program. The deadline to have it completed is August, 2012. We have met with TDEC-Recreation Services staff to plan and administer the reaccreditation for our benchmarking plan. We were first accredited in 2007, and we must apply every five years to keep our certification. The main emphasis is for professional development and grant applications.
- **Morristown Rotary Club Pavilion project for Fred Miller Park** is completed. The new shelter is 20x24 (concrete pad 20x34) with seating for 48 people. The rental fee for the Rotary Pavilion is \$25.00 for half day and \$40.00 for full day.
- The **Wayne Hansard Park SEP project is now** completed. The small parking lot project is compliments of the City of Morristown Storm Water System- SEP program. A combination of pervious asphalt and concrete was used for 16 spaces and landscaping on the current gravel lot.

➤ **Other Items staff is working on over the next few months:**

1. Water Line at WHP soccer fields
 2. Work on athletic fields adding fill, leveling, trimming
 3. Bid process and specifications for new mower and Crew Cab truck
 4. Target items/facilities that need repaired or replaced
 5. Work on TDEC Benchmarking – Administration, Athletics, Programming and Maintenance
- **Pickin in the Park** – Will return again the first Thursday in May. It will then take place each week at Fred Miller Park starting at 6:00 p.m. until dark. It will be every Thursday through September.
- We now have 721 members with the **Citizen Tribune TXT – Email Alerts** continues to grow. This is a free service for those who opt-in when they sign up through the Citizen Tribune TXT Alerts. It can be a great service to remind/inform those of program cancellations (events, activities) information as well. We now have the capability to send out text and email messages to cell phones and PDAs.

Special use agreements contracts and important dates:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT/ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PARK/LOCATION</u>
December 6, 2011	City Council Meeting	City Center
December 8, 2011	Parks and Recreation Board	Parks Administration
December 15, 2011	Staff Christmas Party	Parks Administration
December 20, 2011	City Council Meeting	City Center
December 23-26	Holiday Office Closed	
January 2, 2012	Holiday Office Closed	
January 3, 2012	City Council Meeting	City Center
January 12, 2012	Parks and Recreation Board	Parks Administration
January 16, 2012	Holiday Office Closed	
January 17, 2012	City Council Meeting	City Center
January 26, 2012	Recreation Summit	Rose Center
February 7, 2012	City Council Meeting	City Center
February 9, 2012	Parks and Recreation Board	Parks Administration
February 21, 2012	City Council Meeting	City Center
March 6, 2012	City Council Meeting	City Center
March 8, 2012	Parks and Recreation Board	Parks Administration
March 20, 2012	City Council Meeting	City Center

MAINTENANCE STAFF UPDATE

- Maintenance workers painted lines, moved bleachers, cleaned the restrooms, and removed the trash for the East Tennessee Autumn Soccer Classic Tournament November 4,5,6, 2011
- Park Maintenance worked to insure football fields were prepared for playoff games and the super bowl.

- Removed backflow preventers and winterized the irrigation systems at Popkin Fields, Sherwood Park, and Barron Soccer Fields and stored them for winter.
- Repaired soccer fields at Frank Lorino after AYSO tournament.
- Core aerated all the football fields at Frank Lorino Park. Sowed grass in the middle of fields and the bench areas.
- Unstopped a major sewer backup in the women restroom downstairs at Talley-Ward Center.
- Picked up the volleyball referees stands from the school gyms as the season ended.
- Repaired back door at Talley-Ward Center.
- Cleaned and removed trash cans off athletic fields.
- Worked with Programming for the setup of the Christmas decorations at City Center.
- Winterized Frank Lorino Park restrooms and concessions.
- Installed sod on problem areas at baseball fields and added infield clay.
- Stripped and waxed the gym floor at the Talley-Ward Center.
- Assisted programming with special events preparation, administration, wrap-up.
- Our winter work schedule began mid-November for Frank Lorino staff.

ATHLETIC REPORTS

- Our youth basketball league is scheduled to get underway on Saturday morning with 28 games scheduled in five gyms. Games begin at 10 a.m. on all Saturdays and are played at Talley-Ward, West Elementary, John Hay, Hillcrest and Lincoln Elementary.
- Next week we will play on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday before taking off for the holidays. Play will resume on Thursday, January 5, after the break.
- There are either three or four games on week nights with those being played at John Hay, Hillcrest and Lincoln Elementary. Talley-Ward and West Elementary are used for adult practices each week night.
- As of Monday, we still had not received uniforms and have been told by Simply T-Riffic that we will have them on Wednesday or Thursday. That means we will have to distribute the uniforms to 61 teams on Friday or either take them to Talley-Ward (for photos) or to the gym the teams are playing on Saturday. It will be difficult but it's that way every season.
- This Saturday (10) and next Saturday (17) are the two picture days scheduled for this season. Chuck Hale is doing the photos again this year.

- On Saturday, youth basketball keeps athletics busy. We will be working 10 referees, 5 scorers and 5 timers as well as three gym keepers.
- In addition, we will have two athletics staff members working a half-day each. The morning person is responsible for making sure all officials, etc., show up and then for observing games while the afternoon person observes, then checks scorebooks and takes the information sheets to the Citizen Tribune so they will be in the paper on Sunday.
- The scorers and timers meeting was held last week while the referees meeting was Monday night of this week. Greeneville Parks and Recreation Director Butch Patterson, who is a TSSAA and college basketball official, conducted part of the official's clinic.
- We have several new referees that we hope to be able to use. They will be working some scrimmages before we start with some on-the-floor training on positioning, etc.
- Adult basketball registration has been completed. We finished with 66 teams, 58 men and 8 women. We are up two men teams from last season and stayed the same in women. We also turned down at least three teams after the teams had been placed in leagues.
- We took teams up to Friday last week when the deadline was actually on Monday (November 28). We placed teams in leagues on Monday and teams were then told it was too late to enter a team.
- The teams are placed into 12 leagues, 11 men and two women. The top two leagues in both men and women will be cross-playing again this season. We do this so teams do not play the same ones over and over and over.
- The adult manager's meeting was held on Monday. Teams are currently practicing.
- Each of the schools we use has been contacted about dates we can play and athletics is presently working on the adult schedule. The adult season will begin on Thursday, January 5, and will likely run until early March, depending on the number of times we have to cancel because of the weather.
- Equipment bids will be opened in mid-December. At that time, we will determine what equipment will be ordered from each vendor as quickly as possible so the order can be placed. If we are successful in getting the order out quickly, we should receive everything in late February or early March. We will give you a list of vendors at the next meeting.
- We have sent our youth basketball schedule to Rob Neill to have it put on the MyMorristown.com website and will send the adult schedule as soon as possible.
- In addition, we plan to add game photos to the website once we begin playing.
- Also, we are working on next year's program calendar with tryout dates, deadlines, etc.

- Anyone interested in officiating, umpiring and scoring should contact our athletic staff at 586-0260. Serious inquires only!
- Morristown Kiwanis Club 18-hole disc golf course can be reserved for tournament action. If your church, club, company, or organization is looking for a way to raise money and you are interested please contact us for information. New disc (putter, midrange and driver disc), bags, and equipment are now available at the Recreation Administrative office at 415 West Louise Avenue.

PROGRAMMING AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The City of Morristown has a Facebook page! Become a friend and stay up to date on events. Also join us on Text Alerts – www.citizentribune.com

- We partnered with the buildings and grounds to decorate the city facilities for Christmas. The official Tree Lighting Ceremony was November 29th at City Center at 6pm. The night was filled with music, Joy and the Spirit of the season. Encore opened the night with carols while folks gathered. The tree was dedicated by Tootie and Scott O’Quinn in honor of her sister Cathy Dillmon and mother Joan Christian. The singing saints from All Saints entertained us as well as the Lakeway Ballet presented pieces from the Nutcracker.

“TALLEY WARD TONIGHT” SCHEDULE

DECEMBER SCHEDULE FOR “TALLEY WARD TONIGHT”

DECEMBER 1 ST – 21 ST	6 TH Annual Christmas Coloring Contest for Children 12 and younger. Coloring Sheets available at the Talley Ward Building. Prizes for the winners of each age bracket.
1 ST Thursday DECEMBER 1 ST	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 ST class free, \$5/class 5:30pm TONING CLASS & 6:45pm REGULAR CLASS for more information call 423-312-7945
1 ST Friday DECEMBER 2 ND	LAKEWAY TWIRLERS SQUARE DANCING \$4 per person, free to watch 7pm-9pm - For information call 581-5640/ 292-3025 ZUMBA Fitness 5:30pm in the downstairs activity room 1 ST class free, \$5/class for more information call 423-312-7945
1 ST Saturday DECEMBER 3 RD	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 ST class free, \$5/class 10am - for more information call 423-312-7945
1 ST Monday DECEMBER 5 TH	LAKEWAY TWIRLERS SQUARE DANCING CLASS \$4 per person, free to watch 7pm-9pm -For information call 581-5640/ 292-3025 ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 ST class free, \$5/class 5:30pm TONING CLASS & 6:45pm REGULAR CLASS for more information call 423-312-7945
1 ST Tuesday DECEMBER 6 TH	Zumba Atomic for children 5:30pm. An adult must be at the center while children are in class. \$3/class ZUMBA Fitness 6pm in the downstairs activity room 1 ST class free, \$5/class for more information call 423-312-7945

1 st Wednesday DECEMBER 7 TH	HOOP DANCE and FREEDOM FLOW JAM with LIVE MUSIC 6pm - 8pm in the downstairs activity room - Classes \$10 or Service/Skill barter for more information alicat517@earthlink.net ZUMBA Fitness in the upstairs Club Room 1 st class free, \$5/class 6:30pm for more information call 423-312-7945
2 nd Thursday DECEMBER 8 TH	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class 5:30pm TONING CLASS & 6:45pm REGULAR CLASS for more information call 423-312-7945
2 nd Friday DECEMBER 9 TH	ZUMBA Fitness 5:30pm in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class for more information call 423-312-7945
2 nd Saturday DECEMBER 10 TH	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class 10am for more information call 423-312-7945
2 nd Monday DECEMBER 12 TH	LAKEWAY TWIRLERS SQUARE DANCING CLASS \$4 per person, free to watch 7pm-9pm -information call 581-5640 or 292-3025 ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room -1 st class free, \$5/class 5:30pm TONING CLASS & 6:45pm REGULAR CLASS - for information call 423-312-7945
2 nd Tuesday DECEMBER 13 TH	ZumbAtomic for children 5:30pm. Adults must be at the center when children are in class. \$3/class ZUMBA Fitness 6pm in the downstairs room - 1 st class free, \$5/class for more information call 423-312-7945 TENNESSEE VALLEY TRADERS AND COLLECTORS. 6pm For more information call Bill Henderson at 581-8386
2 nd Wednesday DECEMBER 14 TH	HOOP DANCE and FREEDOM FLOW JAM with LIVE MUSIC 6pm to 8pm in the downstairs activity room - Classes \$10 or Service/Skill barter for more information alicat517@earthlink.net ZUMBA Fitness- Club Room - 1 st class free, \$5/class 6:30pm for more information call 423-312-7945
3 rd Thursday DECEMBER 15 TH	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class 5:30pm TONING CLASS & 6:45pm REGULAR CLASS for more information call 423-312-7945
3 rd Friday DECEMBER 16 TH	LAKEWAY TWIRLERS SQUARE DANCING \$4 per person, free to watch 7pm-9pm - For information call 581-5640 /292-3025 ZUMBA Fitness 5:30pm in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class - for more information call 423-312-7945
3 rd Saturday DECEMBER 17 TH	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class 10am - for more information call 423-312-7945
3 rd Monday DECEMBER 19 TH	LAKEWAY TWIRLERS SQUARE DANCING CLASS \$4 per person, free to watch 7pm-9pm - Information call 581-5640 or 292-3025 ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room - 1 st class free, \$5/class 5:30pm TONING CLASS & 6:45pm REGULAR CLASS -for information call 423-312-7945
3 rd Tuesday DECEMBER 20 TH	Zumba Atomic for children 5:30pm. An adult must be at the center while children are in class. \$3/class ZUMBA Fitness 6pm in the downstairs activity room - 1 st class free, \$5/class for more information call 423-312-7945 AMERICAN LEGION POST #52 -6:30pm reg. Meeting information call 586-3972

3 rd Wednesday DECEMBER 21 ST	HOOP DANCE and FREEDOM FLOW JAM with LIVE MUSIC 6pm to 8pm in the downstairs activity room - Classes \$10 or Service/Skill barter - for more information alicat517@earthlink.net ZUMBA Fitness in the upstairs Club Room 1 st class free, \$5/class 6:30pm - for more information call 423-312-7945
4 th Thursday DECEMBER 22 ND	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class 5:30pm TONING CLASS & 6:45pm REGULAR CLASS - for information call 423-312-7945
4 th Friday DECEMBER 23 RD	LAKEWAY TWIRLERS SQUARE DANCING \$4 per person, free to watch 7pm-9pm - For information call 581-5640/ 292-3025 ZUMBA Fitness 5:30pm in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class for more information call 423-312-7945
DECEMBER 24 TH	CLOSED
DECEMBER 26 TH	CLOSED
4 th Tuesday DECEMBER 27 TH	ZumbAtomic for children 5:30pm. An adult must be at the center while children are in class. \$3/class ZUMBA Fitness 6pm in the downstairs activity room - 1 st class free, \$5/class for more information call 423-312-7945
4 th Wednesday DECEMBER 28 TH	HOOP DANCE and FREEDOM FLOW JAM with LIVE MUSIC 6pm to 8pm in the downstairs activity room Classes \$10 or Service/Skill barter - Information alicat517@earthlink.net ZUMBA Fitness in the upstairs Club Room 1 st class free, \$5/class 6:30pm - for more information call 423-312-7945
5 th Thursday DECEMBER 29 TH	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class 5:30pm TONING CLASS & 6:45pm REGULAR CLASS - for more information call 423-312-7945
5 th Friday DECEMBER 30 TH	ZUMBA Fitness 5:30pm in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class - for more information call 423-312-7945
5 th Saturday DECEMBER 31 ST	ZUMBA Fitness in the downstairs activity room 1 st class free, \$5/class 10am - for more information call 423-312-7945 NEW YEAR'S "EARLY EVE" PARTY for Children 5pm to 7pm in the Club Room. Food, Games, and more. For more information call 586-0280

Please Note: Program schedules are subject to change. Thank you for your understanding in this matter. We are taking applications for rentals for Talley Ward- so reserve your party now. Monday thru Friday 3-10 and Saturday 8:30 – 5:00pm

Recreation Center/Gym Hours

Talley Ward Center Hours of Operation - Monday - Friday 3:00p.m. - 10:00p.m.

Saturday is free play from 8:30a.m. - 5:00p.m. Free play unless seasonal practices/games/events are going on.

West Elementary Gym Hours of Operation - Monday – Friday 5:00 p.m. - 10:00p.m. - Saturday is free play from 10:00 a.m. till 3:00p.m. - Free play unless seasonal practices/games/events are going on.

Monthly Participation Figures for Talley Ward and West Elementary

We had 13 room rentals for November we had 393 for free play at Talley Ward and 83 at West Elementary. We had 1,232 in attendance for seasonal game/practice at Talley Ward and 1,152 at West Elementary. Zumba had 415 participants and Introduction to Hoop Dance had 15 for the month.

- We would like to remind all users of Talley Ward Recreation Center that the only animals permitted in Talley Ward Recreation Center are Seeing-Eye Dogs. All other pets need to be left at home or taken to a park for recreational activities under leash guidelines. We also would like to thank people for recognizing that the building is a tobacco free environment.

BIDS UPDATE

Opening in January 2102: Concession Contract Bid opening
Commercial Mower
Crew-Cab Truck

CDBG Frank Lorino Park Restrooms and Concession Bid – Successful bidder was Andrews Construction Company at \$184,534.30.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Morristown Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - January 12, 2012, at the Parks and Recreation Department offices at 415 West Louise Avenue.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT

Director Craig H. Price, CPRP – Office 423-586-0260 / Fax 423-318-1544

E-mail cprice@mymorristown.com

Parks and Recreation information can be found on City of Morristown website

Mymorristown.com