



Summer 2009

Summit of Softball Grand Opening - July 17, 2009

Newsletter

Highlighting
The City's
Parks & Recreation
Department's
Programs
People
Facilities



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Play Ball! Chattanooga has taken softball play to new heights with the opening of the Summit of Softball Complex. As a part of the festivities, players who are recognized as national "Hall of Fame" recipients, past and present, were honored. To tie-in with the opening, the City hosted the National Softball Association "Youth World Series" giving close to 250 teams from across the country a great introduction to our area and world class facility.

The 85 acre complex has eight fields, 3 color-coded parks with concession buildings, picnic facilities, and many family-friendly amenities. The new complex will also accommodate local adult and youth leagues and many regional tournaments.



Legends of the game Darryl McDonald, Bill Green, Bobby McDaniel, and Paul Potter show their support for the new complex. National ASA Softball Hall of Fame Recipient Jenni Oliver writes her vote for players to be honored on a special Wall of Fame at the park.

PARKS AND RECREATION

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Summer Programs



A Healthy Campers themed parade opened the annual **Hershey's Track and Field Games**. Over 600 kids participated and many advanced to state level! Banner contest winners got a 'healthy' lunch with fresh fruits & veggies.

With an increased enrollment city wide and more 11 & 12 year olds attending, the City's **Kidz Kamp** program's focus on health and wellness is being well received. In a recent media interview, summer worker Chris Brown remarked, "we are helping the kids to see that that eating right, being fit, and having an active lifestyle is cool". "...and they are loving it!"



The **Chattanooga Rugby Association** and the City's Sports Division introduced the recreation staff and kids to the game of rugby football in a spring clinic and a week long camp. 550 children in the City's summer camp learned the game, worked on skills, and were treated to a fun day of tournament play and exhibition games by adult teams from 3 states.

Flag Rugby Football

Special thanks to **BiLo Grocery Stores** for their generous sponsorship.



Dance Alive

Creative Directors Anna and Barry VanCura of Ballet Tennessee selected children ages 8–12 from the recreation centers to take a grant funded 2 week dance program that provides formal training in ballet, modern, & tap dance. Now in its 12th year, hundreds of inner city kids have gotten an exciting introduction to dance.



Highlights & Happenings

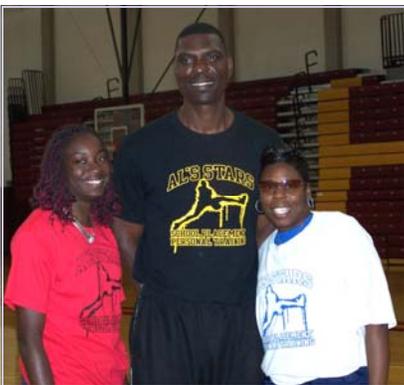
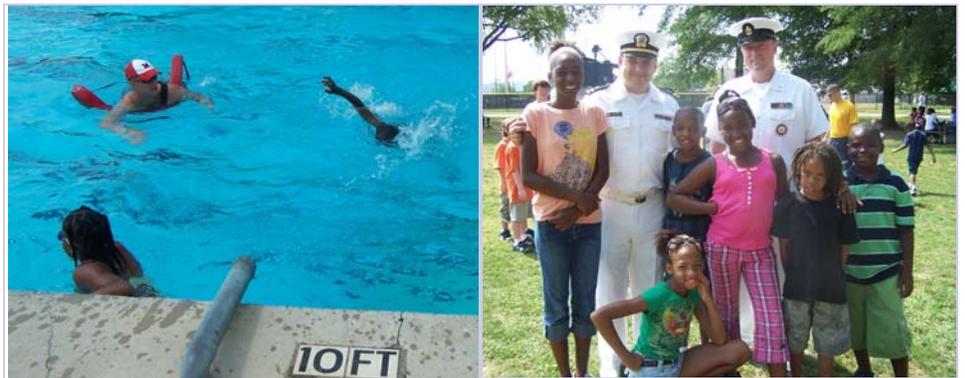
Olympic Day Celebration



The City's Sports Program participants and recent Olympic skills contest winners joined the members of Chattanooga's City Council, Mayor Ron Littlefield, and community leaders in a special Olympic Day presentation to mark Chattanooga's show of support for the City of Chicago's bid for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. **Rhyme Howard**, Hershey's Track and Field State Finalist, presented City Council President Jack Benson with the ceremonial baton. Special thanks to Richard West, Adrian Hayes, Greta Hayes, and Rhonda Seeber for their help in coordinating the event as well as Ed Odom, Jacquie Simpson, Toni Williams, Tracy Wamp, and Kelly Price for the great banner and signs. A special note of appreciation goes to Tana Walker, Demetrius Alexander, Mark Smith, Shay Smith, Marcus Thomas, Elaine Adams, the recreation center staffs and parents that brought their winning kids and athletes with disabilities to be recognized at this event.

Navy Seals Day

In June, the campers met U.S. Navy Seals and took their Junior Fitness Challenge Course. The kids were tested in swimming, running, sit-ups, push-ups, and pull-ups and got to see first hand the importance of fitness and striving to do one's personal best. Special thanks to Peggy Grall & Rick O'Rear.



"Al's Stars" are talented athletic kids that Tyner's Al Cantrell & Shay Smith help connect with college sports programs and full scholarships.

Making A Difference!

The Parks and Recreation Department honors the memory of **Norva Ruth Bramlette** who worked for the city for over 25 years and dedicated her life to serving children, seniors, and families. Ms. Bramlette will be remembered for her love of the communities she served and the difference she made in touching the lives of others.



Congratulations to Carver's Carolyn Chapman being selected as one of the City's Shirley Chisholm Mentors "Unbought & Unbossed" Award Winners

Good News for Outdoor Chattanooga



PARKS AND RECREATION



The new LEED certified building in Coolidge Park, its continued programs and services to the area's outdoor recreation community, its leadership in making Chattanooga a "bike friendly city", and its role in environmental education and conservation have earned Outdoor Chattanooga the State of Tennessee Governor's "Shining Star" award. Congratulations and here's to a bright future!



National Trail Day at Enterprise South Nature Park
Larry & Judy Zehnder were among the folks who got to tour the nature park by bike and by foot in a joint city and county recreation event.



Milestone Anniversaries for City & County Parks



Coolidge Park opened 10 years ago and the Tennessee Riverpark Trail System turns 20. A very special note of appreciation goes to all of the City's and County's parks employees who work hard behind the scenes to take care of our public leisure spaces and facilities.