

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resource Advisory Committee

Department Updates: March 2020

CULTURAL RECREATION UPDATE

Programs/Activities

- March Gallery Display: Matthews Artists Guild Student Art Show features students from Crown Point Elementary and also MAG members. Gallery reception is on Thursday, March 12 at 5:30pm. This will be on display through Friday, April 3.
- Art display at Town Hall; these installments will rotate every 60-90 days.
 - Current show: Artist Lela Kometiani's Memory Care students will display their art work. This is a group of seniors from the Ivey Memory Care Center in Charlotte.
 - Upcoming Show: Sister Cities Sainte Maxime, France annual photo contest entries.
- Public art update:
 - Artist was selected at the last Advisory Meeting for the road hump mural. Artist has been contacted and given feedback from the Town Engineer regarding contrast, and has been asked to produce 3 options for the Advisory Committee and the Town Board to see. Once these have been submitted, they will be shared at the following Advisory Committee Meeting.
 - In discussion of adding a mural featuring historic photographs of Matthews – currently working on a concept, then will seek out an artist for the project.
 - The mural of the books behind the Town Hall will be expanded to include an updated list of the most checked out books at that location; it will also include children book offerings.
- Ticket sales for the next Cool Vibes Concert are going well; as of March 2, 64% of tickets for the event have been sold. Staff is encouraging anyone who is interested in coming to purchase tickets now as they are becoming limited! Looking forward to having a larger crowd. SeaBoard is returning for beer sales and Dover Vineyards has guaranteed that they will have someone there for wine sales.
- Well-known sculptor Peter Rubino, artist who created *In Remembrance* at Stumptown Park, is offering a 2-day workshop for Veterans and their families March 30 & 31st; visit www.matthewsfun.com for more details.
- Summer camp registration is going well. Camp Funshine weeks are filling up, and the final week of Camp Funshine is already full with a waiting list.
- Currently scheduling Fall 2020 programming and looking to add new classes and programs.
- Currently scheduling guilds for Matthews Alive, and outdoor attractions for the Kids Connection area. We are adding the Carolina Pottery Guild and expanding the Sweet Union Quilt Guild into another room.
- Matthews Playhouse upcoming mainstage production: *Guys & Dolls* (June 12-28)

PARKS/OUTDOOR RECREATION

- Playgrounds
 - Surfacing (Engineered Wood Fiber) has been added to all playgrounds in order to maintain compliance with safety standards.
- Stumptown Park
 - The restrooms have been reopened for the season. They will be open during normal park hours.
- Purser-Hulsey Park
 - The project is underway to expand the community garden. The new area will be approximately 60ft x 250ft.
- Squirrel Lake Park
 - Pond tested positive for Blue-Green Algae in 2019. Mecklenburg County and a pond maintenance company were consulted, and the best solution is to educate the public that it is unsafe for people and animals to swim/play in the water. Signs have been posted. The algae should die when cold weather arrives.
 - At this time, the water has not been retested.
- Free Document Shred Event – Saturday, April 11, 2020, 9am-12pm
 - The Town of Matthews and Record Storage Systems are hosting a FREE document shredding event to help residents and businesses safely and securely dispose of unwanted documents. Drop-off will be in the parking lot behind the Matthews Community Center.
 - Practice green and sustainable document destruction.
 - 100% of shredded material is recycled.
 - Protect against identity theft and preserve privacy.
 - Fulfill ethical requirements to safely destroy sensitive information.
 - Limitations:
 - Limit of 4 bankers boxes per person
 - Paperclips and staples ARE allowed
 - NO metal or plastic allowed
- Earth Day with Kids In Nature Day – Saturday, April 18, 2020, 10am-1pm
 - Come out to Squirrel Lake Park on Saturday, April 27th to celebrate Earth Day with Kids In Nature Day! Activities/Displays Include:
 - Recycling opportunities: egg cartons, corks, pull tabs, household batteries, and cell phones
 - Eco-friendly exhibits & vendors
 - STEM activities
 - Hikes and scavenger hunts
 - Kids nature crafts
 - FREE family fun
 - For more info, check out HAWKNCWF.org

CREWS RECREATION CENTER

- Programs/Activities
 - Program Recap
 - Date Night Drop-Off: The attendance for the February 14th Date Night Drop-Off was slightly lower than previous months. Staff attributes it to Valentine's Day and the fact that the gym was being used by MARA to make-up several games. Currently, 7 youth have registered for the next program scheduled to take place on March 13th.
 - Crews Family Fun Night: The fifth and final Family Fun Night (professional wrestling) is scheduled to take place on Friday, March 6th. To date 75 tickets have been sold online. Staff expects a large group to purchase tickets the day of the event based on information from the event promoter. Staff is looking forward to planning the 2020-21 Family Fun Night program offering.
 - Upcoming/New Programs
 - Yoga Event: Arrichion Hot Yoga will be offering a free yoga class on March 21st at 12pm. This event is open to the first 100 individuals to sign up via EventBrite. Arrichion Hot Yoga Matthews (1150 Crews Rd Suite A, Matthews, NC 28105) will be opening in April 2020.
 - S.T.E.A.M. Program: Challenge Island will be offering a March Madness basketball STEM program on March 28th (1:00-2:15pm). The program is open to 2nd-6th graders. Cost is \$22 per child and includes a t-shirt. Registration Link: <https://login.challenge-island.com/index.php?action=classdetail&record=9799>
 - Babysitter Certification Course: The Centers' quarterly Babysitter Certification course is scheduled for April 18th. Registration is ongoing.
 - Summer Camp Programs: Summer camp registration began on February 1st. Early registration numbers are lower than last year. Additionally, the Muggsy Bogues basketball camps are using a different registration platform that previously participants are not accustomed to. To increase awareness staff has developed flyers for every summer camp and have been posted with the Center and on FrontFace. Camp flyers will also be posted on social media over the course of the next couple of months.
 - Rentals
 - Grace Academy has already provided dates/times for their volleyball season beginning August 2020.
 - Staff has secured several continuous gym rentals with multiple groups (AAU teams, individuals, basketball, badminton and volleyball training groups and etc.). The Center is now open after hours the next couple of months on the following days: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Sponsorships / Exhibitors
 - Staff continues re-signing sponsors and commercial exhibitors for our holiday/fam events, BeachFest and Matthews Alive in March.
- Easter Eggspedition –
 - 20 golden eggs will be hidden around Matthews at town property/buildings, landmarks, and historic sites. Those finding golden eggs will win a \$50 Visa gift card! Clues will be posted on P&R Facebook page only, hopefully increasing our followers at the same time! The first 7 clues and eggs will go live March 27, the next seven on April 3, and the last 6 on April 10!
- Food Truck Fridays – details below
- BeachFest –details below
- Matthews Alive
 - still trying to determine headliners for both Saturday and Sunday nights. Has been more of a struggle this year!
- Safety Precautions
 - Staff is discussing how to handle preparations for the Corona Virus and our special events—we are looking at an increased number of hand washing stations at festivals, repetitive cleaning at food and carnival ride areas. More to come on this subject as the summer progresses.

NOVANT HEALTH
 PRESENTS THE 12TH ANNUAL
BEACH FEST
 Matthews
 MAY 8-9 2020
 STUMPTOWN PARK
 DOWNTOWN MATTHEWS, NC
 MATTHEWSFUN.COM
 OR 704-321-7275

LIVE BEACH MUSIC FOOD VENDORS SHAG DANCING
 KIDS' INFLATABLE VILLAGE
 CARNIVAL RIDES ARTS & CRAFTS BOARDWALK

Friday, May 8
 6:30pm-8:00pm Cal 5 Band
 8:30pm-10:00pm The Embers ft. Craig Woolard

Saturday, May 9
 10:30am-2:30pm Emcee Chuck Carland
 2:30pm-4:00pm Feature Attraction Band
 4:30pm-6:00pm The Entertainers
 6:30pm-8:00pm Blackwater
 8:30pm-10:00pm Chalmers of the Board

NOVANT HEALTH
 Carolina Kids
 Town of Matthews
 North Carolina

Harris Teeter
 Neighborhood Food & Pharmacy
 PRESENTS THE 2020
2ND & 4TH FRIDAYS
APRIL - SEPTEMBER
5PM-9PM
STUMPTOWN PARK

Variety of Food Trucks
 Kids' Activities
 Craft Beer & Wine
 Weekly Bands

April 10 – Band of Oz (beach)
 April 24 – TBD
 May 22 – Terence Young (jazz/R&B)
 June 12 – Randy Clay Band (beach)
 June 26 – REO Survivor (REO tribute)
 July 10 – Gal Friday (country)
 July 24 – Reggie Sullivan (jazz/R&B)
 August 14 – Abacab (Genesis tribute)
 August 28 – Thurston Howell (yacht rock)
 September 11 – Corey Hunt Band (country)
 September 25 – Holiday Band (beach)

Charlotte Metro
 CLUB PILATES
 Renewal by Andersen
 U.S. BREAD BAKE WINNERS
 DOVER VINEYARDS
 Town of Matthews
 North Carolina