

STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 11, 2025

TO: Ted Henry, City Manager & Bel Aire Governing Body

FROM: Brian Hayes, Recreation Director

RE: January & February Activities

Recreation

- 103 players on 17 youth basketball teams completed another successful season on Feb.22nd.
- Indoor Soccer began 2 days after basketball was competed with 168 players on 15 teams which is slightly down from 181 last year. The program will finish the Saturday of Spring Festival on 4/12.
- Nine 3rd-8th grade Bel Aire teams consisting of over 100 youth have registered so far to play in the Wichita Heights Junior Baseball Softball League. This is the most number of teams we have entered into the league second to last year's 8 teams. We don't get enough teams of our own in these divisions to offer a program so we have participated in this league for over 20 years. The WHJBSL consists of teams from Bel Aire, Park City, Valley Center, Newton, Andover, Circle, Whitewater, and El Dorado. BA teams practice and play half their games here and the other half away. Practices begin in March and games begin in late April through July.
- Taekwondo class participation was up in February with 21 compared to 14 in January.
- Exercise classes continue to be steady with 20 participants.
- Tippi Toes Dance is again underway with 8 participants.
- A new activity for toddlers called Tot Time began in January with some initial success. Anywhere from 2 -10 children joined us for an unstructured time set aside to explore mats, shapes, and ball activities. The interest has seemed to fall off so will reevaluate it's continuance in the coming weeks.
- February drop-in use had 446 sign-ins which is down from 540 in January.
- The agreement with Wichita Gymnastics is nearly complete and we hope to be starting classes soon.
- Baseball/Softball infield work has been completed other than sifting out some foreign rocks in the new shale. Staff & volunteers will be working on removing rocks as practices begin in March.

- The Tyler Tech Recreation module is now live. Staff began online training last November in preparation of the new system. Currently there are several hardware issues that are being worked around and staff are still implementing new and improved efficiencies. The same software is planned to be used at the pool this summer.
- Upcoming programs include Spring Break Camp, Blastball, Short Sports, Soccer Stars, TGA Golf & Spring Festival.

Seniors

- 695 seniors signed in February for cards, pickleball, line & folk dance, book club, exercise, sewing, walking, educational, & special activities compared to 724 in January.
- Programs included a scam & fraud presentation, planning committee meeting, and a folk dance presentation. In all there were 15 ongoing programs, 6 special activities, and 7 educational sessions offered.
- Upcoming Senior activities include dinner with a musical performance, an outing to His Helping Hands, a St. Patrick's Day event, a Kansas Legal Services presentation, as well as the many ongoing baseline programs, games, crafts, and communications.

