Ivins City Parks and Recreation
Staff Report February 6, 2025
Report Dates: November 27 – January 31

General Update

As February unfolds, I want to take a moment to share some updates and exciting developments happening in our Parks and Recreation Department.
We are wrapping up another fantastic season of our Youth Basketball League! Watching the kids grow in their skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship has been a true highlight. A huge thank you to all the volunteer coaches, parents, staff, and participants who made this season a success.
Looking ahead, we are pursuing a grant to enhance inclusivity in our parks. This funding would allow us to install an all-abilities swing set at UNITY park. The project includes a wheelchair-friendly surface, an ADA swing, and shade to ensure everyone can enjoy the space comfortably. We're committed to creating environments where everyone, regardless of ability, feels welcome and included.
Our Parks Crew has also been hard at work pursuing certifications in Quality Water Efficient Landscaping (QWEL). This initiative reflects our dedication to sustainability and efficient water use, vital values for our desert community. Their expertise will help us manage water resources wisely while keeping our parks beautiful and inviting. Please reach out to our department for tips about making your landscape more water efficient.
Thank you for your continued support as we strive to make Ivins City a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

Recreation

Previous Activities:

- **Santa in the Park & Christmas Light Parade**
  Thursday, December 5 at 6pm.
  Ivins City Heritage Park turned into a festive winter wonderland. The park was decorated with lights and ornaments. This year, we added a Christmas Light Parade with 11 entries, we handed out 300 s'more kits, and over 300 packs of hot chocolate. The Youth Council organized an ornament craft, and of course, Santa and The Grinch were there for the kids. It was a fun time had by all.

- **Wreaths Across America**
  Saturday, December 14th
  We were able to remember and honor all veterans who have passed on and were buried in the Ivins Cemetery by coordinating a program and wreath-laying ceremony



- **<u>Run Run Reindeer 5K Fun Run</u>**
  The 13th Annual Run Run Reindeer 5k was held on Saturday, December 21 at the Ivins City Heritage Park. It was a beautiful day for a 5K!

- **<u>December Yoga</u>**
  December 16-19 at the Unity Park Rec Room. Free Yoga was taught by a certified Yoga instructor.

Ongoing Activities:

- **Youth Basketball**
  Our Youth Basketball leagues started on January 6. This year, we have three full leagues. 237 players are registered and on teams.

Upcoming Activities

- **<u>Red Mountain 50K/30K/Dirty Hurty Half Marathon</u>**
  March 1 - The 2025 Red Mountain 50k, 30k, and Dirty Hurty Half Marathon trail races incorporate amazingly scenic running dirt trails of the Santa Clara Reserve. Runners will stage at UNITY park, and the races will finish at UNITY Park in Ivins.

- **<u>Ivins Fitness Festival</u>**
  Monday March 31st from 5:30pm-7:30pm
  Ivins City Heritage Park Get ready to get active! April is World Health Awareness month and we're going to kick it off with a Fitness Festival!
  Mark your calendars now! If you have a business/organization focused on improving health and would like to be involved, please contact the P&R Dept.
  Partnered with Southwest Utah Public Health Department

IVINS FITNESS FESTIVAL

- **Sloth-A-Thlon**
  Month of April
  The Slothathlon is a slower-paced version of a traditional Ironman Triathlon. Instead of only a few hours, you have a 30-day window to complete the running, biking, and swimming requirements. The purpose of this event is to help people of all skill levels to get up and move in a fun, customizable, personal, and entertaining way.



- **Art Class**
  6 Week Series: Exploring Acrylic Painting
  Dates: 2/11, 2/18, 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18
  Time: 1-2:30 pm

- **Youth Baseball**
  Registration starts March 1

- **Community Yard Sale**
  April 12
  9am-12pm
  City Hall
  Registration begins:
  Resident = February 1
  Non-Resident = March 1

- **Hog and Jog 5K**
  April 19
  More information at www.hogandjog5k.com/

- **Easter Egg Scramble**
  April 19
  9am
  UNITY Park

Parks

- **Maintenance**
    - **Cemetery**: Prepared 8 burials and marked out headstone location for 7 headstones.
    - **Reservations**: Marked out and painted a soccer field for one tournament. Prepared the softball infields for a potential tournament. Managed and followed up on over 90 pavilion, field, and building reservations, ensuring the parks were prepared for events like the Birthday Parties, Friend Gatherings, Youth Football, Rugby, Softball, and more.
    - **Citizen Requests**: Addressed community concerns, including vegetation pruning, playground safety, cemetery inquiries, trail clearance, wall structure, leaf pickup and more.
    - **Seasonal Maintenance**: Cleaned up Christmas Lights at City Park, 200 East Roundabout, and changed the lights at the Horse Roundabout. Cleaned up fallen leaves. Planted the 15 trees we used for the Santa event. Cleaned up the community garden area.
    - **Playground Safety**: Conducted weekly inspections of all city playgrounds to ensure safety standards. Spread 2 new loads of playground woodchips amongst all of the playgrounds in the city parks.
    - **Weed Removal:** Spent 4 hours a day for 2 weeks removing weeds on Highway 91.
    - **Horse Roundabout:** Working on an agreement with Black Desert to where they take on the maintenance of the Horse Roundabout and the 5 center islands leading into Ivins.
    - **Highway 91:** RFBs for the 400 W Roundabout landscape are being accepted.
- **Professional Development and Trainings**
    - **UNLA:** Joseph, Bryan, and Brian went to a Utah Nursery and Landscape Association conference in West Valley. They came back with great ideas to implement in Ivins. They all volunteered during the event, which waived their conference fees.
    - **QWEL:** January 21-23 Joseph, Terry, Kelly, Bryan, Mike and Brian all attended a Quality Water Efficient Landscape course and took a test to become certified in QWEL. All 6 of them passed which will drastically improve our credibility as we move into the Aqua Star Certification Program.
    - **Growing Water Smart:** Marc and Joseph attended the Growing Water Smart in Southwest Utah workshop with the Mayor and other city officials.
    - **Grant Submittals**: Working with the Youth Council and Council Member Scott to apply for funding to help with the purchase of an ADA swing set that comes with shade and a rubber surface for wheelchairs.
    - **Classroom:** Marc was able to go to an Intermediate School in St. George and give a presentation to six, 7th grade Career and College Awareness classes. The presentation was meant to bring awareness to what the Parks and Recreation Department does, and how they can get involved if that is what they desire.

If you would like more information on any of the items on this report, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Respectfully submitted,
Marc Christensen
Ivins City Parks and Recreation Director