

<u>Iron Horse Golf Course Project Nears Completion</u>—Iron Horse Golf Course is set to reopen in September, following a nine-month \$3 million renovation project led by golf course architect Jeffrey Brauer. The golf course, originally designed by Dick Phelps, opened in 1988. Other than the greens being improved 15 years ago, the golf course has not had any significant improvements during its 32 year history.

Crews from Fleetwood Construction began on-course renovation work in November 2019 and is expected to complete the project in August 2020. The course will reopen after the new sod and greens have been firmly established. The project is led by the NRH Parks and Recreation Department and Arcis Golf, the management firm that operates the course.

Given that the course is contained completely within the floodplain, the biggest priority of the project has been drainage improvements, which includes addressing the lowest lying fairways and raising the elevation of the greens. Other improvements include: a new irrigation system, renovated bunkers, improved cart paths, leveling of the tees, and relocation of holes 13 and 14. As part of the renovation, a new set of tees have been added to provide a shorter option and allow for five to six various tee settings and angles to challenge different levels of golfers.

Golfers and guests will also enjoy the newly renovated Club House. Improvements include: new flooring, interior and exterior painting, refreshed landscaping, new furniture, big screen TV's, bar stool seating in the cafe and a redesign of the Pro Shop for a better customer experience. Improvements to the golf course will be paid for with revenue from the golf course operations.

For those golfers that can't wait until September, the driving range and Holes 1-6 are currently open. Please note the golf course will completely close for 10 days prior to the grand re-opening to finish the final elements of the project. The grand re-opening will include an official ribbon cutting, an invitational tournament and festivities for the public.

Linda Spurlock Park Renovation Begins in July—Renovations to Linda Spurlock Park will begin in July 2020 and are scheduled to be completed in March 2021. The park, located at 6400 Glenview Drive, opened in 1995 and is named after previous City Councilwoman Linda Spurlock. Mrs. Spurlock was the first female to serve on the North Richland Hills City Council, serving from 1987-1997. She passed away in January 1998.

The 14.5 acre park will receive almost \$900,000 in improvements and is funded by the ½ cent sales tax for park development and park land dedication fees. Improvements include a new robust interactive shaded playground with separate elements for ages 2-5 and ages 6-12. Additionally, a new picnic pavilion, for birthday parties, small family reunions and other events, will be constructed. Improvements will also include additional adjacent shaded picnic tables and a new restroom facility, each of which will conveniently be located near the

playground. Most of the active elements will be located on the southwest area of the park with beautiful views of the fountain and pond.

All major amenities are within close proximity to one another providing greater comfort to parents supervising children. The project will also include an expansion of the .6 mile loop trail, with an additional section linking the west side of the park to the east side providing an optional shorter walking route Swing benches will be added along the trail to provide rest, views of the expansive open spaces as well as the old growth oak trees contained within the park.

The majority of the park will be closed to visitors during the renovation and much of the existing trail will not be available during the construction. Park users are encouraged to explore other parks in the city while the park is under construction.



NRH₂**O Family Water Park**—Given the continuing spread of COVID-19 in North Texas, the City of North Richland Hills made the determination to cancel the remainder of NRH₂O's 2020 operating season effective Tuesday, June 30, 2020, at 6 p.m. This decision was not made lightly, and while we are disappointed, we know this is the right decision for the safety of our guests and staff and the health of our community. Since our opening in 1995, safety has been the number one priority for NRH₂O, and our commitment to safety has been maintained throughout our current operating season. Please be safe and we look forward to seeing all of our family back in 2021!

Grand Hall at the NRH Centre—While many traditional and large size gatherings and events are not possible right now, that has not stopped the Grand Hall team from getting creative to provide facility promotions during this time. Amber Corley, Grand Hall Sales and Marketing Coordinator, developed a "Community Wedding" package for a beautiful and intimate ceremony on Saturday. September 19. This event will allow couples the opportunity to have a small wedding ceremony with all the traditional elements. They can invite up to 8 of their family members or friends and allow the rest to join in virtually. Each event time is limited to one couple's event. Available times include: 10:00 - 11:30 AM, 12:30 - 2:00 PM. 3:00 - 4:30 PM. 5:30 - 7:00 PM, and 8:00 - 9:30 PM. Cleaning and disinfecting will take place between each reserved time. See all the details at https://www.grandhallnrh.com/community-wedding. Great job Amber!

Community Wedding SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 Micro Wedding Package \$950

NRH Centre Update

NRH Centre Aquatics has brought back Splash Swim to the swim schedule. Splash Swim is open to all ages and includes the kiddie area, two slides and water features along with all other pool amenities. A heavy focus



continues on social distancing protocols and managing to a safe capacity number. Staff is monitoring (10) open spots for families of up to 6 per family. Each family is afforded a designated area on the aquatic deck to store their personal items that has been distanced from other members. Members continue to be encouraged to keep their time in the pool to an hour or less so that we are able to accommodate as many members throughout the day as possible. For available times and days our Aquatics Schedule can be viewed <u>here</u>.

Group Fitness is back at the NRH Centre! Current offerings include Yoga, Zumba, Tabata and Strength classes. Due to social distancing protocols, each class will have a maximum of 9 members. The floors in each group fitness room have been marked to help guide members to their designated areas as well as offer safe spacing throughout the duration of the class. Members are required to bring their own yoga mats and only dumbbells will be utilized in applicable classes at this time. The registration process has also moved online using Sign Up Genius making it easy for members to see all group fitness offerings so they can get signed up for their favorite classes. See our current schedule <u>here</u>.





NRH Adult Recreational Sports Has Successful First Week of Adult Softball—

NRH Recreational Adult Softball Continues Success and Begins New Leagues— As the season continues through the summer, Adult Slow-Pitch Softball remains very successful, as teams are enjoying themselves on a nightly basis while practicing social distancing. We have wrapped up our first double-header leagues

and are starting new ones in the coming weeks, maximizing the amount of games teams can play on a nightly basis. Double-header leagues take place on Tuesday & Wednesday nights, while the remaining evenings are scheduled as one game per team.

While we have had some rainouts so far throughout the summer, teams have been extremely compliant in working with us and maneuvering schedules. Our seasons are scheduled to wrap up the third week in August, and from there we will begin our Fall season by the first week in September.

<u>NRH Youth Sports Associations Wrapping up Summer Leagues</u>—All three NRH Youth Associations are wrapping up modified Summer league play by the end of July.



BAYFA Soccer (at Green Valley Park) finished their abbreviated summer league play on July 3. BAYFA will continue small group skill development for the club team through July. The response from families and players was overwhelmingly positive that they were able to incorporate soccer back into their lives. Kudos to the association for being consistent and mindful of all safety protocols, limiting

spectators, wearing masks when not directly involved in play and communicating hygiene and hydration throughout the league. BAYFA is currently registering for Fall 2020 with hopes to start the fall season after Labor Day.

RYA Baseball (at Richfield Park and Cross Timbers Park) will wrap up their modified summer season by August 2, 2020. As with soccer families, baseball families were happy to be back on the field for summer activity. RYA continues to communicate the importance of spectator social distancing, masks when not directly involved in play, and proper hygiene and hydration. Players, Coaches and Families have been happy to have time together in person while still being mindful of keeping everyone safe. Thank you to RYA for their continued efforts in this challenging time.





NRGSL Girls Fastpitch Softball (at Walker's Creek Park) elected to forego a modified summer league season due to limited registrations that would carry over from the spring season that was never started. NRGSL did host two summer tournaments in June and implemented necessary health and safety protocols to conduct those tournaments as safely as possible.

NRGSL Association Update—After ongoing communication and discussions with NRH Parks and Recreation staff, NRH Parks and Recreation will not renew its Youth Sports Contractual Agreement with NRGSL for use of Walker's Creek Park. Over the last few years, NRGSL has been impacted by declining team registrations for traditional recreational leagues as well as the continuous shift in the Youth Sports landscape causing the current youth association model to no longer be sustainable. As with many associations across the state and country, diminishing volunteers and parent involvement beyond individual team assistance have made it incredibly difficult to maintain and sustain a viable board-driven non-profit association year in and year out. Long time NRGSL President, Orlando Ochoa, has served the community well for over 20 years and provided many girls in and around our community the opportunity to participate in a great sport. We are appreciative of his years of service to the NRH community and love for youth sports. Thank you NRGSL and Orlando!

With this change, NRH Parks and Recreation will take over full management of Walker's Creek Park. The park will be just as viable and offer opportunities for individual teams to book a limited number of field reservations for practices, game play reservations, and tournament venue packages. Additionally the opportunity to develop additional NRH athletic programs at this park will be ongoing.

<u>NRH Senior Center</u>—The NRH Senior Center continues to pivot services and connections through website and social media. This has been a very challenging time for all, but even more so for many of our older



community members due to extended periods of isolation and minimal face to face to contact with friends and families. The NRH Senior Center full time staff, and dynamic duo of Julie Adkins and Jennifer Mills have stayed the course with regular phone and electronic communication to NRH Senior Center members.

#NRHTogether The staff quickly pivoted to provide valuable resources to all who call the Senior Center. They remain vigilant with developing programs that seniors can participate in daily that emphasize physical movement, mental health and social connection. This is done through the NRH Ambassador weekly calls program and Virtual Senior Center programs that include: Daily Challenges, Fitness, Virtual Destination Trips, Online Classes, Reflection and Journaling, and Mindfulness/Mental Fitness. Additionally, they redeveloped opportunities for Community Partners to provide gift cards and additional swag items as giveaways and prizes for winners of the Virtual Senior Center Daily Challenges, Virtual Bingo, and more. If you know of a senior neighbor looking for connection please put them in contact with Julie or Jennifer. They are ready and happy to help! The NRH Senior phone number is 817-427-6695 or visit the website at https://www.nrhcentre.com/senior-center

NRH Indoor and Outdoor Reservations on Pause— Due to the substantial increase in COVID-19 cases throughout the local area and in accordance with the Governor's most recent Executive Order as well as local authorities direction, no permits and reservations are being issued or booked for events with 10 or more people. This gathering restriction includes both the indoor and outdoor reserved spaces within the NRH Parks and Recreation system (Park Pavilions, NRH Centre Birthday Parties and Grand Hall Events). Any reservations previously scheduled in July have been canceled and refunded. Reservations in July and August tend to be the least reserved months for park pavilions with only three reservations impacted by the gathering restriction currently in place. We will continue to communicate the importance of wearing masks, social distancing, proper hygiene, and staying home as much as possible. Additionally, if gathering, it is highly recommended to remain with people in your immediate household. If gathering with others, include social distancing, masks and keep gatherings outside with 10 or less people. Help yourself while helping others.



<u>Richland Tennis Center</u>—Upcoming Events at Richland Tennis Center in July include:

- RTC will be a host site for a Junior Super Champ tournament July 11-12
- RTC will host a UTR tournament July 25-26

<u>July is National Parks and Recreation Month</u>—This July, North Richland Hills is celebrating National Parks and Recreation Month. We are highlighting the benefits of Parks and Recreation within our community with the National theme of "We are Parks and Recreation". This year, the theme focuses on highlighting Parks and Recreation professionals and volunteers and enjoying our over 800 acres of park land, 30 miles of trails and our facilities here in NRH, while encouraging social distancing. Staff is engaging citizens through social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Hope this if of interest and useful to you.

Vickie Loftice, Managing Director