

2018 Annual Report

BLUFFTON PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Presented by: Pam Vanderkolk, Superintendent

January

Homemade Card Class - 4
Crochet Lessons - 11
Hue Can Paint - 10 (adults)
Open Gym - 1,300 (for season Mid-October- Mid-March)
Rock Steady Boxing - 24 registered / average 12-19 attend each class
Weekday Walkers - 217 (for season October - March)
Theater Thursday - 36
Tot Time - 43 (for season, October-March)

February

Hue Can Paint - 11 (kids)
Chilly Chili Run – 152
Mother/Son Dance – 152
Theater Thursday – 37
Homemade Cards - 6
Crochet Lessons – 8
Daddy/Daughter Dance – 318 (17th year)

March

Spring Coloring Contest – 95
Theater Thursday – 40
Hue Can Paint - 11 (adults)
Underwater Egg Hunt - 226
Tot Gold Hunt/Bank Tour – 23
Homemade Card Class – 6
Tot Block Party - 20
Crochet Lessons - 4

April

Belle Princess Tea Party - 219 (max)
Theater Thursday – 52
Homemade Card Class - 5
Adult Running Mechanics - 10
Noodles with Nana - 18 (max)
Earth Day 5K - 83
Senior Exploration – 53
Easter Egg Hunt - 150+ and Dog Bone Hunt - 11 pets
Hue Can Paint - 11 (kids)
Senior Carry-In - 45

May

Summer Striders – 17
Pee Wee Swim Lessons - 20
Homemade Card Class – 6
Hue Can Paint - 7 (adults)
Yarn Bombing - 20 participated
Swim Lessons – 170
Theater Thursday – 33
Women Self Defense Class – 26
Farm Wagon - 53, 58, 51

June

Craft Club - 44, 17, 35, 31, 30
Hue Can Paint - 13 (kids)
Quilting for Kids - 5 (max)
Tot Clay Day – 25
Farm Wagon - 69, 49
Scientific Tuesday - 51
Group Running - 8
Lunch & Learn RR safety - 97
Teddy Bear Picnic - 105
Robotics Encounter - 10
Slow Roll Bike Ride - 17
Chicks Run – 170
DIY Plank Wood Sign - 5 (max)
Squish & Sculpt – 29
Pickleball - 42 (through July 10)
Bead Happy Jewelry - 62
Tot Chalk it Up – 27
Bowling - 69

June continued

Egg Drop Challenge – 53
Bike & Brew - 55
Touch-A-Truck –562+
Outdoor Pursuits - 25 & 23
Crossfit Boot Camp - 25
Tiny Tot Tumbling - 13
Big Shot Tumbling - 11
Tot Lego Day - 31
Scientific Tuesday - 121
Pee Wee Painters - 30
Lunch & Learn Butterfly Release - 95
Homemade Card Making Class – 4
Fuse Bead Magnets - 21
Theater Thursday – 30
Abstract Organic Sculpture - 15
Foam Party - 350+
Pickleball - 12 avg
Dinosaur Dig - 85
Matchbox Car Play Day - 42
Drawing Camp - 30
Shaving Cream Fight - 75 +
Tennis Lessons – 529 for summer

Tot Bubble Day – 28
Duke Tumatote Concert - 300+
Star Gazing - 11
Beginning Quilting - 4
Animal Explorers - 71
Rock Painting - 68
Beginning Tumbling - 15
Daddy/Daughter Hair School - 10
Saturday A.M. Yoga - 27
Lunch & Learn Kasey the Fire Dog - 80 (News 55 came)
Tot Balloon Day – 24
Foam Party - 350+
Lunch & Learn Stinky Business - 64
Scientific Tuesday Spiders - 84
Mini Dance - 4
Tot Nature Hunt - 21
Escape Room - 19
Pee Wee Dance -9
Stuff & Fluff - 66
Art in the Park – 93, 52, 60, 19
Funky Flip Flops – 69

July

Community July 4th Celebration - 300+
Tot Fire Dept. visit –36
Tot Water Blob Day - 24
Summer Striders II – 8
Tot Ice Excavation – 36
Angry Bird Slingshot - 15
Wet Wacky Wednesday – 26
Balloon Animals - 11
Book Sculpting -16
Slow Roll Bike Ride - 22
Paper Sculpting - 3
Yoga Wine Down - 26, 22
Loom Hot Pad - 6
Scientific Tuesday - 38
Lunch & Learn Kitchen Chemistry - 15
City Challenge - 27 teams
Run Better Clinic - 38
Farm Wagon - 70 & 50

Todd Harrold Concert - 80 (rainy)
Beginning Tumbling - 17
Art in the Park - 62, 11, 25
Preserving Nature's Bounty - 8
Homemade Card Class - 4
DIY Plank Wood Sign (adults) - 7 (max)
Wood Grain Art - 17
Build & Battle Catapults - 41
Theater Thursday - 40
Scientific Tuesday, Frogs & Toads - 70
Employee Picnic - 70
Hue Can Paint (adults) - 5
Tot Water Blob - 9
Community Paddle (kayak & canoe) - 35 boats
Abstract Organic Sculpture - 6
Classic Rock Experience Concert - 350
Bubble Dash -65
Whistle Pigs Concert - 125

August

Woomblies Concert - 315
Parrots of the Caribbean Concert - 420
Theater Thursday – 44
Archery - 18
Bike & Brew - 40
Tomato Freezing Workshop - 4
Giant Slip & Slide / Squirt Gun Fight- 100 (rain)

Hue Can Paint - 7 (kids)
Yoga Sip & Paint - 20
Homemade Card Class – 5
Slow Roll Bike Ride - 5 (rainy)
Sweetwater All Star Band Concert - 297
Shane Bros & 3rd Row Boys Concert - 300
Farm Wagon - 57, 50+

September

Fall Coloring contest – 21
Harvest Hustle 5K – 110
Fall Senior Exploration – 58
Farm Wagon 50+, 55

Hue Can Paint (adults) - 6
Homemade Card Class - 5
Theater Thursday – 33
Teacups & Tutus - 57

October

Tot Fire Dept. visit – 46
Card making class – 4
Pumpkin Dunkin – 99
Autumn Adventure – 1,590
Farm Wagon - 70, 50, 64

Theater Thursday – 62
Great Pumpkin Hunt/Star Gazing – 275+
Night Trail Run - 30
Hue Can Paint - 8 (kids)
Senior Carry-in - 50

November

Tot Post Office tour – 6
Homemade Card Class - 6
Crochet Class - 10
Farm Wagon - 67, 60+

Theater Thursday – cancelled due to weather
Ronald McDonald Health Clinic - 10 children
Hue Can Paint - 12 (adults)

December

Tot Candy Cane Hunt - 46
Winter Wonderland – 405
December Dash 5K - 81
Hue Can Paint - 12 (kids)
Theater Thursday - 46
Gingerbread House Contest - 32

Paws & Claus – 107 humans, 70 dogs, 2 goats, 2 cats
Winter Coloring contest – 114
Farm Wagon - 60, 50
Santa’s Mailbox – 219
Card Class - 5

Free Summer Lunches served by BHMSD - 1,255 at Roush Park and 1,945 at Washington Park,
PLUS - 283 at Touch-a-Truck event for grand total of: 3,483 served (up 114 from 2017)

Programs/events held: 2107+ Visitors/Participants: 26,066+ estimated
Volunteers: 251 Total hours: 940 (approximate figures)
Grants received: \$25,409.00 including at \$10,000.00 donation from Pretzels, Inc.

Improvements made: \$40,240.00

New LED gym lights, expanded gym exercise area, purchased some new exercise equipment, planted several trees, playground mulch, 4 new water fountains, safety railing & signs at Roush Park, 4 new expressions swings, Eagle statue at Veteran’s Park, assorted painting and fence repair

Income:

Roush #1 Concessions - \$14,021.76
Roush # 2 Concessions - \$1,749.20
Jefferson Concessions - \$1,091.15
Pool Concessions - \$11,525.23
Pool Admissions - \$24,978.56 / Pool visitors - 10,829 / 58 days / 21 rain days
Pavilion Rentals - \$2,470.00
Washington Park (inside) - 15 rentals, (outside) 8 rentals
Roush Park pavilion - 12
Pool pavilion - 5 (not including pool rentals)
Lion's Park pavilion - 1
Wabash River Pavilion - 1
K-9 Kommons Members - 97 / Income: \$915.00
Pool rentals - 30 / Income \$5,111.25

Gym memberships:

City employees: 35 Single: 119 Family: 104 Total: 258 Income: \$12,448.00

Just a few of the compliments we have received:

Erin - My son and I always look forward to this so much! It is always SO MUCH fun! This is one of our favorite events the parks department does! (Mother Son Star Wars Dance)

Kelly - Just signed up this morning for this always a fun time! (Chilly Chili)

Philip - Was very impressed. You guys put on a great race. Thank you! 🙌 (Chilly Chili)

Andrea - Thanks for another awesome event! Our Bluffton Parks Dept is the best! (Daddy/Daughter Dance)

Mackenzie- We had such a fun time today! We love coming here (tot block party)

Danielle - I want to live in Bluffton! Such amazing things for families in this town

Lois - What an awesome program. (Noodles with Nana)

Deena - The hunt for Parker is on this summer! 😊 (Love our Parks Department!!!)

Janella, Everlee and I had a great time at the teddy bear picnic this morning! Thanks to the Bluffton Parks department for always putting on such fun programs!

Mindy - Thank you to all of those involved in bringing Duke to Bluffton! It was nice being able to stay in town and enjoy a drink and some great music!

Stephanie - I was SO impressed with this program. We loved it! (Kasey Fire Safety Lunch & Learn)

Lisa - Started this Saturday off with an amazing Yoga in the Park. It was a little warm but the blue sky, green grass, flowing river, and gentle breeze made this class so relaxing and rejuvenating!! Thanks @BlufftonParks for offering such an affordable opportunity!

Rhonda - It was the neatest float I have seen in a while. This is our 2 1/2 year old granddaughter saluting them as it went by. Her daddy was a soldier for 11 years. (Street Fair float)

Angela - This is always a fun event♥we love our parks department (Great Pumpkin Hunt)

Erin - I wrote them for my son when he was too little to write and just included a picture he drew, even when it was just scribbles. Lol. He always got a letter back! (Santa Letters)

Charlotte - Thank you for giving us this opportunity and posting pictures Bluffton Parks. (Paws & Claus)

Tammi - Great race! Thank you Bluffton Parks Department! (December Dash)

Andy - The Bluffton Parks Department seems to be among the best and most active of its kind in all of Northeast Indiana, with a huge variety of events available to the public.

Susan - Merry Christmas and thank you for another year of wonderful programs.