



SPAR eNEWS

“Know the Happenings in Shreveport’s Public Assembly and Recreation Department”

January Issue

Volume 2. Issue I

January 2009

Recreation



The 12th Annual Merry Berry Christmas Celebration at Billberry Park was a roaring success! It set attendance records this year.

Events included a parade featur-

ing State Rep Roy Burrell as Santa, local high school marching bands and tricked out cars. Contests included spelling bee, essay contest and the annual Miss SPAR Pageant. It was a great family fun event.

Also setting attendance records was the Free Haircuts Program cosponsored with Premier Cou-Pate Barber Shop, owned by Byron K. Laneaux. Forty-one (41) youth received free haircuts at A. B. Palmer Community Center on December 15, 2008. SPAR thanks Byron for volunteering his time and talents to contribute to the community. The Free Haircut Program rotates among the 15 SPAR community centers monthly.

Athletics

Athletics completed the girls' basketball program with a tournament the week of Dec 1. The Lady Ballers defeated the Southern Mystics in the 12-Under Division while the Lady Eagles prevailed over the Paradise Queens in the 14-Under Division. The boys' program will begin play the week of Jan 5. Sixty three (63) teams ranging from 6-Under to 18-Under will participate. In adult basketball, the men's open league will end the regular season on Dec 29, then conduct a post season tournament in Jan. The Industrial League is now in full swing with 26 teams playing in two divisions.

2009 MLK Basketball Tournament February 13-15, 2008. Tourney is open to Adult Men, Women, Coed, Therapeutic, and Youth Boys and Girl's basketball teams. Entry deadline January 23, 2009. For information contact Mary Murphy at 318-673-7776 or Kronski Grigsby at 318-673-7749.

Therapeutic: \$50 entry fee. Deadline February 2. For more info call Yolanda Bumcon @ 318-401-1545.

Get In Shape For The New Year With Zumba!



Dance your way to a fitter you. Zumba fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy to follow moves to create a dynamic workout system that will blow you away! It's effective. It is an aerobic workout, which we all know works. But it's more fun, which make you stick with the program until you get results.

Classes held on Monday 11 AM & 5:30 PM, Wednesday 11 AM and Saturday 10 AM at Bill Cockrell Community Center, 4109 Pines Road. Also held Tuesday 5:30 PM at Southern Hills Community Center, 1002 Bert Kouns Ind. Loup. For info call Cindy at 318-518-7312. Classes also held at A. B. Palmer Park, 547 E. 79th Street Tuesdays 6:00 PM. Call Kendera Monette at 617-3338.

Youth Programs



Fifteen 4' x 8' Christmas cards, painted by our recreation centers' youth are now on display at the American Rose Center. Heading west on 20, take exit 5, turn right, and then make a left onto Jefferson Paige. The cards are lighted for night display. In addition to our kids' work, you can see those painted by classes from area elementary, middle and high schools.

The SPAR kids' work on the cards was excellent. They are now enjoying their Christmas Camp at each center during the break from school. Support their effort by visiting the Rose Center during the holidays. Call 938-8051 for details.

Upcoming Events

January 1 - New Year

January 23 - Entry Deadline MLK Tourney (Men, Women, Coed, Youth Boys & Girls)

January 26 - Free Haircuts (Lakeside) 5:00pm

February 2 - Entry Deadline MLK Wheelchair Tourney

Happy New Year!



For all Shreveport/Bossier events check out:



Photo Contest!



Winning Photo

Catherine Coley won a SPAR t-shirt with her photograph of Jermichael Daniel at Valencia Community Center. You can see her photo at www.myspar.org.

Win your t-shirt now!

Email photograph to: frederick.lewis@shreveportla.gov

Include "Photo Contest" in subject along with relevant names, facility and event. Must be 2008 or later photo at SPAR facility.



Santa Express

Santa received more than 100 letters from area children containing their wish lists for Christmas. Santa was very happy with the response to the Santa Express Mail Service. He was also impressed with the many nice children out there. A drawing was held and one lucky child, Lakayah Prince, received one of her wish list items. Keep up the good work kids. Do your best in school and make your parents proud at all times.

Senior Happenings

SPAR Seniors ended their year feasting on hearty Christmas luncheons at each Recreation Center. Some prepared fruit baskets, lap blankets and even did a little caroling, as they visited family and friends in the various nursing homes. Finally in the Computer area, 65 Seniors were awarded certificates for completion of Basic or Advance Computers at graduation ceremony held at Hattie Perry Park.

New classes will begin on January 12, 2009. Computer class applications will be accepted at all Senior Recreation Centers, from Dec. 19, 2008 thru Jan. 2, 2009. For more info call Camille Webb at 673-7845 or visit www.myspar.org.