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164 West Main Street
Bridgeport WV 26330

West Virginia Recreation and Parks Association
Professional Publication



Issue 3, 2007
August 2007



All meetings begin at 1:00 PM

Sept. 21st--Pipestem

November 6-9 WVRPA Conference, Pipestem Resort State Park

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President's Message

By the time you read this message my swimming pools will be closed for the season. The water will have been drained out and, for the time being, I will no longer ruin my clothes by splashing chlorine on them. The kids are back in school. Maybe I will tackle the stacks of paperwork that have exploded in my office. I would like to be able to tell people that it doesn't always look this bad, but I don't like to lie.

Being responsible for so many people and facilities gets overwhelming at times. Sewers back up in locker rooms, employees don't show up for work, the police have to be called because of a domestic situation at one of the parks and parents are upset because their child was "unfairly" told to leave the pool for the rest of the summer. That is just one afternoon in the day and the life of a parks and recreation professional. Add to the mix all of the responsibilities of a family and we run on overload. All you can do is try to continue moving forward and take care of what you can.

One thing that has helped me deal with many of my parks and recreation problems is being a member of the WVRPA. Being able to pick up the phone or send an email out to you and getting a response for an idea or an answer to a situation has helped me immensely. I think the bulk of you will agree with this statement.

Joe Shuttleworth has graciously agreed to continue with the newsletter. I encourage all of you to take 20 minutes out of your day and email him what your department has been up to. Send it anytime. It doesn't have to be only when an issue is due. He will be glad to save it and use it when needed.

You will find information on this year's state conference in this issue. Please make it a point to get in touch with Bruce Miller and register early. Do you know of a worthy program or facility? Send it in to Jodie Lamm as a nomination for one of the WVRPA awards.

Our association is only as strong as we make it. Please, make it a point to stay in touch with each other.

For Better Parks & Recreation
Bev Gibb, President

STILL TIME TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Legislative Report

"Now is the time for all good men (women included) to come to the aid of their country!"

So the old saying goes, and so goes the need to keep in close touch with Senator Robert Byrd and those in his offices who work on Interior Appropriations. Senator Byrd, who is a staunch supporter of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), needs to continually hear from his constituents that we favor and rely on that program, and that in the negotiations coming up between the House and Senate Appropriations Committees he should favor the House version in the mark-up. As things now stand the House marked-up \$50 million for '08 while the Senate only \$30 million. The difference will be made in the Conference Committee.

Here's the story, or facts, if you will... This past year Congress was overly thrifty in marking up \$30 million. This left only \$300,000 for West Virginia. That figure does not begin to cover the projects submitted to the West Virginia Development Office, who administrates the LWCF program within our state. Actually the term "overly thrifty" is not fair, for Congress by passing that amount last year saved the LWCF program. This year the mark-ups are despite the Administration's recommendation that LWCF be scrapped. So, the message isn't simply an urge to Senator Byrd to keep fighting for the very best LWCF funding possible but a "thank you" for holding fast under considerable economic pressures to do otherwise.

It's fair to say all three congresspersons from West Virginia favor LWCF. Congressman Rahall, in particular, has come out strongly as a leader in this effort. The message to be sent to each is "thanks for your efforts, and please keep up the fight to eventually get many more millions into the LWCF coffers." As the appropriation supposedly comes from a trust fund which reportedly can provide annually up to \$900 million or \$1 billion for state-side LWCF funding, it's difficult to understand when \$50 million is a point of contention.

Another very important matter to contact Senator Byrd, Senator Rockefeller, Congresswoman Capito, Congressman Mollohan, and Congressman Rahall about is placing \$300,000 in Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act (UPARR) just to keep the program on the books. NRPA is keeping a close tab on this and asks our support in the effort. The need is to keep UPARR alive until the day when considerable funding can be appropriated. The dollars will then be dedicated to rehabilitation of recreation and park facilities in urban areas that once made usable again will serve far into the future. Many LWCF funded areas and facilities are now about 40 years old, for example, and are in dire need of repair and modernization. UPARR could be an excellent vehicle to help accomplish that task.

It has been your legislative chair's pleasure to meet with Congressman Rahall, Congressman Capito, and Congressman Mollohan this year and to meet also with their legislative assistants. It's also been a pleasure to meet with Paul Gay of Senator Byrd's office a number of times and with Ann Barth, the Senator's State Director. Staff are as important to know and meet with as those elected to Congress, for they have the time and are the eyes and ears of our congresspersons and senators. They are attentive and caring.

Clearly, the immediate challenge for all of us in WVRPA, whether professionals, board and commission members, affiliate/business members, and students, is to contact Senator Byrd to let him know we appreciate his leadership and to urge him to fight assiduously for higher funding toward \$50 million for LWCF and at least \$300,000 for UPARR. Its also important we keep in close contact with Senator Rockefeller, Congresswoman Capito, Congressman Mollohan, and Congressman Rahall to let them know we appreciate their efforts and to ask that they support programs in the Farm Bill such as the strongly worded RC&D part, and the No Child Left Behind Bill which has some very good health and recreation related programs.

Get as many of those who use your LWCF funded facilities as possible to make contacts. Yes, now is the time for all good men (and women) to come to the aid of their country.

Many who read this have been and are in contact. Many are not. Legislative affairs on both the federal and state levels is everyone's business - and it is ceaseless. To those of you who are involved, thank you. To those who are about to get involved, thank you. I hope that covers 100 percent of WVRPA's membership!

A word of thanks to Rich Dolish and his NRPA Public Policy Staff. There are many good reasons to belong to NRPA. If the work of Public Policy was the only one, that is sufficient reason to belong. By the way, here's hoping to see you in Indianapolis.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim McClelland, CPRP
WVRPA Legislative Chair
WVRC&DA President

WVRPA Review Deadlines

Mark your calendars!

Deadline

February 23, 2007

August 10, 2007

December 1, 2007

Publication

Mid March 2007

Early September 2007

Early January 2008

Please submit your articles to joe.shuttleworth@bridgeportwv.com. Please include digital pictures if possible. Articles are open to any WVRPA Members for announcements, news or anything else you wish to share with the organization. Regular pictures can be scanned - mail them to 164 West Main Street, Bridgeport WV 26330. Should you have any questions, call Joe Shuttleworth at 304-842-8240.

CPRP RENEWAL UPDATE

By
Owen Walker

Just a little reminder that I will be needing continuing education, ceu's, information in late November and before Christmas in December. NRPA requires all state certification boards to send them updated information on persons who hold certifications to them during the month of January.

The following persons have let there certification lapse one year and will need to provide 30 hours of continuing education for the period of 2005, 2006, and 2007 Rick Abel, Jeff Berryman, Don Burton, Dr. Raymond Busbee, Gabriel Fiest, David Glover, Mike Hager, Mary Ann Haldeman, James McClelland, and Mark Wise. You all still have the CPRP certification but you will need to provide ceu information this year if you wish to keep this certification. Your certification will lapse and I do not think anyone will want to pay for and take the test to get it back.

The following persons will need to provide 20 hours of continuing education for the period of 2006 and 2007 Dr. Jennifer Mak and Owen Walker.

We have two persons who have lapsed one year on APRP and these people will need to provide 30 ceus with in the period of 2005, 2006, and 2007 David Glover and Kathy Hall. You still have the APRP certification but will lose it at the end of the year if you do not provide the ceu information.

All persons will also need to include a \$25.00 check made payable to WVRPA. If anyone has any questions or think that you may need to renew please give me a call at 304-744-6398 or e-mail me at bigo13@suddenlink.net. Looking forward to seeing everyone at conference.

Hershey Track and Field Games Submitted by Jim McClelland, WV State Chair

Thanks to the cooperation of many people throughout our state, this year's regional and state Hershey's Track and Field Games were run very successfully. Central to this effort were Joan Lovejoy, Executive Secretary to the Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District and Cabell-Midland High School Coach Chris Parsons. Both worked closely as a team and both, due to the unfortunate passing of Ethel Lou St. Clair, worked through a maze of unknown and often unexpected contingencies. The end result was, however, a more effective and efficient state meet than any of the previous 29.

New to this year's meet, held on the Cabell-Midland High School track and fields, were a short welcome and opening ceremony at which WVRPA President Bev, Coach Parsons, and yours truly made all who attended feel at home. In the process every participant was gathered in a group and presented before their parents, friends and loved ones in the stands. Another innovation was a more formalized presentation of the ribbons whereby the competitor stood Olympic style on a platform. The stage provided opportunities for family and friends to snap photographs. As in the past, thanks to the Hershey Corporation, every participant took home a ribbon, which meant every competitor stood on the platform. Chris had the registration desk well and neatly organized, a vast improvement over former years. Also, as in the past, tasty drinks and snacks were available through the efforts of the Greater Huntington Park and Recreation District, and thanks to Hershey, the Cabell County Commission, and the Great Kanawha RC&D a handsome shirt was made available to every participant, to all officials, and to the youngsters Coach Parsons used as meet workers.

Six youngsters were selected by the Hershey Corporation to attend the National Meet in Hershey, Pennsylvania (August 2 to 5.). They were: Logan Gold, Vienna WV; Brett Burns, Vienna WV; Morgan Trippett, Parkersburg, WV; Logan Cox, Mineral Wells, WV; Amber Hawkins, Wardensville, WV; and Ryan Smith, Milton, WV. Chaperones throughout the 30th Anniversary Hershey Games days were Emily Shoemaker, a Cabell County teacher, and Coach Parsons. Logan, Brett, Morgan, and Logan hail from District 5 while Amber and Ryan hail from District 7 and 2 respectively.

We in West Virginia are especially fond of the Hershey Track and Field Games, for they began on playgrounds throughout Charleston, were expanded through the state, and Marshall University became the site of the first national meet. All of this was due to tireless efforts of Dr. Donald Cohen, a resident of Charleston, who saw the need for youngsters to recreate in the out of doors and to exercise. Dr. Cohen who is standing on the top row of the accompanying photograph remains a driving force and active participant on the Hershey Track and Field board of directors.

Thanks to the support and umbrella leadership of WVRPA the Hershey Track and Field Games are very much alive and well in West Virginia. Still, we need to establish ways to get more youngsters between the ages of 9 and 14 involved and to get more participation from more areas throughout the state involved. This should be one of WVRPA's priority items between now and next spring. The task should not be too daunting, for NRPA is a partner with Hershey and much emphasis is being placed on physical exercise in the new No Child Left Behind bill.

Good news! Thanks to the Cabell County Commission and the Great Kanawha RC&D any costs to be incurred, beyond those underwritten by the Hershey Corporation in operating next year's state meet are already covered. My thanks to all who made the time and effort to champion the regional and state games, to Joan for her unflinching interest and attention to details, to Chris and his staff for his superb meet organization, and to Chris and Emily for volunteering their time as chaperones, to Cabell-Midland High School for their facilities, and to our sponsors. Track events are usually team, as well as individually, oriented - in running this year's Hershey Track and Field Games we've had a superb team effort. Those of us on that team thank WVRPA for the opportunities provided to have such memorable field days.



WVRPA Golf Tournament



Pipestem State Park
Tuesday, November 6, 2007
11 AM Shotgun Start
\$45 per player

Includes dinner after golf compliments of our friends at Terradon. For more information contact
John Cooper
304-624-1655
jcooper@cityofclarksburgwv.com



Horseback Riding Workshop

Dust off your boots and hat!!
Join the staff at Pipestem State Park for a 1-hour guided trail ride.
Cost: \$20 per person. Must pre-register (listed on conference form) by Friday, October 19.

Annual WVRPA Hillbilly Auction

Wednesday, November 7, 2007
at the Exhibitor Showcase
5:30-8:00pm



Bring your unwanted items and offer them up for this worthy cause. Purchase tickets at the event and test your luck to win valuable gifts! Drop your items off at the Registration table.

Archery's Hot!

Looking for an activity that provides exercise, improves math skills, teaches etiquette, requires focus, reduces stress, and is – oh, yeah – lots of fun?

Archery is gaining in popularity all over the U.S. in schools, recreation districts, home-school associations, retirement communities, and clubs. Once administrators see the National Safety Council's numbers ranking archery as one of the safest sports, once they understand just how easy and affordable it is to set up and run an archery program, and once their first class fills up with happy participants who want more...it's no surprise that Archery is the hot new trend in recreation.

Students are often introduced to archery in P.E. class, scouts, or camp, which typically run shorter programs aimed at beginners. Many park and recreation departments are now seeing the demand for a more sustained archery program where students can improve their skills, eventually acquire their own equipment, and practice for competition.

Archery is contagious. Many recreation departments start with a beginner's class for kids but end up offering classes for teens, families, seniors, plus competitive teams and leagues.

For those with Olympic dreams, archery has many advantages. The equipment is affordable, official competitions are held all over the country and are open (don't require pre-qualification), and archery can be practiced year round, indoors or out. The JOAD (Junior Olympic Archery Development) program, from USA Archery, archery's Olympic governing body for the United States, is easy to offer and is one of the archery programs available from NADA, the National Alliance for the Development of Archery.



Other programs offered by NADA include *The Way of The Bow*, an archery curriculum that explores the diverse culture and history of archery (Japanese Kyudo, Native American, Ancient Roman, and others) in addition to learning how to shoot. *ArrowFaith*, a faith-based curriculum that explores the personal virtues that are necessary if one aspires to excel at archery (such as responsibility, perseverance, mindfulness, and others) combines the fun of shooting with personal development. *GoArchery!* is a program designed by two-time Olympic coach Lloyd Brown to set up beginners with optimal form, while having fun learning the sport. Information on these and other archery programs is available at www.TeachArchery.org.

Submitted by: NADA

West Virginia Recreation and Park Association Awards

The Awards Committee of the WVRPA is now accepting nominations for the following awards offered by our association:

John G. Scherlacher Fellow Award:

Qualifications: Professional members of the WVRPA with at least 10 years experience in the leisure service delivery system with at least 5 years of service with the WVRPA. Nominee must have demonstrated willingness to assume a leadership within our organization. This is the highest award that can be given to a professional in the state of West Virginia by the WVRPA.

Austin C. Palmer Outstanding Facility Award

Qualifications: Outstanding facilities serving a large segment of a geographic area that are aesthetically pleasing, evidence of sound design, programmed to maximum potential and in operation for at least one year.

Richard P. Sebastian Leadership Award

Qualifications: Active membership in the WVRPA, nominees must be under 30 years of age or younger by January 1, 2000 and nominees should exhibit qualities of ambition, creativity, dedication to the recreation profession and be cooperative, hardworking and loyal in nature.

Special Citation to a Citizen/Board Member

Qualifications: Nominee should have made significant contributions to the parks, recreation or leisure service field, exhibit a firm understanding of and commitment towards providing quality leisure services and exhibit a significant contribution to the leisure service delivery at the regional or state-wide level.

Eugene M. Fuller Program Award

Qualifications: Nominees must provide evidence of outstanding programming of superior quality in promoting activities that are traditionally associated with park, recreation and leisure services or in developing innovative programming ideas.

Legislative Award

Qualifications: Any member of the Senate or House of Delegates in the State of West Virginia or from the State of West Virginia with a firm understanding of the need of, and commitment toward, providing quality leisure services.

Presidential Citation

Qualifications: Presented by the President of the WVRPA to anyone making an outstanding contribution to the field of parks and recreation above and beyond the normal duties of their profession, involvement on the national or statewide level in improving the overall park and recreation services.

James L. McClelland Public Parks and Recreation Facility Award

Qualifications: Exceptional park and recreation areas, spaces or facilities, with emphasis placed on design, creativity, environmental adaptability, function, usage, and community and where applicable, inter-agency involvement in planning.

All nominations are due by September 30, 2007. For a description of the awards, to make a nomination or for more information contact:

Jodie Lamm, Awards Chair

c/o New Martinsville Parks & Recreation

197 Main Street

New Martinsville, WV 26155

Phone: 304-455-9130 FAX: 304-455-9123 e-mail: jlamm@newmartinsville.com



**35th Annual Conference
West Virginia Recreation and Parks Association
Pipestem Resort State Park
November 6-8, 2007**



Name _____
 Agency/Organization/School _____
 Mailing Address _____
 Work # _____ Cell # _____
 Fax# _____ E-mail Address _____

Conference Registration Options

Professional Full Package (Includes Educational Sessions, Welcome Breakfast, Exhibit Hall Luncheon, Social, Evening Entertainment, Awards Banquet and more.)

Prior to 10/12/07	\$125.00	_____
After 10/12/07	\$150.00	_____

Student/New Member* (Includes Educational Sessions, Exhibit Hall Luncheon, Social, Evening Entertainment, Awards Banquet) (*New member is someone who has never attended before)

Prior to 10/12/07	\$40.00	_____
After 10/12/07	\$50.00	_____

Daily

Wednesday 11/7 (includes sessions Breakfast, luncheon)	\$100.00	_____
Thursday 11/8 (includes sessions & banquet)	\$75.00	_____

Extra Charge Items (Note: ALL WVRPA Memberships Expire November 1 each year)

Horseback Riding Workshop	\$20.00 _____	Professional Membership	\$35.00 _____
Golf Workshop/BBQ Dinner	\$45.00 _____	BD/Commission Mem.	\$50.00 _____
Student Membership	\$10.00 _____	Agency Membership**	\$250.00 _____
CEU Credit	\$15.00 _____	Extra Banquet Ticket	\$30.00 _____

**Please include agency list with Agency Membership

Make checks payable to: **WVRPA**
 c/o Chestnut Ridge Park
 Rt 1 Box 267 Bruceton Mills WV 26525

Conference Options: \$ _____ + Workshops: \$ _____ + Membership: \$ _____ = **Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____**

Check # _____ Date Received _____

Cancellation Policy: Registration fee, minus \$25.00 will be refunded if cancellation notice received prior to October 31, 2007. No refunds after November 1, 2007.

WVRPA 2007 Conference Lodging

Room Rates are as follows: Single/Double: \$55, Triple: \$61, Quad: \$67

To reserve your room, call Pipestem at 1-800-CALL-WVA (Mention WVRPA Room Rates)

Puppy Pool Party

New Martinsville Parks and Recreation sponsored a pool party..but this one was for the dogs! This event was held at Lewis Wetzel Pool in New Martinsville from 6:00-7:30pm on Tuesday, August 21st, 2007. It was a cloudy evening with some light rain but that didn't stop some of New Martinsville's finest dogs from taking a swim. There were 7 dogs and 17 people were in attendance. The dogs had fun running, playing, fetching and splashing and the owners had just as much fun watching. This was the first year for New Martinsville to have a dog swim and it went great. We were thankful that everybody had fun and we hope to continue to hold this event annually and add to it with contests, games, and prizes.



Conference Plans Well Under Way

Bruce Miller and Joe Shuttleworth

This years conference at beautiful Pipestem Resort State Park is beginning to take shape. If you have not been to Pipestem, you are surely in for a treat. This park offers a wide array of amenities sure to please everyone. We have met with the conference staff and are sure the level of service will be wonderful.

For those arriving early, we have two pre-conference treats arranged. The Annual Golf Tournament will take place on the challenging course that has a signature par 3 overlooking the gorge (Joe birdied this hole - so you want him on your team!)

We also have arranged an hour long Horseback Riding Workshop. The park staff will lead participants on a invigorating trail ride featuring spectacular views of the gorge and the fall foliage.

We already have several of our supportive Vendors registered for our exhibit hall. They will provide information on many new and exciting projects sure to be a hit in your facilities. We will have our annual luncheon in the exhibit hall as well as our showcase and Hillbilly Auction.

Now, all fun and games aside, the real reason we attend.....the Educational sessions. We will draw from the collective experience of our group, as well as from outside experts to cover many cutting edge topics facing Parks and Recreation agencies today. Some of the confirmed topics include: Innovative playground designs, Adding Spray areas to your pool, Various other pool programs and many other topics.

It appears we will have several other groups joining us this year: they include the Landscape Arcitects, WVATS, West Virginia Therapeutic Recreation Association, and the West Virginia Planning Association. While these groups may differ from us in many regards, the overlap and shared knowledge will prove beneficial to all involved.

Please help us by Registering early, attending our pre-conference events, attending class sessions and socials, and by volunteering to help in some capacity. Should you have any questions, please contact Bruce Miller at 304-591-1773 or Joe Shuttleworth at 304-842-8240.

Bridgeport Sprayground a “Splashing” Success

The Bridgeport Parks and Recreation Department barely opened our new SprayGround this summer. Construction began in March 2007. Delays and other issues pushed the project right back to Memorial weekend. The Friday before the pool opened we were still testing pumps and working out small details. As with any new project, there was a learning curve in managing the operation of the unit.

The sprayground equipment was provided by Aquatic Recreation Company from Minnesota and installed by Michel Inc. of Bridgeport WV. Both companies were outstanding to work with.

The initial response to the addition has been amazing. Upon our initial opening we had planned to allow only children 11 and under to use the facility. However, due to the design, the trends of usage allowed older children to participate as well. The design has sort of segregated the “big” water sections from the smaller sprays and bubblers that attract the small children. When the feature first opened, we had not yet installed the fencing between it and the big pool. Therefore, it was also very difficult to restrict entry. Basically, we informed our guards to let everyone try it, being so new and exciting. We found that we really had very few problems with the older children versus smaller children. We also informed our guards to make sure the older children do not get too carried away - and if they did, they got kicked out.



Many of the features we chose are designed to be interactive. The children can manipulate them in some manner: by spinning them, pulling levers that dump water, holding their hands on them, or stepping on them. It was amazing to see the children figure out ways to manipulate the water.

The entire project was topped off with the addition of 8' black steel ornamental fencing around the entire perimeter of the pool and matching 4' fencing around the wading pool and sprayground.

The effect this addition has had on our pool has been dramatic. Our season pass sales have doubled from the numbers we have experienced for the past few years. In the month of June alone, we had over 2200 more people come through our gates than June of 2006. We have received numerous positive comments from our patrons. The only negative is “how come you did not do this a long time ago!”

The maintenance on the equipment is minimal. It does recirculate water, which requires filtering and treating the water. We do have a pool computer that monitors the water quality, but the maintenance is much less than that of our swimming pool.

We invite anyone who wants to see our system to come visit. Of course, after Labor Day, it will be closed for the season. I will also be holding a session at the conference at Pipestem in November that will explain the process and feature step-by-step pictures of our project.



National Alliance for Youth Sports partners with EAS

Teaming up to provide important educational messages related to nutrition

The National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS), America's leading advocate for positive and safe sports for children, has partnered with EAS, a top producer of science-based sports nutrition products, to provide pertinent educational messages related to nutrition.

In conjunction with the partnership EAS is breaking ground in children's sports nutrition with the launch of the EAS Champions Bars, a nutritious alternative snack bar packed with 20 essential vitamins and minerals, as well as five grams of protein and three grams of fiber.

The bars target elementary-age youngsters ages 8-14 who participate in organized sports and/or are athletically active.

They come in two delicious flavors, Chocolate Peanut Butter and S'mores. Five cents of the net proceeds from each sale will support NAYS' efforts to enhance organized youth sports programs nationwide.

“We are pleased to be aligned with one of the nation's premier leaders in the sports nutrition field,” said Fred Engh, founder and president of NAYS. “We look forward to utilizing EAS' expertise in the area of sports nutrition to provide valuable information to parents and active children.”

Since 1981 NAYS has been providing training programs for volunteer coaches, parents, administrators and officials worldwide, as well as implementing a variety of programs for youngsters.

EAS Champions Bars are debuting in Target stores nationwide and can be found in the “What's New” Sports Nutrition aisle. They are available in five-count boxes.

EAS was founded in 1990. In 2005, Ross Products, a division of Abbott Laboratories, purchased EAS. Ross Products is a U.S. market leader in pediatric nutritionals and a world leader in adult nutritionals. It is focused on providing superior and trusted nutritional products and related health care products that advance the quality of life for people.

For more information visit the NAYS Web site at www.nays.org, email nays@nays.org or call (800) 729-2057; or visit the EAS Web site at www.eas.com/championsbars/

Best Regards,

Adam J. Shilling

Director, Program Content

National Alliance For Youth Sports

2050 Vista Parkway

West Palm Beach, Fla. 33411

(800) 688-KIDS, ext. 212

Fax (561) 712-0119

www.nays.org

Berkeley 2000 Recreation Center Expansion Project

When the Berkeley 2000 Recreation Center opened in 2002, it was already too small to meet the needs of Berkeley County residents. With committed funds from the Berkeley County Commissioners and The City of Martinsburg, the staff and Board of Directors started planning the much needed expansion in 2006. The expansion included two wings; wing 1 to house the growing gymnastics program and wing 2 to add an additional basketball/volleyball gymnasium.

In January 2007, representatives from Quad/Graphics announced a \$500,000 Grant from their Windhover Foundation awarded to Martinsburg-Berkeley Parks & Recreation. Founded in 1983, The Windhover Foundation supplies grants for organizations deemed innovative and focus on meeting a pressing, unfulfilled social need. The Foundation has funded a variety of ventures including hospices, women's programs, art centers, libraries, playgrounds, parks and arenas in the communities where Quad/Graphics has a presence. The Quad/Graphics plant in Martinsburg opened in 1997 and prints the monthly edition of National Geographic. Plant Manager Pam Rostagno presented a check to Executive Director, Steve Catlett and the Parks & Recreation Board in February 2007.

The grant monies have made it possible to proceed with plans for a third wing on The Berkeley 2000 Recreation Center which will include a fitness center. The Berkeley 2000 Recreation Center Expansion Project will create an additional 26,750 feet for the community to use for recreation. “This is a very exciting time for Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks & Recreation. We will be able to expand our existing leagues and programs to the residents of Berkeley County as well as create new recreational and leisure opportunities,” says Executive Director Steve Catlett. Ground was broken in March 2007 with project completion slated for the fall.

