



**Adult Futsal, Drive-in' Movie Coco • 3rd Annual Pumpkin Float
American Shakespeare Center's No Kidding Drama Club (for Grown Ups!)
Horticulture Fall Plant Giveaway • Adult and Youth Kung Fu**



All Can Thrive on Constitution Drive: A User's Guide

Sharing is caring on Constitution Drive, the 1.3-mile loop road in Gypsy Hill Park. Constitution Drive serves many users. It is a popular destination for walkers, runners, bike riders, roller-bladers and others who enjoy its scenic quality, relaxed feel, and comparatively flat terrain. In fact, Constitution Drive is a designated "Play Street" that permits and encourages these activities, which necessitates space-sharing among all users. Motor vehicle drivers should only use Constitution Drive to get to their intended destination within the park (pool, baseball diamonds, playgrounds, etc.). It is important for everyone to be courteous toward and accommodate other users when traveling on Constitution Drive so all can enjoy their time in Gypsy Hill Park.

Here are some guidelines for traveling on Constitution Drive, whether by motorized vehicle, bike, foot, or other means.

- MOTORISTS:**
- Prepare to drive slowly. The posted speed limit is 15 mph, but you may need to drive more slowly, especially near parking areas, at various pinch points, and in the presence of walkers or bike riders.
 - Give way or yield as appropriate to bicycle traffic, to pedestrian traffic, and expect delays from conditions occurring due to the nature of a designated play street.
 - Approach and pass a bicyclist only when safe to do so.

- BICYCLISTS:**
- Follow the direction of automotive traffic (counter-clockwise) and obey all traffic laws, including speed limits. Do not ride more than two side-by-side.
 - Look ahead for hazards, such as pedestrians, children, and vehicles leaving parking spaces, and adjust lane position and speed early.
 - Give audible warning before overtaking other bicyclists and pass carefully at a reasonable speed and ample distance only when overtaking is safe.

- PEDESTRIANS:**
- Travel opposite the direction of automotive traffic. Pedestrians should walk on the right, from their perspective, on the driver's side of oncoming automotive traffic.
 - Wear brightly colored or reflective clothing when walking after dusk or before dawn.

- OTHERS:**
- Pedestrians visiting the park for facility uses (pool, baseball diamonds, playgrounds, etc.) should exercise caution and use the most direct route when walking to/from their vehicle.
 - Foot powered scooters, skateboards, roller skates, etc. are expected to follow the same path as pedestrian traffic.
 - Families walking with small children on bicycles/scooters may follow the pedestrian direction of traffic.

Staunton Parks & Recreation

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- Brocky Nicely, chairman
- Ken Bosserman, ex-officio
- John Byrer
- Travis Cason
- Tara Herbert
- Maya Kartseva
- Michael Keatts
- Elissa McDonald
- Bruce Rupert

Table of Contents



- GOLF 3
- ATHLETICS..... 4
- COMMUNITY EVENTS..... 5
- COMMUNITY PROGRAMS..... 6
- TRIPS 7
- OUTDOOR ADVENTURES 8
- PRE-K/TODDLER..... 9
- YOUTH/TEEN 10
- FITNESS & WELLBEING 11
- REGISTRATION 12
- INFORMATION 14

Building Codes

MHP- Montgomery Hall Park, MHPC- Montgomery Hall Park Conference Room, MHPA- Montgomery Hall Park Activity Room, GHGP- Gypsy Hill Park Gym, GHPGC- Gypsy Hill Park Garden Center, NSC- Nelson Street Center, BTWCC- Booker T. Washington Community Center

Seeking Instructors

Our success is because of you! Staunton Parks and Recreation is continuously in search of new program ideas and quality community instructors. Have a good program idea? Want to make some extra money? Call the rec office at 540.332.3945.
 **Looking for dance instructors- If interested, please contact Staunton Parks and Recreation at 540.332.3945 and ask for Ana

Register Online

Go to www.ci.staunton.va.us/departments/parks-recreation and click "Register For Activities". See page 12 for registration information.

Event & Weather Cancellation Line

540.332.3947

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SOFTBALL

Men's Fall Softball League

Let's Play Ball! Don't let your softball season come to an end, join us for another exciting. League is open to teams consisting of players 16+ years of age to compete in Men's slow pitch softball at Montgomery Hall Park. Teams will play a minimum of 10 games over a six-week season followed by a post-season tournament. Game nights will be on Monday and Wednesday evenings beginning August 21. *Price: \$300/team. Register by: August 13*

Co-Ed Fall Softball League

Batter Up! Co-Ed Fall Softball is back! Grab your bat-bag and glove and meet us at the ball park! League play will begin on August 22. Game nights will be on Tuesday and Thursday nights at Montgomery Hall Park. Three (3) ladies required on the field. Teams will be guaranteed a minimum of 10 games over the six-week season followed by a post-season tournament. *Price: \$300/team. Register by: August 14. Once you register, you will receive a team roster that must be completed by opening day!*

SOCCER

Fall Co-Ed Soccer League!

Soccer Fans unite! Don't let the soccer season come to an end just yet. Join us for our Fall league. The league is open to anyone 16 years and up to participate in 7 vs. 7 soccer to be played at the Montgomery Hall Park Soccer Complex. Games will be played on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. League will start September 3. Rosters are limited to 15 players any combination of male/female players. *Price: \$380/team (jerseys will be provided). Register by: August 18*

Co-Ed Indoor Futsal League

End of the year and too cold to play soccer outside? Join us for the fast-paced action of Indoor Futsal this winter. Our co-ed Futsal League is open to any player aged 16+ for 5 vs. 5 action! Games will take place on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights at the Gypsy Hill Park Gym. Rosters are limited to 10 players. *Price: \$350/team with a minimum of 8 players per team (jerseys will be provided). Register by: November 10*



GYPSY HILL
EST. 1919



MEMBERSHIP RATES

- Adult member fee: \$450
- All-inclusive member plan: \$1400
- Junior member fee (17 and under): \$100
- Cart Plan \$950

FALL HOURS: 8am - 5pm Sunday through Saturday

Wesley Allred, PGA

Lessons by appointment only
Adults one hour lesson: \$50
Seniors one hour lesson: \$40
Juniors one hour lesson: \$25
Playing lessons: \$80

Gypsy Hill Golf Course offers an easy online tee time booking platform. No need to call the shop, just book online at gypsyhillgolfcourse.com.

Gypsy Hill Golf Course is an official First Tee site. To register for classes, go to thefirstteeharrisonburgva@gmail.com or simply call 540-437-4239 to register.

Gypsy Hill Golf Course FALL Tournament Schedule for 2024

- SEPTEMBER 21-22 The Shootout 2person captain's choice, 9am shotgun
- SEPTEMBER 23-25 Spiking Greens
- NOVEMBER 16 Turkey Tournament, 10am shotgun
- DECEMBER 14 Christmas Bowl, 10am shotgun

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS TO PLAY AT GYPSY HILL GOLF COURSE:

FEES

- 18 hole cart fee: \$15
- 18 hole green fee: \$15 Monday through Thursday, \$20 Friday through Sunday
- 9 hole cart fee (1-7, 13&14): \$10
- 9 hole green fee (1-7, 13&14): \$10
- Monday through Thursday after 2pm: \$20 includes cart and green fee or \$10 green fee only
- Monday through Thursday after 5pm: \$15 includes cart and green fee or \$10 green fee only
- Friday through Sunday after 2pm: \$25 includes cart and green fee
- VSGA rate (only 4 plays annually) Monday through Thursday after 10am: \$25
- VSGA rate (only 4 plays annually) Friday through Sunday after 12pm: \$25



Community Events



Scarecrows in the Park

Saturday, September 28, 9am-noon, Gypsy Hill Park Pool

Crows beware! Kids, Parents, Families and Groups...everyone is welcome to join Staunton Parks and Recreation's 6th Annual Scarecrows in the Park Build Off. This family friendly event will happen on Saturday, September 28th from 9am-Noon in Gypsy Hill Park. We will provide all the straw you need to build the scarecrow of your imagination. Clothing placed on scarecrows may not contain any text, images, or symbols. Each participant may erect a sign that indicates the individual or entity that built the scarecrow. The sign may only contain text that indicates the scarecrow builder. The City reserves the right to remove any scarecrow that violates these rules. Bring whatever accessories you wish to build and decorate your scarecrow with! But there is more! Your scarecrow will be presented in the park during the Month of October for all to visit. Scarecrow must be able to be attached to a provided post. There is better news...it's FREE! For more information call Staunton Parks and Recreation: 540.332.3945

'Drive-in' Movie - Coco

Friday, November 1, 5:30pm-8:30pm, Gypsy Hill Park Gymnasium

Families start your engines! Upon arrival you and your 'pit crew' will receive a cardboard box that will soon transform into a car. We will provide everything you need to turn our Gymnasium into a drive in theatre. Once you have parked your cars, we will present the movie *Coco*; a film filled with music, adventure, and a love for family. Guardians/Parents must be present and are encouraged to help their youngsters.

Horticulture Fall Plant Giveaway

Thursday, October 3, 4:15pm-6pm

Location: Gypsy Hill Park, at the far end of the large parking lot for the football stadium & Moxie field, near the entrance to the Parks Maintenance Shop.

What Will Be Available: A mix of annuals & tropical plants from our summer displays including, Elephant Ears, Cannas, Dahlias, and other leftover plants.

How It Works: This year we will continue the "raffle" system of drawing for plants. Plants will be laid out by 4:15pm so you can preview what is available. Ticket distribution begins at 4:15pm, one per participant. At 5pm we draw tickets for plants which will be distributed in lots as winners are drawn. This spreads the plants to as many participants as possible. This event is open to all at no cost. Rain or Shine. Not everything in the city flower beds is available at the giveaway. *Questions: Contact Matthew Sensabaugh, City Horticulturist, 540.332.3706 ext 4174*



Veterans Fishing Derby

Saturday, October 19, 8am-11am, Lake Tams in Gypsy Hill Park

Co-sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Staunton Parks and Recreation

Open to military veterans or active-duty military. Should show proof of veteran status. Prizes awarded in various categories. *FREE on-site registration begins at 7:30am.*

3rd Annual Pumpkin Float-FREE EVENT

Saturday, October 26, 5:30pm-8pm, Lake Tams in Gypsy Hill Park

Bring the entire family to our third annual Fall Pumpkin Float at Lake Tams featuring floating pumpkins, pumpkin carving, luminaries, and fun family activities. Refreshments, music, and child-focused activities will make this a frightfully-fun way to celebrate Halloween! Bring your carved pumpkin to the drop-off tent alongside the lake. We will provide the rafts as well as the light. Your pumpkin must be 7lbs or less to float. You may carve your pumpkin with a face, polka dots, your initials, or any other family friendly design. Pumpkins and pumpkin rafts available on a first come first serve basis, while supplies last. *Pumpkins will not be returned to families after the event, they will be composted.*

Speed Puzzle Competition

Tuesday, November 12, 6pm-8pm, Gypsy Hill Park Gymnasium

Race against the clock and other puzzle enthusiasts to be the first to complete the same puzzle. A fun competition night for groups and families - with prizes! All ages welcome, but children 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Puzzles donated by the Habitat For Humanity ReStore. This event is co-sponsored by Staunton Public Library. Registration required via <https://bit.ly/SPLpuzzle>; registration open October 1 through November 8. For more information call Staunton Parks and Recreation: 540.332.3945 or Staunton Public Library: 540.332.3800

Celebration of Holiday Lights

November 25-January 1, 2025, 5pm-11pm, Gypsy Hill Park

Gypsy Hill Park will again be glowing with beautiful light displays from November 25 through January 1, 2025. For more information on participating, please contact Angel Cooper at 540.886.8660 or angelcooper@hotmail.com or Nina Herron at 540.383.7281. Applications available online at celebrationofholidaylights.org

Field of Deer

November 25-January 1, 2025, 5pm-11pm Gypsy Hill Park

The display of decorative holiday deer (part of the Celebration of Holiday Lights) is placed inside the fence at the Gypsy Hill Park Pool in tribute of someone living, in memory of a loved one, or "just because". Registration forms can be downloaded online at www.celebrationoflights.org and click on "Field of Deer Application Form". Deer will be placed randomly in the pool area at the discretion of the committee. There will be volunteer help from local Boy Scout Troop 33. For more information, please contact Scott Eaton at eatonls@jmu.edu.

Community Programs

American Shakespeare Center's No Kidding Drama Club (for Grown Ups!)

Join the No Kidding Drama Club to make new friends and reconnect with your inner "theatre kid" through this lively staged reading series. The No Kidding Drama Club's 4-week cycle will explore the universe of lesser-known early modern plays (some by Shakespeare, some not) through lively rehearsal, culminating in a staged reading performance at the Blackfriars Playhouse on Sunday, October 6. Included in the cost of the No Kidding Drama Club is a ticket for each participant to see *Macbeth* at the American Shakespeare Center. Instructor: Aubrey Whitlock, Director of Education at the American Shakespeare Center. Ages 18+. Program held at NSC. 11am-2pm, 4 Saturdays beginning September 7, and one Sunday morning. Price: \$140. For more information, contact Aubrey Whitlock at aubrey.whitlock@americanshakespearecenter.com or by phone at 540.885-5588 ext. 111.

American Sign Language

This course teaches the basic communication skills in American Sign Language. There will be many hands-on activities and games, discussions, vocabulary development, and conversational skills. Any individual who has had basic or no experience at all may benefit from this course. A fun opportunity to learn a new language in a stress-free environment outside of a classroom! Ages 9+. Instructor: Amy Ashworth. MHPA, 7:15pm-8:15pm, eight Thursdays beginning September 26. Price: \$70. Register by: September 19

Master Gardeners- Vermicomposting

Want to create a compost indoors? This class will take away the confusion of vermicomposting as well as show you the science behind it all. You will leave prepared to keep your compost indoors with a vermicomposting bin and all the knowledge you will need to successfully create rich compost. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a guardian. Instructor: Master Gardeners. NSC, 9:30am-11am, November 16. Price: \$15. Register by: November 12



Special Pops - Interest Group

We want to hear from you on how we can better serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We are encouraging individuals with specialized needs and caregivers to join us for an open discussion to assess the needs of this population. We will meet at MHPA, 5:30pm-6:30pm, November 4.

Soap Making W/ Simone and Tuesday

Be a maker! Learn to create your own natural soap during this sensory experience in the lost art of soap making. Attend on your own or make it an event for family, friends or dates. All ingredients and supplies will be provided by Simone & Tuesday. You will leave this work shop with 5 bars of your own, handmade soap. All Ages (Children must be supervised and good listeners to ensure a safe and fun experience). Instructor Simone McKelvey of Simone & Tuesday. GHPGC, 1:30pm-4pm, November 9. Price: \$48. Register by: November 4



Women's Jam Night

Find the company of other ladies, young and old, who want to sing or play their instrument with others in a supportive environment. Whether you have never shared your musical talent outside of the privacy of your home, or have a great deal of experience, the Women's JAM night is an opportunity to support other ladies and share your passion for music in an informal relaxed musical setting. This will be a jam where musicians improvise using musical instruments, but these jams will include an opportunity to practice singing lead and harmony as well. Facilitator Dianne Byrer is a part of Staunton's Music Community performing at open mics and venues in our community for the past several years. MHP, 6:15pm, every 3rd Tuesday of the month beginning September 17. Price: \$5/season. Join anytime!

Get Your Ducks in a Row

The Ducks in a Row workshop helps each person give the gift of planning by getting affairs in order! Participants develop a plan for making decisions, organizing records, and preparing for the future to ensure personal wishes will be met. The workshop includes topics such as wills, medical directives, family memorabilia, and distribution of belongings, as well as plans for funeral, financial and legal matters. Save time, headaches and confusion for your loved ones by getting your Ducks in a Row! Some parents and children attend together! Instructor: Mary Ann Stripling. Class held at MHPC, 4:30pm-6:30pm, three Tuesdays beginning October 23. Price: \$50. Register by: October 13



Museum of Shenandoah Valley: Gardens of Glass & Bonnie Blue Southern Market & Bakery

Explore the seven-acre MSV gardens and discover 30 larger-than-life glass sculptures of flowers, insects, and more! This beautiful outdoor exhibition features the work of Craig Mitchell Smith, one of America's most innovative kiln-glass artists. Followed by lunch at Bonnies, where they have perfected their traditional, handcrafted methods of Southern cooking. Thursday September 19. *Depart GHPG 8am; return around 2:30pm. Price: \$40 (includes transportation and admission). Register by: September 13*

Charles Town Hollywood Casino

Take a trip to Hollywood Casino in West Virginia and try your luck! Trip held on Friday, September 27, *Depart GHPG parking lot at 9am; return around 8pm. Price: \$30 (Includes transportation only). Register by: September 20*

Arundel Mills Shopping Mall / Maryland LIVE Casino

Never been here? What are you waiting for? Arundel Mills is the largest Mall in Maryland with over 225 stores. But Arundel Mills offers so much more with great food options, Medieval Times dinner theater, Dave and Busters game room and on the same grounds is Maryland LIVE Casino. Whether you'd love to test your luck at the Casino, enjoy a day of shopping or just explore all Arundel Mills has to offer, this is the trip for you! This trip takes place on Saturday, November 16. *Depart GHPG at 7:30am; return 9pm. Price: \$39 (Includes transportation only). Register by: October 31*

Bizarre Bazaar® and Lunch at Olive Garden

The 49th annual Christmas Collection is back for 2024. This show has four exhibition buildings filled with fabulous unique gifts for everyone on your list! A beautiful holiday marketplace with 500 juried exclusive exhibitors and more than 100 new exhibitors only seen at The Bizarre Bazaar®. We will end our day of shopping with a nice lunch at the Olive Garden in Short Pump. Friday, December 6. *Depart GHPG at 6am; return around 3:30pm. Price: \$40 (Includes transportation and early bird admission). Register by: November 20*

Winterfest at Kings Dominion

Begin a new family holiday tradition by joining us in Kings Dominion's NEW winter extravaganza, Winterfest! Kings Dominion will be magically transformed into a winter wonderland full of enchantment and holiday cheer! Become immersed in the season's spirit with spectacular holiday lights and décor, world-class live entertainment, savory treats and fanciful experiences throughout the park. There will be over a million lights and sights to behold, sounds of the season in holiday shows and festive fun for all. Saturday, December 14. *Depart GHPG 3pm; return Midnight. Price: \$55 (includes transportation and Winterfest admission ticket). Register by: November 21*



Nature Walks w/Sancta Natura

All-Level Nature Walk

The first walk will occur on Saturday, September 7, from 8am to 10am at Montgomery Hall Park in Staunton. We will walk the road along the forest edges and then through the forest, learning about flora and fauna we encounter. Fall bird migration is just starting to pick up as breeding season comes to a close, and we are beginning to have an influx of migrants from the northern route back to the tropics, and seeing the return of our first winter residents. We may encounter notable butterflies, and we'll learn about important plants of mountainous parts in Virginia along the way. This walk is for naturalists of all levels and ages, including accompanied children. It is for those able to handle moderate strenuous activity, as we will cover approximately 1.5 miles, and much of the walk will be sloped. Things to bring: Sun protection-insect repellent-water-binoculars/camera (highly recommended). Instructor: Tom Wyatt of Sancta Natura. *MHP, 8am-10am, September 7. Price: FREE. Register by: September 1*



Intermediate/Advanced Birding Nature Walk

This outing is ideal for intermediate and experienced birders/naturalists, though all are welcome. We will mainly be looking for birds, but will also discuss any other animals and trees we encounter. This date is during peak migration, and we have additional species of warblers, vireos, flycatchers, and others passing through on their way back to the neotropics, appearing for the first time since spring when they were headed north. Though they are rare, with some luck, we may have the opportunity to find rare and coveted species such as Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, Connecticut Warbler, and Philadelphia Vireo. Some of our winter residents will also have returned by this date. On this walk, we will traverse a forested hill on a rough gravel road, and we will cover up to one mile. Things to bring: Sun protection-insect repellent-water-binoculars/camera (highly recommended). Instructor: Tom Wyatt of Sancta Natura. *Betsy Bell Wilderness Park, 8am-10am, September 28. Price: FREE. Register by: September 22*



Beginner Rock Climbing and Rappelling

Enjoy a full day of learning to climb, belay and rappel in the George Washington National Forest. Let Wild GUYde Adventures lead you on an outdoor adventure! This experience is open to ages 12 and older (children may attend unaccompanied, but their transportation must be provided by a parent or guardian); all technical gear is provided; a personal suggested clothing list and a Medical Form/Participation Agreement will be supplied after registration. *George Washington National Forest, 9am-5pm, Saturday, September 28. Price: \$72/person. Register by: September 18*



Backcountry Navigation Clinic

An afternoon of learning and practicing map and compass skills in the George Washington National Forest. This instructional clinic is perfect for day-hikers, backpackers, mountain bikers, hunters, scout leaders and anyone else who likes to wander off the beaten path. This experience is designed for ages 14 and older (teens may attend unaccompanied, but their transportation must be provided by a parent or guardian). A personal clothing list, Medical Form/Participant Agreement, and driving directions to the activity will be provided after registration. *George Washington National Forest, Saturday, October 26, 1pm-5pm. Price: \$38/person. Register by: October 16*

Beginner Wild Caving near Bridgewater, VA

An afternoon of learning basic caving safety, underground navigation, and some elementary limestone geology; ages 12 and older (children and teens may attend unaccompanied, but their transportation must be provided by a parent or guardian). All technical gear will be provided; a personal suggested clothing list, Medical Form/Participation Agreement, and driving directions to the activity meetup will be supplied by WILD GUYde Adventures after registration. *Bridgewater, Saturday, December 7, 8:30am-noon. Price: \$38/person. Register by: November 26*



All About the Kids

HEART: Healthy Environmental Afterschool Recreation Time

The HEART afterschool program is a latchkey program that provides a home away from home to children of working parents. Concerns about safety and being home alone or under-supervised is a good reason to enroll your child in this program. The HEART program has quite a tradition with its roots beginning 38 years ago with the first pilot program at McSwain Elementary School. Space is limited. Registration still available for Bessie Weller students. Afternoon HEART is \$150 per month. For any questions regarding the HEART program, please contact Steven Taetzsch at taetzschst@ci.staunton.va.us or 540.332.3945



Pre-K/Toddler

Rock Hopper Toddler Hiking Club

Do you want to get outside with your toddler and explore more? We will give you the tips and tricks to feel confident heading out with your child while we explore the variety of trails at Montgomery Hall Park. Over this session, we will cover topics like choosing the right trail, dressing for success, and packing properly. Our instructor will go over trail safety, "leave no trace", selecting the best trail depending on your child's abilities, and how to make each adventure fun and engaging even if you only make it a short distance with your child. Ages 5 and under (with adult). Instructor: Samantha Campbell of "Hey-Ho-Lets Grow". *MHP, 1:30pm-3pm, six Wednesdays beginning September 11. Price: \$38. Register by: September 4*

Pollinators with Augusta Bird Club

Bees, beetles, hummingbirds, and butterflies... What do they all have in common? Come find out in this class led by the Augusta Bird Club. You will learn the importance of pollinators and their plants. Followed by a small art activity for your little one to create and learn at the same time! Ages: 2-6 (with guardian). Instructor: Lynne Parks with Augusta Bird Club. *MHP, 9am, September 21. Price: \$7. Register by: September 17*

Little Movers

Let's get our groove on! This creative movement class is made for pre-school age kids who like to move and dance. Through fun activities and structured play, your child will exercise their mind and body. This environment allows those creative juices to start flowing and helps provide a positive outlet that promotes health and self-confidence. Ages 3-5. Instructor: Riva Mains. *GHPGC, 10am-10:45am, six Thursdays beginning October 3. Price: \$36. Register by: September 26*

Handprints

A child-centered art program where our youngest artists are free to explore and be creative. Children will enjoy a variety of materials and techniques at their own pace: play dough, easel painting, and a special project each week. Emphasis will be on the imaginative process and not the final product, building essential cognitive skills along the way. Best of all we supply everything you and your child need and take care of all the cleanup. Ages 2-5 (with adult). Instructor: Samantha Campbell of "Hey-Ho-Lets Grow". *NSC, 9:30am-10:30am, six Wednesdays beginning October 9. Price: \$37. Register by: September 27*

Toddler/Pre-K Open Gym

As the weather cools down and the snow begins to fall, we find ourselves cooped up with not many options to run and play. Join us Wednesday mornings at the Gypsy Hill Park Gymnasium. We will have balls, toys, and games available for little ones, as well as plenty of open space for running and being silly. Parent/ guardian must remain present with their children. Ages 5 and under. *GHPG, 9:30am-11:30am, Wednesdays November thru March. Starts on November 6. Price: \$3/child each visit. *Please note: this program will be unavailable on the fourth Wednesday of every month.*

Youth/Teen

Adventure Bound After School Hiking Club

Participants will gather after school, make a healthy snack, and venture outside. Some of the topics we will explore: Learn how to set up a tent and the concept of "leave no trace", read a topographical map, general compass use, do an "urban hike" downtown and explore a variety of trails in and around the city. Instructor: Samantha Campbell of "Hey-Ho Lets Grow". *MHP, 4:30pm-6pm, six Wednesdays beginning September 11. Price: \$38. Register by: September 4*

American Shakespeare Center Drama Club Junior

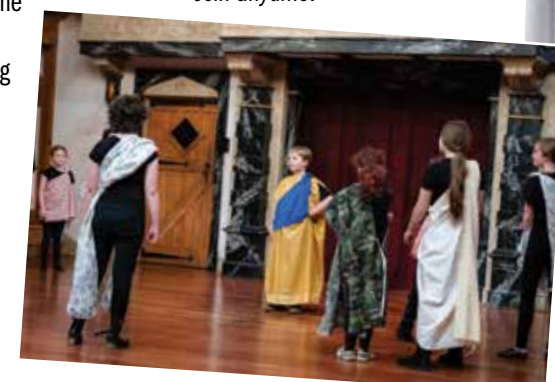
Join the American Shakespeare Center Drama Club (Junior) to build confidence and expand creativity with the ultimate team sport: theatre. The ASC Drama Club's 13-week class will explore Shakespeare's language and stagecraft through play, culminating in a final performance of an original, abridged Shakespeare play at the Blackfriars Playhouse on Sunday, December 8. Included in the cost of the ASC Drama Club is a ticket for each participant to join the group on a field trip to see Macbeth at the American Shakespeare Center. Instructor: Lia Wallace of American Shakespeare Center. Ages 8-13. *Program held at NSC, 1pm-3pm, 13 Sundays beginning September 15. Price: \$185. For more information, contact Lia Wallace at lia.wallace@americanshakespearecenter.com or by phone at 540.885-5588 ext. 110.*

American Shakespeare Center Drama Club Senior

Join the American Shakespeare Center Drama Club (Senior) to develop a deeper understanding of Shakespeare's language and stagecraft through performance. Participants will work on a variety of pieces throughout the 13-week class, culminating in a final performance of scenes at the Blackfriars Playhouse on Sunday, December 8. Included in the cost of the ASC Drama Club is a ticket for each participant to join the group on a field trip to see Macbeth at the American Shakespeare Center. Instructor: Lia Wallace of American Shakespeare Center. Ages 14-18. *Program held at NSC, 4:30pm-6:30pm, 15 Sundays beginning September 15. Price: \$185. For more information, contact Lia Wallace at lia.wallace@americanshakespearecenter.com or by phone at 540.885-5588 ext. 110.*

Chess for Beginners

This is a beginner course to introduce students to the game of chess and build their critical and strategic thinking. Students will learn the rules of chess, basic strategy/ tactics, and develop a love of the game. As both a game and an intellectual exercise, playing chess furthers many important goals, including improving students' concentration, self-discipline, logical thinking, short- and long-range planning, and understanding the consequences of making good and bad decisions. Instructor: George Gruner. *MHPA, 4:15pm-5pm, Ages 5-8, Eight Tuesdays beginning September 24. Price: \$32. Register by: September 19*



Advanced Chess-Strategies & Tactics

Students will learn to employ time proven chess tactics and respond to their opponents' tactics. Each student will also learn chess strategy (long-term chess goals) for the opening, middle, and end game components. We will look at many of the strategies of strong chess players from their actual games, discuss and learn how best to incorporate them into our games. Chess notation will be reviewed during our first session. Playing time will be part of each session. Ages 8-18, (requires strong understanding of the game or with instructor's permission). Instructor: George Gruner. *MHPA, 5pm-6pm. Eight Tuesdays beginning September 24. Price: \$32. Register by: September 19*

LARP!

LARP /lärp/ (noun): a type of interactive role-playing game in which the participants portray characters (dress up in silly costumes) through physical action (battle with foam swords). We will have mini workshops twice a month, on the first and third Saturdays, for character/story building, costume construction, and rules of the craft. Ages 8+ (Anyone under the age of 12 should be accompanied by a guardian). Instructor Dan Funk with Staunton Makerspace. Makerspace, 10am-12pm. *Price \$55/month. Register a week in advance*
· September 7 & 21
· October 5 & 19

Girls Night Out!

Spend a night out with the girls, make new friends, and have fun. The night will be full of fall festivities from the snacks to the crafts we have you covered. Join us for a night of fun, music, games, snacks, and more. Ages: 8-12. Instructor: Samantha Campbell Campbell. *NSC, 5:30pm-8:30pm, October 18. Price: \$30. Register by: October 12*

Youth Kung Fu

New: Choose either once per week or twice per week options Let your child learn the discipline and applications of Kung Fu while improving their health and having fun! Training will be in the Hung Gar and Northern Shaolin Longfist styles of Kung Fu. Classes will consist of a rigorous warm-up, stretching, and the practice of various Kung Fu techniques and their applications to self-defense. Ages 6-12. More information at www.taichikungfutaoo.com. Instructor: Brian Weaver. *GHPGC, Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:15pm-6pm. Price: Once per week \$50/month; Twice per week \$90/month. Join anytime!*



Fitness and Wellbeing



Morning Warmups

This class is great for seniors with tired muscles and as a follow up for physical therapy. Bring hand weights, exercise mats, and resistance bands. Learn chair exercises, healthy eating, and diet tips. Men and women invited! Ages 50+. Instructor: Brenda Powell. *GHPG, Tuesday and Thursday, 9am-10am, classes begin September 26. Price: \$28.80 per 12 classes (Price has already been adjusted for senior rate). Early Fall session begins September 24 Late Fall session begins November 7 (no class on Nov. 28)*

Staunton Steppers-Indoors

Too cold to get your steps in outdoors? We have the perfect solution-indoor walking club! You get all the benefits of walking without worrying about that pesky weather. Plus, joining our club will allow you to connect with others on a routine basis. *GHPG, Tuesdays 10:30am-11:30am, beginning September 10. No fee for the program but registration is required.*

Adult and Teen Kung Fu

Choose either once per week or twice per week options. Come improve your health, learn self-defense, and have fun learning the techniques, applications, history, and culture of traditional martial arts. Training will be in the Hung Gar and Northern Shaolin Longfist styles of Kung Fu. Benefits of Kung Fu include improved strength, agility, flexibility, self-defense skills, and multiple mental health benefits. Ages 13 and up. More information at www.taichikungfutoao.com. Instructor: Brian Weaver. *GHPGC, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:15pm-7:30pm. Price: Once per week \$60/month; Twice per week \$108/month. Join anytime!*

Tai Chi and Qigong (Day time Session)

Tai Chi and Qigong exercises help improve your balance, posture, and aid in increased mobility. This program will teach soft, flowing movements designed to improve strength and range of motion while relaxing both your body and mind. Come practice a variety of Qigong exercises and Tai Chi styles beginning with Yang style Tai Chi. No previous experience is necessary. Join this ongoing class at any time. Flexible shoes and comfortable clothes recommended. More information at www.taichikungfutoao.com. Instructor: Brian Weaver. *GHPGC, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12pm-1:15pm. Price: \$108-135 per session (pricing varies due to number of classes)*

- Late Summer Session begins Aug. 27 (8 classes, \$108)
- Fall Session begins Oct. 8 (10 Classes, \$135)
- Late Fall Session begins Nov. 19 (9 Classes, \$121.50)

Staunton Kendo & Iaido (Monthly)

Choose between two different styles of Japanese sword arts. Kendo is a modern form of Japanese fencing. It comes from the sword arts of ancient Japan. Kendo is more than just learning to fence. It is also about proper discipline and spirit. Iaido is the Japanese sword art of drawing and cutting in one motion. This is a great martial art for mental concentration. We teach Seiteigata Iaido. Instructor: John Smitka. *GHPGC, Iaido 6:30pm-7:30pm, Kendo 7:30pm-9:15pm, Wednesday. Join monthly sessions beginning 1st Wednesday of each month. Price: \$65/month*

- September Session begins Sept. 4
- October Session begins Oct. 2
- November Session begins Nov. 6
- December will have a pro-rated fee



Registration



ONLINE REGISTRATION

www.staunton.va.us/recreation

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION

NAME _____ Date of Birth _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE AM/PM _____ EMAIL _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT ADDRESS _____

Program/Class/Trip _____ Program Date/Time _____ \$ Price _____

Program/Class/Trip _____ Program Date/Time _____ \$ Price _____

Program/Class/Trip _____ Program Date/Time _____ \$ Price _____

Program/Class/Trip _____ Program Date/Time _____ \$ Price _____

Program/Class/Trip Total (Do not include materials fee) _____

Adults (Over 55) 10% Discount (excludes trip & special event prices) _____

Non-City Residents Fee add \$2.00 per program/class/trip per person _____

Total sent: _____

Travel Policy:

All trips are to be paid in full when signing up unless another specific option is available where a minimum of 50% deposit is required for each person. Once a payment is received from a patron they are considered to have an official spot on the trip if there is available space. All patrons understand that there is a no refund policy in effect unless the Recreation department decides to cancel a trip. It is at the Recreation department's discretion on the cancellation of trips and most will be done in a timely manner. In some extreme cases such as death or serious medical conditions a refund may be available to a patron of a trip minus any expense the Recreation department may incur. Name changing fees may occur on trips involving plane flights. In cases regarding deposits; if the balance isn't paid by the deadline, patron may lose full deposit and spot on the trip.

Before registration form is complete, you will be required to sign and date on the reverse side of this form that you have read, understand and accept this addition to our registration process. If registering for a trip, please list EMERGENCY CONTACT (name, address, and phone number).

WALK-IN: Irene Givens Admin Building - Montgomery Hall Park
1000 Montgomery Ave - Staunton, VA 24401

MAIL-IN: Mail your completed registration form & check to:
Staunton Parks & Recreation Department - PO Box 58 - Staunton, VA 24402-0058

www.staunton.va.us/recreation - www.facebook.com/StauntonRecreationParks



PARENT'S AND PARTICIPANT'S INFORMED CONSENT, AUTHORIZATION, AND RELEASE

(This is a legal document. Read carefully before signing.)

To the fullest extent permitted by law, in consideration of the person noted below being allowed to participate, with each and all person/s acknowledging the opportunity to ask questions, be aware and receive full information, understanding and give voluntary consent regarding the potential risks in any physical or other activity/ies involved generally and particularly and inherently in parks and/or recreation programs, including those inherent related to a trip or travel, the undersigned individual/s VOLUNTARILY AND UNCONDITIONALLY on behalf of the undersigned and as well as by the participant personally, if the participant is at least 18 years of age, and for successors in interest AGREE that the undersigned:

- **ASSUMES ALL RISKS**, and
- **FOREVER WAIVE/S AND RELEASE/S** the City of Staunton, its departments and agencies, officials, employees, agents, representatives and volunteers (individually and collectively the "City") from any claims and liability of any nature whatsoever, for **ANY KIND OF PERSONAL INJURY, ILLNESS, DEATH, EXPENSE, COST, AND DAMAGES** except those not subject to waiver or release under the law, and
- **FOREVER WAIVE/S AND RELEASE/S ALL PROPERTY DAMAGE, LOSS AND/OR DAMAGES** that may relate, directly or indirectly, to the program and activity/ies connected with the City in any aspect of it/them at any time and at any place whether before, during or afterwards, and
- **FOREVER AUTHORIZE/S** the City to seek and obtain **CARE, MEDICAL ATTENTION AND TREATMENT** of any kind for the participant whether the treatment occurs without knowledge of the quality of care or treatment provider or facility, and ACCEPTS FULL RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY FOR ANY CHARGES OR EXPENSES AND/OR COSTS incurred or related to such care and treatment, including EXPENSE related to transportation or early return home, whether or not it is covered by any insurance policy, plan or program or agreement of any kind.

* Pursuant to the City's Travel Policy (See Reverse Side), which is incorporated by reference and may be changed at any time, once payment is made for the program or activity, including any required deposit or payment in full, there is NO REFUND unless an authorized City person cancels the trip entirely, with such a decision being within the sole discretion of the City. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE in making any payment by the designated time. The failure to make timely payment strictly as specified completely waives the opportunity to participate in the program or activity without further notice. Each provision of this document is separable, and each such provision, including each clause, stands on its own. The City does not waive and expressly preserves any immunity of any kind as allowed by law.

Participant Signature: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Witness _____

Date: _____

If participant is a minor under the age of 18

Participant Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Parent/Guardian Name/s: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature/s: _____



Our Mission:

To provide a variety of quality leisure opportunities for the purpose of improving Stauntonian's quality of life via well maintained historic parks housing superior facilities paired with innovative recreation programs, athletic leagues, trips, and outstanding child-minding programs.

Our Parks and Recreation Brochure

This publication is our way to directly connect with the citizens of Staunton and share our most current listing of recreational offerings. This includes enrichment programming, trips, special events, childcare, athletic leagues, Gypsy Hill Golf information, park and project updates.

Brochure Schedule:

BROCHURE CYCLE	DISTRIBUTION DATES
Winter/Spring covers January-April	Beginning of January
Summer covers May-August	End of April
Fall covers September-December	End of August

Ways to Register

Online, by mail or in person at 1000 Montgomery Hall Avenue, Staunton VA 24401

Online Registration

Visit our new and improved city website to register for classes, trips, and leagues through our new software system. Individuals must create a customer profile on the portal which will allow for easy access and a simple, customer friendly experience! www.staunton.va.us/recreation

Register by mail:

Send a completed registration form to:
Staunton Parks and Recreation
PO Box 58
Staunton, VA 24402-0058

Early Registration

Whether or not we can hold a class usually depends on the number of registered program participants we have by a certain deadline. Please register soon and early to avoid having to cancel a program or workshop.

Office Information:

1000 Montgomery Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401

Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm
Main office: 540.332.3945
Weather cancellation line: 540.332.3947
Fax: 540.332.3983
Park Maintenance: 540.332.3945
Gypsy Hill Golf Shop: 540.332.3949

Overnight Travel Policy

All trips are to be paid in full when signing up unless another specific option is available where a minimum of 50% deposit is required for each person. Once a payment is received from a patron they are considered to have an official spot on the trip if there is space available. All patrons understand that there is a no refund policy in effect unless the Recreation Department decides to cancel a trip. It is at the Recreation Department's discretion on the cancellation of trips and most will be done in a timely manner. In some extreme cases such as death or serious medical conditions a refund may be available to a patron of a trip minus any expenses the Recreation Department may incur. Name changing fees may occur on trips involving plane flights. In cases regarding deposits: if the balance isn't paid by the deadline, patron may lose full deposit and spot on the trip. Before registration form is complete, you will be required to sign (above check in lieu of signature) that you have read, understand and accept this addition to our registration process.

Program and Day Trip Refund Policy

In the case of a cancellation by Parks and Recreation staff, the refund will be issued in the form of a check through the City's Finance Department. Check will be mailed to the address on file. Please allow a minimum of 2-3 weeks for refunds by check.

No refunds or credits will be given for any program or activity sessions missed by the participant.

If adequate advance notice is provided, we will refund the full amount of the program less any non-recoverable expenses, as listed below. If there is a waiting list and we are able to fill your spot on a day-trip or in a program, you will receive a full refund.

General Program or One-Day Trip: Full refund prior to the registration deadline, less any non-recoverable expenses (pre-paid meals, lodging, tickets, etc.)

If adequate advance notice prior to the registration deadline is not given, and your space cannot be filled, all fees are forfeited.

Inclusion Statement

It is the goal of Staunton Parks and Recreation to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all individuals of all abilities who wish to participate in recreational activities and programs and experience the benefits and opportunities provided through the services offered by Staunton Parks and Recreation.

Staunton Parks and Recreation will accommodate any reasonable request to assist people with disabilities and special needs and support various learning styles. Individuals who require additional support are encouraged to complete the Accommodation Request Form two weeks in advance of the program or activity in which they plan to participate, to assist Parks and Recreation staff in its efforts to create a positive recreation experience for the participant. For questions, please call 540.332.3945. The Accommodation Request form can be found here: www.staunton.va.us/Accommodation.

Notice and Prohibition Against Discrimination

The City of Staunton is committed to equal opportunity and compliance otherwise with all nondiscrimination laws. The City of Staunton is an inclusive locality and environment.

The City of Staunton does not discriminate and prohibits unlawful discrimination and harassment against any person on the basis of race, creed, religion or religious belief, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, age, sex or gender, sexual orientation, disability, military or veteran status or on any unlawful basis.

No qualified person on the basis of disability will, on the basis of disability, be denied the benefits of local government services, programs, or activities. If any person has a disability or otherwise needs special consideration, the City welcomes contact and will provide information and address special needs in compliance with the law.

Any unlawful discrimination should be reported immediately to any City-designated person and any City department director, or to the City Manager or designee, or to any member of the Staunton City Council. Such discrimination also may be reported to any state or federal agency which is responsible for compliance with nondiscrimination laws, such as the U.S. Justice Department, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or any other federal or state agency with jurisdiction.

The City of Staunton also prohibits unlawful retaliation against any person who files a report or complaint about discrimination.

To contact the City Manager's office to report any unlawful discrimination or retaliation or to request special arrangements because of disability, please call 540.332.3814.





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The Yarn, Hook, and Thimble Circle

Meets every Tuesday afternoon, 1pm-4pm, at Booker T. Washington Community Center. This group is open and welcome to anyone in the community who would like to learn, share, and preserve the lost arts of sewing and crochet, and enjoy fellowship.

Many of the items made, such as blankets and hats, are donated to help others. Interested? Just show up.



Staunton Parks & Recreation

Admin Building Montgomery Hall Park • 1000 Montgomery Ave • Staunton, VA 24401 • 540.332.3945 • staunton.va.us/recreation

Celebration of Holiday Lights

November 25-January 1, 2025, 5pm-11pm, Gypsy Hill Park

Gypsy Hill Park will again be glowing with beautiful light displays from November 25 through January 1, 2025. Each year there are more participants bringing to this wonderful community, colorful scenes that are all created uniquely by individuals, families, organizations, businesses and churches from Staunton, Waynesboro, Augusta County and surrounding areas. Power is available only in certain areas of the park and space assignments are made accordingly. Your display must have a '2x3' sign, identifying your family, individual, organization, business or church. As we continue to grow, fewer spaces are available. The committee invites all interested individuals, groups, churches, and businesses to join the 2024 event, by placing a display that will be enjoyed by over 32,000 vehicles traveling the park. *For more information on participating, please contact Angel Cooper at 540.886.8660 or angelcooper@hotmail.com or Nina Herron at 540.383.7281. Applications available online at celebrationofholidaylights.org*

Field of Deer

November 25-January 1, 2025, 5pm-11pm Gypsy Hill Park

The display of decorative holiday deer (part of the Celebration of Holiday Lights) is placed inside the fence at the Gypsy Hill Park Pool in tribute of someone living, in memory of a loved one, or "just because". Registration forms can be downloaded online at www.celebrationoflights.org and click on "Field of Deer Application Form". There is no fee for displaying deer; however, if you wish to purchase a plaque for the "Tribute Board" with your loved one's name, there is a one-time charge of \$10/name. Previously purchased tribute plaques are displayed each year, and purchasing a plaque is not mandatory for the displaying of deer. Deer will be placed randomly in the pool area at the discretion of the committee. There will be volunteer help from local Boy Scout Troop 33. *For more information, please contact Scott Eaton at eatonls@jmu.edu*

