



County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

979 17TH AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062

(831) 454-7901 FAX: (831) 454-7940 TDD: (831) 454-7978

JOHN J. PRESLEIGH
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA

Saturday, November 9, 2013

9:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting/Retreat

Simpkins Family Swim Center

979 17th Avenue

Santa Cruz, CA 95062

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS OR APPROVAL

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes from September 9, 2013 2-3
- B. Information and Reports (Accept and File)
 - 1. Maintenance Division – Status Report..... 4-5
 - 2. Facilities Division – Status Report 6-7
 - 3. Park Planning Division – Status Report 8-9
 - 4. Recreation & Cultural Services Division – Status Report 10-14

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Opportunity for persons to address the Commission on matters which are within the scope of responsibility of the Commission but not on today's agenda.

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Action Items

- 1. 2014 Public Art Plan
- 2. Commissioner to serve on Government Center exhibits panel
- 3. Commissioner to serve on panel for artist-designed hatchcovers (manhole covers)

B. Information Items

- 1. % for Public Art in Private Development
- 2. Eloise Pickard Smith Award
- 3. Pop-up Museums in parks
- 4. Condition of County Art Collection
- 5. 2012-2013 Commission attendance report

VII. ADJOURNMENT



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ARTS COMMISSION

September 9, 2013, 4:30 PM

979 17th Avenue, 2nd Floor - Santa Cruz, California

- I. Present: Evelyn Bernstein, Paul DeWorken, Cynthia Kilian, Linda Levy, James Nee, Joanna Phillips, Judy Stabile, Marc Theeuwes Bobbi Todaro

Excused Absence: John Faraola Unexcused Absence: None

Staff: Betsey Lynberg, Kathy DeWild

- II. Approved Agenda

Motion/Second: Stabile/Theeuwes

AYES: 8

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 2 (Commissioner DeWorken arrived after this agenda item)

- III. Approved Consent Agenda

Motion/Second: Levy/Stabile

AYES: 8

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 2 (Commissioner DeWorken arrived after this agenda item)

- IV. Approved recipient of the Eloise Pickard Smith Award

Motion/Second: Bernstein/Stabile

AYES: 9

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1

- V. Approved Selection Panel Recommendation for Outside the Box Phase 4 Artists

Motion/Second: Stabile/Theeuwes

AYES: 9

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1

- VI. Selected Arts Commissioners to serve on the public art panel for Heart of Soquel

Motion/Second: Phillips/Stabile

AYES: 9

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1

VII. Selected Arts Commissioners to serve on the public art panel for McGregor Park
Motion/Second: Todaro/Levy
AYES: 9
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 1

VIII. Next meeting date: Saturday, November 9, 9:00 a.m. Simpkins Family Swim Center / Community Room.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.



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JOHN J. PRESLEIGH
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: October 15, 2013

TO: PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: GRETCHEN ILIFF, MAINTENANCE DIVISION

RE: STATUS REPORTS ON CURRENT PROJECTS

PARKS, BUILDING, AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

NORTH COUNTY PARKS (Highlands, Ben Lomond, Felton Covered Bridge, Probation, Michael Gray Field, Quail Hollow Ranch and the North Coast)

- New park rules signs were installed at several North Coast Beaches
- Staff will spend time this month winterizing trails at Quail Hollow Ranch Park.
- Tree pruning and mowing was completed at the Probation Center as a fire prevention request.

MID-COUNTY PARKS (AJC, Government Center, Emeline Complex, Twin Lakes, Brommer, Felt, Floral, Coffee Lane, Soquel Lyons, Jose Avenue, Winkle Farm, Willowbrook Lane, Moran Lake, Maplethorpe, Santa Cruz Gardens, Mid-County beach access areas)

- Several more large irrigation main leaks were repaired at Anna Jean Cummings Park.
- New fencing was installed at Soquel Lyons Park
- A local bike group built a bicycle pump track at Chanticleer Park. Staff installed a water line and removed some trees slated for removal in the park master plan in preparation of the project.

SOUTH COUNTY PARKS (Polo Grounds, Valencia Hall, Hidden Beach, Seascape, Aptos Village, South County Beach access areas, Scott Park, Scott Estate, Aldridge Lane, Mesa Village, Pinto Lake, Freedom Government Annex)

- Staff worked with California Conservation Corp on installing some split rail fencing and some trail maintenance work at Pinto Lake Park.
- Repairs were made to the Via Palo Alto stairway.

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- Staff assisted with many special events, including Grazing on the Green, The California Beer Festival and the Walk to End Alzheimer's

SIMPKINS FAMILY SWIM CENTER

- Staff replaced several underwater pool lights.
- Staff assisted with SuperKids triathlon event.
- Staff received training on electrical emergencies and chainsaw safety.



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JOHN J. PRESLEIGH
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: October 15, 2013
TO: Parks & Recreation Commission, Arts Commission
FROM: Gretchen Iliff, Facilities Management Division
RE: Status Report on Current Projects

Summary for reservations in the Parks for the months of June through September 2013, (excluding SFSC):

Attendance at Reserved Facilities:

Another very busy season has taken place in the area of facility rentals and special event administration. The public continues to enjoy the resources and recreational opportunities available within the County Parks system. There were hundreds of picnics, meetings, weddings, special events and athletic field rentals. Staff estimates that over 150,000 park visitors attended events in reserved facilities between the months of June through September.

Center and Meeting Room Rentals in June through September 2013:

During this time period there were 60 weddings, receptions and events held at our various Park Centers with rental revenues totaling \$67,000.00. The season has been extremely successful, thanks to the hard work by the Facilities office staff, on-site Park Services Officers, and Parks Maintenance staff. There were also 80 meeting room rentals totaling \$2,700.00.

Picnic Rentals in June through September 2013:

There were 135 picnics in the reservable picnic areas with rental revenues totaling \$20,300.00. Non-profit organizations and some local businesses scheduled approximately 35 of these picnics (about 25%).

Athletic Fields:

Sports season has been in full swing and baseball, soccer and volleyball programs have continued to grow so that spring, summer and fall seasons are filled with these sports activities. There have been 1250 individual bookings in 18 athletic fields with rental revenues totaling \$61,850.00 during these four months.

Additional sports leagues and recreational use of County Parks:

Summer and fall use of parks have included a variety of sports and recreational programs. 4 surf contest took place at mid county beach locations. Save Our Shores coordinated 26 clean-ups through the Adopt-A-Beach program, with 16 taking place at Davenport Beach. Together in the Park, sponsored by Mountain Community Resources, provides for weekly parent-child play group at Felton Covered Bridge Park. The Lucky Steppers Square Dance group enjoyed another fun summer of dancing at the Ben Lomond Park. National Night Out events took place at Mesa Village and Ben Lomond Parks in August. Pickleball, a fast growing new paddle sport, began weekly use of Willowbrook Park courts. Fall use includes 7 cross country meets at Pinto Lake County Park so far for middle school and high school groups.

Special Events:

The public at large as well as non-profit organizations have benefited from the wide variety of special events in County Parks. The month of June hosted the **Nisene Marks Run** (Santa Cruz Host Lions) and the **Women's 5-Miler** (Santa Cruz Track Club) at Aptos Park. In July, the **4th of July Celebration** (Aptos Chamber of Commerce) took place at Aptos Park, along with the **White Hawk Dancers** at Pinto Lake County Park and **HHH Ultimate Frisbee tournament** (Ultimate Players Association) at Highlands Park. August events included another successful **CA Beer Festival** (Gen Giammanco Foundation) at Aptos Park, the **Jim Walters Memorial Tournament** (SV Boosters) at Highlands Park, and the **Nisene Marks Run** (Fleet Feet Sports) at Aptos Park. September hosted the delectable **Grazing on the Green** (Santa Cruz Cancer Benefit Group) at Aptos Park, **SLV Fellowship Picnic** at Felton Covered Bridge Park, the **Ben Lomond Firefighter's Association Celebration** at Ben Lomond Park, **Surf City AIDS Ride** (Santa Cruz

AIDS Project) at the Government Center and **Coastal Clean Up Day** (CA Coastal Commission/ Save Our Shores) in countywide beaches and rivers. October and November events will complete the season and include the **Walk to End Alzheimers** (Alzheimer's Assoc. of SC County) and **Run for Rio 5k & Fun Run** (Rio Del Mar Elementary at Seascapes Park in October, with the last of the series of three races, **Run for Pie** (Fleet Feet Sports) at Aptos Park in November.



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JOHN J. PRESLEIGH
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2013
TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION, ARTS COMMISSION
FROM: BETSEY LYNBERG, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: PARK PLANNING DIVISION STATUS REPORT

BERT SCOTT ESTATE ROOF REPLACEMENT

Wald Ruhnke & Dost has prepared draft plans and specifications and cost estimates for replacing the roofs on the main house and on the caretaker's house.

CARMICHAEL TRAIL

This trail will provide connections between Cabrillo College, Vienna Woods neighborhoods and Nisene Marks State Park. Conservation Corps crews cleared and constructed the trail over the summer. Trail signage is being completed and installed. The trail is expected to be open to the public in winter.

CHANTICLEER PARK

The Planning Department has issued a development permit for interim improvements. Staff is working with the Consultant, County Planning, and community members on implementation of the interim plan. The fenced off-leash dog area is open, planning for a community garden is underway, volunteers have constructed the bike pump track and parks staff is preparing the interim parking area and installing erosion control measures.

EAST CLIFF PARKWAY PROJECT

Although not quite complete, the community continues to enjoy the parkway improvements along East Cliff Drive in Pleasure Point. The Contractor is completing miscellaneous punch list items and change order requests.

THE FARM PARK

Parks staff continued with efforts to implement the Prop 84 Urban Greening Grant for stream and oak woodland habitat restoration and a community garden. Fish and Game permits for stream bed restoration have been secured, and plant propagation is underway. H.T. Harvey and Associates are preparing final construction documents for bid in spring of 2014. Invasive tree removal work has been completed.

FELTON COVERED BRIDGE ROOF RESTORATION

Caltrans has completed the Preliminary Environmental Study for the replacement of the roof for the Felton Covered Bridge. Environmental Science Associates has completed the Historic Properties Survey Report. The results of this work have been sent to Caltrans as the agency responsible for administering the Federal Highway Administration grant funds for this project.

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HEART OF SOQUEL

Development permit application for creek side trail, gathering area, and parking and circulation improvements has been submitted, and a hearing is anticipated for late 2013. The County was recently awarded a State Water Board Grant over \$660,000 for storm water quality low impact development features at Heart of Soquel.

MCGREGOR PARK SITE

Plans and documentation necessary for development permits for Phase 1 improvements of McGregor Park have been submitted to the Planning Department. Phase 1 improvements are planned to include drainage and site infrastructure, park walkways and a sidewalk along McGregor Drive, picnic area, play area, accessible parking, turf and landscaping.

PROPOSITION 40 UNALLOCATED FUNDING

In July 2011 Parks received notification that the enacted State Budget provided additional time for Proposition 40 grant recipients to complete their projects under the Per Capita and RZH Block Contracts. To date Parks has utilized all but \$131,119 of the original grant amounts. Parks staff has submitted three new grant applications to the State. The projects include: additional picnic tables at Ben Lomond Park; new poured in place surfacing and tot structure at Willowbrook Park; and a new group picnic area and shelter at Pinto Lake Park. New contracts with the State have been approved. Parks staff will proceed with the projects as soon as deed restriction can be recorded for each project.

QUAIL HOLLOW RANCH PARK

A community meeting was held on September 17, 2013 to discuss trail and creek restoration opportunities at Quail Hollow Park. The Discovery Loop Trail and Quail Hollow Brook have suffered damage as the result of heavy seasonal drainage patterns and a culvert failure in the creek. Ideas to address these problems were discussed with volunteers, neighbors and horse boarders at a well attended meeting. Staff has submitted two grant applications to the State Habitat Conservation Fund for Trail Restoration and Riparian Habitat Restoration work.

TWIN LAKES BEACHFRONT

In a unanimous decision, on August 15, 2013 the California Coastal Commission approved the Twin Lakes Beachfront Project. This project is a coastal access improvement project that creates a pedestrian oriented beachfront with Universal ADA access along East Cliff Drive between 5th to 7th Avenues. The project also improves East Cliff Drive to include bike lanes, organized parking, improved vehicular circulation, interpretive elements and public art. Staff is preparing a Regional Surface Transportation Program grant request to supplement the redevelopment agency funding secured for this project.



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DATE: October 15, 2013
TO: Arts Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Kathy DeWild, Program Coordinator
RE: Recreation and Cultural Services Division Status Report – Sept.-Oct., 2013

ARTS AND CULTURAL

Public Art Projects – Phase 3 of Outside the Box is complete, and the selected artists will soon begin working on Phase 4 boxes. The artist selected to create a public art piece for the Hidden Beach Pump Station, Rigel Hunter, has begun work; his piece, approximately 134 feet of stainless steel fencing with bronze kelp accents will be installed in 2014.

Art Exhibitions – Elise Wormuth's photographs will be up at the Simpkins Family Swim Center/Parks office until October 9. The next artist to show their work at the Simpkins Family Swim Center/Parks office, Don McPherson, will install his exhibition in late October; his work will be up through mid-December.

ADULT AND SENIOR PROGRAMS

There was a great deal of fun to be had in September. On September 5, lucky winners of a lottery drawing were treated to a free cruise aboard the *Chardonnay II*, generously offered by Chardonnay II Sailing Charters. Early in the month we took a trip to watch the San Francisco Giants play the Colorado Rockies. The bus was brimming with devoted fans who were quite happy to see the Giants claim a victory.

On Sept. 24-26, participants enjoyed a journey to South Lake Tahoe for a 2-night stay. On Tuesday, we stopped at Placerville for lunch and had some time to browse the shops a bit. Upon arrival in Tahoe, we voyaged to the Taylor Creek Visitor Center, where we took the ½ mile loop to see the diverted section of Taylor Creek behind glass. It was very fascinating to come face-to-face with the life that teems under the water. On Wednesday, we thoroughly enjoyed a 4-hr. narrated cruise on the Lake, during which we were privileged to experience slight flurries of snow! After the tour, those we were interested took a ride up to Sugar Pine Point State Park,

where we were treated to a tour of the luxurious Hellman-Ehrman mansion. Our tour guide did a magnificent job painting a picture of the opulent lifestyle that the family enjoyed near the lake each summer and what it was like to be a guest with them. From there, we headed to Tahoe City and enjoyed a wonderful sunset dinner on the lake. On Thursday morning, interested participants visited Cave Rock for a chance to take some pictures of the lake and mountains from a different perspective. Before leaving town, we stopped at Tallac Historic Site and meandered through the grounds.

October also has great fun in store. On Oct. 19, registered participants will board the USS Hornet, where we will be treated to a guided tour and lunch. The USS Hornet is an aircraft carrier- turned registered historical, with an enthralling story to tell. October will also be a very exciting month for Senior Mall Walk program participants, as their hard work will be acknowledged at the Mall Walkers 24th annual awards ceremony. Many walkers will receive awards for attaining their goals and reaching new mileage categories. Volunteers for the program will also be honored and recognized for their hard work and dedication. Lastly, we will raffle prizes donated by generous area merchants.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Mar Vista ACE- September was splendid at Mar Vista ACE. We kicked off the month off with Fabulous Food Week. Participants enjoyed games such as Cut the Cake, SPUD, Fruit Salad and Serving Dinner Relays. They also helped make and eat a yummy pasta salad (we even convinced them to add some broccoli to it) and mini cookie treats that looked like hamburgers. Next was Theme Week, during which each day featured a different theme. The first theme, Popcorn Day, was suggested by the kids. What a blast! During the popcorn relay race, participants had cups attached to the tops of their shoes with rubberbands. They had to fill the cups and try to travel to a bowl several feet away and dump what remained. Next was Minute to Win It, the popcorn edition. Several silly games such as catching the most popcorn in their mouths and transferring popcorn with a straw ensued. They also have popcorn treats, of course. Theme week also featured Tropical Tuesday, Era Day and Fiesta Friday. During Hollywood Week, participants played games such as Wax Museum, Star Wars, Fire in the Movie Theater, Mega Star Swap and more. They also enjoyed making microphone muffins and paper bag puppets. Last, but certainly not least, was Wheels Week. Children love this week because on Wednesday they got to bring their bikes and scooters (with helmets, of course) to ACE and participate in activities such as Red Light, Green Light and a timed obstacle course.

October began with Festival of Fall Week. We made projects such as Pumpkin Rice Krispies, felt fall leaf décor, pumpkin seed flowers and perched owls. We also played games such as Hot Lave Monster, Kickball, Clean Your Yard, Dead Ant Tag, Squirrels In a Tree and more. The highlight of the week was a field trip to Simpkins Family Swim Center. Next was Parent Teacher Conference Week and kids got out early from school each day. We took advantage of the extra time and went on field trips to the Boardwalk for bowling and laser tag fun and to Pump'D. The highlight was definitely Water Day, during which children got to take turns wading in a kiddie pool, gliding down slip-n-slides, soaking each other in the water zone, and more. Next was Mad Science Week, which featured projects such as gravity defying frogs, gak, float boats, and Alka-Seltzer rockets. We also played games such as Steal the Beaker, Frankenstein Tag and Fire at the Laboratory. Next was Nature Week, during which participants made insect finger puppets, bird seed feeders, leaf rubbings and bat pins. We also played games

such as Capture the Farm Animal, Jump the River and Hawk and Mouse. October will conclude with Friendly Ghost and Ghouls Week. Participants will play festive games such as Guess the Ghost, Count Dracula and Graveyard. They will also create marshmallow mummies, spiders and jack-o-lantern quesadillas. Staff are also gearing up for a carnival on Oct. 30, complete with games, prizes and a cardboard maze for kids to crawl through.

November is always fun, as staff and participants alike enjoy the festivities of the season. Upcoming themes include: music, giving thanks, turkey fun and fall.

Kinder Enrichment Program - The Kinder Enrichment program, now in its 9th year at Mar Vista Elementary, provides recreational activities for the kindergarten-age child. The morning program provides circle time activities, manipulatives, music and movement, pre-reading and writing, sports basics, story time, play structure discovery and outdoor active games. The afternoon kinder participants join up with the A.C.E. program.

Each week Kinder Enrichment covers a different theme with the little recreators. Our themes for the month of August were, "Welcome" and "All About Me." The first week back at school the program focused on getting the children adapted to their new space, schedule, rules, and to each other. The first week games revolved around learning each other's names. The children started their journals; each Friday they create a picture with crayon or markers about the theme of the week, and then work with staff to write their impressions with a quick two- to three-sentence statement. For "All About Me," participants created self-portraits and a "Me" fact page. These children also participated in on-going science observations; as the year progresses, staff will re-measure and monitor the children's growth in height, and the children will keep track on a chart. After the first full month programming during September, the children now understand the flow of the day between school and after-school recreation, and look forward to the comfortable atmosphere our program provides.

La Selva ACE - La Selva Beach After-school Childhood Enrichment is off to a fabulous start of the new 2013/2014 school year! Recently we wrapped up a very successful summer with a "Last Week of Summer" theme which included activities such as a paper plane flying contest, soccer, mini pizzas, a game of pillow polo, a bluebird craft, a game of scavenger hunt, capture the flag, "beckon" at triangle park, and a metly beads. The highlight for the Last Week of Summer theme was a field trip to Pump'd Inflatable Fun Center in Watsonville. The following week's theme was a Fall Festival theme which included activities such as mad science experiments, blob tag, obstacle course, a ghost craft, a captain midnight, and the highlight of the week was our Fall Festival Potluck Party. We look forward to fun, exciting field trips in the future to the swim center, boardwalk bowl & laser tag & Manresa Beach.

AQUATIC PROGRAMS

Fall schedule runs through November 30, 2013. The fall pool schedule is:

Lap Swimming

The lap pool is open for lap swimming Mondays through Fridays 6:00 am to 7:30 pm. Saturday it is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Warm-water Pool - The warm-water pool is available for general use on:

Mondays	6:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday/Thursday	6:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	6:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.
Friday	6:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Saturdays	9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. (adults only) 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (adults and children) 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (all ages for Rec. Swim)
Sundays	9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (all ages)

Pool Closures - Last winter the pool experienced scheduled pool closure weekends due to budget reductions the changes were made to the pool schedule to cut costs. Every effort was made to minimize inconvenience to our guests yet provide quality aquatic experiences. This year the pool closure weekends are:

October: Sunday, 10/13 (SuperKid Triathlon); Monday, 10/14 (Columbus Day); Friday, 10/25; Saturday, 10/26; Sunday, 10/27; Monday, 10/28

November: Thursday, 11/28 (Thanksgiving); Friday, 11/29; Saturday, 11/30

December: Closed Sunday and Monday for the winter season, starting 12/1/13 through 2/2/14; Wednesday, 12/25; Tuesday, 1/31/14

Swim Lessons – Swim Center instructors teach over 20,000 lessons annually; lessons continue to be popular, with the majority of the classes filling to capacity. Fall and winter swim lessons are held Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evening from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Private swim lessons, also very successful, are taught by swim center staff (lifeguard/instructors), as well as two private contract instructors (Jessica Nail and Stacy Henderson).

Pool Junior Lifeguard and Little Guard Programs - All three sessions of Junior Guards, afternoon Junior Guards, and Little Guards filled up this summer allowing 435 children to participate. The Little Guard program had a second successful year. This program is designed for children ages 5 and 6. They spend the day at the pool and do a variety of activities with emphasis on improving their swimming ability, and safety awareness. The little guards get to participate in a variety of activities including: stand up paddle boarding, kayaking, and fitness based games. They also get to experience sitting in a lifeguard chair, the buoyancy of a lifeguard tube, and they

practice performing reaching assists. The little guards also enjoy a day on the beach with the big Junior Guards, and have their own special field trip to the Central Fire Station where they get to hold the fire hose as a firefighter sprays water.

The Junior Lifeguard program continues to be an incredible experience for children ages 7-13. This program gives children an insight into the fun and rewarding job of protecting and saving lives at the pool. The program strengthens their swimming ability and confidence in and around the water, and introduces them to lifeguard rescue skills. Participants also enjoy special activities such as: kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, CPR demonstrations, climbing wall and slide time, a day at the beach, and a field trip to Golfland in San Jose.

Adult Fitness Swimming - Adult Fitness Swimming is very popular at the Simpkins Family Swim Center. The most well attended workouts are Tuesday and Saturday mornings. Up to 40 swimmers fill the 50-meter pool at these times. Fitness swimmers may choose from among three different times each day to work out mid-week. Most workouts are held at 6:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Saturday workouts are at 9:00 a.m.

Water Aerobics & Exercise - The Water exercise classes this year reached their highest capacity so far. Water exercise is an excellent way for people to meet their fitness goals without impact on the joints. Classes are designed to appeal to all levels of ability including, healthy, pre-natal, seniors, arthritic, and rehabilitating or cross training fitness enthusiasts. A monthly calendar is available with dates, times and instructors names. Previous swimming or water exercise experience is not required to participate in the water exercise classes.

Saturday Water Polo - Drop-in Water Polo is held on Sundays from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. You must be a member of USAWPA to participate in the program. A Swim fee of \$6.00 will be collected or you may use a swim pass.

Pool Rentals - The Santa Cruz County Aquatics (SCCA) and the Cabrillo Threshers (Threshers) swim teams continue to rent lanes in the 50-meter pool. The swim teams offer school-age competitive swimming programs Monday through Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Threshers) and 3:45-7:30 p.m. (SCCA)

Lifeguard Training Exercises - The October in-service training will focus on being prepared to make rescues during the winter months. Staff will practice taking off heavy clothes and performing rescues in their long pants.

The 15th Annual Super Kid Triathlon will be held at the swim center on October. 13. 500 children are expected from ages 3–16.

Preventative Lifeguarding, Rescues and First Aid - With over 150,000 annual pool visits, the Simpkins Family Swim Center staff constantly interacts with patrons using preventative lifeguard techniques. Swim Center staff are diligent in their duties to prevent injuries and accidents, but still must make rescues and perform first aid. On a daily basis, the preventative lifeguarding interactions between lifeguards and patrons are over 100. Some of the preventative measures are: recognizing non-swimmers before they get into the deep end, stopping patrons from diving, and stopping children from rough housing and running. Rescues and first aid responses are also a part of the daily responsibilities of the lifeguards. So far this year the lifeguard staff has rescued over 30 children, and provided first aid care for over 25 patrons.