City League Softball getting off to a good start

By
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IVN Contributing Writer

Summer is in the air with the sounds of kids playing, crickets chirping at night and softballs "cracking" in the distance.

On July 16, City League Softball will begin. City League is a slow pitch softball league where adults can get together, play and have some fun winding down after a long day at work.

This year there are seven teams signed up, making up a full league. Game times are scheduled for 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. at Jubilee Park every Tuesday and Thursday.

Each team pays a fee which helps pay for the lights on the baseball field and field maintenance. Any money left over is donated to I.V. Little League.

Jesse Dugas, scheduling coordinator for the league, is surprised at how fast this year's league filled up.

"The league has proven to be competitive in the past and this year should be no different," Dugas said. "The teams have been practicing for a little while and people are getting excited that the season is about to start."

Although the teams are full, anyone interested in playing can show up with glove in hand and see if a team needs extra players. If playing softball is not your interest but you are interested in donating time, help is always needed in the concession stand. For more information, contact Jesse Dugas or Shelly Davis at Jubilee Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the softball games.

Jr. Park Ranger Program at the Forks Park

Sign-ups are being taken for participation in the first ever Jr. Ranger Program at the Forks Park.

The Junior Ranger program gives kids a chance to explore a state park. By becoming a Junior Ranger, 6-12 year olds will get involved with plants, animals and park protection. The Junior Ranger program is run at most state park campgrounds and some day-use parks. Be careful, though. Rumor has it that being a Junior Ranger is so much fun, grown men and women have been masquerading as kids to get in. We may have to start asking for ID.

After young visitors enroll in the program, they receive a Junior Ranger Passport. By completing activities, they receive passport stamps. When they fill their passport with stamps, the Junior Rangers receive awards. Activities include:

- Discover a park "secret"
- Recycle
- Attend a park program and learn about the environment
- Find and identify three special plants or animals
- Keep your part of the park clean
- Learn how to be safe

For information on sign-ups and program schedules please contact Willa Gustavson at 541-592-0335 or mzwilla@aol.com. Updates and schedule announcements will also be posted on Facebook page Cave Junction & the Illinois Valley.

(Photo by Dan Mancuso, *Illinois Valley News*)

Leo (Spaceman) Goodman (left) and Waves Forrest talk to the 2013 Barter Faire guests about the dangers of GMO's. Saturday, June 22.

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