

# IPRA Today

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## Ankeny Parks & Recreation Forms Partnership to Get New Aquatic Center and Parks Submitted by Todd Redenius, Director, Ankeny Parks and Recreation

An innovative partnership with local developer, Dennis Albaugh of DRA Properties, will result in \$21.6 million in park and recreation improvements for the City of Ankeny over the next four years. A new aquatic center, three neighborhood parks, and one 46-acre community park will be created as a result of this partnership. The new parks and aquatic center will be built in the 1,100 acre Prairie Trail Development in Ankeny, of which DRA Properties is the master developer.

"This is an amazing opportunity for us", said Todd Redenius, Director of Parks and Recreation. "We had been gearing up with a citizen's steering committee for a summertime referendum on the construction of a new aquatic center. We began discussion with Mr. Albaugh and his representatives about the possibility of a reduction in purchase price on the land in Prairie Trail where we wanted to place the facility. Those discussions evolved and ultimately resulted in the land being donated entirely at a value of \$1.6 million. In addition, \$10 million was provided by DRA for a new aquatic facility, and another \$10 million was provided for several new parks in close proximity to the aquatic facility."

Continued on Page 3

### Pool Layout – 22,500 sq ft



*Our Mission ...  
"To support the advancement of park, recreation and environmental conservation opportunities through education, resource tools and advocacy."*

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## Director of Parks & Recreation—Fairfield

The position reports to the City Administrator and works with the Park and Recreation Board. The Director provides immediate supervision and management of the Park and Recreation Department, implements the policies of the City Council and the Park and Recreation Board and develops and recommends programs to meet the needs of the community for recreation and leisure time needs. Responsibilities include the management of all personnel and the operation of the Roosevelt Recreation Center, the Roosevelt Aquatic Center, racquetball courts and the outdoor pool. Work consists of operational, managerial, administrative tasks and fundraising for special projects.

The successful candidate will possess a Bachelor's degree in Leisure Studies or a related field. Five years of progressively responsible management experience preferred. Candidate must have strong communication skills and the ability to coordinate tasks and complete them in a timely manner.

Salary for the position is up to \$45,000, depending on qualifications. Excellent benefits plus IPERS coverage.

For application and complete job description contact: City Clerk, P. O. Box 850, 118 South Main Street, Fairfield, IA 52556; Phone: 641-472-6193. Application deadline: 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 16, 2008 to above address.

## Hershey Meet Goes On Despite Floods

Submitted by Terry Gray, Director, Marshalltown Parks and Recreation and Hershey Track Meet Chair

The annual Hershey's Track and Field Games was held in Marshalltown on June 14. Except for a storm warning delay, the weather cooperated, and it was a beautiful day. Although the floods were a concern for us, our make up date was Sunday, June 15, which wouldn't have changed circumstances for anyone around the state. Our choice was to hold the meet as scheduled rather than cancel it.



Callan Jacobson (left) receives Hershey's Hall of Fame award from Terry Gray.

Meet attendance was down, not only because of the flooding, but several locations either didn't schedule a meet this year or were never able to get it in due to weather. We had about 700 kids attend.

My thanks to all those communities that hosted a meet! We would like to see more communities involved **Put a Hershey's Track and Field Games date on your 2009 spring calendar now!**

Callan Jacobson, a six-year Hershey track participant from Fairfax, was presented with this year's Iowa Hershey's Hall of Fame award. She still holds two Hershey state track records. Callan went on to become an 11-time state high school champion in Class 3A and will be attending Iowa State University on an athletic scholarship.

## Ankeny Parks & Recreation Forms Partnership to Get New Aquatic Center and Parks (Continued from Page 1)

The new aquatic facility, which consists of 23,000 square feet of water surface area, will be completed in May or June of 2010. Amenities included with the new facility include an 8-lane, 25 meter lap area; 3 diving boards; zero depth area; a 630 foot lazy river with action channel and vortex area and a series of slides. The City Council also voted to enhance the existing aquatic facility in 2010 using capital improvement funds set aside for park and facility development.

To aid in the development of other residential and commercial areas in proximity to the new parks and aquatic center in Prairie Trail, the City will provide infrastructure such as roads, water and sewer. Ankeny Mayor Steve Van Oort on the partnership with DRA Properties: "Prairie Trail is designed to have over 200 acres of parks and more than 13 miles of trail for the Ankeny community and visitors to enjoy. A collaborative partnership with DRA Properties, the vision of our business community and the support of our citizens exemplifies the spirit of community that makes a development of this magnitude possible." Master Developer and owner of DRA Properties Dennis Albaugh adds, "Prairie Trail would not work without the park system. We have been impressed with the commitment of the City of Ankeny and Parks and Recreation Department toward doing this project the right way. They work hard and maintain parks and facilities in a first class way."

Water's Edge Aquatic Design of Lenexa, Kansas has been retained to finalize designs and manage the project, which will go to bid this coming winter.

## EVERY BALL SHOULD HAVE A KID!!

Countless children all over the world have little more than a crumpled water bottle to kick around. Meanwhile, in our own backyards and garages, old soccer balls and basketballs are going unused, wasting space and waiting to end up in a landfill. What if you could tidy your garage, thrill a child, and do something nice for the earth in one simple gesture?

Rebound Sports project collects used sports equipment and passes it along to children in need. Based in Mt. Prospect, IL, Rebound Sports is a not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to recycle used sports balls by passing them along to children in need. The mission is to bring joy to children while providing an ecologically responsible solution to discarded sports equipment. With each ball that is rescued from a landfill and placed in the hands of a child eager for play, we accomplish one meaningful gesture toward a happier earth. Rebound regularly ships reusable inflatable sports balls to rural villages in Mexico, South America and, most recently, Africa.

Deborah Martinez, received this e-mail from Victor LaPorte, Director of Rebound Sports, saying "We are most interested in soccer balls right now. We will take other inflatable balls but soccer is definitely the universal language and what kids all over the world play. The only request is that all balls be deflated. That would save me the time of having to do it by myself. Thank you for your interest and support."

Start collecting old balls and deflate them, and keep your eyes on *IPRA Today* and the IPRA Web site to know where drop-off locations will be held.

For more information on Rebound Sports please visit [www.reboundsports.org](http://www.reboundsports.org)

## IN MEMORY OF Mary Virginia Frye January 26, 1918 to June 17, 2008

Mary Virginia Frye died Tuesday, June 17, at Green Hills Health Care Center in Ames.

Mary Virginia Frye was born in West Bend and was known most of her life as Ginny. She grew up and was educated in Illinois, graduating from Bradley University in 1940. Following college, she taught in public schools and worked as a Red Cross recreation director in military hospitals. Graduate study brought her to the University of Illinois, where she received master's and doctorate degrees and served on the faculty for 15 years. In 1970 she returned to Iowa to develop a program in leisure studies at Iowa State University. Ms. Frye has been published widely in professional journals and authored a book [Therapeutic Recreation: Its Theory, Philosophy and Practice](#).

In 1981 she retired, moved to Green Hills Retirement Community in Ames and began to enjoy activities of the leisure class. Ms. Frye traveled globally and enjoyed visiting friends and relatives, bridge, concerts and other community events. She volunteered with Brunner Art Museum and the Farm House Museum, worked with foreign staff and students at the university and also at Mary Greeley Medical Center. She was a member of Collegiate Presbyterian Church and Chapter HO of PEO.

She leaves to honor her memory a nephew and his wife and many grand nieces and nephews. A service was held June 21 at Collegiate Presbyterian Church. Donations in her memory may be made to Reiman Gardens, 1407 University Blvd., Ames, IA, 50011 or Collegiate Presbyterian Church, 159 N. Sheldon Avenue, Ames, IA, 50014.



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## IPRA Calendar of Events



### July

- 4 IPRA State Offices Closed—Independence Day
- 8 *Parkticipate*
- 24-26 Great Lakes Regional Council meeting at Quality Inn and Suites, Des Moines

### August

- 4 CEU/Aquatic Update—Des Moines
- 5-6 Certified Pool Operator's Course—Des Moines
- 11 IPRA Youth Tennis Tournament—Des Moines
- 14 IPRA State Fair Day
- 15-17 IPRA/Iowa ASA State 14 Inch Slow Pitch Tournaments—Cedar Rapids & West Des Moines

## RED MAPLE TREE UPDATE

Thanks to Nick Lenox (Ankeny Parks and Recreation) and Larry Burt (Des Moines Park and Recreation), the maple tree that Cindy Coffin (Iowa City Parks and Recreation) bought at the IPRA Spring Conference Auction is ALIVE and WELL!

Cindy is shown with dog, Toby, and the infamous red maple tree.



# We've moved!

Please note this change of address and make the necessary adjustments in your 2008 IPRA Membership Directory and Buyer's Guide:

Darrell Thiner  
Daktronics  
6950 NE 14th Street  
Ste #3  
Ankeny, IA 50023