

Recreation Board Meeting:

- The Recreation Board met on Wed., April 2nd
- The Bexley Bloomers presented a report on their 2024 volunteer work as well as plans for 2025
- The next board meeting is scheduled for Wed., May 7th at City Hall.

Bexley Bloomers:

- The Bloomer presentation to the board included historical information, 2024 information and plans for 2025 work.
- Since being founded in 2021 the Bloomers have volunteered a total of 3223.75 hours valued at \$100,721. This work has mainly been focused at Jeffrey Park, but has also included gardening support at Commonwealth, Havenwood, the Community Gardens and more.
- In 2024, the Bloomers provided 884 volunteer hours.
- A continued focus for the Bloomers is to recruit more volunteers in an effort to expand their already tremendous impact on our parks system. Volunteers can get involved through their “Celebrity” volunteer program where you can volunteer for a day or two, or join the group regularly during their Thursday morning work days.
- To get involved with the Bloomer, please email bloomers@bexley.org.
- Huge thank you to the Bloomers for all that they do. Their work has been so impactful on the beauty in and around Jeffrey Park.

**Egg Dash – Saturday, April 19th at 12 noon at Jeffrey Pak:**

- The annual Egg Dash will be held on Sat., April 19th at 12 noon at Jeffrey Park.
- This year we will place 4500 eggs, filled with goodies, on the back meadow of Jeffrey Park.
- We will also have a special visit from the Easter Bunny where he would love to take pictures with the young egg hunters.
- Special thank you to Girl Scout Troop 6143 for volunteering their time to help make this wonderful event happen.
- Reminder, don't be late!!! The eggs will be gone as quickly as you can say “HOP.”

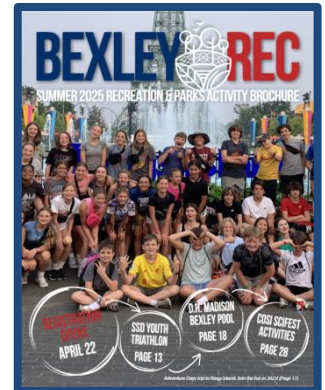
**BCF Grants:**

- We received notice from the Bexley Community Foundation that the Recreation Department received two grants during this latest cycle.
- The first grant is a \$75,000 grant for new lighting at the pickleball/tennis courts. This grant was generously provided from both the Ryan Solomon Memorial Fund and the BCF general fund.
 - With the funds appropriated in the 2025 City of Bexley Capital budget, we believe we have the funds needed to move forward with installation.
 - With help from Matt Klingler, we will be soliciting quotes for the work over the next couple of months with hopes to install lighting by the end of the summer.
- The BCF also awarded a \$760 grant to fund new portable pickleball nets to expand pickleball play, during select times, on the tennis court space.

- Huge thank you to the BCF for their continued support of the Solomon Pickleball Courts. The pickleball courts have had a profound impact on our community.

2025 Summer Activity Brochure:

- The 2025 Summer Activity Brochure will be delivered to residents this week.
- You may also pick up a brochure at Jeffrey Mansion, Bexley City Hall, and/or the Bexley Public Library. Digital version of the brochure can also be found on the city website at www.bexley.org/activitybrochure.
- Registration will open for residents on April 22nd at noon and non-residents on April 24th at noon.
- Brochure highlights include:
 - 2025/26 BACPack and SOCO Programs
 - Jeffrey Summer Camp (Space is limited)
 - Early childhood programs such as Bexley Mini Sports Camp
 - Youth activities such as Chess Camp, Taekwondo, Youth Tennis sports camps and more.
 - The Annual Splish, Splash & Dash – Youth Triathlon
 - This year we have added an adaptive triathlon course for children with developmental disabilities or physical limitations ages 4-14.
 - Middle School Adventure Days (Kings Island, Cedar Point, Zoombezi Bay)
 - Pickleball leagues for all ages
 - Community Pool programming such as swim lessons, preschool splash, and swim team.
 - Adult fitness classes
 - Senior programming
 - And much, much more!!!!



Bexley Senior Center – Update:

- We met with representatives with The Community Builders (TCB) to get an updated timeline on the development of the Senior Center on North Cassady.
- TCB has been very flexible as it relates to our needs at the center. We decided that we would need to vacate the building by Sept. 1st for demolition to begin. This is slightly earlier than the expected Oct. exit, but allows us to complete all of our currently scheduled programming.
- With a more detailed timeline, we are actively searching for space to house a temporary Senior Center until the project gets completed in late 2027.
- We will continue to keep Council informed of this progress. Please note, while we put a placeholder of \$12,000 in the 2025 budget for the purpose of renting space for a temporary center, the actual cost has yet to be determined.

SAVE THE DATE – Volunteer Appreciation Pool Party – Friday, May 23rd

- Mark your calendars! The annual Volunteer Appreciation Pool Party will be held on Friday, May 23rd from 6p-8p at the David H. Madison Community Pool.
- This is our opportunity to thank the many volunteers that make Bexley such a special place to live. We could not do what we do without the support of so many wonderful volunteers!!!
- More information to come, but please mark your calendar!

Upcoming Events:

- Egg Dash – Sat., April 19th @ 12 noon