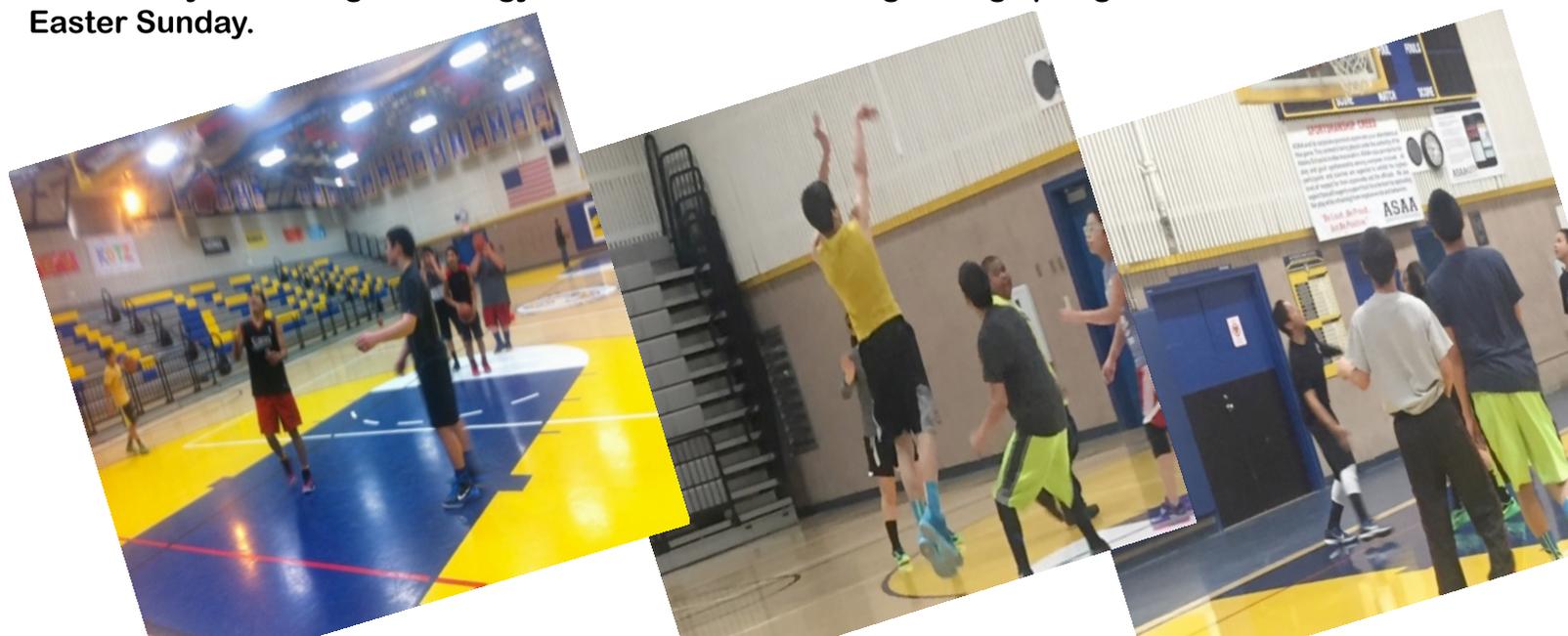


Kotzebue Parks & Recreation

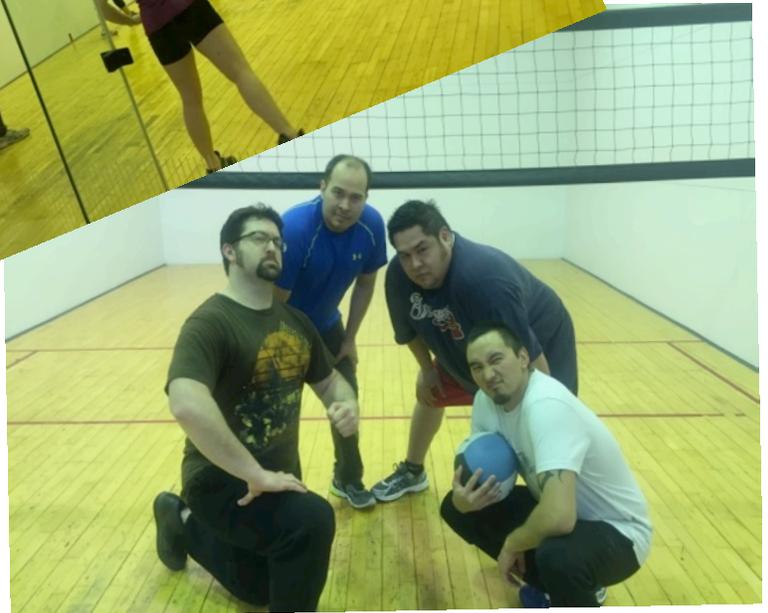
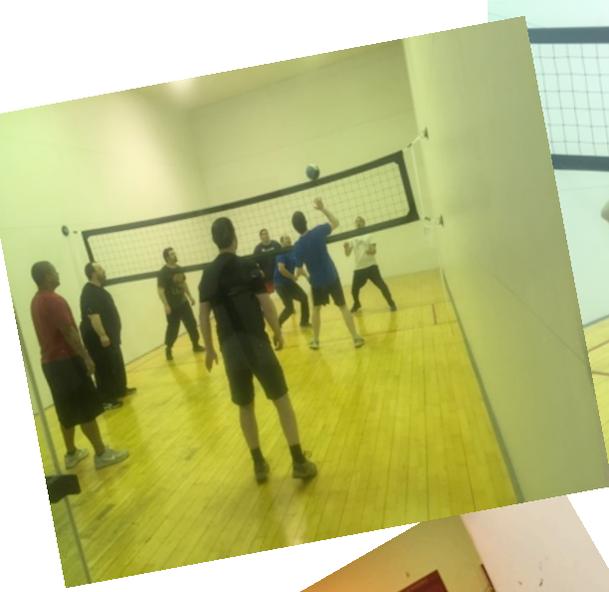


March and the beginning of April have been very busy as we get ready to head into spring and summer and the opening of a new facility for the youth of Kotzebue.

OPEN GYM – Attendance continues to be steady with the three different sessions on Sundays. Kindergarten through 5th Grade now have a separate session at the June Nelson Elementary Gym 2pm to 4pm. Middle School has a session at 2pm to 4pm at the High School Gym. High School has open gym 4pm to 6pm. The women have open gym 6pm to 8pm on Monday's and Wednesday's. The high school gym was closed for waxing during spring break and we were closed Easter Sunday.



WALLY BALL – This activity was a little slow in taking off as it has never been played here, so we held a day long tournament at the end of March in which 4 teams participated. Everyone had a great time and wanted to know when we were going to this again. We have scheduled an open court night and another tournament in April. It looks like we have found another new recreational activity for people to participate in. It also is making more use of the racquet ball courts at the Rec Center.



ARCTIC CIRCLE SPRING FESTIVAL – When Madame Mayor Maija asked Parks & Recreation to help coordinate the Arctic Circle Spring Festival, I was not sure what to expect. It was a lot of work, but in the end I felt it was well worth it for the City to take an active role in this event. Maniilaq, NWAB, NANA, Lynden, Everts, and NAC are organizations who all shoulder the load for this event. The City’s participation just helped to add some more stability and sustainability to this already successful event. This could be an event that will be equal to or rival the 4th of July in the future. Here is just a little of the fun that went on....



**SHIIFISH
DINNER AND
NORTHERN
LIGHTS DANCERS**



**CROSS COUNTRY
SKI RACES**



**SNOW CARVING
CONTEST**



**SOURDOUGH
HOTCAKE FEED**





A
R
C
H
E
R
Y



**HARPOON
THROWING**

**KIDS GAMES AND
ACTIVITIES**

YOUTH CENTER OPENING

The Youth Center is nearing completion. It should be ready for us to start moving in by the end of April with the opening projected for the first part of May. Most of the furnishings have arrived and are just waiting for the facility to be completed so we can move them over, assemble them, and place them in their new home. This will be a first in this community to have a facility of this caliber to serve as a hub for all youth activities in the community. It is just phase one of a three phase project that will change the face of recreation and quality of life in this community for many years to come. It's full of light and color as evidenced by these recent pictures of the construction progress.



OPEN GYM AND EVENT NUMBERS

Date	K-5	6-8	9-12	Total
12/28/14	3	1		4
12/29/14	3	1		4
01/02/15	4			4
01/04/15	18	2		20
01/11/15	12	4		16
01/18/15	13	9		22
01/25/15	20	10		30
02/01/15	10	6		16
02/08/15	13	16	13	42
2/15/15	30	6	2	38
2/22/15	30	5	2	37
3/1/15	22	5	2	29
3/8/15	14	10	2	26
3/15/15	16	cancelled	cancelled	16
3/22/15	5	cancelled	cancelled	5
3/29/15	11	11	7	29
12/30/14	Middle School Dance	40		40
1/24/15	Skate Night			60
03/28/15	Wally Ball Tournament			16

SWAN LAKE SOFTBALL FIELD

We are working to get the new softball field ready for use by late summer. As soon a breakup is over we can begin to get fencing up. Capitol Projects will find a local contractor to build dugouts. New bleachers to seat 50 spectators are being ordered to arrive on the first barge. Hardware for the field, scoreboard, and groundskeeping equipment will also be ordered.

The large obstacle at this point is getting gravel for the parking lot. Capitol Projects is working to find funding and a source to resolve this issue.