



City of Alexandria, VA

City Hall, 301 King St. Room 3500, Alexandria, VA 22314

eNews

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City of Alexandria Opens Soft Playroom at Chinquapin

Dedication scheduled for Sunday, November 1

The City of Alexandria will celebrate the opening of the Alexandria Soft Playroom on Sunday, November 1 at the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center, 3210 King St. with a dedication ceremony by the Honorable Mayor and members of City Council at 2 p.m. Designed for children five years of age and younger, the Soft Playroom is lined with cushioned walls and flooring, movable soft blocks and other structures children can move and build, a ball pit, and a separate section for toddlers.

In addition to the dedication, the Soft Playroom will be open with free play from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and other fun, family oriented activities from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 1. The room is now open to the public daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at a nominal fee for individual play, and may be reserved for groups and parties. For additional information on the Soft Playroom, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

The Soft Playroom is the culmination of a public-private partnership, originating more than two years ago, from an idea to bring a safe, bright and inspiring play space to young children so they could romp and climb indoors. The City's Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities dedicated an underutilized room at the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center, donated staff services and time, and the costs associated with the renovation of the space for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The volunteer parent group, known as the Softies, is part of the Natural Exploreum of Alexandria, a 501-c-3 non-profit group in the City, raised \$30,000 for the walls, flooring, supplies and design materials for the Soft Playroom. If you would like to support the Soft Playroom, donations will be accepted for a limited time at www.supportthesoftplayroom.com.

Donations will continue to be accepted through a contribution to the City's Living Landscape Fund. To designate a donation for the Alexandria Soft Playroom, call Judy Lo, Park Planner, at 703.746.5490 or by email at judy.lo@alexandriava.gov.

For additional information on the Soft Playroom, and other activities offered by the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center, call 703.746.5553 or visit alexandriava.gov/recreation.

The City of Alexandria is committed to compliance with the City's Human Rights Code and the American with Disabilities Act. To request a reasonable accommodation or to request materials in an alternative format, please contact Lou Williams, Center Director, at 703.746.5434 (TTY 703.519.2167) or email lm.williams@alexandriava.gov.