

Dear Youngsville Residents,

It is a tremendous honor to serve the community as the Director of the Youngsville Sports Complex. I have had the privilege of serving in this role since May of 2013. Having worked in Parks and Recreation for almost 20 years, I know the opportunity we will have to make a difference in people's lives. Our program's philosophy is to provide quality recreation programs and facilities for the citizens of Youngsville. We are dedicated to the growth and development of our city's youth. We will be committed to using recreation to provide needed direction and positive experiences, enabling young people to become effective persons.

A critical part needed for success in any organization is teamwork; not only with our Youngsville Sports Complex staff, but with the mayor and city council and most importantly with the community. What better way to teach our young people the importance of teamwork than by our own actions? All the efforts to bring the sports complex to Youngsville and make it the facility it is have been a testament to our community's commitment to growth and prosperity.

My goal is to use my experience to develop the Youngsville Sports Complex into a first class facility capable of hosting tournaments on a national level. This will enable Youngsville to become a true tournament destination, attracting local, regional and national tournaments and tapping into the multi-billion dollar sports tourism market. The influx of revenue for our local merchants along with tax dollars in lodging, restaurants, fueling, entertainment and shopping will make recreation an economic driver for our community.

Sponsorships and advertisement opportunities will also provide meaningful support and offset the maintenance and upkeep costs of the facility. These opportunities will also benefit local

businesses and increase sales by boosting image and visibility, community involvement and associations with other businesses. The Youngsville Sports Complex's emphasis is discipline, organization, communication, positivism, teaching, responsibility, accountability and sportsmanship. These benefits help strengthen families, build a healthier community, improve quality of life and support the healthy development of our children. We are confronted today with a number of serious health and social issues – obesity, diabetes and depression just to name a few. The trend towards a sedentary lifestyle is recognized as a major contributor towards many of these health and social issues. There are a wide array of benefits beyond just physical in which the sports complex will contribute to the building of a healthy, vibrant community. The latest research done by National Recreation and Park Association into the six main areas which park users benefit from is physical health, mental health, social functioning, youth development, environment and economic development. Being that the benefits of parks and recreation are so comprehensive, it is easy to see the many benefits the Youngsville Sports Complex will provide. Beyond just the benefits that accrue to individuals, recreation is also an important asset to building a strong community. Recreation programs offer cost-effective means for addressing some of our most troubling problems, particularly with regard to our young people. The combined values that may be gained are almost endless. The impact of these health and social benefits make parks and recreation one of the most cost-effective public services available. By understanding the links between recreation and strong communities we can see why the investment decisions that support the Youngsville Sports Complex and programs are so crucial to building a better more vibrant Youngsville. Please feel free to contact me personally at 337-581-3028 with any questions, comments, or suggestions. It is a privilege to serve you.