

Director of Recreation Report August 2016

Playgrounds

Our 7-week Summer Playground Program ended on Friday, August 19, 2016. Below are the unduplicated totals from the playgrounds as well as the Youth Center. I have also included total attendance over the 7-week period.

2016

Church St - 168 (total attendance- 1139 for an average of 34 per day)

Farnum Park - 174 (total attendance- 411 for an average of 12 per day)

Riverside- 156 (total attendance- 537 for an average of 16 per day)

Youth Center- 57 (total attendance- 341 for an average of 16 per day)

West End Beach

The beach closed for the season on Thursday August 18, 2016. After a late opening (due to lifeguard shortage) we were able to complete a 6 week season. Attendance was low on weekdays but improved on weekends. Average daily attendance on weekdays ranged from 10-30 bathers. On weekends the average rose to 50-100. I feel that these numbers will increase next summer now that we are open again and the community is more aware of it.

Youth Center

The Fall Recreation schedule/flyer will be released in September. It will include all Youth Center activities and events as well as special events. When school begins on September 6th, the Youth Center will be open for the after school hours and programs. These hours are Monday – Thursday 3:00pm-7:00pm, Friday 3pm-6pm and 6pm-10pm for middle and high school students.

Summer Lunch Program

This summer we served over 1400 lunches to the kids at 4 different locations- Church St., Farnum Park, Riverside Park and the Youth Center. Lunches were prepared by the PJ School District. Lunches were served daily at 12:00 pm. This was the 21st summer we have participated in the Summer Lunch Program and in that time we have served over 20,000 lunches!! This program is funded by the New York State Education Department and is no cost to the city!

Specialized Programs

Street Hockey- was held at Church St. Park every Monday-Wednesday-Friday morning. We averaged 15-20 kids each day. The program ended on August 19th.

Basketball- was held at Church St. Park every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. We averaged close to 30 kids each day. The program ended on August 11th.

Little Chefs of PJ Rec- was held at Farnum Park every Tuesday afternoon. We averaged 10-15 kids each day. The kids prepared a different meal each week with the help of Kathy Shortell. The kids also made more than 300 rice krispy treats that were given out FREE at National Night Out on August 2nd. This program ended on August 9th.

Softball- was held at Riverside Park every Friday afternoon. We averaged 15 kids each Friday. The program ended on August 12th.

Tennis- was held at Church St. Park Tuesday and Thursday mornings. We averaged 8 kids each day. The program ended on August 4th.

Soccer Camp- was held at the PJ High School the weeks of June 27th and July 11th. More than 80 kids participated over the 2 weeks. This was the 6th year of this camp.

Volleyball Camp – was cancelled this summer due to the ASK gym being closed and High School gym not available..

Track- was held at the PJ High School every Tuesday and Thursday evening. We averaged 10-20 kids each night. The program ended on August 4th with a “Track Meet” where ribbons were awarded to winners.

Special Events and Field Trips

NY Mets Game field trip- was held on July 27, 2016. 33 adults and kids attended as we watched our New York Mets take on The Saint Louis Cardinals. The Mets lost the game but everyone that attended had a great time.

Free Movie in the Park – The Recreation Department and the First Assembly of God Church co-sponsored *3-free outdoor movies at Riverside Park* on June 15th, July 13th, and August 17th. All movie nights were well attended. Thank you to First AG Church for their help!

Dorney Park field trip – was held on August 5, 2016. 30 adults and children attended this annual field trip. The weather was fantastic and everyone had a great time and are already looking forward to next year’s trip!

National Night Out – The 10th Annual National Night Out event was held on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at Riverside Park. National Night Out is a national event that is held the 1st Tuesday in August across the country. National Night Out is an event that brings the community and law enforcement agencies together to combat crime. The event was a huge success with close to 2500 people attending. Thank you to the Port Jervis Police Department and National Night Out Committee for putting this event together!

The Summer Concert Series at Riverside Park- We hosted 3 concerts this summer. Mike Pacer, Rich Wilson and The Carl Richards Band. We reduced the number of concerts from 7 to 3 due to affordability and turnout. All three concerts had good turnouts with Rich Wilson packing the park! I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors (Port Jervis Teachers Association, Quality Bus Service, Tri-State Auto Body, Court Madonna #114 Catholic Daughters of America, Port Jervis Little League). Their support makes the Summer Concert Series possible.

Broome Street Wind Ensemble Band concerts- We hosted 3 concerts at Farnum Park this summer. Concerts were held on June 27 and July 11 and 25. Great crowds attended each concert and enjoyed fantastic music!

PJ REC Summer Olympics- We held this summer’s Olympic Games at Riverside Park on August 11, 2015. Kids were able to compete in hot shot basketball, 50 Meter Dash, Standing Long Jump, Softball Toss, water Balloon Toss, Scooter Relay, Tennis Hot Shot and Basketball Foul Shots. We had 3 age groups (7-9, 10-13, 14-17) compete throughout the day and winners were crowned at the end of the day. PJ Rec staff prepared lunch for the more than 75 kids that participated.

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament- Unfortunately due to rain most of the tournament was cancelled. We were able to finish the young age division before the rain came down.

Scranton Yankees field trip- was held on August 18, 2016. 40 adults and children attended and watched the Scranton Yanks take on the Pawtucket Red Sox. This trip also was a reward for close to 20 kids that

participated in our summer program. These kids were awarded “Kid of the Week” throughout the summer for good behavior or helping out park supervisors.

2nd Annual Tri-State Triathlon- On Sunday August 7, 2016 we held our second Triathlon here in Port Jervis!! Close to 50 participants swam 400 meters in the Delaware River then biked 10 miles through Port Jervis and Deerpark- including beautiful Hawks Nest and finished with a 5K run through Port Jervis! It was a beautiful day and we had many compliments on how well organized the event was. Thank you to all the volunteers- more than 50 that helped make this a great day in Port Jervis! Looking forward to next year’s race!

FYI

1. ACME downhill races scheduled for Labor Day weekend has been cancelled due to low registration numbers.
2. Rocking the City to Fight Hunger III Concert- On Saturday September 17, 2016 along with The Carl Richards Band we will be hosting a Canned Food Drive concert at Riverside Park. The various bands will begin playing at 12noon. More information to come in September.
3. Church St. Tennis Courts dedication to Luann McCarthy on September 24, 2016 at 11:00 am.
4. Excited to announce we will have two Mountain Bike races and one Trail Run at the new Watershed Trails in October.
October 1- West Point to host a Mountain Bike Race
October 22- PJ Rec to host The Will of Orange Trail Run
October 29- PJ Rec to host The Erie 80 Mountain Bike Race
5. The Recreation Department’s 70th Annual Halloween Parade will be held on Sunday, October 30, 2016. Lineup will be at 3:00pm in front of City Hall on Hammond Street. Kick off will be at 3:30pm
6. NY Jet Football game field trip on Sunday October 23, 2016. Tickets cost \$90-\$130 per person.

**NEXT MEETING:
Wednesday, September 21, 2016
6:00pm