

# **Director of Recreation Report July 2018**

## **Summer Program**

### **Playgrounds and Youth Center**

We have completed 6 weeks of our 7 week summer program. Attendance at the playgrounds and Youth Center has been steady this summer. I will have final total numbers for you in the August report. We have special events each week in addition to playground time. Events include street hockey, rugby, basketball, softball and beach Friday. Our summer supervised hours are: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:30 pm. The seven week program ends on Friday, August 10, 2018. Our Annual Field Day/ Summer Olympics will be held on August 10, 2018 at Riverside Park at 10:00am.

### **Youth Center**

The Youth Center has been busy this summer. We have averaged close to 25 kids per day! Total attendance for the year is 2,646 kids. We hold special events each day which include Make It and Take it Arts and Crafts, Little Chefs of PJ Rec, Nutritional day and Treasure Hunt Walks (supervised walk around the city). This schedule will remain in effect until August 8. Visit or facebook page- Port Jervis Recreation to see pictures and highlights from the summer.

### **West End Beach**

The beach schedule is as follows: Monday, Thursday and Friday 12:00 pm- 6:00 pm and weekends 11:00 am-6:00 pm. The beach is closed Tuesday and Wednesday. Note- the beach was open on Wednesday July 4. The beach has been busy on weekends this summer- averaging more than 100 bathers each day. Weekdays we continue to draw smaller crowds. The weather in late July has forced us to shut down the beach numerous times. Rain plus high water and unsafe swimming conditions have made it difficult to open. Our swimming ropes were all shifted downstream due to high and fast moving water. Thank you to the PJFD and especially Tim Simmons for helping us reset the ropes throughout the summer.

We charged a \$5 fee to park on weekends (for non-residents) and we have generated a little revenue this summer. I will have total \$ figure for you in the August report but as of end of July we have collected \$1135. The parking fee was for bathers or anyone wishing to park (those that park and then float down river). The beach closes for the season on August 19.

### **Summer Lunch Program**

The summer lunch program began on Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and will end on Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. Lunches are served at Church St., Riverside Park, Youth Center and Farnum Park at 12 pm. This is the 23<sup>rd</sup> summer we have participated in this program, and we have served approximately 22, 000 to the kids over the years. This year we also arranged for lunches to be prepared and delivered to Point Peter where the Summer Youth Employment Program kids are working. These kids are employed through the county and they have done a fantastic job working with Mike Ward, of the Outdoor Club clearing trails and refurbishing the campgrounds. Lunches are prepared by the Port Jervis School

District, and the program is funded by the New York State Education Department. We served an average of 65 lunches per day.

### **Camps**

We sponsored 3 sports camps this summer- volleyball camp, soccer camp and tennis camp.

Volleyball Camp- was held at the high School gym June 26-30. Camp was for girls entering grades 5-8. 12 girls attended.

Soccer Camp – soccer stars camp was held this summer at the high school. Two one-week camps were held (June 25-29 and July 9-14) for boys and girls ages 5-18. Each camp week averaged 35 soccer players.

Tennis –tennis had a very low turnout. Only 5 kids signed up. This camp has had low numbers for the past few years and we are looking to remove it and offer a new camp- yet to be determined.

### **Evening Programs**

**Youth Track** – held every Tuesday and Thursday at the Port Jervis High School Track. The program averages approximately 25 boys and girls. Mackenzie Leroy and Austin Trainor are the instructors. On Tuesday, August 14, 2018 the end of summer Track Meet will be held. The boys and girls that attend will compete in the 55M, 100 M, 400M, and 800M. Ice pops will be served at the conclusion of the meet.

### **Field Trips**

1. Bronx Zoo trip on July 18<sup>th</sup> was a hit! 51 people enjoyed their full day at the zoo experiencing all of the different exhibits.
2. NY Yankee game on August 1 drew on 28 people. All that went enjoyed the stadium and the game even though our Yankees came up short 7-5 to the Baltimore Orioles.
- 3.

### **Special Events**

Concerts in the Park- This summer we held FREE concerts in Farnum Park and Riverside Park.

At Farnum Park, The Broome Street Wind Ensemble Band played Monday evenings on June 25, July 9 and July 23. These concerts were well attended and Al Gessner and the Broome Street Band put on 3 great shows.

At Riverside Park Rich Wilson performed on July 12 to a packed house of close to 175 people! Mike Pacer performed on July 18<sup>th</sup>. The Parting Glass and The Carl Richards Band were rained out on July 25 and August 1. Carl Richards will now perform on August 15 but unfortunately The Parting Glass could not reschedule. Final concert of the summer will be on August 30 when DJ G will play 80's night in the park. DJ G will go on at 6:30 pm.

Outside Movies- Co-sponsored by First Assembly of God Church movies were shown on July 11- Ferdinand and Friday August 3- cars 3. The July 27 movie was canceled due to rain. Free popcorn and hot dogs were offered to all in attendance. The final movie of the summer will be August 22- Peter Rabbit will be played.

Dinner Along The Delaware- This year's event was held on July 3 and was a tremendous success. 500 people attended and were able to sample from more than 20 local food and beverage establishments Restaurants from Port Jervis, Deerpark, Westtown, Matamoras, and Montague participated. The night was capped off by a fantastic fireworks show from the top of Point Peter! Thanks to Phantom Fireworks for donating a large portion of fireworks.

### **Watershed Trails**

Plenty of work has been done in the Watershed Park this summer. Thanks to Mike Ward, Orange-Ulster Boces SYEP- Summer Youth Employment Program and the Outdoor Club of Port Jervis- new trails have been built and old trails have been maintained. New trail posts have been put in at beginning and end of the trails. New maps have been printed (available at the Youth Center). The campground has all new tables and refurbished grills- We will still have some additional tables to place in Point Peter Park and we will be receiving benches to place along scenic portions of the trails. Take advantage of this wonderful trail system right here in our backyard.

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**Wednesday, August 15, 2018**  
**\*\*7:00pm\*\***