

## **Director of Recreation Report November 2018**

### **Youth Center**

The Youth Center is getting busier as we head into the holiday season. Our recreation room attendance remains constant (averaging 20-25 kids) with a total attendance of 4,183 since January 1<sup>st</sup> and an unduplicated number of 208. Recreation room hours are Monday-Thursday from 3 pm- 7pm and Friday from 3 pm-6 pm. Friday night “Teen Night” attendance is at 645 since the beginning of the year and an unduplicated number of 192 (averaging 25 teens). Teen Night is every Friday night from 6 pm-10 pm and for Middle and High School students only. We held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Dance of the new school year on Friday November 30. 56 teens attended and had a great time. DJ G provided entertainment. Our next Teen Dance is scheduled for Friday January 18, 2019. We do not have Teen Night during the summer. If school is closed due to weather or Holiday the Recreation room is open from 11 am- 3 pm.

**The Youth Center schedule over Winter break will be as follows:**

**Friday December 21 3-6 pm only- NO TEEN NIGHT.**

**December 26, 27, 28- 11am-3 pm**

**We will be closed December 24, 25, 31 and January 1.**

### **Santa’s Toy Box**

The Recreation Department will once again be participating in the annual Holiday Toy Drive. New toys only may be dropped off at the Youth Center Monday-Friday 10:00 am-6:00pm. The Holiday Toy Drive started on Monday, November 26, 2018 and will end on Thursday, December 20th. This Toy Drive is run by the Orange County Departments of Parks and Recreation. The Youth Center is one of more than ten locations throughout the county that is accepting toys. Collected toys will be distributed to children throughout Orange County. This is the 24<sup>th</sup> year that we are participating in this program.

**NOTE: All of the toys we collect go DIRECTLY to the children of the tri-state area. WE deliver them to the Elks Club for their annual Christmas Eve party. Also, if you can’t drop off toys during the week you can contact the Recreation office and we can arrange a drop off time.**

### **Little Chefs @ PJ REC**

Our new cooking program has completed 4 weeks. The little chefs have created fantastic food from ravioli to apple turnovers to grilled cheese and soup. This program has a full class of 12 students and meets every Saturday morning between 10 am- 12 pm at the Youth Center. This class will end on December 22, 2018. We are expecting to offer another Little Chefs class in the spring 2019.

### **Co-Ed Youth Basketball**

Registration for this year’s program will be Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>- 9am-12pm, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 6pm-8pm. All registrations will be held at the Youth Center. Cost is \$35/child. Family discounts are available. This program is for boys and girls in grades

3-6 and will be held at the ASK Gym every Saturday afternoons beginning January 5, 2019.

### **Adult Basketball**

Adult basketball set to start on Sunday December 2, 2018. This program will be held in the ASK gym Sunday mornings from 10 am-12 pm until March 31, 2019. Participants MUST be at least 18 years old, out of High School and residents of the Port Jervis School District.

### **Youth Volleyball**

New this winter, youth volleyball will be held at the High School Gym Sunday mornings between 8:30 am-11:30 am. 8:30 am-10:00 am is for elementary and middle school students and 10:00 am- 11:30 am is for high school students. This program will run through February 3, 2019.

### **Youth Indoor Soccer**

Also new this winter, youth soccer will be held at the Middle School Gym Thursday evenings between 6 pm- 8 pm. This program is designed for kids ages 4-12. This program is set to start Thursday December 6, 2018 and will run through January 31, 2019.

**Elks-Brox Park and Watershed Park Trails-** Trails remain open for hiking and biking. Even though hunting and fishing are prohibited in the City Parks and Trails- we are still encouraging all trail goers to wear bright clothing. We have also posted signs at the trailhead locations at Reservoir #1, Elks-Brox Park and off of Boxbaum Road to remind trail goers to wear bright clothing and be aware of surrounding. To all trail goers remember- pack in and pack out leave only footprints and tire treads. Help us keep the trails safe and clean!

### **FYI**

1. Our Fall Clean-up was held on a cold Saturday morning- November 10, 2018 (this was our rain date). Approximately 20 volunteers helped us clean up leaves and debris from Orange Square Veteran's Park on Pike Street. Thank you to all that helped out.
2. 2019 Recreation Budget hearing was held on November 27, 2018 with the Common Council Finance committee. I addressed my recommendations for salary increases for PT and Seasonal staff.
3. Annual Recreation Commission Chair and Vice-Chair elections were held at our November meeting and congratulations to Tom Hoppey and Dawn Jones for being elected as chairman and vice-chairperson for 2019.
4. Winterization of the parks has been completed. The lights at Church St. are off. Church Street basketball courts will remain open until the first snow fall.
5. Thank you to Jill and John Mason for volunteering in the Youth Center bowling alley. They are repairing and repainting some of the walls and ceiling that needed

- repair. Jill has been our Senior Youth Center Leader for the past 21 years and John is her husband. Thank you!!
6. Working on putting together field trips in February 2019- Snow Tubing and Mohegan Sun Casino.
  7. I am working on the 2019 Calendar of Events. I will have it ready for review in January 2019.
  8. As always for more information about any Rec. Program or if you have a question email us at [pjrec@frontiernet.net](mailto:pjrec@frontiernet.net) or check our Facebook page at Port Jervis Recreation.
  9. There will be no Recreation Commission meeting in the month of December. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 7:00pm at the Youth Center.**

**The Recreation Department would  
like to wish everyone a  
Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!**