

Director of Recreation Report September 2019

Halloween Parade

The 71st Annual Halloween Parade is scheduled for ***Saturday, October 26, 2019***. Line-up is 3:00pm on Hammond Street in front of City Hall. The parade kicks off at 3:30 pm. Invitations have been sent out and the Port Jervis Police Department and DPW have been notified as well. At the conclusion of the parade at Farnum Park, the Recreation Commission will serve apple cider and donuts (donated by Shoprite) while the Elks award prizes to the children. Leave your calendars open on the 26th! Rain date is Sunday October 27th - same time and location.

Lacrosse Clinic-

On Sunday October 20, 2019 PJ Rec will be sponsoring a Lacrosse Clinic at West End Beach for boys and girls in grades 2-6. This is a FREE clinic. No experience needed, no equipment needed.

Fall Youth Soccer Program

Our 6-week Youth Soccer program kicked off on September 15th at West End Beach. Close to 40 kids ages 3-15 are signed up and are participating. Ages 4-6 practice at 11 am and ages 7-10 at 12pm and ages 11-15 are held at 12pm as well. Lessons will run through October 20th. We will be looking into a winter program at the Middle School starting in January 2020.

Fall Clean-up

This year's fall clean-up will be scheduled for Saturday November 9, 2019 at 10:00 am. All volunteers are being asked to report to Farnum Park. We will be cleaning up Farnum Park, Orange Square Park and if enough volunteers- Church St. Park. If you would like to volunteer or know anyone interested please notify the Recreation office.

NY Jet Football Game

On Sunday November 10, 2019- 40 people are signed up to attend the NY Jets vs Giants football game in the Meadowlands. This trip is SOLD OUT!

Port Jervis Stone Challenge- NEW EVENT

NEW this year the OCOPI along with assistance from PJ Rec will hold the 1st Port Jervis Stone Challenge in Elks-Brox Park on Saturday November 23, 2019 at 9:00 am. The stone challenge will have participants start at Point Peter- run/jog/walk down Skyline Path to Reservoir 1 then pick up their stone/rock and carry it to back up Skyline Path to the finish line in the Campground in Elks-Brox Park. This roughly 2.2 mile challenge should be tough, fun and rewarding for all. More details to follow in November. Mark your calendars!

Youth Center

The Youth/Community Center is now operating under its school schedule. The center is open Monday-Thursday 3:00-7:00pm, Friday 3:00- 6:00 pm for elementary students and

6:00-10:00 pm for middle and high school students only (Teen Night). We have continued to be busy at the Center. The unduplicated total since January 1st is 302 and the total is 3,897. Teen Night returned on Friday, September 6th after taking the summer off. We have averaged close to 25 teens every Friday night since we re-opened. Teen Night numbers are 140 unduplicated.

Parks

Parks remain open for the season and we will continue to rent out Riverside Park as long as the weather permits. Elks-Brox Park is open daily and will remain open year round- now that we have developed the hiking and biking trails. Swings, tennis nets and picnic tables will remain in the parks until the end of October or early November as well. Lights are no longer on at the tennis courts at Church St. Park- basketball lights will remain on until November 1.

Watershed Trails

This is the best time of the year to explore the Watershed Trails either on foot or on bike. Cooler temperatures and color in the trees make for ideal hiking or biking conditions. There are trails for beginners all the way up to advanced. Remember to pack in and pack out- leave only footprints and tire treads. Help us keep our parks clean.

2020 Parks and Recreation Budget

The Recreation Department 2020 proposed budget has already been submitted to the City. I anticipate Common Council budget hearings in late October or November. I will keep the Commission updated on these hearings. 2020 Capital Note and Vehicle replacement requests have also been submitted.

FYI

1. Upcoming events
 - October 12- Monsters on the Mountain
 - October 20- Lacrosse Clinic at West End Beach
 - October 26 – Little Chefs of PJ Rec- Fall Edition starts
 - October 26- 71st Annual Halloween Parade- City Hall
 - November 9- Fall Park Clean-up at Farnum Park
2. The new Dog Yard (park) opened on Saturday September 28, 2019. Users must follow all rules and have dogs registered by the City. The dog yard is located next to the turntable next to the Rite Aid store.
3. The Port Jervis Recreation Fall Flyer is now available at the Youth Center or can be emailed as well. Don't forget to check us out on Facebook @ Port Jervis Recreation and on Instagram at pjrecreation.
4. I am in the beginning stages of putting together the winter youth basketball program. More information to come in the October report.
5. The next Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Youth Center.