**Director’s Report for August 1, 2022**

**Programs**

We had a very busy month as our Summer Programs have been in full swing. Our Shooter’s Gold Basketball Camp wrapped up on July 1st. After pushing back the start of camp by one day due to rain, we ended up with a great week of weather and the camp went very well. Our summer Horsemanship Camp also went very well. The camp was full and they had great weather all three days. The Red Cross Babysitting Class we had been planning with the Gilford Library was unfortunately canceled when the Red Cross was unable to secure an instructor. Our summer Tennis Lesson and Yoga program through Advantage Kids began the last week of June and has been going very well. We’ve had great weather thus far and very steady attendance. We have also had a good turnout for our Tennis Match Play program for more advanced players. We had great weather for our week of Challenger Soccer Camp. We had good participation in the younger group and very strong numbers in the older group. Overall, their staff did a very good job and the camp was very successful. The Community Band has held their first two concerts of the summer on July 6th and July 20th. They had good weather during their first concert and the Thompson Ames Historical Society was also on hand to offer free Strawberry Shortcake to spectators while it lasted, resulting in very good attendance. It was extremely hot and and humid during their second concert, which likely contributed to lower attendance. We held our Community Dinner to support Old Home Day on July 20th in the Gilford Community Church. Dan Barnhart from the Plate Lunch did all the cooking and was generous enough to donate all the food! Members of the Old Home Day Committee helped distribute take-out meals as well as perform all the serving and assist with the clean-up. We had solid attendance that included individuals who bought tickets for take-out meals as well as those who came for the sit-down dinner. Overall, this event was very successful and we raised almost $800.00 towards Old Home Day! Our one-week Wicked Cool for Kids Lego Engineering Camp was held in the Gilford Middle School Cafeteria. We had a great turnout as the camp was full and have received very positive feedback from parents. Due to our limited staff, we have had to limit the number of participants we could accept in both sessions of Swim Lessons. In the first session, we limited registration to only Levels 1-3, with up to two classes in each level. During the second session, we are running all 6 levels, but with limited availability in each level. That said, we’ve received very good feedback from parents of children in the classes and they have been very understanding of our need to limit registrations. The majority of our instructors are first time instructors, but have been doing very well. We also had one youth volunteer who assisted through the first session and did a great job. Participation in our Arts and Crafts has been moderate, but very steady from day to day. Both Swim Lessons and the Arts and Crafts program are scheduled to wrap-up the first week of August. We begin our Beach Yoga program with instructor, Renee Cupples on July 12th. This program is running on Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings. She has had a small, but consistent participation thus far. Our Red Sox Bus Trip only has a handful of tickets still available and is scheduled for Tuesday, July 26th. The numbers for the programs we held the last month are as follows:

* Shooter’s Gold Camp – 48 Total Participants (Both Sessions Full)
* Youth Tennis Lessons – 60 Participants (Program Full)
* Match Play Tennis Program – 9 Participants
* Babysitting Class – Canceled
* Horsemanship Camp – 12 Participants (Program Full)
* Swim Lessons Session I - 32 Participants (4 Full Classes)
* Arts and Crafts Program – 28 Participants thus far
* July 6th Community Band Concert – Approx. 125 Spectators
* Challenger Soccer Camp – 13 Participants in the younger session
* Challenger Soccer Camp – 48 Participants in the older session
* Gilford Community Dinner 78 total tickets sold (44 sit-down and 34 to-go)
* July 20th Community Band Concert – Approx. 50 Spectators
* Swim Lessons Session II – 34 Participants (2 Full Classes)
* Beach Yoga Program – 11 Participants thus far
* Red Sox Bus Trip - 46 Registered Participants

We still have a few more camps and events coming up for the month of August. This will include the end of our Tennis Lesson and Tennis Match Play Programs. The End of Swim Lessons, Arts Crafts and Beach Yoga as well as our Annual Water Carnival at the Town Beach. The Minds in Motion Chemical Creations Workshop, the Seacoast United Soccer Camp, and our final two Community Band Concerts. Sue is planning a couple of Senior Moment-um Activities during the month of August, including an outing to the Inter-Lakes Summer Theater. Additionally, we’ve got our final Youth Soccer Registration Night scheduled as we work our way towards our registration deadline. This will be followed by our Youth Soccer Coaches Meeting later in the month. Lastly, our Annual Gilford Old Home Day celebration with this year’s theme, “A Night at the Movies!” Here is a list of planned programs for the month of August along with the dates they will run:

* Minds in Motion Workshop runs on August 1st and August 2nd
* Seacoast United Soccer Camp runs August 1st – August 5th
* Community Band Concert on August 3rd
* Youth Soccer Registration Night on August 3rd
* Arts and Crafts Program wraps up on August 4th
* Second Session of Swim Lessons runs through August 5th
* Annual Water Carnival at the Town Beach is scheduled for August 5th
* Senior Moment-um Breakfast Program scheduled for August 8th
* Senior Moment-um Summer Theater Trip scheduled for August 14th
* Community Band Concert on August 17th
* Beach Yoga Program continues through August 18th
* Youth Soccer Coaches Meeting on August 23rd
* Gilford Old Home Day will be held on August 27th

**Facilities**

After meeting with Stephanie from Belknap Landscape to evaluate the sinkholes at the beach, she indicated she would need video showing the interior of the sinkholes to get a better understanding of the problem before she could recommend how to address the problem. I have since had Rowell’s Services come to the beach to record the interior of three different sink holes with their “snake” video equipment and am awaiting their sending of the recordings so that I can share them with Stephanie from BLC.

The issues with the electric connections on the Tennis Court Lights at the Village Field have been corrected and all the lights are now in working order.

We’ve had to close two pieces of playground equipment at the Village Field. Our one stand-alone slide has developed a couple stress fractures, which are compromising its structural integrity. One of the support handles has also come loose. I met with Roger from DPW to examine the structure and we both agreed there is no safe way to fix the problem. Unfortunately, this piece of equipment is beyond its expected lifespan so we will just be removing it. It is currently caution taped closed until Public Works is able to remove it. We have also had safety issues with our tire swing as one of the anchor support bolts in the tire has come partially off and others are showing significant age cracks. Although the swing structure and chains are still in good order, the tire itself needs to be replaced. An order has been placed for a replacement tire and the swing is currently caution taped off until the new tire arrives and can be installed.

We’ve had three additional issues at the beach that have needed to be addressed. We had to have our electrician install three new circuits in the Concession Stand to correct an issue that was causing breakers to trip about every 15 minutes. The electrician also had to repair four lights in the Men’s Restroom. We also had to have Rowell’s come in to clear both our grease trap as well as the main drain in the women’s restroom that was causing sinks to back up in the Concession Stand, the Guard Room and the Women’s Restroom. This issue has been corrected for now, but they caution that this could be something that needs to be addressed more regularly.

Sincerely,

Herb Greene, Gilford Parks and Recreation Director