**Director’s Report for August 2, 2021**

**Programs**

Despite the wet weather, we’ve have a busy month with a number of different programs and camps running. Our Shooter’s Gold Basketball camp wrapped up on July 1st. After a scorching hot start to the camp, they had more comfortable weather the final two days. Overall, the camp had good numbers and went very well. After cancelling the first three July dates due to rain, our tennis lesson and yoga program has picked back up on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Aside from the days lost to rain, this program has gone very well and continues through the first week of August. Our Arts and Crafts program that is running on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Town Beach started off strong, before running into three straight days of iffy weather. Since that time, participation has stayed slow but steady. This program wraps up on July 29th. We held our first Senior Moment-um Program since the pandemic first hit. We weren’t sure what to expect, but ended up with a huge turnout for our Aloha Luau lunch. Dan Barnhart, who runs our Concession Stand at the beach, prepared the meal for us and the participants loved it. We’re hoping to keep this momentum with our next activity scheduled for early August. Despite some wet weather, our Challenger Soccer Camp had a great week. The older group played their first three mornings through the rain, but still had great participation each day. The younger group lost one evening due to thunderstorms, but the weather improved at the end of the week to make for a great finish to the camp. The Community Band held their first summer concert on July 14th. Despite thundershowers that evening, they were able to still hold their concert as they got the okay from the school to move into the auditorium. Their next concert is scheduled for July 28th. Our one-week Wicked Cool for Kids Lego Robotics Camp was held in the Gilford Middle School Cafeteria. This camp filled up and the children seemed to really enjoy themselves. Our Horsemanship Camp through Lakes Region Riding Academy has filled up and will be running for four days from July 27 - 30. The numbers for the programs we held the last month are as follows:

* Shooter’s Gold Camp – 47 Total Participants (1 of 2 Sessions Full)
* Youth Tennis Lessons – 60 Participants (Program Full)
* Adult Tennis Lessons – 7 Participants
* Arts and Crafts Program – 16 Participants thus far
* Senior Moment-um Luau Lunch – 48 Participants
* Challenger Soccer Camp – 49 Participants in the morning session
* Challenger Soccer Camp – 10 Participants in the evening session
* Community Band Concert – About 40 Spectators in Attendance
* Wicked Cool for Kids Lego Robotics Camo – 14 Participants (Program Full)
* LRRA Horsemanship Camp – 12 Participants (Program Full)

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 Program, the Minds in Motion Robotic Workshop, the Seacoast United Soccer Camp and our Final Community Band Concert. 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. Lastly, we are excited for the return of Gilford Old Home Day after having to cancel last year due to COVID-19. Our upcoming programs through the end of July and the month of August include:

* Community Band Concert on July 28th
* Arts and Crafts wrapping up on July 29th
* LRRA Horsemanship Camp runs July 27th – July 30th
* Minds in Motion Workshop is scheduled for August 2nd and 3rd
* Youth Soccer 2nd Registration Night scheduled for August 4th
* Tennis Lessons run through August 5th
* Seacoast United Camp is scheduled for August 2nd – 6th
* Senior Moment-um Baseball Lunch and Bingo on August 9th
* Community Band Concert on August 11th
* Youth Soccer Coaches Meeting on August 26th
* Gilford Old Home Day will be held on August 28th

**Facilities**

A large dead Elm tree along the side of the Village Field Parking lot was removed on July 19th.

The dead Liberty Elm tree located next to the Bandstand is scheduled to be removed by DPW. I contacted the Liberty Tree Society about a possible replacement and learned that the tree was guaranteed against Dutch Elm Disease. I took a sample from the dead tree and sent it off to the Elm Research Institute for testing, and am awaiting the results. Our hope is to be able to plant a new Liberty Elm in place of the dead one.

Matt from Buildings and Grounds is still waiting on a quote on the cost to replace all the decking at the Village Field Bandstand. That said, he doesn’t anticipate this being able to happen until the fall at the earliest. In the interim, he is coordinating to have the worst boards replaced as a temporary fix prior to Gilford Old Home Day.

Bradley McIntire has started the prep work for his Eagle Scout project involving improvements to the Gilford Ice Rink and has a number of work dates scheduled for the next couple of weeks.

Sincerely,

Herb Greene, Gilford Parks and Recreation Director