

September 2024

### BOWLING SEASON BEGINS

The bowling season is just around the corner. With over 50 bowlers that join our Pony Bird groups, we are certain this will be a big season. Our Saturday bowling will begin in September and it's time to register for the 2023-24 tournament season. All tournaments are in the St. Louis area so family and friends can enjoy watching.

So now is the time to get that bowling ball polished and ready to go. If you have never joined our group of bowlers, you don't want to miss out. This is one of the largest sports program in the Leisure Services department so you have the opportunity to meet some great friends. Come on out and join us. You are sure to have a blast!!

For more information on dates and locations for our Saturday Bowl, turn to page 4 of the newsletter. And see the enclosed flyer for bowling tournament registration. If you are in need of a Pony Bird Bowling Shirt, now is the time to place your order with our office so we can have it for your first tournament. They are also fun to wear at our Saturday Bowls. Shirts are \$15.00. For more information, contact the Leisure Services office.



### Making friends on the lanes!

#### CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

Main Line:	636-282-1414
	636-933-3764
Direct Lines	
Terri Dallas	636-282-1419
Donna Cooper	636-282-1411
Information Line	636-282-1422
After Hours	314-210-8760



### UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

**Area Bocce Tournament**  
September 14th  
Hillsboro High School  
See page 5

**Saturday Bowling Returns!**  
September 21st

See page 4

**Cardinals Baseball Game**  
September 22nd

See Page 3

**Eckert's Fall Festival**  
September 28th

See Page 3

**HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR "RECORD TEXT ALERTS"**  
See page 2 for the fastest way of receiving notices on activity updates and cancellations for inclement weather.

**Branson Vacation**  
October 19th—21st

See attached flyer

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Travel Opportunities

## New Mailing Address For Leisure Services



We have changed the mailing address for Leisure Services. Please see the address below. Mail going to our PO Box 190 will be forwarded to the new address for the next few months so if you mistakenly send it there, we will still get it. But please make a note of our new address for any future mailings. This address is our business office where all Pony Bird mail is processed.

**Send mail to:**  
**Pony Bird**  
**1615 Vine School Rd**  
**Herculaneum MO 63048**

Our phone number and Leisure Services office remains the same on Baptist Park Rd in Mapaville.

## Inclement Weather Alert Procedure

Leisure activities that are scheduled when severe weather conditions are predicted may need to be cancelled or postponed. The Program Manager will monitor weather reports closely if serious weather conditions are likely to interfere with a scheduled activity as well as the safe travel to or from the activity. As soon as a decision can confidently be made regarding cancellation or postponement, an effort shall be made to contact all enrolled participants and/or their caregiver/guardian by using the following:

- **Remind Text Alert System** - for the **quickest way** to receive notices, register for up-to-the-minute alerts. Look to page 3 for registration procedure.
- Leisure Information Line 636-282-1422
- Email

## Exploring Inclusion In Your Community

Inclusion is when EVERYONE, children and adults, with and without disabilities, participate side-by-side in recreation program and events. Pony Bird Leisure Services supports this concept and is here to help you with your personal goal to become more inclusive.

Specialized recreation programs will continue to be offered through Leisure Services as you have become accustomed to. In addition, we can help you become comfortable and confident to participate in inclusive programs as well to expand your choices.

Support is offered to individuals to explore these options, starting with a short meeting to identify your interests and help direct you to what best suits your needs. We can also help you in the activity registration process and support you while attending the activities on an as needed basis. Limited financial assistance is available as well.

To better understand our support for inclusion, contact the Leisure Services office. We would love to hear from those who are already enjoying inclusion in Jefferson County and nearby areas. Please share with an email to Terri Dallas so these opportunities can be shared for others to enjoy as well.

Terri Dallas  
Leisure Services Program Manager  
tmdallas@ponybird.org  
636-282-1419 (direct line)

## Remind Text Alert—Sign up now!

The fastest and most efficient way of getting notice of changes with our scheduled activities is to sign up for the Remind Text Alert system. **This will be our primary and quickest way of contacting consumers.** To be placed on our list of recipients, copy the link below in your internet browser, based on the beginning letter of your last name. Fill in your name and cell phone number or email address and stay in the know. It's that easy! Using this service you can also reply to a text we send or send us a text at any time without having to call or email. Once you opt in please reply to the confirmation text with P (for participant). You can opt out at any time by replying LEAVE to the text.

- last names A-D: <https://www.remind.com/join/leisuread>
- last names E-L: <https://www.remind.com/join/leisureel>
- last names M-R: <https://www.remind.com/join/leisuremr>
- last names S-Z: <https://www.remind.com/join/leisuresz>



## TRANSPORTATION

Developmental Disability Advocates (formerly JCDDRDB) enables JC Transit services to be available for a limited number of Leisure Services activities for a minimal cost to participants. Seats are limited so call at the time of registration for activities.

JC Transit Phone Number

636-933-9380

You must register separately for Leisure activities and JC Transit reservations. See instructions on the registration form.

Activities with  
JC Transit Service



Saturday Bowling—September 21st  
Movie Nite— September 27th

Please note: OATS vans may be used as a back-up to the JC Transit vans

Leisure Services Transportation

Pick-Up Points in Jefferson County

High Ridge - Farm and Home  
Hwy 30 & Little Brennan

Herculaneum - Pony Bird building  
1615 Vine School Rd

Arnold - McDonald's  
Hwy 141 & I-55

Look for the van icon to indicate that JC Transit services are available or look for pick-up times at pick-up points under the description of the activity. We reserve the right to cancel or change pick-up points when necessary. A minimum of 3 riders is required to guarantee a pick-up site.



## Special Events

The fee for Special Events should accompany the registration form to guarantee reservation.

### Cardinal's Baseball Game

Get your Cardinals gear ready and join us for the last home game of the regular season as we take on the Cleveland Guardians. We will receive a Cardinals Winter Cap and a 2025 Magnetic Schedule that day. You won't want to miss it, so get your registration in quickly. Tickets usually sell out fast.



**Date:** Sun. Sept 22nd  
**Time:** 10:00 Herky 10:30 Arnold  
**Fee:** \$55.00  
**Small purses and credit cards/Visa gift cards for lunch purchases only.**  
**\* Please plan on at least \$25.00 for lunch**



### Eckert's Fall Festival

Come on down to The Farm in Millstadt, IL. for some good old fashion fun. We will enjoy all the different activities that are offered during the fall Festival. You can take a wagon ride out to pick apples ( you will need to bring extra money for apples). Other activities include, Pig Races, Corn Maze, Petting Zoo, Carnival Rides, 70 Foot Slide, Haunted Hay Ride and more.

We will enjoy some carnival food for dinner.

**\* YOU WILL NEED TO BRING MONEY FOR YOUR DINNER AND APPLES IF YOU CHOOSE**

**Date :** Sat. Sept. 28th  
**Time:** Herky 2:30 Arnold 3:00  
**Fee:** \$35.00 plus money for dinner and apples

**TO PICK THEM.**



# Monthly Social Activities

## MOVIE NITE

### Movie Night

Come see it at the movies! Enjoy a night out with our group of movie buffs. Anyone is welcome. At this time, we are limiting our groups to 15 people so you will want to sign up soon.

**DATE:** Friday, Sept. 27th

**TIME:** Meet at theater at 6:00 pm

**PLACE:** Arnold and Festus Theaters

**FEE:** \$20.00

Suggested minimum of \$15 for concessions



JC Transit available.



## DINNER CLUB

### Sugarfire

Sugarfire offers a wide variety of smoked meats to choose from and some mouth watering sides. BBQ sauce comes on the side if you want it. Come join your friends for a night out and enjoy some delicious food.

#### HERKY/ARNOLD

Date Sept 10th

Time: Herculaneum 5:15 pm

Arnold 5:45 pm

Fee : \$12.00 plus money for dinner

Arnold Sugarfire Location

#### HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: Sept. 17th

Time: Herculaneum 5:15 pm

Arnold 5:45 pm

Fee:\$12.00 plus money for dinner

Arnold Sugarfire Location

#### BARNHART/HIGH RIDGE

Date : Sept. 24th

Time: Barnhart 5:15 pm

High Ridge 6:00 pm

Fee: \$12.00 + money for dinner

Fenton Sugarfire Location

Based on recent price increases, we recommend you bring \$25.00 to cover dinner/drinks and tip.

## SATURDAY BOWL

### SATURDAY BOWLING IS BACK FOR THE SEASON!

Dust off your bowling ball . Get ready to practice your skills for our upcoming tournaments or just join us for a good time of casual bowling for fun. This is a great way to meet up with old friends and to meet new friends while bowling.

If you don't have a bowling ball or shoes, no worries. Shoes and ball rental are included in the price for your games.

SEE YOU AT THE LANES



JC Transit will be available for this event.

**Date:** Saturday, Sept. 21st

**Time :** 2:00—4:00 pm

**Where:** Quonset Lanes, Crystal City

**Cost :** \$12.00 per person



# Sports

## Softball

### 2024 Softball Schedule

Sunset Park—Fields #2 & #3

Festus MO

Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm

October 12th—State Games, Jefferson City

\$25.00 sports fee



## Tennis

### 2024 Tennis Schedule

Sunset Park Courts

Festus, MO

Thursday 7:00—8:15 pm

October 11th—State Games, Jefferson City

\$25.00 sports fee

## Bocce

### 2024 Bocce Schedule

Pony Bird Bocce Courts

Herculaneum MO

Mondays 6:00 - 8:00 pm

(Select 45-minute session)

September 14th— Area Games, Hillsboro

October 11th—State Games, Jefferson City

\$25.00 sports fee



# PONY BIRD SUMMER SPORTS

## Tournament Updates

### SOFTBALL

Congratulations to our Pony Bird softball teams for their performances at the SOMO Regional softball tournament in Affton, MO. On August 4th, we spent the day at the Affton Athletic Sports Complex for a day of fun and competition. Because of their success, all teams will advance to the State games in October.

Hawks—Coach Pitch

Silver Medals

Giants—Individual Skills

Gold, Silver & Bronze Medals

Jets—Unified

Gold Medals

### TENNIS

Congratulations to our Pony Bird tennis team for their performance at the St. Louis Area SOMO tournaments in Clayton MO on August 18th. We had 4 athletes and 2 UP compete in Individual Skills, doubles and Unified doubles. For most athletes, this was their 2nd year playing this sport and very pleased with their improvement from last year. Athletes will be advancing to the State games in October and are sure to do well.

Dallas Giffin/Oksana Murray

Bronze

Luke Vasel/Steve Vasel (UP)

Gold

Teddy Murray/Cyrus Williams (UP)

Gold

Luke Vasel

Gold

Nancy Marciante  
Gold in Individual Skills

## UNIFIED SPORTS

Unified Sports are designed to bring together equal numbers of athletes with and without intellectual disabilities on the same playing field. Special Olympics Unified® Sports could include bocce, bowling, basketball, flag football, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, and volleyball. Unified opportunities are offered through Pony Bird Leisure Services. We currently have over 20 Unified Partners in our program and growing. Contact Terri Dallas for more information. Make it fun for the whole family! *"The athletes considered me a good friend and loved playing softball with me. I truly enjoyed playing alongside them, making my time with Pony Bird unforgettable."* - Unified Partner, Anthony Combs



Join us for the 3rd Annual Pony Bird Picnic



Pony Bird

# ANNUAL PICNIC

September 12, 11:00 - 3:00

4 Elks, Festus, MO 63028

**YOU'RE INVITED**

Food, Fun, Music, Games, Staff Recognition,  
and so much more...

RSVP JENNIFER (636) 282-4446; [JADAMS@PONYBIRD.ORG](mailto:JADAMS@PONYBIRD.ORG)



Join us as we celebrate Pony Bird and all who make it so wonderful. Participants, families, staff and volunteers are the reason we are so successful and we want to thank each and everyone of you for the part you play in that success. There will be great food, entertainment, music, games and special awards and acknowledgements. Holding it at the Festus Elks outdoor pavilion will give the event that informal family atmosphere to make everyone comfortable to attend. Please note on the invitation that we ask you to RSVP to Jen Adams, Pony Bird's Development Director. We hope to see you there!

## REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Below is the procedure we recommend you use to successfully register for Leisure Services activities.

1. Look over the newsletter and complete the registration form. Please avoid calling in your reservations.
  - You may print registration form and return by mail with your check to cover fees( please note in memo of check "Leisure Services Activities")
  - You may email your registration to [leisure@ponybird.org](mailto:leisure@ponybird.org) and send check by mail to cover fees (please note in memo of check "Leisure Services Activities")
2. Please make checks payable to Pony Bird, Inc. and mail to Pony Bird , 1615 Vine School Rd, Herculaneum, MO 63048.
3. You will need to contact [JCTransit](http://JCTransit) to request a ride to activities indicating this service. Contact JCTransit at 933-9380. Remember that there are limited slots for transportation so set up you ride as soon as possible. You will also have the option to meet our group at pick-up points or event locations.
4. It is important that you cancel a reservation for any activity you are unable to attend, both with Leisure Services and JCTransit. A 24 hour cancellation notice is required to be considered for a refund of your activity fee, however, refunds cannot be guaranteed upon cancellation.
5. In case of INCLEMENT WEATHER, you may call our [Event Information Line](http://Event Information Line) at 636-282-1422 or 933-3422 to check the status of an activity before heading out the door. All cancellations will be determined by 3:00 p.m. the day of the event. Sign up for [Remind Text Alert](http://Remind Text Alert) for instant messages, instructions on page 3.

### REGISTRATION FORM

You must register for all activities in advance. If you are not registered, you may be sent home due to staff/participant ratio.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Nearest pick-up point: \_\_\_\_\_

Register for E-News Leisure Times. E-mail 1 \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail 2 \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RATE OUR SERVICE (circle your score with 5 being the best)

1 2 3 4 5

Suggestions/Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Please send registration form with payment to  
**Pony Bird, Inc.**  
 1615 Vine School Road  
 Herculaneum MO 63048

TOTAL AMOUNT  
ENCLOSED

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Annual Membership Fee**                      \$20.00  
 Covers July 1—June 30th of the fiscal year.

#### MONTHLY EVENTS

Advance payment for monthly activity is welcome but not required.

- Dinner Club Festus/Arnold– Sept. 10th                      \$12.00  
 Dinner Club Festus/Arnold— Sept. 17th                      \$12.00  
 Dinner Club H. Ridge– Sept. 24th                              \$12.00
- Movie Night- Arnold / Sept. 27th                              \$20.00  
 Movie Night– Festus / Sept.27th                              \$20.00

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Advance payment for special events is required.

- St. Louis Cardinals Game / September 22nd                      \$55.00  
 Eckert's Fall Festival / September 28th                              \$35.00

#### VACATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Branson Trip / Oct. 19th - 21st                              \$475.00

A \$25.00 sports training fee covers incidental costs for training and competitions for each sport. This fee is increased to support our FY25 budget. Most sports offer you 10-12 weeks of practice and competition opportunities.

#### SPORTS TRAINING

- Bowling**                                              \$25.00

Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers and in-kind donations of facilities, our sports training fee is minimal. Through our program, you have the opportunity to practice your sport with the guidance of our trained coaches and to compete in Special Olympics local and state competitions. Athletes wishing to compete in Special Olympics at the State level will be charged an assessment fee. You will also be charged an additional transportation fee to offset the cost of rental/charters. Assessments will be collected from interested athletes once qualification is determined. Assistance is available upon request from the Dick Bennett Memorial Fund. Awards of funds are based on individual need.



### Pony Bird, Inc.

1615 Vine School Rd  
Herculaneum ,MO 63048

#### Leisure Services office location

3655 Baptist Park Rd  
Mapaville MO 63065

Phone: 636-282-1414

Phone: 636-933-3764

Information Line:

636-282-1422

or 933-3422

Email:

leisure@ponybird.org

Like us on Facebook



Visit us on the web:

[www.ponybird.org/leisure](http://www.ponybird.org/leisure)

### Pony Bird Board of Directors

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#### President & CEO

Sara Sucharski

Return Service Requested

### Dick Bennett Memorial Fund

If you are in need of financial assistance to attend Leisure activities, scholarship money is available through the Dick Bennett Memorial Fund. Dick was a long time director for our agency and attended many of our Leisure trips as a chaperone, enjoying the events as much as our participants. Memorial funds have been set up to help others experience that same joy. Your request will be kept confidential and the amount of assistance will be based on individual needs. Funds can be used to pay activity fees, transportation fees, or both depending on your need.

To keep this fund viable, continued contributions may be made, including memorials for loved ones. Please make checks to Pony Bird, Inc and note that it is for the Dick Bennett Memorial Fund. Thank you for your continued support.



### Vacation Opportunities

#### BRANSON VACATION

October 19th - 21st

Leisure Services is returning to Branson for the Harvest Festival & Pumpkins in the City event. Look for details on the enclosed flyer. Register now before the trip fills up!

