



Pony Bird

The Leisure Times Activity Registration

June 2025



Tennis

Summer Sports Seasons Begin



Flag
Football

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

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Vacation Opportunities

“A friend may be waiting behind a stranger’s face.”

Pony Bird offers a variety of leisure activities to encourage you to live an active life. It is important to always be active in our lives. Being active and involved in your community can be much more fun when you are with other people. Everyone needs friends and we hope you will meet new people and form lifelong friendships through Leisure Services.

Pony Bird Tennis Program



Pony Bird offers tennis training for athletes with special needs. There are different levels of competition that are adaptable for most. Our coaches are seasoned tennis players who can lead you through training and prepare you for Special Olympics competition. If you are starting out in the sport, you may just want to join us for practices to develop the skills needed to compete in future years. Tournament play is optional.

Athletes can train in individual skills, singles and doubles, in short and long court play. Unified doubles is also an option if a family member or friend would like to play alongside their athlete.

This has become very popular in Special Olympics to enhance skills with support on and off the court.

If you think you would be interested in joining our tennis team as either a Special Olympics athlete or Unified Player, complete the registration on page 7 and return to our office. Pre-registration is recommended before attending practices, however, we accept new players anytime during the season.

2025 Tennis

Windsor High School

Thursdays 7:00—8:15 p.m.

Practices beginning June 12th

STL Area Tournament—Aug (TBA)

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

2025 Flag Football

Beginning June 3rd

See page 5 for details

Bocce Open Court/Ice Cream

June 11th

See page 5 for details

2025 Tennis

Beginning June 19th

See page 5 for details

Bird Sanctuary, Lone Elk,
Ice -Cream
Saturday June 14th

See page 3 for details

2025 Softball

Beginning June 18th

See page 5 for details

BINGO , Karaoke
And Pizza
Friday June 27th

See page 3 for details

Butterfly House and
Lunch
Saturday June 28th

See page 3 for details

Remind Email Alert System—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 Email 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 most watched email address and stay in the know. It's that easy! Using this service you can also reply or send us a email at any time. Once you opt in please reply to the confirmation with P (for participant). You can opt out at any time by unsubscribing.

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>

Remind can no longer send text messages due to new phone carriers regulations. Please update your Remind registration with your email to get our remind messages. Call our office for more information if needed.

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 Email Alert System** - for the **quickest way** to receive notices, register for up-to-the-minute alerts. Registration procedure is included in this newsletter
- Leisure Information Line 636-282-1422
- Email—check your inbox and spam/junk folder

Volunteers are what makes it work. Reward Yourself!

“ I am only one, but still I can do something.” --Helen Keller

Pony Bird is continuously seeking caring individuals who feel the need to reach out to persons with developmental disabilities. The success of our services relies heavily on the dedication of our staff, as well as volunteers and community support. We invite you to be part of this success as a volunteer.

Help others better their lives. Your reward is their gratitude. It's a great feeling!

Volunteers need to be at least 18 years old and have the desire to work with individuals of all abilities. Volunteers do not need to be experts or professionals in the field of developmental disabilities. Enthusiasm and the desire to work with others is all that is necessary. New volunteers must complete an application. For the safety of our participants, a criminal records check and background screening is completed on all applicants. We seek to match each volunteer with a position that meets his or her interest.

For more information on eligibility and volunteer opportunities, please contact:

Terri Dallas

Leisure Services Program Manager

Phone: 636-282-1414

tmdallas@ponybird.org

Volunteer Opportunities Currently Available

Flag Football coach / coach assistant (June—July)

Unified Partners—Flag Football, Pickleball, Softball, Tennis, Bocce

Volunteers to help at monthly events on a PRN basis

No experience required for any volunteer positions. Mentoring is provided. Coaches are required to complete online registration and online training through Special Olympics Missouri with direction from Leisure Services .

CPR/First Aid & Safety training through Pony Bird.

TRANSPORTATION

Developmental Disability Advocates (formerly JCDDRB) 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



Movie Nite Events—Friday June 13th
Bingo/Karaoke — Friday June 27th

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

Leisure Services Transportation

Pick-Up Points

High Ridge - Farm and Home
Hwy 30 & Little Brennan

Herculaneum - Pony Bird building
1615 Vine School Rd

Arnold - Lot behind McDonalds
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.



World Bird Sanctuary, Lone Elk Park

The Malt Shop



We will start with a walk through the Bird Sanctuary have close encounters with the large variety of birds that are housed there. After that, we will go across the road and take a drive through Lone Elk Park to see the elk, bison, deer, waterfowl and turkey. Halfway through, we will stop to have a picnic lunch before continuing through the park.

Before heading home, we will stop at The Malt Shop for a cold treat!

*Please pack a lunch /drink and bring money for ice cream.

DATE : Saturday June 14th

TIME: 9:00 Herky CSS 9:30 Arnold

9:45 Lowes rear lot (Bluffs)

FEE: \$25.00 + money for ice-cream

Please pack a lunch & drink
for the park

BINGO, Karaoke and Pizza

Get out your Hawaiian shirts or summer attire (no swim suits please) and join us for a beach-themed night of Bingo and karaoke. We will also have pizza and drinks for everyone. This is sure to be a fun time to kick off the summer and hang out with your friends.



DATE: Friday June 27th

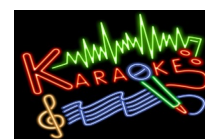
TIME : 6:30—9:30

WHERE : Pony Bird Building

1615 Vine School Rd, Herculaneum

FEE: \$ 25.00

Includes food, drink, and prizes



Butterfly House and Lunch

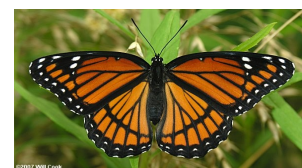
More than a thousand butterflies fly freely in the glass conservatory at the butterfly house. We might even witness one emerge from a chrysalis. We will stop for a fast-food lunch on the way home.

Bring money for lunch (suggested amount \$20) and souvenirs if you wish.

DATE; Saturday June 28th

TIME: Herky 9:30 Arnold 10:00

FEE: \$25.00 + money for lunch



Monthly Social Activities

MOVIE NITE

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, June 13th

TIME: Meet at theater at 6:00 pm

PLACE: Arnold and Festus Theaters

FEE: \$20.00 (movie pass included)

JC Transit available.



DINNER CLUB

Frailey's Southtown Grill

Frailey's boast to have the best of southern grill cuisine. They have all of our favorites. Wings, pizza, chicken strips, salads and a large variety of sandwiches. You are sure to find something you like while hanging out with your friends.

HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: June 10th

Time: Herculaneum 5:15 pm

Arnold 5:45 pm

Fee : \$12.00 plus money for dinner

HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: June 17th

Time: Herculaneum 5:15 pm

Arnold 5:45 pm

Fee: \$12.00 plus money for dinner

BARNHART/HIGH RIDGE

Date : June 24th

Time: Barnhart 5:15 pm

High Ridge 6:00 pm

Fee: \$12.00 + money for dinner

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

SATURDAY BOWL

LEAVE NO PIN STANDING!



**SEE YOU IN
SEPTEMBER**

Our bowling season is over for the year. We will be back on the lanes in September.

WATCH FOR A NIGHT OF COSMIC BOWLING THIS SUMMER



SPORTS

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! Our current need is Unified pickleball and softball players for the 2025 season. If you are interested in joining our teams, contact us now.

2025 Summer Games

Kirksville Bound!!

Good luck to our 19 athletes who will advance to the 2025 Summer Games for track and field and swimming. On May 29th, they will head to Kirkville, MO and stay on the Truman University campus for a weekend of fun. Activities aside from the track competition will include Opening Ceremonies, Victory Dance, Healthy Athletes, and much more. Let's pray for good weather and success in all their events. Thank you to our great coaches for volunteering your time away from home so our athletes can compete and celebrate their success. We hope everyone has a great time !

As we quickly finish up Spring Sports, it's time to prepare for our summer sports seasons. We are now taking registrations for Softball, Bocce, Flag Football, Pickleball & Tennis. All sports can be adapted to suit different levels of abilities. You don't have to be an experienced player. Please sign up on this months activity registration form. It's important that you pre-register for these sports, as our enrollment is growing. We need to know the numbers participating to work out accommodations. Keep in mind that our rosters can fill up so early registration will ensure you a spot on the team. Current Special Olympics physicals are required if you wish to compete. Area tournaments for these sports begin in July, with State games set for October 17-19, 2024. A \$25.00 fee is charged for each sport, to be paid at time of registration.

Softball

2025 Softball Schedule

Sunset Park—Fields #2 & #3

Festus MO

Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Practices beginning June 18th

STL Area Tournament—July 12th

Bocce

Open Court Ice Cream Social

Wednesday, June 11th

6:00—8:00 p.m.

Pony Bird Bocce Courts

Herculaneum, MO

For old and new players. Come try out the game and enjoy a cold snack! Get excited for the upcoming bocce season

2025 Bocce Schedule

Mondays 5:30—8:00

40 minute sessions assigned

Practices beginning July 14th

STL Area Tournament—Sept. (TBA)

Tennis

2025 Tennis

Windsor High School

Thursdays 7:00—8:15 p.m.

Practices beginning June 19th

STL Area Tournament—Aug (TBA)

Pickleball

2025 Pickleball Schedule

High Ridge Civic Center

Festus Jokerst Memorial Park

Mondays 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Practices in session

STL Area Tournament—late June (TBA)

Flag Football

2025 Flag Football Schedule

Hillsboro School Campus

Tuesdays 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Practices: June 3rd—July 8th

STL Area Tournament—Sept. (TBA)

All summer sports offer Special Olympics competitions. Competing is optional but a current Special Olympics registration is required. Contact our office for instructions to complete online registration with Special Olympics Missouri.



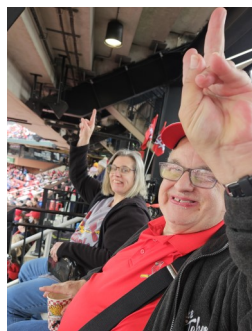
Enjoy the fun and celebrations with Pony Bird Leisure Services



Our track and swimming athletes celebrated their success at the St. Louis Area Spring Games at Westminster Academy. Although we had a rainy day, our track athletes made the best of it. With an indoor pool, our swimmers had no worries. They all performed well in their events and came home with a lot of medals. Everyone qualified for the Summer Games in Kirksville, MO at the end of May. Congratulations and Good Luck!



Participants always have a great time joining with friends and exploring experiences around the St. Louis area. In April, we had groups visit Grant's Farm and attend the Cardinals game. Dakota even got to be on the Jumbotron at Busch Stadium because of the enthusiasm and excitement he has as one of the Cardinal's biggest fans!



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 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](#) 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](#) 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](#) 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.

- | | |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Club Festus/Arnold— June 10th | \$12.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Club Festus/Arnold— June 17th | \$12.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Club H. Ridge— June 24th | \$12.00 |

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Movie Night- Arnold / June 13th | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Movie Night— Festus / June 13th | \$20.00 |

SPECIAL EVENTS

Advance payment for special events is required.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird Sanctuary ,Loan Elk, Malt Shop-- June 14th | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bocce Open Court/ Ice Cream Social—June 11th | no charge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BINGO, Karaoke, Pizza—June 27th | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly House/ Lunch—June 28th | \$25.00 |
- + money for lunch

VACATIONS

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gatlinburg, TN—July 6th—9th | \$925.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trout Lodge Trip—August 23rd & 24th | \$280.00 |

A \$25.00 sports training fee covers incidental costs for training and competitions for each sport.

SUMMER SPORTS

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball—in session | \$25.00 sports fee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Festus <input type="checkbox"/> High Ridge | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flag Football— June 3rd | \$25.00 sports fee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Softball—June 18th | \$25.00 sports fee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis—June 19th | \$25.00 sports fee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bocce—July 14th | \$25.00 sports fee |

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, area, 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
Festus , MO 63028

Phone: 636-282-1414

Phone: 636-933-3764

Information Line:

636-282-1422

or 933-3422

Email:

leisure@ponybird.org

emergency contact

314-210-8760

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Visit us on the web:

www.ponybird.org/leisure

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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 chaperon, 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.



2025 SUMMER VACATION

Gatlinburg, TN

July 6th—9th

There's no place in the world quite like it. Offering exciting adventures at every turn. See the attached flyer.



2025 TROUT LODGE

Potosi, MO

August 23rd & 24th

Enjoy the outdoors with boating, zip lines, horseback riding, archery, crafts and hayride. There is so much to do in a short time but we get it all in and have a blast. See the attached flyer.

