



Pony Bird

The Leisure Times Activity Registration

August 2026

Join us for this very special event for Pony Bird participants, families, staff and volunteers.

It's sure to be great fun!



**That's a wrap for our
pickleball season**

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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Travel with Leisure



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Connecting with Friends...
That's What We Do!

State Pickleball
August 8th
Columbia, MO

Aftton Invitation Softball
August 8th
Aftton, MO

Cardinal Road Trip
Aug 15th—18th
Waitlist only

St Louis Aquarium
Sunday, August 23rd
See page 3

Trout Lodge Trip
Aug 29th & 30th
Waitlist only

Area Tennis Tournament
Aug 29th
Brentwood, MO

Pony Bird Annual Picnic
Hillsboro Civic Club
September 10th

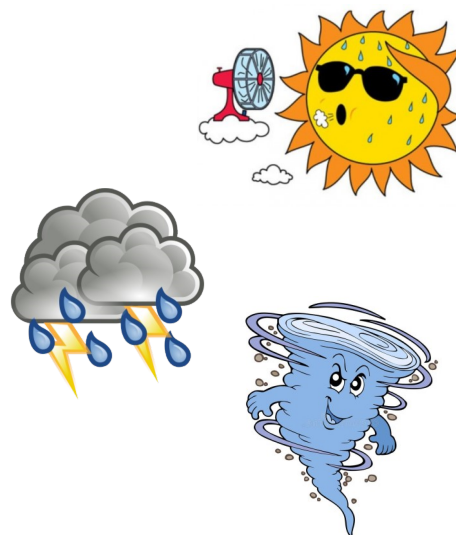
Branson Trip
October 10th—12th
See flyer attached. Register soon.

Inclement Weather Alert Procedure

Leisure activities that are scheduled when severe weather conditions are predicted may need to be cancelled or postponed. Our staff 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 will be made to contact all enrolled participants and/or their caregiver/guardian by using the following:

- **Leisure Information Line 636-282-1422**
- **Email—check your inbox and spam/junk folder**
- **Text Messages—messages can now be sent from our new Ring Central phone server. You may receive texts from 636-282-1414 or 636-282-1419. These are our Leisure Services office extensions. You may also send text messages to these contact numbers.**
- **Most importantly, check your texts and emails before heading out the door if conditions are questionable.**

Summer weather alerts to watch for...



Volunteers are what make it work. Reward Yourself!

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

Pony Bird is continuously seeking caring individuals who are interested in working with people 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

COACHES needed for sports listed below:
 Bowling Sept through January

UNIFIED PARTNERS needed for sports below:

Tennis	June through mid-October
Bocce	July through mid-October
Bowling	Sept through January

VOLUNTEERS to help at monthly events on a PRN basis

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

CPR/First Aid & Safety training offered 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

36-933-9380

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, August 7th

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 to the side of 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.

St. Louis Aquarium and Lunch

Join our group as we explore the St. Louis aquarium packed to the gills with over 13,000 animals across 44 exhibits. Discover amazing galleries and interactive exhibits, including a 250,000 gallon shark habitat.

We will then go to Hodak's, a St. Louis favorite known for their famous fried chicken. They offer many other great options if fried chicken is not your thing.



DATE: Sunday, August 23rd
TIME: Herky 9:30 Arnold 10:00
FEE: \$45.00
Plus money for lunch (\$25.00 suggested)

FUN TIMES

Museum of Illusions



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, August 7th

TIME: Meet at theater at 6:00 pm

PLACE: Arnold and Festus Theaters

FEE: \$20.00 (movie pass included)

JCTransit available.



DINNER CLUB

Detours

Detours is a family friendly, casual restaurant in Imperial. They offer juicy burgers, pizza, tasty salads, chicken strips and so much more! You will defiantly find something to please your pallet. Come join your friends for a night out with food, fun and friendship.



HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: August 4th

Time: Herky pick-up 5:15 pm

Arnold 5:45

Fee : \$12.00 +money for dinner

HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: August 11th

Time: Herky pick-up 5:15 pm

Arnold 5:45

Fee : \$12.00 +money for dinner

BARNHART/HIGH RIDGE

Date: August 25th

Time: Herky 5:00 pm Barnhart. 5:15 pm

High Ridge 5:45 pm

Fee: \$12.00 plus money for dinner

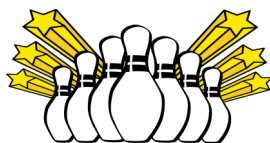


Based on recent price increases, we recommend you bring \$25.00 to cover dinner/drinks and tip.

SATURDAY BOWL



**We will see you
back on the lanes
in
September.**



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 2026 season. If you are interested in joining our teams, contact us now.

2026 PICKLEBALL SEASON

Congratulations to our athletes who competed in the Special Olympics Area Pickleball Tournament in Cape Girardeau. 9 athletes and their Unified Partners played in doubles competitions and came home with shining medals around

their necks. We wrapped up the season with a celebration at the Missouri Pickleball Club, where everyone from both practice sights came together for some friendly rivalry. Thank you to the Festus Parks Department and Jefferson County Parks and Recreation for allowing us to use their outdoor courts to train and prepare our teams for their games. The Festus and High Ridge communities were outstanding in supporting our athletes, where local "pickleballers" took an interest in our athletes' talents. We have one Unified team advancing to the State Special Olympics tournament in Columbia. Good luck to Bridget and her Aunt Tess!



2026 Summer Sports Line-up

The **summer sports** season is in full swing! It's not too late to join us. All sports can be adapted to suit different levels of abilities so you don't have to be an experienced player. Please sign up on this month's activity registration form. It's important that you pre-register for these sports to receive updates. Keep in mind that our rosters for competitions could fill up early but you are still welcome to join us at practices. Current Special Olympics registration is 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

2026 Practice Schedule

Sunset Park—Fields #2 & #3
Festus MO
Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
August 5th & 12th

Tournament Schedule

Invitational Tournament—August 8—Affton

Due to players unable to attend, we will not be able to travel to the State softball tournament this year. However, will have our own celebration at the fields at our last practice on August 12th.

Tennis

2026 Practice Schedule

Windsor High School
Thursdays 7:00—8:15 pm
June 25 - August 27

Change practice location in September
TBA

Tournament Schedule

Area Tournament—August 29—Brentwood
State Tournament—Oct 16th—Springfield

Bocce

2026 Practice Schedule

Pony Bird Bocce Courts
Mondays, 6:00—8:00
(40 min practice sessions assigned)

Tournament Schedule

Area Tournament—Sept. 12—Hillsboro
State Tournament—Oct. 16—Springfield

SAVE THE DATE

2026 –27 Bowling Season begins in September. Look for information in our September issue of Leisure Times!





PROGRAM IMPACT

Community Networking offers the opportunity for individuals to explore inclusion options with support from Leisure Services staff. The services will begin with a short meeting exploring leisure interests and help direct to what best suits the needs of the individual. The goal of the program is for participants to expand on resources that would allow them to interact in their community and form natural support, in hopes that they will develop confidence to attend activities on their own or with the support of a friend.

PROGRAM DESIGN

The participant and family members meet to discuss interests and set goals for direction of the service. Once goals are established, a Leisure Services employee will take the individual into the community once a week and explore options, with introduction to different leisure experiences; movie theaters, libraries, local recreation venues, community recreation through YMCA/park programs, church/senior programs, and more. We will provide support in a small group setting of 4 or less to encourage socialization and develop peer connection. They will make friends, have fun and connect with their community.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR THIS SERVICE?

Individuals 16 years and older
Enrolled in the Leisure Services program
Must qualify for Medicaid waiver funding
Able to meet once a week for this service—transportation is provided
Individuals in a Group Home, ISL, or Shared Living may not receive this service due to funding restriction.

IF INTERESTED...

Contact Pony Bird Leisure Services
636-282-1414
leisure@ponybird.org
Terri Dallas—Program Manager
Donna Cooper—Activity Supervisor

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 JC Transit to request a ride to activities indicating this service. Contact JC Transit at 933-9380. Remember that there are limited slots for transportation so set up your 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 JC Transit. 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. 6. HAVE A GREAT TIME!

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.

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

Advance payment for monthly activity is welcome but not required.

- | | |
|---|---------|
| ☐ Dinner Club Fest/Arn— August 4th | \$12.00 |
| ☐ Dinner Club Fest/Arn— August 11th | \$12.00 |
| ☐ Dinner Club Barn/H.R — August 25th | \$12.00 |

- | | |
|---|---------|
| ☐ Movie Night- Arnold / August 7th | \$20.00 |
| ☐ Movie Night— Festus / August 7th | \$20.00 |

SPECIAL EVENTS

Advance payment for special events is required.

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| ☐ St Louis Aquarium Lunch —August 23rd | \$45.00 |
| Plus money(\$25.00) for lunch | |
| ☐ Cardinal Road Trip—August 15th | \$1050.00 |
| Taking names for wait list | |
| ☐ Trout Lodge Trip—August 29th-30th | \$275.00 |
| Taking names for wait list | |
| ☐ Branson Trip—October 16th-18th | \$495.00 |

\$100.00 deposit required at time of registration

Spring Sports

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| ☐ Softball—Wednesdays | \$25.00 sports fee |
| ☐ Tennis—Thursdays | \$25.00 sports fee |
| ☐ Bocce—Mondays | \$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 may 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. Financial assistance for our sports programs 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

Like us on Facebook



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

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.



Travel Opportunities

**Cardinal Road Trip &
Kentucky Horse Country**
August 15th—18th
Taking names for wait list.



**2026 Trout Lodge
Potosi, MO**
August 29th & 30th
Taking names for wait list.



2026 Branson Fall Trip
Oct. 16th—18th
Enjoy Silver Dollar City's
Harvest Festival and Pumpkin
in the City event, with a show
at Dixie Stampede. See flyer
attached. Sign up soon!

