



Pony Bird

The Leisure Times Activity Registration

September 2026

2026-27 BOWLING SEASON BEGINS

It's time to get back on the lanes!! 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 this year we are returning to Imperial Strike and Spares Lanes, as well as Quonset Bowl, making it more convenient for everyone. It's also time to register for the 2026-27 tournament season. Tournaments are in the St. Louis metro area so family and friends can enjoy watching you compete.

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 the location for our Saturday Bowl, turn to page 4 of the newsletter. 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 bowling events. Shirts are \$20.00. For more information, contact the Leisure Services office.



Congratulations to Bridget and Tess (UP) for winning silver at State Pickleball!!

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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UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

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

**Saturday Bowling
Begins September 5th**
See page 4

**Pony Bird Annual Picnic
Hillsboro Civic Club
September 10th**

NEW LOCATION

**Special Olympics
Area Bocce Tournament
September 12th**

**St. Louis Cardinals Game
Sunday, September 20th**
See page 3



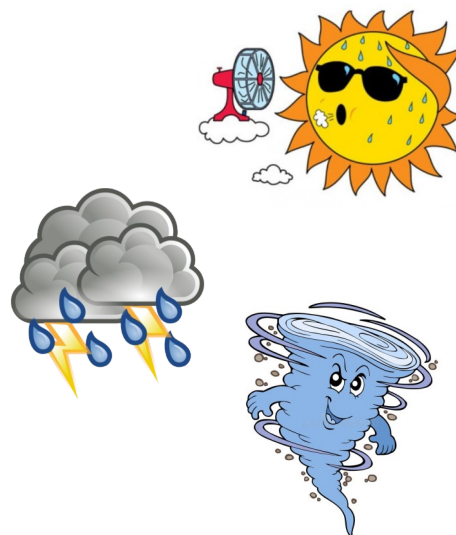
**Branson Trip
October 10th—12th**
See flyer attached. Waitlist only.

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, Sept. 11th
Quonset Bowling —Saturday Sept. 26th

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.

SL. LOUIS CARDINALS GAME

Our beloved baseball season is coming to an end. Join us as we take in the last regular season game at Busch Stadium for the year. The Cardinals will be taking on the Washington Nationals. You will receive a Cardinal's winter vest and a magnetic Cardinal's schedule for the 2027 season. We will be going early to make sure we get these items. Sign up right away for the game. Tickets will go fast.



DATE: Sunday, September 20th

TIME: Herky 9:30 Arnold 10:00

FEE: \$55.00

Cashless Venue. Send CREDIT or DEBIT card for concessions.

You're Invited to Pony Bird's

Annual Picnic

Thursday, September 10th

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Hillsboro Civic Club
10349 Business 21, Hillsboro, MO 63050

Enjoy a fun afternoon with BBQ, exotic animals, music, balloon making, games, a photo booth to capture the memories, and more!

RSVP Online

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, September 11th

TIME: Meet at theater at 6:00 pm

PLACE: Arnold and Festus Theaters

FEE: \$20.00 (movie pass included)

JCTransit available.



DINNER CLUB

P'sghetti's

P'sghetti's offers a variety of delicious pasta meals to choose from. They also have many hot or cold sandwiches served on their fresh baked bread. Several types of salads are also on the menu. Bring your appetite and join your friends for dinner and fun!



HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: September 15th

Time: Herky pick-up 5:15 pm

Arnold 5:45

Fee : \$12.00 +money for dinner

HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: September 22nd

Time: Herky pick-up 5:15 pm

Arnold 5:45

Fee : \$12.00 +money for dinner

BARNHART/HIGH RIDGE

Date: September 29th

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

IMPERIAL STRIKES AND SPARES

DATE: Sept. 5th and Sept. 26th

TIME: 9:30—11:30

COST: \$15.00

JC Transit not available

for Imperial Strikes n Spares



**BOWLING
IS
BACK!!**

**COME JOIN US ON
THE LANES.**

The \$15.00 cost covers 2 hours or three games of bowling. Shoes and ball are included if needed.

QUONSET LANES

DATE: Sept. 5th and Sept. 26th

TIME: 2:00—4:00

COST: \$15.00

JC Transit available for

September 26th—Quonset Only



SPORTS

PONY BIRD SUMMER SPORTS

Tournament Updates

BOCCE

The bocce season is underway with our athletes meeting at our Pony Bird courts on Monday evenings to prepare for their competitions. The first tournament is scheduled for Saturday, September 12th. Hillsboro High School Student Council are gracious enough to host this event once again, keeping the tournament in Jefferson County. This makes it inviting for our family and friends to spend the day with our athletes and cheer them on to victory. We hope you can join us. Competition will begin at 9:00 a.m.

SOFTBALL It's been a tough summer battling rain and heat. Several practices were cancelled as well as the invitational tournament in Affton. And it was hard on players who did attend practices and games, but they muddled through. We did get to participate in the Special Olympics Area Tournament in July and everyone played exceptionally well. Congratulations to all our teams for a job well done. Our softball season has come to an end and we will not travel to the State tournament. Thank you to our volunteers, athletes and families for a challenging but fun season.

Hawks Coach Pitch
4th Place

Jets Unified
Gold

Giants Individual Skills
Gold, Silver, Bronze

TENNIS Congratulations to our Pony Bird tennis team for their hard work through this year's practice season. We have athletes returning for their 4th year, and you can see the improvement in their skills and their confidence. Our new players are showing promising talents as well. Good luck to them all who will be competing in the Area tournament in St. Louis on August 29th, where they hope to qualify for the State event.

PICKLEBALL Congratulations to Bridget and Tess (Unified Partner) for their success at the State pickleball tournament. They were our only Unified team that participated this year. Bridget enjoyed meeting up with old team members she played with when living in Columbia. They had great competition and split the difference in wins and losses, coming home with silver medals around their necks. As it shows, they had a great time!



Heading to Special Olympics State Outdoor Games

Our summer sports are about to wrap up the season, and what a season it's been. With the challenge of the heat and rain, we were still able to get practices in and prepare for tournaments. Congratulations to our summer sports athletes who will be completing their Area competitions. Our bocce and tennis athletes hope to qualify for the Special Olympics State Outdoor Games competition, when they travel to Springfield on October 16th for a weekend of competition and a whole lot of other fun activities. Good luck to everyone!

Thank you to the many coaches and volunteers who have supported these athletes throughout the sports season. Their dedication to our athletes is amazing! Thank you to the Festus Parks Department for the use of their facilities for our softball & pickleball programs, to Windsor School District for use of high school tennis courts, and to Jefferson Co Parks & Rec for use of High Ridge pickleball courts. All were donated venues. We also acknowledge Missouri Pickleball Club in Fenton for their hospitality and support and their kind gifts to our athletes.

SAVE THE DATE

2026 –27 Bowling Season begins in September. Look for the tournament registration in this month's newsletter





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— Sept. 15th \$12.00
☐ Dinner Club Fest/Arn— Sept. 22nd \$12.00
☐ Dinner Club Barn/H.R— Sept. 29th \$12.00

- ☐ Movie Night- Arnold / Sept. 11th \$20.00
☐ Movie Night— Festus / Sept. 11th \$20.00

- ☐ Saturday Bowl—Sept. 5th \$15.00
 ☐ Quonset ☐ Imperial
☐ Saturday Bowl—Sept. 26th \$15.00
 ☐ Quonset ☐ Imperial

SPECIAL EVENTS

Advance payment for special events is required.

- ☐ Cardinals Baseball Game / Sept. 20th \$55.00

VACATIONS

- ☐ Branson Trip—October 10th—12th \$495.00
\$100.00 deposit required at this time/ balance due Sept. 25th

Spring Sports

- ☐ **Bowling** **\$25.00 sports fee**
The sports fee is charged to those who compete in the Jefferson County and/or Area tournaments. One fee covers both tournaments.

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

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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

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

2026 Branson Fall Trip Oct 10th—12th

Enjoy Silver Dollar City's Harvest Festival and Pumpkin in the City event, with a show at Dixie Stampede. See flyer attached. Waitlist only.



Presented By
Humana.