



Pony Bird

The Leisure Times Activity Registration

October 2026

2027 Summer Vacation

There have been some really exciting trips suggested for Summer Vacations by our participants over the past 30+ years. We have enjoyed trips to Chicago, Memphis, Milwaukee, Wisconsin Dells, Hershey PA, Niagara Falls and many more. Some have been Cardinal Road trips and others have been educational and fun, or just plain FUN. We set our sights for a July or August vacation.

We'll be crunching numbers and researching travel costs soon to determine the next vacation destination. If you think a trip with Leisure Services sounds like fun, start saving your money. Payments cannot be accepted before 90 days out. Plans for vacations must meet final approval by Pony Bird, Inc.

We always have a great time on our vacations and we have visited a lot of great places across the country. To join us on a vacation we ask that you actively

participate in Leisure Services activities for a minimum of 1 year. This allows our staff and other participants to get to know you and it allows you to get to know us as well. When we travel out of town we have one chaperone for every 5 travelers. Due to financial reasons, we are unable to support individuals on trips who require higher levels of support. Chaperones do not stay in rooms with travelers but are close by to provide needed assistance. We stay in hotels rated 4 stars or above with indoor corridors for security purposes.

If you have an idea for a fun-filled trip, please list your suggestion on the registration form. We will take all suggestions into account with hopes to offer a trip that will guarantee a good time for all. We now begin the process for another adventure!! Look for our 2027 vacation announcement after the first of the year.

Saturday Bowling Returns to Imperial

As many of our bowlers missed their time at Imperial Lanes last year, we are happy to announce that they have offered us lanes for our Saturday Bowling. They are under new ownership and have changed their name to Strike and Spare Imperial. We will return to a 9:30—11:30 time slot. Due to the early hours, JC Transit cannot provide transportation to Strike and Spare but will continue to transport to Quonset Lanes for specific dates. Please check page 4 for more details.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

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



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

**Special Olympics
Outdoor Games**
October 16th—18th

Fall Dance
October 23rd

**Jefferson County
Special Olympics Bowling**
October 28th



Always Fun Times!

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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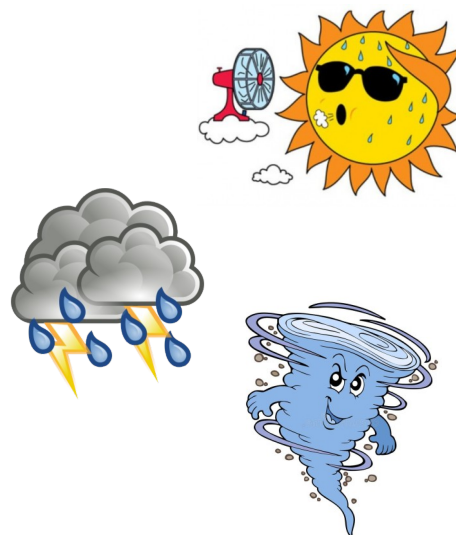
Dick Bennett Scholarship 8
Travel with Leisure

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 received 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
Basketball	January through March

UNIFIED PARTNERS needed for sports below:

Bowling	Sept through January
Basketball	January through March

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, October 30th
Fall Dance—Friday October 23rd
Quonset Bowling —Saturday October 24th

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.

Fall Dance

It is that time of the year. Time to get your groove on and join us at our Fall Dance. Come meet up with old friends and also meet new friends while you dance to the great music our DJ Steve plays. If you don't want to dance, that is ok too. Just come listen to the music and visit with everyone. You are sure to have a great time! We will offer drinks and a snack during the evening. We hope to see everyone there. You are welcome to wear a costume.



DATE: October 23rd

TIME: 7:00-9:30

FEE: \$10.00

WHERE: Herky CSS

1615 Vine School Road
Herculaneum MO 63048



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, October 30th
TIME: Meet at theater at 6:00 pm
PLACE: Arnold and Festus Theaters
FEE: \$20.00 (movie pass included)

JCTransit available.



DINNER CLUB

Chili's

Chilis' is one of our favorites. It is a family friendly restaurant serving classic Tex-Mex and American fare. They have a great "Three for Me" deal where you get your drink, appetizer and your main dish all for one price. They offer a great selection of burgers, chicken strips, sandwiches, pastas and so much more. Let's get together for a good meal with friends.

HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: October 13th
Time: Herky pick-up 5:15 pm
 Arnold 5: 45 meet at Arnold
 Chili's
Fee : \$12.00 +money for dinner

HERKY/ARNOLD

Date: October 20th
Time: Herky pick-up 5:15 pm
 Arnold 5: 45 Meet at Arnold
 Chili's
Fee : \$12.00 +money for dinner

BARNHART/HIGH RIDGE

Date: October 27th
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: Oct. 3rd and Oct. 24th
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: Oct. 3rd and Oct. 24th
TIME: 2:00—4:00
COST: \$15.00

JC Transit available for
 October 24th—Quonset Only



SPORTS

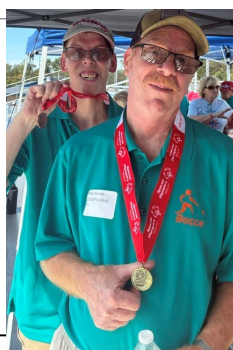
UNIFIED SPORTS

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 basketball players for the 2024 season. If you are interested in joining our teams, contact us now. *"I never could have imagined how much joy this would bring to my life. Practices are a highlight of my week. The competition, comradery, teamwork, coaches, and so much laughter make hard days better". - Unified Partner, Megan Poole.*

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 our practices in and prepare for tournaments. Congratulations to our summer sports athletes who have all completed their Area competitions. Our tennis athletes and Unified Partners came home with Gold & Silver awards. The Softball teams, the Hawks and Unified Jets, and individual skills athletes brought home Gold and Silver, and our 38 bocce athletes and Unified Partners came home with Gold, Silver, Bronze and 4th Place. Our Tennis and Bocce athletes have all qualified to advance to the Special Olympics State Outdoor Games competition, when they travel to Springfield, MO on October 16th for a weekend of competition and other fun activities. Good luck to everyone!

Thank you to the many coaches and volunteers who have supported these athletes throughout the season. Their dedication to our athletes is amazing! Thank you to the Festus Parks Department for the use of their facilities for our softball fields and to Windsor School District for the use of their tennis courts. Both are donated facilities.



Bowling Season Begins

The bowling season is off and rolling. With over 30 bowlers that join our Pony Bird groups, we are certain this will be a big season. Our Saturday bowling started up in September and bowlers have registered for the 2026-27 tournament season. See the enclosed registration flyer if you are interested. The Jefferson County bowling tournament will be October 28th at Strike and Spare Imperial. The Area tournament is in St. Louis on November 7th or 8th, and the State Special Olympics Games will be held in January in the St. Charles area. 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. You have the opportunity to meet some great friends. Come join the fun. You are sure to have a blast!!

For more information on dates and locations for our Saturday Bowl, look to page 4 of the newsletter. 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 \$20.00. For more information, contact the Leisure Services office.





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— October 13th | \$12.00 |
| ☐ Dinner Club Fest/Arn— October 20th | \$12.00 |
| ☐ Dinner Club Barn/H.R — October 27th | \$12.00 |
| ☐ Movie Night- Arnold / October 30th | \$20.00 |
| ☐ Movie Night— Festus / October 30th | \$20.00 |
| ☐ Saturday Bowl—October 3rd | \$15.00 |
| ☐ Quonset ☐ Imperial | |
| ☐ Saturday Bowl—October 24th | \$15.00 |
| ☐ Quonset ☐ Imperial | |

SPECIAL EVENTS

Advance payment for special events is required.

- ☐ Fall Dance —October 23rd \$10.00

VACATIONS

- ☐ Branson Trip—October 10th—12th \$495.00
Waitlist Only

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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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 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.