



Memorial Day placing of a wreath at the Town's Service Memorial
Photo: S. Halleran

RECREATION COMMISSION

We finished the 2009-2010 basketball season in February with the 1st and 2nd grade group of 13 students learning basic skills on Saturday mornings at the KUA gym. This group was well coached by Don Parsons and Doug Adams. We had 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ girls coached by Glen Greenough along with Chuck Chamley and Mindy Taber as well as 9 third and fourth grade boys coached by Rob Johnstone and Todd Balise who practiced and played several games with local towns during the season and finished up with the Hanover Tournament. Practices were held at KUA and PES and home games were held at the PES.

In the spring we started our $\frac{3}{4}$ boys baseball group with a large group of 18. This team was coached by Terry Donoghue, George Sandman, Rob Taylor, and Rob Johnstone. Our $\frac{3}{4}$ Softball team had 13 participants and was coached by Doug Beaupre, Tom Jones, and Tim Ball. These two teams practiced through the spring at Hewes Field and played teams from area towns. Home games were played on Prescott Field.

We ran our T-ball during late spring and early summer. We had 31 1st and 2nd graders making up 3 teams and an additional 14 participants to make up our farm team. 1st and 2nd graders practiced skills and played games among the 3 teams. The Farm Team worked on basic skills of throwing, catching, batting, and rules of the game. These teams practiced and played on Hewes Field and Cory Taber Field. They were coached by Tim Cloud, Clara McNamara, Bob Hyjek, Terry Donoghue, Heather Brasseur, Mert Hastings, Raylene Lamadeleine, and Randy Budner.

Our annual fishing Derby was held on June 5th in Blood Brook behind the Meriden Deli. Trophies for first, second, and third place in each of the four age groups were handed out. Hot dogs were cooked on the grill for the kids to enjoy with drinks and

chips as well as ice cream cones handed out from the Meriden Deli. We had 71 kids participate in the event and the big catch of the day was made by Noah Forman with his 12" trout. Sadly missed was Gardiner MacLeay who passed away this past year but has been a part of our derby for a very long time. A huge thank you to our many volunteers, some new and some who have been with us for many years. Those volunteers made up of Marty Morgan, John McNamara, Pam Lewis, Joanne Morgan, Jen Davis, Terry McNamara, Kim Smith, Clint Hurd, Bill Schlosser and Lester Boucier. Thank you for donations from The Meriden Deli, Hy On A Hill Trout Farm, N.H. Fish and Game, Coca Cola Company, and Bill Kennett.

Our Tennis numbers were down this year with 12 participants instructed by Amanda Hawkins and Max King. These lessons were held for six weeks at the KUA Tennis courts. Our hope is to grow this program and will look at ways to help increase the participation in this sport. It is a sport that helps the hand eye coordination and quick movements and thinking that can be beneficial in other sports. It can be enjoyed for many years into your adult life and is a lot of fun.

The Soccer program in the fall included the $\frac{3}{4}$ boys team made up of 20 boys and coached by Thom Lappin, Mark Bean, and Rob Taylor. The $\frac{3}{4}$ girls team was made up of 20 girls and was coached by Brian Garfield, Don Parsons, and Mindy Taber. These two teams played other area recreation teams and practiced and played home games on Hewes Field. The 1st and 2nd grade had three teams made up of 32 players. They were coached by Mindy Taber, Breck Taber, Josh Longacre, Brian Garfield, RobHewett, Doug Adams, and Kate Whybrow . These teams practiced basic skill and played games with each other at the Cory Taber Field. We had an additional 11 kids that participated in the kindergarten group coached by Brian Garfield, Stephenie Smarsik, and George Sandmann This group worked on basic skills at the Cory Taber Field.

The 2010-2011 basketball season got off to a slow start with the limited amount of court time available due to some changes this year. Some adjustments have been made and we are currently looking at other options to prevent this issue in the future. Practices were very limited before games started for the $\frac{3}{4}$ grade boys and girls. Brandon Feid reviewed gym time at PES and got us time to get some practices in. Home games for these groups against other area recreation teams are also being played at the PES gym. The $\frac{3}{4}$ boys have 7 boys coached by Thom Lappin, Chuck Chamley, and Todd Balise. The $\frac{3}{4}$ girls have 10 girls and are coached by Don Parsons and Mindy Taber. The $\frac{1}{2}$ grade group working on basic skills at the KUA gym on Saturday mornings has 11 participants and is coached by Doug Adams and Elizabeth Ellingson.

As we move forward I encourage you to take an active role where possible. Participating in your child's youth activities are both fun and rewarding. One of our challenges will be to continue to have the sign-up numbers in these programs as enrollment at the school declines. We will be creative in the program to meet the needs of our children. I welcome your suggestions and questions.

I would like to thank the Plainfield School and Kimball Union Academy for the use of their facilities. Thank you to Meriden Deli, Hy On A Hill Trout Farm, and Keene Medical for your donations. A huge thank you to all our coaches, officials, and individuals who have donated their time for the youth in our community and made this program successful. I look forward to the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel P. Cantlin ,
Recreation Director