

## RECREATION COMMISSION-2013

We finished the 2012-2013 basketball season in February. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade group of 20 students worked on learning basic skills on Saturday mornings at the KUA gym. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls group of 9 and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys group of 9 practiced and played several games with local towns during the season followed by a tournament in Claremont. The season was completed with a boys/girls game and a parents/kids game followed by great pizza from Ziggy's Pizza. Focus was put on individual skills, playing as a team, and sportsmanship. Practices and home games were held at PES. The combined groups had a total participation of 38 boys and girls.

In the spring we started our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boy's baseball with a large group of 16. They practiced and played teams from other area towns. Home games were played on Prescott Field. Skills and sportsmanship were worked on through the season. We unfortunately were not able to field a 3/4 softball team as we had only 4 sign-ups. Participation in another area town recreation, was offered to those signed up. We will most likely have low numbers again this coming season for soft ball and will look to offer participation in a border town if we do not have enough to field our own team. We ran our T-ball during late spring and early summer. Participation was at 22 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders making up 2 teams and an additional 11 participants to make up our farm team. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders practiced skills and played games. The Farm Team worked on basic skills of throwing, catching, batting, and rules of the game. These teams practiced and played on Hewes Field, Prescott Field, and Cory Taber Field.

Our annual fishing derby was held on June 1st in Blood Brook behind the Meriden Deli. The weather was great and participation was up from recent years. 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 including McNamara Dairy Chocolate Milk, Coca Cola soft drinks and water. Ice cream cones were handed out from the Meriden Deli to all participants. We had 101 kids participate in the event and the big catch of the day was made by Andrew Duany with his 17" trout. A total of 145 fish were caught during the derby. The Meriden Deli raffled a 32 lb chocolate bar and a chocolate basket created by Mt. Mooselauke Candies with proceeds going to the Plainfield Recreation Department. I would like to give a huge thank you to our many volunteers. Thank you for the many donations from The Meriden Deli, Hy-On-A-Hill Trout Farm, N.H. Fish and Game, Coca Cola Company and Vern's Worms, and McNamara Dairy.

Unfortunately, we were unable to offer our tennis program this past year, but we are working to get this back in 2014. It is a great 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. On August 25, our 2nd Annual Spirit Day was held. This event was an extension of our 250th celebration which was held in 2011. It is a great way to get together as a community as the summer comes to an end. Please see the separate report on this event. The Soccer program in the fall included the ¾ boy's team made up of 13 boys and the ¾ girl's team was made up of 17 girls. These two teams played other area recreation teams and practiced and played home games on Hewes Field. This group worked on individual skills, working as a team, and sportsmanship. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade had three teams made up of 30 players. These teams practiced basic skill and played games with each other at

the Cory Taber Field. We had an additional 16 kids that participated in the kindergarten group. We had a total of 76 participants in our K through 4th grade soccer program. The 2013-2014 basketball season got started for our ¾ grade boys with a group of 10 and the ¾ grade girls with a group of 12. They are working on both individual and team skills and will play games with other area towns. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd grade group working on basic skills at the PES gym on Saturday mornings has 12 participants and started in January. In the coming year of 2014, I look forward to continued participation in our youth programs. I am happy to hear any input to what we as a community are looking for to improve on what we have. Please feel free to contact me at any time with suggestions and comments.

I would like to thank all our coach's for the time they put into this program. They are the individuals that make it work. Without you, we have no program. Thank you to the officials who helped throughout the year. Your help is very much appreciated. Thank you to anyone who has helped in any way. As we move forward I encourage everyone to take an active role where possible. Participating in your child's youth activities are both fun and rewarding.

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, Ziggy's Pizza, and McNamara Dairy 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,

David P. Cantlin ,  
Recreation Director



2013 Fishing Derby Participants look for the big one!

Photo S. Halleran