

## Events/Programs:

- Fall dance programs (Tap/Jazz & Ballet) commenced in September with 67 registrants
- Fall Judo classes for ages 13 and up have commenced with 5 registrants
- September is our big month for in-house event programming with two significant events organized and hosted by Pottstown Parks and Recreation. Despite the threat of inclement weather, we proceeded with the 12th annual Pet Fair in Memorial Park on 9/9/23 as planned. As it happens, the weather was beautiful, and we had very good attendance with an estimated attendance of 400+ between the hours of 10 AM and 2 PM. The event featured regional animal rescues, animal welfare organizations, pet supply and pet care businesses and local community groups. The event also featured a free petting zoo and a blessing of the animals ceremony as established by the event founder, Bill Sharon.
- The other event that Parks and Recreation generally has a big hand in is the Pottstown Veterans' Community Day, which was held 9/23/23. Due to the inclement weather, which this time was unavoidable, the ceremony was moved to the Goodwill Fire Company. We are grateful for their support of the event. We had excellent attendance and distributed 3 Glass Tear Hero Honoree awards to SSG Tamara Charles, US Army National Guard 1996-2015; Len Giesler US Navy 1985-1990; and Jamie Washburn, US Army National Guard 1995-2018 for their achievements at home and abroad. The keynote speaker was Maj. General Douglass O'Dell USMC retired. Primary event planning is performed by our partners at the Pottstown Veterans' Island Project. The ceremony can be viewed here: [ThePCTVNetwork Presents Pottstown Veterans Community Day Sept 23rd 2023](#)
- Memorial Park hosted the VCOP stand down to help veterans in need on 9/23/23
- Friends of the Forgotten Ceremony was hosted at Veterans' Island at Memorial Park on 9/17/23
- The following events were held in Borough parks, but were organized and executed by other organizations with only minimal help from Pottstown Parks and Recreation Dept as provided through rental contract.
  - o Fete en Blanc – Smith Family Plaza
  - o Ride for the River – Riverfront Park
  - o CCLU Latin Festival – to be held on rescheduled date of 9/30/23 in Riverfront Park

## Infrastructure

- Aeration, seeding, top-dressing and fertilizing was carried out at Memorial Park, Ricketts Community Center and Manatawny Green by Parks and Recreation staff as a part of our seasonal turf maintenance plan
  - All electrical breakers were replaced at Ricketts Community Center to ensure safety and efficient, replacing dated equipment
  - Installation of two murals on the surface of the Korean War Memorial was completed at Veterans' Island in Memorial Park. These murals were created using funds secured through PARRC. The grand unveiling was unfortunately cancelled due to the weather on 9/23/23, but we will plan to unveil on 10/7/23 in conjunction with The Elks Veteran Committee. On 10/7/23 they will be holding a dedication ceremony for the seating area and steel bench seating they provided to the World War II memorial, overlooking the Marchione plaque. This bench has been installed with the assistance of Parks and Recreation and replaces some of the outdated, plastic, polymer seating previously provided at the WWII Memorial
  - The Riverfront Park Manatawny Creek and Bridge Restoration project was posted to Pennbid.
  - Final plans were submitted to DCNR for the Chestnut Street Park project and await their approval
- ### Upcoming
- Manatawny Green will run our popular spooky golf programming 10/2; 10/21; 10/27 and 10/28 from 5:30 PM to 10:30 PM

- The Borough newsletter will be published by the end of Sept. We encourage everyone to sign up for notifications through the website so that you can stay informed of all that is happening in the Borough through our newsletter. The digital newsletter is produced entirely in-house, primarily by Parks and Rec, at a large savings to the Borough. Many other municipalities would outsource this work. We are proud to do it in-house and do it well.
- Through the generosity of multiple community donors, the Pottstown Halloween Parade will be held Sunday, October 22 from 4 PM to 5 PM on High Street, pending Borough Council approval. Parks and Recreation is assisting the new organizers, Hobart's Run, in organizing and executing the parade. Other funders include PAHWF, The Hill School, Tower Health, Sen. Tracy Pennycuick and Rep. Joe Ciresi. Please consider signing up your organization, business or congregation as a participant with a float or a costumed group. Registration is free and can be done online at <https://pottstown.recdesk.com/Community/Home> under the "programs" tab.
- TriCounty Active Adult Center will host their popular Cheesetoberfest event in Riverfront Park on 10/21/23
- Youth travel baseball tournaments will recommence in Memorial Park beginning 10/7/23 and running through the end of October. These are being operated by newcomers to the tournament scene Boss Baseball Tournaments.

If you have questions about these developments or others, please feel free to contact me in the office.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Lenhart CPRP CPSI  
Parks and Recreation Director  
Borough of Pottstown  
610-970-6608