

Department News

June - July 2012

2012 Summer Playground Program

The City of Allentown's 99th Annual Summer Playground Program kicked off on Monday, June 18 and more than 1,600 youth have already registered! Children from ages 7 - 15 have been participating in the following activities: bowling, swimming, fire-safety, recycling and environmental education with the Wildlands Conservancy.



Children are currently preparing for the annual Romper Day Program which will take place at J. Birney Crum Stadium on August 6, 2012 beginning at 7:00 PM. The playground program joins in the celebration of Allentown's anniversary with a theme titled, "Celebrate Allentown's 250th Anniversary - A City Without Limits." During this preparation the children are practicing various dances, games, relays, a flag drill and the traditional Maypole dance and weave. Each day the children receive a free lunch provided by the Allentown School District Food Services. Children are eagerly and enthusiastically looking forward to Romper Day and Dorney Park in August!



Youth Summer Baseball League

This year's Youth Baseball League included 38 teams from organizations throughout the city. The league began the first week in May and, despite many rainouts, ran smoothly throughout the season. All Star games were once again held for Bidy, Midget and Knee Hi divisions at Patriots Park and Bicentennial Stadium. Congratulations to the 2012

Champions: WEYC Gold in the Bidy division; ESYC in the Midget division; and Midway Manor in the Knee Hi division.



Jordan Creek - 'No Swimming'

Allentown has posted 'Danger, No Swimming, No Wading' signs along the Jordan Creek in Jordan Park. In the month of June, three people nearly drown on two separate occasions in the dangerous area of the creek. The signs were unveiled at an afternoon news conference by Mayor Ed Pawlowski, City Council President Julio Guridy and City Council member Cynthia Mota on Friday, June 29.

Mayor Pawlowski also announced that the City will be reducing the admission fee at the Jordan Park Pool to \$2.00 for anyone ages six years to adult on weekends (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and holidays.



Department of Parks & Recreation Mission Statement

The mission of the Allentown Department of Parks and Recreation is to enhance the quality of life in our City by providing and maintaining quality parks, trails and green spaces, and by offering enriching recreational activities and facilities for people of all ages and abilities.

LifeTrail Club

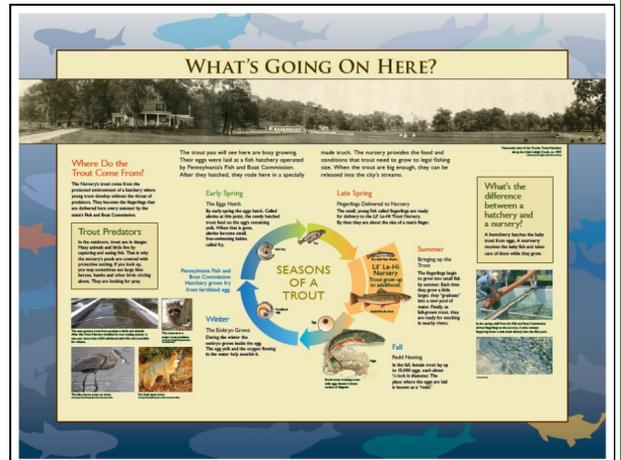
The LifeTrail Club membership continues to grow in the second year of the program, with 245 area residents signed up! The LifeTrail, located in Cedar Creek Parkway, is comprised of a series of ten wellness stations along a paved walking trail. The LifeTrail Club provides monthly raffle prizes as incentives for regular exercise, as well as monthly meetings from May through October featuring health speakers on a variety of pertinent topics.



Educational Signage at the Trout Nursery



The Department of Parks and Recreation is currently finalizing an interpretive educational signage program to enrich every visitor's experience to the popular Lil'-Le-Hi Trout Nursery. The plan includes an entrance archway, welcome signs, a map of the entire nursery, history of the nursery, Pennsylvania's biggest trout, a trout's life-cycle, trout identification signs and where to purchase fish food. Each sign will be strategically placed around the nursery and will allow each visitor to obtain a more enjoyable and educational visit to one of the City's most visited facilities.



Youth Exercise Program

In the spring of 2012, construction was completed on the Youth Exercise Trail, next to the playground in Cedar Creek Parkway. Through a partnership with the Allentown Health Bureau and the Salvation Army, 12 Allentown youth from the downtown area participated in weekly sessions at the Youth Exercise Trail. Local exercise physiologist John Bolesta taught the youth how to use the equipment and different exercises they could do on a regular basis to become more physically fit.



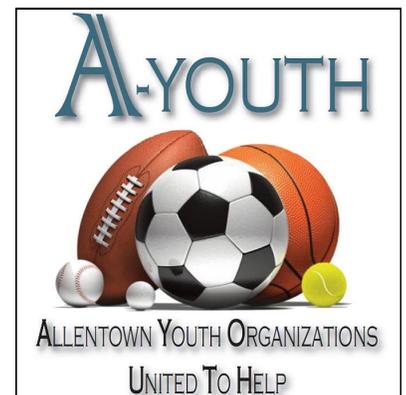
Court Renovations



Improvements are slated for a number of city courts this summer. Anticipated renovations will begin in early August and will include: Four(4) Irving Park tennis courts, two(2)Roosevelt Park basketball courts, one (1) Valania basketball court, one (1) Jordan Meadows hockey rink and two (2) Cedar Beach basketball courts. More courts throughout the City will see improvements in 2013.

A-YOUTH

A-YOUTH's purpose is to provide a unified voice for non-profit organizations whose aim is to further the development of character and good citizenship of the youth of Allentown through athletic programs and other youth activities. The Department would like to thank A-YOUTH for purchasing award medals for youth who participated in the summer all-star games.



PetSafe Bark for Your Park Contest



The City of Allentown competed again in 2012 in Pet Safe's Bark For Your Park Dog Park Contest. Out of more than 900 cities, Allentown was selected as one of the top 15 finalist cities based on community support through online voting.

The grand prize of the contest is \$100,000 to build a dog park, with two runner up prizes of \$25,000 each. Voting continues through August 1st at www.barkforyourpark.com or www.facebook.com/petsafebrand

2012 Youth Summer Basketball League

The Cedar Beach Youth Summer Basketball League has seen a tremendous increase since 2007 when there were



only 4 teams. This year we have 41 total teams in 5 different divisions for youth between the ages of 9 - 14. This has rapidly become one of the biggest youth summer basketball leagues in the area and it keeps getting better each year. This year we plan to include All-Star games for all five divisions. Each team will select a few of their best players to participate and thanks to A-YOUTH participants will receive medals as a reward for outstanding sportsmanship and athleticism during the 2012 Summer League.

2012 Summer Concert Series

The 2012 Summer Concert Series has seen near record attendance! Nearly 6,000 people have attended the concerts this year and we are only half way through the schedule. This year's schedule included concerts at West Park, Jordan Park, Cedar Beach, Midway Manor, Daddona Terrace, the Lakes Apartments, AHEPA Apartments, Arts Park

and the Rose Garden. September 9th will feature the Allentown, Marine, Municipal and Pioneer Bands for a special 250th Celebration at the Arts Park.

Aquatics News

So far, more than 120 participants have taken swim lessons at Cedar Beach Pool! Our 1st Annual family fun pool competition, entitled the 'Cool Pool Challenge', went off without a hitch at Mack Pool, and all of the families who participated had a great time. The morning adult lap swim has had a rebirth with numbers increasing by 20%.

For the second consecutive summer, the City of Allentown is running a Water Polo program. Roughly 15 participants meet on Saturdays and Sundays at Cedar Beach Pool to improve and practice this great game.

Approximately 800 people attended Cedar Beach and Jordan Pools for Family Water Safety days on June 22 and July 21. Residents rotated through stations about lifejackets, rescues, boating and river safety, floating and spinal injury prevention.

Pool patrons always enjoy the festive feel of the pools when D.H. Productions arrives and puts on our annual Dip-n-Dances at our City of Allentown swimming pools. They get the chance to dance in the

water, play games for prizes and sing along to music that makes everyone smile.



Upcoming Meetings

Board of Recreation - Meets at 8:00am on the first Thursday of the month, excluding July, August and December. Meetings are held at the Parks and Recreation Office.

A-YOUTH - Meets at 8:00pm on the second Wednesday of every month, excluding July, August and December. Meetings are held at West End Youth Center.

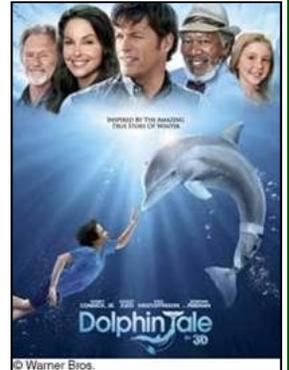
Get Going Gardening!



During the month of July, Summer Playground Program youth at Franklin Park participated in a pilot gardening program called Get Going Gardening! The program featured three components: gardening knowledge, a weekly nutrition lesson and a physical activity component. The youth tended to a community garden plot located at Franklin Park and even planted their own seedlings to bring home at the conclusion of the program! Themes included environmental impact, organic products, eating fruits and vegetables, recommended daily water intake and basic principles of physical activity.

Movies in the Parks Summer Series

The Department of Parks and Recreation has expanded the Movies in the Park series to include a 'Flick and Float' at Cedar Beach Pool. This new event will allow patrons to float in the pool while watching a movie for a minimal \$2.00 fee.



(Flick & Float)

Weather has played a major factor in this year's schedule. In case of inclement weather, movie goers are encouraged to call 610-437-7750 for postponement information. If the movie is postponed because of weather, it will be shown the following Friday at the same location.

Future Showings

Friday 8/10 - Dolphin Tale @ Cedar Beach Pool

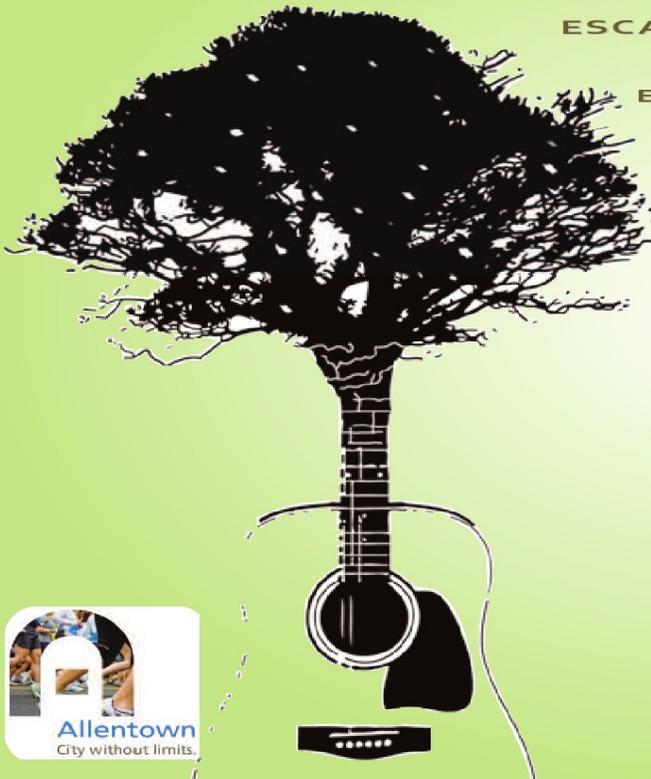
(Flick and Float)

Saturday 8/18—Captain America: First Avenger

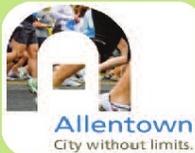
(Dinner and a Movie)

Lively Lunches in the Park

ESCAPE TO THE ARTS PARK
EXPERIENCE LIVE MUSIC
ENJOY LOCAL ARTISTS



6/5	Kendal Conrad	12 - 1:30pm
6/12	Chris Stevenson	12 - 1:30pm
6/19	Jay Lapp	12 - 1:30pm
6/26	Paulie Knakk	12 - 1:30pm
7/3	Steve Brosky	12 - 1:30pm
7/10	Billy Bauer Band	12 - 1:30pm
7/17	Chris Stevenson	12 - 1:30pm
7/24	Jay Lapp	12 - 1:30pm
7/31	Billy Bauer Band	12 - 1:30pm
8/7	Jay Lapp	12 - 1:30pm
8/14	TBD	12 - 1:30pm
8/21	Billy Bauer Band	12 - 1:30pm



EVERY TUESDAY - 12 - 1:30pm - 6/5 - 8/21