

Recreation Director's Report

February 14, 2017

The Pittsford Plunge is back for 2017. The Recreation Department is running the 3rd Annual Ice Out Competition on the pond in front of the New England Maple Museum. People purchase tickets to guess when the Scarecrow will fall through the ice. Tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5 and are available at the Town Offices, the Recreation Committee members, Recreation Director, Randy Adams, Jay Blanchard or Todd Blanchard. During the winter of 2015 the Recreation Department sponsored the first annual Pittsford Ice Out Competition! A Scarecrow dressed up as a Pittsford youth baseball player fell through the ice on the pond in front of the New England Maple Museum on Friday, April 3 at 1:45:05 pm. The Winner was Joyce Robinson with her guess of 1:40 pm. The winner received a check in the amount of \$527.50. In 2016 the Scarecrow dressed as a Pittsford youth Softball player fell through the ice on Tuesday, March 1. The winner was Bill Moore with his guess of Tuesday, March 1 at 1:00 pm. The winner did receive a check in the amount of \$32.50. The Recreation Director would like to thank Mike and his entire family, for their help and support with the fundraiser.

Family Fun Nights were scheduled for January 13, 2017, 85 people attended and on February 3, 2017, 65 people attended at the VT Police Academy Gym in Pittsford. The Pittsford Recreation Department and the Maclure Library teamed up again to offer these FAMILY FUN NIGHTS during the winter months. Each Fun Night was full of fun, which includes art and crafts, physical activities and entertainment. Sara's Stories attended the January event to be there to connect with families and hand out books.

Everyone I've spoken with has said they had a great time on the Friday, February 3, 2017 bus trip with the Brandon, Pittsford & Middlebury Recreation Departments to see Celtics play against their rival Los Angeles Lakers. Pittsford participants like leaving Vermont mid-day to arrive with time for shopping exploring and eating on their own before the game.

Beginning Saturday, 1/14/17 the long running Friday night women's basketball group officially moved days of week and times. The woman's group is going Saturdays 1/14/17 – 5/13/17 9:30-11:30 am. Over the past few years they've seen a drop in participation and are trying to meet a new time to try to boost their numbers. So far it's been a struggle to gain players. The group is still struggling on their new day and at least twice it had to be canceled due to lack of players.

On Thursday, January 19, 2017 (usually takes place on the 4th Thursday of the month), "Pittsford Seniors" sponsored their monthly luncheon at the VT Police Academy. 50 seniors pre-registered and took advantage of the program. The Sr. Luncheons are meant to give local seniors a nutritious meal at an affordable price (\$5.00 for people 60 years old and older & \$6.00 for everyone else) and an opportunity to get out and socialize with neighbors and friends. The next luncheon in 2017 is scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2017 @ 1:00 pm. On the menu that day is Lasagna, garlic bread, salad bar and carrot cake.

On Wednesday, February 22, 2017 during the Lothrop School Winter Recess the Recreation Department is sponsoring a School Break Fun Day. In the morning the group will go to the Green Mountain Rock Climbing Center. After lunch the group will go swimming at the VAC Mitchell Therapy Pool. There is a minimum of twenty participants and a maximum of 30. I'm happy to report Courtney Poljacik has agreed to be lead staff person. Usually the Recreation Department sends three paid staff on the trip. There will also be a handful of middle school aged students who will help belay and assist the staff keep an eye on all the participants.

Sunday, March 5, 2017 the Recreation Department will begin its tenth season of the Learn to ski & snowboard program at the Middlebury Snow Bowl. The program is designed for around thirty students. Last year because both Brandon and Pittsford

Recreation Directors could manage a larger group comfortably we were able to accept more kids. (27-2016, 39-2015, 31-2014, 19-2013, 16-2012, 22-2011, 30-2010, 30-2009, & 23-2008). Students are divided in small groups based on skill level and each week will receive a one hour lesson from a Snow Bowl instructor. After each class the students have 2 hours to ski or ride. The kids who can demonstrate to their instructors that they are chair lift ready are given passes which allows them to ride a lift up and work on refining the skills they have learned as they descend the mountain. The remaining students, or beginners, continue to practice their stopping and turning in the “Discovery Zone” (a.k.a. bunny slope). It’s rewarding to see how much these kids have improved during the 4-week program. The goal for everyone is that by the end of the four weeks each and every child will be proficient enough to ride a chairlift up the mountain and ski or ride down a beginner trail in a controlled manner. The Snow Bowl instructors have been very professional working with our group. They have a great deal of knowledge and are able to pass that on to our skiers & riders.

Youth League baseball and Softball registrations run March 1-31, 2017. Any youth wanting to play t-ball, mighty mites, minors or majors baseball or Girls Softball this spring. Practices & games typically begin after the spring recess in April. Games for all these levels are finished by the end of the current school year.

A “Safe Sitter” babysitter class is being organized to be held in the Lothrop Cafeteria, April 1st & 2nd 2017. This interactive program is for 11-13 year old students interested in becoming a “Safe Sitter” babysitter. Participants learn about child care essentials, injury prevention & management and how to care for choking kids.

2nd Annual Pittsford Trail Run Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 9 am at the Pittsford Recreation Area Trails.

Green Up Day is Saturday, May 6, 2017.

The Pittsford Fishing Derby is on Saturday May 20, 2017 at the Billings Pond in Pittsford.

Save the Date for the Recreation Area Open House, Saturday, June 17, 2017

Save the Date of Town Wide yard Sale, Saturday, June 24, 2017

Pittsford Day is **Saturday, August 12 from 2:00 pm on through the evening**