

## 2010 Summer Playground Report

|             | Registration | Average Daily Attendance |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Green Acres | 59           | 20-30                    |
| Lindberg    | 93           | 30-40                    |
| Devonshire  | 29           | 15-20                    |
| Laubach     | 119          | 35-45                    |

The daily average attendance at all of the parks was basically consistent with last year. There has still been no requests for the re-opening of River Road Park for the program which was closed 3 years ago for lack of attendance.

### Sports Clinics

**Tennis:** Jessica Albright returned as the tennis clinic instructor this year and once again did a great job. The clinics were well attended at both locations.

**Arts and Crafts:** Antonella Di Matteo was our Arts and Crafts instructor again this year. Antonella split her duties with Arts and Crafts two days a week and as Head Counselor. Arts and Crafts remains one the favorite events in the program and is always well attended.

### Special Programs

**Movie Nights:** This year we had planned to show the movie Planet 51. Unfortunately it was rained out on both scheduled performances.

**Park Day:** Park Day was held at Lindberg Park and was a lot of fun. This year's attendance was about 115 children. Bus service was provided from Laubach, and Devonshire Parks. As in the past years there were relay races, field events, scavenger hunts and water games. Ribbons and candy prizes were awarded and the day concluded with hot dogs, soda, chips, and "goody bags". It was an enjoyable day for both the staff and children. A representative from the Salisbury Press attended. Our Township Manager, Randy Soriano and Chief of Police, Allan Stiles also stopped by. As in the past the public works employees were invited for lunch as our way of thanking them for all the assistance and hard work.

## Staff

Once again this year's staff did a terrific job. I had most of my counselor return so they were all experienced and well trained. Antonella DiMatteo also returned as Head Counselor and was a great asset to the supervision of the program. The staff worked well together and put together some great activities for the children. Some highlights were theme dress up days, tee shirt painting and tie-dying and the evening Luau night.

## Comments

I think we had a very successful program this summer. We had approximately 300 registered participants with 16 counselors and 1 Head Counselor. I had a lot of positive feedback from parents on our staff and requests to have the same counselors return next year.

We continue to have problems with dogs in the parks (especially during program hours). This was especially problematic at Lindberg Park, Devonshire and Laubach parks where we had several participants who are allergic to dogs. We continue to have many residents who insist on bringing their dogs into the parks. The counselors continually referred the owners to the posted signs and asked them to leave and were often met with nasty and belligerent comments. This situation directly endangers the children with allergies to dogs. This continues to be a serious and chronic problem that I feel is not getting the attention that it needs.

In closing, I would like to thank Frank McCullough once again for all the time and energy he continues to give to the Summer Playground Program. The children and counselors look forward to seeing him every day in the parks. He continues to be a huge asset to the program and his volunteerism is to be commended!!! Big thanks also go out to Dean Drea and his crew for all the assistance they give to the counselors and children in the program. We are so appreciative of all they do!

Genny Baillie  
  
Recreation Director