

Penn Township Parks Report – July Update

Submitted by Lisa Fitzsimons, Parks Director

Summer is in full swing at the park, and our courts and community spaces are staying busy with exciting programs, events, and partnerships that continue to bring people together.

Program & Event Highlights:

- **Council on Aging "Learn to Play" Series:**

We wrapped up this popular series on **June 10th** with a **picnic lunch following two hours of play**. This marks our third consecutive year offering this program, and the enthusiasm remains strong. The COA group continues to join us for **open play every Tuesday and Thursday**, and their presence adds so much to our welcoming park community.

You may have even seen some of our group on the **front page of *The Messenger*** for our role in celebrating **National Senior Health and Fitness Day!**

- **Major League Pickleball (MLP) League & Ladder League:**

The **MLP League concluded in June**, and we've already kicked off our **Ladder League in July**, offering players a fun and competitive way to keep the momentum going.

- **Poker-Themed Pickleball Social – June:**

We brought back our **poker-themed social event** for the second year, and it was once again a **big hit!** Creative formats like these keep the game fresh and fun for all skill levels.

- **4th of July Community Celebration:**

We partnered with the **Village of Vandalia** to host a memorable **Independence Day celebration**. At Penn Hall, we held **open play**, welcomed **live music** from Penn Township's own **Al Mott and his band**, and offered delicious options including a **food truck**, **Donnell Lake desserts**, and **free ice cream courtesy of Alchemy Wellness**.

The Village hosted a **kid's festival** with bounce houses, water slides, games, free food, and vendors. The evening concluded with a **spectacular fireworks display**.

It's incredibly rewarding to see **Penn Township and the Village of Vandalia working together** to strengthen our community through collaboration and celebration.

Looking Ahead:

Stay tuned for more great events, including a **Brunch event**, **Family Day** and a **Penn Township Fire Department Fundraiser Tournament**.

All upcoming events can be found and registered for on **Court Reserve**, or by emailing **penn.township.pickleball@gmail.com**.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support our programs. We look forward to seeing you at the park!