

ANNUAL REPORT 2001

***CITY OF PROVIDENCE***

***DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION  
ONE RECREATION WAY***

***Raymond L. Brown, Director  
Telephone Number 421-7740 Ext. 323***

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 7 2002

READ  
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

*Michael L. Clerkin*

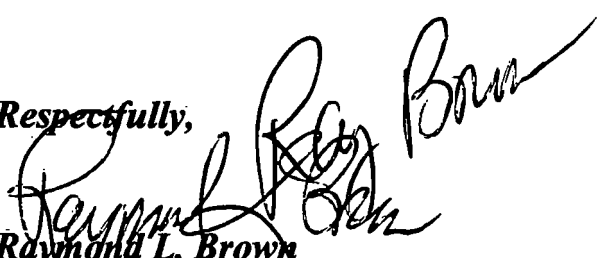
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***The Honorable Vincent A. Cianci, Jr.  
Mayor City of Providence  
Members of the Providence City Council***

***Ladies and Gentlemen:***

***It is again both an honor and privilege to present the Annual Report of the Department of Recreation for your perusal. Our mission is ongoing and we continue to strive for excellence in all our endeavors. It is with a great deal of pride that the following programs are accomplished through the City of Providence and our Department. I am grateful to help facilitate the work of our department for you and the people we serve.***

***Respectfully,***

  
***Raymond L. Brown  
Director of Recreation***

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## **FULL-TIME RECREATION CENTER**

### ***CENTERS***

- 1). Vincent Brown Recreation Center***
- 2). Joslin Recreation Center***
- 3). Davey Lopes Recreation Center***
- 4). Neutaconkanut Recreation Center***
- 5). Selim-Rogers Recreation Center***
- 6). Sackett Street Recreation Center***
- 7). South Side Recreation Center***
- 8). West End Recreation Center***
- 9). Zuccolo Recreation Center***
- 10). Robert F. Kennedy Recreation Center***
- 11). One Recreation Way***

### ***NEIGHBORHOOD***

***East Side/Mount Hope***  
***Manton/Olneyville***  
***South Providence***  
***Silver Lake***  
***Smith Hill***  
***West End***  
***South Providence***  
***West End***  
***Federal Hill***  
***Elmhurst***  
***North End/Mt. Pleasant***

## **SWIMMING POOLS AND WATER PARKS**

- 1). Stephen Almagno Pool – 675 Plainfield Street***
- 2). Fox Point Water Park – Rear Fox Point Elementary School***
- 3). Harriet & Sayles Street Water Park***
- 4). Joslin Recreation Center – 17 Hyat Street***
- 5). Davey Lopes Recreation Center – 227 Dudley Street (Indoor/Outdoor)***
- 6). McGrane Pool – Dexter Street***
- 7). Selim Rogers Recreation Center – 60 Camden Avenue***
- 8). Sackett Street Water Park – Sackett Street***
- 9). Zuccolo Recreation Center – 11 Gesler Street***
- 10). Fagnoli Water Park – Smith Street***
- 11). Al Carrington Water Park – Prairie Avenue***

## **DAVEY LOPES RECREATION CENTER**

*Davey Lopes Recreation Center has hours of 9:00AM-9:00PM during the winter season. The center, under the guidance of George Lindsey, offers a variety of programs that include arts & crafts, hip-hop dancing and indoor swim lessons. An after-school homework help session has been implemented. Students in grades 1 through 8 can receive help Monday through Friday from 3-5pm. The center is also the host for the South Providence Saints Youth Football, and a newly formed wrestling program.*

*During the summer, the outdoor pool opens at 9:00AM for swim lessons for various groups from around the city. Each day, 100-200 swim in the pool and enjoy lunches from the Summer Food Service Program.*

## **ZUCCOLO RECREATION CENTER**

*The Angelo Zuccolo Recreation Center located on Gesler Street in the Federal Hill section of Providence offers several programs to area residents of all ages.*

*Several groups utilize the facility, Holy Ghost School, Chambers Academy and the Federal Hill House just to name a few.*

*During this past summer the first annual Federal Hill House Family Night cookout was held for families of the Community Center which 250 people attended. The Evening In The Neighborhood Cookout was once again a big success with 200 residents of the Federal Hill are enjoying music and food sponsored by the Recreation Department.*

*The swimming pool drew between 300-500 children daily with lunches served to all youth in attendance. A new addition to the pool deck this summer season was picnic tables with umbrellas donated to the center by neighborhood Businessmen, Zuccolo Employees and area Politicians.*

## ***SOUTH PROVIDENCE RECREATION CENTER***

***The South Providence Recreation Center continues to grow. Under the leadership of Cedric Huntley, the center located in Upper South Providence has implemented programs that addresses not only the recreational needs of the neighborhood but also the educational needs. The following programs have been set up at the South Providence Recreation Center, After-School Computer Classes, Soccer, Tae Kwon-Do, Volleyball, Basketball, Golf, Stepping Drill Team, Dance and Tennis.***

***The Recreation Center just completed a very successful summer program in which water-parks at Harriet & Sayles and Al Carrington Water Park serviced over 3000 youth and adults over the summer. South Providence Recreation also held an 8 week summer camp for 45 youth ages 7-13 years old. Campers participated in various summer activities. Swimming at Madeline-Rogers Recreation Center, Tennis at Roger Williams Park, Trip to Newport Tennis Hall of Fame, State Beaches, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Movies, Bowling, Roller Skating and Six Flags Amusement Park.***

***The following groups utilize the facility; 10/11 Ward Committee, RI Job Corps Alumni, NAACP, UJIMA, City Year, Providence Soccer League, St. Michael's Church, Providence School Department, Community Prep, Times 2 Academy, the Anointed Praise Center Church, 100 Black Women Inc., Turn-About Ministries, Cranston Young Marines Program, National Karate Federation, Christian Karate Academy and Aids Project.***

## **JOSLIN RECREATION CENTER**

***The Joslin Recreation Center is run by the Departments Senior Center Director William O'Brien. Winter programs are offered between 3:00PM and 5:00PM for youth ages 5 to 15 years of age, the programs include basketball, soccer, whiffleball, hockey, team scatter, arts & crafts, board games and field trips. Also the center offers a scatter ball team and hockey team in conjunction with the Providence Housing Authority. The Joslin Recreation Center also has a basketball team in the Recreation Department League on Saturday mornings.***

***The following organizations use the gym, Joslin Community Development Corporation, St. Pius C.Y.O., Boys and Girls Rhode Island Bubba Ball and Capital Youth Soccer.***

***The summer program began June 25<sup>th</sup> to September 3<sup>rd</sup> the center offered various activities such as open swim to all neighborhood children and adults, swim lesson's, field trips and lunches are provided by the summer food program. 125 youth 18 years of age and younger were eligible. Special groups also use the pool facility the Girl Scouts of Rhode Island used the pool from 10AM-Noon daily.***

***Once again the children of the community enjoyed several field trips, these trips included; Pawtucket Red Sox, Block Island, Camp Cronin, Battleship Massachusetts, Mystic Aquarium, Roger Williams Park Zoo and the State Beaches.***

***Once again this year the Center is proud to announce that for the second year in a row it is the site for the NFL Junior Player Development Program, this program teaches the fundamentals of the game of football for over 100 boys and girls.***

## **WEST END RECREATION CENTER**

***The West End Recreation Center staff along with it's Director Jacqueline Shipp have arranged a variety of programs and activities for the West End residents, some of these programs and activities include: girls softball team, basketball team, swim team, arts & crafts, table games, Providence Public Library 4H Club. One of the newest activities at the West End is the Homework Helper Club which the center received a grant from the United Way of Southeastern New England. This program is held after school Monday-Friday from 3:00pm-5:00pm, with the purchase of four computers, four color printers and neighborhood volunteers, this will allow the Recreation Center to assist the youth of the community. Also started at the center is a computer literacy program given on Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's from 3:00pm-5:00pm with a Computer Instructor/ Coordinator.***

***Organizations that currently use the Recreation Center for meetings or activities are: The Providence Plan, The West End Community Center, Hispanic Basketball Association, Providence Public Library 4H Club, Latin American Sports Federation, San Miguel School, The New Force Steppers and many more.***

***The West End Recreation Center along with Stop & Shop helped to feed 25 families in the West End. The Recreation Center donated 25 Turkey's and Stop & Shop donated all of the trimmings.***

***YMCA and the West End Recreation Center have formed a partnership to hold a free vacation camp, the camp was held December 24<sup>th</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, and serviced area youth ages 5-14.***



## **ONE RECREATION WAY**

***The Recreation Department is proud to call the North End/Mt. Pleasant area its home. This satellite recreation center located off of Admiral Street gives the residents and their children a long awaited recreation facility.***

***Due to the lack of gymnasium, the staff has to be creative in meeting the needs of the community.***

***During the summer months the children of the area have arts & crafts, organized sports activities and enjoy the newly constructed playground area.***

## **SACKETT STREET RECREATION CENTER**

***The Sackett Street Recreation Center under Director Raymond Smith attracts 80-90 children daily during the hours of 3pm-6pm and 40-50 children between the hours of 6pm-9pm.***

***Programs include basketball, girls dance, arts & crafts, homework sessions, theater, movies and library sessions.***

***During the summer the children of the community went on several field trips which included Newport, the Marine Museum in Fall River, and the Asian Heritage Celebration just to name a few.***

***On a daily basis, hundreds of neighborhood children enjoy the Water Park along with the Federal Summer Lunch Food Program.***

***Organizations using the facility include, the Mexican Soccer League, Lillian Feinstein Girls Basketball League, and Guatemalan Soccer along with several other neighborhood groups.***

***The members of the staff look forward to another successful year at the Sackett Street Recreation Center.***

## **MADELINE-ROGERS RECREATION CENTER**

***This year at the Madeline-Rogers Recreation Center the objective was to provide not only recreational activities but much more. The staff of the Center as made a strong commitment to the residents and the children of the Smith Hill area.***

***During this past year the center computer area was connected to the Internet, also implemented was a after school homework helper program. Thanks to the Champlin Foundation, Christian Youth Organization and State Representative John J. McCauley Jr. the centers game room was transformed into the new Madeline-Rogers Learning Center.***

***The center will be working in conjunction with the Rhode Island Community Food Bank's Kid's Café program to provide hot meals to the area youth on a daily basis.***

***We at the Madeline-Rogers Recreation Center strive to not only better the center and the programs it offers, but also the community and the residents it serves.***

## **NEUTACONKANUT RECREATION CENTER**

*Under the direction of Ray Tessaglia, Center Director and Assistant Center Director Robert Sauro, the Neutaconkanut Recreation Center is open 7 days a week for various activities and outside groups. Open recreation daily from 3-5pm and 7-9pm on Monday, Tuesday and Friday evenings. During the daytime weekdays the facility is used from 8:30-2:00pm by the Times 2 Academy for gym classes. The Silver Lake Community Center also utilizes the facility for their senior citizens and day care program. Other groups or organizations that use the facility are the Providence C.Y.O. for games on Sundays and practice by St. Barts, St. Pius, and St. Rocco's basketball teams. The facility houses a men's adult basketball league on Sunday evenings, and co-ed volleyball adult league on Thursdays. The Rhode Island International Soccer League holds games on Sundays and Capital Youth Soccer has games and practices on Saturdays and Wednesday evenings. The Providence Police use the gymnasium on Tuesday evenings and hold the annual Steven Shaw/Cornell Young Memorial Basketball Tournament. Various A.A.U. groups use the facility for games, practices and tournaments. The gym is also the home gym for the Recreation Department sponsored Hassett and Tavares basketball leagues on Saturday mornings. A fall basketball and spring basketball league also are activities that Neutaconkanut sponsors. Sports Clinics are also held during most school vacations, which include basketball, baseball and soccer.*

*During the summer the pool is the main focal point, but the center also is home to the Recreation sponsored interscholastic boys and girls high school league. Other groups that use the gym are the Girl Scouts, Silver Lake Young Men's Association, the Key Program, Pro Cap Alternative Learning Program. Computers were just donated by the Times 2 Academy and should be available for after school use early in the New Year.*

## **VINCENT BROWN RECREATION CENTER**

***During the school year, the Vincent Brown Recreation Center offers the children in the Mount Hope/East Side community after school programs from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. The programs offered are activities that include homework help, swimming at the East Side YMCA, tabletop games, arts & crafts and field trips. In the gym, children play basketball, soccer, floor hockey, scatter, kick ball and capture the flag.***

***From 6:00pm-9:00pm, the teenage evening program was offered for boys and girls 13-18. Activities offered are basketball, volleyball, dances, movies, field trips and games.***

***During the summer, an eight week day camp was offered to boys and girls ages 6-12. The camp ran from 9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday through Friday. Breakfast and lunch was provided by the Federal Summer Food Program. Field trips were taken once a week and swimming was everyday at the YMCA. We had 73 campers enrolled in the 2001 camp.***

***Mount Hope Tech is one of 20 programs nationwide that represents a five year five million dollar effort funded by World Com that will link schools and community based organizations with colleges (Brown University) to implement educational technology programs. Classes are held at the Vincent Brown Recreation Center Monday through Friday from 3:15pm-5:00pm.***

## **ROBERT F. KENNEDY RECREATION CENTER**

*The Robert F. Kennedy Recreation Center under the direction of Steven Berarducci Center Director services the Mt. Pleasant, Elmhurst and North End areas of the City of Providence. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday 3pm-9pm and Saturday 8am-2:30pm. Both the Recreation Department and the staff at Kennedy School encourage children and their parents to visit the center and utilize recreational opportunities that the facility provides.*

*Neighborhood youth range from 5-17 years of age. This diverse collection of youth participate in various organized programs with time appropriated for open recreation. Added to the activity schedule this summer was the Summer Basketball League for are youth ages 8-14. 65 youth participated in this program.*

*Kennedy Recreation was the site for the newly constructed Fagnoli Water Park facility. Each weekday, following the serving of lunch from the Summer Food Program, several hundred children enjoyed an afternoon of fun at this newly constructed Water Park.*

*Organizations using the facility art St. Pius C.Y.O. and Providence Intramural Basketball League.*

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **EVENING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

*Evening in the Neighborhood cookouts were held throughout the summer, all the municipal pools as well as Fox Point Boys & Girls Club, Billy Taylor Park, Regent Avenue Playground and Fagnoli Park enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers, soda and chips provided by the Recreation Department. Entertainment included Twice, puppet shows, DJ Music along with Y on Wheels and the Circus Arts Program. The Parks Department also helped by cleaning and delivering barrels to the park.*

### **NORTH POLE CALLING**

*Again this year the Providence Recreation Department in conjunction with the Alfred E. Lima Elementary School held a very special Holiday Program for inner city children. Prior to Christmas Eve, calls are made to the children from Santa. Over the years this program has become a great success.*

### **MODEL MAKING**

*The Recreation Department once again proudly worked with the Charles Fortes Elementary School, on the model train project. This unique program turned the school into a museum of history, immigration and working class culture. This project was a great learning experience for everyone involved.*

### **SPECIAL FIELD TRIPS**

*Once again this year children across the city were treated to several field trips. Over 500 citywide youth had a special Halloween treat this year they attended Factory of Terror and Spooky World. Another very special trip was in conjunction with Amtrack where children were treated to a tour of the new Excelsa High Speed Train.*

## **HERSHEY TRACK AND FIELD 2001**

*The 2001 Providence Recreation Department Hershey Track & Field Meet was held on June 27, 2001 at Hope High School. 85 boys and girls age 9-14 participated in the City Championship, 33 runners advanced to the State Championships.*

*The State Championship was held on July 11, 2001, at Cranston West High School. At the state meet Providence won 6 gold, 4 silver and 5 bronze medals.*

*The Providence Recreation Department girls 400 meter relay team of Kayla Harper, Nell Smith, Allisha Donahue and Joanna Guglielmo, advanced to the nationals in Hershey, Pennsylvania, and placed 4<sup>th</sup>.*

## **COLUMBUS DAY CROSS COUNTRY INVITATIONAL 2001**

*On Monday, October 8, 2001 the Providence Recreation Department sponsored its 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Columbus Day Cross-Country Invitational. This year's field consisted of 405 runners representing 18 high schools from across the city of Providence and the state. The schools included Classical, Coventry, Cranston West, East Greenwich, Hope, Mt. Pleasant, North Providence, Pilgrim, St. Mary's Bay View, Bishop Hendricken, Tollmen, Westerly, Cranston East, Smithfield, East Providence, Cumberland, Lincoln, LaSalle, Central, Johnston High School, St. Ray's, North Smithfield, Central Falls and Woonsocket High School. Competitions were held for both boys and girls in the categories of Freshman/Novice, Junior Varsity, Varsity and Special Olympics. Award Ceremonies for this special event were held at the Temple of Music at Roger Williams Park.*

## **WINTER CARNIVAL CLINICS**

*The Winter Carnival was held the week of February School Vacation, these clinics were held for boys and girls ages 8-16 with basketball and soccer offered. All Clinics were held from 9:00AM-12PM. Host sites for these clinics were Neutaconkanut Recreation Center and the West End Recreation Center. Following the weeklong clinic a pizza party and T-shirts were given to all participants.*

## **TOYS FOR TOTS**

*Again this year the Department participated in the Toys for Tots program, this past Christmas arrangements were made for hundreds of toys to be distributed at all the City Recreation Centers.*

## **SWIM MEET**

*On August 22, 2001 the Department of Recreation held its annual Mayor Vincent A. Cianci Jr. Inter Pool Swim Meet at the Madeline Rogers swimming pool on Camden Avenue. Citywide pools entered swim teams that competed in several different swimming competitions. Ribbons and trophies were awarded, approximately 100 youngsters attended. This years overall swim meet winner was the Neutaconkanut Recreation Center.*

## **WATER PARKS**

*The children of Providence once again ran through the sprinklers of the Fox Point, Sackett Street, Harriet & Sayles, and newly constructed Fagnoli Park Water Park. Each year the popularity of these facilities increases.*



## **ARTS AND CRAFTS**

*The Providence Recreation Department offered arts and crafts lessons after school at the following Recreation Centers; Zuccolo, Rogers and Joslin. This program gives the youth of the city the opportunity to showcase their creativity.*

## **YOUTH LITTER CORP**

*Once again this year the Department received a grant from the Department of Environmental Management to hire a litter corp team. The program consisted of 1 teenager and one adult supervisor that were in charge of keeping city parks clean and playgrounds litter free.*

## **WATER SAFETY SKILLS**

*During the summer, youth from various agencies during the morning hours were invited to learn to swim programs at all municipal pools. Lessons were taught by our valuable lifeguard staff. Several agencies participated in the event. John Hope Day Care & Youth, Salvation Army and the West End Community Center.*

## **BOYS YOUTH BASKETBALL 2001 SEASON**

*During the winter season, the Department of Recreation sponsored two citywide leagues. The Tavares League, which contains eight teams, for boys ages 9-12, and the Hassett League, which contains eight teams for boys ages 13-14. Both divisions have playoff and championships with leagues playing an eight game schedule. On Saturday mornings, the Tavares League and Hassett League games were played at West End Recreation Center and Neutaconkanut Recreation Center. Championship games were held at Providence College with pizza and a buffet for children and parents of the two leagues.*

### **HASSETT BASKETBALL LEAGUE (13-14)**

<b>CHAMPION:</b>	<i>West End Recreation Center</i>
<b>RUNNER-UP:</b>	<i>Neutaconkanut Recreation Center</i>

### **TAVARES BASKETBALL LEAGUE (10-12)**

<b>CHAMPION:</b>	<i>West End Recreation Center</i>
<b>RUNNER-UP:</b>	<i>Vincent Brown Recreation Center</i>

**BOYS HIGH SCHOOL  
SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE  
2001**

*The Providence Department of Recreation Boys High School Basketball League played eleven regular season games plus playoffs and a championship game. The games were held at the Neutaconkanut Recreation Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30pm-10:00pm. Listed are teams who participated in the league.*

*Barrington, Classical, Central, Cranston East, Cranston West, Feinstein, Hendricken, Hope, Mt. Pleasant, Wheeler and Providence Country Day. The teams were coached by High School Coaches and officiated by Interscholastic Referees. The winner of the championship game was Classical High School.*

**GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL  
SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE  
2001**

*The Providence Department of Recreation Girls High School Basketball League played a twelve game schedule, playoffs and finals. Girls from all over the State came to compete at the Neutaconkanut Recreation Center on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00pm-10:00pm. The following is a list of teams that participated in the League. Cranston East, Tollgate, Saint Ray's, Classical, Bay View, Cranston West, Feinstein, LaSalle, like the boy's league, the girls are Coached by High School Coaches and games were officiated by Interscholastic Referees. Tiverton High School were the Champions.*

## **MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

**2001**

### **MEN'S LEAGUE**

*The Midnight Basketball League was cosponsored in joint effort by the Providence Department of Recreation and Citizen's Bank. The league attracted men ages 17 years and older playing games at the following sites: Johnson & Wales, Fox Point, and Davis Park. Each team, wearing T-shirts donated by Citizen's Bank, sported 12 players per team. Citizen's Bank also donated the trophies to the playoff champion and runner-up teams. The league offers an opportunity for people to get together to play basketball with friends, while for others, it's a great way to fine-tune the skills of players on their way to play on the college level.*

## **MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

**2001**

### **WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

*This year was the seventh season for the Providence Midnight Basketball Women's League. This League, whose games are played at West End Recreation Center, was made possible by the joint efforts and cosponsorship of the Providence Department of Recreation, the Rhode Island Attorney General and Citizen's Bank. The League host women over the age of 18 and teams are made by a lottery. All trophies were donated by Citizen's Bank.*

## ***ADULT CO-ED VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE 2001***

***The Adult Co-ed Volleyball League was held every Thursday evening at the Neutaconkanut Recreation Center. Eight Teams participated in the League. Trophies were awarded to the League and Playoff Champions. Congratulations to 2001 League Champions, John Hope Settlement House.***

## ***YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUES***

***During the summer the Department of Recreation assists the neighborhood Baseball Leagues, which include eight Little Leagues, five Senior Leagues, four Softball Leagues, and a Babe Ruth League. The Department issues the park permits for the use of the fields for the leagues and acted on behalf of the leagues for field maintenance with the Parks Department.***

***The Department of Recreation also assisted the leagues with operating costs for charitable tournaments. For these tournaments, the Department aided with defraying the cost of umpires.***

***The Department of Recreation and the Little League coordinate the Mayor's Cup Tournament for the Boys Major and Senior League. All teams participated in a single elimination tournament.***

**THE PROVIDENCE RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
SENIOR DIVISION  
2001**

*The Providence Recreation Department Senior Division provides programs for Providence's senior population with daily transportation for senior citizen organizations located throughout the city, some of the destinations include shopping malls, restaurants, and those with special holiday themes, such as trips to Salem, on Halloween, and to LaSalette Shrine at Christmas time to name a few.*

*Also offered by the Senior Division is a long time favorite for many years, the entertainment package provided upon request at local senior housing complexes, neighborhood community centers, and various social organizations. Entertainment includes both music and vocals and many times requested for special events such as the holiday season and talent shows that give local seniors an opportunity to demonstrate their performing talents. During the summer, activities include daily trips to Camp Cronin, a facility in Point Judith owned by the city, this fun filled day includes a continental breakfast, entertainment, recreational activities, lunch and a scenic tour of Galilee and local beaches.*

*One of the main events held by the senior division is Mayor's Day In The Park, this annual event brings out over 1,200 seniors from across the city to enjoy local entertainment, food, informational booths and much more. This day is set aside each year to thank the City of Providence Senior population for their contribution to this great city.*

*For the upcoming 2002 season there will be new additional programs for the Providence Senior population. These programs will consist of social, cultural and recreational in nature. Beginning as early as January 2002, a computer literacy program will teach the seniors the basics and help them realize that a computer is not that difficult to operate. Other programs for seniors being looked into are golf and tennis. We at the department look forward to 2002.*

## **MAYOR'S DAY IN THE PARK**

***Mayor Cianci's Seniors Day In The Park was held on Wednesday, August 8, 2001 at Roger Williams Park from 9AM to 3PM. The day began with coffee and donuts supplied by Carl & Dave's catering and Dunkin Donuts (ADJ Donuts, Inc.) and lunch served at 12:00 Noon.***

***Bill Volpe, Nick Cannao and Artie Cabral and his seven-piece orchestra played while the seniors danced to their contentment and strolled through the various booths set up in the park. Some of these businesses which sponsored booths were Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Blue Chip, United Health Care, Roger Williams Hospital, Rhode Island Society To Prevent Blindness, Providence Foster Grandparents, Talbot House, VNA Technocrat, Woman & Infants, Duramed, URI Pharmacy Outreach Program College of Pharmacy and Hospice Care of Rhode Island. Each booth provided the seniors with valuable information and free handouts that included everything from coin change holders to jar openers. Some of the booths provided raffle prizes that were awarded at the end of the day's events.***

***To add to this special day were award-winning dancers from Denise's Dance Studio in Johnston, Rhode Island, one routine was a Swing Dance demonstration that brought the seniors back to the days of yesteryear during its original heyday. Another demonstration was done by the Providence Fire Department and the seniors commented on how professional and courteous were members of both the Fire Department and Police Department. This year the guest MC for the day's events was Channel 6 news anchor Wendy Cicchetti.***

***This year both Stop and Shop Supermarket and Pepsi Bottling Company donated bottles of water, which the seniors needed due to the heat of the day. We would also like to thank these additional groups for all there assistants Verizon, Talbot House, Theatre By The Sea, Providence Performing Arts and Tomato City.***

***Has one can see the days success is due to the collaboration of various city departments along with those mentioned, a special thanks to the Providence Parks Department for all their help with this special event.***

## **CAMP CRONIN**

***The Department of Recreation Senior Division has operated Camp Cronin for over a decade, affording both the young and old an opportunity to visit a beautiful, ocean front camp at Point Judith. An opportunity to view and smell the nearby ocean and the sound of breaking waves all adding to the day's activities and the uniqueness of it all. On Monday and Fridays various youth groups from the city recreation, as well as city community centers and children with special needs from the Providence School Department. This marks the fourth season the children with special needs have attended camp in cooperation with the Mayor's Council On Disabilities, the Providence School Department as well as the office of the Commissioner of Public Safety. Tuesday through Thursday are reserved for the Senior Population. Activities include cards, bingo, horseshoes, bocce and walks to the beaches as well as music and refreshments and cookouts.***

***New for 2001 was the introduction of the YMCA "Y on Wheels" program which included a portable stage, where young talented entertainers danced and performed gymnastic moves for the seniors. We hope to be able to invite them back for the 2002 season. This program was highly successful with all the camp participants, the youth, seniors, and those with special needs. This program was in addition to the already on-going programs which are as follows; musical entertainment, basketball, volleyball, horseshoes, bingo, bocce, floor and water basketball, tug of war, whiffleball, noncompetitive games, indoor games, field trips to local beaches, Galilee and other local areas of interest. In addition to the physical programming, outside agencies are invited to perform demonstrations of interest designated for either the youth or senior population and in some cases for both.***

***The attendance at the camp for 2001 is as follows:***

<b><i>Seniors</i></b>	<b><i>914</i></b>
<b><i>Youth</i></b>	<b><i>980</i></b>
<b><i>Total Participants</i></b>	<b><i>1,894</i></b>

***The senior division is entertaining the idea of adding another day or days during the week for the youth by establishing intergenerational days with groups that favor such an idea.***



## **TODAY'S ANSWERS TO TOMORROWS QUESTIONS**

*Beginning in February 2000, the Senior Division of the Providence Recreation Department began a it's new speaking program titled "Today's Answers To Tomorrows Questions". A series of talks were held the third Thursday of the month. The Program was designed to address the questions and concerns of the Senior Citizen population in the city of Providence, topics included everything from consumer issues to those related to health.*

*The first schedule speaking program was held in our new conference/activity room and the department provided transportation to and from the speaking program. After discussing the program with many of the city wide Senior Activity Directors the speaking program was brought to Senior Centers across the city. This was a big success and more and more seniors were able to enjoy the speaking programs, and it also gave the speakers the opportunity to meet the senior population in the city.*

*We had found that many senior agencies were already doing such a program or one that was very similar, so we went back to the drawing board and decided that we had a better chance to invite local and other wise celebrities that could talk to the seniors about an issue that they felt and we felt was interesting to them. As the year 2002 gets into swing, speakers have been lined up to attend scheduled speaking programs across the city.*

## **THE PROVIDENCE ALLIANCE ON RECREATION AND CULTURE**

*The Providence Alliance on Recreation and Culture has begun to meet again after a two-year hiatus. With the assistance of the Recreation Advisory Board, Alliance members, who are made up of all city non-profit organizations, have met and continue to set up further meetings with various topics of discussion which could effect the city non profit programs. Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of every month, at 10:00AM at the Recreation Departments Administrative Offices. The main goal and objective of the Alliance is to help better establish accessibility and public relations of Youth, Adult and Senior Programming for City of Providence residents. It also serves as a great forum for members and otherwise to promote and expose the types of programming, that there particular center or agency is conducting and details to its availability.*

*Outside agencies and individuals are invited to speak to the membership regarding programs that they are involved with and again the possibility of our membership and their client's involvement. Guest speakers have spoken on a wide range of topics and represent various segments of the populations; topics include everything from law, health to amusements. All these topics directly or indirectly effect our efforts and concerns. This year for the first time, sub committees were formed to help us improve and accomplish our goals and objectives. Each subcommittee has it's own chairperson. Those subcommittees are as follows:*

- A). Grant and Funding Research*
- B). Public Relations*
- C). Cultural*
- D). City Recreational Facilities*
- E). Outside Recreational Facilities (other then city)*

*The Alliance is not just a Providence Recreation Department program but one that is jointly produced by all it's membership but is chaired, and conducted with the assistance and cooperation of it's staff.*

## **PROVIDENCE RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2001 TRANSPORTATION REPORT**

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*During the 2001 season, the Providence Recreation Transportation program once again had an increase in participants and trips. With each center now having its own 15 passenger vans, the City is able to provide free transportation for the City's youth and elderly agencies. Transportation is available upon request and advance notification.*

### **A YEAR IN REVIEW**

<b>1). Total Department Trips</b>	<b>683</b>
<b>2). Number of Participants</b>	<b>20,296</b>
<b>3). Average Trips Per Day</b>	<b>2.62</b>
<b>4). Average Trips Per Month</b>	<b>62.88</b>
<b>5). Average Daily Participants</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>6). Average Weekly Participants</b>	<b>390</b>

**7). Vehicles In Use:**

- A). 2 Handicap Accessible Buses**
- B). 1 70 Passenger Bus**
- C). 10 Fifteen Passenger Vans**

**8). Number of Drivers:**

- 2 Full Time Drivers**
- 1 Part-Time Driver**
- 10 Recreation Center Directors**

**9). Organizations affected by Services 85-135:**

- Including:**
- 1). Senior Citizens Groups**
  - 2). Community Centers**
  - 3). Youth Organizations**
  - 4). Special Events**
  - 5). Recreation Centers**

**10). RECREATION CENTER FIFTEEN PASSENGER VANS:**

<b>*Estimated Trips:</b>	<b>1,025</b>
<b>*Estimated Participants:</b>	<b>14,350</b>

***\*\*Because of the numerous amount of trips, these statistics have been compiled by mileage sheets each center turns in at the beginning of the month for review. These statistics indicate a substantial increase in recreation center trips and participation.***

## ***SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM***

***The Department of Recreation sponsored the Annual Summer Food Service Program for children. The program is an extension of the School Lunch Program and is funded by the Federal Government through the Department of Agriculture and monitored by the Rhode Island Department of Education, Food Services Division. City residents up to the age of eighteen are eligible to receive a breakfast and lunch.***

***After school dismissal for the summer, the program ran for July and August. Meals were served at over 150 locations throughout the city. These sites included city recreation centers, swimming pools, playgrounds, summer school sessions, summer day camps, private agency recreation, education, and religious sponsored programs.***

***The end result of all this was that over 150,000 breakfasts and 300,000 lunches were distributed and consumed throughout the city. This was accomplished by a solid effort, comprised of 160 summer employees, a mixture of teenagers, young adults and senior citizens. A good number of volunteers also contributed to its success.***

***This program is one of the most gratifying programs offered by the Recreation Department to the citizens of this city, It not only fills nutritional needs to many, but it also puts almost a million dollars into the local economy. Including into the hands of well deserving summer employees.***

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

***The Providence Recreation Department has taken several steps to upgrade promotional material, which highlights activities sponsored by the department. The Providence Journal local news column in the sports section has been a vital tool to promote upcoming recreation activities. Department youth leagues, tournaments and special events are displayed numerous times in this column before the scheduled activity. Youth League scores and standings highlight the very successful youth basketball program the department facilitates each year.***

***This past summer several stories and/or pictures were displayed in the Metro Section of the Providence Journal. Journal photographers were in constant contact with recreation personnel to attend recreational events for media coverage. Likeliness media (Channel 6, 10, 12) were frequent visitors to municipal swimming pools.***

***The Recreation Department has a bi-monthly newsletter highlighting the previous month's activities. These are available at all the neighborhood recreation centers. Special events continue to be announced at neighborhood schools and flyer drops are done in prospective neighborhoods for specific activities.***

***Overall, 2001 was an extremely impressive year for media recognition for the Department of Recreation. Many of our programs were introduced to many Providence residents because of the increased visibility the department received. The department hopes this trend will continue and build upon an outstanding 2001.***