



# Fun Classes Offered Every Summer By Community Ed

**By: Chris Ellefson**  
Barnesville Community Education has always tried to offer many different activities for kids during the summer, and the summer of 2019 will be no different. There will be plenty of sports, crafts and fun classes.  
Our baseball and softball programs are geared for students that want to learn/play baseball or softball in a fun atmosphere. Students four years to kindergarten will learn the basics of T-ball in a non-competitive format. There are no games with this program, but scrimmages will take place during the program. Students learn the basics of throwing, catching, batting and base running. The next group is our Coach Pitch program for first- and second-grade students. Students will move from hitting off of a tee to being pitched to in this one-hour program. This is again a non-competitive atmosphere where kids can learn the game without playing actual games.  
Starting in third grade, students will play games against teams from

other local towns. The boys are split into four different groups based on their grade. Third graders will play Knothole, where the coach starts the year pitching to the players and the players pitch themselves later in the season. The fourth-grade group is called PeeWee, and fifth and sixth graders are Little League players. These teams each meet two times per week for practices and play two days of games each week as well.  
The girls in third to sixth grade are split into two different groups. The third and fourth grade girls play ponytail softball. The coach pitches in these games for the first part of the season and then the girls themselves will start pitching about halfway through. The fifth and sixth graders play more of a fast-pitch game and pitch the entire time. The girls will play games versus other local towns as well, with practices two days per week and games two days per week.  
For our high school students we are hoping to get enough interested to have a 14U fast-pitch softball team as well as an 18U fast-pitch softball team. These two teams play



This art class was one of many options for Barnesville youth offered through the Summer Recreation program of Barnesville Community Education.  
games one night a week and try to practice at least two times per week. This is a great feeder program for the BHS Softball program. It gives the girls an opportunity to sharpen their softball skills. The teams are part of a league where they play games versus other towns in the league.  
The seventh- to ninth-grade boys have an opportunity to play Babe Ruth Baseball. In the past few years we have had a 13-year-old team that

program. We have been offering it for several years. This activity is for students who will complete grades seven to 11 in the spring. Students come at one of three time options in the early mornings where they spend half of the time with weight lifting and the other half working on conditioning drills to increase their speed, agility and overall health. We generally have 80-plus students participate in the program. The workouts focus on dynamic flexibility, balance, speed, agility, strength and power through plyometric, Olympic lifting movements and traditional strength training exercises.  
We also offer a program for students that will complete sixth grade in the spring. Quickness & agility training is targeted to kids looking to increase their speed, quickness and agility. The workouts will focus on form, technique and repetition to help students maximize their athletic performance and help create good exercise habits.  
Another option for students is our summer golf program. This program is held at the golf course for students 10 years and older. Students learn the basic skills of golf, including how to hold the club, how to putt and drive the ball and the basics of the game.  
We will continue to offer our track program where students will learn about running.  
In past years we have participated in the Hershey Track program.

This was replaced with a different program a few years back. One option this summer might be to have kids learn about running a 5K or to continue learning about various track events. We are working on the details for this program.  
We will again hold basketball opportunities along with volleyball and football camps during the summer. Look for some possible arts and crafts classes as well as some classes for the four- to five-year-old kids.  
We will offer our summer play again, which gives students a chance to put on a play in one week. The play itself will be held on Friday, May 31, and Saturday, June 1. Try-outs will probably be the week of May 20, with rehearsals taking place May 28, 29, 30 and 31.

We are looking at doing Disney's Aladdin Kids. The Summer Recreation brochure will be out at the end of April or beginning of May. Watch for the brochure and then plan your student's summer of activities. Anyone interested in seeing a class offered should call the Community Education office at 218 354-2638 with your suggestions. Anyone interested in teaching a summer rec class, should contact the Community Education office at 354-2638 or email Chris at [cellefson@barnesville.k12.mn.us](mailto:cellefson@barnesville.k12.mn.us).  
We are always looking for new ideas to offer to the students.



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Boys and girls alike can participate in numerous programs through Summer Recreation.



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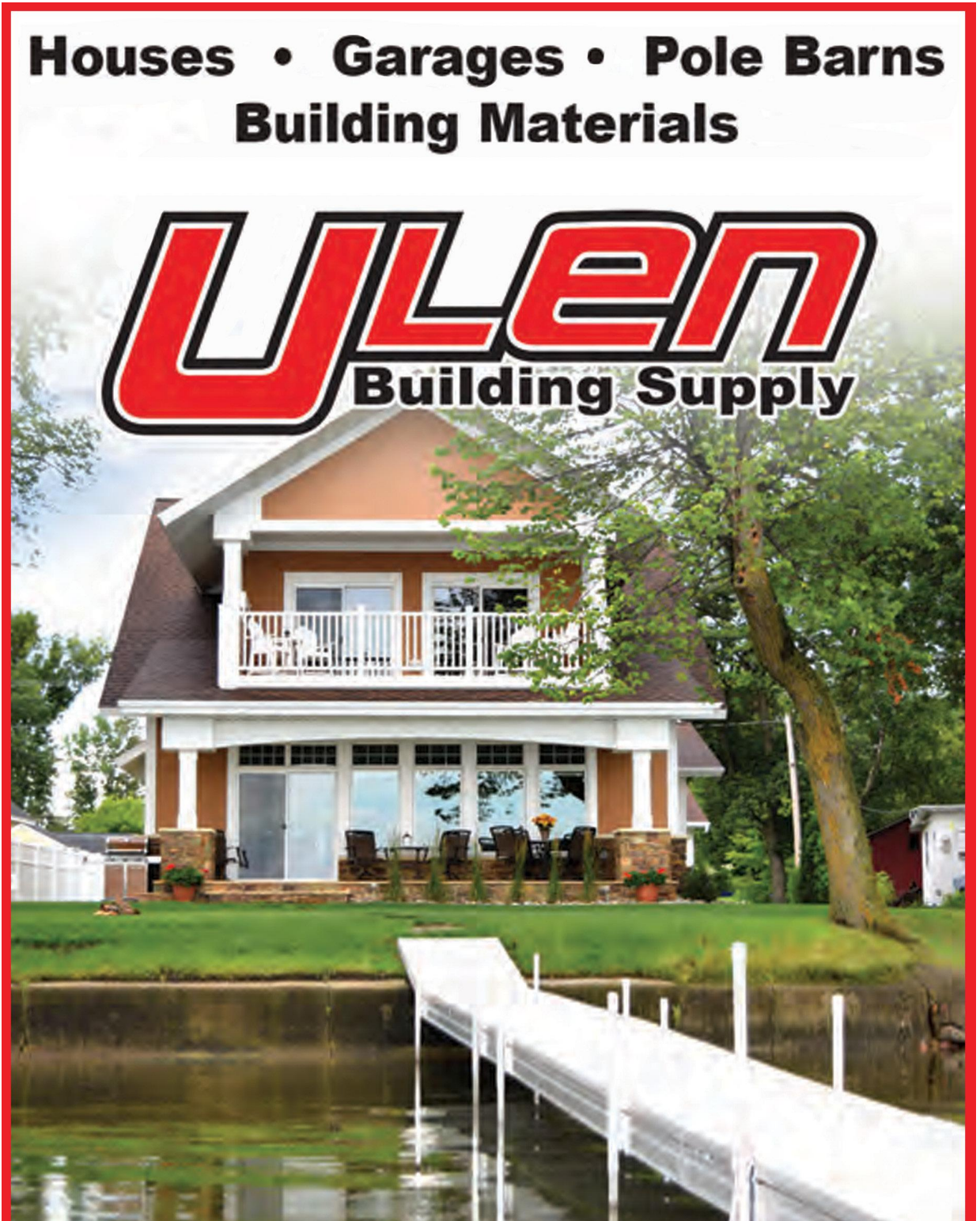
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