

Trailblazers Come to Reedville

BY THE TIME THE PIZZA AND DRINKS WERE SERVED, OUR REEDVILLE RESIDENT CHILDREN WERE ALREADY TUCKERED OUT FOLLOWING A BUSY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED BY THE PORTLAND TRAILBLAZERS COMMUNITY RELATIONS TEAM, AND THE DAY WAS ONLY HALF OVER.

BLAZER DAY CAME TO THE REEDVILLE APARTMENTS ON JUNE 26, 2009. IT WAS MADE POSSIBLE AFTER THE TRAILBLAZERS COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR BRITTANY DAVIDSON CONTACTED BIENESTAR WANTING TO VOLUNTEER. SHE HAD FOUND US THROUGH HANDS ON GREATER PORTLAND – A NON-PROFIT WHOSE MISSION IS TO



TEN VOLUNTEERS FROM THE BLAZERS COMMUNITY RELATIONS TEAM SHOWED UP AT NINE IN THE MORNING TO SET UP ACTIVITIES. 43 CHILDREN AGES 5-14 ARRIVED AT TEN AND WERE IMMEDIATELY LED TO THE BASKETBALL COURT FOR WARM-UP EXERCISES. WHEN ALL THE JOGGING AND STRETCHING WAS COMPLETE, THE CHILDREN WERE SEPARATED INTO FOUR GROUPS AND SPENT THE REST OF THE MORNING ROTATING THROUGH FUN ACTIVITY STATIONS THAT INCLUDED ARTS AND CRAFTS,



THE CHILDREN RESTED FOR A QUICK LUNCH WHILE A BLAZERS' STAFF MEMBER READ AN INTERACTIVE STORY TO THEM. SOON AFTER, EVERYONE RETURNED TO THE SPORTS FIELD BEHIND THE APARTMENTS FOR A ROUSING GAME OF KICKBALL. THE SCORES WERE SO HIGH MOST EVERYONE LOST COUNT, AND THE FRIENDLY COMPETITION SOON MORPHED INTO TWO LONG LINES OF KIDS BATTLING FOR RED ROVER SUPREMACY. THE BLAZERS STAFF PROVIDED SNACKS AND REHYDRATION IN THE HOT AFTERNOON SIN

IT WAS A GREAT FUN-FILLED DAY, AND ONE OUR CHILDREN WILL NOT SOON FORGET. THE BLAZERS' STAFF COULD HARDLY LEAVE THE PROPERTY WITHOUT ALL OUR CHILDREN RUNNING UP TO THEM AND ASKING FOR AUTOGRAPHS. BEFORE THEY LEFT, THEY GAVE EVERY CHILD A REUSABLE BLAZERS SHOPPING BAG WITH A NEW BOOK INSIDE. BIENESTAR'S STAFF AND REEDVILLE RESIDENTS ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO THE TRAILBLAZERS COMMUNITY RELATIONS

