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MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ADAM BELLO ANNOUNCES OPENING OF EIGHT NEW PICKLEBALL COURTS

Ribbon cutting at Mendon Ponds Park makes total of 23 pickle ball courts across 7 Monroe County Parks

ROCHESTER, NY — Monroe County Executive Adam Bello today announced the completion of construction on four pickleball courts at Mendon Ponds Park, and four more at Black Creek Park in North Chili.

"Pickleball has become increasingly popular in our area and it's important for us to modernize our parks with the latest amenities for people of all ages to enjoy," **said Monroe County Executive Adam Bello**. "This project is the latest in millions of dollars of upgrades to revitalize our parks system for generations to come – thank you to our dedicated Parks staff for their work to make our parks second to none."

<u>According to a 2022 report by NPR</u>, pickleball — described as a cross of tennis, Ping-Pong and badminton — is America's fastest growing sport.

"Today's ribbon-cutting of four new pickleball courts at Mendon Ponds Park and celebration of an additional four courts at Black Creek Park represents a significant step forward in our efforts to enrich the quality of life for Monroe County residents of all ages. As part of our bipartisan Parks Revitalization Initiative, these enhancements to our parks will provide world-class recreational facilities across our County," said County Legislator Rick Milne. "We are lucky to have an abundance of beautiful natural resources in our community and as elected officials, it is imperative for us to preserve them for future generations to enjoy. I look forward to watching future pickleball matches and welcoming all the new and old faces that will come to enjoy our parks, especially here in Mendon."

"Monroe County's parks are among our greatest assets, and the 'Go Outside, Monroe' initiative has been wildly successful in making investments to improve accessibility and amenities," said County Legislator Howard Maffucci. "These pickleball courts are an exciting new addition that will bring countless hours of fun to our families."

The new pickleball courts are part of the County Executive's ongoing \$16.6 million <u>Go Outside</u> <u>Monroe Parks Revitalization initiative</u>, which seeks to renovate and upgrade facilities and infrastructure throughout the county's 23 park system.

Under the Go Outside Monroe initiative, the county has installed a synthetic ice rink in Ontario Beach Park, renovated the ski lodge in Northampton Park and broke ground on a more than \$2 million inclusive spray park and playground coming to Ontario Beach Park, among other projects.

Upcoming renovations include work on the historic Dentzel Carousel and an ADA-accessible canoe/kayak launch at Churchville Park.

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