Where do kids play?

The Pottstown Parks and Recreation Department boasts 16 parks and tot lots, distributed throughout the borough. In addition, the Pottstown School District has fields and playgrounds at its four elementary schools and its high school/middle school complex. Yet you will often find kids playing on private fields, parking lots, or in the streets. Why? Because they are a lot more convenient and closer to home.

The borough spends more than $1 million annually for parks and recreation. In theory, having all these parks is great. But they are expensive to maintain. As Pottstown struggles with budget deficits, maybe we need to rethink how we use our parks.

Commentary by Tom Hylton

Playing football on open field at Evans Street and the Industrial Highway, top, and basketball on Edgewood Street, left.

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