



Parks and Recreation Report | August 2024

Director's Report

Headlining events for August was the community Party in the Park. This event was an opportunity for departments to provide information about services and engage with the community. New this year was the addition of the Farmer's Market, complete with food trucks and vendor booths. There was also live music by Nate Botsford, chalk art, duck races, lawn games, the SMART train. The event was very well attended.

August also saw the completion of the Memorial Park Skate Park Mural with an official unveiling ceremony on August 24. This exciting project adds a sense of life and vibrancy to the park and has been well received by park patrons. Artist selection was a collaborative effort between the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission and members of the Wilsonville Skate Park Association. The project was funded by Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement grant. The mural unveiling kicked off the third annual Wilsonville Skate Jam in partnership with the Wilsonville Skate Park Association. The Skate Jam is a great event that brings out skaters of all ages and skill levels. They are each given an opportunity to showcase their skills and win prizes. The event also had music (DJ'd), Kona Ice, and a free raffle which was open to anyone in attendance.

Other ongoing events this month included concerts, movies, and the wrap up of summer camps. Work continues on many projects throughout our park system, with the headliner being the exciting new all inclusive playground at Boones Ferry Park. The grand opening/ribbon cutting is scheduled for September 28. All are welcome!

~Kris Ammerman

Recreation Updates

Fall Brings New Classes!

Several new classes are being offered this fall including broom making, candle making, macrame, midlife movement, kidokinetics, and more! Beloved classics will also make their return this season, like Mini Hoopers Basketball, Harvest Festival and Community Tree Lighting. Find a class that's right for you at Wilsonville-ParksandRec.com/Register

Healthy Living for your Brain and Body Workshop

For centuries, it's been known that the health of the brain and the body are connected. But now, science is able to provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age. The Alzheimer's Association presented about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and shared hands-on tools to help incorporate recommendations into a plan for healthy aging. While there are currently no proven methods to prevent cognitive decline or dementia, research has shown that we can take action to reduce our risk of developing it and help maintain or potentially improve overall health.

AARP Smart Driver

A full class of 12 took part in an all day classroom training learning tips and techniques to be a safe, defensive driver. As an added bonus, those completing the course are eligible for discounts on their auto insurance.

Arts Updates

The Memorial Park Skatepark Mural was completed this month, by Washington based muralist and skater Abigail Penfold. Penfold's design was selected by the City's Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) along with members from the skate community. The City received 50 RFQ Submissions from talented artists throughout the country and narrowed it down to award Penfold the project. Her design is titled 'Nature's Boardshop' and depicts the story of local wildlife building a skateboard. There are 10 unique sections of the mural, each with a different scene from beavers to squirrels to fish! The majority of her design was done with spray paint. The selection panel chose Penfold's design because they felt it would connect not only to the skaters but to the park-goers, tie into the natural surrounding areas, and had a sense of humor. On Saturday, August 24, the Wilsonville Skate Park Association in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department held the 3rd annual Skate Jam event. To kick off the event, there was a ribbon cutting to unveil the mural where City Councilors, the Artist, and ACHC members were in attendance. The mural project was funded by Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement funds, and is the first piece of public art within Memorial Park.



Skate Jam

The annual Skate Jam event took place with beginner and advanced jam sessions and a number of contests. \$3,400 worth of skateboards, apparel and various skate items were raffled off as part of a free raffle. At one point, Wilsonville Skate Park Association member, Austin Barnes was speaking with a family who had a child around the age of 7 or 8. A comment was made about the child being interested in skating and needing a board. Austin asked the family to move to the side of the booth where some new skateboards were laying. He told the family they could pick one out. The child's eyes grew big as he pointed to one of the boards and looked up at his mom. His mom says to Austin, "he said he wanted a skateboard with aliens on it!". Everyone was all smiles as Austin handed over a brand new skateboard—with aliens of course!



Board Highlights

Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC)

At the August ACHC meeting the Commission re-elected Deb Zundel as Chair and elected Nadine Elbitar as Vice Chair. They received a presentation on the Heritage Tree Program to become familiar with the program and their role. They also reviewed an upcoming Public Art Project, HeARTs of Wilsonville which is projected to be complete in the summer of 2025. They also discussed planning for some type of Cultural Arts Performance Series Event.

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board (KSCAB)

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board did not meet in August.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board did not meet in August.

Upcoming Events

- September 18, 6:30—7:30pm | Artist Gallery Reception: Toni Avery, at Wilsonville City Hall
- October 19, 10am—1pm | Wilsonville Harvest Festival, Stein-Boozier Barn
- December 5, 5:30pm | Community Tree Lighting, Town Center Park



Parks Team



The Parks Team collaborated with the Boones Ferry Playground contractor to remove and utilize excess eco blocks from the Playground Project. The Playground Ribbon Cutting event will be September 28.

Boones Ferry Park's lower section is getting a regrade to allow for a native prairie restoration expected to take place in the spring of 2025.



Irrigation repairs at Boones Ferry Park near the new grant funded restroom.



Party in The Park and the Duck Races were once again a hit this year! The team worked hard to ensure Town Center Park was ready for the event and the racers!