



Parks and Recreation Report | September 2024

Director's Report

On Saturday, September 28 our team had the privilege of hosting the new Boones Ferry Playground Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting. We were honored to have Mayor Fitzgerald and Councilor Linville in attendance as well as dozens of children and their families. The entire team worked very hard to bring this new playground to fruition and it was very special to be a part of the community celebration. Seeing the genuine joy that the final product brings to the community is incredibly rewarding.

The new playground is special because it was created with universal design in mind. Universal design goes beyond accessibility. It means creating a space that is truly inclusive of all people regardless of their ability. Some of the universal design elements include...

- Unitary surfacing makes the entire playground area available for all users
- Dual language English/Spanish panels
- Site fencing creates enclosed play area
- Roller slide provides static electricity free sliding experience
- Universal Whirl (accessible merry go round) provides barrier free access for all users
- Konnection swing allows child and guardian to enjoy the movement of swinging together
- Communication panel provides an opportunity to communicate with everyone

The team is very excited to be able to provide this great new amenity to the community!

~Kris Ammerman

Recreation Updates



Wilsonville Harvest Festival

September was a busy month for the planning of the annual Fall Harvest Festival, which will be held on Saturday, October 19 from 10am-1pm at the Stein Boozier Barn in Murase Plaza. The vendor application closed in mid September with over forty applications received. This year's event will include free pumpkins, grown at our very own Frog Pond Farm in Wilsonville, face painting, horse and carriage rides, vendor fair, two live music acts, a library story-time, coffee truck, baked goods, a petting zoo, balloon artist, and more! This event is free to the community and very family friendly.

Arts Update

In September a new Call for Art was released for the *HeARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart Project*. This project is funded through the Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement Project and the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commissioners are very excited to see it come to life. The project will consist of ten fiberglass hearts which will be installed throughout Wilsonville in front of City facilities and in Parks. Artists have until November 1 to submit their designs, which will then be reviewed by a Selection Panel.



Community Center

In September, the Community Center hosted four “Life 101” lectures as part of their ongoing lecture series. Topics included learning to ride SMART, information on funeral planning, and estate planning. The most popular lecture however was “Balance the Fall”. Local fitness instructor, Christina Lucy shared tips on increasing strength and flexibility to increase balance and how a heightened fitness level can be helpful should you fall.

Fall fitness classes also kicked off with strong interest and enrollment. The back to back, Healthy Bones and Balance classes taught by Fitness Specialist, Brad Moore are both full with 25 in each class. The drop in “Sit, Stand and Be Fit” class regularly sees 20+ students, while Tai Chi has 15 students this fall.

The nutrition program continues to be an asset for our community providing 1,475 home delivered meals and nearly 700 meals as part of the Center’s in person lunch program.



Board Highlights

Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC)

At the September ACHC meeting the Commission reviewed their fiscal year 2024-2025 Five-Year Action Plan and Annual One-Year Implementation Plan and recommended it get forwarded to Council. They also discussed their Speaker/Performance Series project idea for 2025. Lastly, they look at staff’s recommendations for the Harvest Fest Vendors which are all creatives and makers.

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board (KSCAB)

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board Chair, Adrienne Scritsmier and Vice Chair, Sammy Scarpone presented City Council with the board’s fiscal year 2024-2025 goals on Thursday, September 3. One of the boards goals was to invite the Consul General of Japan Portland Office for a visit to Wilsonville. The board is making quick work on the completion of this goal, as Consul General Yuzo Yoshioka and guests will come for a visit on Wednesday, October 9. The visit will include several tours including City Hall, Clackamas Community College, the Hiroshima Peace Tree, and the High School auditorium. The Consul General will also make a visit to a Wilsonville High School Japanese language class.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board did not meet in September. The boards next meeting will take place on Thursday, October 10 where members will be presented with and award grant applications for the Community Opportunity Grant.

Upcoming Events

- October 19, 10am—1pm | Wilsonville Harvest Festival, Stein-Boozier Barn
- December 5, 5:30pm | Community Tree Lighting, Town Center Park

Parks Team

In September, the Parks team worked hard to bring the final pieces of the Boones Ferry Playground project together. A new restroom, playground, trail and landscaping were completed to help make Boones Ferry Park a great place to play in Wilsonville. Inspecting the new playground, and removing the 27 year-old original playground were important parts of the work. The team also worked to bring the water feature season to a close and install our fall/winter season annuals, system wide.

