

October 2021 Parks & Rec Report



Directors Report:

The Parks and Recreation team welcomed a new team member this month. Laura Ruggles became our new Program Coordinator on October 25. Laura brings with her a vast knowledge of the inner workings of the City, a commitment to service, and a spirit of collaboration. We are excited to have her!

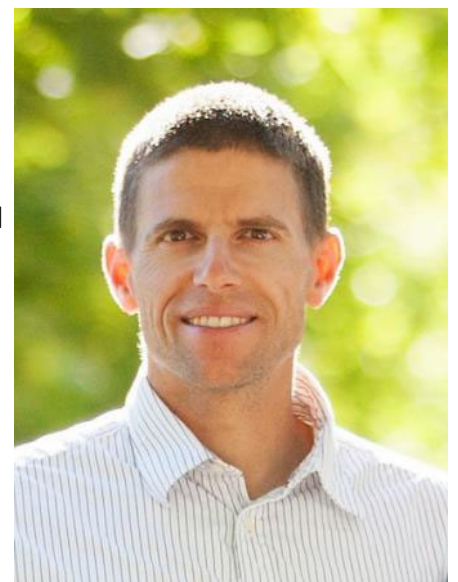
This month's Harvest Festival was a huge success. We were fortunate to have another beautiful fall day, which no doubt contributed to a record turnout. Highlights included a live band, coffee & donut truck, magician, balloon animals, costume parade, pumpkin give away, and much more. The event was held outside and activities were spread out. The Harvest Festival was very well attended thanks to thoughtful planning and promotion.

Our boards were busy this month as well with both the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRBA) and the Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board (KSCAB) conducting meetings. The KSCAB established their goals, which they presented to City Council at their October 18 meeting. The PRAB conducted its annual Community Opportunity Grant award meeting on October 14. During this meeting the PRAB awarded \$12,500 in funds to various groups:

Korean War Memorial Foundation - \$8,000
Charbonneau Arts Association - \$3,000
Learn to Skate Day 2022 - \$1500

The Parks team put the finishing touches on the Nature Play area in Memorial Park and hosted an Oregon Recreation and Park Association educational session to showcase the project to fellow park professionals. The event was well attended and well received. The official grand opening for the Nature Play area is scheduled for November 17 at 10am.

-Kris Ammerman





Recreation Updates:

Harvest Festival

The annual Harvest Festival was held on Saturday, October 16 and turned out to be a huge success. The weather was a perfect 68 degrees and there wasn't a cloud in the sky! Hushfire band serenaded the crowd with wonderful folk and country music while the smell of sugary donuts wafted through the air from Divine Mini Donuts. Families were dressed up and laughing throughout the park— it was like a scene from a Hallmark movie! A big thank you to Therapeutic Associates of Wilsonville for sponsoring this event!

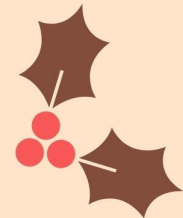
Pop-Up Storywalk

A new pop-up Storywalk was set up in Memorial Park in late October. The story begins near the River Shelter and ends at the newly built Nature play area. This Storywalk was put together in conjunction with the Wilsonville Library— the story is about one bear's adventure down a wild river. The story perfectly ends near the carved sculptures of both a bear and a canoe! We totally planned that :)

Upcoming Winterfest Activities:

Planning has begun for this year's Winterfest activities. Although there won't be a large tree lighting event this year, Parks and Rec will still host a variety of holiday activities including the annual toy drive and stockings for seniors, the hunt for the gingerbread family scavenger hunt, a virtual holiday craft, and a letters to Santa station with a mailbox to the North Pole! A holiday lights display, with plenty of opportunities for family photos, will be on in Town Center Park beginning Saturday, November 27. Keep an eye on the event website WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/Winterfest for up to date details. Also see details on several of the activities in the following few pages....

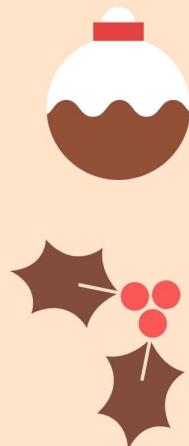




The Hunt for the Gingerbread Family

November 29 - December 19

It was a cold and blustery winters night when the Gingerbread Family found themselves lost in Wilsonville, Oregon. Mama, Papa, the Twins, Grandma, Grandpa, and Auntie and Uncle Gingerbread were sadly separated from one another. Fortunately, they left a trail of cookie crumbs! Help us bring the Gingerbread Family back together for the Holidays! Clues from the cookie trail will be posted to the Parks and Rec Facebook page, Instagram, and event website on November 29. Find at least 5 of the Gingerbread Family members, take their picture, and show proof of them in person at our Admin Offices, or email them to behler@ci.wilsonville.or.us (please submit all 5 at once). Those who show proof of at least 5 pictures, will be entered to win a \$100 REI gift card. Three winners will be chosen at random and announced on Monday, December 20. ***Please do not remove or take gingerbread people when you find them!***





WILSONVILLE
OREGON

Nov. 1 - Dec. 8

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

Donate new and unwrapped toys at the
Parks and Rec Admin Office (29600 SW
Park Place) Monday through Friday
8am to 5pm or Wilsonville Orthodontics
(9475 SW Wilsonville Rd) during regular
business hours.

All Donations will be given to
Clackamas County Compassion in Action
for distribution to those less fortunate
this Holiday season!

Thank you for your generosity!



**WARM GREETINGS FROM
THE CITY OF WILSONVILLE**

P.S. Check out WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/Winterfest
for more details on our upcoming winter events!



SENIOR STOCKINGS

Fill a stocking for a Wilsonville
Senior!



Fill and donate stockings for seniors enrolled in the
Community Center's Home Delivered Meal Program.



Filled stockings can be donated between
November 1, 2021 - December 10, 2021
to the Community Center.



Community Center Updates:

Information and Referral Specialist Sadie Wallenberg meets with Rep. Neron

Representative Courtney Neron has been a strong voice for community empowerment, especially in the areas of education, healthcare, and the environment. In an effort to show support for our older adult population, she and the Community Center's Social Worker, Sadie Wallenberg met last week to discuss issues around affordable housing, technology barriers in navigating the healthcare system, and mental health for a population that has been increasingly isolated during the Covid pandemic. Representative Neron relayed that she is working on a bill that would protect seniors living in affordable housing by further subsidizing their rent in the face of steep rental increases, and penalizing predatory practices by housing developers. Additionally, discussions were had about the difficulty of navigating a healthcare system that increasingly relies on technology to interface with a patient population that may not have the capacity or the will to engage.

Isolation, exacerbated by the Covid pandemic, continues to be detrimental to senior's physical and mental health and quality of life in general. Rep. Neron supported creative solutions to this problem including coordinated care health initiatives and educational and recreational programming. It was clear that Rep. Neron has a deep desire to engage in macro level social work to effect change for the vulnerable populations in her district.

Community Opportunity Grant Awards Support to Three Community Programs

At the October 14 meeting of the Park & Recreation Board, the first of two award cycles for the 2021-22 budget year was finalized when the board approved grants to three local programs:

Cameron Kastner received \$1,500 to assist with the implementation of a Learn to Skate event in 2022.

Charbonneau Arts Association received \$3,000 to assist with improving the artist registration process and the silent auction management at their annual festival.

The Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon received \$8,000 to assist with a final fundraising push for the design and construction of a Korean War Memorial Interpretive Center.

Health and Wellness Programs to return to the Community

Center

The cooler wetter weather has brought an end to outdoor fitness classes and small group training sessions. Beginning in November, six fitness classes will move indoors with four taking place at the Community Center and two taking place at the Stein Boozier Barn.

Additionally, October marked the return of the Weight Loss Support Group led by Personal Trainer, Brad Moore. The group meets each Monday at the Community Center beginning as 12:30pm and provides guidance, coaching and support to those who are different stages of their weight loss and wellness journey.



Board Highlights

Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon: The Board has reached its current fundraising goal for the Oregon Korean War Memorial Interpretive Center. In November, members of the KWMFO Interpretive Center Committee will meet with design/build contractor Formations to review 90% plans. Based on that meeting, future fundraising efforts may be needed.

Parks and Rec Advisory Board: At the October 14 meeting of the Park & Recreation Board, the first of two award cycles for the 2021-22 budget year was finalized when the board approved grants to three local programs: Cameron Kastner received \$1,500 to assist with the implementation of a Learn to Skate event in 2022; Charbonneau Arts Association received \$3,000 to assist with improving the artist registration process and the silent auction management at their annual festival; The Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon received \$8,000 to assist with a final fundraising push for the design and construction of a Korean War Memorial Interpretive Center.

Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc. – The Board has begun the process of recruiting to fill two open positions. Ideas for future fundraising events continue to be discussed.

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board: The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board met via zoom in October to continue discussions about various community engagement activities and projects including a potential pen pal program between Wilsonville residents and community members of Kitakata, Japan. Several members of the board hosted an activity table at the Harvest Festival where participants created leaf rubbings with activity sheets and crayons. The board also presented to council during the October 18 council meeting to give council an update on board goals.



Parks Team

Nature Play Open

The 12,000 square foot, one of a kind nature play area in Wilsonville is now open. The project was completed in house and will have a Grand Opening Event on November 17. On October 21 the Parks team hosted an Oregon Park and Recreation Conference breakout session. 20+ peers from the region attended the session where the team spoke to the design, budget and construction of the Nature Play Area.



Outpost Cabin

ORPA Session

Murase Slides Repaired

In August a playground safety inspection identified two damaged slides and Murase Plaza playground. The team worked quickly to remove the damaged slides and order replacements. Those slides were delivered in October and promptly install by the parks team. The routine inspection and quick replacement of playground components are key elements in playground safety.



Prepping For Replacement

Newly Replaced Slide