

# September 2021 Parks & Rec Report

#### **Directors Report:**

September is a month of transition: summer break ends and the kiddos go back to school; long, hot summer days shift to shorter, cooler fall ones; the parks team turns their focus from water features, irrigation, and mowing to aeration, fertilization, and leaf blowing; the recreation team winds down movies and summer camps and turns towards harvest festival preparation, mini-hoopers sign ups, and other fall programs.

Our team is also going through a period of transition as this month we said good bye to long time employee Ahsamon Ante-Marandi. We wish her well on her new adventure and would like to publicly thank her for 7+ years of dedicated service to the Parks & Recreation department and the greater Wilsonville community. Her warm, friendly demeanor, attention to detail, and patient listening ear will be sorely missed.

The Community Center has begun to see an increase in activity and program attendance this month while also rolling out a new healthy immunity class offering. Other notable events this

month include:

- City Council's approval of the Memorial Park Rest Room construction contract
- The Walnut Grove Heritage Tree dedication
- The roll out of the composting bucket program
- Significant progress on the Nature Play area
- River Fox Playground public outreach
- DEI Committee presentation

Here's to another great month!



-Kris Ammerman

### **Recreation Updates:**

#### New Workshop Highlight-Sound Bath Meditation

September was host to several new and exciting classes including a "Sound Bath Meditation" workshop in

Memorial Park at the River Shelter. There were 20 participants signed up, and those in attendance had nothing but positive feedback after the event, with some even getting their picture with the instructor. During the workshop, attendees were encouraged to lay down on a yoga mat with a blanket and pillow, while being serenaded by crystal singing bowls. It is said that the vibrational frequencies from the singing bowls helps to induce a state of relaxation and meditation. Several parks and rec staff were in attendance at the workshop and can confirm that the experience was simply wonderful.



#### **Harvest Festival Planning**

September was a big month for planning the upcoming October 16 Harvest Festival in Murase Plaza at the Stein Boozier Barn. This years event will be held from 10am to 1pm and will feature a live band, a balloon artist, a library story time, a magic themed scavenger hunt, free mini pumpkins, a donut and coffee truck, a roaming magician, a costume parade, a compost bucket giveaway, crafts and more! The much loved wagon rides will take a break this year due to social distancing. Activities will be spread out throughout the park to promote social distancing, and masks must be worn when social distancing cannot be maintained. There will be ample signage throughout the event to remind attendees of these rules. In lieu of an entrance fee for the event, Wilsonville Parks and Rec will be collecting dog food, cat food, and pet treats for Wilsonville Community Sharing.

#### **Mini Hoopers Program**

September was a busy month of Mini Hooper sign ups for 1st and 2nd grade basketball. Registrations closed in early October, and a total of 60 kids have registered. This program is run entirely with volunteer coaches from the community with logistical and scheduling support from Parks and Recreation. The program runs out of Boones Ferry Primary school gym facilities. This years program has several changes to help ensure the program is as safe as can be in regards to Covid. Small cohorts/teams will not be mixing and will instead have scrimmages against one another



where the team is broken down into smaller groups. This will help immensely if contact tracing is necessary due to an exposure, and would result in only that specific group having to cease practice instead of the entire league. All coaches and spectators will need to wear masks during practice.

### **Community Center Updates:**

The Community Center continues to welcome community members back and September brought the return of the "Life 101" lecture series. The series resumed with presentations from Dr. Dave Duemling regarding Healthy Immunity and one from the Alzheimer's Association who gave an overview of understanding Alzheimer's and dementia. September also brought the return of four in-person fitness classes. The classes are currently meeting outside at Memorial Park but will retreat to the Community Center as the fall weather increases.

The Home-delivered meal program continues to serve the community at a high level producing just over 2,100 meals during September. With the addition of a handful of new clients, daily clients served has climbed to over 100 per day.

### **Board Highlights**

**Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board**— The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board continues to brainstorm activities that can be held to spread awareness of the Wilsonville / Kitakata Connection. The Advisory board plans to host an informational table and activity at the upcoming Harvest Festival on October 16.











**Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon:** The Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon continues to fundraise and collect artifacts for the future Interpretive Center. (pictures above)

**Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc.** – Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc. has resumed their popular Senior Trip program. These monthly excursions give seniors a day long outing which typically includes an fun or educational stop as well lunch. The November trip will travel to the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education with lunch at the Old Spaghetti Factory.

# **Parks Maintenance Updates:**

# **Nature Play Nearing Completion**

The Parks team continued work on the new Nature Play area at Memorial Park this month. The team spent time installing the active play components which include stepping pods and balance beams. All of the log material used in this project was sourced locally and most is from Memorial Park. This project truly has been focused on, a one of a kind play feature that is sustainably built with local materials. The team is excited for the community to engage with this new play area soon.



**Balance Beams** 



**Active Play Area** 

## **River Fox Playground Project**

The City of Wilsonville is funding a capital project this year to replace 21-year-old play equipment at River Fox Park. Modern composite play structures typically feature slides, play panels and other elements that can be mixed and matched. The Parks & Recreation team is conducting public outreach to learn which elements, themes and color schemes are favored by community members. The survey will remain open until October 30.



**River Fox Park** 

# TAKE OUR RIVER FOX PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT SURVEY

¡Responda a nuestra encuesta sobre el área de juegos infantiles ahora!



Wilsonville Parks & Recreation is installing new play equipment at River Fox Park!

Take the survey by Oct. 30.

- · What play amenities would you like to see?
  - Which theme should we pursue?
    - Which colors should be used?

Point your smartphone camera at the QR code 

or enter <a href="bit.ly/3jSAKf9">bit.ly/3jSAKf9</a> on your web browser





¡Parques y Recreación de Wilsonville está instalando nuevo equipo de juegos en el parque River Fox! Responda a más tardar el 30 de octubre.

- ¿Qué juegos le gustaría que hubiera?
  - ¿Qué tema le gustaría ver?
- · ¿Qué colores le gustaría que se usaran?

Apunte la cámara de su dispositivo móvil al código QR o visite <u>bit.ly/3zQshOn</u> desde su navegador para acceder a la encuesta.







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