



THE KITAKATA SISTER CITY ADVISORY BOARD PRESENTS:

CHERRY BLOSSOM "SAKURA" WEEK

April 4 - 10 | Town Center Park

Parks and Recreation Report | February 2022

Directors Report:

This month our department has been very busy with planning and preparing for the fast approaching spring and summer months. The recreation team has many exciting things planned for April and beyond including but not limited to; Cherry Blossom Week, The Easter Egg Hunt, Spring Fling, Summer Camps, and more.

A highlight this month were the Zoom meetings with Kitakata school children. I had the opportunity to sit in on a few of the meetings and it was a real treat to meet the children and hear directly from them what life is like in Japan. Several of the groups even performed for us, which was very sweet and memorable.

Our partnership with AARP to provide vital tax preparation help to older adults is in full swing, with all appointments currently full and waitlisted. Additionally, volunteers from NW Medicare Advisors continue to offer a free monthly meeting to provide the basics of Medicare and explain how to enroll, what to expect and what the variations in plans might be.

As always the Parks team has been very busy keeping Wilsonville's beloved parks and trails safe, clean, and green. In addition to daily maintenance the team has been able to plant 132 trees to replace the ones damaged during last years ice storm. Also, with the help of volunteers, the team was able to plant 1,000 trees in the green space at Memorial Park in an attempt to reforest areas that have been in steady decline due to ongoing drought conditions. The team was also able to make some minor improvements including the new retaining wall by the Stein Boozier Barn and the installation of drainage to the roadway and parking area in Memorial Park. The parks team takes great pride in making these small improvements as time and budget allows.

Several park infrastructure projects continue to progress and should be finished in time for the start of the spring season. Read to the end of this report for detailed updates on the Memorial Park Rest Room Reconstruction project and the Skate Park Upgrade.

Once again, I feel very fortunate and grateful to be part of such a talented and dedicated Parks & Recreation team!

-Kris Ammerman

Community Center Updates:

Field Sign-Up Night: Parks and Rec staff hosted “Field Sign Up Night” for both local groups, as well as non-resident groups this month. This is an opportunity to allocate Memorial Park sports fields for the upcoming season by having all user groups in the same room. The process allows the sports organizations to express their field needs and work out any conflicts. Field use is scheduled to start at the end of March, weather conditions permitting.

Older Adults Highlights: The partnership with AARP for tax preparation continues to be a valuable service for our community members. The service provides older adults a free and simple way to file their State and Federal income taxes. All appointments are currently full with a waitlist. Additionally, volunteers from NW Medicare Advisors continue to offer a free monthly meeting to provide the basics of Medicare and explain how to enroll, what to expect and what the variations in plans might be.

Recreation Updates:

Special Event & Summer Program Planning: The Recreation team has been hard at work planning for a number of upcoming special events in April, as well as an exciting line up of camps and programs for summer. Coming up in April, the Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board will be hosting Cherry Blossom Week, an event series aimed at highlighting the sister city relationship with the backdrop of the sakura trees in Town Center Park. Also making a comeback in April is the Community Egg Hunt in Memorial Park. This fun event draws our biggest crowd for any special event. A big thank you to this year's title sponsor, Therapeutic Associates of Wilsonville, and the silver sponsor, Oregon Community Credit Union of Wilsonville!

Board Highlights

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board: The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board met with several groups of elementary school students and teachers in Kitakata this month. The two groups informally chatted about school life, Wilsonville, hobbies, school trips and more. The board has also been busy planning Cherry Blossom Week, which will highlight the sister city relationship with activities and programs. The sister city pen-pal program also concluded this month and a total of 123 letters were collected.

Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon: The KWMFO continues to work on design details for the Interpretive Center. The current focus is on the Cities, battles, and landmarks that will be included in the topographical map.

Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc.: WCSI hosted their first annual spaghetti dinner in partnership with the Rotary Club of Wilsonville. They served 130 dinners at the drive-thru event which was held at the Community Center.

Upcoming:

Cherry Blossom Week: April 4 - 10, locations vary

Community Garden Registration: Opens April 7 for new gardeners

Community Egg Hunt: April 16, 10am, Memorial Park

Summer Registration: Opens April 18

Spring Fling: April 25—May 1, locations vary

Wilsonville Family Fairy Dance: June 3 & 4, 7pm—9pm, Stein Boozier Barn

Recreation Updates:

Introducing Cherry Blossom Week!

CHERRY BLOSSOM "SAKURA" WEEK

April 4 - 10 | Town Center Park



WILSONVILLE
OREGON

MON
4

CHERRY BLOSSOM PHOTO CONTEST
#WILSONVILLESAKURAWEEK

TUE
5

SOUND MEDITATION - 6 PM

WED
6

SAKURA CRAFT & STORYWALK - 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

THU
7

TEA CEREMONY DEMONSTRATION - TIMES TBD

FRI
8

OIL PAINTING - CHERRY BLOSSOMS 5:30 PM

SAT
9

FILM SCREENING- "THE BIRTH OF SAKE"
COMMUNITY CENTER 7PM

SUN
10

ACTIVITY TBD



EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cherry Blossom Photo Contest

Welcome to Cherry Blossom Week! To kick off the week, we want to see your best cherry blossom photos! Enter the photo contest by tagging your photos on social media with the hashtag #WilsonvilleSakuraWeek or by sending them to Recreation Coordinator, Erica Behler at behler@ci.wilsonville.or.us by Sunday, April 10 - all participants will be entered to win gifts from Kitakata City! Three winners will be announced on Monday, April 11 and notified via email or social media

Sound Meditation

The vibrational sounds experienced during a sound bath help people drop into a meditative state of deep rest and relaxation, improving overall physical, emotional, and spiritual health and well-being. Join Melanie Meherin under the cherry blossoms on Tuesday, April 5 and give yourself permission to pause from the chaos around you for this powerful and transformative experience. Bring your own yoga mat, blanket, and pillow. No prior experience necessary. Registration not required.

Sakura Craft & Story Walk

Join members of the Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board for a tissue paper sakura craft and cherry blossom themed story walk in Town Center Park. All craft materials will be provided.

Tea Ceremony Demonstration

The Japanese tea ceremony (chadō) is a Japanese tradition steeped in history. It is a ceremonial way of preparing and drinking green tea. Beyond just serving and receiving tea, one of the main purposes of the tea ceremony is for the guests to enjoy the hospitality of the host in an atmosphere distinct from the fast pace of everyday life. Come enjoy a 30 minute tea ceremony demonstration with Barbara Walker from the Portland Japanese Garden, to learn more about this special cultural tradition.

Oil Painting

Join Instructor Judy for this step-by-step oil painting class done in the Bob Ross style of wet-on-wet paint. In this class participants will learn to paint, you guessed it- cherry blossoms! This class takes beginner to seasoned painters from a blank canvas to a finished painting in one class. This class is limited to 20 participants. Pre-registration is required.

Film Screening

Come enjoy a viewing of the documentary 'The Birth of Sake' at the Wilsonville Community Center on Saturday, April 9 at 7pm- free mochi snack included! "In a world where most mass produced goods are heavily automated, a small group of manual laborers must brave unusual working conditions to preserve a 2000-year-old tradition that we have come to know as saké. The Birth of Saké is a cinematic documentary that reveals the story of passionate saké-makers and what it takes to make world-class saké at Yoshida Brewery, a 144-year-old family-owned small brewery in northern Japan."

Yoga Under The Blossoms

Enjoy a free, all-levels vinyasa flow yoga class below the cherry trees on Sunday, April 10! Vinyasa flow yoga connects breath with movement and is a great way to lower daily stress, increase flexibility, and become stronger. Modifications will be offered for all body types and levels. Class is on the grass and stage at Murase Plaza, please bring your own yoga mat, water bottle, and a towel or blanket. Pre-registration is not required.



Community Egg Hunt:

The Community Egg Hunt will take place in Memorial Park on Saturday, April 16. The event kicks off at 10am with staged times for kids to participate in various age groups. Eighteen thousand eggs will be spread out across the Memorial Park ballfields. Several prize giveaways will be incorporated into the Egg Hunt, including a bicycle giveaway sponsored by Therapeutic Associates of Wilsonville. Wilsonville's Bailey the Bunny will be at the event for a photo opportunity and a high-five.



Spring Fling

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS WEEK

APRIL 25 - MAY 1



Mon 25

Nature
Photography
Contest
Virtual
All week

Tues 26

*
Introduction to
Nature
Journaling
Community Cntr.
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Wed 27

*
Documentary
Screening
"2040"
Community Cntr.
7:00 pm

Thur 28

Stonecrop
Giveaway
Parks Admin
4pm - 6pm

Fri 29

*
Training and
Pruning Fruit
Trees
Memorial Park
10 am

Sat 30

W.E.R.K. Day
* Community Cntr.
8 am - 11:30 am

Goat Petting
Stein - Boozier Barn
10 am - 12 pm

Sun 1

Virtual Kids Craft
Peanut Butter
Pinecone bird
feeder!
10 am

Asterisk* = pre-registration required

Memorial Park Road Drainage Repair

The parks and roads team collaborated on the repair and upgrade of a long term Memorial Park road drainage issue. The installation of an area drain near the Field 5 parking lot will eliminate an area where water has historically pooled on the roadway. The roads team will work to install new asphalt when weather allows.



Repairs Begin



Finished and Awaiting Asphalt

Stein-Boozer Barn Improvements

The parks team completed the installation of a new retaining wall at the Stein—Boozer Barn in Murase Plaza. The team completed the retaining wall work in house at a significant savings compared to contracted out the work. The retaining wall is a part of a multi faceted approach to improve the exterior space of the barn. Updated historical signs, landscaping improvements as well as a larger future turf space are all planned.



Before



After

Parks Team Project Updates

Memorial Park Central Restroom Project Update

Current Projected Completion—April 2022



CMU Block Onsite



Building Is Roof Ready

Memorial Park Skate Park Project Update

Current Projected Completion—Mid March 2022



Community Engagement



Construction Begins