

Parks and Recreation Report | September 2025

Director's Report

I am pleased to announce that construction has begun on Frog Pond Park. The park which will feature a quarter mile walking path, fitness equipment, playground, lawn area, and picnic shelter will be under construction through the winter and early spring and is scheduled to open in the summer of 2026.

September marks the end of summer along with the closure of our water features for the year. Our hard working and dedicated parks maintenance team spends a lot of hours each summer to keep the water features in operation for the community. While they are a beloved amenity that we enjoy providing, the team also looks forward to the end of the season when they can turn their time and attention towards other projects. Some recent projects of note include the Memorial Park playground replacement project, Memorial Park ball field safety netting, and wayfinding signage throughout the trail systems in Memorial Park and Murase Plaza.

Looking ahead, the recreation team is in full planning mode for this month's Harvest Festival coming up on Saturday, October 18 at the Stein-Boozier Barn. This event is always a family favorite and includes live music, face painting, a costume parade, free pumpkins, and much more. An exciting collaboration that started last year and will continue this year is the addition of artists, makers, bakers, and creatives vendor booths that will offer hand crafted items for sale.

Programs and classes continue to pick up at the community center. In addition to four day/week lunch service and daily home delivered meals, the center offers a variety of exercise classes, a life 101 series, an art club, a book club, and a poetry club. For more details on those and the rest of what's happening in the Parks and Recreation department please read on...

~Kris Ammerman

Community Center, Recreation & Arts Updates



Wilsonville Harvest Festival

September was a busy month for the planning of the annual Fall Harvest Festival, which will be held on October 18 from 10am-1pm at the Stein-Boozier Barn in Murase Plaza. 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, lunch truck, baked goods, a petting zoo, balloon artist, and more! This event is free to the community and very family friendly.

Arts Update

The Library and Arts Staff are currently working together on a mural project which will consist of murals on four (4) walls in the Children's Section. The project is being generously funded by the Library Foundation. In September a Call for Artists closed soliciting talented muralists to apply for the opportunity. A selection panel met in September to review and score all applications, and their recommendation will get forwarded onto the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) for final approval of which artist to award the project to at the October ACHC meeting. This will be a wonderful addition to the City's Public Art Collection and really enliven that space even more.

September also included a lot of preparation for the October ACHC meeting as they will be awarding the Public Art capital improvement program (CIP) Project for the Boones Ferry Park Project which has a theme called 'Essence of the River' and stipend of \$100,000. This project has been developing since 2024 and originally received just under 150 application responses from talented artists worldwide. At the ACHC's October 15 meeting they will be reviewing three design proposals as well as receiving presentations from each of the three finalists. These meetings are open to the public and community input.

Community Center

September saw the start of another session of Tai Chi classes. 23 community members are taking part in the instructor led class with a mix of beginning and intermediate students.

Ridewise travel training also took place in September with older adults learning how to navigate the local transit system. In October they will practice their new skills while taking transit to the Portland Farmers Market and to enjoy lunch.

The Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc (WCSI) hosted their "Tea, Dessert and Conversation Event". The event filled to capacity with 30 attendees and was hosted by WCSI Board members. All attendees went home with their own special teacup.

Finally, September included a refresh of the Center's Home Delivered Meal informational brochure.



Board Highlights

Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC)

The ACHC did not meet in September.

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board (KSCAB)

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board met to finalize the student itinerary for the December 2025 student visit. Highlights include the World Forestry Center, Hopscotch, Voodoo donuts and a visit to the Japanese Consular Office in Portland.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board did not meet in September but will review Opportunity Grant applications at their October meeting.

Upcoming Events

Fall Harvest Fest: October 18, 10am – 1pm at the Stein Boozier Barn

Community Tree Lighting: December 4, 5:30 pm at Town Center Park

Parks Team

Frog Pond Park construction began and the Memorial Park playground construction to begin this fall/winter.





Fall maintenance pruning has started in parks and leaf season is right around the corner!

Adult Transition Services is working 3 days a week in Memorial and Murase, so the team is busy coordinating tasks for them.

End of summer means water feature wrap up and our parks seasonal time ending. Big thank you to them for all their hard work this summer!

The team is also working on future projects such as Memorial Park Playground, signage within Memorial and Murase, and ballfield improvements.