



## Parks and Recreation Report | February 2025

### Director's Report

February brought us a couple of significant weather events that required a rapid response from the team. On February 13 and 14 there was enough snow and ice to delay the opening of City buildings until noon on the 14. The Parks team prepared for this event by putting down deicer on park walkways. After the snow fell the team worked to clear walkways in our busiest parks. Fortunately, the inclement weather passed quickly and by the weekend the temperatures were back up to normal for this time of year and everything thawed out.

Just ten days later mother nature brought us a significant wind event which brought down several large trees in Memorial Park and branches and debris all over town. Once again the team jumped into action to clear roads, and pathways so that patrons could return to their beloved parks safely. I am always impressed by the team's willingness to jump in and serve the community, especially during adverse conditions.

Another highlight during these weather events was the tremendous effort of the nutrition team and volunteers at the Community Center. In anticipation of the winter weather, the team worked diligently to prepare frozen meals ahead of time to ensure that our community's most vulnerable population's nutrition needs were met.

Major kudos to all our team members for their continued dedication to community service.

~Kris Ammerman

## Recreation and Arts Updates

### Summer Registration Opens April 7!

The Summer season is around the corner, and with that, summer registration opening! Mark your calendars... all classes, programs, and summer camps will be open for registration on Monday, April 7. The summer activity guide will also feature special event information for gatherings such as Movies in the Park, Skate Jam, Party in the Park, Pride Celebration, Juneteenth and much more!

### Community Garden Plots

Community Garden registration opened in February. Those interested in getting a plot for the 2025 growing season can find available plots at [WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/Register](https://WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/Register)

Many gardeners are returning members that had a plot in 2024. A total of 23 in-ground plots remain open for registration at this time, with a limit of one plot per household. In-ground plots are roughly 9x10 and cost \$22 for the year. The community garden is open year round and features a deer fence, on site water and compost collection.

### The Hunt for Cupid's Hearts

The Hunt for Cupid's Hearts Scavenger Hunt event took place in February. A series of 10 wooden hearts were hidden throughout Wilsonville city parks. Clues to each hearts location were posted on social media. Participants emailed the hearts locations to Recreation Coordinator, Erica Behler and were entered to win a valentine's day themed prize basket. This year, to highlight the Many Cultures, One HeART public art project, each of the hidden hearts coordinated with the art and location of a future public art piece.

### Athletic Fields in High Demand

The Parks and Recreation team hosted two in-person field sign-up nights— first for resident sports organizations followed by a second one for non-resident organizations. During these two evenings, representatives from different sports organizations had the opportunity to sign up for recurring field time for their teams to play on the athletic fields in Memorial Park. Once again, the Parks and Recreation team saw the continuing trend of resident organizations filling almost all available time slots on the ballfields during the spring season and soccer fields in the fall. With baseball, softball, and soccer groups looking to access fields year round the demand for field time is greater than ever.

## Upcoming Events

**Multicultural Dance Celebration:** April 3, 6:30-8:30pm, McMenamins Old Church

**Community Egg Hunt:** April 19, 10am, Memorial Park Sports Fields

**Many Cultures, One Heart Public Art Project Reception:** April 30, 5pm, Stein Boozier Barn

**WERK Day:** May 10, 9-11am, Memorial Park (Complimentary Breakfast at the Community Center, 8-9 am)

## Community Center Updates

### Life 101 Lectures

The Life 101 lecture series continued with two presentations by Scientist and Traditional Chinese Medicine Physician PK Melethil. PK presented on Aging and Behavioral Health, as well as, how the body's gastrointestinal (GI) system impacts various nervous systems. The Alzheimer's Association presented their "Building Foundations of Caregiving" lecture which explored the role of a caregiver, the importance of a support team and how to manage stress.

### Senior to Senior Conversations—Adopt a Grandparent Day

Members of the Wilsonville High School and Riverside High School Interact Club joined Community Center attendees for "Senior Conversations" aka, "adopt-a-grandparent". Club members had a number of conversation starters for the older adults in an effort to gain a better understanding of their life experiences. Programs like this aim to build a bridge between generations and foster mutual respect and learning. Special thanks to the Wilsonville Rotary for their coordination of this fun project.



### Nutrition Program Weather Response and Valentines Day celebration

The Center's Nutrition staff worked to get ahead of February's winter weather and was able to get additional frozen meals out to the City's home delivered meal clients before the wintery conditions. This move, coupled with the three shelf-stable meals given to clients last month, ensured the City's most vulnerable community members had their nutrition needs met during the recent snow storm.

The wintery weather also delayed the Center's Valentine's lunch celebration but 98 individuals still had the opportunity to enjoy a special valentines lunch, albeit a week later!

## Board Highlights

### Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC)

At the February ACHC meeting the ACHC along with two members from the City's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee viewed artist options for the Temporary Pride Month Mural. The selection panel came to a consensus on which two artists to invite to create a unique design for this project. The two designs will be brought back to the panel at a future meeting, and the group will determine which artist to select.

### Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board met in February to discuss an upcoming meeting with Kitakata, Japan on March 12. The board also decided on the date for Host Family Information Night at the Wilsonville Library. This informational session on hosting a student from Kitakata will be held on August 13 at 6pm in the Oak Room. The board is expecting a student delegation December 6-16, 2025.

### Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board did not meet in February but will meet in April during their regularly scheduled meeting to review Community Opportunity Grant submissions and receive updates on current projects.

## Parks Updates

February was a month of weather for the Parks team!

February 13 and 14, the team dealt with ice and snow throughout the parks and worked diligently to ensure paths were safe and clear for the community.



The Team also dealt with another weather incident on February 25; a wind storm brought down trees throughout the parks. The following week was spent clearing trees, limbs and other debris from parks. Memorial Park, pictured below lost six trees near the athletic fields.

