



Parks and Recreation Report | October 2024

Director's Report

On October 19, we were thrilled to host our annual Harvest Festival at the Stein-Boozier Barn at Murase Plaza in Memorial Park. The event gets bigger and better each year with the addition of new attractions such as artisan vendor booths, as well as the old standby activities such as horse and carriage rides. Once again the weather was perfect which added to the majesty of the day.

This month several Parks and Recreation Department team members were able to attend the Oregon Recreation and Park Association's (ORPA) annual conference in Sunriver, Oregon. This was an extra special occasion for our team as we were recipients of two awards at the conference.

One award was the **2024 Outstanding Maintenance and Asset Management Award** for ongoing work to revitalize the 124 year old Stein-Boozier Barn. The Park and Facility teams have worked diligently for nearly a decade to ensure the barn is not only safe, clean and historically-preserved, but is also serving the community as a high quality facility for weddings and other private and public events.

The 2024 Private Sector Partner Award recognizes partnerships that significantly contribute to Parks and Recreation in Oregon. This year's recipient is the Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon (KWMFO), in recognition of its close partnership with the City of Wilsonville since 2012 to support programming that honors Korean war veterans and educates young people about the Korean conflict.

This summer, the City and the Foundation celebrated the grand opening of the Korean War Memorial Interpretive Center at the Parks and Recreation Administration Building. This permanent exhibit, financed and donated by the KWMFO, features video interviews, maps of famous battles, artifacts, photos and more to keep the memory of Korean War service members alive.

It was an honor to be recognized by ORPA for these efforts, but the real reward is knowing the work we do has a positive and lasting impact on peoples lives.

~Kris Ammerman

Recreation Updates

Wilsonville Harvest Festival

The annual Wilsonville Harvest Festival took place on Saturday, October 19 in Murase Plaza at the Stein-Boozier Barn from 10am-1pm. The event was a huge success, and included over 30 local craft vendors, food trucks, a petting zoo, horse and carriage rides, face painting, free pumpkins and decorating kits, live music, a library Storytime and more! The weather was excellent, and the day was filled with lots of fall family fun. A big thank you to this year's repeat title sponsor, Nichols Family Agency!



Community Center

In October, the Community Center continued its Life 101 lecture series with a learning session provided by Ride Connection and SMART educating older adults on how to safely and effectively utilize SMART and Tri-met transit systems. Additionally, Wilsonville Funeral Home presented a workshop on Veteran's funeral benefits and attorney Michael Rose shared information about Medicaid planning, and preserving and protecting assets.



This past month also brought volunteers from AARP to the Community Center to present their classroom course, "AARP Smart Driver". Participants learned proven methods to reduce traffic violations and keep themselves and loved ones safe on the road.

The Community Center's nutrition team continued to provide high quality, nutritious meals to the older adults in our community. In October 785 meals (80 meals more than September) were served as part of the Center's in-person lunch program and 1,563 meals (90 meals more than September) were sent out to clients who are part of the Center's home delivered meals program.

Board Highlights

Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC)

The October meeting was a joint meeting with the ACHC and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. This was an opportunity for both groups to get together to discuss past accomplishments, upcoming projects, as well as talk about potential collaborations.

Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board (KSCAB)

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board, Wilsonville City Staff, Mayor Fitzgerald, Council President Akervall, and Council Member Linville welcomed Consul General Yuzo Yoshioka, Consul Naoto Shigehisa, and Ms. Mariko Taniguchi from the Consular Office of Japan in Portland to Wilsonville on Wednesday, October 9. The group toured City Hall, Clackamas Community College (Wilsonville Campus), Murase Plaza, and the Wilsonville High School Auditorium. Of special note, the group also visited with a high school Japanese Language class where students took turns asking Consul General Yoshioka questions in Japanese.



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board awarded Opportunity Grant funds at their October meeting. Wilsonville Robotics was awarded \$2,000 to fund scholarships for their participants, The City's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee was awarded \$8,215 for the purchase of Mobi-Mat access mats to increase accessibility at City events, and the City's Arts, Culture, Heritage Commission was awarded \$2,285 to help facilitate a speaker and performance series.

Upcoming Events

- December 5, 5:30 pm | Community Tree Lighting, Town Center Park
- December 9, 8 am | Winter/Spring Registration Opens– WilsonvilleParksandRec.com/Register
- February 21, 7-9 pm | Wilsonville Family Formal, Wilsonville Community Center
- April 19, 10am | Wilsonville Community Egg Hunt, Wilsonville Memorial Park

Parks Team Updates

In October the Parks Team spent time working to install grant funded chimes in the Murase Show garden. The team is grateful for the Community Enhancement Grant that made this great project possible for our community. They also worked to clean up invasive plant species to help keep our incredible urban forest healthy and vibrant. Members of the team also attended the annual Oregon Recreation and Parks Conference where they learned about new and innovative best practices from others in the field and around the state.

