



## Parks and Recreation Report | April 2026

### Director's Report

With April marking my first month as the Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Wilsonville, I can already say it feels like home. Over these past few weeks, I've had the opportunity to connect with our team and colleagues across multiple departments. I've been consistently met with kindness and generosity, with staff readily sharing their knowledge and experience. There is a deep sense of pride in working for this City, and I find myself sharing in that pride every day.

As I walk through our parks, I catch glimpses of my own past. Watching my children play in the water feature at Town Center Park, race down the tall slide at Murase Park, and enjoy summer movies at Memorial Park. These spaces are more than amenities, they are the backdrop for cherished memories for so many in our community.

Wilsonville Parks and Recreation has earned a strong reputation for delivering high-quality services, supported by a team that genuinely cares about the work they do. I am honored to be part of this team and excited to serve this community!

With summer just weeks away, our team is hard at work preparing for the season ahead: landscapes are being polished, events coordinated, and programs developed to provide fun and enrichment for all ages. There is so much that happens behind the scenes to make these experiences possible, and I am deeply grateful for the dedication and care our staff brings to their work each day. I look forward to a fun summer ahead and to seeing our parks and programs full of activity, connection, and community!

- Megan Big John



## Recreation Updates

### New Instructor Spotlights– Nammi Singh

Meet Nammi, a self-taught baker and founder of The Spiced Oven in Sherwood, OR. With over a decade of baking experience, her work is rooted in organic ingredients, long fermentation, and creating bread that is both nourishing and easy to digest. She has also gained hands-on experience working in a fine-dining kitchen in Tokyo, which helped shape her attention to detail and approach to technique.

As the first Indian-inspired micro-bakery of its kind in Oregon, she brings together traditional baking methods with flavors from her heritage, creating bakes that feel both comforting and uniquely new. Her work is deeply connected to culture, creativity, and sharing meaningful food experiences with the community.

Nammi is excited to share her passion through her upcoming Basics of Sourdough Bread Making classes

### WERK Day Recap

A BIG thank you to our volunteers who came out on Saturday April 25 and helped clean up Memorial Park for Wilsonville Environmental Resources Keepers (WERK) Day.

Volunteers saved 45 trees from ivy in addition to covering 46 tree wells in bark chips which protects them from grass competition, gives moisture retention and helps with weed suppression!

A special thank you to the Wilsonville Rotary Club for handing out breakfast burritos, donuts and coffee!

### Nature Walks with Drag Me Outside come to Wilsonville during Pride Weekend, June 13 and 14

"Drag Me Outside" is a Portland based hiking group that merges queer community, education, and nature, led by drag performers and environmental scientists Thespi D. Light (he/him) and Efemmera Gendera (she/they).

Wilsonville Parks and Recreation is partnering with "Drag Me Outside" to host two FREE nature walks during Wilsonville Pride weekend, June 13 and 14. These will be low-impact hikes, roughly 1.5-2 miles in Wilsonville Memorial Park and will use drag as a means of reconnecting people with nature, learning about our non-human neighbors, and building community.

No dogs please. While children are allowed, please be aware that some crude humor and language may be used, please use your own parental discretion. While there is no fee to participate, pre-registration is required.



## Community Center Updates

### Nutrition Program

The Community Center's nutrition team continued to provide high quality, nutritious meals to the older adults in our community.

In April, 867 meals were served as part of the Center's in-person lunch program. 1,822 meals were sent out to clients who are part of the Center's home delivered meals program. This program is reliant on community volunteers who help to deliver meals to homebound members of our community.

The Nutrition program has seen a 28% increase in meals served from April 2025 to April 2026.

### Medicare 101 Lecture

Clackamas County SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) Counselors explained Medicare eligibility and enrollment, covered services and optional coverage choices. They also shared information about financial assistance programs and Medicare fraud prevention. The lecture was provided free of charge by volunteers from Clackamas County.

### Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc BINGO Fundraiser

The Wilsonville Community Seniors Inc (WCSI) held their annual BINGO fundraiser in April. This year's event sold out in just two days! The event featured a number of BINGO games and various raffle basket from local businesses such as Wilsonville Subaru, Black Bear Diner, Parkway Grill, Charbonneau Golf club and more!

The WCSI provides programming support to the Parks and Recreation department by facilitating monthly senior trips, weekly BINGO, birthday cupcakes for congregate lunch attendees and seasonal goodies sent to home delivered meal clients.



## Board Highlights

### Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

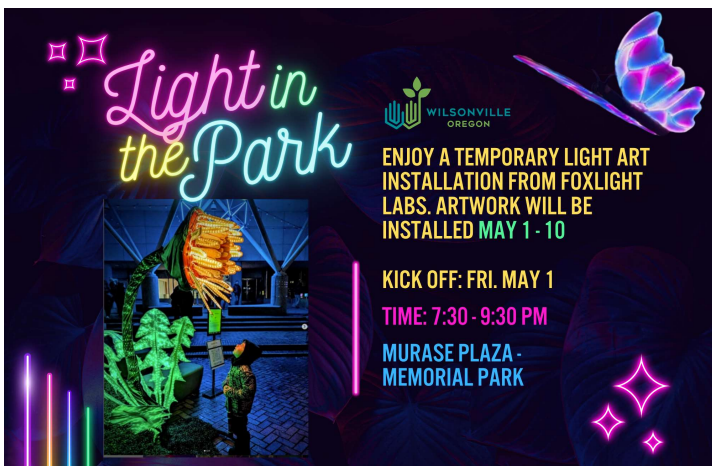
The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met in April to review the Community Opportunity Grant applications. Funds were awarded to:

- Charbonneau Country Club (\$2,000 for their 'Walker Watch' program)
- City of Wilsonville Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee (\$2,124 for sensory kits to be used at events)
- sHERo Running (\$5,624 for the Sole Sisters 5k, 10k and half marathon)
- Wilsonville Basketball Association (\$2,500 for summer basketball tournament and skills)

## Arts Updates

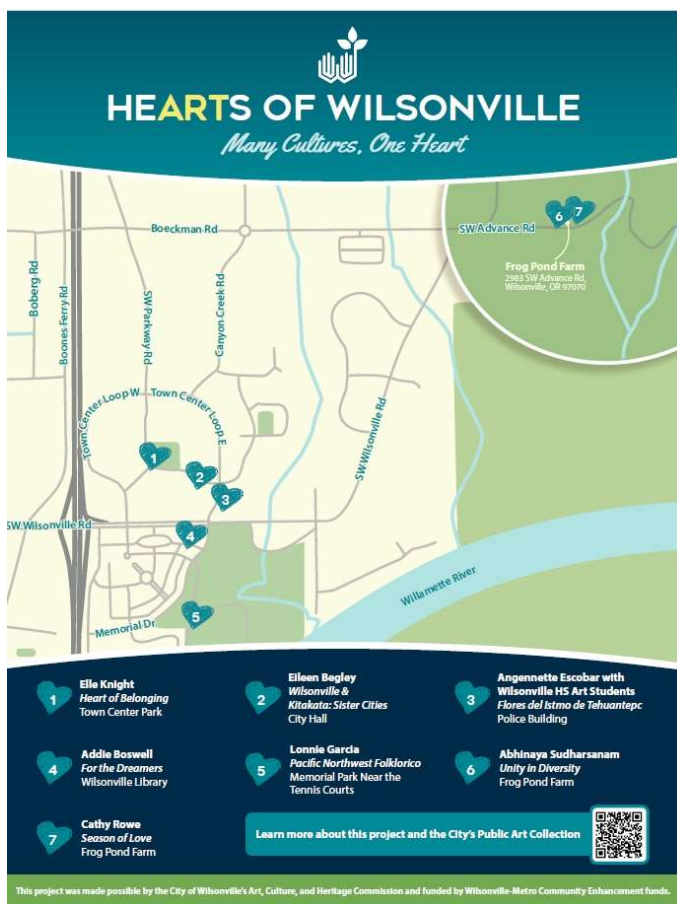
### Temporary Light Art Installation Planned for May 1—10

In April, Parks & Recreation staff finalized plans for the temporary light art installation which will be installed from May 1—10 in Murase Park Plaza. Eugene-based Foxlight Labs consists of two physicists-turned-artists, James Sartor and Justin Kittell, who design and create mesmerizing, interactive art displays from Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights. Their work, which has been featured at several local festivals and events, mixes creativity and technology to bring each installation to life. The Murase Plaza exhibit, to be located near the parking lot and upper playground, will feature three different art pieces on display May 1-10. A small celebration will take place when the installation debuts on Friday, May 1, at 7:30 pm. Prime viewing hours are after sunset, to enjoy the maximum LED effect.



### Hearts Settle in Their New Homes

Some of the beloved heart sculptures have been relocated and shuffled as a result of some selling as part of the City's Silent Auction. Five (5) of the 10 ten hearts were sold, and two of the five included in the auction were won by Justin Timm, owner of Frog Pond Farm. Staff have updated the HeARTs of Wilsonville Map to reflect where the current seven (7) live which can be found printed in City facilities or on the City's Public Art Web page.



## Upcoming Events

- **Light Art Installation** | May 1 - 10 (best viewed after dark) | Murase Plaza Park
- **Tentative Water Feature Opening Date** | Wed. June 3 @ 10am | Town Center Park & Murase Plaza
- **Golden Hour Book Swap** | Thurs. June 4 @ 7pm | Murase Plaza Grove Shelter
- **Drag Me Outside Pride Hikes** | Sat. June 13 and Sun. June 14 @ 10am | Memorial Park
- **STARS Camp** | June 13-15 | 9am-3pm Daily | Memorial Park River Shelter
- **Summer Concert in the Park—Aaron Nigel Smith** | Thurs. June 25 @ 6pm | Town Center Park

## Parks Maintenance Team Updates

The Maintenance Team is excited to announce the addition of new seasonal teammates, Sarah Parry and Filip Teofilovia (see picture below). Filip is a returning seasonal worker, and Sarah brings her landscaping experience and skills to help the team in her first season with the City of Wilsonville's Parks and Recreation Maintenance Division. Welcome Sarah & Filip!

The reservation season is underway, the newly refurbished water feature mechanical rooms are gearing up to be ready for the season, which begins on June 3. The Maintenance Team is busy providing routine maintenance and repairs, preventative maintenance to all our assets, and high level of internal and external customer service to our fellow employees, and all park and facility guests. The Team is also supporting community events, such as the recent community volunteer event WERK DAY and the art lighting installation at Murase Plaza.

Frog Pond Community Park is progressing nicely in preparation for opening to the public later this summer. The Parks Maintenance Division provides support for the full life cycle of parks, such as Frog Pond Community Park – from being involved in the beginning of planning through the development process, to the ongoing care and oversight of parks, trails, facilities, and natural areas.

