

# Parks and Recreation Report | March 2025

# **Director's Report**

March marks the arrival of spring, and with it the beautiful cherry blossoms in Town Center Park. These trees were gifted to Wilsonville by our Sister City of Kitakata, Japan in 1998. They were originally a gift to commemorate the 10 year anniversary of the sister city relationship, which is now nearly 37 years old! The fleeting beauty of cherry blossoms reminds us to take stock in the present moment, and to appreciate nature's beauty all around us.

March also marks a time of transition and preparation. Behind the scenes the parks team is busy prepping everything from the athletic fields to the water features to get them ready for the busy season. They are also wrapping up projects such as the Park at Merryfield trail upgrade and the Memorial Park athletic field lighting upgrade.

#### Upcoming events include:

- · Multicultural Dance Celebration presented by the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) on Thursday, April 3rd from 6:30-8:30 at McMenamin's Old Church.
- · Community Egg Hunt in Memorial Park, Saturday, April 19th at 10 AM
- · hARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart opening reception preview at Stein Boozier Barn on April 30

Lastly, our spring/summer 2025 activity guide is out now with all our upcoming programs and events

-Kris Ammerman

### **Recreation Updates**

#### Winter/Spring Session II Classes Underway

March marked the beginning of Session II classes, which run early March through the end of April. A total of 42 classes and programs were offered including, Body Sculpt, Yoga, Oil and Watercolor Painting, Soccer Shots, Spring Break Camps, Skyhawks Sports Camps, and Sourdough Baking, among others. The Recreation team continues to try and find unique ways to get messaging out about classes, as only 21 out of the 42 classes, or 50% were able to run successfully with enough registrations. It is important that the community knows to register early for classes and programs, as the call to cancel or run them happens one week prior to the start date of the class.

#### **Community Garden**

The Wilsonville Community Garden only has 13 spots left. New tools and trial of new corrugated metal beds have been ordered. The new corrugated metal beds, sourced the Vego, will eventually replace the older wooden beds due to rotting and decay of the wood.

#### **Memorial Park Field and Shelter Reservations**

Facility reservations are in full swing as resident reservations opened up on March 10 and non-resident opened up on March 17 and weekends are booking fast!

The River Shelter, Forest Shelter, Grove Shelter, and Splash Shelter are popular spots for the community to hold private events such as birthday parties, company picnics, family reunions, weddings, celebration of life services, and gradation parties.

#### Stein-Boozier Barn Open House

On Saturday, March 15 a Open House was held at the Stein-Boozier Barn, which a popular venue location for weddings, company parties, graduations and more.

Interested parties took an opportunity to explore the barn and ask questions about amenities, capacities and decorations. Multiple parties that are already have the barn booked came to take measurements, ask questions and were grateful for the ability to view the barn on the weekend. Private tours are also available during the week when the Parks and Recreation offices are open.

The Stein-Boozier Barn only has 8 weekends available for 2025!

#### **Athletic Fields—Preparing for Spring Sports**

The Athletic Fields are being prepared for Spring sport organizations and the team is hoping the weather cooperates and we are able to open up fields in April.

The Parks Maintenance Team has also been hard at work with field improvements to ballfield #3, making the fields more youth-sport friendly after listening to resident sport organization discussions.

Soccer Shots started on March 15 with Saturday class and March 18 with Tuesday class.





# **Community Center Updates**

#### **Nutrition Program**

The month of March saw the Center's nutrition team produce over 2,000 meals. 883 were served as part of the Center's in-person lunch program with 1,213 being sent out as part of the City's home delivered meal program.

#### **ID Theft & Scams Lecture**

The Clackamas County Sheriff presented on the most popular and current list of scams and the methods thieves use. Participants learned the tactics scammers use and how to recognize pressuring techniques that are utilized.

#### The Empowered Caregiver presented by The Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association presented two workshops in March. The first, "Supporting Independence" focused on helping the person living with dementia take part in daily activities, and how to provide the right amount of support and balance safety and independence while managing expectations. The second workshop, "Communicating Effectively" explained how dementia affects communication, including tips for communicating well with family, friends and health care professionals.

# **Arts Updates**

The City's newest Public Art Project: heARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart is gearing up with its opening reception at the end of April, prior to installation in early May. The ten artists selected for this project are working hard to complete their hearts.

The location map has been finalized which the community and visitors alike can utilize to see all ten hearts, which will be installed in City Parks and near City facilities.

This project was made possible by the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC) and funded by the Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement funds.





# **Board Highlights**

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

At the March Arts, Culture and Heritage Commission Meeting the ACHC received a presentation on the Heritage Tree Program as well as new nomination of the "Holiday Leyland Cypress." The ACHC adopted the resolution which updated the Heritage Tree Program nomination process, acknowledged the previously designated heritage trees in the City, and designated the new additional tree. The ACHC also received updates about the Boones Ferry Park Public Art Project and continued planning their April 3 Multicultural Dance Celebration Event.

#### **Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board**

The Kitakata Sister City Advisory Board met via zoom in March with counterparts in Kitakata, Japan from the Aizu Kitakata International Association (AKIA). The groups discussed ideas for the December 2025 Kitakata delegation to Wilsonville. The board asked for feedback from AKIA regarding previous visits.

#### Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board did not meet in March.

#### **Korean War Memorial Foundation of Oregon (KWMFO)**

During the March meeting, Chair Greg Caldwell welcomed a number of new members to the KWMFO board: Hye Ja "Nancy" Kim Moore, Christopher Sun, Sung Min Park, Richard Rye, "David" Kook Lee, Clara Meyer and Hong Sik Jeon.

- Hye Ja "Nancy" Kim Moore: Current President of the Korean Literature Association/Oregon.
- Christopher Sun: Former President of KAC; Korean Defense veteran.
- Sung Min Park: Owner of the Holiday Inn in Wilsonville. Started a Korean language school.
- Richard Rye: President of KWVA-OT; Korean Defense veteran.
- "David" Kook Lee: Former VP of KWVA-OT; Korean Defense veteran.
- Hong Sik Jeon: Former Reverend of Korean churches in Oregon.
- Clara Meyer: President of KIMWA and KSO board.

Chair Caldwell thanked the new members for accepting their new positions. He also publicly thanked Jin Park and Dennis Kwon who left the board at the end of 2024. Both had served for years on the KWMFO board.

Additionally, the Board is excited for the completed topographical map expected to be installed in April for the Interpretive Center.



# **Parks Team Updates**

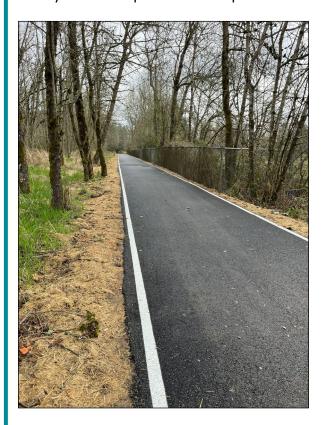
The team installed two new Memorial plaques on different benches within the parks system.



The team finished up clearing debris from the ice storm damage.



Merryfield Trail opened and the parks team installed new benches along the newly asphalted trail.





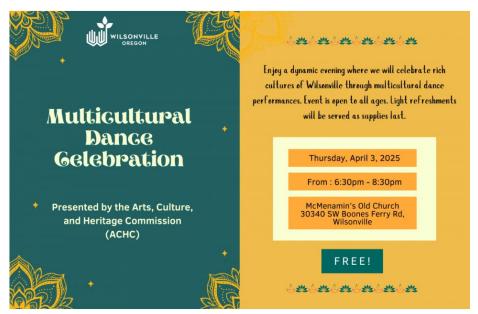
### **Upcoming Events**

Multicultural Dance Celebration: Thursday, April 3, 6:30-8:30pm, McMenamin's Old Church

**Summer Registration:** Monday, April 7 – WilsonvilleParksandRec.com **Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 19, 10am, Memorial Park Sports Fields

HeARTs of Wilsonville Opening Reception: Wednesday April 30, 5-7pm, Stein-Boozier Barn

**WERK Day:** Saturday, May 10, at 8:00 am-11:00 am, Murase Plaza and Dog Park (Meet at Community Center for assignments). Complimentary breakfast beforehand from 8:00 am-9:00 am at the Community Center.









MAY - AUGUST 2025