



# WILDWOOD

August 16, 2022

## MEMORANDUM

To: Planning and Parks Committee Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: **Update on In-Person and Virtual Recreation Programs**

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor  
Steve Cross, City Administrator  
John A. Young, City Attorney  
Rick Brown, P.E. and P.T.O.E., Director of Public Works  
Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks  
Kristin Naeger, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation  
Stacy Chanski, Recreation Specialist

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Listed below is a summary of the programs and activities the City has completed, or have currently underway, relative to implementing the goals and recommendations that are set forth for parks and recreation in the City's Action Plan 2018. This summary reflects major items that have been the focus of the City, since the Committee's July 2022 meeting:

### **Music on Main Concert Series – Back to School Party**

- This free concert takes place on Friday, August 19, 2022, at 6:45 PM, where Griffin and the Gargoyles will entertain the crowd.
- The event will be held in the same location as last year, at the corner of Taylor Road and Main Street, which allows more space for the additional children's activities that will begin at 6:00 PM.
- Numerous bounce houses, a climbing wall and face painters will be on site for the children's entertainment.
- The usual complimentary hot dogs, kettle corn, Kona shaved ice, water, and soda will be available.
- The St. Louis County Police Department will have a tent and several of its School Resource Officers (SRO) will be in attendance.
- The St. Louis Children's Hospital is planning to attend along with St. Louis Community College – Wildwood Campus!

### **Wildwood Celebration Commission Meeting**

- The Commission continues its preparation, as the 2022 Celebrate Wildwood Event draws near.
- The Wildwood Celebration Commission met on August 3, 2022. At this meeting, the Commission discussed the venue location and layout, implemented a scavenger hunt, and also discussed a robust advertising campaign for the event.
- James and Virgil Schmidt, long-time residents of the Grover Area of Wildwood, and two Lafayette High School wrestlers were chosen for Co-Grand Marshals of this year's parade.
- The venue will return to the same location as last year, at the corner of Taylor Road and Main Street, making preparations and layout familiar.
- The next, and final meeting before the event, of the Wildwood Celebration Commission is scheduled for September 7, 2022.

### **Celebrate Wildwood Event:**

- The 2022 Celebrate Wildwood Event is scheduled for September 24, 2022.
- There will be Arts and Crafts booths, Author booths, Non-Profit and Sponsor booths, as well as various food and drink vendors.
- Entertainment includes static displays, children's activities, two (2) musical performances, and a fireworks display.
- The Parade start will return to the Schnuck's location to accommodate the twenty-nine (29) registrants to date.
- The event will be held on Main Street, between Fountain Place and Eastgate Lane, along with the open field just east of the B & B Theatre.

### **Wildwood Farms Community Garden**

- The next work event, Watermelon Social, is scheduled for August 13, 2022. This event will be a social event, with a little caretaking around the garden.
- There are seventy-nine (79) garden hopefuls on the waiting list for a garden plot.

### **Annual Photography Contest**

- The City's Annual Photography Contest opened for submissions on June 1, 2022 and ended on June 22, 2022. All entries were placed on the City's website and open to a vote by the public from July 1, 2022 through July 15, 2022.
- The professional judging was completed by July 29, 2022, and winners were announced on the City's website on August 3, 2022.
- The City will not be printing a calendar for 2023, but the winning photos will be used on its website, social media, print publications, and in other exciting new ways.

### **New Resident Picnic**

- A New Resident Picnic was held on July 23, 2022, at the main pavilion, in Community Park.
- Despite extreme heat, numerous new residents attended to meet City officials, asked many questions, and enjoyed a complimentary lunch provided by Craft Eats and Drinks, Wildwood Pub and Grill and Big Chief Roadhouse.

### **Wildwood Farmers Market**

- The 2022 Wildwood Farmers Market Season kicked off on Saturday, May 28, 2022, and is held every Saturday through the first part of October. The market is located in the Wildwood Town Center, on the public plaza area, which is located at 221 Plaza Drive.
- The Market hosts local vendors that offer everything from fresh farm produce to hot, prepared food, as well as unique handmade items, such as jewelry, art, and bath products.
- The Farmer's Market will not be open on September 24, 2022, but you will still be able to find many of your favorite vendors nearby participating in Celebrate Wildwood!
- Due to the popularity last year, the Farmer's Market will again hold the Holiday Market in November.

### **Upcoming City Events**

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| August 13, 2022    | Wildwood Farms Community Garden – Watermelon Social Work Event   |
| August 19, 2022    | Music on Main (Back to School Party) – Griffin and the Gargoyles |
| September 14, 2022 | Early Childhood Recreation Program – Ride the Trains             |
| September 24, 2022 | Celebrate Wildwood!  |
| October 2, 2022    | Tour de Wildwood   |
| October 12, 2022   | Early Childhood Recreation Program – Pumpkin Decorating          |
| October 28, 2022   | Shivering Shadows  |

**CONTACT INFORMATION >>>** If any of the Committee Members should have any questions or comments regarding this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440.