CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Lisa Batey

Adam Khosroabadi

Robert Massey

Desi Nicodemus



December Features Two Iconic Events: Umbrella Parade & Tree Lighting on Dec. 2, Winter Solstice on Dec. 16

The holiday season is right around the corner and so are two of the city's most cherished events—the Umbrella Parade & Tree Lighting and Winter Solstice & Christmas Ships Viewing celebrations.

The community is invited to gather on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 4 to 6 p.m. for the annual tradition of decorating umbrellas and parading down Main Street to the historic city hall building (10722 SE Main St.) to celebrate the lighting of the tree. There are once again prizes for the best decorated umbrellas, as well as delicious treats and drinks! Please consider decorating umbrellas in a way that represents your family's winter holiday traditions.

On Saturday, Dec. 16 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. head down to Milwaukie Bay Park to warm by the fires, watch the combined fleet of Christmas Ships and purchase some refreshments benefitting the Lewelling Neighborhood District Association's community building activities. The Beer Store Milwaukie will host a beer garden featuring craft beverages.

There are volunteer opportunities for both events. If you would like to get involved, contact Dan Harris at events@milwaukieoregon.gov or 503.786.7519. For more information about these and other events, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/events.



Moving Toward a More Equitable Milwaukie



Milwaukie is home to almost 22,000 people, each of whom has a unique identity that contributes to the tapestry of the community. The community vision, adopted in 2017, describes a future which is entirely equitable, meaning all people feel welcome, and no one faces disparities because of who they are. To help achieve that vision, City Council adopted equity, inclusion and justice as a goal in 2020 and reaffirmed this commitment in April 2023.

In fall 2022, the city contracted with Keen Independent Research, an equity research and consulting firm, to undertake an equity assessment in Milwaukie. Keen Independent Research is an equity research and consulting firm that has performed similar work for public organizations in Oregon and across

the country. The Keen team engaged staff and community members, reviewed policy documents and analyzed city data. They released their assessment report this fall, which can be read at https://bit.ly/keenequitystudy. Some key findings from the assessment include:

- Only 8.1% of city staff identify as people of color, compared to 24% of the local population.
- The city's contracting systems have limitations that reduce the ability for staff to evaluate how equitably the city invests procurement dollars.
- There are opportunities to improve service delivery, such as creating more equitable utility rate structures, better communicating how equity is considered in maintenance and infrastructure decision making, training staff on customer service and cultural competence and making city events more inclusive.
- The city should do more to let people know what is going on in Milwaukie and enhance communication around its equity work.

Last month, City Council discussed the assessment and heard about the Equity Steering Committee's priorities. The committee recommended the city develop a work plan focused on the following over the next couple years:

Communication, transparency and storytelling: Actions could include adding more multicultural events, boosting communications about the equity program, and developing an equity reporting line.

Recruitment, hiring and retention: Actions could include supporting an annual job fair focused on attracting more diverse candidates and ensuring hiring processes are as unbiased as possible.

Engagement pathways: Actions could include supporting internship or job shadow opportunities and engaging youth more in city governance.

Milwaukie community members interested in learning more about the city's equity work are encouraged to attend upcoming Equity Steering Committee meetings or contact the city's equity and inclusion coordinator. For updates and contact information, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/equity. Staff will be back at a City Council meeting to discuss the equity work plan on Dec. 12.

Registration Open for Milwaukie Leadership Academy



Since 2019, the city has hosted the Milwaukie Leadership Academy, a class for community members to learn more about how their local government functions. Class sessions include presentations from elected officials, community volunteers, and heads of city departments about important topics, such as public works, urban planning and public safety. Students who have gone through the class report enjoying it with one 2023 class member saying, "this was one of the very

best classes I have taken in my adult life...the information imparted was fascinating."

The course runs one night per month, typically on the last Wednesday, from January through June 2024. Sessions are held primarily in-person, but most classes will also have the option to participate through Zoom. Space is limited, so sign up early! Registration and class schedule can be found at **www.milwaukieoregon.gov/leadershipacademy**. For questions, contact Dan Harris at harrisd@milwaukieoregon.gov or 503.786.7519.

New Traffic Pattern at King Road and 42nd Avenue



Last month, a temporary traffic change was made to the intersection at King Road and 42nd Avenue. Plastic curb and tubular delineators were installed, along with new pavement markings and signage, to help improve safety conditions at the intersection. The new installation

prevents left turns in the northbound direction, as well as through crossings in the eastbound direction. The purpose of this project is to reduce collisions and improve safety for both pedestrians and drivers.

The city's engineering staff are currently looking at potential permanent solutions at the intersection, including a similar configuration to what is currently in place or alternatives, such as a roundabout, to help achieve the same goals. Community members will have a chance to share their thoughts and comment on potential designs in summer 2024. For more information about the project, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/engineering/king-road-and-42nd-avenue-safety-improvements. For questions, contact Jeff Tolentino, project manager, at 503.786.7544 or tolentinoj@milwaukieoregon.gov.

Tired of Raking? Try Leaving the Leaves

One of the best ways to promote healthy ecosystems and benefit gardens is to leave the leaves. Leaves create a natural mulch that helps suppress weeds, while fertilizing the soil as it breaks down. The leaves also warm and protect wildlife, such as lizards, birds, frogs and pollinating bugs in the winter. They also feed mushrooms and microorganisms that create and improve garden soil. Fallen or mulched leaves can stop erosion from rainfall and suppress springtime weeds. This autumn, try leaving the leaves or mulching them in place! If you need to move leaves, choose to take them to a composting facility instead of a landfill. Milwaukie residents may also participate in the city's upcoming leaf drop events.

Tree Permits Move Online

Milwaukie's tree permit applications have moved to GovBuilt, one of the city's new online permit platforms. Public tree pruning and removal applications, as well as private tree removal applications, must be submitted through this platform. In order to do so, applicants will need to create a GovBuilt account to apply for tree permits, pay fees and access other services. Community members may also use GovBuilt to report tree and code enforcement concerns. To learn more, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/trees. For questions, contact the urban forest team at urbanforest@milwaukieoregon.gov or call 503,786.7655.



Umbrella Parade Kits & Bing in the New Year



Ahead of the city's Umbrella Parade & Tree Lighting event, the Milwaukie Arts Committee will offer free umbrella decorating kits that include battery-operated lights and other craft décor. Pick up a free kit, while supplies last, on **Sunday**, **Nov. 19 from noon to 2 p.m.** at the Ledding Library (10660 SE 21st Ave.), then join the community parade on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 4:30 p.m.

The Milwaukie Arts Committee is also continuing to work on a project to honor Ah Bing and his namesake Bing cherry, which was cultivated in Milwaukie in 1875. Local artist Tyler FuQua is creating a Bing cherry sculpture that will be a permanent addition to the historic city hall sculpture garden later this year. The Arts Committee is also working with the Milwaukie History Museum and Northwest China Council to tell the history of Bing, who was a foreman for Seth Lewelling's orchards. He worked in Milwaukie for about 30 years, overseeing more than two dozen Chinese workers. In either 1889 or 1890, Bing traveled back to China and never returned to the United States. It is believed that the Chinese Exclusion laws, along with anti-Chinese sentiment in Oregon at the time, are the likely reasons he never returned. The Milwaukie History Museum received a grant to install an interpretative plaque next to the cherry sculpture to tell the story of Bing and Oregon's early Chinese immigrants.

The Arts Committee is planning a family-friendly New Year's Eve event that will include the lowering of a large, lighted cherry to "Bing in the New Year" on **Dec. 31 at 9 p.m.** Look for more details soon! This entire project is made possible through several grants received from the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition / Clackamas County Arts Alliance, Kinsman Foundation, The Reser Family Foundation, and Auzten Foundation.

Meek Street Construction Begins This Month

The north phase of the Meek Street pipe installation project is anticipated to start construction this month in the Ardenwald neighborhood area. Crews will install 3,380 feet of new mainline pipe next to the



Union Pacific railroad tracks, between Meek and Roswell Streets, and construct a vegetated detention pond towards the end of Balfour Street. This phase of the project will continue the work done in 2020 to support new development, alleviate flooding in the Harrison Street stormwater system, and provide environmentally sustainable stormwater management.

Creating a new detention pond will also provide important stormwater and natural resources benefits. The project team worked diligently to retain as many trees as possible at the detention pond site, however, construction will require the removal of 49 trees due to grading and infrastructure being installed. To restore and expand the tree canopy, crews will replant 54 new trees onsite.

Construction is expected to continue through October 2024. City staff are taking measures to minimize the construction impacts, but nearby neighbors may experience increased noise and other inconveniences. For more information, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/engineering/meek-street-improvements-north-phase. For questions, contact Jeffrey Tolentino, project manager, at 503.786.7544 or tolentinoj@milwaukieoregon.gov.

King Road Improvement Project Updates

The King Road improvement project is currently in design, and the planned improvements include multi-use paths on both sides of the road, updated curb ramps to meet Americans with Disability Act (ADA) requirements, repaving between 43rd and Linwood Avenues, and water mainline improvements under King Road. To view the preliminary designs, share feedback or ask questions, attend the project open house on **Thursday, Nov. 2** from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at in the new city hall building, 10501 SE Main St. Everyone is welcome to attend, and refreshments are provided. For more information, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov/engineering/king-road-improvements.

Music as a Tool for Social Justice



Liberty and justice for all? This conversation examines what the word "justice" means and how it's applied in Oregon. With the aid of local and national

hip hop music videos and lyrics, the conversation will examine the history of the state, legal anti-Blackness and resistance movements. Another critical question is examined—are we closer to or further from justice for all since 2020?

On Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m., join writer, artist, speaker and producer Donovan Scribes for an exploration of Oregon as he lets music guide these critical questions. For adults and older teen audiences, 14 years or older. This is a facilitated conversation from the Oregon Humanities Conversation Project.

ADULT PROGRAMS at the Ledding Library

Fall Poetry Reading & Open Mic Wednesday • Nov. 1, 6 PM

Featured readers include members of the English department at Clackamas Community College, with an open mic following the reading. This event is also available through Zoom. To read or register, contact Tom Hogan at tomhogan 2@comcast.net or 503.819.8367.

November Poetry Reading: Amy Miller Wednesday • Nov. 8, 6 PM

The Milwaukie Poetry series continues with a reading by Amy Miller. This even will also be livestreamed on the library's YouTube channel. To register for the livestream, contact Tom Hogan at 503.819.8367.

Friends of the Ledding Library Quarterly Book Sales Saturday & Sunday • Nov. 18 & 19, 10 AM to 4 PM

The Friends of the Ledding Library host their quarterly book sale featuring a large selection of books for holiday gifts, along with book bags, shirts and socks, puzzles and games, and more in the library community room. Don't miss the \$10-a-bag day on Sunday!

MORE INFO milwaukieoregon.gov/library

Kid & Teen Activities in November at the Library

LEGO Club

Saturday • Nov. 4, 2 PM

Build with LEGO expert Molly, who will provide a creative challenge, along with tips and tricks. Ages 5 and older. No registration required, capacity limited to the first 50 attendees.

Family Movie Matinee

Sunday • Nov. 5, 2 PM

Enjoy a screening of *Elemental* (PG) and snacks in the community room on a no-school day.

Book Buddies

Thursday • Nov. 9, 5:30 PM

This month's book is *Jo Jo Makoons: The Used-To-Be-Friend* by Dawn Quigley. For ages 7-9.

Homeschool Meet-Up

Monday • Nov. 13, 1-2:30 PM

Meet other homeschool families, share tips and resources, and have fun. Includes a drop-in activity. Ages 5 and older.

Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt

Friday, Nov. 17 - Sunday, Nov. 26

Find 10 hidden turkeys in the library for a prize! Stop by the children's desk to get started.

Teen Room Gaming Nights

Mondays & Tuesdays • 5:30-7:30 PM

Get your game on with Xbox X and PS5 consoles.

Teen Advisory Board

Tuesday • Nov. 21, 5 PM

This group of 6-12 graders meets to have a say in library programs and collections, develop leadership skills, earn volunteer hours and have fun! To join, fill out an application at https://go.lincc.org/mitab.

Teen Movie Matinee

Sunday • Nov. 26, 3:30 PM

Anyone in grades 6-12 is welcome to watch *Barbie* (PG-13). Snacks provided by the library.

Weekly Library Storytimes

Join the library for weekly stories, songs & rhymes!



Mon & Tue 10:30 AM All-Ages Storytime

Thursdays 10:30 AM Baby Storytime (0-18 months)

Saturdays 10:30 AM All-Ages Storytime*

*details at milwaukieoregon.gov/library/storytime

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



NEXT MEETING MON, NOV 13 · 6:30 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV SECRETARY: Debbie Liptan • debbieliptan@mac.com

HECTOR CAMPBELL

Thanks to those who volunteered and visited the Haunted Forest in Homewood Park event on Halloween! The next neighborhood meeting is on Nov. 8 at 6 p.m. at Chapel Theatre.

NEXT MEETING WED, NOV 8 · 6 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV
CHAIR: Corinn DeTorres • campellneighbors@gmail.com



LINWOOD

The Linwood NDA is hosting an Adopt-a-Road cleanup event on **Saturday**, **Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** and everyone is welcome to come help. Volunteers will meet at Linwood Elementary School, 11909 SE Linwood Ave, and gloves, buckets, pickers and refreshments are provided.

Thanks to all for an informative and helpful meeting last month when safety and neighborhood connections were discussed. The next NDA meeting is Nov. 9 at St. Paul's Church. Please park near and enter through the back door, if attending in-person, or connect through the online option. During the December meeting, the NDA will host a neighborhood holiday pizza party. With all the gratitude it has for it's neighbors, the Linwood NDA wishes all a Happy Thanksgiving.

NEXT MEETING THU, NOV 9 · 7 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV CHAIR: Elizabeth Start • linwoodnda@gmail.com



ISLAND STATION

Here's a roundup of the latest happenings in the Island Station neighborhood:

Park Enhancements: Spring Park and the Elk Rock Island natural area have received improvements, including upgraded play equipment, enhanced walking paths and landscaped areas.

Local Business Spotlight: The neighborhood has a number of thriving local businesses, including the Play Café, River Road House, Central Rentals, Island Station Media Lab and Top Hat.

Safety Awareness: With the shorter days and longer nights approaching, the neighborhood encourages everyone to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the Milwaukie Police Department.

Wildlife Conservation: Be mindful of the impact excessive lights can have on migrating birds. Make sure homes have reflective windows that help prevent bird collisions mistaking them for open flyways.

Stay connected with neighbors, get involved and make the most of the neighborhood. Don't forget, neighborhood meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month. For more information, visit www.milwaukieoregon.gov or contact the neighborhood chair.

NEXT MEETING WED, NOV 15 • 6:30 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV CHAIR: Charles Bird • charlesbird@juno.com

以"我是我们的"我们的",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们"。 "我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的"我们",我们就是我们的

LEWELLING

The Lewelling NDA August concerts were a great success, but that comes at a cost, so it's time to fundraise! To help fundraise, the neighborhood runs the non-alcoholic concession booths each December during the Winter Solstice & Christmas Ships viewing event. Volunteers are needed to make this happen and are greatly appreciated! For those interested in helping, please email Camden.

Last month, the neighborhood hosted its semi-annual Adopt-A-Road clean-up event. Thanks to everyone who participated!

The Safe Routes to School project, centered around Seth Lewelling Elementary, received a final draft plan from Alta Consulting. Now the onus is on the city to apply for the \$2 million grant from ODOT around the turn of the new year. Based on rough scoring for this project based on the Safe Routes to School criteria, this project scores much higher than other projects in previous funding cycles, so the likelihood of being selected is high, assuming the grant request is made.

NEXT MEETING WED, NOV 8 · 6:30 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV

CHAIR: Camden McKone • lewellingndachair@gmail.com

LAKE ROAD

Thank you to those who come to the monthly meetings and pitch in with park and street cleanups! Fall is a great time to clean up the garden and look for any signs of rodents that can infest sheds, brush piles, wood stacks, dense shrubs and ground covers. Bird and squirrel feeders provide food for rodents and outside pet water bowls can encourage populations to explode—a rat can have 40 babies per year. Squirrels are perfectly capable of finding their own food. Rodents look for shelter as the weather cools, and can cause damage to attics and foundations. The frustration and expense from eliminating them in a crawl space or attic can be great. Removing hiding places by trimming tall grass, thinning overgrown shrubs, and removing all debris will discourage these rodents from moving into a property or a neighbor's property.

NEXT MEETING WED, NOV 8 · 6:30 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV

CHAIR: Debby Patten• lakeroadndachair@gmail.com

ARDENWALD-JOHNSON CREEK

Tideman-Johnson Park work parties continue on **Saturday**, **Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to noon**. Located at SE 37th Avenue and Tenino Street, Tideman-Johnson Park is a natural area on the border of southeast Portland and Milwaukie that's home to coyotes, beavers and several varieties of birds, including the occasional bald eagle. Plans are also in the works to recover salmon runs. The park is frequented by neighbors, as well as by pedestrians and cyclists using the Springwater Trail. Recent work has reconstructed the original creek bed, created new riparian habitat, restored the natural floodplain, and reestablished native plants. Bring garden gloves and join in! Everyone is welcome.

The Ardenwald-Johnson Creek neighborhood flag is still available for purchase at Made in Milwaukie at 2026 SE Monroe St. A portion of the proceeds helps benefits neighborhood activities.

Please attend the next meeting as the neighborhood continues to discuss future plans, construction in the area, the upcoming Winter Solstice event, and how to better protect and promote tree growth in this little corner of the world.

NEXT MEETING MON, NOV 27 · 6:30 PM

LOCATION: MILWAUKIEOREGON.GOV

CHAIR: Chris Holle-Bailey • chrisinardenwald@gmail.com

Stormwater Inspection Protocol Draft Updates

Milwaukie's industrial commercial stormwater inspection program protocol has been updated and a draft is available online for public review until Dec. 1, 2023. To view the draft protocol, as well as related stormwater documents, visit www.milwaukieoregon. gov/publicworks/ms4-program-reference-library. Comments may also be emailed to publicworks@ milwaukieoregon.gov or mailed to Public Works at 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd, Milwaukie, OR 97206.

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CITY EVENTS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Little Comics Bookgroup (LED) - All Day	Daylight Book Club (LED) - 11 AM		Tideman Johnson Park Work Party - 9 AM
			Fall Poetry Reading &	Book Buddies (LED) - 4 PM		LEGO Club - 2 PM
			Open Mic - 6 PM	King Road Project Open House (MCH) - 5 PM		
			1	2	3	4
Family Movie Matinee: Elemental (LED) - 2 PM	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM	City Council Work Session - 4 PM	Poetry Reading: Amy Miller (LED) - 6 PM	Read to the Dog (LED) - 3:30 PM	Veterans Day Observed: City Offices Closed	Veterans Day: Library Closed
		Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM	Hector Campbell NDA - 6 PM	ORCA Book Group (LED) - 5:30 PM		
		City Council Regular Session - 6 PM	Lewelling NDA - 6:30 PM	Linwood NDA - 7 PM		
5	6	7	Lake Road NDA - 6:30 PM	9	10	11
	Homeschool Meet-Up (LED) - 1 PM	City Council Study Session - 5:15 PM	Arts Committee (MCH) - 6 PM	Read to the Dog (LED) - 3:30 PM		
	Library Board (LED) - 5:30 PM	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM	Island Station NDA - 6:30 PM			
	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM	Planning Commission -				
12	Historic Milwaukie NDA - 6:30 PM 13	6:30 PM 14	15	16	17	18
Thanksgiving Farmers Market (MCH) - 9:30 AM - 2 PM	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM		Thanksgiving: City Offices and Library Closed	Thanksgiving Holiday: City Offices and Library Closed	
		Teen Advisory Board - 5 PM		and Library Glosed	onices and Elbrary Glosea	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Teen Movie Matinee: Barbie (LED) - 3:30 PM	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM	Teen Game Night (LED) - 5:30 PM		Read to the Dog (LED) - 3:30 PM		
	Ardenwald-JC NDA	1				
	(Milwaukie Cafe) - 6:30 PM					
26	27	28	29	30		

STAY UP TO DATE

see the full calendar at

milwaukieoregon.gov/calendar

CH · City Hall, 10722 SE Main St.

 $\textbf{PSB} \cdot \textbf{Public Safety Bldg.}, 3200 \text{ SE Harrison St.}$

JCB · Johnson Creek Bldg., 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd.

LED · Ledding Library, 10660 SE 21st Ave.

MCC · Milwaukie Community Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.