

# TEAM Springfield

News From Your  
Springfield Public Agencies

Willamalane Park and Recreation District ★ Springfield Public Schools ★ City of Springfield ★ Springfield Utility Board



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**Together, we share ideas, energy and resources to deliver projects that benefit our community.**



In 2012, Springfield Farmers' Market will continue to offer fresh, local produce, delectable baked goods and host a schedule of exciting, family-friendly community events every week.

Every Friday evening, shoppers can enjoy live music and entertainment right in downtown Springfield. Monthly events include workshops and demonstrations by gardeners and area chefs. All of this could not happen without the support of TEAM Springfield and all of the market's other sponsors. Thank you!

The Springfield Farmers' Market not only offers access to healthy, local food, but also serves as a

## Thriving Farmers' Market Sows Seeds for Year-Round Success

gathering place in downtown Springfield. The market hosts weekly events that include Kids' Day, Dog Days of Summer, The Springfield Sidewalk Chalk Festival, Farm to Fork Demos on the last Friday of the month as well as inclusion in the Second Friday Art Walk. There will also be presentations and workshops taught by Master Gardeners, Master Food Preservers and many other community organizations that are active with healthy food, farming and the economic health of our region.

This is also momentous year for Springfield Farmers' Market as it makes the transition to its permanent home at Sprout!, at 4th and A streets, in the fall. Sprout! will house a year-round Farmers' Market indoors and out, a commissary kitchen, business development services for food-based businesses,

and key anchor businesses. With the momentum that we've gained over the past 5 years, we are looking forward to a successful year as Springfield Farmers' Market transforms into a new phase at Sprout!

With music, events, workshops and of course delicious, local food, the Library Fountain Plaza on the corner of 5th and A streets will again come alive every Friday from 3 to 7 p.m. May 4-Oct. 12. Come join the fun!



## Farmers' Market Concerts

Sponsored by:  
TEAM Springfield

### Valley Boys

Friday, June 29, 5:30-7 p.m.  
Rock 'n' roll favorites, blues, funk and whatever!

### Beautiful Wrecks

Friday, July 27, 5:30-7 p.m.  
Bridging the span between rock, jazz, country and blues.

### Good Luck Joe

Friday, Aug. 31, 5:30-7 p.m.  
Playing popular rock music that will get you on your feet!

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## Celebrate Summer Solstice with Dash & Bash at Old Booth-Kelly Mill

Kicking off the summer schedule is a brand-new event in an unconventional location. The Springfield Summer Solstice Dash & Bash, presented by Willamalane and the city of Springfield, is a 5K run/walk and concert featuring country artist Amy Clawson on Wednesday, June 20.

The first-time event, held at the historic Booth-Kelly mill site in downtown Springfield, runs 6 to 9 p.m. Admission is free to the Bash; there is a charge for the Dash. Gates open at 5:30 p.m.

Although the Dash run/walk is

the heart of the festival, people don't need to compete in order to enjoy the free live music and the party celebrating the beginning of summer. The fun 5K begins at Booth Kelly and travels to Dorris Ranch and back. The Bash also includes children's games and face painting, Willamalane train rides, food vendors and a beer garden. In addition, there will be an opportunity to win one of four pairs of tickets to the Olympic Trials in Eugene.

The Dash is free to kids 10 and under. Businesses

and organizations are encouraged to enter the Corporate Team Challenge with teams of four or more people. Advance registration closes June 13.

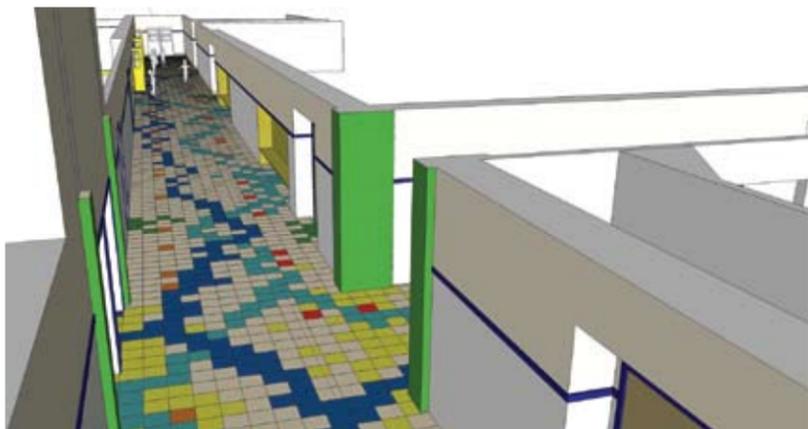
Register for the Dash at any Willamalane facility or at [electicedge racing.com](http://electicedge racing.com).



## A New School Takes Shape: Two Rivers–Dos Ríos

Students from Moffitt and Brattain elementary schools are sad to say goodbye to their old schools, but excitement is building for the newly renovated school students will be going to this fall: **Two Rivers–Dos Ríos Elementary School.**

The name was chosen by the School Board earlier this spring after a three-month process that involved staff, student and community input. The name is intended to not only reflect our community's geographic identity but the idea of two streams of students coming together as one.



The school colors are a cheery blue and yellow, shown here in an artist's rendering of hallway floor tiles with a riverlike pattern.

### Creating a Culture

Work on planning the curriculum, mission and vision for Two Rivers–Dos Ríos has been going on in earnest since the beginning of the year by an energetic core planning team with staff from both Moffitt and Brattain.

We interviewed **Shari Furtwangler**, the new principal, to see how the planning is going.

#### How do you go about designing a school?

There's a lot to do, but it's fun. We have a great team with a lot of enthusiasm and ideas. I think it's safe to say we all fully expect this to be one of the best schools in the state.

**So where do you start?** Once the name was picked, everyone wanted to talk about the mascot, of course.

We've been trying to involve students as much as possible in the process, so we asked students in the two buildings to come up with names and vote. Parents liked the otter as well. So, otter it is!

**What was next?** Obviously we wanted to focus on school curriculum and culture. With a significant number of low-income families, we qualify for schoolwide federal Title I funding, so we've spent a lot of time working on that plan to improve achievement for all students.

We know what the classes will look like — for example, we expect to have one third/fourth grade blend and one fourth/fifth blend, and both morning and afternoon kindergarten. Building a structure for PBIS (which stands for positive behavioral interventions and support) is very important in any school, so we are spending a lot of time on a comprehensive plan to support student behavior.

The team likes the idea of having a morning meeting every day, where students gather and sing a song or chant, do announcements, birthdays, etc. — and we're thinking of calling it Otter Time.

**Your current school, Thurston Elementary, is a No Excuses school, as is Moffitt, one of the feeder schools. Will Two Rivers–Dos Ríos also be part of the No Excuses University?** We won't be opening as a No Excuses University school — we want to bring the option in front of all staff to decide. We do, however, plan to continue to focus on college readiness in much the same manner.

**Do you have a kind of master plan for what the school character ethic will be?** We've decided to focus our character education on John Wooden's book *"Inch and Miles,"* which focuses on and teaches the traits for what he calls the "pyramid of success." The idea is to encourage students to be their personal best.

**Will you be involving parents in any of the planning?** Yes, we definitely want parents involved in the school. Parents from both schools were invited to participate in the school naming process. We invited all of our families to our welcome event in March and are forming a parent advisory group to help work on creating the mission and vision for the school.

**Are there any traditions from Moffitt and Brattain that you will be working to incorporate?** It was discussed, but rather than incorporating traditions from Moffitt and Brattain, we are more focused on creating our own traditions. We really want to create a brand new, unique identity.

**Will students be able to expect to see staff from each school?** Our goal is to keep as many familiar faces as possible, but we also have an opportunity to benefit from the expertise of new teachers from throughout the district as well.

**Are there any other messages that you want to get out to your families at this time?** Just that I am so very excited about the opportunity to work with them and about the potential we have to help their children achieve success.



Principal Shari Furtwangler

### Repurposing a School

Renovations to make the school more appropriate for younger students and more instructionally sound began last fall in the former Springfield Middle School facility. Many details needed to be considered, including removing lockers and replacing them with benches, lowering sinks etc.

There was also the opportunity to improve the space by adding more breakout instructional spaces and reworking the library to make it friendlier to young students.

"By repurposing the facility and using our own maintenance and facilities staff to do the retrofit work, we have been able to save the district a lot of money," said Jeff DeFranco, director of communications and facilities for Springfield Public Schools.

Students from both Brattain and Moffitt will benefit from more spacious classrooms, more instructional space and more common space, dedicated art and science space, improved security and enhanced technology options.

### The Fate of Moffitt and Brattain

Moffitt Elementary, built in 1950, was slated for closure by last year's Facilities Advisory Committee. The committee noted a number of significant issues, including pipes located beneath the school that needed to be replaced and many other design and maintenance issues that made it too expensive to repair.

The district plans to remove every bit of usable equipment and material from the facility after the completion of the school year before demolishing it. As much as possible will be reused in the new school or in other schools throughout the district. For example, Moffitt's newer boilers will be moved to Ridgeview this summer, and classroom furniture and technology can be reused at Two Rivers–Dos Ríos.

"Being able to extend the life of an existing resource not only saves taxpayers money, but removes the huge burden of replacing Moffitt down the road," said School Board Member Al King.

At Brattain, the committee determined that although the building is old, it was well constructed, with "good bones" and a good shell, including a newer roof. Though the building's design was not determined optimal for an elementary school, it would be ideal for repurposing for some district or partner programs, with potential cost savings. The district is conducting a strategic analysis of all available options for the facility's future.

### Students in Transition

A number of events have been planned to help students ease the transition from their current schools. The first event was held in March to welcome incoming families. All families were invited to a Cinco de Mayo celebration at Brattain, and the schools had a joint skate night. More mixer activities will be planned when the new school year begins.

**Both schools host school history celebrations on Friday, June 1, from 6 to 8 p.m.**



Probably the most often asked question about the new school is, "Will it have a playground?" The answer is an emphatic, "Yes!" The district will be able to recycle the Moffitt playground equipment after the end of the school year, with some upgrades and enhancements.

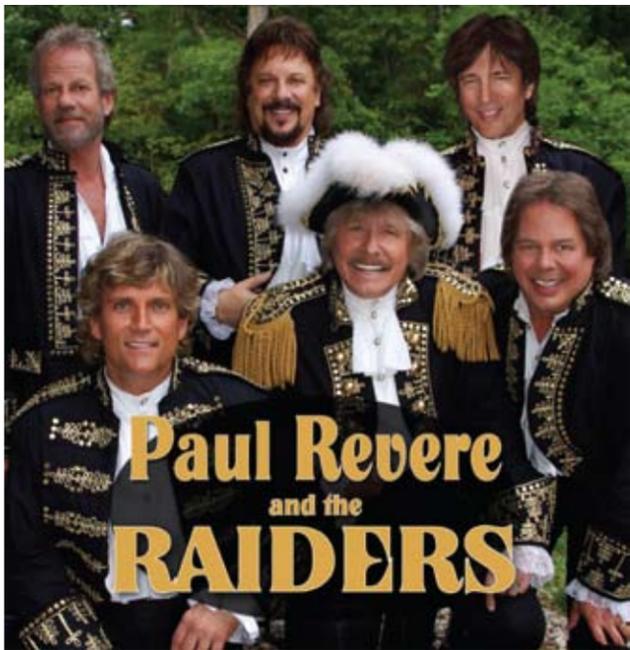
### Fast Facts

Two Rivers–Dos Ríos  
Elementary School  
1084 G St.  
541-744-8865

Principal: Shari Furtwangler



Keep an eye on the SPS website for more information about the school: [www.sps.lane.edu/trdr](http://www.sps.lane.edu/trdr).



## Paul Revere Set to Raid Island Park July 4th

**SUB's Light of Liberty Celebration. Island Park, Wednesday, July 4, Gates open at 4 p.m. Tickets \$5 in advance at SUB or Jerry's Home Improvement Center (Eugene/Springfield), \$7 at the gate. Kids 5 and under free**

Plan now to attend the SUB's Light of Liberty celebration in Island Park. In its ninth year, this fundraiser for the Project Share program is a day of music, food, fireworks and fun.

And with the holiday falling midweek this year, we anticipate that lots of Springfielders will take advantage of this party in the park – it's like having a barbecue in your backyard, only better!

This year, the headline band will be none other than rock 'n' roll legends Paul Revere and the Raiders!

With 23 consecutive hit singles, including

“Indian Reservation,” “Louie Louie,” “Good Things” and “Steppin’ Out,” this high-energy band is a real crowd-pleaser!

And as always, there will be loads of great food vendors, a fun kids area, and a knock-your-socks-off fireworks display over the Willamette River. Tickets, on sale starting June 18, are just \$5 in advance or \$7 at the gate, making this an affordable event for the whole family.

All proceeds from Light of Liberty go to Project Share, a charity that helps low- and fixed-income residents with wintertime heating emergencies. Thank you for helping us support this important cause!

Visit SUB's website at [www.subutil.com](http://www.subutil.com) for more event information. And remember to note our event sponsors! These community-minded companies work with SUB to make this venerable tradition one that happens every year!

## Willamalane Center Launches New Website Center Also Offers Summer Membership Discounts

**W**illamalane Center for Sports and Recreation now has its own website at [willamalanecenter.com](http://willamalanecenter.com), featuring a video tour, photo gallery and rental information. The center, operated by Willamalane Park and Recreation District, is at 250 S. 32nd St., in Springfield.

Willamalane Center's 97,000 square feet include space for sports tournaments, corporate events, meetings, classes, parties and more. Athletic events at the center have included tennis, soccer, basketball, volleyball and roller derby.

The site at [WillamalaneCenter.com](http://WillamalaneCenter.com) offers quick and easy access to essential information for event and sports planners, collegiate and amateur sports organizations, community partners and tournament organizers.

The site was funded by a \$10,000 Lane County Special Projects Tourism matching grant. The grant also funded the video, advertising, photography and related marketing brochures.

Willamalane has also announced special summer membership discounts at the popular venue. A special summer pass is available June 1-Aug. 31 at a 50 percent discount off

regular monthly rates. Membership in Willamalane Center includes access to the newly remodeled Fitness Center, basketball and volleyball courts, and tennis open play, along with open climbing hours.

In addition, Fridays are free at Willamalane Center June 1-Aug. 31. Drop in on any Friday from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. for free.

Willamalane Center has four regulation-size basketball courts, three with hardwood floors and one on the sport court; four indoor tennis courts; three roller derby rinks; and 12 volleyball courts (six on hardwood and six on the sport court). It features a 33-foot-high, 41-foot-wide climbing wall, plus a 12-foot-high bouldering wall.

There is a new Fitness Center with treadmills, upright and recumbent bicycles, elliptical trainers, free weights, bench press stations, stair climber, fitness tree, rowing machine and more.

A popular student hangout is Two50, the new youth center for middle and high school students. The space features a row of new flat-screen TVs and gaming consoles, plus an 18-foot-wide 3D projection screen. Two50 is also available for private rentals.



The Fitness Center at Willamalane Center features treadmills, upright and recumbent bicycles, elliptical trainers, free weights, bench press stations, stair climber, fitness tree, rowing machine and more. Try the Fitness Center for free on Fridays this summer.

The center has eight meeting rooms of all sizes for gatherings such as classes, reunions, luncheons and parties. The entire facility features wireless Internet, and several rooms feature sound amplification and video screens. The center even has preschool classrooms with an adjacent outdoor playground.

Outdoors, there are two, lighted, artificial turf sports fields for soccer, football, and lacrosse. In addition, there is a large playground with a mini climbing wall.

Visit Willamalane Center today!

## Spring Clean Your Mailbox

Go paperless and save stamps, trees and hassle – and maybe even \$25 on your utility bill if you sign up by May 31st!

**E**liminating paper from your mailbox – and gaining more control over your utility bill – has never been easier, or more fun!

### Here's the easy part:

Sign up for an online account with SUB and choose the paperless billing option. You'll gain anytime access to:

- Your last 18 months of statements
- Your residential water and electric usage
- Your payment history

### Here's the fun part:

Sign up by May 31 and we'll enter your name into a drawing for one of twenty \$25 “Warm Up” gift certificates to use on future utility bills!

To get an online account, just go to [www.subutil.com](http://www.subutil.com), click on “Access Your Online

Account” in the lower right hand corner, then click on “Register Account.” You'll be asked to enter your account number (on the top right portion of your SUB utility bill) and the phone number you have on record with SUB.

Once registered, click on the paperless billing link located under the “Manage Your Account” option and provide an e-mail address that SUB can use to inform you when your bill is ready to see.

That's it! And remember, SUB keeps your information safe and private. It is NEVER shared or sold.

So go paperless today and enjoy the convenience, flexibility and security of an online account with SUB!



This newsletter is a twice-yearly publication of TEAM Springfield, a unique collaboration of the city's four public agencies. Together, we share ideas, energy and resources to deliver projects that benefit our community. For more information, visit [www.teamspringfield.org](http://www.teamspringfield.org).

# Summer Calendar

**Springfield Police K-9 Competition**, Saturday, June 16, 12-3 p.m., Silke Field, free. Police dogs from throughout Oregon run obstacle courses, race and show off their skills.

**New! Springfield Summer Solstice Dash & Bash**, Wednesday, June 20, 6-9 p.m. Gates open at 5:30 p.m., Old Booth Kelly mill site, 303 S. 5th St. Bash is free. Register for the Dash at any Willamalane facility or at [electicedgeracing.com](http://electicedgeracing.com). See story on page 1

**"As You Like It,"** 6 p.m. Saturday, June 23, and Sunday, June 24, Island Park, free. The Roving Park Players present Shakespeare's love-at-first-sight romp of the early 20th century. Fools lay claim to wisdom and lovers play the fool in this lively comedy. Join foresters and townsfolk as they discover that "this our life... finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in everything." Call 541-686-2738 or 541-302-9497 for more information.

**Just for Kids Talent Show**, Wednesday, June 27, 12 p.m., Meadow Park, Free! Kids 18 and under are welcome to show off at Willamalane's annual talent show. Performances may last up to 10 minutes; group performances also welcome. Advance registration is required; call 541-736-4544.

- Sing or dance
- Tell jokes or perform magic tricks
- Play an instrument

**Light of Liberty Celebration**, Wednesday, July 4. See story, page 3

**Willamalane Movie in the Park: "Happy Feet 2,"** Friday, July 6, 8:30 p.m., Island Park, free. Mumble the penguin and his family work together to save their home.

**Park Social: Volunteer Park**, Wednesday, July 11, 5-6:30 p.m., free. Play Frisbee, football and more in this sports-themed gathering of friends and neighbors.

**Willamalane Movie in the Park: "Nanny McPhee,"** Friday, July 13, 8:30 p.m., Douglas Gardens Park, free. The Brown children come to realize that the more they do that is asked of them, the more fun they have with their new nanny.

**Springfield SummerFair**, July 20-22. See story, page 5

**Springfield Cruz**, July 20-21, Various locations. Car show featuring hot rods, classics and customs. Visit [Springfieldcruz.com](http://Springfieldcruz.com) or call 541-746-4621 for information.



**Park Social: Clearwater Park**, Wednesday, July 25, 5-6 p.m., free. Family bike ride! Let's take a leisurely ride down the Middle Fork Path.

**Willamalane Movie in the Park: "Justin Bieber: Never Say Never,"** Friday, July 27, 8:30 p.m., Meadow Park, free. This documentary follows the pop singer from early childhood to superstardom.

**Fiesta Latina**, Saturday-Sunday, July 28-29, Island Park • \$5 day pass; kids 10 and under free, [fiestalatinaoregon.com](http://fiestalatinaoregon.com). Viva la Fiesta! A celebration of Latin music, food, art and dance.

**Park Social: Meadow Park**, Wednesday, Aug. 1, 5-6:30 p.m., free. Play in the water! Sprinklers, Nerf water balls and other water toys make for a lively evening.



**Willamalane Movie in the Park: "The Princess and the Frog,"** Friday, Aug. 3, 8:30 p.m., Royal Delle Park, free. In this version of the classic tale, the princess who kisses the frog becomes a frog herself.

**Willamette Valley Blues and Brews Festival**, Friday-Saturday, Aug. 3-4, \$15/day or \$25/weekend in advance, \$17/day or \$27/weekend at the gate. Blues music, craft booths, food and a blast of blues. Visit [wvbbf.org](http://wvbbf.org) for details.

**National Night Out in Your Neighborhood**, Tues, Aug. 7, 6-8 p.m.

- Tyson Park • Bluebelle Park
- Thurston Park • Guy Lee Park
- Meadow Park • Willamalane Park

Goody bags for kids, door prizes for adults, fun and refreshments for everyone. Meet your neighbors and greet Springfield Police Chief Jerry Smith, McGruff the Crime Dog, and police K-9 units. Help give crime and drugs a going-away party. For information call 541-726-3731.

**Cabela's Family Campout** Friday-Saturday, Aug. 10-11, 6 p.m.-9 a.m., Clearwater Park, \$5 per person ages 3+/\$6 OD. Ages 2 and under free. Come sleep out under the stars! We'll have a dutch oven cooking lesson and enjoy a picnic dinner with s'mores for dessert. Try your hand at fishing with Cabela's instructors, get a lesson in setting up that tent, try out archery, and do some stargazing before bed. Enjoy a continental breakfast in the morning. Must provide your own tent and sleeping materials. Children must be attended by an adult at all times. No alcohol permitted. Register in advance; space is limited.

**Willamalane Movie in the Park: "Meet the Robinsons"** Friday, Aug. 10, 8:30 p.m., Lively Park, free. A 12-year-old boy who has spent his life looking for his birth mother takes a wild ride to the future, where he finally finds a family where he fits in.

**"Springfield Emeralds" at PK Field** Sunday, Aug. 12. See story, page 6

**Park Social: Bluebelle Park** Wednesday, Aug. 15, 5-6:30 p.m. Free. It's an ice cream social — complete with sprinkles on top! Make sure to round up your neighbors for a sweet taste of summer.

**BBQ & Bluegrass** Friday, Aug. 17, 6:15-9 p.m. Open for dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m. Dorris Ranch, \$10 in advance (by Aug. 13), \$15 at the gate. Bluegrass music and a barbecue in the perfect setting! Relax to the music of the Alder Street All-stars and the Cascadia Folk Quartet. Food and beer garden by the Pump Café. No dogs or outside food. Weather permitting.

**Willamalane Movie in the Park: "The Game Plan"** Friday, Aug. 17, 8:30 p.m., Meadow Park, free. Presented in Spanish. A football star with a perfect life finds himself wrapped around the finger of an 8-year-old who claims she is his daughter.

**"Five Children and It"** 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18, and Sunday, Aug. 19, Island Park • Free! The Roving Park Players present the story of five adventurous children who meet a sand fairy. E. Nesbit's classic tale proves the truth of the saying, "be careful what you wish for." Call 541-686-2738 or 541-302-9497 for more information.

**Camp Putt Invitational** Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2-6 p.m. Camp Putt Adventure Golf Park, \$7.50 per person/\$30 per family of four \$5 each additional, ages 10+. Think you're good at mini golf? Test your skills at Camp Putt. Each registrant entered into a raffle for great prizes; prizes also awarded in each division. Benefit for middle school sports scholarship fund.

**Drive-in Movie: "Footloose" (2011)** Friday, Aug. 24, 9 p.m. 32nd Street Community Sports Park, \$10/car in advance; \$20 at gate. This remake of the popular 1984 musical follows a big-city teen who busts a move — and finds romance — in a small town where dancing is outlawed. Limited to the first 100 cars.



**Willamalane Movie in the Park: "The Adventures of Tintin"** Friday, Aug. 31, 8:30 p.m., Ruff Park, free. An adventure-seeking reporter races to recover a lost treasure.

# Springfield SummerFair

## Restless Heart, Steel Magnolia to Play Citywide Festival

Springfield SummerFair, Willamalane's showcase event, is on its way July 20-22. The weekend is headlined by nationally known country artists Restless Heart and Steel Magnolia performing at a July 21 concert at Island Park.

Restless Heart is a veteran country group known for its smooth harmonies and six No. 1 hits. The band's greatest crossover hit with country and pop music fans is the single "When She Cries," which was released in late 1992. Steel Magnolia is the country duo of Joshua Scott Jones and Meghan Linsey. They released a string of hits after winning "Can You Duet" on national TV.

Other Springfield SummerFair performers include Satin Love Orchestra, a Eugene-based funk band, on Friday night. Country singer Amy Clawson and the Sammy Steele Band perform Sunday in a free show at Island Park.

On Saturday, July 21, events include PetFair at Lively Park; FamilyFair at Island Park; and Cow Pasture Golf at Bob Artz Memorial Park. Also on Saturday is the SummerFair Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament at Willamalane Park and Meadow Park.

On Sunday, July 22, at Island Park, there is the big BroilerFair chicken barbecue from 12-4 p.m. hosted by Friends of Willamalane. Friends' members are out in the community selling advance tickets for juicy barbecued chicken halves with super-secret seasoning. You can also buy tickets from any Willamalane Swim Club member, any local Kiwanis Club member or at any Willamalane facility. More information is available at [willamalane.org](http://willamalane.org).

Also on Sunday is the National Night Out kickoff event at Island Park. Enjoy police and fire vehicle displays, a police K9 demonstration, safety information booths, goody bags for children, McGruff the Crime Dog and more. Another highlight on Sunday is the Kids' FishingFair from 12 to 4 p.m. in Island Park. Experts will teach kids how to tie a fly and catch a live fish.

Back again this summer is the SummerFair Filbert Hunt, a Facebook phenomenon. The online treasure hunt provides clues to hundreds of prizes hidden throughout the community. People can be among the first to hear the clues if they "like" Willamalane at [facebook.com/willamalane](http://facebook.com/willamalane).

Willamalane needs more than 200 volunteers to help with SummerFair activities. Register for a four-hour shift by July 2 and receive two free admission wristbands.



## SummerFair Schedule

### Friday, July 20

**Satin Love Orchestra** Wristband admission

Island Park, 6:30-9:30 p.m.; gates open at 5:30 p.m.

### Saturday, July 21

**PetFair** FREE

Lively Park, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join us for a celebration of pets and their owners!

**Cow Pasture Golf** \$10 Per Person, Bob Artz Memorial Park, 9:30 A.M. -12 P.M.

Ages 11+. a Saturday morning with local teens while swinging away at some golf balls.

**FamilyFair** Wristband admission, Island Park, 1-5 P.M.

Visit more than 50 community exhibitors, touch a truck and learn about Springfield history.

**Steel Magnolia**

Wristband Admission, Island Park, 5-6:30 P.M., Gates Open at 4:30 P.M.

**Restless Heart**

Wristband admission  
Island Park, 7-9:30 P.M.



Restless Heart



Steel Magnolia

### SummerFair Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament

Willamalane and Meadow Parks

8 a.m.-12 p.m. \$5/single or \$10/double

The tournament is open to players of all ages and experience levels. Three matches guaranteed. Register at [willamalane.org](http://willamalane.org) by July 19 or at Willamalane Center. Late entries accepted on a space-available basis.

### Tennis Lessons at Willamalane Park

FREE Willamalane Park • 5-6 P.M. Saturday. Competition, 6-8 P.M.

### Sunday, July 22

**BroilerFair** FREE

Island Park • 12-4 p.m.

Enjoy games, exhibitors, face painting, a balloon clown and more.

**Sammy Steele Band** FREE

Island Park, 12-2 p.m.

**Amy Clawson** FREE

Island Park, 2-4 p.m.

**BroilerFair Chicken Barbecue**

12-4 p.m., Island Park

**National Night Out Kick-Off Event** FREE

12-4 p.m., Island Park

**Kids' FishingFair** FREE

12-4 p.m., Island Park

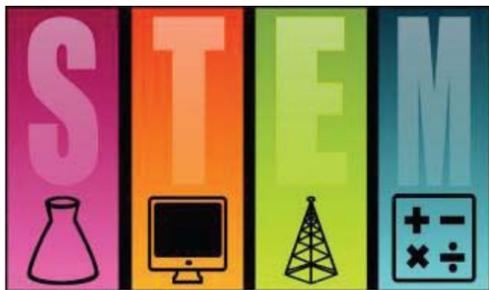
### Admission

SummerFair admission wristbands — good for most Friday and Saturday events — are \$25 per family of four (\$5 for each additional family member) or \$8 per person. Wristbands also good for \$1 off admission to Willamalane Park Swim Center or Splash! at Lively Park, July 20-29. Springfield residents may pick up a coupon at any Northwest Community Credit Union branch good for 50 percent off wristbands. Redeem coupons for wristband purchases at any Willamalane facility. Hurry! Coupons expire July 6.



Amy Clawson

## Students Branch Out with STEM Approach to Science, Math



It's spring in Oregon, and usually the word "STEM" makes people think about their gardens. But in our schools, STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math – key skills that can help our kids be better prepared for the jobs of the future.

Regardless of the path a student chooses after high school, students will benefit from a rigorous STEM education. Stronger STEM education does not just mean that we need more science classes or stronger math standards. This is a conversation about taking a different approach to learning, one that focuses on analytical skills and working together as a team to solve problems.

The Oregon Department of Education has created a STEM Education Initiative to build a framework for conversations about STEM.

But Springfield wanted to get a jump on its planning. A group of Springfield teachers represented by elementary, middle and high school levels has gotten together to form a STEM Leadership Team to help shape and guide the district's vision.

One of the things the team quickly came to understand was that the current budget climate does not readily allow for big changes in the curriculum. The team also knew that trying to induce change in the classroom can sometimes take time.

**Partnerships expand options:** Despite those challenges, the team has made some great strides. By developing partnerships and seeking grant funding, opportunities have opened up for many of our students both in, and out, of the traditional classroom. Other opportunities have been pieced together by creative and collaborative teachers using existing resources.

In the classroom, grant funds from the state and from the Springfield Education Foundation have allowed the introduction of more technology. Project SISSLE and Project POSITIVE give students a chance to learn scientific techniques by working with handheld Vernier probes this year. Other students have an opportunity to use Lego® robotics.

The district's WET/WELL programs are another example of partner-

ships developed with local utilities that fund experiential science learning beyond the classroom. The district's air cars and solar cars competitions at the middle school level are all funded through these programs.

The comprehensive high schools offer a variety of opportunities, including automotive programs, drafting classes, E cars, robotics, fabrication and more.

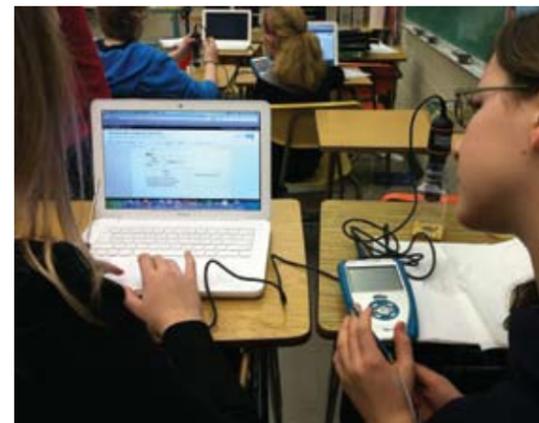
**Enter Willamalane:** After-school and out-of-school programming takes advantage of grant funds, and generous assistance from TEAM Springfield partner Willamalane, to provide even more flexibility and opportunity for creativity. By designing fun activities, students don't even feel like they're learning. One instructor referred to it as "academic-embedded recreation." The kids just call it fun.

For example, some after-school elementary students are learning a simple computer language called Scratch programming with the help of middle and high school students.

Middle schoolers enrolled in after-school programs get to choose from a variety of month-long classes, including Lego® Robotics, Brick Lab and K'Nex®. Hamlin students also benefit from the grant-funded ZONE Girls Engineering Club, ZONE Circuits Club and Mad Duck Science Fridays. This summer will also debut a STEM Summer Camp.

High-schoolers in the SHS Afterschool Miller Program, or AMP, learn computer gaming development and sharpen their academic skills in the process.

The school district is continuing to seek and leverage funding to support these and, hopefully, future programs. The goal is to eventually provide equitable access for all students to sharpen the science and math skills that keep them on a successful pathway for college, careers and citizenship.



## Big Changes Coming to Clearwater Park

Clearwater Park is undergoing a transformation this summer, with improvements including a new boat ramp, expanded parking, a park host site and an expansion of the Middle Fork Path. And even more amenities are being planned for the future of 66-acre park off Clearwater Lane.

Beginning in late June, Delta Construction Co. will build a new concrete boat ramp just upstream of the new Springfield Mill Race inlet and the old boat ramp. The parking lot will be expanded to provide a total of 46 single car spaces and 22 boat trailer spaces. Tie-down and ready areas will also be added, as well as native plantings in the parking lot islands. The Oregon State Marine Board provided engineering services and a \$204,000 facilities grant for 50 percent of the project costs. Willamalane will pay for the remaining half of the \$408,000 project. Construction on the boat ramp and parking lot should be completed by mid-September. For construction updates, visit [willamalane.org](http://willamalane.org).

One of the biggest changes to the park involves the addition of a park host. This on-site ambassador will greet visitors and assist Willamalane staff. Construction of a park host site is under way. The project includes an asphalt pad with an RV hookup and storage shed for a park host near the park entrance. The project will be completed in time to have a park host on-site this summer.

Construction on the second phase of the Middle Fork Path is also under way. The first phase of the 10-foot-wide asphalt path, completed in 2011, winds for 2 1/2 miles from Clearwater Park to Quarry Creek. The phase currently under construction will extend the path west from Quarry Creek around the butte to the eastern edge of Dorris Ranch, effectively connecting Clearwater Park and Dorris Ranch. And Willamalane was recently awarded a \$960,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation's Flexible Funds Program that will enable construction of the third and final phase of the Middle Fork Path. This last section of the path will travel through the eastern side of Dorris Ranch and include a trailhead at the park entrance at South Second Street.

Long-range plans call for the Middle Fork Path to ultimately connect with a path along the Springfield Mill Race to downtown Springfield, creating an 8-mile loop. With brief sections of on-street bicycle lanes, the path will also connect to an extensive existing riverfront path system linking Springfield and Eugene.

Willamalane is also putting the final touches on a master plan for Clearwater Park, which will guide park development for the next 20 years. Amenities shown in the master plan include: a nine-hole disc golf course, an archery range, a nature-themed playground, picnic shelter, nature center, native plant garden, accessible fishing pier and an expanded network of paths and trails.

Willamalane was recently awarded a \$930,000 grant from Oregon Department of Transportation's Flex Fund Program that will enable construction of the third and final phase of the Middle Fork Path. This last section of the path will extend through the eastern portion of Dorris Ranch and include a trailhead at the park entrance at South Second Street.



Clearwater Park is getting a new boat ramp this summer – one of several amenities planned for the park over the next few months.

## 'Springfield Emeralds' to Hit PK Field

The Eugene Emeralds will become the Springfield Emeralds during Springfield Community Night at PK on Sunday, Aug. 12. Players will wear pinstriped Springfield jerseys with a cool drift boat logo. Prior to the game, the second annual Springfield Police vs. Eugene Police softball game will take place on the field, and Springfield's mayor will throw out the first pitch.

This will be our third Springfield night at PK Park, and each has been a fun, family-friendly evening.

We hope to see you there!



Springfield Mayor Christine Lundberg throws out the first pitch at a recent "Springfield Emeralds" game. Emeralds mascot Sluggo takes part in the fun.

## Day of Caring Connects Students with the Community



Springfield High School students help clean up Springfield's act during last year's Springfield Youth Day of Caring.

For 16 years now, the student-led Springfield Youth Day of Caring has given students a valuable opportunity to design a service campaign that takes the city by storm. The project has grown each year, and Springfield High School reports that more than 800 students — that's more than half the student body — participated in a record 35 service projects throughout the community on May 18.

"Student involvement is critical for every phase of this project," says Tamara Hume, a Springfield High special ed teacher and one of the project's key organizers. "They really feel a lot of ownership."

This massive undertaking couldn't take place without the cooperation of a number of local and federal agencies, civic organizations and busi-

ness partners, all working together to connect students with the community. Each project pairs students with staff and community volunteers who help coordinate logistics and mentor the students.

This year's list of projects includes work at a variety of TEAM Springfield sites, including cleanup and landscaping at schools and area parks; graffiti removal for the city; car washing for the police department and book cleanup at the Springfield Library.

Other groups work at the FOOD for Lane County youth farm; help with an ARC of Lane County project; help at Mount Pisgah; or do work on the SHS campus itself, including a project to "beautify" the school's entrance with new flowers and benches.

## Swings Are for Playgrounds, Not Utility Bills!

Sign up for SUB's Average Payment Plan, But Hurry! Enrollment Ends June 1

In the Willamette Valley, electricity bills tend to be cyclical: higher during the winter heating season and lower during the area's mild summers.

SUB customers can put an end to those swings by signing up for the utility's Average Payment Plan, a program that evens out the ups-and-downs of utility bills. By paying about the same each month, customers build up a credit in spring and summer that helps pay down higher heating costs in the late fall and winter.

Here's the kicker: Customers can only sign up for this popular program during the April and May enrollment period.

"The best thing about the Average Payment Plan is that participants know in advance what their monthly heating bills will be," says Brenda Slaughter, SUB's customer service manager. "It's a great budgeting tool. It keeps wintertime heating bills from becoming unmanageable — something that's especially nice when holiday bills start rolling in."

Once signed up, the program works automati-

cally. SUB continues to read customer meters each month. But instead of billing for actual usage, SUB bills each month for the average of the customer's previous 12 months' charges. This kind of billing, called a "rolling average," reflects average use and SUB's current rates.

Each April, customers get a "catch-up" bill. If more electricity was used during the year than predicted, SUB will bill that amount on the customer's April statement. If less was used, SUB automatically applies the credit to the customer's account.

Any SUB customer who has an account that is paid in full and who has been at his or her current address for at least one year can participate.

"We encourage customers to take advantage of these and other utility payment programs, like our AutoPay program," Slaughter says. "They can really help make managing your finances easier and more efficient."

Call SUB at 541-746-8451 or visit [www.subutil.com](http://www.subutil.com) for more information.



## Water Your Lawn and Garden Without Getting Soaked

Did you know the biggest water hog in your house actually lurks around outside?

On average, watering the lawn and garden accounts for about a third of most homeowners' annual water use. That's why incorporating native plants into your garden design is worth looking into. Plants that have adapted to our weather know how to survive the summer without a lot of extra water, and that can mean big savings on your water bill.

And luckily, the Willamette Valley sports a huge number of beautiful, colorful varieties to choose from, so creating an environment you'll love is easy.

Even better, once established, the care is easy, too. Most native plants require little additional irrigation, are generally heartier than non-native species, and are more resistant to pests, meaning you can put down fewer chemicals. It's a win, all the way around!

Not sure how to get started with a low-water garden design? Here are some general guidelines:

**Planning:** This can be as elaborate or as simple as your time and interest allow, but will likely start with a map that notes your existing hardscapes (including your house, existing walks, fences, etc.), and plantings you want to keep (especially trees and shrubs). Then note areas you'd like to develop, and how they will be used: Is this an area for entertaining, a place for kids to play, or a nice spot for a flower garden?

**Amending the soil:** Take the time to test and improve your soil. The goal is soil that retains moisture, but allows excess water to drain away. Test kits are available at garden centers, and can tell you which amendments are best for your situation.

**Choosing plants:** Group together plants with similar soil, water and light needs. This helps make maintenance a snap.

**Limiting turf:** Grassy areas are beautiful, but they soak up water and time. So make sure to plan them well. First, use a native species of grass. There are several that are well adapted to

our climate. Many people choose to shrink the overall size of their lawn, but to place it close to the house where its usefulness and visual appeal are maximized.

**Mulching:** Covering the soil around plants with leaves, coarse compost, wood chips or other organic materials helps keep the soil in good condition and helps it retain moisture and even out temperatures. To be effective, mulch needs to be several inches thick.

**Irrigating:** Soaker hoses are a great way to deliver water right where it's needed, and are an effective conservation tool as well. In general, it's best to water deeply and less frequently, as this helps plants establish strong, deep roots.

**Maintaining:** Low maintenance is one of the benefits of a xeriscape using plants that are already adapted to our climate.

Want to learn more? Check out SUB's website at [www.subutil.com](http://www.subutil.com) and follow the links to water conservation.

So get gardening, and start saving!

## Look to Willamalane for Summer Fun for Kids

**W**hat to do with the kids this summer? Willamalane has tons of fun ideas!

- Sign up now for a Willamalane day camp. New this year is Camas Discovery Camp, a nature-themed outdoor camp at Clearwater Park. Camp Two50 offers adventurous field trips and nonstop activities for middle-school aged youth. Camp Kaboom, Sports of All Sorts and Kampin' Koalas round out the day camp options. There's even a Kids' Climbing Camp! Hurry – register before June 1 and get \$10 off per week on select camps.
- Willamalane and Springfield Public Schools collaborate on a wide variety of summer sports camps.
- Two50 youth center is open Monday-Friday, 2:30-6 p.m., this summer at Willamalane Center, 250 S. 32nd St., for students entering grades 6-8.
- Willamalane's free Summer Playground Program serves kids in grades 1-5 at 14 Willamalane parks. FOOD for Lane County offers free lunch through the USDA's Summer Food Program at select sites.
- Willamalane offers a wide variety of classes for all ages. Try Beginning Folklorico Dance, Ukes & Yoga, taekwondo, climbing, drawing, cheering, kayaking and more.

Visit [willamalane.org](http://willamalane.org) for details on these and other Willamalane programs.

**Maple and Two Rivers–Dos Ríos parents,** are you interested in a free summer program to help get your kids ready for kindergarten? Visit [www.sps.lane.edu/kits](http://www.sps.lane.edu/kits) or call 541-485-2711 for more information.

## Simple Steps to Electrical Safety

**N**ow that spring has finally sprung, SUB reminds everyone to keep electrical safety in mind as people step out into the garden to dig holes and trim trees. Children especially need to be educated in how to play it safe around electricity. In fact, about 20 percent of all electrical injuries happen to children!

Luckily, it's easy to stay safe by following a few simple guidelines:

### Outdoor Safety

- Don't touch power lines, even if they look insulated.
- Keep ladders, tools and toys away from power lines.
- Before you dig on your property, call to locate your underground utilities. The call and the service are both free – and required by law. Just call 811 at least 48 hours before you plan to dig.
- Store power tools inside to protect them from damage.
- When not using a power tool, unplug it.
- Use only heavy-gauge extension cords marked "for outdoor use only."
- Keep outdoor extension cords and light strands away from standing water.
- Make sure children don't play near the green pad-mounted transformers located in many neighborhoods. And if you see damage to one, call SUB immediately.
- Install approved covers over outdoor outlets and use them.
- If a kite or other object gets hung up in a power line, DON'T touch it! Call SUB and we'll send someone out to clear the line.

### Indoor Safety

Don't neglect electrical safety indoors! The No. 1 cause of house fires is electrical problems. Most electrical fires are caused by faulty outlets, plugs, appliances and extension cords. Old wiring is another major cause. Here are some tips that will help you avoid an electrical fire:

- Routinely check appliances and wiring (and the batteries in smoke alarms).
- Replace worn, old or damaged appliances and extension cords immediately.
- Shut off and immediately replace light switches that feel hot to the touch, including wall switches.
- Unplug and immediately replace any major or small appliance, lamp or tool that overheats, causes an electrical shock, shorts out or shoots out sparks or smoke.
- Call for help if you're unsure. In many cases, it's better to call in an appliance technician for repairs or an electrician to replace old wiring.
- Use only a three-slot outlet for appliances that have a three-prong plug. Do NOT remove the third prong – it is there for your safety!
- Keep appliances away from wet floors and counters in the kitchen and bathroom.
- Don't overload extension cords.
- Don't allow children to play with small electrical appliances or tools.

For more tips on electrical safety and conservation, log on to [www.subutil.com](http://www.subutil.com). And remember to play it safe around electricity!

## Literacy and Your Library

**F**or the seventh year, all of the district's first-graders will receive free hardcover books this month as a "Gift of Literacy" from the school district and community partners. The students get to read all of the 10 books and decide which one they would like to receive at a special event at Lane Community College.

This event represents another terrific community partnership. It is sponsored by TEAM Springfield, Springfield Education Foundation and Rotary, among other organizations, with volunteers from throughout the community participating.

"The Gift of Literacy is a wonderful gift from the community to all first-graders in our district," said Liz Degner, SMART coordinator and GOL Committee co-chair. "The value of the program is clear when you see the looks on the kids' faces when they get their books!"

Last year, the program took on a new twist: In partnership with the Springfield Library, the students were also given the opportunity to apply for a free library card – even students who lived outside city boundaries, who would normally have to pay \$80 for that privilege.

The last report from the library was that as of January, the 340 card-holders from Springfield who had received cards had checked out 2,413 items since they got their cards last June. The 57 county card holders had checked out 521 items.

"We're so excited to be able to give these kids and their families access to the library," says Barbara Thompson, youth and adult

services manager for the library. "We also invite the second-grade teachers to bring the kids in for a tour each fall."

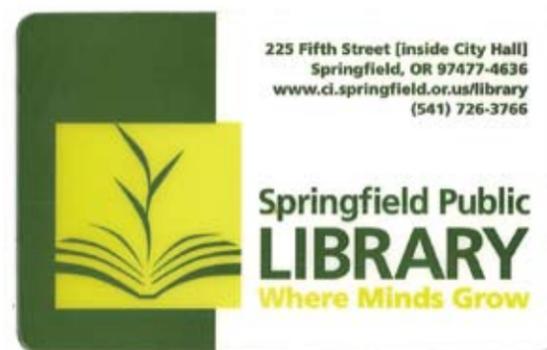
The city and school libraries also receive sets of Gift of Literacy books each year, and librarians report that student reading continues to increase since the beginning of the GOL program, along with participation in summer reading.

Gift of Literacy is just one of the ways the Springfield Library supports the district's literacy efforts.

"We are also very active in the Battle of the Books program," says Thompson. "We always have at least eight sets of books from each level, and our staff serve as judges and volunteers."

The library works closely with the schools, offering student tours, events and contests to get kids involved. The library's Teen Advisory Board gives students in grades eight-12 an opportunity to help develop programs to make the library an inviting destination for teens.

To find out more about the Springfield Public Library, visit [www.wheremindsgrow.com](http://www.wheremindsgrow.com). To learn more about the Gift of Literacy program, visit [www.giftofliteracy.org](http://www.giftofliteracy.org).



The Springfield Public Library Teen Advisory Board was named this year's United Way Youth Volunteers of the Year. Several SPS students participated.

## Summer Reading Spot

Kids up to age 12 can come for a free story time and leave with a free book, courtesy of Eugene Public Library and the United Way Emerging Leaders Council.

**When:** June 26-Aug. 23, Tuesday-Thursday 1-2 p.m.

**Where:** Willamalane Park Swim Center, 1276 G St, Springfield