

River Road Park

May 2022

The BUZZ

Welcome to "*The Buzz*" ~ River Road Park's monthly newsletter designed to keep you up to date with park news and more in touch with your community.



Kids Fishing Derby & Community Breakfast
Ages 2-7
Ages 2-115
May 7, Saturday 8-11a

Come join us at our wading pool for the 35th Annual children's fishing derby. Open to children ages 2 through 7 (accompanied by an adult). Bring your own bait and tackle and try your luck. The wading pool will be fully stocked with rainbow trout. Take a break and come on in and enjoy our community breakfast! We'll be serving eggs, sausage, pancakes, fruit and juice! donations accepted



River Road
Park and Recreation District
1400 Lake Drive, Higgins, OR 97104

Blast from the past...



Want to travel with us?

Coming up: Ireland/Scotland, Nashville, Western Canadian Rockies, and more.... It's fun and easy!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Brenda Strandberg works in our maintenance department. We are so lucky to have her. She is a native Oregonian and grew up in the River Road area. She spent much of her childhood at her grandparents house across the street from Emerald Park. She played at the park's playground as a child.

She is a mother and wife. Her son, Ethan, is 18 years old and the light of her life. Brenda and her husband, Jason, are so grateful to have such a loving, compassionate, and hardworking young man for their son. They were fortunate enough to be small business owners of Fairfield Flowers for 17 years. Ethan was raised in the flowershop. Being self-employed, they were able to home-school Ethan until he completed school.

Brenda's first paying job as a child was cleaning woodwork in her grandparents home and selling Gravenstein apples from their apple trees for extra money. They taught Brenda what it was like to be a hard worker and handed down their love of gardening. She has been employed at River Road Park for 8 months. Her duties at the park consist of cleaning public spaces in the park, offices, and classrooms. She also, makes sure classrooms are set up when needed.

The things Brenda likes about working for the District are working with people, meeting new furry friends (dogs) and being a part of a team of employees and managers that enjoy making the park a welcoming destination for all of life's occasions. "River Road Park is the heartbeat of the River Road area."

Some of Brenda's hobbies are crafting, camping, gardening, and working on cars with her husband and son. She also likes to bellydance. When she's not at work, she likes spending time with friends and family including their dogs, Dixie and Poppy, and chickens Henrietta, Belle, Chevelle, Winnie, and Cherry.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Mercedes LeClaire ~

Born November 23 , 1988 Los Angeles California, to Nicaraguan parents, Jairo LeClaire and Sayda LeClaire.

I lived in the California until about 7th grade. We moved to Deadwood Oregon. In highschool I excelled in volleyball. Loved it, played all four years for Mapleton high school, a very small 1A school. During that last year of school I was recruited by Dale Weigandt to play volleyball for Northwest Christian College (Bushnell University). During this time, I also had a part time job at River Road Park and Recreation as a swim instructor and later as a camp counselor. I graduated in 2011 with my BA in Exercise Science. In my head I wanted to become a nurse so immediately after graduating I decided to look into Lane Community College and learn about their nursing program. It seemed impossible, I became discouraged when I found out I needed a lot more classes to even come close to applying . This is when my mother intervened and told me to go to Nicaragua and look at becoming a doctor. At first I told her no way, my Spanish wasn't even that good, and I'd never been out of the country, just seemed a bit ridiculous at the time. She sent me to Managua, Nicaragua for 2 weeks to explore colleges with my Aunt. I enjoyed visiting the universities . With a bit of hair pulling and pushing I decided on a Private University called UAM (Universidad Americana) located in Managua (the capital). I spent 6 years in Med school. My last year, I interned for a Military hospital and it was one of the toughest things I have even done in my life. Pulling 100 + hours a week with 30 + hour overnight shifts every 4 days. I learned quite a bit, and lost a lot of weight, lol. I finished in the year 2019, came home, happy, tan, amazing at spanish and sickly skinny. I relaxed a lot when I finally got home, and began slowly studying for the Board exam. I passed on January 14, 2022! We'll see what the future holds for me... stay tuned.



SUMMER CAMPS

SUMMER DAZE CAMPS

SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMPS

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP

SPECIALTY/ART CAMPS

LEGO CAMPS

SPORT CAMPS

May 55+ DAY TRIPS

May Day Afternoon Tea

Today is about getting into spring spirit. We begin with an afternoon tea where you will enjoy an assortment of teas, finger sandwiches, treats and fresh fruit. The Greater Eugene Chorus and "Synergy" - affiliated with the Oregon Childrens Choir. They will take us on a musical journey, so prepare for a magical time. Your cost includes: a spring afternoon tea and songs that will have you humming and tapping your foot. Held at River Road Park. \$15 in advance. \$20 at the door if space is available.

5/1 Su 1:30-3p \$15 / \$20 at the door

"Twelfth Night" – Pentacle Theatre

Pentacle Theater, here we come. We are heading to Salem for Shakespeare's classic story of love, lust, mistaken identity, gender exploration and la dolce vita. With immersive video and soundscape design, Twelfth Night is sure to entertain. We'll enjoy dinner at a local Salem restaurant. Your cost includes: transportation, ticket and dinner.

5/6 F 3:15-11:30p \$75

Eugene Scottish Festival

Are you going to Scotland and Ireland with us this fall? If so, don't miss this fun day trip. Today we explore Scottish culture at the Eugene Scottish Festival. Listen to traditional Celtic music and the stirring sounds of bagpipes. Wander among clan booths or try your hand at learning Gaelic at one of the workshops. There will be food booths, so lunch is on your own. Your cost includes: transportation and admission.

5/28 Sa 10:30a-2p \$15

"Start each day with a positive thought and a grateful heart."

~ Roy T. Bennett

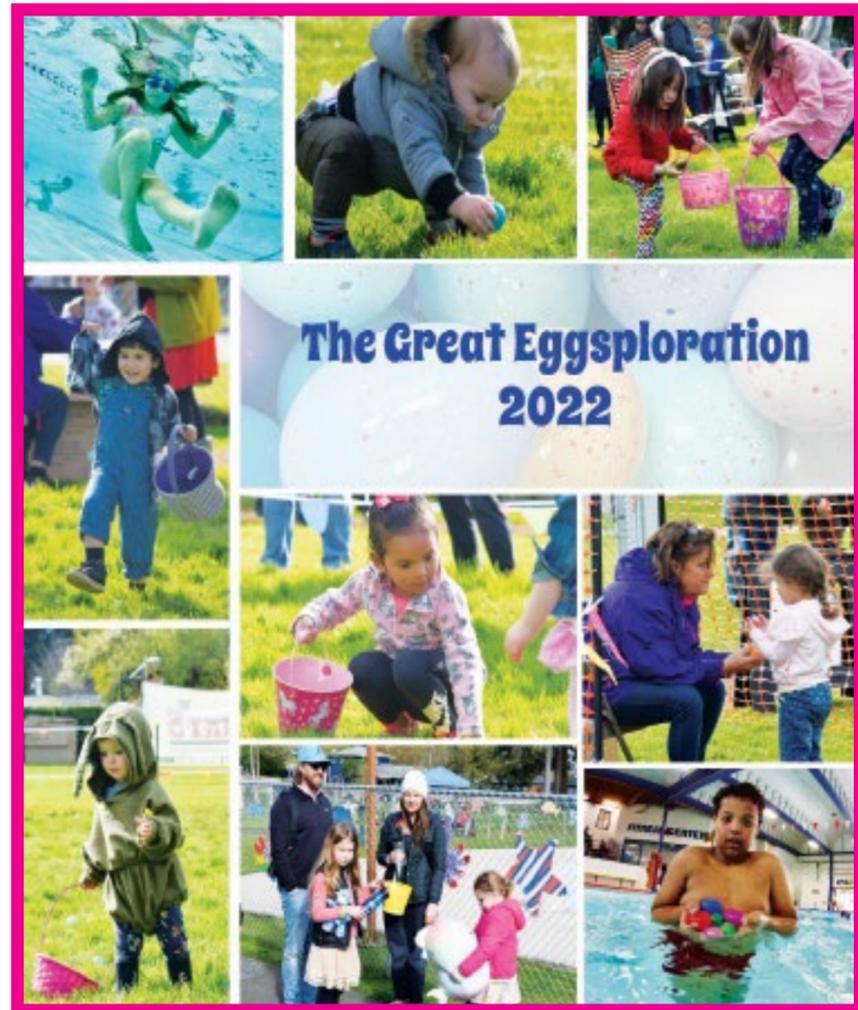


Website: www.rrpark.org
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 Aquatics: 541-461-7777
 Gymnastics: 541-688-8955

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 River Road Park and Recreation District



What a fun day! April 16, 2022



The Great Eggsploration
2022

Thank you to our partners for supporting River Road Park District



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