



Issues Brief

City of Yakima e-Newsletter

Furry Friends Will Rule the Pool During Paws In the Pool

For the tenth year in a row, Franklin Pool will host both dogs and their owners on the last day of the summer swimming season, Sunday, August 28th, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm for the annual *Paws In the Pool* event.

Admission to the *Paws In the Pool* event is free for dogs, but owners do have to buy a general admission ticket which costs \$2.00 for kids, \$3.75 for adults, and \$2.25 for honored citizens. A family pass, which can be used for up to two adults and as many as four kids, costs \$13.00.

The *Paws in the Pool* event has become one of the highlights of the year, said Yakima Parks & Recreation Manager Ken Wilkinson. It's a fun way to close out the summer swimming season. Dogs and their owners get to rule the pool for the afternoon. It doesn't get much better than that, said Wilkinson.



Scuba gear is completely optional for dogs during the Paws In The Pool event at Franklin Pool.

The event also provides a great community outreach opportunity for the Humane Society of Central Washington. Society staff will be on hand to provide information to pet owners and to accept donations of money and/or supplies, including pet food, towels, laundry soap, bleach, and kitty litter. The Society, which has been operating as a non-profit organization in Yakima since 1904, provides a range of services to the community including pet adoption, animal control, pet owner education, and quality animal care.

When first arriving for *Paws In the Pool*, dogs need to be kept on leashes. However, once inside the fenced-in area around the pool, dogs are free to do as they please and enjoy a day of swimming fun.

This has been a very busy year at Franklin Pool, said Wilkinson. We had some very hot days in Yakima this summer, which made the pool a very popular place. We've made some improvements to Franklin over the last few years and the community has responded well to them, said Wilkinson.

Wilkinson says there aren't many rules that dogs and their owners need to follow during the *Paws In the Pool* event. However, aggressive dogs are discouraged from taking part in order to ensure that the day is fun for everyone.



Few rules apply during Paws In The Pool. It's a day for furry friends and their owners to enjoy Franklin Pool.

Pieces from the Past Art Featured at Fair Avenue Roundabout

Industrial artifacts salvaged from the old Boise Cascade lumber mill in Yakima have become pieces of art that are now displayed in the center of the Fair Avenue roundabout located just west of the Fairfield Inn & Suites and a shopping center that includes Target, Big Lots!, and other retailers.

The Pieces from the Past art installation features a smoke stack, a compressor, a fan, a steam stack, and the old whistle that signaled shift changes at the former mill, which closed in 2006. The salvaged items have been restored and now sit atop concrete pedestals that were installed at the northern end of the roundabout in late June. At night, electric lights illuminate the display. The items in the display are covered with a sealant that helps protect them from corrosion and graffiti.

The mill artifact concept incorporating the old mill equipment was the favored design of the Yakima Arts Commission, which is also encouraging a heritage art+landscaping theme throughout the Mill District redevelopment area. A 2014 economic development study commissioned by the City of Yakima listed retail and office buildings as the top uses for the 225-acre mill site, followed by light manufacturing, housing and an amusement park.



A crew from Granite Construction Company uses a crane to install an old compressor from the former Boise Cascade mill in the center of the Fair Avenue roundabout in June.



Industrial artifacts salvaged from the old Boise Cascade lumber mill make up the newly-installed "Pieces from the Past" art display.

Timber operations at the Mill Site ran continuously from 1903 to 2006 when the mill closed and 250-jobs were eliminated. Recent redevelopment efforts have centered on environmental cleanup, infrastructure (such as roads, water lines, sewer lines, etc.), and improving freeway access.

Installation of the art work cost around \$125,000 and was completed by Granite Construction Company. The firm was also the prime contractor for construction of the roundabout that connects Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, East Lincoln Avenue and Fair Avenue to Bravo Company Blvd, which will provide future access to the mill site.



The final free, family-friendly Downtown Summer Nights Concert Series event of 2016 will take place on Thursday, August 18th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Historic North Front Street District. Come and see the last concert of the summer, which will feature Redwood Sun and headliner Zach Hinson.



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