



Spring 2024 ROBBINS FARM ALMANAC

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It was a beautiful Spring day when the crowd gathered for the solar eclipse on April 8, 2024
Photos by Winslow Martin, Valerie Geary, and Corinne Schippert

Note From Friends of Robbins Farm Park Board President

After being a regular board member for many years, I'm pleased to serve as the new president of Friends of Robbins Farm Park. Robbins Farm has been a vital part of my life – and my now-grown children's lives – over the years, and I am delighted to contribute to its continued vibrance in our community.

Last year the board focused its efforts on the playground rebuild: advising on design, fundraising to supplement the town's rebuild of the playground and beloved slide, and promoting a playground accessible and engaging for all children and adults. Several board members spent time researching inclusive equipment over the last several years, so it's wonderful to see it coming to fruition.

On my daily visits to the park I marvel at how well-loved it is in so many varying ways. After walking through the park with my dog Codie on a warm evening last May, I sent this brief note to the other board members of the Friends of Robbins Farm Park.

On my evening walk I saw:

- a pickup basketball game at one end of the court and a father and two small children at the other end
- a group of high school students setting up a volleyball net to play a game
- about six or seven different people also walking their dogs on leash
- an older couple sitting on the bench above the soccer field watching the action
- some other people walking through, enjoying the scene, and smiling at me
- a baseball game with parents watching
- three soccer practices
- some families on the playground
- a child playing with her cat (we kept a distance)
- a mother with a baby on her back and a small puppy

I felt happy and connected to my community as I wandered home for dinner.

We have a variety of events planned for this upcoming season and hope the weather will cooperate. Come join us as we welcome a new season and a new inclusive playground!

Mona Zeftel
President, Friends of Robbins Farm Park

FORFP 2024 EVENTS

- **Jun 1:** Flags & Flowers Art Day
- **Jun 8:** Classical Concert - Arlington Philharmonic
- **Jul 4:** 4th of July & Pie Celebration
- **Jul 24:** Jazz Concert
- **Aug 3:** Rockin' Robbins Concert
- **Sep 7:** Movie Night
- **Oct 19:** Field Day
- **Nov 4:** Fall Cleanup Day

See FORFP website for the most up-to-date schedule

Flags and Flowers Art Day

by Mona Zefitel



This spring we will be holding a new arts event in the park, led by Kathy Lobo, a middle-school art teacher who lives on Coolidge Road a few doors from Robbins Farm Park. We'll be enlisting the community to decorate the chain-link fence surrounding the playground construction site with discs and flags with beautifully painted flowers and artwork.

On **Saturday, June 1st**, from 1 to 3 pm, we invite neighborhood children, teens, and adults to paint wooden flowers and cloth flags, which we will use to decorate the fence. When the playground is reopened later this year, and the fence comes down, the artists can reclaim their decorations, or we can set them up as a flower art exhibit. Stay tuned and enjoy the new artwork in our Park!

The Friends hope to host many more fun art events in the future!



Scan QR code for the latest info on all FORFP Events

Off-Leash Dog Hours

Summer (7/1-8/31)
Every Day 6-9am

Fall, Winter & Spring (9/1-6/30)
Mon-Fri:
6-7:30am and 8:30-9am
Sat & Sun:
9/1-11/15 - 6-8:30am
11/16-3/31 - 6-9am
4/1-6/30 - 6-8:30am



Notes

If field is in use for school department activity, off-leash activity is allowed behind backstop only.

Fields are generally closed to all users in wet weather. For e-mail alerts regarding park and field closures, subscribe to the Field Conditions Notification e-mail list at

www.arlingtonma.gov/subscriber .

Join Friends of Robbins Farm Park!

Support RFP and honor the legacy of Nathan Robbins, farmer-philanthropist. FORFP seeks to continue his tradition of bringing this community together and providing recreational space.

Funds go towards projects, events, & upkeep of our wonderful park.

Join or renew your household membership:

1-year \$10, 3-year \$25

OR a gift of your choice \$ ____

Join or Donate Now

Our Mission

- Promote the beautification, restoration, & improvement of Robbins Farm Park
- Sponsor & promote cultural, educational, recreational, and other community activities
- Invite active membership in the organization & represent the Robbins Farm Park community

FORFP is a 501 (c)(3) all-volunteer organization

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EXTRA CREDIT !

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Painting by Jim Hampe