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# News Release

## Outdoor Friday Movie Series returns July 21 to Paris Park Pool

*Final movie in summer series features free admission; movies to return in fall*

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (July 18, 2017) — The 2017 Outdoor Friday Family Movie Series will conclude its summer season Friday in Arkansas City with an animated film at Paris Park Pool, 600 W. Fifth Ave.

The aquatic-themed “swim-in” movie night will kick off at 7 p.m. with free admission to the pool.

Around sunset at 8:45 p.m., the free showing of last summer’s Pixar animated hit, “Finding Dory,” will commence. This PG-rated film is cosponsored by the Arkansas City Convention and Visitors Bureau, which will be providing free giveaways to all event participants, and The Stock Exchange Bank.

In this sequel to “Finding Nemo,” last year’s pool movie, the friendly but forgetful blue tang fish, Dory, begins a search for her long-lost parents. Everyone learns a few things about the real meaning of family.

Concessions will be provided by the Arkansas City Recreation Commission and Paris Park Pool.

Those who wish to watch, but not swim, are urged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. Anyone planning to swim must wear appropriate swimwear. Children younger than 9 must be accompanied by an adult.

Friday’s movie will complete the spring and summer outdoor film slate, but a few more free films will be shown in 2017, including a rescheduled showing of “Sing” in Newkirk on a day to be announced later.

Four additional movies are planned for this fall, including one in conjunction with the National Night Out kickoff party for the second straight year. A total of 16 free movies will be shown outdoors in 2017.

“We are so appreciative of the generous sponsors who make these wonderful events possible,” said City Manager Nick Hernandez. “If you are interested in being a sponsor or represent a nonprofit that would like to serve concessions, please call Andrew Lawson at (620) 441-4415 to discuss your options.”

### About the Outdoor Friday Family Movie Series

**For immediate release**

*more*

The 2015 Outdoor Summer Movie Series was a huge success in the debut season for the new V.J. Wilkins Memorial Stage at the rotunda, with particularly large crowds viewing “Big Hero 6” and “Frozen.”

The projection equipment, sound system and stage all were made possible by a grant received three years ago from the V.J. Wilkins Memorial Foundation, in order to promote arts throughout the city.

A special fall showing of “Inside Out” drew more than 300 people to the rotunda in November 2015, despite colder temperatures. Plans were launched then for more autumn showings in 2016.

Various weather conditions impacted attendance often last spring and summer, but the season’s highlight undoubtedly was in June 2016, when more than 700 people packed Paris Park Pool for a special doubleheader, consisting of “Finding Nemo” and “Jaws,” during a free swim-in night at the pool.

During the last three years, the City of Arkansas City has shown a wide variety of movies, including:

- '80s classics — “Back to the Future,” “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off,” “Ghostbusters,” “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade” and “Three Amigos!”
- Classic Disney films — “The Fox and the Hound,” “The Jungle Book,” “Mary Poppins” and “Pete’s Dragon”
- Disney animated features — “Big Hero 6,” “Frozen,” “Zootopia” and “Moana”
- Disney live-action remakes — “Cinderella” and “Maleficent”
- Disney-Pixar animated collaborations — “Finding Nemo,” “The Good Dinosaur” and “Inside Out”
- Marvel Cinematic Universe films — “Doctor Strange”
- Other animated films — “The Lego Batman Movie,” “The Lego Movie,” “The Lorax,” “Minions,” “The Secret Life of Pets” and “Sing”
- Star Wars movies — “Rogue One: A Star Wars Story,” “Star Wars: A New Hope” and “Star Wars: The Force Awakens”
- Summer and holiday blockbusters — “Fantastic Beats and Where to Find Them,” “Jaws,” “Jurassic Park,” “Jurassic World,” “Monster Trucks” and “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows”

The Outdoor Friday Family Movie Series only has been possible with the assistance of many generous donors, including:

- Civic and service clubs such as the Arkansas City High School KAY Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Optimists and Soroptimists of Arkansas City;
- Local businesses such as Ark City Daily Bytes, Ark Valley Credit Union, Community National Bank & Trust, Elite Advertising, Grass Clippings, Mitch Reichle—Farm Bureau Financial

Services, Munson Insurance, Plumber Bob's, RCB Bank, Reedy Ford, Rogers Family Dentistry, The Stock Exchange Bank, Union State Bank, and WB Meats;

- Governmental entities such as the Arkansas City Convention and Visitors Bureau, Arkansas City Public Library, and City of Arkansas City;
- Nonprofit organizations such as the Arkansas City Area Chamber of Commerce, the Fraternal Order of Police, Newkirk (Oklahoma) Main Street, Newman's Quest and the Young Professionals of Cowley County.

For more information on becoming a sponsor for an upcoming movie, call Andrew Lawson at (620) 441-4415 or email [alawson@arkansascityks.gov](mailto:alawson@arkansascityks.gov).

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