



# MEMBER NEWSLETTER

WALLA WALLA YMCA



## Celebrating Dads

Every third Sunday in June, families across the nation celebrate Father's Day, though few realize the holiday has roots in the YMCA.

Sonora Smart Dodd, born in 1882, was one of six children raised by her father, a Civil War veteran. Inspired by his dedication and sacrifice, she believed fathers deserved the same recognition and appreciation that mothers receive on Mother's Day.

Thanks to Dodd's efforts, the first Father's Day celebration was held in June 1910 at her local Spokane YMCA and area churches. While the holiday took years to gain widespread acceptance it was officially recognized as a national holiday by President Nixon in 1972.

This Father's Day, we're proud to continue a tradition that began at the YMCA more than a century ago. To all the dads, grandfathers, and father figures in our community—thank you for the strength, guidance, and support you provide every day. Happy Father's Day!



## Summer GX Going Strong

Be sure to get your copy of the new June-July Group Exercise schedule found in the lobby information kiosk and online. From yoga in the yard to classes in Court 4 to continuing favorite exercises taking place in the gyms, there's something for every interest. At the Y, friends exercise in community and are stronger together.

## Here Come the Campers!

It's Full S.T.E.A.M. ahead as the Y's Summer Camps begin next week in Walla Walla, College Place, Milton-Freewater and Athena. Over 350 children will have opportunities to explore, create, learn, and stay active all summer. Whether they're discovering new interests or making new friends, every week offers something new and exciting.



If you haven't yet registered your child, click the link below!

[Summer Camps](#)



## Summer Youth Sports

Kids can stay active and build new skills in our fun-filled Summer Sports program. Weekly offerings include training in Basketball, Tennis, Soccer, Volleyball and Multi-Sports.

Each program consists of four days of one-hour sessions. Whether your child is trying a sport for the first time or wants to improve their game, these mini-camps are great for kiddos ages 3-10 (volleyball available for ages 10-14). To register, click the button below.

[Summer Sports](#)



## Making a Splash

We're adding some new classes and programs for the summer season, June 22 - August 17. Please see the new pool schedule found online or in the lobby information kiosk.

### Main Pool

- *New Adult Summer Aerobics Class* | Wed-Fri, 9:35AM-10:30AM
- *Summer Camp Swim* | Mon-Fri, 1:00PM-3:00PM

### Large Therapy Pool

- *Preschool Swim* | Wed-Fri, 10:30-11:30AM
- *Summer Camp Swim* | Mon-Fri, 1:00-3:00PM

This summer the Y is hosting campers from our programs as well as youth from Camp Fire and Vista Hermosa (near Prescott). Our pools are a favorite field trip and we're honored to be a valued community resource.

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### There's Music in the Air

Join us **June 24** to enjoy a free and fantastic concert for youth at the Y. The **Walla Walla Chamber Music Festival** will present a Kids Concert at **1:15 pm**.

All ages are welcome to come enjoy this 45-minute musical event featuring a quartet of nationally and internationally acclaimed musicians.

[Click here](#) to learn of the other programs in the Chamber's 2026 summer series.

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## Jumpstart

In addition to camps, sports, and other youth programs, we offer Youth Jumpstart for younger members who are 11-13 years old to use the Wellness Center. This program gives youth the opportunity to meet one-on-one with a Wellness staff member for two personalized sessions where they learn correct use of equipment and facility etiquette.

It's a great way for young people to develop healthy habits and gain the skills needed to make the most of their YMCA membership. Youth may register online or by visiting the Membership Desk.

[Youth Jumpstart](#)

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## Celebrate and Support

With 2026 at the half-way mark, our 140th year birthday celebration is there too. Now's a great time to make a gift to the Y so that we can continue to provide the services and programs that our community needs and enjoys. Your gift makes the Y possible. Please donate today.



[Give Today](#)

[Find a Volunteer Opportunity](#)

[Strawberry Waffle Dinner](#)

[Walla Walla Movies at The Park](#)

[Living History Weekend](#)

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