

# 2024 BLUFFTON PARKS ANNUAL REPORT



PREPARED BY: BRANDY FIECHTER

PARK BOARD MEMBERS:

John Gerber, Rick McEvoy, Susan Campbell, Christine Zadylak

# January

Winter 100 Challenge	199
Farm Wagon	70, 76, 101
Weekday Walking	81
Open Gym	109
Tot Time	11
Tot Play Day	17
Hooked on Crochet	9,8,6
Theater Thursday	7
Pavilion Rentals	6
Hue Can Paint	10
Rock Steady Boxing	12, 10, 16, 15, 9, 16, 15, 17, 15, 8, 14, 15
Yoga	14, 12, 11, 9, 10, 8, 13, 8, 15, 12, 7, 8
Cardio Kick Boxing	4, 4, 3

Awarded \$1,000 Tourism Grant



# February



Farm Wagon	106, 114, 101, 99
Chilly Chili Run	96
Weekday Walking	61
Open Gym	78
Tot Block Party	23
Daddy Daughter Dance	313
Mother Son Nerf War	67
Crochet	7,6,7
Tot Time	15
Yoga	15, 7, 10, 12, 6, 17, 11, 6, 12, 8, 20, 10, 8, 7
Theater Thursday	12
Pavilion Rentals	6
Rock Steady Boxing	7, 18, 15, 10, 15, 14, 8, 17, 15, 6, 15, 15, 7



# March

Farm Wagon	125, 117, 107, 102
Weekday Walking	40
Leprechaun Hunt	3 winners
Open Gym	52
Crochet	4, 4, 4
Tot Time	11
Tot Post Office Visit	18
Theater Thursday	6
Pavilion Rentals	10
Hue Can Paint	5
Lego Build Challenge	19
Rock Steady	10, 20, 18, 8, 16, 15, 10, 14, 16
Yoga	9, 10, 8, 12, 7, 7, 9, 15, 12, 9, 8, 7

Awarded a \$10,000 Wells County  
Foundation Grant for Kehoe Concerts

# April

Farm Wagon	103, 110, 109, 111, 110
Inter-urban Groundbreaking	27
Barbie Dreamhouse	14
Crochet	3, 2
Theater Thursday	15
Pavilion Rentals	8
Earth Day 5K	48
Dehydrating 101	16, 13
Sr Snippets Foreign Countries	6, 5
Sr Snippets History	14, 10
Sr Snippets Movie Club	9, 9
Sr Snippets Crafts	10, 11
Yoga	9, 8, 4, 7, 8, 5, 9, 10, 5, 6, 8, 4, 6
Rock Steady Boxing	15, 14, 8, 20, 18, 12, 19, 18, 9, 21, 18, 10, 20

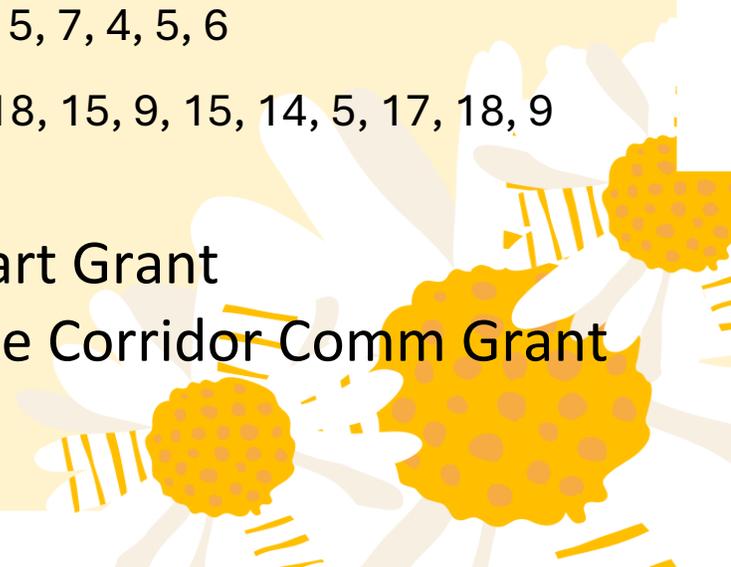


# May

Summer Miles Challenge	148
Farm Wagon	113, 118, 100, 91
Animal Tracks Matching Game	12
Sr. Snippets History	13, 9, 9
Sr. Snippets Book Club	9, 9, 9
Sr. Snippets Crafts	11, 11, 11
Sr. Snippets Crochet	3, 3, 4
Sr. Snippets Air Fryer	22
Nerf Wars	17
Theater Thursday	11
May Pavilion Rentals	18
Hue Can Paint	15
Train for the Trot	15
Yoga	5, 4, 6, 5, 7, 4, 5, 6
Rock Steady Boxing	15, 8, 18, 15, 9, 15, 14, 5, 17, 18, 9

\$1,000 Walmart Grant

\$1,000 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Comm Grant



# June

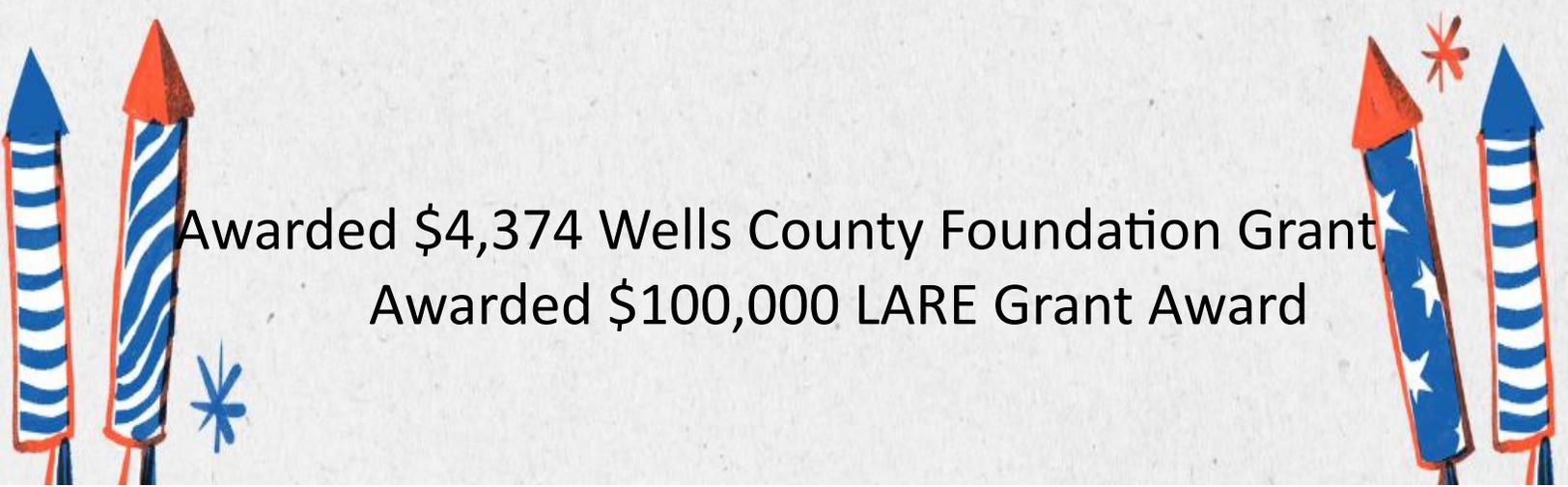
Farm Wagon	96, 108, 87, 111	Animal Explorers	171
Bayou County Concert	1,100+	Corn Program	22, 27
Mellencougar Concert	750	Fusebead Magnet	17
Def Leggend Concert	1,150	Friendship Bracelets	22
Community Worship	439	Tot Time Puzzle Day	7
5 in 5	95, 109, 104	Shaving Cream Fight	46
Theater Thursday	8	Rock Painting	54
Pavilion Rentals	30	Stuff and Fluff	50
Yoga	3, 7, 5, 5, 6, 5	Tot Time Messy Art	4
Dog Jog	34	Tumbling class 4-7yrs.	23
Fastest Kid in Town	65	Tumbling class 8yrs. up	4
Sunrise Yoga	10	Dinosaur Dig	27
Craft Club	74, 30, 38, 48	Free Cheer	22
Gagaball	58	Tot Time Play Day	10
Tot time Bubble Day	32	Paper Skyscraper	16
Crafting For A Cause	42, 35, 23, 15	Tot Time Chalk It Up	3
Egg Drop Challenge	27	Matchbox Car Playday	23
Tot Time Lego Day	8		
Lego Play Day	15		
Art In The Park	36, 31, 46, 32		
Stone Quarry Tour	72		
Tot Scavenger Hunt	11		
Foam Party	288+		
Rock Steady Boxing	14, 16, 8, 15, 14, 7, 18, 15, 9, 15, 14, 6		
Lap Swim	1,1,3,1,8,3,7,4,6,7,4		
Private Swim Lessons	70		

Awarded \$1,750 Tourism Grant



# JULY

Farm Wagon	109, 102, 107, 118
Hotel California Concert	1,350
Theater Thursday	9
Pavilion Rentals	20
Drawing Class	13, 19, 16
Insiders Tom Petty Tribute	650
Picnic in the Park	1,641
Jr. Vet Day	48
Tennis lesson	363
Bucket drumming	30
Free Jazz Workshop	20
Free Ballet Class	20
Free Lyrical Class	20
Hue Can Paint	13
5 in 5	139, 98
Yoga	6, 5, 4, 5, 5, 7
Rock Steady Boxing	15, 18, 12, 18, 14, 7, 20, 16, 8, 29, 20
Private swim lesson	64



Awarded \$4,374 Wells County Foundation Grant  
Awarded \$100,000 LARE Grant Award



# AUGUST

Farm Wagon	108, 98, 99, 98
Woomblies Rock Orchestra	227
Free Musical Theater	4
Free Tap Lesson	10
Free Hip Hop Class	10
Theater Thursday	7
Pavilion Rentals	18
Touch a Truck	820+
Yoga	6,5,4,5,7,4,8
Rock Steady Boxing	5,18,15,10,17,16,8,18,15,7,20,7
Tennis lesson	363
Parlor City Trot	293
2024 Pool Attendance	10,318

Awarded News-Banner Reader's Choice-  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Best Community Event: Kehoe Concerts &  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Best Park/Playground: Washington Park

Awarded \$500 Youth as Resources Grant  
for Pool Shed



The page is decorated with watercolor illustrations of autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and brown, and pumpkins. The leaves are scattered around the edges, and two pumpkins are positioned at the top and bottom center. The background is a light, warm tone.

# SEPTEMBER

Farm Wagon	95, 97, 86, 108
Summer Pickleball	424
Nerf Wars	19
Theater Thursday	13
Pavilion Rentals	21
Senior Serenity	9
Sr Snippets Color to Relax	4
Sr Snippets Wells Co History	18
Sr Snippets Easy Fall Crafts	11
Sr Snippets Movie Club	10
Sr Snippets Crochet	3
Sr Snippets Cooking for 2	11
Hue Can Paint	8
Rock Steady Boxing	21, 18, 9, 20, 14, 6, 22, 19, 10, 20
Yoga	5, 6, 6, 7, 5, 6, 8
5 in 5	21

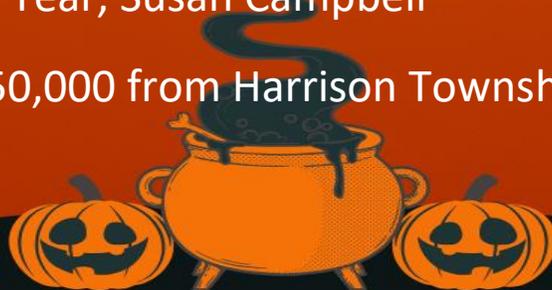
# OCTOBER

Farm Wagon	105, 111, 100, 130
Lancaster & Interurban Ribbon Cutting	60+
Tot Time Police Dept Visit	34
Theater Thursday	9
Monument Dedication Ceremony	30
Pavilion Rentals	14
Coloring Contest	52
Weekday Walking	12
Tot Time	13
Vaccine Clinic	18
Sr Snippets Color to Relax	5, 4, 4
Sr Snippets Wells County History	15, 18, 26
Sr Snippets Easy Fall Crafts	12, 12, 11
Sr Snippets Movie Club	10, 10, 9
Sr Snippets Crochet	4, 5, 5
Sr Snippets Fall Prevention	5
Boo in Bluffton	1,888
Rock Steady Boxing	15, 20, 8, 18, 19, 9, 17, 15, 6, 15, 14, 7
Virtual Costume Contest	19
5 in 5	40, 30, 29, 34
Yoga	5, 8, 5, 6, 7, 6, 7, 8

IPRA State Award– Inclusion Program of Excellence  
for Rock Steady Boxing

IPRA State Award – Distinguished Citizen of the  
Year, Susan Campbell

\$250,000 from Harrison Township



# NOVEMBER

Farm Wagon	130, 130, 110, 102
Open Gym	90
WOOF Trail Run	139
Tot Time Fire Station Visit	57
Theater Thursday	10
Pavilion Rentals	13
Weekday Walking	31
Tot Time	22
Crochet Lessons	9, 9
Ralph the Roaming Turkey	7 Winners
Hue Can Paint	13
Wobble Before you Gobble	95
Yoga	10, 5, 8, 7, 9, 8
Rock Steady Boxing	6, 17, 15, 10, 15, 16, 9, 16, 14, 5

Awarded \$100,000 Wells County Foundation  
Grant for Pool

# DECEMBER

Farm Wagon	94, 93, 107, 46
Santa Mailbox	131 letters
Weekday Walking	46
Tot Time	10
Open Gym	64
Positivi-tree	46
Hooked on Crochet	6
Paws and Claus	23 dogs and 30 people
Tot time story with Mrs. Claus	47
Sensory Sensitive Christmas	41
Winter Wonderland	215            78 Volunteer hours
Search for Santa's Helper	7 winners
Gingerbread contest	5
Pavilion Rentals	11
Theater Thursday	13
Rock Steady Luncheon	49
Yoga	17, 10, 12, 8, 10, 6, 13
Jingle Bell Jog	82
Festive Yoga	15
Rock Steady Boxing	15, 14, 7, 17, 12, 15, 16, 6

Awarded \$1,000 Health First Indiana Funding



## GRANTS \$495,023

Wabash Riverbank Stabilization (LARE)	\$100,000
Wells Comm Pool (WCF)	\$100,000
Unrestricted (ARPA)	\$274,899
Kehoe Concerts (WCF)	\$10,000
Funbrellas (WCF)	\$4,374
Event Advertising (Tourism Commission)	\$2,750
Pool Chairs (Walmart)	\$1,000
Scout Projects (YAR)	\$1,000
Health First Indiana	\$1,000

## DONATIONS \$340,590.26

Kehoe Concert Donors	\$24,650
Rock Steady Boxing/ Fitness Event Donors	\$25,735
Unrestricted Donations	\$30,205.26
Harrison Township	\$250,000
Wells County- Annual Pool Support	\$10,000

## INCOME \$203,407.12

Pool Admissions	\$27,165.01
Roush 1 Concessions	\$13,931.36
Roush 2 Concessions	\$3,079.98
Pool Concessions	\$28,186.82
Interest from Investments	\$50,363.45
Swim Lessons	\$5,738.00
Pavilion Rentals	\$23,320
Pool Rentals	\$11,692.50
City Gym & K9 Kommons Memberships	\$20,130
Firework Reimbursement	\$7,800
2353 N Main Rental	\$12,000

**TOTAL \$1,039,020.30**

# AWARDS

IPRA State Award– Inclusion Program of Excellence for Rock Steady Boxing

IPRA State Award – Distinguished Citizen of the Year, Susan Campbell

News-Banner Reader's Choice Award

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Best Community Event: Kehoe Concerts &

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Best Park/Playground: Washington Park



# IMPROVEMENTS \$1,197,128

New Pickleball Courts at Lancaster  
New Parking Lot at Lancaster  
Interurban Trail Walmart to Lancaster Park  
Roof Replacement on the Babcock Gazebo  
New Gagaball Pit at Jefferson  
New Roof System at Maintenance Garage and Storage Building  
New Siding on Maintenance Storage Building  
Insulate Maintenance Garage  
Repair Foundation at Pool Slide  
New Acid Pump at Pool  
New Siding for Pool House  
Repair Pool Filter System and Replace Probes  
Replace Pool Doors  
New Storage Shed at Pool  
Drain Repairs at Pool  
2 Replacement Funbrellas  
Paint Indoor Pavilion at Washington Park  
Reseed grass at Pickett's Run, Pool & Lion's Park  
Install Playground Mulch  
New Mower with Cab  
4 New Benches at Lancaster Park  
Replace Section of Interurban Trail by Fast Pace  
Heater Control Board Replacement Washington Park  
Replace Splash Pad Control Panels  
Reseal Basketball Court in City Gym  
Installed ADA Curbs at Jefferson Park & Angel of Hope  
River Road/River Greenway Lighting



## Serve on the Following Committees

Bluffton Now!

IPRA Conference Planning Committee

Kehoe Concert Committee

Parlor City Christmas

Wells County Tourism Commission

Wells County Trails

Wellness Matters

Program Participants: 25,506

Pool Attendance: 10,318

City Gym Memberships: 327

Dog Park Memberships: 49

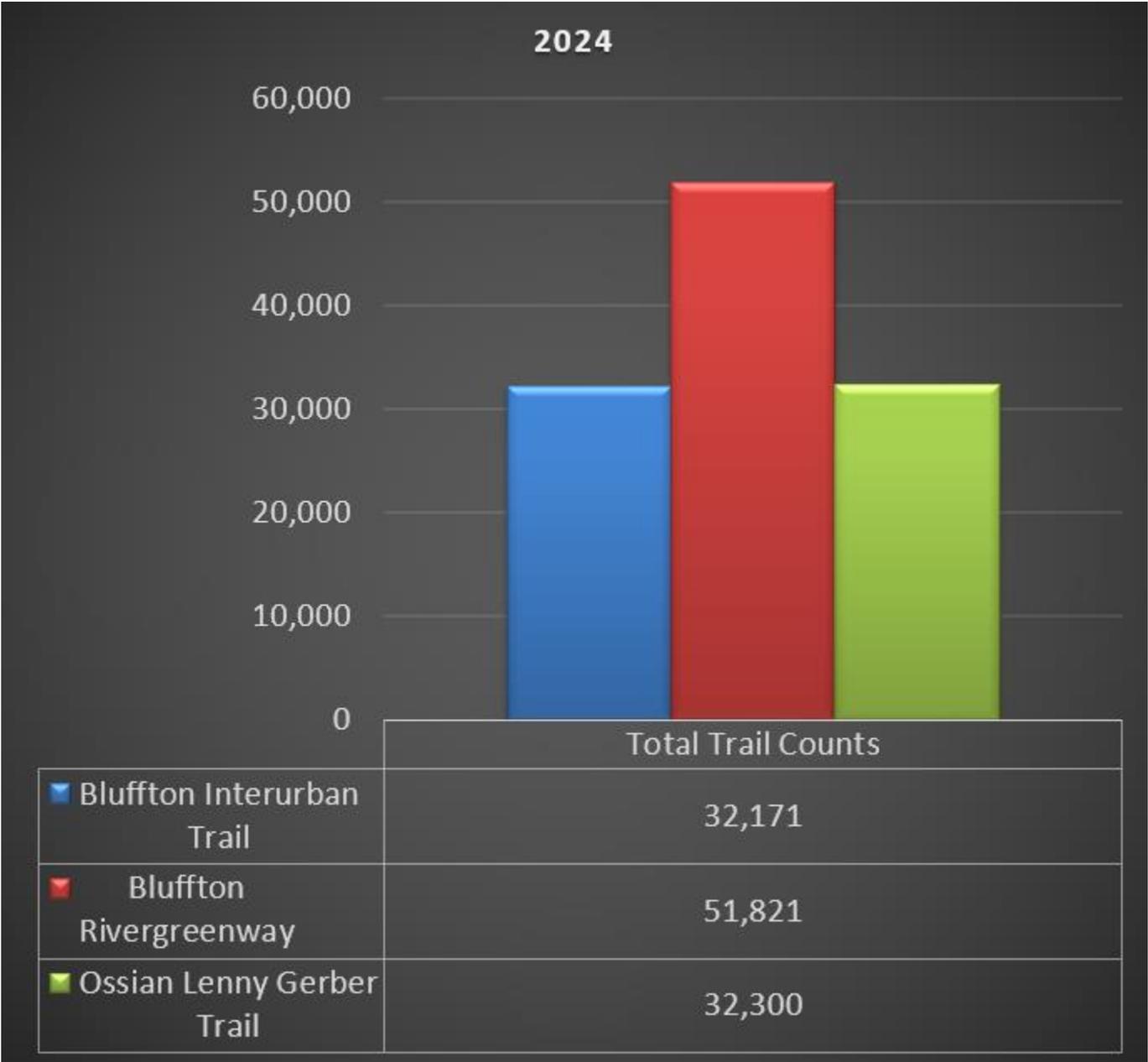
Facebook Followers: 10,343

Twitter Followers: 697

Instagram Followers: 999

Volunteer of the Year: Mary Martin

# Trail Count Data



# VOLUNTEER HOURS 2,782





## Compliments

[Alyssa](#) - Bluffton has one of the best Parks Departments around! Check out their list of summer activities that you and your kiddos can attend this summer. There is something planned almost every day this summer! Most activities are free and some just cost a few dollars. Thanks for working hard to create fun summer activities Bluffton Parks!

[Kathryn](#) - I just wanted to say how excited I am to be on this new journey. I have signed up for the chilly chili race on 2/3/24. Turns out that is my birthday. It was meant :) I also look forward to signing up for the chicks run in June/July. My goal is to walk/ run a 5k every month. I had this goal in mind and then came across the wells winter challenge. It is all working out how it is meant. So excited. Just wanted to say thank you for organizing all of these wonderful events.

[Amanda](#) - Had a blast! Thanks for offering this! (Mother Son Nerf War)

[Rachel](#) - Thank you for putting these events together! My son & I had a fun time!! (Mother Son Nerf Wars)

[Liz](#) - Thank you, Bluffton Parks Dept, it was another great event. (Foam Party)

[Leslie](#) - Such a fun event! Thank you! (Foam Party)

[Angelia](#) - I love this seeing how happy these kids are and having fun like kids should. (Shaving Cream Fight)

[Grandmother at Story Time with Mrs. Claus](#) - The Parks department puts on some of the best events for kids. Thank you for all of the hard work.

[Mom at Tot Time Special event](#) - We are so thankful that you take the time to make these fun events for the little ones. We really enjoy Tot Time, to be able to come inside during the winter for the kids to play has been so good for them.

[Diane](#) - This was my first Chicks Run and it was soooo much fun! The energy was amazing. Thanks to everyone who put it together!!

[Jake](#) - Our new community is so giving and all about fun; it amazes us daily. (free pool admission)

[Tara](#) - Loving the generosity of our local businesses during this heat wave and throughout the year! (free pool admission)

[Katrina](#) - This was such an awesome series of 5k's to be a part of as a family + extended family & friends. Can't wait for the fall series