

Town Topics

A municipal newsletter for the Wilmington community

From the Manager's Desk



Standard & Poor's has assigned its "AA+" long term rating to the Town's general obligation school bonds thus affirming Wilmington's municipal bond rating at the second highest level possible while also deeming the Town's outlook to be stable. According to Standard & Poor's, the stable outlook reflects its expectation that the Town will continue to adopt structurally balanced budgets and maintain strong reserve levels.

The official statement released by Standard & Poor's commented favorably on the Town's financial position citing numerous strong local economic indicators. According to Standard & Poor's the rating reflects the Town's following strengths:

- * Access to Boston and relatively low unemployment rate;
- * strong to very strong income and extremely strong wealth indicators;
- * very strong available fund balance at fiscal 2011 year end and general fund surplus presented for 2012; and
- * low debt burden.

The official statement further stated, "In our opinion, Wilmington's median household effective buying income (EBI) is very strong at 159% of the national average. On a per capita basis, we consider its EBI to be strong at 123%." They also wrote, "We consider the total available general fund balance of \$12.3 million very strong at 15.1% of expenditures."

The rating validates the Town's commitment to professional management and reflects the solid work performance of Wilmington employees, the dedication of its many Town officials and the strong support of Wilmington's vast network of volunteers.

The rating also contributed favorably to the Town's rate of interest which it received on its offering of \$44,190,000 in 25 year general obligation bonds to be used to finance the Town's share of the construction of the new Wilmington High School. The Town received seven bids on its offering, the lowest of which was by Guggenheim Securities with an interest rate of 3.28%. On June 25 Selectmen voted to approve the issuance of the notes and bonds consistent with the Town's vote to authorize the high school construction project.

Congratulations to Lou Cimaglia who was recently honored as a recipient of the Myra Kraft Community MVP Awards. The awards, given by the New England Patriots Charitable Foundation, honor individuals who "exemplify leadership, dedication and a commitment to improving their communities through volunteerism." Sixteen awards totaling \$100,000 were presented to individuals representing various New England non-profit organizations. Lou was selected as the Grand Prize winner earning \$25,000 for Local Heroes, an organization which he founded seven years ago. Local Heroes provides assistance and support to returning veterans and their families and continues to meet its original mission of providing "care packages" to veterans overseas. To date, more than 15,000 packages have been distributed.

RECYCLING ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM CONTINUES

The Department of Public Works has begun issuing warning stickers to residents who appear to be not participating in the Town's mandatory recycling program. Since beginning the sticker program, the Department of Public Works is pleased to announce that Town-wide recycling tonnages have increased and rubbish tonnages have been the lowest in over fifteen years. The result is a substantial cost savings to the Town. The Town would like to express its gratitude to residents who have recently started to recycle and to those who continue to recycle regularly.

As a reminder, participation in Wilmington's recycling program is mandatory under the Town's current "Recycling By-law." Chapter 5, Section 2A of the Town's By-laws states in part: "...residents of every household are required to separate recyclable material from the solid waste stream. Failure to separate recyclable material from the solid waste stream may result in failure of the solid waste collection contractor to collect solid waste from the residence which violates this By-Law."

Please note that the Department of Public Works will continue with its recycling monitoring program by further filtering its list of frequent non-recyclers. Starting July 1, 2012 and as the recycling enforcement program progresses, the Town intends to halt trash collection to those who are observed to be not participating in the curbside recycling program.

To receive further information on the Town's mandatory recycling program, including how to recycle, where to obtain recycling containers and other general information, please contact the DPW office at 978-658-4481 or visit the Town's website at www.town.wilmington.ma.us and click "Public Works" or "Trash and Recycling".

PROTECT AGAINST TICKBORNE ILLNESS

Because of the mild winter, there is a greater number of ticks this time of year. In Massachusetts, there are two types of ticks, dog ticks and deer ticks, both of which can make you sick if they bite you. Among the diseases spread by tick bites are Lyme disease and Babesiosis. The best way to protect yourself and your family from these diseases is to follow a few simple preventative measures.

Ticks like damp, shady, brushy, leafy areas. If you have been in an area where ticks might be present, it is important to check yourself, your family and your pets for ticks on a daily basis. Use repellents that contain DEET on your exposed skin, and those that contain permethrin on your clothes. When spending time outside, if weather permits, wear long-sleeved, light colored shirts and long pants tucked into your socks. Around your home, keep the grass cut short and remove piles of leaves and brush. Talk to your veterinarian about the best ways to protect your pets and livestock from ticks.

If you find a tick on yourself, remove it carefully as soon as possible. If you develop a rash or other signs of illness following a tick bite, be sure to contact your health care provider immediately. Remember, the Town only sprays for mosquitos, there is no program for tick spraying in Massachusetts.



FILE OF LIFE

The Department of Elderly Services wants to share important information about its File of Life Program.

What is the File of Life? The File of Life is an informational packet that citizens, ages 60 years and older, can retain in their home or keep with them when they go out. The packet is highly visible to first responders (Fire, Police and EMS) and contains the person's medical information in the event of an emergency.

Why Should I have one? Keeping a File of Life with you enables emergency medical personnel to better understand your medical history, hence providing you a better level of care. Sometimes medical emergencies can be frightening and you may forget to tell an EMT something pertinent to your medical history. At other times you may be unable to speak for yourself. In those instances the File of Life can help ensure that medical personnel will have the information they need to better assist you and enable doctors to better treat you.

Post the red File of Life decal on your door so that emergency medical personnel can identify that you have a File of Life in your home. The smaller version of the file is for your wallet or pocket book and the larger magnetic version is for the front of your refrigerator or similar appliance.

The File of Life packets are free, they were funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs. This program is a partnership between the Wilmington Department of Elderly Services and the Wilmington Fire and Police Departments.

Please feel free to visit the Wilmington Buzzell Senior Center, 15 School Street, to receive your free packet. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call Terri Marciello, Elderly Services Director, at 978-657-7595.

WILMINGTON'S 8TH ANNUAL HALF MARATHON & 5K RUN OR WALK

The streets of Wilmington will once again be filled with runners and walkers on Sunday, September 23 as the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce hosts the Town's 8th Annual Half Marathon & 5K Run/Walk. Proceeds from the annual race are reinvested into the community through college scholarships and local donations. Last year, close to 550 people participated in the race and many more came out to cheer on the runners and enjoy the day's festivities. Local and regional runners look forward to this race every year because of its flat scenic terrain and low cost. The race is well organized, friendly and conducted in a non-intimidating environment. Race features include: professional chip timing, mile splits, water stops, free t-shirts, awards for winners by gender/age/team categories, ribbons for all 5K walkers and post race refreshments (hotdogs, ice cream, fruit, etc). Family fun festivities include music provided by a DJ, the Gentle Giant Speedstairs Challenge, a Bouncy House, Face Painting, the U.Fund Dreams Tour Photo Booth, and business and community sponsored tables with numerous give-aways.

The half marathon covers 13.1 miles and the 5K is 3.1 miles. Both races begin with a shotgun start at 10:10 am. Registration tables open at 8 am at 10 Waltham Street, in front of WCTV. Pre-registration is strongly recommended to avoid excessive lines during race day registration, to be eligible for a discounted entry fee and to be guaranteed receipt of a commemorative t-shirt. Register on-line at RunReg.com, by mail or in-person. Visit the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce's website www.wilmingtonmachamber.com for additional race details and registration information or call Nancy Vallee, Chamber Executive Director, at 978-657-7211.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY FAIR

The Wilmington Memorial Library will host its third annual Community Fair on Saturday, September 22 from 10 am – 1 pm on the Swain Green by the Town Common Parking Lot. The event will showcase non-profit groups that provide services and offer volunteer opportunities for the citizens of Wilmington. Vendors from the Wilmington Farmers Market will be on hand selling fresh produce and other items. In addition, a shredding truck will be onsite for bulk shredding of paper items. There will also be children's story times, free henna tattoos and raffle items. To celebrate the 282nd anniversary of the founding of Wilmington (September 25, 1730), an art contest called "Wilmington Through Art" will be held at the library the week leading up to the fair.

CONCERTS ON THE COMMON

The Recreation Department's popular summer concert series begins on Wednesday, July 11 at the Town Common. Talented musical groups will provide entertainment for all ages from 6:30 – 8 p.m. each Wednesday through August 1. In the event of inclement weather, the scheduled concert will be postponed to the following evening.

This summer's performers are:

July 11 – Don Campbell Trio: A fiddle and a bass guitar mix with Don's smooth vocals to provide toe-tapping country music. The group will play a blend of old and new favorites to keep you smiling, singing and dancing. Don was named Maine's best Singer-Songwriter by the Maine Sunday Telegram and has opened for Willie Nelson, Carrie Underwood and Kenny Rogers.

July 18 – Four Guys in Tuxes: This popular group has entertained in many surrounding communities but never in Wilmington. We are happy to host this talented quartet who play all kinds of music from swing to society to classic rock.

July 25 – Peking & the Mystics: This a cappella group was formed by alumni of the Tufts University Beelzebubs. They feature vintage vocals from such genres as swing, jazz, do wop and pop, representing every decade from the 1920s to the 1990s.

August 1 – Mark Shelton: Our travelers returning from the Beacon Resort requested that we book Mark. He sings the old classics as well as Irish sing-along ballads. Shut your eyes and you will be convinced that Elvis is in Wilmington.

BROADWAY IN BOSTON

The Recreation Department has secured orchestra seats for four popular Broadway shows that will play at the elegant Boston Opera House over the next year. Ticket price includes bus transportation. Call or visit the Recreation Department at Town Hall to reserve your seats for any or all of these incredible shows:



War Horse – Thursday, October 18, 2012: \$102.
Larger than life puppetry and a huge success on Broadway.

Sister Act - Thursday, January 31, 2013: \$102.
This great movie has been adapted for the stage.

Book of Mormon – Thursday, April 11, 2013: \$123.
Nine 2011 Tony Awards say this is the best musical of the year.

Wicked – Thursday, August 29, 2013: \$99.
Returning to Boston after previous sell-outs. Tickets for this acclaimed show are selling very quickly.

POLICE BRIEFS

The Wilmington Police Department has received a **MedReturn** prescription drug collection unit for the purpose of collecting unwanted and old prescription drugs. This unit has been placed in the lobby of the Public Safety Building enabling residents to drop off their unused or unneeded prescription drugs at any time. Residents can do this anonymously and do not have to check in at the front desk. The program **does not** accept liquids or needles of any type. This container was made possible from a grant awarded to the Middlesex District Attorney's office.

Underage Alcohol Enforcement. The Police Department was again awarded a competitive grant for the purpose of enforcing underage alcohol laws. Officers will be assigned specific enforcement throughout the summer.

Traffic Mobilizations. The Police Department, in conjunction with the State Highway Safety Bureau, will be conducting a **Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over** effort from August 15 to September 3. Police will be focusing on detecting impaired drivers during the summer months.

Child Safety Seats. Car seats are being installed Wednesdays from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. The Police Department has car seats remaining from a generous grant. Any families in need of a seat are encouraged to contact Officer Brian Gillis at 978-657-5071. These seats will come at no cost and will be installed by one of the department's trained technicians.

Road Construction Updates. There is expected to be an increase in road construction going on in the summer and fall seasons. Please check www.wpd.org for the latest updates.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE HARNDEN TAVERN THIS SUMMER?

BROWN BAG LUNCH & GAMES

Fridays (beginning July 13) noon to 2:00 p.m.

Pack your own lunch and bring your family to the Tavern for a picnic! Relax and enjoy the grounds or play old fashioned outdoor games like shuttlecock (badminton), cup and ball, hoop toss and more! (weather permitting)

TOUR THE MUSEUM

Thursdays & Fridays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

What was the original Harnden Tavern? Where is the legendary secret hiding space said to be used by runaway slaves? What was it like to live in this house 50, 100 or 200 years ago? What was Wilmington like then? Tour the Museum for a glimpse into the past – experience the house and Wilmington's history.

SUNDAY OPEN HOUSE

July 8 & August 5, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A Wilmington tradition for 30 years! Visit the Town Museum on a relaxed Sunday afternoon – maybe you will see your neighbors there.

**TOURS OF THE WILMINGTON TOWN MUSEUM
ARE ALWAYS FREE!**

WATER CONSERVATION

The Water and Sewer Commission continues its conservation policy by limiting outdoor water use. Similar to last year, the Town has the ability to allow residents **limited** lawn watering. Residents with installed or above-ground lawn sprinklers may water their lawns **one day per week** between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 a.m. As in the past, a **hand-held watering device** for garden watering or other typical outdoor water use is permitted any day between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 a.m.

Residents and businesses are reminded that the Town must continue its commendable practice of water conservation. The Commission asks that everyone be diligent in fixing leaks on your property, in using water wisely and in watering the lawn not more than once per week. Your efforts will ensure that no future outdoor water bans will be needed. Remember, the majority of the Town's drinking water is pumped from the environmentally stressed Ipswich River and over pumping Town wells will only hasten the imposition of harsh restrictions on water usage.

SUMMER PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

Please register for all programs on the Calendar of Events at www.wilmlibrary.org or call 978-694-2099 for adult programs and (978) 694-2098 for children and teen programs. The July and August summer reading events for children and teens may be found online on the Calendar of Events.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Computer Security - Monday, August 20, 7 pm - 8 pm Registration begins July 20

The library's Technology Librarian, Curtis Wyant, will share information about securing your computer against spyware and viruses as well as provide tips for safe internet and email use.

Que Sera, Seurat! Pastel Workshop with Greg Maichack Saturday, September 8, 1 pm (limit 30) Registration begins August 8

Participants apply the techniques of Pointillism as practiced by Seurat and Signac in this fun and fascinating workshop. Attendees will pastel paint a shimmering Venetian landscape featuring a gondola-crowded Grand Canal in wavering mosaics of color.

Mel Simons presents Big Bands - Monday, September 10, 1 pm - Registration begins August 10

Join well-known WBZ radio personality, author and humorist Mel Simons as he presents Big Bands with Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman and others. This is an afternoon of entertainment and nostalgia not to be missed.

BACKYARD LIVING SERIES

Raising Chickens - Thursday, September 13, 7 pm Registration begins August 13

Wilmington resident Amanda Munsie from Bountiful Basket Farm and Wilmington's 2011 Farmers Market manager will go over the basics of raising chickens at home.

All About Bees: A Year in the Life of a Honeybee Colony and its Beekeeper - Thursday, September 20, 7 pm Registration begins August 20

Beekeeper Birgit Deweerd takes you through the activities in and around a beehive, starting in January and ending in the fall with the honey harvest.

Birds and Bloom - Thursday, September 27, 7 pm Registration begins August 27

Gerry Duggan, Town Crier columnist of Birds and Blooms, will talk about how to attract backyard birds with food and flowers, point out migration patterns and help you identify certain species and their nests.

GROVE AVENUE WATER MAIN INSTALLATION

Over the summer months, the Water and Sewer Department is installing a new 12-inch water main in Grove Avenue. For the safety of both the public and Water Department crew, the roadway will be closed between Winchell Road and Burnap Street during construction hours. The narrow road conditions, open trenches and construction equipment make the area dangerous for passenger vehicles. Area residents, however, will have access to and from their properties at all times.

Once completed, the new water main will increase the available water flow in the western part of the Town. In addition to increasing flow, the upgraded main will improve water quality by eliminating old rusted cast iron pipe and iron services. Upon project completion, the long term goal of having a 12-inch ductile iron pipe the full length of Grove Avenue will be achieved. Final paving in this area will be completed in 2013.

We would like to thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation during this endeavor. To limit the access and egress interruptions for residents of the area, as well as for the efficiency of the work, we ask that you avoid this area as much as possible. In most cases, Lake Street, which runs parallel with Grove Avenue on the north side of Silver Lake, can be used as an alternate route. Residents may still access Silver Lake from the Main Street side of Grove Avenue.

STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

This year's State Primary will be held on Thursday, September 6, 2012. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. The last day to register to vote in the primary election is Friday, August 17. The Town Clerk's Office will remain open until **5 p.m.** on that day. The deadline to vote by absentee in the Town Clerk's office is September 5 at noon. For information contact the Town Clerk's office or visit the website at www.wilmingtonma.gov to download an application. College students who will be away may wish to apply for an absentee ballot for both the State Primary and the November 6 Presidential Election.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JUN 29- FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVITIES** Town Common
JUL 3 Family Day - June 30
 Spectacular Fireworks - July 3
JUL 11- CONCERTS ON THE COMMON
AUG 1 Wednesdays 6:30 pm to 8 pm
JUL 8- FARMERS' MARKET OPEN SUNDAYS
SEP 26 Town Common 10:30 am to 1:30 pm
JUL 8 HARNDEN TAVERN OPEN HOUSE
AUG 5 2 pm to 4 pm
SEP 9
AUG 2 POLICE ASSOCIATION BEACH DAY
 Silver Lake 11 am to 2 pm
AUG 12 TOWN BEACH CLOSURES FOR SEASON
AUG 28 SCHOOLS OPEN GRADES 1 -12
SEP 4 FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN
SEP 6 STATE PRIMARY ELECTION
 Polls Open 7 am to 8 pm
SEP 8 LIBRARY RESUMES SATURDAY SCHEDULE
SEP 22 COMMUNITY FAIR Town Common 10 am to 1 pm
SEP 23 ANNUAL HALF MARATHON AND 5K RUN/WALK
OCT 1 APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE
SENIOR TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM

SUMMER YARDWASTE PROGRAM

The Town's yardwaste recycling facility located on Old Main Street off of Main Street at the Woburn line, will open on six different dates this summer. Wilmington residents only may use the center to drop off leaves and brush. In order to use the facility, residents must purchase a \$15 punch card at the Treasurer/Collector's Office at Town Hall. The card has no expiration date and is good for 5 visits to the facility. Residents will be asked to show the punch card and an ID at the entrance to the facility. No grass clippings may be disposed at the recycling center due to the odors they create. **NO CONTRACTORS or COMMERCIAL VEHICLES** are allowed.

Summer Program 2012:

Wednesday, July 11	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, July 14	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday, August 8	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, August 11	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday, September 5	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, September 8	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For a complete schedule of the Town's 2012 Yardwaste Program and other information on waste disposal and recycling, please call the Department of Public Works at 978-658-4481 or refer to the department's website at www.town.wilmington.ma.us. Click on "Departments" then "Public Works".

DEPARTMENT



TELEPHONE

Accountant		694-2029
Animal Control		658-5071
	(Missing/Adoption)	658-7845
Appeals Board		658-4531
Arts Center		657-3887
Assessor		658-3675
Building Inspector		658-4531
Cemetery		658-3901
Collector of Taxes		658-3531
Elderly Services		657-7595
Engineer		658-4499
Fire	(Business)	658-3346
	(Emergency)	9-1-1
Fire Prevention		694-2006
Harnden Tavern Museum		658-5475
Health		658-4298
Housing Authority		658-8531
Library		658-2967
Nurse		658-4298
Planning/Conservation		658-8238
Plumbing Inspector		658-4531
Police	(Business)	658-5071
	(Emergency)	9-1-1
	(TDD)	657-8368
Public Buildings		658-3017
Public Works		658-4481
Recreation		658-4270
School		694-6000
Selectmen		658-3311
Town Clerk		658-2030
Town Manager		658-3311
	(TDD)	694-1417
Treasurer		658-3531
Veterans' Agent		694-2040
Water & Sewer		658-4711
	(Billing)	658-3116

This newsletter can be made available in an alternative format. Contact {978} 658-3311 or TTY {978} 694-1417