

Town Topics

A municipal newsletter for the Wilmington community

From the Manager's Desk



On Sunday, June 5th the ceremonies for the high school graduating class of 2016 took place in the new Wilmington High School gymnasium. These students will forever have the distinction of being the first graduating class to have completed a full academic year in the new school. As I watched the students process in to the gymnasium to take their seats, I scanned the rows of bleachers filled with supportive family and friends and looked up at the suspended track where representatives from WCTV were perched with their cameras focused on the students. From feasibility study, to obtaining funding support of the residents to design and construction it has been a long road filled with challenges but the time and efforts of many has been well worth it. Wilmington can be very proud of this state-of-the-art learning center. The new high school is truly an investment in Wilmington's future.

Redevelopment of the former Yentile Farm into an outdoor community center is proceeding on schedule. Demolition and site clearing, including removal of the concrete foundations and utility infrastructure from the prior project, is complete. Removal of earth material and establishing the appropriate grades for the site is largely complete. Installation of the artificial turf field is expected to begin in July. Most work on the installation of an artificial turf field, walkways, a concession building, play areas for young children, combination basketball and street hockey courts and event lawn is expected to be completed by the end of 2016.

Once this edition reaches residents, the great "unleashing" will have occurred to commemorate the opening of the dog park on June 15th. During the comment phase of the Yentile Farm Recreational Area a strong desire for a dog park was expressed. While the former Yentile property could not accommodate a dog park, the Town was able to identify the current site off Route 38 near Tommy Aprile Field. The fenced in area is divided with one section for dogs with a shoulder height no greater than 18" and the second area for dogs of any size. For safety reasons, dog owners are limited to bringing not more than two (2) dogs to the park and must remain in the enclosed area with their dog(s). A carry-in carry-out policy for litter and dog waste is in effect.

Animal Control Officer Christopher Sullivan is seeking interested residents to join a "Friends of" group that will assist in supporting the upkeep and operation of the dog park. As anyone with a dog can attest, they are an important part of the family. While many residents make community connections through their children the new dog park creates an opportunity for residents to make community connections through their dogs.

The Facilities Master Plan Committee continues to meet with representatives from The Cecil Group to evaluate alternative approaches to the long term investment in Wilmington's school and general government buildings. The alternative approaches were discussed with town boards and committees. The School Committee, the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission and the Library Trustees were among the committees provided with the opportunity to offer input. The alternative scenarios being considered include making improvements to the existing complement of buildings, constructing one or more new general government or school buildings and altering the existing grade transition within the Wilmington School System. The alternative scenarios will continue to be reviewed and analyzed over the course of the summer further refining and reducing the alternative scenarios leading to a preferred scenario. A draft plan will be further vetted with boards and committees and the public.

In addition to determining the actions to address buildings that "house" municipal services, consideration is being given to the sequencing of projects and the time frame over which requests will be made of town meeting to approve a new project. There is a clear recognition that a balance must be struck between creating facilities that accommodate the public and employees who work in them while at the same time maintaining affordability in the community and sustainability of municipal finances.

The Town received very positive news with the decision by Tennessee Gas to formally withdraw its application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to construct a natural gas pipeline known as the Northeast Energy Direct project through a section of north Wilmington. Unfortunately, the news was not positive for New England Transrail (NET) project. The Federal Surface Transportation Board issued a May 12, 2016 decision which grants NET the ability to renew their efforts for approval to construct a rail transloading facility on the Olin Corporation Superfund site. Town officials continue to express strong opposition to this project and will continue to consider all necessary measures.

It is my sincere hope and expectation that the planning efforts by Town officials and members of the Fourth of July Committee lead to a safe and fun filled family celebration of our country's independence during the upcoming holiday. Residents are encouraged to check the Town's website at <http://www.wilmingtonma.gov> or contact the specific departments for information about programs and events being offered for all ages by the Library, Recreation and Elderly Services Departments. Spend a few hours sampling a slice of history at Wilmington's own Harnden Tavern. Carpe Diem!

TOWN BEACH AT SILVER LAKE

Town Beach is open each day and staffed with lifeguards through Sunday, August 14. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wilmington residents, with proof of residency, may use the beach at no charge. Accepted forms of identification include a valid driver's license *or* a current tax bill accompanied by a picture ID.

New this summer!! In addition to renting kayaks and canoes on Silver Lake, you can now rent a paddleboard. All rentals are \$6 for two hours. There is also a "Stand-Up Paddleboarding" class for adults which will be held on Tuesday, August 2.

ADVENTURES IN SPACE

Check out this cool new program to experience a five-day space odyssey right in our own community! This class, for students entering grades 2 to 6, will be held from Monday to Friday, July 11 – 15 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the West Intermediate Cafeteria. Cost is \$98. Learn about flying, living and working in space, design your own space station, create alien life forms, discover the workings of gravity and friction and launch your own model rocket. The sky is NOT the limit!

"SATURDAY NIGHT LIGHTS" FLAG FOOTBALL

After another great season last fall, SNL Flag Football will be back at the high school turf field and is open for registration. This co-ed no-contact league allows every player to be the quarterback! The 8-week season runs from September 10 through October 29. There are separate divisions for children in grades 1 & 2, grades 3 – 5 and grades 6 – 8. Registration forms are available in the office and on the website. Watching the kids playing under the lights on Saturday evenings in the autumn is a wonderful family and community event!

BROADWAY IN BOSTON

The Recreation Department has secured orchestra seats for popular Broadway shows. Ticket price includes bus transportation. A \$50 deposit per ticket is required. Visit the Recreation Department at Town Hall to reserve your seat.

Cheers – Live on Stage – September 15: \$81. The stage adaptation of Cheers, the Boston-based Emmy Award winning NBC series is launching its national tour in Boston. Set in the interior of the iconic neighborhood bar, you will visit classic characters like Carla, Coach, Cliff and of course, Norm. The play will feature the first meeting and subsequent romance of Sam Malone, the Red Sox pitcher-turned-bar owner, and waitress Diane Chambers. Come on, you know you want to go where everybody knows your name!

Jersey Boys – October 13: \$106. The Tony Award winning Best Musical about Rock and Roll Hall of Famers Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons. This is the story of four blue-collar kids becoming one of the most successful groups in pop music history.

A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder – October 20: \$129. The story of Monty, the heir to a family fortune who sets out to jump the line of succession by – you guessed it – eliminating the eight pesky relatives that stand in his way. Getting away with murder can be so much fun!

For more programs offered by the Recreation Department, visit the town's website at www.wilmingtonma.gov and click on Recreation. Our newsletter, Recreation Matters, is updated quarterly in February, May, August and November.

KNOW BEFORE YOU DIG

Planning home improvements? Planting a tree? Installing a fence or deck? Whether you do it yourself or hire a professional, a safe job starts with a call to Dig Safe® at 811. Dig Safe® is a not-for-profit clearinghouse that notifies participating utility companies of your plans to dig. Utilities respond to mark out the location of their underground facilities. Dig Safe is a free service, funded entirely by its member utility companies.

State law requires you to notify Dig Safe for even small projects, like installing a mailbox or planting shrubs. The depth of utility lines vary and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Call 811 to avoid utility service disruption to an entire neighborhood, harm to you and those around you, as well as fines and repair costs. To begin:

- * **"Pre-mark" where you plan to dig before making the call to 811.** When utility company representatives arrive to mark their lines, pre-marking provides visual boundaries to help guide them in placing their marks where you need them.
- * **Be prepared with required information needed to process a locate request.**
- * **Call 811 in advance** The call center is open Monday through Friday, 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Massachusetts State law requires you give at least **72** hours notice - not including weekends and legal holidays. A Dig Safe ticket number will be provided as proof of notification.
- * **Notify non-member facility owners**
- * **Wait the required time** After notifying Dig Safe, you must wait 72 hours, excluding weekends and legal holidays. During this time, utility representatives respond to mark their lines. They use a uniform color code system so the type of facility is identified.
- * **Respect the marks** Pipes, cables and wires can be buried at any depth, so it can be risky to dig in close proximity of a buried line. The laws of five New England states observe a Safety Zone requirement. Use of mechanized equipment is prohibited when digging within 18 inches of a buried facility, you must dig by hand, carefully, to avoid damage.
- * **Maintain the marks** Make sure the utility marks stay intact during your project. If the marks are compromised for any reason, call Dig Safe back at 811. In Massachusetts, the work must start within 30 days from the date of issue. Beyond this point, tickets are valid indefinitely, provided that the marks are maintained and the work is continuous

Visit <http://www.digsafe.com/index.php> for detailed information.

HARDEN TAVERN SUMMER OPEN HOUSES

July 10, August 7 & September 11, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Learn about Wilmington's history:

- * Tour the original Harnden Tavern, home of Joshua Harnden and family in the late 1700's
- * Visit the Carriage House to see antique agricultural tools, including a farm truck, and replicas of colonial flags
- * Special Exhibit for Summer 2016 celebrating 101 years of Wilmington High School life, featuring photos, artifacts and news clippings from the "old" high school, aka the Swain School, Wilmington's high school from 1914 to 1950 and the recently demolished high school, Wilmington's high school from 1950 to 2015.

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

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, READ

Wilmington Memorial Library's 2016 summer reading program has many incentives and events designed to keep Wilmington children reading all summer long. A complete listing of all the events can be found on the library's website and in the library's summer events brochure. Below is just a sampling of the variety of programs for all ages. Register online at www.wilmlibrary.org or by calling 978-658-2967 (Adult) or 978-694-2098 (Children/Teen). Thanks to the Friends of the Library for its generous support of WML's summer reading program.

Sciencetellers: Power and Energy MONDAY, JULY 25, 6:30 PM
Throw on your lab coat and buckle in – you are about to experience the science of power and energy through several hilarious, educational and exciting hands-on experiments! Enjoy this energetic adventure as we discover what makes us move and what powers the world! Grades K+

Humans vs. Zombies FRIDAY, JULY 29 6:30-8:30 PM
Who will be the Original Zombie? The super popular, internationally epic game of tag comes to Wilmington as a library-friendly version played after hours. BYO foam dart blasters and marshmallow launchers. Socks and bandanas provided. Grades 4-8

Jay Atkinson THURSDAY, JULY 14, 7 PM
Bestselling author, Jay Atkinson, will talk about his latest book, *Massacre on the Merrimack*. The book details the account of Hannah Duston, who in 1697 was captured along with eleven others from the village of Haverhill, in an Abenaki raid. Jay is the author of several other books including *Ice Time* and *Legends of Winter Hill*. Check the library's schedule of events for entire list of authors scheduled to visit this summer.

Brain Healthy Nutrition Matters MONDAY, JULY 18, 7 PM
CC Donelan, Director of Education at the Brain Health & Wellness Center, will present a program on healthy eating for a healthy brain based on the internationally recognized, evidence-based Memory Preservation Nutrition® (MPN™) Program, and ground breaking studies and nutrition research for Alzheimer's.

"Love Notes" THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2:30 PM
The Swing Fever Trio applies its distinctive jazz style to some of the great love songs of composers such as George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers and more.

End of Summer Bash THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 5 - 7:30 PM
Everyone is welcome to the End of Summer Bash, the summer reading finale event! Amigos Locos Tex-Mex and Wildfire BBQ food trucks and the Cool Cow Ice Cream truck will be on the Swain Green. Music by the Quentin Callewaert Quartet, games and entertainment will be provided. Thanks to Friends of the Library and Wilmington Rotary for supporting this event.

Shredding Day SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 9 AM - 12 PM
Town Common Parking Lot
In partnership with the Wilmington Community Fund, the library will host the sixth annual on-site shredding day. This event is meant for households; the amount of shredding may be limited if needed due to wait time or truck space. Paper clips, rubber bands and staples do not have to be removed. The shredding is free to the public but food donations to the food pantry are encouraged and welcomed.

Library Card Sign Up Month
Watch for a listing of local businesses that will be participating in Library Card Sign Up month in September. Showing your WML library card may get you a free cup of coffee, free appetizer, discount on a haircut, a free yoga class and more!

NEWS FROM ELDERLY SERVICES

FAN DRIVE - The Department of Elderly Services wishes to thank everyone who has donated fans for its "Fan Drive." The recipients are greatly appreciative. The Department continues to collect fans. If you know of an elder in need of a fan or an air conditioner, please call the center at 978-657-7595

COMPLIMENTARY ELDER TRANSPORTATION - The Town of Wilmington provides many daily services through the Department of Elderly Services. A service that is rarely found in the surrounding area is free transportation to Wilmington residents aged sixty and over. This transportation is provided within a thirteen-mile radius of Wilmington and we have a full-time Van Driver to meet their transportation needs. We are fortunate to have a van that is equipped to handle a wheelchair along with its passengers. We are able to transport elders to destinations including, but not limited to, their medical appointments, shopping and to/from the Senior Center. If you or a family member would like more information, please call the Buzzell Senior Center at 978-657-7595.

HARVEST BREAKFAST - The Wilmington Department of Elderly Services is planning a Harvest Breakfast on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Buzzell Senior Center to support the Wilmington High School Scholarship Fund. The menu will include sausage, pancakes, home fries and scrambled eggs. We will also have live entertainment. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the center. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Space is limited. Please call 978-657-7595 with questions.

WILMINGTON'S 12TH ANNUAL HALF MARATHON & 5K RUN OR WALK

The streets of Wilmington will once again be filled with runners and walkers on Sunday, September 25 as the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce hosts the Town's 12th Annual Half Marathon & 5K Run/Walk. A portion of the proceeds from the annual race are reinvested into the community through college scholarships and local donations. 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: USATF certified courses, professional chip timing, mile markers, water stops, free t-shirts, awards for winners by gender/age/team categories, medals for all half marathon participants, ribbons for all 5K participants and post race refreshments. Family fun festivities include music, face painting and business and community sponsored tables with raffles and 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 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 Chamber-Race.RaceWire.com, by mail or in-person. Visit the 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.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The introduction of National Night Out, "America's Night Out Against Crime", in 1984 began an effort to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Wilmington's program will take place Tuesday, August 2 at Rotary Park. Watch for details and locations on the police department's website www.wpd.org

CONCERTS ON THE COMMON

The Recreation Department's popular summer concert series begins on Wednesday, July 6 at the Town Common. Talented musical groups will provide entertainment for all ages from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday through July 27. In the event of inclement weather, the scheduled concert will be postponed to the following evening. This summer's performers are:

July 6 – Howie and Jackie: The dynamic duo perform funny original songs and music ranging from the Beatles to Steely Dan to the Dropkick Murphys.

July 13 – Ball in the House: A Cappella at its best.

July 20 – Jimmy & the Jesters: The oldies and classic country tunes.

July 27 – '60s Invasion: Features the music of the sixties.

WATER CONSERVATION

With the hot summer days arriving, residents are reminded that the Town of Wilmington has active water use restrictions. **There is no outdoor watering allowed between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.** In the case of sprinkler systems, both above-ground and installed underground systems may only be used once per week, subject to the hours above. Other outside water use is restricted to hand held hoses only. Per the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, the Town will be required to ban sprinklers entirely if this policy is not followed. Failure to follow the water use restriction may result in a minimum \$50.00 per day fine. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

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 2016:

Wednesday, July 6	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, July 9	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday, August 3	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, August 6	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday, September 7	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, September 10	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For a complete schedule of the Town's 2016 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.wilmingtonma.gov. Click on "Departments" then "Public Works".

KEEP WILMINGTON CLEAN

Residents are asked to remove trash and recycling receptacles from curbside following collection.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUN 30- FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVITIES

JUL 3 Family Day & Spectacular Fireworks - July 2

JUL 6- CONCERTS ON THE COMMON

JUL 27 Wednesdays 6:30 pm to 8 pm

JUN 12- FARMERS MARKET OPEN SUNDAYS

OCT 9 Town Common 10 am to 1 pm

JUL 10 HARNDEN TAVERN OPEN HOUSE

AUG 7 2 pm to 4 pm

SEP 11

AUG 2 WILMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Rotary Park

AUG 4 POLICE ASSOCIATION BEACH DAY

Silver Lake 11 am to 2 pm

AUG 14 TOWN BEACH CLOSURES FOR SEASON

AUG 30 SCHOOLS OPEN GRADES 1 - 12

SEP 6 FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN


SEP 10 LIBRARY RESUMES SATURDAY SCHEDULE

SEP 25 ANNUAL HALF MARATHON AND 5K RUN/WALK

OCT 1 APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE SENIOR TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT

TELEPHONE

Accountant		694-2029
Animal Control		658-5071
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



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