

Town Topics

All programs/events are subject to cancelation/postponement in response to changing conditions with COVID-19

A municipal newsletter for the Wilmington community

From the Manager's Desk

Thank you to the many residents who participated in the Special Town Meeting held on March 8th to consider appropriating funds to conduct a feasibility study to address providing educational space for students and staff at the Wildwood Early Childhood Center. The Special Town Meeting overwhelmingly approved \$1.2 million to complete this work by a vote of 368 in favor to 1 opposed. The Town is pursuing financial assistance from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) for renovation or replacement of the Wildwood School. With the approval of funds for the feasibility study the Town is now eligible to enter the feasibility stage of the MSBA approval process. Completion of the feasibility study and schematic design phases are required before the MSBA Board of Directors will decide whether MSBA contributes to this project and the degree to which the agency will participate in the funding. Information about the Wildwood School project can be found at the following site: <https://www.wpsk12.com/our-district/facilities/school-building-projects>. The Wildwood School Building Committee will continue to hold public meetings as the Town enters the stage of hiring an Owners Project Manager (OPM) and designer to assist with evaluating the alternative solutions.

With the tragic accident involving resident Roberta Sausville-Devine in North Wilmington on January 21, 2022, crossing train tracks has taken on a completely new meaning and, unfortunately for many, a sense of risk. Since that incident there have been multiple reports of crossing gates extending into the down position without trains crossing roadways or the rail gates moving erratically or out of sequence with approaching trains. The Board of Selectmen, the Town's legislative delegation and I have been persistent and adamant with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) that restoring reliability to the rail crossing safety features must be a top priority for them. Town officials and the legislative delegation will work in concert until the problems are resolved.

For the first time in two years the Annual Town Meeting will be held in the Joanne M. Benton Auditorium at the Wilmington High School on Saturday, April 30th beginning at 9:00 a.m. A heartfelt "thank you" goes out to the Aleppo Shriners who graciously hosted, free of charge, the 2021 Annual Town Meeting, the recently completed Special Town Meeting and several other Town functions in their auditorium during the pandemic. Their generosity and civic engagement is unmatched.

Essentially, the Annual Town Meeting serves as the shareholders' meeting for residents of this municipal corporation known as the Town of Wilmington. All registered voters residing in Wilmington are invited to participate in voting on proposed expenditure for the



operation of general government and schools for the fiscal year which begins July 1, 2022. Changes to the Town's Inhabitant By-laws (local laws) and Zoning By-laws governing the use of land will be considered.

Members of both the Senior Center Building Committee and the Town/School Administration Building Committee continue to meet on alternating Wednesdays with their respective architects and the Owners Project Manager to further develop the interior floor plans and the location of the buildings on the sites. A senior center is slated to be located on Town property next to St. Dorothy's Church on Main Street and a combined town/school administration building is planned for the former Swain School site across from the Town Common. Information about both projects is regularly updated and is available on the Town's website at www.wilmingtonma.gov and click on Building Projects. Committee meetings can also be viewed on Comcast 22, Verizon 38 or streamed at WCTV.org/live.

The Town continues to see a changing of the guard as many longtime employees retire to spend more time with family, take up those hobbies sidelined by work or to pursue adventures through travel and lifelong learning. My sincere thanks are extended to Assistant Library Director Charlotte Wood, Public Works Mechanic Paul Orso and Public Buildings Maintenance Driver John Reese for your service to the residents of Wilmington. Your contributions in your respective roles day in and day out have contributed to making Wilmington a special place to live. Sail on.

After a long two years it appears that we are seeing a sustained decline in COVID cases. While COVID and its variants will likely be with us for the foreseeable future, hopefully, through everyone's efforts, it is under control enough to enable a return to more normal times including Wilmington Little League Opening Day Parade, Memorial Day Parade, Fun on the Fourth and gatherings of family and friends both outdoors and indoors. Stay safe.

TOWN OF WILMINGTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Wilmington residents seeking to further their post secondary school or college education may apply for assistance from the Town of Wilmington Scholarship Fund. Applications are available at the Roman House, Town Hall, Wilmington High School, Shawsheen Tech, Library and online at <https://www.wpsk12.com/cms/one.aspx?portalid=26809273&pageid=26932766>


The application deadline is April 22 at 3:00 p.m. Since 1996, this program has distributed \$184,250 in financial aid to 283 scholarship recipients.


Individuals, community groups and businesses wishing to contribute to the Town of Wilmington Scholarship Fund may contact the Town Treasurer's office or the Town Manager's office. Additionally, scholarship donation forms are included with each property tax bill mailing.


SPRING AT WILMINGTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The following is a sampling of upcoming library programs. For more information visit the library's website at www.wilmlibrary.org or by calling 978-658-2967 (Adult) or 978-694-2098 (Children/Teen).

KEEP WILMINGTON BEAUTIFUL Spend an hour or so picking up trash around Wilmington, you pick the spot; walk your neighborhood streets, clean up one of the parks or other town properties, etc. just be sure to keep safety in mind. You can also check the library's website for places identified by the DPW that need extra care.

 Bags and gloves will be available at the library starting Monday, April 4.

 Bring your bag of trash to the Wildwood Street parking lot Saturday, April 23 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

 Spin the prize wheel to redeem your bag of trash for an Earth friendly prize. If you can not make it on the 23rd, take a photo of your trash and email it to marketing@wilmlibrary.org, then pick up your prize at the library.

Be sure to take before and after photos and submit them to marketing@wilmlibrary.org.

TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY

In support of Arbor Day, the library is giving away 200 Canaan Fir tree seedlings, which are native to the Northeast. Stop by the library during open hours and pick up your seedling. Limit one per individual or two per family. The tree seedling giveaway helps Wilmington to be designated as a Tree City. Funded by the Friends of the Library.

WEEK OF APRIL 25TH



Canaan Fir
Abies balsamea

POETRY CONTEST This year's theme for the annual poetry contest is *Adventure*. All ages are welcome to enter. The deadline for submission of all poems is Saturday, April 23. Winners will be selected by a panel of judges and prizes will be awarded by the Friends of the Library. Winners are invited to read their poems at Poetry Award Night on Wednesday, May 4. Applications will be available in early March at the library and online at wilmlibrary.org.

GENTLY USED JEWELRY SALE

Friday, April 8, 5 p.m.-8 p.m.

Saturday, April 9, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Friends of the Library will host a gently used jewelry sale in the Conference Room on the second floor. Plan to stop by and freshen up your bling! All proceeds benefit the library.



REDISCOVER WML WEEK Mark your calendars for June 18 – June 25. WML is planning fun activities to encourage you to rediscover the public library and meet up with your neighbors and friends.

ANNUAL TOWN CENSUS

Responses to Wilmington's Annual Town Census can be returned by mail in the return envelope, by email to townclerk@wilmington.gov or by dropping the census in the Town Hall drop slot, located next to the front door of Town Hall. Responding to the Annual Town Census keeps your name on the active voting list and enables the Office of the Town Clerk to confirm your residency in the future. If you are a voter and do not respond to the census, your name will be placed on the Inactive Voter List. Please contact the Town Clerk's office if you haven't received your census form.

DOG LICENSES

Dog registration renewals are ongoing. You must have an updated rabies certificate to complete your initial registration or renewal. New Dog Registrations are always ongoing. New registrations or renewals can be accomplished online or by mail, and in person. The cost is \$10 if your dog is spayed or neutered, \$15 if intact. Renewals submitted after April 1, 2022 will have a \$15 late fee assessed in addition to the registration fee. Renewals submitted after June 1, 2022 will have a \$50 civil fine assessed.

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION AND MEETING

The **Town Election will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022.** The polls are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



The last day to register to vote for the Annual Town Election is Friday, April 1, 2022. The Town Clerk's office will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on that day.

The **Annual Town Meeting** will be held the following **Saturday, April 30, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** at the Wilmington High School **Joanne M. Benton Auditorium.**

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Residents are invited to participate in Memorial Day observances commencing on Saturday, May 28 beginning at 8 a.m. with the decoration of veterans' graves at Wildwood Cemetery followed by the decoration of all squares and memorials. On Sunday, May 29 at 1:30 p.m. a rededication ceremony will take place at the Veterans' Monument on the Town Common.

The Veterans' Services Department is pleased to announce that Wilmington's Memorial Day Parade will be on Monday, May 30 at 10 a.m. At 11 a.m., a ceremony will be held at the Wildwood Cemetery to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Groups wishing to march in the parade should contact the Wilmington Veterans' Services Office at 978-694-2040. Residents are encouraged to participate in Memorial Day events and remember all those who have served, and those who have given their life, to defend our freedom.

Please contact our office with questions relating to benefits you and your family earned as a result of your honorable service to our country. The Department of Veterans' Services is, and will always be, available to serve the veterans and their families in Wilmington.



DEPARTMENT OF ELDERLY SERVICES

FUN NIGHT

"Fun Night" is back by popular demand, starting on Thursday, May 19, 2022. It will be held from 4:30 -7:00 p.m., indoors or out in our Outdoor Tent area. The Buzzell Senior Center will be having this once a month throughout the Spring, Summer and Fall on the third Thursday of the month. You will be able to have a light dinner, fun activity and dessert. (\$5.00 per person). Don't miss out on the fun. Please check the Buzzell Buzz Newsletter for sign up dates. Mark your calendar for future Game Night dates: Thursday May 19, 2022; Thursday, June 16, 2022; Thursday, July 21, 2022; Thursday, August 18, 2022; Thursday, September 15, 2022.

MUNSEY MAGIC AT THE BUZZELL SENIOR CENTER

On Wednesday, June 29, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., come enjoy "**Munsey's Magic**" - a fun-filled show packed with audience participation, comedy, surprises, magic, mystery, mentalism and more. Adults will find themselves to be as surprised as they are fooled (and fooled badly)!!! With over 25 years of performing experience, Jim has had repeat bookings for some big names in Boston. With a "feel" all its own, Munsey's Magic captivates audience members of all ages and leaves them believing that maybe, just maybe, there really is some magic in this world. Sign-up begins Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

HOME DELIVERED MEALS DRIVERS

Are you currently looking to fill a few hours in the morning doing rewarding work? The Department of Elderly Services is currently looking for home delivered meals drivers for Friday mornings. (Back up driver positions also available). Responsible for delivering meals to roughly 30 elders in Wilmington. Hours are 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Stipend of \$26 per day plus mileage. Training is provided. Please contact the Buzzell Senior Center at 978-657-7595 for further information.



The Recreation Department is accepting applications from **Certified Lifeguards** (age 16 & older). We hope to open Town Beach at Silver Lake for the 2022 season June 11.



RAIN BARREL PROGRAM

Rain barrels are available for purchase by residents at a discounted price of \$79 from The Great American Rain Barrel Company. If you are interested in purchasing a rain barrel or learning about the benefits of a rain barrel, visit their website at www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community and select "Wilmington." The deadline to order is May 26, 2022, and barrels will be available for pick up on Saturday, June 4, 2022 between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. at 115 Andover Street, Wilmington.



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Did you know about the Town's social media presence? Check out our main Town accounts on Facebook and



Facebook.com/WilmingtonMass

Twitter to get the latest information from Town Hall. facebook.com/wilmingtonmass and twitter.com/TownWilmMA.



Twitter.com/TownWilmMA

RECREATION OFFERINGS

For a complete listing of programs, tickets and trips, check our webpage on the Town's website at www.wilmingtonma.gov; then click on Recreation under Departments.

Tiny Tots & Kids Club registration is underway. Program dates for the two sessions are: Monday, June 27 – Friday, July 15 (no July 4) and Monday, July 18 – Thursday, August 4. Classes are held from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Boutwell School. This remarkable program, one of Wilmington's most popular traditions, is for children ages 4 through 8. Beginning on April 1, children can enroll in a second session if space is available.

We have open registration for many spring and summer programs. Youth programs include basketball, golf, tennis, reading and writing workshop, and science classes. Adults can choose from basketball, golf, tennis, bocce, dance and craft projects. Sign up today to guarantee your spot.

The annual **Fishing Derby** will be held at the Town Beach on Saturday, June 4 from 8 – 11 a.m. (RAIN DATE: Sunday, June 5). Shore fishing only. Cost is \$2 for children age 17 & under; adults \$5. For this day only, fishing licenses are not required.



LOOKING TO PLAN A TRIP FOR 2022?

We are offering a 3-day "Fall in the Finger Lakes Trip" in October, featuring a narrated cruise on the Erie Canal, visits to the "It's a Wonderful Life" Museum, Taughannock Falls and the pedestrian area of Ithaca Commons. We will also have tours and tastings at the Ventosa Vineyard and at Nine Pin Ciderworks. This trip includes roundtrip transportation from Wilmington, 4 meals, 2 nights hotel accommodations and more. As our travelers say, "It's great to travel with Rec! Just sign up, and show up!" Information will be available, and registration will begin, on **April 1**.

Of course, we continue to offer our popular day trips to exciting local spots and theater shows. Stop by the Recreation Office or take a look at our website (under Trips) for additional information about all that we have to offer.

For additional updates and highlights of Recreation Department activities, follow us on Facebook.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is scheduled for **Saturday, July 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the West Intermediate School Parking Lot.** Details of this event will appear in the local papers in late April. Residents can call the DPW at 978-658-4481 with any questions or refer to the town website www.wilmingtonma.gov



ANNUAL WATER MAIN FLUSHING PROGRAM

Starting in mid-April, the Water Division will begin its annual water main flushing and valve exercising program. The flushing program will be conducted Monday through Friday from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. The program will take approximately 8 weeks to complete.



If you have any questions or problems with your water, please call the Water Division at 978-658-4711.

NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

Spring cleaning time is upon us and the Board of Health would like to remind residents that unneeded or expired medications should not be flushed down the toilet. On **Saturday, April 30**, the public may surrender expired, unwanted or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications for destruction. The anonymous drug take-back initiative will take place from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.

In addition, there is a sharps waste disposal kiosk in the lobby of the Public Safety Building. All sharps must be in an approved sharps disposal container.



RECYCLING TIPS

Plastic grocery bags and other soft plastics will get tangled in the processing equipment causing damage and potential injuries. These items should not be disposed of in your recycle barrel. Additionally, food and liquids, clothing, and "tanglers" such as rope, string lights, hoses, and wire should not be placed in your recycle barrel.

[Please see http://www.wilmingtonma.gov/trash-recycling](http://www.wilmingtonma.gov/trash-recycling) for further information regarding the Trash and Recycling Collection Program.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | | |
|---------------|--|--------------------------------|
| APR 1 | LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN 2021 TOWN ELECTION AND TOWN MEETING | |
| APR 23 | ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION | Polls Open 8 am to 8 pm |
| APR 30 | ANNUAL TOWN MEETING | 9 am Wilmington High School |
| MAY 30 | MEMORIAL DAY PARADE | 10 am |
| | CEREMONY AT WILDWOOD CEMETERY | 11 am |
| JUN 1 | SUMMER BASKETBALL REGISTRATION DEADLINE | Town Hall |
| JUN 2 | SHAWSHEEN TECH GRADUATION | |
| JUN 5 | WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION | |
| JUN 12 | FARMERS MARKET OPENS | Town Common 10 am to 1 pm |

SPRING YARDWASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

The Town will collect leaves and grass clippings placed in biodegradable paper bags or uncovered barrels at curbside on regular trash collection days during the weeks of **April 11, April 22 and May 9.**

The Recycling Center, located off Old Main Street at the Wilmington/Woburn line, will be **open for leaf and brush drop-off** in accordance with the following schedule:

Wednesdays: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Saturdays: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

on the following dates:

April 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30

May 4, 7, 11 and 14



Only Wilmington residents will be allowed to use the facility for leaves and brush drop-off. Residents must show an ID at the entrance to the facility. **No grass clippings or stumps will be accepted. No contractors or commercial vehicles will be allowed.** Residents using the Recycling Center must purchase a punch card for \$15 which will be good for 5 visits to the center. Punch cards may be purchased Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's Office at Town Hall. **Cards purchased previously that have unpunched visits are still valid.**

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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