

Town Topics

A municipal newsletter for the Wilmington community

From the Manager's Desk



A big “thank you” to each of you for your patience and resilience over the past fifteen plus months living and working through the hardships, constraints and inconveniences associated with COVID-19. This pandemic has been more disruptive across the full spectrum of the community than anything I can recall. While it may be a bit too early to declare victory, it appears we are coming through the far side of the storm.

Town Hall reopened to the public on May 17th. At present patrons are able to visit town offices during business hours without a mask if fully vaccinated. Residents who have not been fully vaccinated are encouraged to continue to wear a mask while in the building for their personal safety. Meetings of boards and committees are reverting back to in-person which is a welcome change for many. Patrons are welcome into the library with study tables and seating available. The senior center will continue activities outside under a tent that has been set up in the parking lot and will begin transitioning back into the Senior Center in July. Terri Marciello, Elderly Services Director, is in regular contact with the Massachusetts Office of Elder Affairs about changing guidelines.

Silver Lake beach was open for lifeguard supervised use beginning June 12th. The Recreation Department, which oversees this program, continues to seek certified lifeguards. Individuals with lifeguard certification are strongly encouraged to contact that department at 978-658-4270 to learn more. As this *Town Topics* goes to print there has been a spate of drownings reported in eastern Massachusetts communities. When visiting the beach know your swimming abilities and limitations and be attentive to children and others in your group. Lifeguards clearly offer a significant measure of protection but cannot be solely responsible for personal safety.

September 11, 2021 marks the 20th anniversary of the tragic events that unfolded in New York City, Shanksville, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC. The events of that day brought heartbreak to many and changed each of our lives forever. Plans are in the works to offer a solemn remembrance to the victims, their families and the emergency personnel charged with responding on that day and the days that followed. While details are still being finalized, plans call for a ceremony in the high school cafeteria/courtyard. A committee is developing the program details.

Based upon interviews conducted by the Senior Center Building Committee and negotiations with the recommended architectural design firm, Deitz and Company Architects, Inc. from Springfield, MA has been awarded the contract to conduct a feasibility study and schematic design for a new senior center. The firm was established in 1985 and has worked on many senior centers including for the towns of Ludlow and Longmeadow and the cities of Westfield and Marlboro.

In response to the recommendation of the Town/School Administration Building Committee, the firm of Johnson Roberts Associates, Inc. from Somerville, MA has been hired to provide similar services for a joint town/school administration building. Johnson Roberts worked on the Dracut Town Hall, Sturbridge Town Hall, Cambridge City Hall and many other municipal buildings across the state.

Both committees will be working with the respective architects and owners project manager (OPM) to assess the potential sites and develop the programmatic requirements before developing a design. Public input will be critical for developing final designs that gain the support of residents throughout the community.

“Hat’s off” to patrolmen Paul Krzeminski and Thomas McConologue for their collective service of over 53 years with the Town. Water Treatment Plant Operator David Shulters retired after 37 years of service and Barbara Raab, Children’s Librarian is retiring in August after 10 years of service. Best wishes to all for an exciting and healthy next stage.

What a difference a year makes. With the pandemic hopefully in steady retreat it is time to catch up with family and friends that we have only been able to connect with via telephone or Zoom. Best wishes for reconnecting in person...without masks.



BOARD OF HEALTH ADVICE REGARDING MOSQUITO SPRAYING

Mosquito season is upon us and the Board of Health has provided the information below. Please remember that Wilmington is part of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project and routine spraying and larvicide treatment is conducted throughout the summer.

Generally, it is not necessary to relocate during mosquito control spraying. The pesticides have been evaluated for this use and found to pose minimal risks to human health and the environment when used according to label directions. Although mosquito control pesticides pose low risks, some people may prefer to avoid exposure. To reduce exposure, listen and watch for announcements about spraying in the local media and remain indoors during application to the immediate area. Residents may call CMMCP each day after 3:30 p.m., 1-508-393-3055, for a list of streets scheduled for spraying. The information is also posted on their website

www.cmmcp.org

- Remain inside for 15-20 minutes to allow the pesticide to drift through the area. People who suffer from chemical sensitivities or feel spraying may aggravate a preexisting health condition, should consult their physician and take special measures to avoid exposure if they feel this is necessary. Please check this link to find out how to exclude your property: <https://www.cmmcp.org/pesticide-information/pages/pesticide-exclusion>
- Close street-facing windows and turn off the "outside air" setting (if any) on window air conditioners when spraying is taking place in the immediate area. (Central air units do not take in outside air, it is OK to leave them on.) Windows may be opened 15-20 minutes after the application.
- Do not let children play near, or behind, truck-mounted applicators when they are in use. Pets should be brought inside, or their cages covered, to allow a more thorough application to be performed. Accidental exposure to pets should not cause a problem, the pesticide being used is similar to ones used for flea and tick control.

Always practice proactive mosquito control around your home. Removing standing water around your home is important. Fix broken screens. Wear long sleeved light colored clothing during dawn and dusk. Use insect repellent containing DEET.

WILMINGTON COMMUNITY FUND SPONSORS SHREDDING DAY

The Wilmington Community Fund is hosting a Shredding Day on Saturday, August 28, from 9 a.m. to noon, (or until trucks reach capacity) in the Wilmington Town Common parking lot. The event is free of charge to residents.

Participants will be required to present a valid photo ID for proof of residency. Maximum of 5 banker boxes/bags of paper per person and will ONLY be accepted from trunks, back of SUVs or trucks. Paper clips, rubber bands and staples do not need to be removed. Please remove binder clips or other metal fasteners.

Our motto is "People Helping People" and we are grateful for the partnership of the community.

TOWN CLERK NOTICE TO INACTIVE VOTERS

The Office of Town Clerk has sent Confirmation Notices to all voters from whom an Annual Town Census response was not received in 2021. These voters have been placed on the Inactive Voting List, but will be restored to the Active Voting List immediately upon receipt of the signed postage-prepaid postcard sent with the notice. If you received a Confirmation Notice, please return the signed card as soon as possible to avoid remaining on the Inactive Voter List and having to provide ID and proof of continuous Wilmington residence at the next election or town meeting. Please call the Office of Town Clerk, 978-658-2030, with any questions.

GRIEF, LOSS, COPING & BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP



When a life ends, those living are left to grieve their loss. This is often a painful process and it is hard to bear. This group will meet on Thursdays, September 16, 23 and 30 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Buzzell Senior Center and is open to all adults who have experienced the loss of a loved one and would like to join with others who may be experiencing similar feelings and life challenges. Nancy Duffy from Beacon Hospice will be facilitating each meeting. Nancy has worked at Beacon Hospice for the past 13 years and has worked extensively in grief support. This program is hosted by the Department of Elderly Services and sponsored by Beacon Hospice, an Amedisys Company. All are welcome. This group is free of charge. To pre-register please call Laura Pickett at 978-657-7595 or Nancy Duffy at 617-242-8370.

COOL SUMMERTIME FUN WITH THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Recreation Department is continuing to offer safe programs and events, and we even have some upcoming trips! We will follow all current guidelines and restrictions to keep all of us as healthy as possible. We appreciate your patience as we approach some normalcy in our lives.

TOWN BEACH AT SILVER LAKE

Town Beach at Silver Lake is open each day and staffed with lifeguards through Sunday, August 8. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. – 6 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 showing a Wilmington address *or* an RMV issued Massachusetts ID showing your Wilmington address, or a WPS photo id.

Our complete newsletter is on the Town's website at www.wilmingtonma.gov. Click on the Recreation prompt to explore the many programs this department has to offer. Our newsletter, Recreation Matters, is updated quarterly – February, May, August and November.

LIBRARY CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Wilmington's first public library opened in the rear room of the old town hall, 175 Middlesex Avenue, on July 1, 1871. In 1890, the library relocated to the Center Schoolhouse, now the 4th of July Building, where it remained for almost 80 years. In 1969, the town opened its new public library on Middlesex Avenue (formerly the site of St. Thomas of Villanova Church). To mark the 150th anniversary milestone, Wilmington Memorial Library was rededicated on Memorial Day to all from Wilmington who gave their lives in service to our country. Please check the library's website for more information on the history of the library and celebration activities.

SUMMER EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

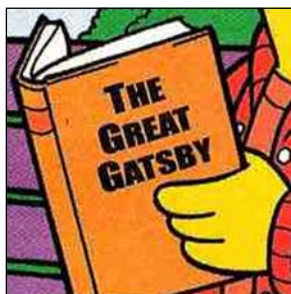
Tails and Tales Summer Reading Program June 23 – August 13

Join us for an awesome summer full of reading, crafts, magic, animal tails and story tales! All ages can register on the Beanstack reading app or head over to the library to begin logging your reading and earning prizes.

NPR's Maureen Corrigan on the Enduring Power of *The Great Gatsby*

Thursday, July 15, 7:00 pm

As part of the 150th anniversary celebration, the library is sponsoring "Wilmington Reads *The Great Gatsby*." Residents are encouraged to read the book and participate in the events. Maureen Corrigan, book critic for NPR's radio program *Fresh Air* and author of the book *So We Read On: How The Great Gatsby Came to Be and Why It Endures*, will be the guest keynote speaker. She will discuss why *The Great Gatsby* has come to be viewed as the "Great American Novel." Please note this is a virtual event and registration is required.



Shakespeare in the Park: *Much Ado About Nothing* Thursday, August 12, 7:30 pm (RAIN DATE: AUGUST 16)

Roll out your blankets and lawn chairs on the Swain Green for a live performance of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*. Funded in part by a grant from the Wilmington Arts Council which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

Summer Bash

Friday, August 13, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Celebrate the end of summer with an all-ages party on the Swain Green. Bring blankets or lawn chairs but be ready to stand up and dance! A DJ will play a variety of songs for all ages. Dinner will be available to purchase from food trucks. Children's games, balloon twisting, and more. Plus you can take your photo in front of the library's 150th anniversary sign.

Jewelry Sale

Saturday, August 21

9:00 am - 10:00 am **FRIENDS MEMBERS ONLY**

10:00 am - 2:00 pm **GENERAL PUBLIC**

The Friends of the Library will host a gently used jewelry sale on the first floor of the library. Plan to stop by and freshen up your bling! Jewelry donations for the sale will be accepted until July 31. All proceeds support the Friends and help fund many library programs.

Town Wide Yard Sale

Saturday, September 18, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

The library is once again sponsoring a Town Wide Yard Sale for those wishing to hold a yard sale at their home and having all the publicity done by the library. The application fee is \$15 (deadline is Saturday, September 11). The fee includes yard sale signs, a listing on the yard sale map and lots of publicity. For shoppers, maps of yard sale locations will be available at the library and at Market Basket starting Wednesday, September 15.

For a complete listing of library events, please pick up an events brochure or check the library's website. Please register at www.wilmlibrary.org or by calling (978) 658-2967 (for Adult) or (978) 694-2098 (for Children/Teen) events.

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.



CONCERTS ON THE COMMON

The Recreation Department's popular summer concert series begins on Wednesday, July 7 at the Town Common. Talented musical groups will provide entertainment for all ages from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday through July 28. In the event of inclement weather, the scheduled concert will be postponed to the date in parentheses. This summer's performers are:

July 7 (7/8)– Ball in the House: A Cappella at its best.

July 14 (7/15) – Jimmy & the Jesters: The oldies and classic country tunes.

July 21 (7/22) – Back Track: Features the music of the 50's, 60's and 70's.

July 28 (7/29) – Perfect Crime: An evening of killer classic rock.

TRASH AND RECYCLING TIPS

While trying to help the environment, many of us are putting items in our recycle carts that should not be, HOPING they can be recycled. The result? Contaminated loads are being rejected at the processing center, leading to additional charges to the Town.

REMEMBER

KEEP THESE ITEMS OUT OF YOUR RECYCLE CART

- ⊗ No plastic wrap or plastic bags of any kind;
- ⊗ No Styrofoam;
- ⊗ No clothing, shoes, blankets, etc.;
(DROP OFF AT DONATION BOXES LOCATED AT EACH SCHOOL)
- ⊗ No electronics, batteries or bulbs;
- ⊗ No food or liquid;
- ⊗ No wood or construction debris;
- ⊗ No hoses, wires or cords.

When in doubt, check out www.RecycleSmartMa.org. Enter the name of an item to find out if it is recycling or trash.

Please see <http://www.wilmingtonma.gov/trash-recycling> for further information regarding the Trash and Recycling Collection Program.

Please remember, if you move from your home, the trash and recycle barrels must remain with the house.

KEEP WILMINGTON CLEAN

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

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. Stumps will not be accepted. NO CONTRACTORS or COMMERCIAL VEHICLES are allowed.

Summer Program 2021:

Wednesday, July 7	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, July 10	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday, August 4	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, August 7	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday, September 8	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, September 11	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For a complete schedule of the Town's 2021 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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUN 13-	FARMERS MARKET OPEN SUNDAYS	
OCT 3	Town Common	10 am to 1 pm
JUL 7-	CONCERTS ON THE COMMON	
JUL 28	Wednesdays	6:30 pm to 8 pm
AUG 3	NATIONAL NIGHT OUT	
AUG 7	PURPLE HEART DAY	
AUG 28	SHREDDING DAY	9 am to 12 pm
AUG 31	SCHOOLS OPEN GRADES 1 - 12	
SEP 7	FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN	
SEP 11	9/11 REMEMBRANCE	
SEP 25	WILMINGTON'S 291ST BIRTHDAY!	
OCT 1	APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE SENIOR TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM	

DEPARTMENT



TELEPHONE

Accountant	694-2029
Animal Control	658-5071
Appeals Board	658-4531
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