

# Town Topics

A municipal newsletter for the Wilmington community

## From the Manager's Desk

The Town continues to make steady progress on the siting and schematic design of a new senior center and a combined town/school administration building. The Town/School Administration Building Committee has directed architect Johnson Roberts to locate the roughly 43,000 square foot three story building at the back edge of the former Swain School parking lot against the hill. Constructing the building in this location will lead to a net increase of 57 parking spaces bringing the total to 304 spaces. The location maximizes the opportunity for the open area to be used for community events. The architect will provide more detail about the individual rooms and discuss with the committee the materials and finishes to be used on the building.

A similar process has taken place with the Senior Center Building Committee. The location of the 17,923 square foot single story building proposed for construction on the Town-owned property next to St. Dorothy's Church has been established along with the layout of parking and traffic flow. Outdoor features including pickleball and bocce courts, an outdoor events area and raised gardens have also been proposed. Discussions are ongoing about the exterior and interior finishes. By early September cost estimates for construction of both buildings will be developed.

The committees overseeing development of each project meet regularly on alternating Wednesdays typically at 6:00 p.m. in Room 9 at the Town Hall. Residents are encouraged to attend these meetings to review the plans as they develop and to offer comment. A public forum for the town/school administration building project is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup> in Town Hall. The public will have the opportunity to tour the building starting at 5:00 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. Once again residents are invited to participate and offer questions or comments. A Special Town Meeting is expected to be held in mid to late fall of 2022 to seek authorization of funds to pay for final design and construction of both buildings. Additional information can be found on the Town's website at [www.wilmingtonma.gov](http://www.wilmingtonma.gov) and click on Building Projects.

Town officials participated in a meeting held by the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Board of Directors on June 22nd at which time MSBA announced that the Wildwood School project has been authorized to proceed to the feasibility phase. During this phase of the project the Town will work with the MSBA to procure the services of an Owners Project Manager (OPM) and an architect. The OPM serves as the Town's representative when dealing with the architect and other trades as the project moves forward. This phase will lead to development of the desired option for a new school.

Construction will begin in July to replace a failing culvert which directs the flow of Lubbers Brook under Middlesex



Avenue near Elia's Country Store. In recognition of the fact that Route 62 is a central artery in Wilmington, the plan calls for a full road closure at this location for approximately thirty (30) days. This will permit the construction company to expedite the culvert replacement. A fire engine will be staffed at the DPW garage on Andover Street for emergency response calls during the duration of the full closure. Updates on this project and detour routes will be posted to the Town's website at [www.wilmingtonma.gov](http://www.wilmingtonma.gov) under News & Announcements.

Two electric charging stations are now available for residents with electric vehicles. Working with the Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD), Selectmen authorized charging stations to be located at the Wilmington Memorial Library and the Town Hall. The RMLD obtained a grant issued by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to cover the cost of the charging stations. Residents seeking to use the charging station can access a QR Code at the base of the charger that provides instructions to their smart phone.

Four long-term employees will turn the page to retirement in the next few months. Pamela MacKenzie, Treasurer/Collector; Michael Woods, Public Works Director; Karen Campbell, Recreation Director, and Fire Fighter Charles Taylor have a combined total of 114 years of service with the Town. Their dedication to the Town and their institutional knowledge will be missed. Each of them is extended a heartfelt "thank you" and best wishes for good health and an engaging next chapter.

After two years of curtailing plans it appears that this summer we will once again be able to take full advantage of being out and about with friends and family. As we return to a greater level of normalcy with respect to summer activities, please be mindful of children when they are around lakes and backyard pools. While driving around Town, observe the speed limits and be attentive to children and adults cycling, walking and running on sidewalks and streets. These actions will go a long way towards keeping everyone safe.

## 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 AT THE LIBRARY

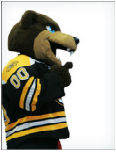
### ANNUAL SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The Wilmington Memorial Library's summer reading program is underway. Register on the Library's website at [wilmlibrary.org](http://wilmlibrary.org) or in person. Earn prizes by reading a few minutes each day. Read 15 days this summer and receive a free book. Read 30 days and take home a handheld fan/flashlight or a coupon for a free ice cream at Dandilyons. Each day that you read, or complete one of 10 fun activities, you will earn a ticket for one of our special raffles. Prizes include: a four-person membership to the New England Aquarium, a \$150 gift card to Nashoba Valley, a \$100 gift card to REI or drive-in movie tickets. You can earn 60+ tickets if you read every day and complete all the activities!

### BOSTON BRUINS VISIT

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 5:30 PM**

SWAIN GREEN



The Boston Bruins and Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners have teamed up to help Massachusetts kids read all summer. On Tuesday, August 9 at 5:30 p.m. special guests from the Bruins organization will be at the

Swain Green to give out prizes, make crafts and play games. Blades, the Boston Bruins mascot, will be joined by Todd Angilly, the national anthem singer at TD Garden. Mr. Angilly will be reading his book *The Adventures of Owen and the Anthem Singer*.

### SUMMER BASH WITH ROLIE POLIE GUACAMOLE

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM** SWAIN GREEN

Celebrate the end of summer with an all-ages party on the Swain Green. There will be children's games, crafts, prizes and more. Bring blankets or lawn chairs but be ready to stand up and dance! Rolie Polie Guacamole, a touring "kindie" band from Brooklyn, NY will play a variety of songs for all ages. This musical group is supported, in part, by a grant from the Wilmington Council for the Arts, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council. Dinner will be available to purchase from food trucks.



### STORYWALK® AT ROTARY PARK

Families are invited to visit WML's StoryWalk® at Rotary Park funded by the Friends of the Wilmington Memorial Library 2021 Annual Appeal. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalks® are now installed in all 50 states, supporting literacy, health and fitness. As you walk along the path at Rotary Park you will find each numbered sign containing the page from a book. Enjoy reading and following the story, beginning at the playground, circling the pond and ending on the opposite side of the field.

### CUMMINGS FOUNDATION GRANT

The Wilmington Memorial Library has received a \$100,000 Cummings Foundation Grant. The grant will help revitalize the first floor of the library, turning it into an inviting community space that uses the footprint of the library to its greatest advantage.

## 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 2022. If you received a Confirmation Notice, please return the signed card as soon as possible.

Due to the closure of the Wildwood School, the Board of Selectmen voted to move Precincts 3 and 4 polling location for the State Primary (September 6) and State Election (November 8). Precinct 3 will vote at the Boutwell School and Precinct 4 will vote at the Town Hall. Voters will be notified by mail.

Please call the Office of Town Clerk, 978-658-2030, with any questions.

## HOME TESTING KITS AVAILABLE

COVID symptoms can catch anyone by surprise. Be prepared by having testing kits on hand before you may need them. Testing at home as soon as you have symptoms, or after an exposure, can help you identify infection **earlier**. Isolating early prevents infection from spreading. Testing early can also help you access COVID-19 treatment, if needed, when it works best.

Residential households in the U.S. can order 8 more free home rapid antigen COVID-19 tests. It may take 7-10 days for test kits to arrive by mail. There is a limit of one order per address. The [USPS Testing FAQs](https://www.covid.gov/tests/faq) has more information. <https://www.covid.gov/tests/faq>. You can order these tests online or call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489) to place orders by phone. Hours are 8 a.m. – midnight (EST), 7 days per week.

You can also buy tests at local pharmacies. At-home COVID-19 tests are covered by flexible spending accounts (FSA) or health savings accounts (HSA).

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is scheduled for **Saturday, July 30, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. West Intermediate School Parking Lot.**

Details on this event will appear in the local papers in early July. Residents can call the DPW (978-658-4481) with any questions or refer to the DPW's website.

## WILMINGTON COMMUNITY FUND SPONSORS SHREDDING DAY

The Wilmington Community Fund is hosting a Shredding Day on **Saturday, September 24, 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 BEACH AT SILVER LAKE

Town Beach at Silver Lake is open each day and staffed with lifeguards through Sunday, August 7. 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.

## UPCOMING TRIPS!

**Encore Casino – Tuesday, August 30, \$40.** Travel with your friends to New England's newest and most extravagant showcase, the Encore Boston Casino. This trip includes motor coach transportation.



**Martha's Vineyard – Saturday, September 10,** Adults \$65, Children Aged 5-12 \$55. Let us deal with the traffic while you enjoy this day at leisure. Trip includes motor coach transportation and your round-trip ferry ticket to the Vineyard.



While there, take a tour or explore on your own.

**New York City – Saturday, October 29, \$75.** Take a bite out of the Big Apple. Board our luxury motor coach at 6:30 a.m. for a fabulous day experiencing the sights and sounds of NYC. Take in a Broadway show, enjoy shopping, dining and everything else that the city has to offer. Drop off locations will be at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Battery Park and Canal Street.



Our complete newsletter is on the Town's website at [www.wilmingtonma.gov](http://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.



## 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 date in parentheses. This summer's performers are:

**July 6 (7/7) – Back Track:** Features the music of the 50's, 60's and 70's.

**July 13 (7/14) – Jimmy & the Jesters:** The oldies and classic country tunes.

**July 20 (7/21) – Ball in the House:** A Cappella at its best.

**July 27 (7/28) – Joe Leary:** Wilmington native and singer/songwriter, Joe has a wide array of Irish, country and acoustic music.

## INFORMATIONAL SERIES ON ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA

The Department of Elderly Services, together with the Alzheimer's Association, will be presenting a 3-part series on Alzheimer's/Dementia. On Wednesday, August 31, 2022, the Alzheimer's Association will present "10 Warning Signs" at the Wilmington Methodist Church, 87 Church Street, at 6:30 p.m. This 60-minute program will help you recognize common signs of the disease in yourself and others, will include next steps and how to talk to your doctor.

On Wednesday, September 28, 2022, the Alzheimer's Association will present "Dementia Conversations" at the Wilmington Memorial Library at 6:30 p.m. This 45-minute program will focus on how to approach someone who is experiencing changes in memory thinking and behavior and provide tips and strategies for difficult conversations about changes that may be related to dementia.

The third part of the series will be a 60-minute program "Understanding and Responding to Dementia Related Behaviors" on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the Buzzell Senior Center. This program will review caregiver tips and strategies to respond to some common behaviors exhibited by individuals living with Alzheimer's and dementia such as agitation, confusion and more.

Registration is required – sign up for an individual program or all three. Please call the Buzzell Senior Center at 978-657-7595 to sign up for these programs. Refreshments will be served.

## GAME NIGHT

"Game Night" is back by popular demand. The Buzzell Senior Center will be having this once a month throughout the Spring, Summer and Fall. Participants will be able to have a light dinner, fun activities and dessert. (\$5.00 per person). Don't miss out on the fun. Feel free to call the Buzzell Senior Center for more information at 978-657-7595. Mark your calendar for future Game Night dates: Thursday, July 21, 2022; Thursday, August 18, 2022; Thursday, September 15, 2022. (4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)



## UNDER THE TENT AT THE BUZZELL SENIOR CENTER

Under the tent, on Thursday, July 7, 2022, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Howie Newman will be performing "Knock on Wood." Knock on Wood is a high-energy acoustic folk-rock duo, featuring singer-songwriter Howie Newman. Combining acoustic guitar with fiddle, mandolin and pleasing vocal harmonies, the duo performs old rock classics from performers like Elvis Presley, the Beatles, the Drifters and Johnny Cash. It is very lively and lots of fun, with great musicianship along with a bit of humor here and there. For more information, including videos and music samples, visit [www.howienewman.com/knockonwood](http://www.howienewman.com/knockonwood). Sign up for this event by calling the Buzzell Senior Center at 978-657-7595.



## 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](http://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.

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



The Water/Sewer online payment platform will be transitioning from MCC to INVOICE CLOUD on **August 1, 2022**. More information will be posted on the

Town's website [www.wilmingtonma.gov](http://www.wilmingtonma.gov).

## 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 13	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, July 16	-	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday, August 10	-	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, August 13	-	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 2022 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](http://www.wilmingtonma.gov).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>JUN 12-</b>	<b>FARMERS MARKET OPEN SUNDAYS</b>	
<b>OCT 2</b>	Town Common	10 am to 1 pm
<b>JUL 6-</b>	<b>CONCERTS ON THE COMMON</b>	
<b>JUL 27</b>	Wednesdays	6:30 pm to 8 pm
<b>AUG 2</b>	<b>NATIONAL NIGHT OUT</b>	
<b>AUG 7</b>	<b>PURPLE HEART DAY</b>	
<b>AUG 31</b>	<b>SCHOOLS OPEN GRADES 1 - 12</b>	
<b>SEP 6</b>	<b>STATE PRIMARY ELECTION</b>	Polls Open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
<b>SEP 7</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN</b>	
<b>SEP 24</b>	<b>SHREDDING DAY</b>	9 am to 12 pm
<b>SEP 25</b>	<b>WILMINGTON'S 292<sup>ND</sup> BIRTHDAY!</b>	
<b>OCT 1</b>	<b>APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE SENIOR TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM</b>	

### DEPARTMENT

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*