Welcome to the first newsletter being sent to every home, a collaboration of the City of Wilmington, The Wilmington Public Library and the Wilmington Park District. We wanted to find a way to reach every home with news you may need to make life in Wilmington the best it can be. Here we will share news about our many wonderful organizations and the upcoming events planned for the local residents. There will be a quarterly newsletter to every home. Hopefully this newsletter and calendar will help you keep in touch and not miss any local happenings! Each website will have more details, but we wanted to share the most relevant news with you here!

The Holidays have arrived! There are plenty of fun family events round town in the coming weeks. Be sure and save the date for Saturday, November 26th. Join us downtown for the annual Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade, Wilmington Park District Christkindlmarket and the Lion’s Club & Wilmington Park District Island Lights Walk and shop local merchants for Small Business Saturday!

- CITY NEWS
- LIBRARY UPDATES
- CALENDAR
- PARK DISTRICT INFO
- CHAMBER CHRISTMAS PARADE
YARD WASTE COLLECTION ENDS FOR THE SEASON

A friendly reminder... the yard waste collection through Homewood Disposal Services ends for the season on November 26th. All yard waste items (i.e. tree branches, leaves, grass clippings, and brush) must be placed out for collection at the curb by 6:00 a.m. Yard waste materials can be placed in kraft paper bags, or in your own 32-gallon container labeled “yard waste” so the driver can see it. Branches and brush must be cut into 4-foot lengths and bundled with string or twine. Each bundle must not exceed 50 lbs. Unbundled brush/ will not be collected. Whole trees and limbs greater than 4 inches in diameter and stumps are not included in the weekly pickup. Please note that sod, whole trees, stumps, and dirt are not part of the weekly yard waste program. This program resumes April 6, 2023.

WINTER IS UPON US

Snowy weather is likely coming soon and our fine public works crew is prepared for snow removal this season. Crews will move as quickly as possible to address snow removal on our roadways and appreciate the patience of residents as these needs are addressed. Please remember to limit on-street parking in accordance with city ordinances to allow for plows to safely and efficiently remove roadway snow.

For More Information Please Visit Us At: www.wilmington-il.com

GIVING BACK

City Hall staff is very thankful for all the not-for-profit organizations who contribute to our community and will be giving back by collecting non-perishable goods during business hours (Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm) through November 18 to donate to the Kuzma Care Cottage. Look for the collection bin in the lobby near the front counter.

2023 LOCAL ELECTION

Nominating petitions and all necessary forms, including signature requirements, are available for pick up at Wilmington City Hall, 1165 S. Water Street, Wilmington from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for candidates who would like to circulate petitions for the April 4, 2023 Consolidated Election.

The following offices for the City of Wilmington will be nominated for election:

One (1) City Clerk – 2 year unexpired term
One (1) First Ward Alderman – 4 year full term
One (1) Second Ward Alderman – 4 year full term
One (1) Third Ward Alderman – 4 year full term
One (1) Fourth Ward Alderman – 4 year full term

The first day to file a petition is December 12, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. The last day for filing is December 19, 2022 until 5:00 p.m.

It is extremely important that prospective candidates learn about the qualifications and requirements for a particular office, gather enough valid signatures, and correctly submit the necessary paperwork so they are not taken off the ballot. Many potential candidates are not always familiar with the process and make mistakes that jeopardize their candidacies. The Candidate’s Guide is available on the Illinois State Board of Elections website at: www.elections.il.gov

CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS ON:

Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 24th
Day After Thanksgiving - Friday, November 25th
Christmas Eve - Friday December 23rd
Christmas Day - Monday, December 26th
New Year's Day - Monday, January 2nd
UPCOMING FUN!
So, the newsletter we plan to send out to you quarterly will have a listing of programs and events you may want to frequent. Due to space constraints, we can't give you too many details about each in the calendar itself in our newly renovated Community Room. We completed a renovation of the foyer and bathrooms as well thanks to a Live and Learn Construction grant from the Illinois State Library!
Many programs require registration because we have to prepare materials for each participant, but many are simple drop ins. We encourage you to join us in one of our many free programs. Last year we had a Teddy Bear sleepover that was a viral hit on the Internet. This year the elves are joining in, and we expect even more mischief. Jane Austen will step out of the past and into the library for her birthday tea party. We like to be sure we have a program that suits our publics various interests, consider joining our Book Club, Genealogy Club, Lego Club, or Barbie Club.
We have things you can take and make, or you can make things with us in one of many different craft programs. The kids are out of school, and you need a break? Send them to us for one of many events we have scheduled. As always, we have the latest selection of books, movies, and more available for you in multiple formats, ready for your all your winter moments of rest. Speaking of winter, in times of ice and snow always check before you come out to see us. When roads are really bad, we tend to err on the side of safety and curl up with a good book.

LIBRARY OF THINGS
The library is pleased to announce that we are adding a whole new service! We are lending you useful “things!” You already know about our hotspot lending and laptop lending but now we have a wide range of other useful items you can borrow! We appreciate the generous gifts from Whitmore Ace, Lowes, Target, Home Depot, and Meijers and thanks to them we now have a fun collection of tools, kitchen items, Electronics, and so much more! Come check things out or visit our webpage to see the list of things. More things added all the time. View a list of programs coming up in the calendar in the center of the newsletter.

THE DROP
We know many still are unaware of the 24/7 service station we built during the pandemic. This little building currently houses 32 lockers that have been handling the holds for over 800 patrons who want the 24/7 access to their materials, as well as public computer, a free book rack, and a small courtesy black and white air printer/copier. Some days this winter when we cannot open we take great comfort in knowing those of you with rugged vehicles will be able to get your holds. Sign up for the service today and start enjoying the freedom to pick up at any time.

NOTICES
• We offer free notary service during our normal operating hours.
• Be on the look out! The Winter Reading Program is coming.
• Follow us on Facebook for program updates.
• Follow us on TikTok for entertainment.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES
Wednesday, November 23rd- Closing at 5 PM Thanksgiving Day
Closed
Friday, November 25th
Closed
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
Closed
New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day
Closed

Hours
Monday - Thursday 9 am - 8pm
Friday and Saturday 9 am- 5 pm
Sunday 12- 5pm

Get our PrairieCat Mobile app in the Google Play Store or in Itunes
Group Fitness Classes:
- Boot Camp
- F.I.T.
- Low Impact Chair Workout
- Yoga
- Me Time Workouts!

Youth Tumbling:
- Parent & Tot
- Beginner
- Advanced
- Jumps & Stunts

12/5 @ 6pm Mommy & Me Paint Night

Wilmington Park District

Christkindl Market
It's the most festive day in Wilmington! And we have a fun filled day for you. Check out our website for all the details or stop in and grab a brochure! Join us downtown for:

3-8pm Christkindlmarket Events & Activities
5pm Chamber of Commerce - Gingerbread House Holiday Parade
7-9pm Lion's Club & Wilmington Park District Island Lights Walk Opens!

Children's Memorial Park Project
We are working hard on some updates to better serve Wilmington! Stop by to see the plans and how we are making it happen with local organizations including: Rotary, Foundation for Parks and the Park District!

GYM HOURS
Monday - 5am-8pm
Tuesday - 5am-8pm
Wednesday - 5am-8pm
Thursday - 5am-8pm
Friday - 5am-8pm
Saturday - 7am-6pm
Sunday - 7am-2pm

HOLIDAY HOURS
Wednesday, Nov 23rd 6am-6pm
Thanksgiving Day - CLOSED
Friday, Nov 25th 7am-6pm
Saturday, Nov 26th 7am-4pm
Christmas Eve - CLOSED
Christmas Day - CLOSED
New Year's Eve - CLOSED
New Year's Day - CLOSED

PARK NEWS
*Youth Basketball Coming Soon!*
Bring the family to the annual

Wilmington Chamber
Lighted Christmas parade

Saturday, Nov. 26
Parade steps off at 5 p.m. at Ryan and Water Street, traveling north on Water Street through downtown Wilmington

The theme for the annual parade is a Gingerbread House Christmas

Free hot chocolate will be available at various locations downtown. Following the parade, gather around the gazebo at Claire’s Corner Park for a holiday performance by the WHS Show Cats. That will be followed by a presentation honoring the Business Person of the Year. Santa visits will then be held under the gazebo until 6:45 p.m. before he departs for the North Island Park to turn on the lights. The Lions Club’s Christmas display will be turned on at 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Nov. 26 and then continue nightly from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Buy a Christmas Parade button for a chance in a Dec. 16th split-the-pot drawing
If your button number is drawn, you win!
Look for buttons while shopping at various Wilmington stores.