

# WILMINGTON CONNECTS



• • • NEWSLETTER • • •  
**W I N T E R 2 0 2 5 / 2 0 2 6**



# WARM WISHES FOR A JOYFUL HOLIDAY SEASON

***Message from the Mayor - As winter settles over Wilmington, our community continues to shine with resilience, cooperation, and hometown spirit. From seasonal maintenance to holiday celebrations and upcoming projects, your City government remains committed to keeping Wilmington safe, connected, and moving forward. We encourage everyone to stay informed, participate in local events, and check in on neighbors who may need a helping hand during the colder months. Together, we make Wilmington a warm place to call home—no matter the weather.***

**The United Way of Will County offers support during winter challenges through a free, confidential 24-hour information and referral center. Available services include:**

- Mental health services
- Addiction support
- Crisis counseling
- Food programs
- Shelter and housing options
- Employment and education assistance
- Financial aid

Residents can access the 211 Helpline for all human services in Will County by calling **\*\*211\*\***, texting **\*\*898211\*\***, or visiting [uwwill.org/211] (<https://uwwill.org/211>)

## **City Offices Closed For The Following Holidays**

- Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, Nov 27th
- Day After Thanksgiving - Friday, Nov 28th
- Christmas Eve - Wednesday, Dec 24th
- Christmas Day - Thursday, Dec 25th
- New Year's Day - Thursday, January 1st



## **Winter Snow Removal Notice**

Winter can present various challenges, and snow removal is essential for maintaining safety and accessibility in the City of Wilmington. As snow plows work diligently to clear the roads, it's common for snow to be pushed onto sidewalks, particularly at intersection corners. We kindly remind all residents and business owners that it is their responsibility to remove these snow berms from the corners, ensuring that the snow is placed onto the parkway rather than back into the street.

## **Important Parking Reminder**

Please be aware that on-street parking is prohibited under City Ordinance Section 76.01 during snowfalls of one inch or more.

Your cooperation in keeping vehicles off the streets significantly assists our Public Works teams in efficiently clearing the roads. Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping Wilmington safe and accessible during snow events!



## Holiday Utility Bill Gift Certificate Program

As we embrace this season of gratitude, reflection, and generosity, the City is pleased to present an opportunity to "gift" someone by covering their utility bill.

The holiday utility bill gift certificate program is designed for those wishing to support the less fortunate or simply to treat a friend or loved one.

For additional details on how to make a gift, please contact City Hall at 815-476-2175.

## Electronic Recycling

**Got string lights with burnt-out bulbs?** Too tangled to use? Or lights that just don't bring holiday joy anymore? You can drop them off at City Hall during Will County's monthly electronics recycling events. Additional items for recycling include the following: televisions (limit 2), monitors, printers, computers (desktops, laptops, notebooks, tablets), electronic keyboards, fax machines, videocassette recorders, portable digital music players, DVD players, DVD recorders, video game consoles, small scale servers, scanners, electronic mice, digital converter boxes, cable receivers, satellite receivers, cell phones, computer cable, portable digital assistants, and zip drives.

This service takes place the second Thursday of each month from 5 PM to 7 PM at the City Hall front parking lot. The 2025/2026 dates for electronic recycling are as follows: **December 11, January 8, February 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12**

## A Look Ahead: Community Goals for 2026

The City Council and Administration remain focused on initiatives including:

- Enhancing infrastructure and improving road conditions
- Continuing riverfront and park improvements
- Expanding communication tools for residents
- Strengthening emergency preparedness
- Supporting local small business development

Your input is always welcome as we plan for the future of Wilmington.

**For additional information about the city, please visit our website at (<https://www.wilmington-il.gov>)**



CITY OF WILMINGTON



# Winter Programs



WILMINGTON PARK DISTRICT

## Holiday Happenings!

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> - Kid's Night Out

Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> - Stitch & Sparkle:  
Sewing reusable gift bags

Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Polar Express

Day: Movie & Activities

Dec 22nd-Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> - Winter  
Break Camp

## Disney Trivia!

Join us for Disney Family Trivia Night on January 17th, 6-8 PM! Reserve a table for \$40 (includes pizza, drink & trivia fun). Dress in your best Disney theme - the most magical table wins a \$50 gift certificate! Learn more and reserve at [www.islandparkdistrict.com](http://www.islandparkdistrict.com)

## Youth Programing Schedule

Ballet/Tumbling: Tues @ 5pm (3&4)

Thurs @ 5pm (5+)

Lil Adventurers: Tues @ 9am (1-4)

Toddler Open Play: Fri @ 8-10am (1-3)

Youth Volleyball: Mon @ 5pm\*

Youth Basketball: Tues & Thurs @ 5pm\*

\*Check online for individual age group practice times

## Winter Break Camp

Looking for a safe, fun, and engaging place for your child during winter break? Look no further than Winter Break Camp! Our program offers supervised activities, games, crafts, and plenty of playtime to keep your child active and entertained while school's out.

Join us for festive fun and friendship this holiday season!

Camp runs Dec. 22 through Jan. 2. Please note that we are closed on Dec. 24th, Dec. 25th, and Jan 1st, and will close early on Dec. 31st. Register today to secure your spot!

## CLOSED DATES

Dec. 17 - CLOSED @6pm

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - 5am-12pm

Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> - CLOSED

Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> - OPEN @ 6am

Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - 5am-12pm

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> - CLOSED

## Water St. Fitness Hours

M-F 5am-8pm

Sat. 7am-6pm

Sun. 7am-2pm

\*unless otherwise stated

\*Register online or at front desk\*

[www.islandparkdistrict.com](http://www.islandparkdistrict.com)



@wilmingtonparkdistrict



# Winter Programs

## That's sew interesting!



Please welcome seamstress Katie and her skills for The Intro to Sewing class! This class is designed for beginners who want to learn the basic skills needed to sew by hand and with a sewing machine. This class covers essential sewing techniques, tools, fabrics, and simple projects to build confidence and creativity. No prior experience is required. Intermediate class to follow in February. Let's learn together!

## Wellness Fair 🌿 1/6 @5pm

Explore local health and wellness resources, learn about gym specials, & discover our new accountability program designed to help you stay on track with your goals. Meet community partners, ask questions, and leave with practical tools, freebies, and motivation to feel your best all year long.



## Choose Happy & Healthy 2026!

We are kicking off 2026 by choosing happy and healthy! It is time to manifest, learn and put into action. Check out all the details online and on FB but definitely save the date to kick off the new year right!

Mon - Vision Board Making (Y & A)  
Tues - Wellness Fair  
Wed & Thurs - Group Fitness Demonstrations

## Winter Special Events!

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> - Kid's Night Out

Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Polar Express Day

Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> - Teen & Adult Vision Board Making

Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> - Wellness Fair

Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> - Group Fitness Demo Night

Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> - Disney Trivia

Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> - Mother Son Dance

Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> - Daddy Daughter Date Night

Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> - Critter Class

## New Year's Gym Special

Ring in the New Year with savings and strength! Get 3 months for \$60, PLUS FREE ITEM! \*While supplies last\*



WILMINGTON PARK DISTRICT



\*Register online or at front desk\*

[www.islandparkdistrict.com](http://www.islandparkdistrict.com)



@wilmingtonparkdistrict



# December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>Spice Club: Allspice</p>	1 Christmas Around the World Take Home Craft: Mexico Genealogy Club @6pm	2 X-mas Decoration Exchange @10am-2pm City Council Mtg. @7pm	3	4 Planning & Zoning Mtg. @5pm	5 Hallmark X-mas Movie @1pm Cookie Crawl @5pm Kids' Night Out @6pm	6 Rick Riordan Book Club @1pm
7	8 C.A.t.W. Take Home Craft: Dominican Republic Story Time @12pm LEGO Club @3:30pm Stitch & Sparkle Sewing	9 Homeschool Fun @10am Committee of the Whole Mtg. @5:30pm	10 In-person Craft: X-mas Snowman Craft @1pm	11 Electronics Recycling @5pm	12 Jane Austen X-mas Tea Party @1pm	13 Open Crafting: X-mas Cards/Gift Tags @11am-2pm
14	15 C.A.t.W. Take Home Craft: Germany Story Time @2pm Blood Drive @3pm	16 Finance & Land Mtg. @6:30pm City Council Mtg. @7pm	17 Bingo @1pm	18 Park District Board Mtg. @7pm	19 Cozy Mystery Book Club @1pm	20
21 	22 Polar Express Day @9am-12pm	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26 LIHEAP @9-11:30am	27 
	28 Barbie Club @3:30pm New Year's Painting Craft @2pm	30	31			

**\*WPLD Weekly Recurring Programs:**

Homework Happy Hour: Wednesdays @3:30pm;  
Coffee, Tea, My Toddler, & Me: Thursdays @11am;  
Kidz Crafternoon: Thursdays @6pm

**Park District Youth Recurring Classes (12/2 - 12/16):**

Lil Adventurers: Tuesdays @9am;

**Park District Adult Group Fitness (12/1 - 12/19):**

Low Impact Chair: M/W/F @10am; HIIT Days: M/W @11am;  
Line Dancing: M @6:30pm; Pilates: T @6pm;  
Throw Down Dance Fitness: W @5:30pm; Yoga: W @6:30pm;  
Cardio Box: Th @11:30am; Pilates: Th @6pm

**CALENDAR KEY**

CITY HALL

LIBRARY: ADULT SERVICES

LIBRARY: YOUTH SERVICES

PARK DISTRICT: ADULT PROGRAM

PARK DISTRICT: YOUTH PROGRAM

OTHER LOCAL ORGANIZER

# January 2026

**SUNDAY      MONDAY      TUESDAY      WEDNESDAY      THURSDAY      FRIDAY      SATURDAY**



4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Vision Boards:  
Teens @1pm  
Intro to  
Sewing @6pm  
Vision Boards:  
Adults @6pm

Wellness Fair  
@5pm  
PJ Story  
Time @6pm  
City Council  
Mtg. @7pm

FREE Group  
Fitness Class  
@6pm

Planning & Zoning  
Mtg. @5pm  
Electronics  
Recycling @5pm  
FREE Group  
Fitness Class  
@6pm

Rick Riordan  
Book Club  
@1pm  
Bunco  
@1pm

LEGO Club  
@3:30pm

Homeschool Fun  
@10am  
Committee of the  
Whole Mtg.  
@5:30pm

In-Person Craft:  
Winter Craft  
@1pm

Disney Trivia  
@5pm

Board Mtg.  
@7pm

Finance & Land  
Mtg. @6:30pm  
City Council  
Mtg. @7pm

Bingo  
@1pm

Park District  
Board Mtg.  
@7pm

LIHEAP  
@9-11:30am  
Cozy Mystery  
Book Club  
@1pm

Rick Riordan  
Book Club  
@1pm

Barbie Club  
@3:30pm  
Organizing w/  
Meal Planning:  
M. Colleen  
Klimczak @6pm  
Volleyball @6pm

Homeschool  
Fun @10am

Classic Film  
Showcase  
@1pm



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Homework Happy Hour: Wednesdays @3:30pm;  
Coffee, Tea, My Toddler, & Me: Thursdays @11am;  
Kidz Crafternoon: Thursdays @6pm

Park District Youth Recurring Classes (1/05 - 2/26):  
Volleyball: M @5pm; Basketball: T/Th @5pm  
(1/13 - 3/26) Ballet & Tumble (3 & 4 y.o.) T @5pm;  
Ballet & Tumble (5+) Th @5pm  
(1/06 - 3/26) Open Play Toddler Time: F @8am

Park District Adult Group Fitness (1/12 - 3/27):  
Sweat & Sitters: M @9am; Low Impact Chair: M/W/F @10am;  
HIIT Days: M/W @11am; BellyFusion Fitness: M @6pm;  
Throw Down Dance Fitness: W @5:30pm;  
Yoga: W @6:30pm; Stretch & Restore: Th @10am;  
Cardio Box: Th @11:30am; Pilates: M @5pm & Th @6pm  
(1/13 - 4/14) Seated Tai Chi: T @10am

# February

**SUNDAY      MONDAY      TUESDAY      WEDNESDAY      THURSDAY      FRIDAY      SATURDAY**

**1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7**

Winter Reading Begins:  
Hibernate with a Good Book!

Genealogy Club @6pm  
Intermediate Sewing @6pm

City Council Mtg. @7pm

In-person Craft: Valentine's Day Craft @1pm

Planning & Zoning Mtg. @5pm

Mother/Son Dance

Rick Riordan Book Club @1pm  
Daddy/Daughter Date Night

**8                      9                      10                      11                      12                      13                      14**

Volleyball at WHS @6pm

Hibernation Station @3:30pm  
Committee of the Whole Mtg. @5:30pm

Passport to Celebration @1pm

Electronics Recycling @5pm

**HAPPY Valentine's DAY**

**15                      16                      17                      18                      19                      20                      21**

Movie & Cozy Fort Day! @1pm  
Critter Class @6pm  
Board Mtg. @7pm

Hibernation Station @3:30pm  
Finance & Land Mtg. @6:30pm  
City Council Mtg. @7pm

Bingo @1pm

Rick Riordan Book Club @1pm

**22                      23                      24                      25                      26                      27                      28**

Volleyball at WHS @6pm

Hibernation Station @3:30pm

Classic Film Showcase @1pm

Park District Board Mtg. @7pm

LIHEAP @9-11:30am  
Cozy Mystery Book Club @1pm

End of Winter Reading!

**\*WPLD Weekly Recurring Programs:**

Homework Happy Hour: Wednesdays @3:30pm;  
Coffee, Tea, My Toddler, & Me: Thursdays @11am;  
Kidz Crafternoon: Thursdays @6pm

**Park District Youth Recurring Classes (1/05 - 2/26):**

Volleyball: M @5pm; Basketball: T/Th @5pm  
(1/13 - 3/26) Ballet & Tumble (3 & 4 y.o.) T @5pm;  
Ballet & Tumble (5+) Th @5pm  
(1/06 - 3/26) Open Play Toddler Time: F @8am  
(2/3 - 3/24) Lil Adventurers: T @9am

**Park District Adult Group Fitness (1/12 - 3/27):**

Sweat & Sitters: M @9am; Low Impact Chair: M/W/F @10am;  
HIIT Days: M/W @11am; BellyFusion Fitness: M @6pm;  
Throw Down Dance Fitness: W @5:30pm;  
Yoga: W @6:30pm; Stretch & Restore: Th @10am;  
Cardio Box: Th @11:30am; Pilates: M @5pm & Th @6pm  
(1/13 - 4/14) Seated Tai Chi: T @10am

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# MOTHER SON LUAU!



02.06.26

6pm-8pm

St. Rose School

# Daddy Daughter LUAU!



02.07.26

6PM-8PM

ST. ROSE SCHOOL

## WINTER SCHEDULE

1/12 - 3/23

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:00	Sweat and Sitters				
10:00-11:00	Low Impact Chair	Seated Tai Chi	Low Impact Chair	Stretch and Restore	
11:00-12:00	HIIT		HIIT	Cardiobox (11:30am)	
5:00-6:00	Pilates	Ballet/Tumbling 3-4 year olds	Throw Down Dance (5:30pm)	Ballet/Tumbling 5-9 year olds	
6:00-7:00	Belly Dance Fusion		Yoga (6:30pm)	Pilates	
7:00-8:00					



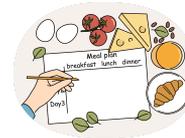
## JANE AUSTEN TEA PARTY

The Wilmington Public Library District invites the community to step into the elegance and charm of the Regency era at our Jane Austen Christmas Tea, a holiday celebration honoring the beloved author's 250th birthday.

Join us on Friday, December 12th at 1 PM for an afternoon filled with music, creativity, and holiday cheer. Guests will enjoy a live performance by violinist Alaina Bahr, and attendees can participate in a craft, creating a charming keepsake to take home. A selection of tea and light refreshments will be served, adding to the cozy and elegant spirit of the event. And for those who wish to truly embrace the occasion, feel free to come dressed in Regency-inspired attire! Registration is required for this special program.

## BLOOD DRIVE

Give back this holiday season at our blood drive on December 15th from 3-7 PM! Sign ups appreciated and walk-ins welcome! Donors will receive a special winter sweater from our friends at Versiti while supplies last!



## ORGANIZING WITH MEAL PLANNING

Start the New Year feeling prepared, confident, and organized! The Wilmington Public Library District is pleased to welcome M. Colleen Klimczak, Certified Professional Organizer, for an empowering and practical program: Organizing with Meal Planning.

Join us on Monday, January 26th at 6 PM to learn how to streamline your days, simplify dinner time, and create routines that truly work for you and your family. Colleen will guide participants through clarifying their goals, defining what "healthy" means in their own households, and building a meal-planning system that fits real life.

Attendees will explore a variety of strategies, tools, and timesaving tips designed to take the stress out of getting meals on the table. Whether you are looking to reduce weeknight chaos, eat more intentionally, or simply feel more in control of your schedule, this program offers something for everyone. Registration is required, so call us at 815-476-2834 to sign up!



Be on the lookout for The Palace Project! Our new app that will host the eRead Illinois collection.





## CLASSIC FILM SHOWCASE RETURNS

Lights, camera, nostalgia! The Wilmington Public Library District is excited to announce the return of our Classic Film Showcase, celebrating timeless movies and legendary performers. Join us each month as we revisit beloved favorites from Hollywood's golden years. Our 2026 showcase begins on Wednesday, January 28th at 1 PM with the iconic Western adventure *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, starring the unforgettable duo Paul Newman and Robert Redford. The showcase continues on Wednesday, February 25th at 1 PM with the heartwarming classic *Father of the Bride*, featuring Elizabeth Taylor and Spencer Tracy in one of cinema's most cherished family comedies. Call 815-476-2834 to sign up today!

### Library Hours

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

Library Phone Number  
815-476-2834

Get our PrairieCat Mobile app in the Google Play Store or in Itunes



## PAJAMA STORY TIME

Bring your littles and celebrate New Year's with a cuddly PJ Story Time on January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Bring a blanket and your favorite stuffed animal and join Mrs. Amanda as she reads some cozy stories.



## WINTER READING PROGRAM

Our Winter Reading Program will run the entire month of February. Sign up beginning February 1st and complete your final book check in by February 28th, 2025. Earn raffle tickets for fun prizes just by reading! Adult patrons will earn one raffle ticket per book and Youth patrons will have weekly check-ins to earn raffle tickets. More information to follow!

## NOTICES

The Library will be closed Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>, and January 1<sup>st</sup>.



# Light the Way Wilmington 2025!

Registration opens Sunday,  
November 30th!

Visit [www.wilmingtonlibrary.org/lighttheway](http://www.wilmingtonlibrary.org/lighttheway)



The holidays can be a bit gloomy for some, so let's light the way to some holiday cheer!

Wilmington Rotary is happy to announce the opening of the fourth Annual Holiday Lights Contest and Holiday Walk! Applications may be submitted beginning November 30th by filling out the registration form at:

[www.wilmingtonlibrary.org/lighttheway/](http://www.wilmingtonlibrary.org/lighttheway/)

Fill out the registration form, pay the \$10 registration fee, and get added to the map so people can start admiring all of your hard work!

The Following Categories will be awarded \$100.00 Chamber of Commerce Gift Certificates:

- **Family Favorite-** Best Family Friendly Display. Judges will be children!
- **The Clark Griswold Award -** I can see you from Outer Space!
- **People's Choice-** get all your friends to vote for you!

Winners will be announced December 23rd. Good luck, and light them up!  
All Proceeds go towards Rotary's Local Causes.

Text-For-HELP gives teens and their families a healthy resource to express their struggles.



Teens dealing with any type of feelings can use our anonymous service to get professional help from our certified counselors.

Text 1-844-823-5323 with the message of 476-Help and a response will be texted back within 3 minutes.