

Volume
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Issue
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February
2019

Willard Watch

**SHOP LOCAL,
EAT LOCAL,
SPEND LOCAL,
ENJOY LOCAL.**

**IT TAKES YOU TO
START THE TREND.**

Support the local businesses who
support the area where you live,
work, and play.



A message from the Clerk....

Do you know what one of the best ways to boost your City economy is? Buy local! Willard is blessed to have some wonderful businesses! From Grocery stores, to convenience stores, farmers market, even antiques, there is something for everyone! The world today is getting away from shopping local and shopping more online, as it is convenient. Did you know that your community loses out on the revenue from the purchases done online? Is there something you wish Willard had? Speak up! Encourage your favorite places to look at Willard as a location for their next prime spot. With the 4-lane coming in and the upgrades

happening, Willard is changing. Our community is one of the best around, and it relies on us all to continue being the best place to be in southwest Missouri!

Jennifer Rowe

City Clerk / Director of Emergency Management



Safety Tips on Heating Your Home

With the cold of January almost over, we are now facing the cold of February. With that in mind, Willard Fire would like to remind you of some **safety tips on space heaters and chimneys**. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) put out a report in December 2018 on **Home Fires Involving Heating Equipment**. The report says that heating equipment is a leading cause of fires in U.S. homes.

- Heating equipment fires accounted for 15% of all reported home fires in 2012-2016 (second behind cooking) and 19% of home fire deaths.
- The leading factor contributing to home heating fires (27%) was failure to clean, principally from solid-fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys.
- The leading factor contributing to ignition for home heating fire deaths (54%) was heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding.
- Most home heating fire deaths (86%) involved stationary or portable space heaters.

Tips for keeping warm and safe this winter:

- Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet (one meter) away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot (one meter) "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.

Nearly half (48%) of all home heating fires occurred in December, January and February.



If you have questions or would like further information, please contact us at 417-685-3114 or info@willardfire.com. You can visit our website www.willardfire.com or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

2019 Comprehensive Plan Survey

How should Willard grow over the next twenty years?
What should downtown Willard look like?
Are you satisfied with City Services?

Answer these questions and more in a five minute survey to guide the City of Willard for the next ten years!
Go to www.smcog.org/willard or come into City Hall to pick up and return surveys.

The survey is open until February 21, 2019.



Payment Options

The City of Willard is giving residents the flexibility to go online to pay their bill. By going to www.municipalonlinepayments.com/willardmo to set up a new account, you can now pay at your convenience. Bank card auto pay is also, now available as well. You can now set up automatic bank card payments* that you control.

* there is a \$1.25 fee for credit/debt card payments

Payment Options

If you are going to mail a check or you are paying via your bank on line, please make sure to allow 7 to 10 days for the check to reach our office. This will help avoid any late fees that may accrue.





BRRRRRRRRRR!!! This weather is CRAZY cold! Come on in to the Rec Center this month, and warm yourself up in our gymnasiums. We have open gym hours most mornings, which is perfect for those of you looking to get some walking in, play some hoops, or even play some Pickleball! That's right, we now offer **Pickleball in the Big Gym**, from 9:00AM-1:00PM every weekday except for Wednesday, starting February 4th! Not sure how to play? We'll teach you!



Not in the Pickleball mood?

That's fine, we have much more going on! We have our **Middle School Valentine's Sweetheart Dance on February 8th**, we have **Spring Soccer & Volleyball registration going through March 4th**, for K-6th grade, and we've opened up registration for our **Indoor Yard Sale on April 6th**! There's something for everyone up at The Rec Center, check out our website for even more (<http://www.willardparks.com>).

Shop Local

"Going local does not mean walling off the outside world. It means nurturing locally owned businesses which use local resources sustainably, employ local workers at decent wages and serve primarily local consumers. It means becoming more self-sufficient and less dependent on imports. Control moves from the boardrooms of distant corporations and back into the community where it belongs." – Michael H. Shuman, author of the book *Going Local*.



- Local Economic Stimulus.** When you purchase at locally owned businesses rather than nationally owned, more money is kept in the community because locally-owned businesses often purchase from other local businesses, service providers and farms. For every \$100 you spend at locally owned businesses, \$68 will stay in the community. What happens when you spend that same \$100 at a national chain? Only \$43 stays in the community. Purchasing local helps grow other businesses as well as the local tax base.
- Non Profits Receive Greater Support.** Local business owners donate more to local charities than non-local owners.
- Unique Businesses Create Character & Prosperity.** The unique character of your local community is defined in large part by the business that reside there, and that plays a big factor in your overall satisfaction with where you live and the value of you home and property.
- Environmental Impact Is Reduced.** Small local business usually set up shop in the town/village center, providing a centralized variety that is much friendlier to a community's walk score than out of town shopping malls. This generally means contributing less to sprawl, congestion, habitat loss and pollution.
- Most New Jobs Are Provided By Local Businesses.** Small local businesses are the largest employers nationally. Plus the more jobs you have in your local community the less people are going to have to commute which means more time and less traffic and pollution.
- Customer Service Is Better.** Local businesses often hire people with more specific product expertise for better customer service. You are also going to see these people around town and they are less likely to blow you off or be rude because they have to face you day after day.
- Local Business Owners Invest In Community.** Local businesses are owned by people who live in this community, are less likely to leave, and are more invested in the community's welfare and future.
- Public Benefits Far Outweigh Public Costs.** Local businesses require comparatively little infrastructure and more efficiently utilize public services relative to chain stores.
- Competition And Diversity Leads To More Consumer Choices.** A marketplace of thousands of small businesses is the best way to ensure innovation and low prices over the long-term.
- You Matter More.** We talk a lot about exerting influence with your purchasing choices, or "voting with your wallet." It's a fact that businesses respond to their customers but your values and desires are much more influential to your local community business than the large big box stores.

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SPEND LOCAL. ENJOY LOCAL.
START THE TREND!**

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where you live, work and play.**

A Big Thank You

This month we want to recognize a group of very important individuals to the success of Willard Schools, our Board of Education members! We're blessed with seven people who care deeply about our students and the future of Willard. **Thank you** to Board President **Kip Baker**, Vice President **Ron Crighton**, **Jeff Baker**, **Jennifer Fickbohm**, **Julie Germann**, **Dr. Janell Royal**, and **Matthew Young** for your commitment to each student at Willard Schools! If you see any of these individuals in the community, please take a moment to thank them for their service to our District.



Kindergarten Screening

For our families with future Willard Tigers, it is time to schedule Kindergarten screening for any student in the District that turns 5 by July 31, 2019.

- 4/9/19: Orchard Hills 417-869-0600**
- 4/12/19: Willard East 417-742-4639**
- 4/16/19: Willard Central 417-831-4440**
- 4/18/19: Willard South 417-862-6308**
- 4/26/19: Willard North 417-742-2597**

If you don't know which building your child will attend, please call District Office at 417-742-2584.

Half Day February 15

A reminder for our families, Friday, February 15th is a student half day! This means grades K-6 will release at 12:30PM and grades 7-12 will release at 11:30AM. This is a professional learning day for our staff members. Also, Monday, February 18th we will be IN SESSION as a snow make-up day.

Meet Volunteer Brandon McKinney

Brandon McKinney joined two years ago and is working on getting his certifications. He is a family man and works a full time job but still finds time to spend his mandatory 24 hours at the station and go to trainings and classes. That's what volunteers do!

How long have you been in the fire service? "I have been in the fire service for 2 years."

What was your reason for joining the fire service? "Working in the fire service is one of the best ways to give back to the community. When people call the fire department they are doing so because something terrible happened and it is likely the worst day of their lives. I want to be on the team that shows up to help. At the end of the day I can come home and feel good about my day. When my kids ask how my day was, I'm proud to tell them about the people we help. Most of all, I want to set a good example to my kids. What better way than to use some of my free time helping others?"

What are your hobbies away from work? "My family and I go on several long camping trips throughout the year. We try to travel some place new every other year. When I'm not at the fire station or my day job, you can usually find me at Taneycomo or Table Rock with my kids. I am also into 3D printing, Cub Scouts with my sons, and hiking."

When you look back on life, what do you hope will be your biggest accomplishment? "My biggest hope is that I can look back and see that I was a good example to my children and raised them to be happy and successful. I know being in the fire service will be a highlight."



FEBRUARY
15
TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DAY
HALF DAY



Meeting Dates

Board of Aldermen

February.....11th & 25th

Planning and Zoning

February.....26th

Park Board

February.....28th

Economic Development

February.....19th

Contacts

Mayor

Corey Hendrickson.....417-234-4713

Board of Aldermen

Brandon Bond.....417-872-9530
Donna Stewart.....417-493-9894
Sam Baird.....417-844-0636
Samuel Snider.....417-839-9444
Jon Jones.....417-224-2805
Larry Whitman.....417-343-0994

City Administrator

Bradley Gray.....417-742-3033 ext 5304

City Clerk

Jennifer Rowe.....417-742-3033 ext 5302

Chief of Police

Tom McClain417-742-3033 ext 5341