

# Willard Watch

## Freedom Fest 2017



# June 24, 2017



# We Connect

**W**e are Willard, we are one, we want your feedback! Starting this month, we are sharing additional opportunities for you to connect with Willard leadership and to thought-partner with fellow Willard citizens through our 2017 Citizen Advisory Network (CAN). Through this CAN initiative ALL customers of Willard are welcome to attend the advisory committee that most closely aligns with their interests. The objective of each committee will be to surface survey questions for a



community-wide survey, which will be distributed to all customers this August. Results from our community survey will be incorporated into Willard's (twenty-year) Comprehensive Plan. Committees being formed:

## **Community Development Committee**

– This committee is for those interested in realty, construction, property management, landscaping, house cleaning, grant writing, or data collection.

## **Developing Tigers Committee**

– This committee is for those interested in education, childcare, school programs, DARE programs, law enforcement or security, grant

writing, or data collection.

## **Outreach Committee**

– This committee is for those interested in marketing, graphic design, economic branding, tourism, industrial partnerships, rural services, annexation, grant writing, or data collection.

## **Economic Impact Committee**

– This committee is for those interested in supporting Willard businesses, grant writing, or data collection.

## **Veteran Tigers Committee**

– This committee is for those interested in honoring veterans, environmental sustainability, recycling, medical and healthcare issues, and grant writing and data collection.



## **Financial Perspectives Committee**

– This committee is for those interested in the financial position of the city, revenue collection processes, grant writing and data collection.

## **Innovation and Entrepreneurship Committee**

– This committee is for those interested in technology, innovation, entrepreneurship, ecommerce, grant writing and data collection.

If you are interested in the opportunity to share your perspective, please email the City Clerk at [clerk@cityofwillard.org](mailto:clerk@cityofwillard.org) with your contact information and committee choice. Once committees have been formed, a kickoff meeting will be held in June so you can meet your committee partners and schedule a working session in July to collect your committee's feedback.

## Prepare For The 4th Of July

In preparation for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, we thought we would share some safety tips from the National Council on Fireworks Safety. Please remember, if you do have a situation with fireworks with fire or injury to immediately dial 911.



### Recommended Safety Tips

- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks. (visit [www.cityofwillard.org](http://www.cityofwillard.org) for more information)
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult SHOULD supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks OUTDOORS in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Never carry fireworks in your POCKET or shoot them into METAL or GLASS containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- FAA regulations PROHIBIT the possession and transportation of fireworks in your checked baggage or carry-on luggage.
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the fire or police department.

### Don't Forget Our Pets

- Don't bring your pets to a fireworks display, even a small one.
- If fireworks are being used near your home, put your pet in a safe, interior room to avoid exposure to the sound.
- Make sure your pet has an identification tag, in case it runs off during a fireworks display.
- Never shoot fireworks of any kind (consumer fireworks, sparklers, fountains, etc.) near pets.

© The National Council on Fireworks Safety, Inc. • 1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20006

# 2017 Freedom Fest



Live Music! Sky Divers! Inflatables! Power Wheels! Food Trucks! Fireworks! And so much more at the 55<sup>th</sup> annual Willard Freedom Fest! Come join the crowd at 222 W Jackson Street beginning at 12 pm June 24<sup>th</sup>! We will have tons of craft, vendor, and food booths, so you're certain to find something that interests you! We will have the Aquatics center open all day, with \$6 day pass wristbands available so you can come and go as you please. We will have free bounce

houses for the little ones to play in, and there will also be Power Wheels and Pony Rides available. The Little Miss Firecracker Pageant begins at 1 pm, with the Car Show Awards and BBQ Awards to follow. Then stick around for the Freedom Fest Parade, followed by the Mark Chapman Band. The evening will include skydivers carrying an enormous American Flag, and will, of course, culminate in a huge fireworks show, with fireworks erupting both at the Jackson Street Park and just above the tree line to

the south of the park. Join us to celebrate America's birthday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, beginning at noon! Admission to the park is free!

## 2017 Freedom Fest Events Schedule



### 8-9 AM Community Breakfast

Location - Community Center  
Sponsored by The Junction Cafe  
Free event - Donations encouraged and benefit the Willard Parks Scholarship Fund

### All Day Shuttle Service

Pick up locations - Middle School, North Elementary/Intermediate &, The Rec Center

### 12-8 PM Willard Aquatic Center

Location - Jackson Street Park  
\$6 wrist band

### 12-8:30 PM Vendor Booths

For more information please visit our web site.

### 12-3 PM Car Show

Location - Jackson Street Park  
Registration is 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

### 12-2 PM BBQ Cook-off: Public Tasting

Location - Jackson Street Park  
or until the BBQ is gone! (\$5 per person)

### 1 PM Little Miss Firecracker Pageant

Location - Entertainment Stage @ Jackson Street Park  
Check in at noon

### 3:45 PM BBQ Cook-Off Awards

Location: Entertainment Stage at Jackson Street Park

### 5-6 PM Parade

Line up: Willard REC Center at 4 p.m.

### 6:15 PM Parade Winners

Location—Event Stage in Jackson Street Park

### 6 PM Riders

Location: Jackson Street Park  
Southern Sweethearts will be performing at TBA  
Stars & Steed will be performing at 6 p.m.

### 6:30—10:30 PM Mark Chapman Band

Location: Commerce Bank Entertainment Stage at Jackson Street Park

### 8-8:30 PM Sky Divers

Location - Jackson Street Park

### 9:30—10 PM Fireworks

All high flying and can be seen from Jackson Street Park  
Put on by [AM Pyrotechnics](#)

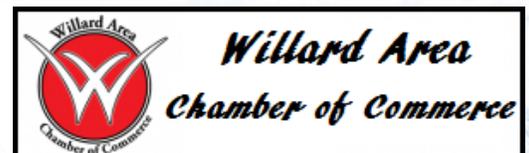
## Mark Chapman Band

The Mark Chapman Band will be performing again this year at Freedom Fest. They are a five piece regional band, hailing from Southwest Missouri, featuring Mark Chapman, Jeff Chapman, Randall Wildman, Vince Herbert and Jake Stringer. Infusing modern country music with a subtle rock and roll swagger, the Mark Chapman Band's unique sound is both honest and edgy, combining elements of traditional country, blues and

southern rock, and even some pop infused melodies to convey songs that relate to the life of the "common man." In the spirit of the traditional country rebels like Waylon, Willie, and Hank, The MCB continues to make new fans with their rockin' country sound, talented musicianship, and honest songwriting. The MCB has been fan voted "Best Original Band" for 417 magazine Best of 2014, 2015, and most recently, 2016 awards.

## Freedom Feast

Don't forget to make plans to try out some great BBQ during our People's Choice event on June 24<sup>th</sup>. It looks like we're going to have another park full of BBQ Teams competing in our Kansas City BBQ Society competition. Come out from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. (or until the food is gone) you can sample some of the best BBQ in Southwest Missouri.



\* For more information about the 2017 Freedom Fest please visit: [www.willardfreedomfest.com](http://www.willardfreedomfest.com), call Willard Parks and Recreation at 417-742-2622, or Willard Chamber of Commerce at 417-742-2442.



## Celebrating our Employees



We wrapped up another outstanding year at Willard Schools by celebrating our 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, & 30 year employees and retirees on the last day of school. We are honored to have incredible educators and support staff to lead Willard kids to success! The dedication of these individuals is definitely something to celebrate!

Intermediate heat and air project is now in full swing! We expect the project to be complete by the time students come back for the first day of school this fall. Other projects like the Willard Orchard Hills Elementary 4 classroom addition and design for the new Willard South Intermediate School, will be wrapping up this summer as well.

As we head into summer break, work on the Willard North/

As always, thank you for your support of Willard Schools!

## Help Keep Crypto At Bay

Did you know that the Center of Disease Control (CDC) has recently released a statement stating that Cryptosporidium (Crypto) outbreaks have more than doubled in the past 2 years. It is important to know that the Willard Aquatic Center has never had a case of Crypto and with your help, won't in the future. We will do our part in maintenance, protocol, and chemical control but we need you to do your part as well.

### The CDC Recommends:

- Don't swim or let your kids swim if sick with diarrhea.
- If diarrhea is caused by Crypto, wait until two weeks after diarrhea has stopped to go swimming.
- Don't swallow the water in which you swim.
- Rinse off in the shower before getting in the water to help remove any germs on your body that could contaminate the water.
- Take kids on bathroom breaks often, and check diapers in a diaper-changing area and not right next to the pool.

More info can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/.../.../p0518-cryptosporidium-outbreaks.html>

## Pool Passes

### Daily Fees

#### Residents

Ages 3 to 54.....\$4  
Ages 55+.....\$3

#### Non Residents

Ages 3 and up.....\$5  
*Groups of 10 or more may be eligible for a group rate of \$3 each.*

### Season Passes

#### Residents

Family Season Pass (Up to 3)...\$75  
Each Additional Family.....\$10  
Individual Season Pass.....\$50

#### Non Residents

Family Season Pass (Up to 3)...\$85  
Each Additional Family.....\$10  
Individual Season Pass.....\$60

## Meet Battalion Chief Kevin Samsel

In May, we promoted two of our captains to Battalion Chief and this month you get to meet one of them.

Battalion Chief Samsel joined the fire service 9 years ago. He began as a volunteer here with Willard. When Willard Fire became a combination department, volunteers and paid, Samsel was hired on as a career firefighter. He was promoted to Captain during his four years of service and is now a Battalion Chief.

Samsel has received the Willard Firefighter of the Year award three times and just recently received his diploma, Associates in Fire Science.

**What was your reason for joining the fire service?** "I had a background that involved driving semi-trucks and had been asked for several years to help out just by driving. I had young daughters and

didn't feel like I could give what I thought was the proper amount of time to the fire district.

Once my daughters were older and I felt I could donate some time I agreed to drive the fire trucks to calls or whatever. DRIVE!! That was it!! Well... I fell for the fire service, hook, line, and sinker, ended up quitting a higher paying job, and to this day, I do not have one single regret!"

### What is your favorite hobby away from work?

"I like to play golf and spend time with family, especially my two granddaughters."

**What adventure would you like to do?** I want to attend a game at every Major League Baseball stadium in the United States.




**From time to time the City of Willard will have Surplus Equipment for sale. If citizens are interested please see our website at [www.cityofwillard.org](http://www.cityofwillard.org)**

### Contacts

**Mayor**  
Corey Hendrickson.....417-234-4713

**Board of Aldermen**  
Donna Stewart.....417-493-9894  
Jamie Buckley.....417-830-0294  
Sam Baird.....417-844-0636  
Samuel Snider.....417-839-9444  
David Roggenses.....417-742-1169  
Larry Whitman.....417-343-0994

**City Administrator**  
Bradley Gray.....417-742-5304

**City Clerk**  
Jennifer Rowe.....417-742-5302

**Chief of Police**  
Tom McClain .....417-742-5341

### Meeting Dates

#### Board of Aldermen

June.....12th & 26th

#### Planning and Zoning

June.....27th

#### Park Board

June.....29th

#### Economic Development

June.....19th

**\*Reminder all meetings start at 7:00 p.m.\***