

Volume  
2  
Issue  
5  
May  
2018

# Willard Watch

WAC Opens  
May 26th



# A message from the Clerk....

We are officially in spring, which means severe weather can hit at any time. Do you have a plan? Do you have a radio? During this time of year, it is very important to stay weather aware and know the forecast before you make plans. Spring time in the Ozarks can bring beautiful sunshine, but it can also bring tornado's, high winds, rain and hail. Being prepared for it can be a life saver! Outdoor warning sirens are in place to alert those individuals who are outdoors and away from their homes, of impending weather. Weather alert radios in your home are vital to receiving these emergency alerts any time they are necessary. These in-home radios gained even more importance in 2002 when they became the alert system not only for weather, but other emergencies as well.

National Weather Service, First Responders, and Emergency Management professionals work hard to ensure

the safety of our citizens. But storms and hazards can pop up in an instant with no warning. Having a weather alert radio in your home, activating weather alert messages on your phone, and following local news and social media platforms for these offices are key to remaining aware. If you have any questions or would like more information, please send me an email at [clerk@cityofwillard.org](mailto:clerk@cityofwillard.org) !

Thank you all for making our City the best place to be in Southwest Missouri!

*Jennifer Rowe*

City Clerk / Director of Emergency Management



## You Can Be Our Hero

We all have seen movies or TV shows showing the firefighters running into the burning home and saving all the occupants while running through the flames. Although we do run into burning buildings and we do save people, the reality is, we may not always get there in time. This is the brutal truth. The information you find below may help save lives. Have you heard the term, **“Three and Out!”**? Research shows in the average home, about 30 years ago, you had around 17 minutes to escape from a house fire. Now, due to newer home construction materials and the newer materials of furniture inside the home, you have only three to four minutes to exit your home. Now compare this to the amount of time it may take the firefighters to arrive, somewhere between 5 and 10 minutes, depending on where you live. Even our training cannot cut that time down to within 3 minutes. This is where you becoming our hero comes in. As much as we can teach fire prevention, it is up to you to follow through on what we teach.

### Here are some ideas on how you can help us help you:

- \* Have working smoke alarms in your home – we can provide you with two by contacting us using the information below
- \* Make sure you and your family all know at least two ways

out of your home and designate a meeting location near the road

- \* Sleep with your bedroom doors closed (we mentioned this in last month's newsletter)
- \* Consider residential sprinkler systems in the home, especially for the elderly or those who are confined

### Some other ideas to consider:

- \* Make sure your address is well lit or consider getting an address sign. Contact us if you want a sign – they are only \$15.
- \* Especially for homebound or the elderly, have a way for us to access your home if you are unable to get to the door
- \* Make sure your children know what to do in an emergency – how to call 911, their address, their phone number, parents/guardians names



If you have questions or would like further information on ways Willard Fire can serve you, please contact us at 417-685-3114 or [info@willardfire.com](mailto:info@willardfire.com). You can visit our website [www.willardfire.com](http://www.willardfire.com) or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

## Willard Aquatic Center Opens Saturday May 26

The WAC is fully equipped with two 139' twisting slides, two diving boards, & multiple water features. Enjoy our exciting water features during the hot summer days!

Registration for summer programs have started at the Recreation Center. Come sign up today for Swim Lessons, Party Pad rentals, Aqua Fitness Programs, Aquatics Rentals, Swim Team, and more. Season passes are now on sale, check out our fees page for details.

The minimum age for unsupervised swim is 12. Anyone under 12 must be accompanied by an adult 18 or older. No outside food or drink is allowed.

### Public Swimming Hours

Monday through Friday: 1pm-7pm

Saturday: 12pm-7pm

Sunday: 12pm-6pm

### AquaTone

Tue, Thurs: 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm

### AquaFit

Mon, Tues, Thurs 9:15 am -10:00 am

### Lap Swim

Monday through Thurs: 8:00 am - 9:00 am

### Splash Time

Monday through Thursdays: 11:00 am - 11:45 am

Check back for additional WAC times posted throughout the summer.

## Swimming Fees

### Resident

Ages 2 and Under - FREE

Ages 3 + - \$4

Ages 55 + - \$3

### Non-Resident

Ages 2 and Under - FREE

Ages 3 + - \$5

Ages 55 - \$5

Groups of 10 or more may be eligible for a group rate of \$3 each!

## Season Passes

### Resident

Family Season Pass (Up to 3) - \$75

Each Additional Family - \$10

Individual Season Pass - \$50

### Non-Resident

Family Season Pass (Up to 3) - \$85

Each Additional Family - \$10

Individual Season Pass - \$60

Visit [www.willardparks.com/aquatics.html](http://www.willardparks.com/aquatics.html) for more information.

## Willard Parks and Recreation News



It looks like Spring is finally here to stay! Soccer is nearing the end of the season, and baseball practices and games will start soon. We have tons of exciting things coming up at the end of May, including the opening of the Aquatic Center, featuring newly painted and waxed slides, the beginning of our summer KidVenture Camp at the Rec, and Freedom Fest is just around the corner! Our grounds crew is still working hard to keep all the city's Parks, Right of Ways, and Trails litter free and sharply mowed. If you like Disc Golf, The Greystone Disc Golf course now has baskets placed, and the hole markers are coming soon! Follow us on Facebook for more updates, and we will see you in the park!

## 2018 Missouri Survey



The Missouri Survey 2017 was launched at a unique period in Missouri's history. The Great Recession still casts a shadow over much of the State

where 55 counties have not returned to employment and population levels of 2007.

Among the findings from [The Missouri Survey 2017](#):

- Respondents believe that there is a shortage of jobs that pay a living wage.
- Only one-third of respondents thought workforce skills matched employers' needs and an even smaller proportion agreed that training opportunities were available for community members.
- Respondents expressed concern about inadequate resources being invested in new business development and about limited employment opportunities in their community.
- Nearly 82% of respondents felt that their community was not doing well and needed to change.

Responses to the statements about the economy and workforce were consistent - respondents have serious concerns about the state of the local economy.

Missouri Rural Development Partners (MRDP), Missouri's

federally authorized state rural development council, partnered with University of Missouri Extension, University of Missouri Department of Applied Social Sciences (DASS) and the Missouri Department of Economic Development, Office of Rural Development to conduct this statewide survey. An important goal of the distribution effort is to put the survey in front of community leaders and that's where you can help. Please encourage your board, community members and contacts to participate in the 2018 survey -- [missouri.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_01k9LfyMwumdUiN&Q\\_JFE=0](http://missouri.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_01k9LfyMwumdUiN&Q_JFE=0)

If you are active in social media, please feel free to share the link there as well. The wider the respondent pool, the better the data.

If you have questions or would like a paper copy of the 2018 survey, please contact Sharon Gulick ([GulickS@missouri.edu](mailto:GulickS@missouri.edu)) or Pat Curry ([CurryMP@missouri.edu](mailto:CurryMP@missouri.edu)).

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**May 26th**

Opening Day of WCA

**June 2nd**

**5th Annual Splash Bash**

12pm-7pm (Normal Daily cost)

DJ and Dancing from 8-10pm

**30th Annual City Wide Garage Sale**

**June 30th**

**56th Annual Freedom Fest**



## WHS Building Trade Home

Have you seen the Willard High School Building Trades home for sale on 708 Colby Street in Willard? This beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home is for sale until May 11th! Find more information and photos [here](#).



## Last Day of School May 24th

We've finally made it to Springtime! As a very busy May begins as Willard Tigers are wrapping up the 2017-18 school year! Can you believe it?

The last day of school for Willard students is Thursday, May 24th and it is a half day! Willard staff will celebrate a great year on the 24th and honor those employees that have earned their 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 year service awards, as well as our incredible retirees! We look forward to the summer to recharge and refresh for a GREAT 2018-19 school



Summer school will be in session June 4th-29th at Willard Orchard Hills Elementary, Willard East Elementary, and Willard High School. We love the opportunity for this summer learning!

At summer school, all students will enjoy a free breakfast AND lunch provided by our awesome Food Service staff! Additionally, any child under 18 years old may eat breakfast and lunch at our summer school sites for free. Click [here](#) for more information about our Food Service program.



## Meet Captain Stephen House

Captain Stephen House has been with Willard Fire Protection District for 5 years. He was promoted to Captain last year. Stephen's calm nature and matter of fact demeanor has been an asset to our district. Stephen was recognized as career firefighter of the year, 2017 at our recent awards dinner. He and his wife have three kids and enjoy the outdoors.

- **How long have you been in the fire service?** "10 years"
- **What was your reason for joining the fire service?** "Third generation and I like to help people."

- **What are your hobbies away from work?** "Hunting, fishing, and baseball. Also, the lake and outdoors in general."
- **What historical figure interests you the most?** "Jesus"



know the difference between a tornado  
**Watch** and **Warning**

**Be Prepared...**  
 a tornado is possible

**Take Action!**  
 a tornado is imminent

- Check for forecast updates
- Monitor sky conditions
- Know where to take shelter
- Take shelter immediately**
- Seek further information**
- Check for forecast updates**

Be Weather-Ready

**Weather-Ready Nation**  
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**National Weather Service**  
[weather.gov/tornado](http://weather.gov/tornado)

Meeting Dates	
<b>Board of Aldermen</b>	
May .....	14th & 28th
<b>Planning and Zoning</b>	
May .....	22nd
<b>Park Board</b>	
May .....	24th
<b>Economic Development</b>	
May .....	21st

Contacts	
<b>Mayor</b>	
Corey Hendrickson.....	417-234-4713
<b>Board of Aldermen</b>	
Brandon Bond.....	417-872-9530
Donna Stewart.....	417-493-9894
Dan Walter.....	417-839-1746
Sam Baird.....	417-844-0636
Samuel Snider.....	417-839-9444
Jon Jones.....	417-224-2805
Larry Whitman.....	417-343-0994
<b>City Administrator</b>	
Bradley Gray.....	417-742-5304
<b>City Clerk</b>	
Jennifer Rowe.....	417-742-5302
<b>Chief of Police</b>	
Tom McClain .....	417-742-5341