

Issue  
11  
December  
2017

# Willard Watch



# We Connect

**W**e are Willard, we are one! We have been working on a project with the Willard High School students that will breathe new life into downtown Willard. In the coming weeks and months you will start to see “the old block building” next to the Frisco Highline Trail be transformed into a living tapestry. The Willard Art Club will be using this building as a canvas to paint a massive mural of Willard’s past, present, and future. Please take the time to come by City Hall to see the preliminary sketches of the design and be sure you are on the lookout for upcoming community painting days!

I also want to take a moment to thank all of you who have connected with the City this year and thought-partnered with fellow Willard citizens through our 2017 Citizen Advisory Network (CAN) meetings. The primary

objective of the 2017 meetings was to surface information for Willard’s 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Starting in January, we will formalize the CAN initiative and the comprehensive planning process with support from Drury University. More details will be coming soon!



Thanks again for your commitment to our community!

*Brad Gray*

Willard City Administrator  
[ca@cityofwillard.org](mailto:ca@cityofwillard.org)

## Smoke Testing

**W**illard Public Works will perform smoke testing through out the city, weather permitting in December. Residents will get a doorhanger prior to the testing in their area via door hangers.

### How does a smoke test work?

Smoke testing involves forcing smoke-filled air through a sewer line. The smoke under pressure will fill the main line plus any connections; then follow the path of the leak to the ground surface, quickly revealing the source of the problem. Only enough force to overcome atmospheric pressure is required.

### What is a smoke test for sewer line?

Smoke testing is a relatively simple process that consists of blowing smoke mixed with large volumes of air into the sanitary sewer line usually induced through the manhole. The smoke travels the path of least resistance and quickly shows up at sites that allow surface water inflow.



## Willard Parks News

**A**wonderfully warm November has kept the action moving in the



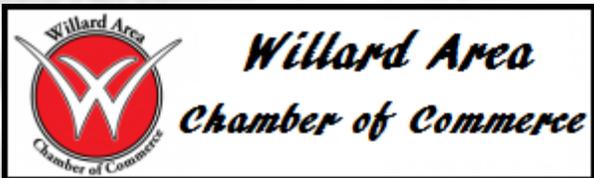
Parks Department. We had a great turn out for the Christmas on the Frisco event, with more than 20 girls participating in the Little Miss Frisco Christmas Pageant, more than 30 entries in the Christmas on the Frisco Parade, and our best showing yet for our outdoor screening of “The Santa Claus”! The Chamber of Commerce provided an opportunity to cook hotdogs and s’mores around one of the many fire pits, and The Parks Department provided popcorn.

Moving into December, mark your calendars for the “The White Christmas Ball” on December 15<sup>th</sup> from

6pm-9pm. This is open to grades 5-8, \$5 gets you in, doors open at 6pm. Youth Basketball continues, with registration for the winter session beginning on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Finally, we close out the year with our Winter Break Camp. The Rec will offer camp on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, and January 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Visit our Website for more information and to sign up.

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





Willard Chamber of Commerce would like to thank everyone who came out for chili dogs, s'mores, and fun around the bonfire at Christmas at the Frisco. We were able to raise quite a bit for our scholarship fund.

**2017 has been a successful year for most Chamber members in Willard. We look forward to what 2018 brings! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

# Upcoming Events

- December 6**– Winter Youth Basketball Registration begins
- December 15**– White Christmas Ball
- December 22-26**- Winter Break Camp
- January 2-3**—Winter Break Camp



## Christmas Tree and Extension Cord Safety

### Christmas Trees

#### Picking the tree

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

#### Placing the tree

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



#### Lighting the tree

- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections.
- Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

#### After Christmas

- Get rid of the tree after Christmas. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home. Check with your local community to find a recycling program.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

*\*Copied from [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)*

#### Extension Cord Safety

- Do not overload extension cords or allow them to run through water or snow on the ground.
- Do not substitute extension cords for permanent wiring.
- Do not run through walls, doorways, ceilings or floors. If cord is covered, heat cannot escape, which may result in a fire hazard.
- Do not use an extension cord for more than one appliance. A heavy reliance on extension cords is an indication that you have too few outlets to address your needs.
- Have additional outlets installed where you need them. Multiple plug outlets must be plugged directly into mounted electrical receptacles; they cannot be chained together.
- Make sure the extension cord or temporary power strip you use is rated for the products to be plugged in, and is marked for either indoor or outdoor use.
- The appliance or tool that you are using the cord with will have a wattage rating on it. Match this up

with your extension cord, and do not use a cord that has a lower rating.

- Never use a cord that feels hot or is damaged in any way. Touching even a single exposed strand can give you an electric shock or burn.
- Never use three-prong plugs with outlets that only have two slots for the plug.
- Do not cut off the ground pin to force a fit. This defeats the purpose of a three-prong plug and could lead to an electrical shock.
- Never force a plug into an outlet if it doesn't fit.
- Use extension cords with polarized and/or three-prong plugs.
- Buy only cords approved by an independent testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), ETL-SEMKO (ETL) or Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

*\*Copied from [www.esfi.org](http://www.esfi.org)*



**If you have questions or would like further information, 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.**

## Veterans Day Celebrations

*What an incredible month November was for our community!*

Our District enjoyed honoring our Veterans through celebrations at every building. We value the time that our students spend engaged with our brave

community members and learn to show love and respect for our country. Thank you to all of those who participated in our Veterans Day celebrations!



## Turkey Trot

Many of you also trotted with the turkeys on Thanksgiving morning in support of Willard Care to Learn. Thank you to all of

those who braved the cold to support Willard kids with health, hunger, and hygiene needs across our district.

## Keep Up With Students

With Christmas break on the way, our students are wrapping up their first semester of learning. We are so thankful each day to see the dedication

from our staff, parents, and community to help every child be successful. Spring will be a busy time for Willard Schools and we look forward to sharing it with you!

Please visit our website at [www.willardschools.net](http://www.willardschools.net) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WillardSchools](http://www.facebook.com/WillardSchools) or Twitter @WillardSchools to keep up with our students.

*Wishing you and your family the happiest of holidays!*

## Meet Firefighter Austin Bryant

Firefighter Austin Bryant began as a volunteer here at Willard Fire. He became a career firefighter with Willard in September 2014. "Austin is very thorough in his duties and works to make sure everything is done correctly. He is a very capable EMT and firefighter and serves this community well."

**How long have you been in the fire service?** "I recently attained 5 years of service with the Willard Fire Protection District."

**What was your reason for joining the fire service?** "I have always enjoyed being helpful to others, as well as being able to support people in their hour of need. When we see people in my line of work, it can be one of the worst days of their lives, and I have been empowered to help change that, the opportunity for which I will be forever grateful."

**What are your hobbies away from work?** "I enjoy cooking with my wife, spending time with friends and family, as well as playing video games."

**What is your favorite dish to cook?** "Without a doubt, chicken fried steak with mashed potatoes and gravy. This has been my favorite meal all of my life (my parents actually ground it up to make baby food for me when I was younger!)."



### Contacts

<b>Mayor</b>	Corey Hendrickson.....417-234-4713
<b>Board of Aldermen</b>	Donna Stewart.....417-493-9894
	Dan Walter.....417-839-1746
	Sam Baird.....417-844-0636
	Samuel Snider.....417-839-9444
	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

### Meeting Dates

#### Board of Aldermen

December.....11th & 18th

#### Planning and Zoning

December.....26th

#### Park Board

December.....28th

#### Economic Development

December.....none

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