



City Limits Newsletter

November 2023

A Message from Mayor Dietz



Wilmington, I am beyond thrilled to share that Will County has awarded the city with an additional \$2 Million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funding. This grant will be for much-needed infrastructure improvements in the downtown area.

The improvements will include storm sewer rehabilitation, manhole rehabilitation, sanitary sewer lining, and water main improvements on North Kankakee Street, North Main Street, and North Water Street. In addition, North Kankakee and North Main Streets will also be repaired and repaved. Initial planning and engineering have already begun and we anticipate the work to be completed by Summer.

\$2 Million is a huge dollar amount for Wilmington, and I would like to thank Will County Executive, Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant, and Joe VanDuyne Will County Board for helping secure these funds. It is a lot of work fighting for funding and assistance and it is great working with them and having a local voice with Joe representing us on the county board.

Year to date Wilmington has received almost \$4 Million dollars in grant funding. These grants have allowed our town to take on projects that have been long overdue or on a wish list and turned them into reality.

In celebration of the Thanksgiving Holiday, City offices will be closed November 23 and 24, 2023

2-1-1 Helpline in Will County

In a crisis, in a disaster, 211 is here to help every person by providing immediate referral to mental health services, addiction support and rehabilitation, crisis counseling, supplemental food programs, shelter and affordable housing options, employment and education support, financial support, and more.



United Way of Will County launched the 211 Helpline, a free, multi-lingual, confidential, 24-hour information and referral service that provides a central access point to health and human services in Will County.

The 211 Helpline will reduce non-emergency calls to 911 as well as reduce the burden on service providers by helping people find the right solution in one call. This approach helps reduce the time agencies spend redirecting calls to other agencies and enables them to spend more time addressing needs of their own clients.

The 211 Helpline connects you with ALL Human Services in Will County and will enable all Will County residents to connect with a single source. By Phone: 211 or Text to 898211 or online at <https://uwwill.org/211>.

Donate this Holiday Season

Throughout the year, Kuzma Care Cottage works with companies, local service organizations, and churches to sponsor events to collect staple food and raise funds that are vital to their operation. If your company or organization would like to schedule a food drive or fund raising event, please reach out to them.



Food distribution varies as donations, funding, and community needs fluctuate; the typical household will receive about a week's worth of meals.

No appointment is needed for food distribution. If you have questions regarding the process or your eligibility to receive assistance, please visit www.kuzmacarecottage.org or call (815) 476-2030.

In addition to food, Kuzma Care Cottage receives funds from various grants and agencies. When funds are available, they are able to provide emergency shelter and rent assistance, as well as assistance with electricity, gas, and water utility bills.

Happy Workaversary!!

November

Griffin Kinnett 7 years
Corey Chaney 5 years

Other Important Info

Electronic Recycling is held each month on the second Thursday from 5pm to 7pm at City Hall in the front parking lot.

2023 Golf Cart Stickers are available for purchase. Applications are available at City Hall or online.

Meeting Calendar

November 2 - 5:00 PM
Planning & Zoning

November 7 - 7:00 PM
City Council

November 14 - 5:30 PM
Committee of the Whole

November 21 - 6:30 PM
Finance, Admin, Land Acq

November 21 - 7:00 PM
City Council

Elected Officials Contacts

Mayor

Ben Dietz
bdietz@wilmington-il.com

1st Ward

Kevin Kirwin
kkirwin@wilmington-il.com
Ryan Jeffries
rjeffries@wilmington-il.com

2nd Ward

Dennis Vice
dvice@wilmington-il.com
Ryan Knight
rknight@wilmington-il.com

3rd Ward

Jonathan Mietzner
jmietzner@wilmington-il.com
Leslie Allred
lallred@wilmington-il.com

4th Ward

Thomas Smith
tsmith@wilmington-il.com
Todd Holmes
tholmes@wilmington-il.com

Holiday Parade

Each year, holiday memories are made, traditions are formed and the holiday spirit in Wilmington grows greater. The [Wilmington Chamber of Commerce](#) kicks off the 2023 holiday season on Saturday, November 25th with an evening of family friendly activities. The celebration begins at 5:00 p.m. with activities on North Water Street, including a visit with Santa Claus and Lighted Holiday Parade led by the Business Person of the Year!



Things to do before and after the parade...



Shop Small Business Saturday – a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for our community



Visit the [Wilmington Park District](#) Christkindl Market at the North Water Street municipal parking lot



Walk the [Wilmington Lions Club](#) lighted holiday display at North Island Park

Employee Spotlight Jack Sadrakula

What is your role at the City? How long have you been with the City and what position did you start at? ***I am one of the sewer plant operators. This is the position I was hired on as a little over 7 years ago.***

If you could switch your job with anyone else within the City, whose job would you want? ***Definitely a police officer. I wonder how many tickets I could write in a 12 hr shift? Just kidding it is definitely a hard stressful and sometimes thankless job. Especially as of late with the political climate in the country.***



What is on your wish list for the next 5 years with the City? ***For the sewer plant it would be nice to have generators at all the lift stations, so we have backup power during power outages. For the city as a whole it would be to keep developing the downtown area. And for public works it would be nice to see them get some new equipment. They have some outdated worn out equipment. So a new backhoe, dump truck, and hydro excavator would be nice to see.***

If you could have an unlimited supply of one thing, what would it be? ***For sure time. We all have a finite amount of time in life. So use it wisely.***

What is your favorite aspect of your job? ***I like the variety of different types of work I do. Like Lab work, Maintenance work, sometimes plumbing jobs, or just helping another department.***

What has been your favorite project that you worked on here at the City? ***Working on the current North Island lift station rehab project has been fun, and I am looking forward to see it completed.***

Three words that best describe you? ***Industrious, Personable, Grateful.***

People would be surprised if they knew what about you or what's your secret talent that no one knows about? ***I hold a plumbing license thru the Illinois Public Health Dept and worked in the plumbing industry since I was 19.***