

WILLINGBORO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

SPRING 2022

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1



NEWS

EXTRA!
EXTRA!

**READ ALL
ABOUT IT...**

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Honoring Our History

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Council's Corner



Kaya McIntosh, Mayor

Greetings Willingboro!

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your mayor. Those who know me, know I have a love for this town. Love is powerful - it comes with fierceness and a need to protect what is near and dear to you. Willingboro is near and dear to me, and I am honored to serve in this role.

I am appealing to all residents to join me in this process to make a difference in our town. Let's make that our common ground and move Willingboro forward. I ask that you find your passion and expertise and apply it to our town to make a difference.

There are many opportunities to get involved, to make a difference and to make this community great – get in where you fit in and let's make a difference together.

One of our biggest challenges is the lack of community engagement and a breakdown in communications. I believe under our new Township Manager; we will work towards closing those gaps. I believe communications will get better, the infrastructure will get better and even the trash situation will get better – together – WE will get better!

Let's focus our energies on getting back to the basics, putting pride back in Willingboro and fostering a sense of community in our town.

When I ran for office in 2019, the Expect More Team set out to do four things; Stabilize Taxes; Increase Public Safety; Update the Master Plan and get EQUITABLE redevelopment. Under the Mayorship of Dr. Tiffani Worthy, Willingboro had a 0% tax increase in 2021; increased police engagement efforts with the addition of the Community Engagement officer, Sally Landrum; revitalized the Neighborhood Watch program, provided weekly updates throughout the Covid 19 Pandemic; approved a Strategic Plan; established goals and evaluation processes for key municipal employees; engaged developers and retailers for redevelopment and passed legislation to allow Willingboro to participate in emerging economic industries. These are a few of the strides taken to improve Willingboro.

I do not take lightly my position on council here in Willingboro. As an elected representative of our nearly 32,000 residents, I cannot do what is just best for me but what is best for all of us as a community. This means ensuring we have proper lighting throughout town, bettering the conditions of our streets and roadways, completing the master plan, continuing redevelopment discussions, fostering economic opportunities, and most importantly, executing a trash plan that works for our town.

In 2022 we are taking it back to BASICS - Betterment- Accountability - Service - Integrity - Collaboration and all that will inevitably lead to - Success!

We cannot do it without you. So join us this year at "Walk a Mile in my Shoes" with the police department, share your ideas and voice your opinions at public meetings, participate on boards and commissions and always feel free to reach out to any member of the Council. I look forward to the remainder of the journey and continuing to create the Willingboro we all want to see and deserve.



Samantha Whitfield, Deputy Mayor

Greetings from Commissioner Felicia Hopson



Greetings!

It continues to be my honor to represent and serve you as a Burlington County Commissioner for the last three years. I recently had the privilege of renewing my oath to serve a second term.

I think everyone knows how difficult the last two years have been. I'm proud of how our County has responded.

From setting up COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites to distributing free groceries, rental assistance and business aid, our County has consistently risen to the challenge and found ways to help all our residents through this crisis.

Our hope for 2022 is that we can put this latest wave of COVID-19 behind us and continue to help families and small businesses recover.

Economic development is still a top priority and we continue to employ creative methods to boost local businesses.

Burlington County Restaurant Week will be returning this summer and we're hoping it will again give our local restaurants a lift following a difficult COVID winter.

We're also planning a Made in Burlington County Day so our residents can learn more about what's created in their home county and so businesses, artists and chefs have a new forum to market and sell their products.

Our Board has also made maintaining Burlington County's affordability a top priority. State data shows Burlington County had the lowest average county tax in New Jersey the last three years. We look forward to continuing that record.

Burlington County is a great place where people want to live, work and raise their families and where businesses want to operate and grow. We will continue to work to protect our residents' health and safety and help our communities prosper. By working together, we can make 2022 a year to celebrate.

~Felicia Hopson

Your Neighbor and Burlington County Commissioner

From the Township Manager



Dwayne M. Harris, Township Manager

Greetings Willingboro!

After serving the past few months as the Willingboro Township Manager, it is appropriate that I introduce myself and share my excitement about joining the Township Council, the staff, and the community in the endeavor to move Willingboro to higher heights.

I started my Municipal career in 2004. Since then, my career path has included serving as a Municipal Clerk, Qualified Purchasing Agent, Affordable Housing Administrator, Registrar of Vital Statistics, and Business Administrator. While I have had great experiences in all of these positions throughout New Jersey, I am most honored to be in Willingboro.

I have found Willingboro to be rich in history with a very distinct character. It is progressive, open, welcoming, and culturally diverse. Unfortunately, Willingboro has gone through some challenges over the past few years. However, I appreciate how the residents show concern for their community. If we commit to working together, I see a lot of wonderful changes on the horizon, all stemming from the Strategic Plan developed by the current Township Council, as Willingboro gets back to BASICS [Betterment, Accountability, Service, Integrity, Collaboration, Success].

I consider it to be an honor and privilege to have been selected by the Township Council to serve as your Township Manager and lead this organization comprised of many educated and talented professionals. It will take the collaborative effort of all of us; Elected Officials, Township Staff, and you working together to achieve extraordinary outcomes in our community.

Over the next few weeks, I will continue to understand the organization better and connect with the community to better comprehend the challenges and opportunities before us.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you may have to help us achieve our goal to get back to BASICS.

I look forward to seeing you around the community.

WILLINGBORO



TOWNSHIP
NEW JERSEY

BACK TO THE B.A.S.I.C.S.

In October 2021, the Willingboro Township Council approved the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan. The plan describes a community of the future – one in which Willingboro Township staff, Council, residents, business owners as well as our partners, such as Burlington County Board of Commissioners, can support. The strategic plan contains clear objectives and measurable key results that the Willingboro Township staff and Council will use to inform recommendations, make decisions, budget, develop future project and enhance Willingboro Township services, facilities, and more. The strategic plan clearly communicates where we want to go and how we plan to get there.

The plan aims to guide Township officials on a progressive course of decision-making to be accomplished through five principles:

- Public safety and wellness for all.
- Optimize financial strategies for stability and growth.
- Well-connected, educated community.
- Economic development and vitality.
- Reliable and forward-looking infrastructure and facilities.

Each focus area is grounded in our vision, mission and values, and are designed to maximize our strengths to address weaknesses, minimize threats, and seize opportunities for the betterment of Willingboro.

The following elements are at the center of this strategic plan:

Vision: To be a vibrant and prosperous Willingboro that honors its history, fosters community pride, celebrates diversity and encourages residents to be good neighbors to each other and the environment.

Mission: To provide a desirable and resilient neighborhood for residents, businesses, and visitors through open communication with responsive government, multi-generational participation, and community-engaged planning techniques to ensure long-term growth and economic development.

Values: Back to BASICS!

WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP

BACK TO THE B.A.S.I.C.S

BETTERMENT
WE DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT RELEVANT, CREATIVE, THOUGHTFUL PROCESSES AND SOLUTIONS THAT ENHANCE THE SERVICES AND OUTCOMES FOR THE COMMUNITY.

ACCOUNTABILITY
WE ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY AND TAKE OWNERSHIP FOR OUR ACTION, INACTION AND THEIR OUTCOMES.

SERVICE
WE ENGAGE ALL PEOPLE WITH A FOCUS ON LISTENING TO AND SUPPORTING THEIR NEEDS, ANTICIPATING AND DELIVERING HIGH QUALITY SERVICES AND ENSURING POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR THE COMMUNITY.

INTEGRITY
WE ACT ETHICALLY, HONESTLY, AND LEAD BY EXAMPLE BY DEMONSTRATING ALIGNMENT BETWEEN OUR DEEDS, WORDS, AND INTENTIONS THAT REPRESENT THE BEST INTEREST OF WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP.

COLLABORATION
WE OPENLY SHARE OUR SUCCESSES AND FAILURES TO IMPROVE OUR PERFORMANCE AND WORK TOGETHER AT ALL LEVELS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND ACROSS THE ORGANIZATION TO ACCOMPLISH THE TOWNSHIP'S OBJECTIVES AND TO PROVIDE OUR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS WITH QUALITY SERVICE.

SUCCESS
WE VALUE BEING PART OF A TEAM THAT ACHIEVES ITS GOALS AND EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS WHILE CREATING WINNING OUTCOMES FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETINGS



The Willingboro Township Council meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted. All meetings are open to the public. The meetings are currently being held via Zoom and streamed live on the Willingboro Township Facebook page until further notice. Information can be found on the township website at www.willingboronj.gov, via the Township Facebook page or by calling 609-877-2200, ext. 1028. Please note during the months of July and August, meetings are held once a month. Minutes of all meetings are available on-line upon approval by Council.

WPD WELCOMES NEW OFFICERS, PREPARES FOR A PRODUCTIVE YEAR



On January 14, 2022, Officer Zaida Claudio #244 graduated from the 51st class of the Cape May County Police Academy and on February 3, 2022 Officer Eduardo Lopez #245 graduated from the 80th class of the Camden County Police Academy. After graduation both officers were assigned to the patrol division and will have to complete a 14-week Field Training Officer Program. Once their training is complete, Officer Claudio and Officer Lopez will officially begin their law enforcement careers.

We are proud to welcome them to the Willingboro Police Department and look forward to having them on board as we serve the residents of Willingboro.

We look forward to welcoming residents once again at our *Walk in My Shoes* events, an initiative designed to engage residents, increase officer visibility and encourage healthy exercise. This year, the *Walk in My Shoes* program will be held quarterly on the second Saturday of the month beginning at 10:00 am on the Kennedy Center Track (429 JFK Way). The next event will be held on June 11th.

Applications for our 12th Summer Youth Police Academy will be made available in early spring. Our Youth Police Academy is for high school aged students who are interested in a career in Law Enforcement or Military. Our three-week Monday-Friday program simulates a full-time police academy, running 8 AM - 4 PM. This fall, we are hosting a five-week Citizens Police Academy on Saturdays from 9 AM - 12 PM. We'll cover a range of topics during these courses, including the hiring process, use of force, and criminal and motor vehicle law.



JOIN THE WILLINGBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Willingboro Police Department is committed to attracting a talented and diverse workforce to provide exceptional service to the community of Willingboro. Our department offers opportunity for career growth through the following specialty units:

- Detective Bureau
- K-9 Unit
- Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT)
- Bicycle Unit
- Field Training Unit
- EMT Unit
- School Resource Officer Unit
- Community Engagement Unit
- Accident Investigation Unit

We offer an excellent salary of \$58,000 (upon completion of training), full medical benefits, deferred compensation plans and benefits of the New Jersey Police and Fireman Retirement System (PFRS).

We are a Civil Service Municipal Police Agency. For consideration of employment, you must take a civil service exam.

The civil service exam is usually administered once every other year. You must be at least 18 and no more than 35 years of age at the time of your appointment, exceptions may apply to applicants who have prior military and/or law enforcement experience.

For more information about the hiring process or to find out the date of the next civil service exam, visit the New Jersey Civil Service Commission website at www.state.nj.us/csc. You may also scan the QR code for more information.



Visit us on Facebook or www.willingboropolice.com
The Township of Willingboro is an equal opportunity employer

ON-LINE REPORTING OPTIONS

For minor, non-emergency police reports, the Police Department has an online reporting system. In order to file the report you must go to www.willingboropolice.com and click "Online Reporting" in the bar at the top of the page.

Examples of police reports that can be filed online include custody order violations, harassing phone calls, identity theft and lost property.

Prior to filing an on-line report, you will be prompted to answer the following questions:

- Is this an Emergency?
- Did this incident occur within Willingboro Township?
- Are there any known suspects at this time?
- Is this a matter of record or do you wish to file a criminal complaint?

NOTE: If you wish to file a criminal or traffic complaint with the courts, you must reach out to the Willingboro Police Department in person.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Willingboro Community Development Corporation was recently awarded \$100,000 from the Orton Foundation's Heart and Soul grant for the Willingboro HandS community engagement initiative.

As a non-profit 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, we are proud to present this opportunity to the Willingboro community. The Willingboro Community Development Corporation (WCDC) originally started out in 1969 as the Community Development Corporation of the Greater Burlington Area. The name was changed in 2017 but the commitment to bring about change in the Willingboro community remains the same.

In 2019 the WCDC competed with three (3) other towns in Burlington County and is pleased to have the opportunity to seek out and listen to the unheard voices of Willingboro, a key priority for the Heart and Soul grant.

Willingboro residents are encouraged to participate and let their voice be heard. The grant has three phases, and is currently in the second phase, which focuses on story gathering.

During the third and final phase, we are required to raise \$25,000 for an endowment to continue the work.

After the final phase, the WCDC must collaborate with residents to implement a community project. Those interested in participating in the Willingboro HandS initiative or volunteering in general with the WCDC should send an email to thewcdc@gmail.com.



ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME TO ATTEND

SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING

WILLINGBORO NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING

WILLINGBORO NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH IS BACK POLICE UPDATES AT EVERY MEETING

Send an email to willingboroneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com to join the Mailing list.

Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of every month

Location: The Reva Foster Center

Time: 7:00 pm

The Reva Foster Center is located at the JFK Center 429 John F Kennedy Way Willingboro, NJ

Willingboro Neighborhood Watch Executive Committee

President - Bernadette Davis Green
Vice-President - Vincent Russ
Treasurer - Gerri Johnson
Secretary - Ashley Nock

Director - Will Weston
Director - Barbara Russ
Director - Jeff Jean Baptiste
Director - Tiffeney Hose

WILLINGBORO POLICE ANONYMOUS TIPLINE

609-877-6958

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Willingboro Boards and Commissions are an opportunity for residents to share their time, talents and expertise as well as stay engaged. The following is a list of Boards and Commissions available in the Township. For more information about the duties, terms of office or vacancies, please contact the Township Clerk's Office at 609-877-2200, ext. 1028. or visit the Township Clerk page on the website: www.willingboronj.gov

- Advisory Board on Public Communications
- Advisory Board for Shelter for Abused Women
- Economic Development Committee
- Environmental Commission
- Finance Committee
- Hall of Fame/Citizen Award
- Green Team Advisory Committee
- Library Board of Trustees
- Municipal Alliance on Drug and Substance Abuse
- Parade/Events Committee
- Planning Board
- Route 130 River Route Committee
- Youth Advisory Board (Student and Adult Opportunities)
- Zoning Board of Adjustments

EVENTS, ACTIVITIES AND MORE!

WILLINGBORO RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA

CANDY GIVEAWAY DRIVE THRU EDITION

COST: FREE
KENNEDY CENTER PARKING LOT

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (or while supplies last)

HOPPERS NEEDED: If you are interested in being a "Hopper," contact the Willingboro Recreation & Parks Department by Monday, April 4, 2022. "Hoppers" will be providing and distributing wrapped candy.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- Participants will remain in vehicle and drive around the perimeter of the parking lot "hunting" for candy.
- No WALKERS are permitted- all participants must remain in their vehicle.
- "Hoppers" will distribute wrapped candy to vehicles (while supplies last). Participants and "Hoppers" MUST wear a PPE mask during the event.
- CHILDREN MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE CANDY.

Kennedy Center - 429 John F. Kennedy Way, Willingboro, NJ 08046
For more information contact the Willingboro Recreation & Parks Department at 609.877.2200 ext. 1118

WILLINGBORO RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT

10th ANNUAL PHENOMENAL WOMEN AWARDS DINNER

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022
3 PM
TICKETS: TBA

429 Banquet Hall Kennedy Center
429 John F. Kennedy Way
Willingboro, NJ 08046

Go to www.willingbororec.com for the online form which includes the categories with descriptions. SUBMIT THE ONLINE NOMINATION FORM BY FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022

The Willingboro Recreation & Parks Department is seeking nominations for the 2022 Phenomenal Women Awards. Please submit the name and a brief explanation as to why this person is deserving of this award.

WILLINGBORO RECREATION & PARKS DEPT. EDU-SPORTS ACADEMY PRESENTS

SWING 2 TEE SPRING GOLF

WEE GOLFERS

- AGES: 2-5
- TIME: 9:00 to 9:30 AM
- COST: \$45.00
- INTRO - STAGES 1, 2, 3

ACADEMY GOLFERS

- AGES: 6 THRU ADULT (skill evaluation required)
- TIME: 9:30 to 10:30 AM
- COST: \$45.00
- BEGINNER LEVELS 1 & 2

CLUB GOLFERS

- AGES: YOUTH THRU ADULT (skill evaluation required)
- TIME: 10:30 to 11:45 AM
- COST: \$80.00
- INTERMEDIATE LEVELS 3 & 4

TOUR GOLFERS

- AGES: YOUTH THRU ADULT (skill evaluation required)
- TIME: 10:30 to 11:45 AM
- COST: \$95.00
- ADVANCED LEVELS 5 & 6

PLEASE BRING:

- A protective hat
- Swingers or "walker" type shoes
- Water bottle
- Small towel

Spring Session 1: MARCH 5 - APRIL 9
Spring Session 2: APRIL 16 - MAY 21
ALL SESSIONS RUN FOR 6 WEEKS

Women's Golf Day will be held on Friday, June 3, 2022

Visit willingbororec.com (search golf) and register today!

For more information, contact Edu Sports Academy, Inc. or call 609.928.2282 or contact the Willingboro Recreation & Parks Department at 609.877.2200, ext. 1112

Kennedy Center - 429 John F. Kennedy Way - Willingboro, NJ 08046

WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP

WILLINGBORO RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT

MOCHA FITNESS

IN PERSON
STARTS: FEBRUARY 15, 2022

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

POWER MOVES: 6:30 PM
30-MINUTE FOCUSED TOTAL BODY FUNCTIONAL STRENGTH AND RESISTANCE TRAINING FOR EVERYONE & ALL FITNESS LEVELS

DANCE - HIIT WORKOUTS: 7:00 PM
High Intensity Interval Training

AGES: 18 & UP

COST (PER CLASS):
\$10 RESIDENTS
\$15 NON-RESIDENTS

COST (8 CLASSES):
\$50 RESIDENTS
\$75 NON-RESIDENTS

FOR DETAILED CLASS DESCRIPTIONS AND REGISTRATION FOR CLASS: WWW.WILLINGBOROREC.COM

WALK-IN OPTION AVAILABLE
KENNEDY CENTER
429 JOHN F. KENNEDY WAY
WILLINGBORO, NJ 08046

WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP

CARTOONING & BASIC DRAWING CLASSES

AGES 8-14

Students will learn the basics of drawing and cartooning and receive the tools they need to draw and create their own characters!

**COST: \$40/4 weeks - Residents
\$50/4 weeks - Non - Residents**

CLASSES ARE HELD ON SATURDAYS

For start dates, times and registration information, visit www.willingbororec.com or contact Willingboro Recreation & Parks Department at 609-877-2200, ext. 1112 or 1115.

INSTRUCTOR: MARK WESTON
Kennedy Center
429 John F. Kennedy Way
Willingboro, NJ 08046

WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP

LINE DANCING WITH KENNY J

I AM KENNY J PRODUCTIONS

BRING YOUR WATER AND HAND TOWEL AND GET READY FOR A GREAT LINE DANCING WORKOUT.

AGES 18 & UP

ONGOING PROGRAM
LEARN THE LATEST AND GREATEST R&B / SOUL LINE DANCES DONE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THIS CLASS IS FOR ALL LEVELS AS WE BREAK EACH STEP DOWN TO A BEGINNER LEVEL.

MONDAYS 6:30 PM - 8 PM

KENNEDY CENTER
429 John F. Kennedy Way
Willingboro, NJ 08046

SPACE IS AVAILABLE BASED ON ROOM CAPACITY AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH COVID-19 GUIDELINES.

For start dates and registration information, visit www.willingbororec.com or contact Willingboro Recreation & Parks Department at 609.877.2200 ext. 1112 / 1115.

For more information about start times, upcoming events and activities, visit www.willingbororec.com

The 2022 Willingboro Township Calendar and the 2021 Annual Report Now Available

Calendars and the Annual Report are available at the Security Desk at the Municipal Complex or can be found in the carousel in the main lobby. Please stop by the Municipal Complex between the hours 9 and 5 Monday through and Friday to pick up your copy or visit the website at www.willingboronj.gov for an online copy.

FOCUSING ON A NEW YOU IN 2022

As we embrace 2022, the Recreation and Parks Department invites you to focus on whole body health. We are excited about the re-introduction of our Wellness Center (formerly the fitness center). Our re-grand opening was held on March 12th and our Wellness Day will be held on March 26th at 10 a.m. We are extremely excited to share the Wellness Center with you - so please stop by!

Wellness covers your mental, physical, emotional, spiritual and social well-being. When you practice healthy habits you can attain better mental and physical outcomes. We are looking forward to offering weight loss education, fitness challenges, nutrition consulting, nutritional cooking classes and so much more. Discounts for classes and events will be offered to those who are members of our wellness center. To take advantage of these discounts and membership, call 609-877-2200, ext. 1112, 1113 and 1115.

And that's not all! As we roll into spring, we are excited to return to our Annual Events Schedule. This spring, we will be hosting our Annual Egg-stravaganza on April 9th, the Phenomenal Women Awards Event on April 24th, WRec at Rita's on May 7th and National Get Outdoors Day on June 11th.

As a reminder, if you're asking yourself "how can I participate in classes, sign my child up for sports or reserve rental space for an event or pavilions in the park", check out our new registration/reservation system. It makes your process easy and efficient in just a few quick clicks.

The Recreation and Parks Department is here to serve YOU. We are working on best practices to engage and support Willingboro residents. The world is forever changing and we are doing our best to keep up with the times. We remain committed to ensuring we bring you programs and events geared toward strengthening individuals, families and our community. To stay connected with us, follow our Willingboro Recreation & Parks Department on Facebook or check our webpage to register for events or rental space at willingbororec.com.



WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP
WILLINGBORO RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT

Wellness CENTER

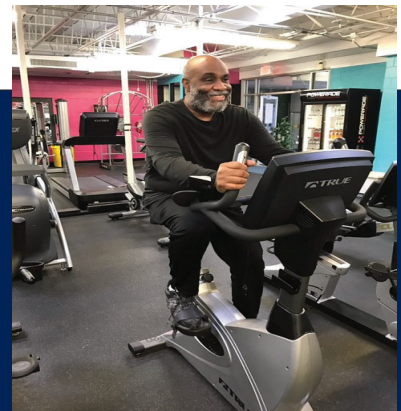
HOURS OF OPERATION Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 8:30 pm Saturday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm Sunday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm	3 - MONTH MEMBERSHIP NO CONTRACTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents: \$60 Non-residents: \$90 Senior Citizens (60+): \$50 Family (includes two adults and one youth*): \$150 <small>*Youth must be 14 - 17 years old at the time of registration</small>
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MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP: \$20 PER PERSON

FOCUS ON A MIND, BODY & SPIRIT WORKOUT
Amenities include exercise bikes, treadmills, elliptical and weight machines, cardio workouts, free weights, lockers, fitness challenges and wellness incentives.

The Wellness Center (formerly The Fitness Center) membership only includes the usage of the equipment and space within the center. Usage of the basketball gym is through reservation only. Applications must be completed and submitted via the website: www.willingbororec.com. Payments must be made in advance.

429 John F. Kennedy Way . Willingboro, NJ 08046
(609) 877-2200 ext. 1112, 1113 & 1115



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIRE AND EMS DEPT



Out with the old and in with the new - all geared toward servicing the residents of Willingboro in the best possible way! The Willingboro Fire Department recently replaced its 1997 Seagrave 95 ft. Mid-Mount Ladder Truck with a 2021 Pierce 100 ft. Mid-Mount Ladder Truck. In early 2020, a truck committee was formed and tasked with evaluating and recommending the best piece of equipment for the residents, visitors, and employees of Willingboro Township. After months of meetings, demonstrations, and manufacturer reviews, the committee selected Pierce Manufacturing Inc. in Appleton, Wisconsin as the best resource to serve the needs of the Willingboro community.

The new ladder truck is a state-of-the-art apparatus that allows fire department members to have a safer response to incidents and quicker set-up time. It takes less than 90 seconds for this truck to be set-up at a fire scene and be ready to be used depending on the incident. It is 100 ft. in length when fully extended and has a 1,000 lbs. tip load, which means that there can be up to 1,000 lbs. of weight on the platform when removing people from such heights. It has the capability to flow 2,000 gallons of water per minute when firefighting from an any elevation of 100 ft. The cab of the truck has new safety features that no other fire apparatus within the Willingboro fleet currently has. Some of the features include seat belt monitoring system to ensure firefighters are safely buckled into their riding seats, air bags for frontal collision, anti-collision or avoidance system to assist the operator when the potential for an accident could occur, and a more responsive suspension system.

In addition to safety features, equipment storage was considered in the design phases. For example, locations for Rescue Task Force (RTF) and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) equipment are now in the cab area for quick access while responding to critical incidents.

The committee took into consideration the cost of the apparatus when designing and selecting a manufacturer to ensure that Willingboro Township was going to receive a ladder truck that would perform for our current needs and years to come. The Willingboro Fire Department, the truck committee, and Chief Burnett would like to thank the residents and the Willingboro Township Council for their support in the purchase of this much needed apparatus. We look forward to continuing to serve the residents of Willingboro with improved tools and resources.



Shown from left to right: Captain Reed Costello, Lieutenant Erin O'Donnell, Firefighter Mark Robertson and Firefighter Derek O'Donnell

On February 15th, the Township Council recognized Captain Reed Costello, Firefighters Derek O'Donnell, Erin O'Donnell, Mark Robertson, Cadet Firefighter Andre Quarles, EMS Captain Rose Gyenge, EMT Edward Abrams, and Patrol Officer Jeremy Anderson for their combined efforts during a December house fire.

During the incident, members of the Fire, EMS, and Police Departments were dispatched to a reported house fire, where visible fire and smoke were showing from outside of the home upon arrival. While extinguishing the fire it was noted an adult woman was seen at the window trapped. The combined efforts of the crews on scene rescued the woman successfully which had a positive impact on the outcome of the woman being released from the hospital.

These public servants were commended for their valiant and honorable sacrifice to ensure the safety of the residents of Willingboro.

Thanks for your service!



SAFE WATER MATTERS

Communication and innovation are at the forefront of the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority (WMUA) 2022 agenda. As public servants who work, live, and have families here, it is our obligation to ensure the water you receive at your homes, schools, and businesses is safe and reliable. We believe it is imperative to continuously work on earning the trust and confidence of all of our customers. The WMUA is working on a variety of new initiatives for 2022 including the development of new communication tools, upgrading and enhancing our facilities and infrastructure, and supporting our local workforce through new training programs.

As the Covid-19 pandemic unfolded over the course of the last two years, the WMUA was able to quickly adapt by instituting virtual meetings that provided ease of access for meeting participants and staff, thus ensuring a safe environment for all involved. Moving forward, we will continue to enhance this platform, as well as provide broader information through our Meeting Minutes allowing residents, many of whom are unable to attend public meetings, the ability to stay up to date. Additionally, in an effort to further improve communications, we intend to launch a new website and better utilize our social media channels.

At the forefront of our initiatives is improving our water systems and infrastructure. One of the most exciting projects is completing and launching our Smart Meter Program. This project will give customers access to their water usage on an hourly basis via a customer portal. Additionally, we will be installing an activated carbon treatment system, which we anticipate will be on-line by the second quarter of 2023.

Supporting our workforce is paramount to the WMUA. In 2022, we plan to launch a new apprenticeship program for Water Treatment Operators with the support of the New Jersey Department of Labor, while also continuing our annual Summer Superstars Internship program for high school and college students.



Diallyo Diggs
Acting Executive Director,
WMUA
Phone 609-877-2900 ext 101
Web www.wmua.info
Email ddiggs@wmua.info
433 JFK Way,
Willingboro, NJ 08046



LEVERAGING YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY



It's a new year, and the library is offering new and exciting services to our residents! Our new hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 AM - 8 PM, Wednesday from 9:30 AM - 5 PM, Friday from 12 PM - 5 PM and Saturday from 11 AM - 5 PM. We continue to offer curbside pick-up of requested materials and our meeting rooms are available for community groups. To book a room, please complete the application on our website (www.willingboro.org).

The library provides free Wi-Fi 24-hours a day inside and outside the building. New items for check out include internet hotspots, pre-loaded Kindles for Kids, laptops for lending (coming soon), and iPads for telehealth services (coming soon).

We continue to provide programming, both in-person and virtually. Check the events calendar on our website for upcoming programs.



The library is proud to have a compassionate and dedicated social services coordinator on staff. Social services include: the twice-monthly food pantry, assistance with applications for NJSnap, LiHeap, addiction services, housing, unemployment, social security disability, PAAD, WIC, vaccine scheduling, Medicare/Medicaid inquiries, and BCCAP Childcare.

Our librarians are willing and able to help residents with all manner of questions, including: creating email accounts, job searches, scanning, printing, faxing, tax forms, database searches, resume templates, and notary services.

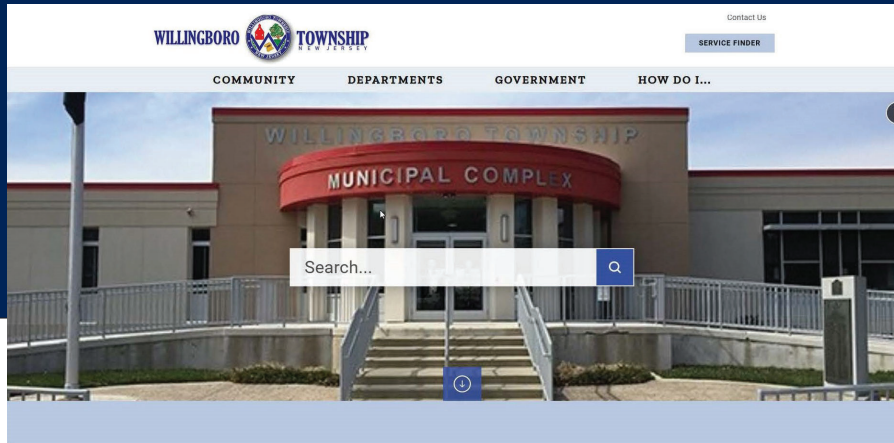
The library recently won a grant to provide Digital Opportunity for Everyone. We are partnering with RCBC and others to provide job-related training and certification. Laptops and hotspots are available for those who need them. If you would like to take advantage of this training, please call the library reference desk for more information.

We are now a NJHealth Connect library. This initiative provides iPads for telemedicine and access to multilingual health information, promoting health literacy and patient empowerment. This program is designed to address inequities in medical access and offers links to telemedicine apps for doctor appointments and links to COVID and high-quality health literacy resources.

Please visit our website or call us at 609-877-6668 to learn more about what the library has to offer.



ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, LAUNCH!



The Township launched a new website in December 2021! We are so excited to bring this resource to residents as a better opportunity to obtain and gain information about the services available in the Township. Residents are encouraged to visit www.willingboronj.gov and take some time to scroll through the site, click on the links and get familiar with the new layout! We hope you will find it easy-to-navigate, user-friendly and a helpful tool for you to connect with us and vice-versa!

Some of the highlights of the site include:

- A Responsive Website - built to render well on most standard sized devices like desktops, tablets and mobile devices
- Emergency/Important Update Feature - designed to highlight special information and communicate important updates
- Customizable Navigation Bar - provides an opportunity to customize the top navigation bar to address the needs of the Township
- Fully Customizable Service Finder - increases the opportunity for residents to search information on the website
- Home Collage Images - auto-plays and features a play/pause button to support various images from events and programs
- Geared Toward Accessible devices - designed for screen readers for those who are visually impaired
- Five Home Buttons - to ensure easy navigation throughout the website
- Spotlight Area - designed to highlight special information
- News and Updates Section - allows items to be populated and displayed in chronological. Information can be “pinned” to the home page so it can stay present longer.
- Calendar Feature - up-to-date feature to showcase the calendar of events
- Footer Features - includes addresses and social media icons
- User Feedback - includes an opportunity for users to offer feedback
- Email Notification - allows subscribers to sign-up to receive email notifications when News, Calendar, RFP or Job Postings are added to the site.

The website is designed to not only be easier to navigate, but also, easier to share content and enhance resident services. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email us at webmaster@willingboronj.gov.

DPW UPDATE

As you know, the municipality entered into a new solid waste removal contract in May 2021. While we believe that the new contract was in the best interest of the Township, we recognize that the transition came with challenges. For the past nine months, the Department of Public Works (DPW) has worked hard along with other departments in the municipality to address challenges and we will continue to respond to your concerns as best we can.

Many of our residents expressed a need for a second cart. We are pleased to share that an ordinance has passed, authorizing the issuance of a second trash cart to residents that wish to purchase one. The second cart will have a Red Lid to distinguish it as an authorized second cart and is limited to 96 gallons in size. The carts are available at a cost of \$75.00 each. Payments should be remitted to the Finance Office, located in the Municipal Complex, 1 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, no later than April 15th. (See flyer for additional information.)

The DPW team has worked diligently to collect leaves before the winter weather kicked in and disposed of over 6500 cubic yards of leaves. During snow events, the team worked hard clearing roads and making travel as easy as possible during the storms.

As we prepare for the spring season, the DPW team will begin cutting grass, planting flowers, maintaining roads, and doing everything possible to treat the Willingboro community with care.

We appreciate all of the feedback as it relates to what we do well and what we can do better. We ask for your continued support of the DPW team, particularly when you see them working in the elements or within a specified work zone. Please slow down when you see workers on the road and extend a courtesy to them as they dedicate their time and talents to ensure our community is one that we can all be proud of.

NOTICE



STAY IN THE KNOW

Additional trash carts are now available to residents that wish to purchase one. **The second cart will have a Red Lid** to distinguish it as an authorized second cart and is limited to 96 gallons in size.

If you would like to secure a second, 96-gallon trash cart, the one-time cost is \$75.00. The fee can be paid by check or money order made payable to the TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO and remitted to the Finance office no later than April 15, 2022. Cash payments will also be accepted in person during regular business hours. Limited quantities are available so orders will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis upon receipt of payment. Please note: Due to production and delivery delays related to Covid-19, delivery times may be significantly affected.



Questions or concerns can be directed to automatedtrash@willingboronj.gov

DID YOU KNOW?

Recently, Willingboro Township implemented an ordinance requiring a video inspection and a certified inspection report from a Master Plumber to determine if private sewer laterals are in satisfactory condition. If it is determined that the sewer lateral needs to be repaired, such repairs MUST be completed prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy and prior to occupancy of the house.

NOTE: Homes without a properly functioning lateral are deemed unfit for human habitation.

A private sewer lateral is the pipe that connects a home's plumbing system to the MUA wastewater collection main pipeline. The lateral is considered the "private" segment when it is located on private property and serves the purposes of an individual, privately owned building. The property owner is responsible for the entire pipe length, including the wye or saddle at the point of connection to the MUA mainline. To protect the public's health and safety, these pipes must be regularly inspected and repaired to maintain their integrity.

Certificate requirements are as follows:

-If No Repairs Needed – A Qualified Plumber will complete the required video inspection and fill out the Private Sewer Lateral Inspection Report. Once the report is completed and submitted, a copy will remain on file with the property files.

-If Repairs Are Needed - The Property Owner should obtain multiple quotes to complete the work, obtain a plumbing permit for work, and complete the sewer lateral repair/replacement work. Once all inspections from the Township Plumbing Inspector and the MUA have been approved, a Certificate of Approval for the work completed will be issued and the Plumber or Property Owner will return a (post repair) Private Sewer Lateral Inspection Report.

The sewer lateral inspection is good for six months. If a property transfers ownership within that time frame, another inspection is not required. If you have any questions or concerns about private sewer laterals, call 609-877-2200, ext. 1165.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES AT THE REVA FOSTER SENIOR CENTER

-FREE State & Federal Tax Preparations will be offered during the month of March and April

- Senior Defensive Driving Courses - available during the months of March, April and June

-Upcoming Complete Care Health topics include:

April 20, 2022, Topic: The Vitals of Health Part 2

June 15, 2022, Topic: "I can't remember anything – Is this Alzheimer?"

-Chronic Disease Self-Management Classes - available every Friday in March and during the entire month of April

-Pain management classes - available every Friday in April




For more information about classes, events and activities at the Reva Foster Senior Center, please call 609-877-8444. The Reva Foster Senior Center is located behind the Kennedy Center, 429 J. F. Kennedy Way.

STAY CONNECTED

-If you are interested in receiving emails from us regarding events and activities going on in our community, email us at communicationservices@willingboronj.gov and request to be added to the email list.

-If you are not on our Resident Robocall list, please call us at 609-877-2200, ext. 1178, or scan the QR code to sign up.



WILLINGBORO  TOWNSHIP

THE MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

OPERATING HOURS ARE FROM

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY

Residents are invited to stay connected - whether it's via our newspaper, social media, website or by joining us for monthly Council meetings - plan to be a part of the conversation. To stay in the know, receive community updates, share your comments or contribute to the newspaper, contact the Communications team at willingboronews@willingboronj.gov.

Township Resource List

www.willingboronj.gov
609-877-2200

Acting Township Clerk	Ext. 1028	Recreation and Parks	Ext. 1112
Township Manager	Ext. 1031	Registrar	Ext. 1028
Communications	Ext. 1178	(marriage licences, birth certificates, etc.)	
Department of Public Works (trash collection, recycles, etc.)	Ext. 1051	Senior Services	609-877-8444
Fire Department	609-871-7476	Sewer Emergencies	609-877-3875
Inspections	Ext. 1019	Superintendent of Schools	609-835-8600,
Library	609-877-6668	Tax Assessor	Ext. 1013
Mayor	Ext. 1028	Tax Collector	Ext. 1013
Police, Fire - Emergency	911		Ext. 1007
Police, Non-Emergency	609-877-3000		