



OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2023
THE BAY
QUARTERLY



250 Williams Street
PO Box 580
Williams Bay, WI 53191
www.williamsbay.org

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Meetings

Meetings monthly, or as noted, at Village Hall.

Meetings may be rescheduled.

Check www.williamsbay.org for the most up-to-date calendar.

Village Board:
1st & 3rd Monday 6:30PM

Joint Meeting of the Village Board
Committee of the Whole & Committees:
1st Monday after the first
Village Board Meeting 6:45PM

Plan Commission:
2nd Tuesday as needed 6:30PM

Zoning Board of Appeals:
3rd Tuesday as needed 6:30PM

Contact Us

Village Hall Offices.....(262) 245-2700

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30am-5:00pm

Thursday 8:30am-12:00pm

Administrative Staff

David Lothspeich, Administrator

Tina Kolls, Clerk

Melissa Ustich, Interim Treasurer

Cynthia Stanek, Utility Clerk/Admin Assistant

Building Inspector Office.....ext. 415

Mon & Wed 10:00 am -11:30 am

Bonnie Schaeffer, Zoning Administrator...ext. 407

Tues 2:00pm-5:00pm & Wed 11:00am-1:00pm

Water Department.....(262) 245-2707

Street Department.....(262) 245-2706

EMERGENCY.....9-1-1

Police Department.....(262) 245-2710

Fire Department.....(262) 245-2712

Recreation Department.....(262) 686-8001

Barrett Memorial Library.....(262) 245-2709

Court Clerk.....(262) 245-2634

**Sign up for alerts and see
digital newsletters at
www.williamsbay.org!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2023 PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION



Tax bills are anticipated to be mailed sometime between December 5th – 10th.

However, your bill may be available sooner at the Walworth County website at

<https://ascent.co.walworth.wi.us/LandRecords/PropertyListing/RealEstateTaxParcel#/Search>.

If the mailing address is incorrect, you can send a request to change the mailing address through the Walworth County website.

If your property is your primary residence as of January 1, 2023, please review your tax bill to make sure you are receiving the lottery credit. If you are not receiving this credit, our office can assist you to get the credit applied to your property tax bill.

We are also excited to announce that online credit card processing will be available this year!!

The online payment processing of property taxes would be available during the first installment collection period. The system will only accept payments for current year taxes and will not accept overpayments.

Online payments for 2023 property taxes payments will be processed through the Walworth County website. Instructions on how to use this feature will be available on our website once tax bills are available.

Fees for Online Payments

You can pay your taxes online via E-check for .50¢ (you will need to provide your checking routing & account number), via debit card or credit card (2.35% convenience fee on the amount you are paying).

LEAF COLLECTION

The Village will collect leaves via a vacuuming process in April and November. The Village will routinely collect leaves at weekly intervals, therefore, calls to schedule this service are not needed.

- Place leaves by the roadside in a long row rather than a big pile.
- No bags.
- No ashes (burned leaves will not be vacuumed).
- **Absolutely no branches.** To get rid of branches and sticks, please use the Brush Chipping program which can be found at www.williamsbay.org, or by calling 262-245-2700 and selecting option 9.
- Leaves on private driveways or alleys will not be collected.
- This service is provided for Improved Single Family Residential Properties only.





WILLIAMS BAY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- Programs for Seniors
- Recreation
- Youth Sports
- Arts & Enrichment

To stay up-to-date on current programming:

- Visit our Website:
www.williamsbay.org/recreation-department
- Join our Email List: rec@vi.williamsbay.wi.gov
- Follow us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/wbrecdept
- Give us a call: (262) 686-8001



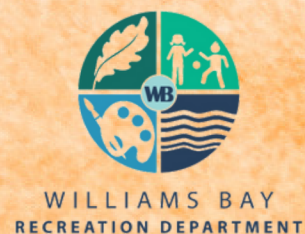
Location: Williams Bay High School Parking Lot
Saturday, October 7th from 11:00am - 1:00pm



Free Community Event!
Pumpkin Carving Contest, Hayrides,
Costume Contest, Candy, Games, & More

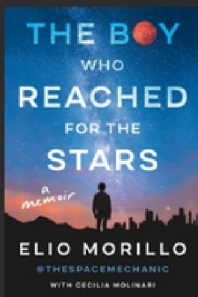
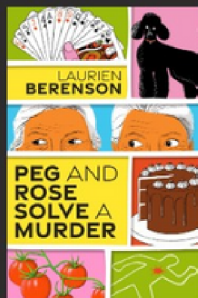
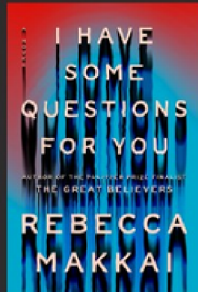


See you there!



BARRETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

What to
read
next...



Programs and Events

October



Storytime With Miss Emily
Wednesdays | 10:00AM | Ages 0-4
Storytimes are lively interactive gatherings filled with stories, songs, rhymes, movement, and social time.



World Record Wednesdays
October 4th & 11th | 4:00 PM | Ages 8+
Do you have what it takes to beat this world record? Most M&Ms eaten in 60 seconds blindfolded using chopsticks.



Healthy Brain Objective (HBO) Club
October 5th | 4:00PM
A fun interactive club to promote brain health through interactive games. For teens and adults.



Boo in the Bay
October 7th | 11:00AM | Ages 0-4
Pumpkin Carving Contest, Hayrides, Costume Contest, Candy, Games, & More.



Picnic Playdate
October 13th | 10:00AM | Ages 0-4
at Helen Rohner Fishing Park

Please join us for snacks and playtime!



Nature Series: An evening with Skip Twardosz with KNC
October 16th | 6:00PM
Skip Twardosz (Two Doors) is a singer and traditional dancer of Potawatomi descent; speak on the History of the Potawatomi & and Anishinaabe First Nations People.



Book Buzz
October 18th | 4:00PM | Grades 3-5
Love to talk books? Join us for snacks and discussion about any and all books your kids are passionate about!



Adult Craft Class - Gnomes!
October 20th | 10:00AM
Register to reserve your spot for another one of Nancy's creative craft classes!



MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival
-One World. One Week. One Festival-

Monday, October 2nd, 1:30PM
Tuesday, October 3rd, 6:30PM
Thursday, October 5th, 6:30PM
Saturday, October 7th, 10:00AM



Join us at one of 4 free screenings to view and vote on the Finalists' Films in the 26th Annual MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival.

MANHATTAN SHORT Film Discussion
with Aram Public Library at Staller Winery
Wednesday, October 11th, 4:00PM

Join us in a MANHATTAN SHORT film discussion. We'll meet at Staller Estate Winery: Food is included, beverages are on your own.



Halloween Escape Room
October 20th | 4:00PM | Grades 6-12
at Williams Bay Middle High School

Do you think you have what it takes to escape? Escape rooms run every hour. Registration encouraged.



Bilingual Spanish Storytime
October 25th | 4:00PM | Ages 0-4
at Williams Bay Elementary School
Join us for a special dual language story time with the Williams Bay High School Spanish Club! Songs and stories in both English and Spanish.



Reading Renegades
October 25th | 4:00PM | Grades 6-8
Love to talk books? Join us for snacks and discussion about any and all books your teens are passionate about!



Life Size Candy Land
October 25th | 4:00PM | All ages
Bring the whole family for a journey to Candyland at the library! You can play the game, picking up sweet treats along the way.




65 W. Geneva St. Williams Bay, WI 53191
262-245-2709/wmsbay@williamsbay.lib.wi.us
<https://www.williamsbay.lib.wi.us>




BARRETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Programs and Events


November




Storytime With Miss Emily
Wednesdays | 10:00AM | Ages 0-4
Storytimes are lively interactive gatherings filled with stories, songs, rhymes, movement, and social time.




World Record Wednesdays
November 1st & 8th | 4:00 PM | Ages 8+
Do you have what it takes to beat this world record? Fastest time to arrange the alphabet from a can of Alphabet Spaghetti.




Healthy Brain Objective (HBO) Club
November 2nd | 4:00PM
A fun interactive club to promote brain health through interactive games.




Online Safety For Parents with WBPB
November 4th | 3:00PM
Presented by Officers Shiroda and Borgen of the Williams Bay Police Department.




Life Size Hungry Hungry Hippos
November 11 | 10:00 AM | All ages
Call for details.



Book Buzz
November 15 | 4:00PM | Grades 3-5
Love to talk books? Join us for snacks and discussion about any and all books your kids are passionate about!



Wall Hanging Craft Class with Nancy
November 17th | 10:00AM
Register to reserve your spot for another one of Nancy's creative craft classes!




Picnic Playdate
November 17th | 10:00AM | Ages 0-4
at Helen Rohner Fishing Park
Please join us for snacks and playtime!

“The Public library is where possibility and place meet”
-Stuart Dybeck

HORA DE
CUENTOS

Bilingual Spanish Storytime
October 25th | 10:00AM | Ages 0-4
at Williams Bay Elementary School
Songs and stories in both English and Spanish.




Reading Renegades
November 29 | 4:00PM | Grades 6-8
Love to talk books? Join us for snacks and discussion about any and all books your teens are passionate about!


December




Storytime With Miss Emily
Wednesdays | 10:00AM | Ages 0-4
Storytimes are lively interactive gatherings filled with stories, songs, rhymes, movement, and social time.




Healthy Brain Objective (HBO) Club
December 6th | 4:00PM
A fun interactive club to promote brain health through interactive games.




How the Grinch Saves Christmas
December 9th | 1:00PM
Join us for a candy cane hunt and a screening of the classic cartoon. Please consider bringing a new, unwrapped toy to donate to children in need as part of the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program.



Book Buzz
December 13th | 4:00PM | Grades 3-5
Love to talk books? Join us for snacks and discussion about any and all books your kids are passionate about!

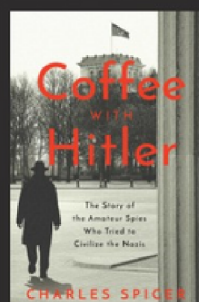
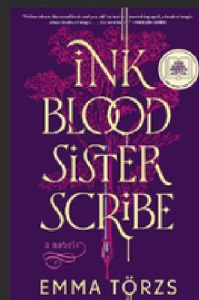


Tiny Book Workshop
December 16th | 10:00AM | Grades 6-12
What's better than your favorite book? A tiny version of your favorite book! This is fun step-by-step workshop.



Holiday Movie Matinee
December 21st | 10:00AM | Ages 6+
Have some last minute wrapping/shopping/cooking to do? Drop the kids off at the library for a screening of a holiday favorite!

What to
read
next...



Monday - Friday 9Am-6PM

Saturday 10AM-2PM

Sunday closed



Williams Bay School District

Bulldog Buzz

Williams Bay High School Receives Technical Education Grant



Pictured from left to right: Emily Soley-Johnson, Middle/High School Principal; Jacob White, Technology Education Teacher; Patrick Austin and Larry Austin of Midwest Precision Molding.

Williams Bay School District was able to purchase the Amatrol Industry 4.0 Learning System. This system delivers classroom-based skill performance assessments evaluating how well a learner performs hands-on skills such as manufacturing metrics, PLC project development, and other skills that directly relate to real-world industrial skills needed in the workforce.

Midwest Precision Molding's support will allow Williams Bay High School students to receive training in advanced manufacturing practices to prepare for stable careers while they obtain dual enrollment credits, industry-endorsed certificates, and technical endorsements on high school diplomas.

Midwest Precision Molding has served as Wisconsin's leading provider of tight tolerance plastic injection molded parts. Their Lake Geneva facility is home to some of the most dynamic equipment arrangements in the Midwest. MPM was designated as a 2023 Future 50 company for the third time by BizTimes Media and the Metropolitan Milwaukee Associations of Commerce. Future 50 is awarded to the 50 fastest growing businesses in southeast Wisconsin. They are also a proud member of the American Gear Manufacturers Association which is the global network for technical standards, education, and business information.

The Williams Bay School District is excited to announce that, with the generous support of Midwest Precision Molding of Lake Geneva, Williams Bay High School was one of seven Wisconsin school districts to be awarded the Department of Workforce Development's Technical Education Equipment Grants.

This grant financially supports educational institutions to acquire modern and industry-relevant equipment for their technical education programs. The belief behind that grant is that by equipping educational institutions with state-of-the-art tools, machinery, and resources students will receive hands-on training that aligns with the demand of today's job market.

Midwest Precision Molding graciously donated \$8,400 to fulfill the 50% required match to be awarded the grant. With the investment, the



October 5 at 5:45 p.m.
October 6 at 7:00 p.m.
October 16 at 7:00 p.m.
October 25 from 6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
November 17 and 18 at 7:00 p.m.
December 14 at 7:00 p.m.
December 15 at 1:30 p.m.
December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Volleyball Community Night - Free Admission
Football Community Night - Free Admission
High School Band & Choir Concert
Student Council Blood Drive
High School Musical
High School Winter Choir Concert
Elementary Winter Concert
High School Winter Band Concert

Fiscal Update

By: Jennifer Frederick, Business Manager



It is officially fall and we are back at school and in the Business Office, this means budget season has kicked into high gear. The district will approve the budget and levy at the November meeting of the Board of Education. Until then, we sharpen our pencils and review budget estimates and finalize projections for the 2023-2024 school year and beyond. The term that has been floating around the state is the “fiscal cliff.” This term could not describe what is happening in school finance any better.

Our district has maintained healthy, fiscally conservative operations for the past years but the 2024-2025 school year will truly be the drop off point.

Currently available ESSER funds (COVID relief money) were received via two grants. One grants sunsets on September 30, 2023 and the other on September 30, 2024. We drew down all funds from the ESSER grant with the 2023 deadline prior to the end of the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This action will show surplus/addition to the district’s fund balance in 2022-2023, however those funds will remain the fund balance to assist with operation costs in 2023-2024 and beyond.

With three staff members’ retirements and several departures at the end of the last school year, we were able to hold our district salaries in check for the 2023-2024 school year. With 18 new staff members and a 4% increase for our returning staff, 2023-2024 total wages increased just \$21,000. This coupled with a 16% health insurance cost increase makes the salary and benefit portion of the budget the largest cost to the district. This is of no surprise, however we are holding the line the best we can on this skyrocketing cost. District staff members have been invited to participate in a health insurance committee to review options and plan design changes to bring savings to the district while remaining a recruitment tool for new staff.

With a projected 22% increase in the district’s equalized value, the mill rate is expected to drop over \$1.00 this winter. The school board and district safe will continue to maximize the levy to request a palatable, long-term solution for the district when we ask our tax payers for their support in April 2024.

Projections continue at \$1-3 million additional funds to be needed over the next four years due to the shortfalls of the state biennial budget and the current broken state funding formula. The School Board, District Administrator and Business Manager will engage directly with the community in as many ways as possible this fall to spread the word on the referendum and the needs of the district. This is an unprecedented time for Wisconsin school districts and the number of schools that plan to register for an April referendum will be one for the history books. We hope to see you this fall, to share our story, answer your questions, and gain your support as we all head to the polls in April.

As always, I am here to answer any questions that you may have. I can be reached at 262-245-1575 or JFrederick@williamsbayschool.org.



Students Work Toward Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Some skills are best developed through experiences. Williams Bay High School is excited to partner with The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award. This program encourages students to improve their mental and physical health, build meaningful connections, give back to their communities, and embrace structure and purpose.

The Award offers a unique, internationally recognized accreditation for a student’s activities and experiences. It enables young people age 14 - 24 to engage in a personalized self-development program where they set goals, challenge themselves, leave their comfort zones, and gain valuable skills as global citizens of the world.



WE WANT YOU!

Empower Minds, Ignite Futures: Volunteer with Our School Community!

Join our vibrant school district community and make a lasting impact on young minds. Whether you're passionate about education, mentoring, or fostering creativity, we welcome dedicated volunteers like you to help us shape the future. Together, we can inspire, support, and empower our students to reach their fullest potential. Join us in creating a brighter tomorrow – volunteer with our school district today!

For more information:
WWhite@williamsbayschool.org
262-245-1575

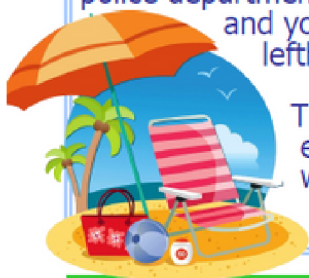


Police Department

With another summer behind us, this brings us into my favorite season of fall. Fall brings with it a new school year, a crisp cool air, the beginning of holiday activities, and a quieter and more quaint time here in the Bay. While there is a lot to look forward to, there are also some things to keep in mind for those of you leaving us for warmer climates as well as reminders for our permanent residents. We look forward to an enjoyable next few months!

Seasonal Residents

If you're one of our seasonal residents heading elsewhere for the winter, please make sure to fill out our online **House Check Form**. Go to our police department page on the Village Website, and you'll see the link to it on the lefthand side.

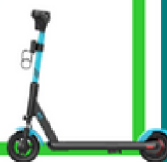


This form helps us keep an eye on your home so you can worry less.

Lost & Found

Over the summer, we had numerous bikes, scooters, and various outdoor items turned into our PD.

If you lost one of these items, please call the PD with a description to see if there is a match.
262-245-2710



Burn Ordinance

Open burns can take place Oct. 1st - Nov. 30th. Other restrictions include:

- Burning must be done daylight hours after 12pm.
- It must occur 25 ft from the nearest building on the same property & at least 100 ft. from the nearest building not on the same property.
- Burning must be confined by a control device or structure.
- Burning cannot occur when the wind velocity exceeds 10 miles per hour.

For more information on open burns & campfire restrictions, go to the Village website and select Municipal Code. From there, type in "open burning" in the search box.



Winter Parking

Winter parking restrictions are enforced Nov. 15th through April 15th between the hours of 2:00am to 6:00am. During this timeframe, you are prohibited from parking or leaving a standing vehicle on any Village street - EVEN IF THERE IS NO SNOW ON THE GROUND. Please make sure your guests are aware of this.

In situations where you need to park on the street overnight, please call the police department prior to receive permission and/or instructions as to where else you might park.



Welcome back, WB Teachers & Students!

School is back in session, and Officer Borgen is starting his third year as our School Resource Officer (SRO). He is in the school all day and is a great resource for parents and students.

He & Officer Shiroda have put together an info session for guardians on Online Safety. The session educates adults on how to talk to their kids about online predators, signs to look for that may indicate a child is in danger, and more. They will be offering this in the fall at Barrett Memorial Library. Keep an eye on the library's website for an exact date or give the police dept. a call.

Bow Hunting in Kishwauketoe

To be eligible to bow hunt in the Kish, you must provide a valid Hunter's Safety Certificate and a current state of Wisconsin Bow Deer Hunt license. Dates are TBD.

To register, bring a copy of the above items and your driver's license to the Williams Bay Police Dept. BEFORE entering KNC to hunt.



Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy

A note from the Chairman...

A recent article in "Only in Your State" once again shows what a wonderful place Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy is, nestled in the charming village of Williams Bay. It starts out, "In the bustle of the Lake Geneva area, it's still possible to connect with the quiet side of nature in a beautiful setting. Kishwauketoe is a hidden gem nestled in Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

This article really captures what Kishwauketoe has to offer, from the enthusiastic hiker to the family that is just looking for a relaxing walk in nature. Looking back 33 years now, when I was Village President and there were numerous developers trying to turn this property into a major development, which could have included high-rises and mid-rises as well as one plan that called for a space Needle hotel at the east corner near the lake-front, a row of Town Houses along Southwick Creek next to Hwy 67 and the list goes on.

There was meeting after meeting with the meeting halls filled with residents demanding that we do not allow any development of this lakefront property. Suddenly, they discovered the Village Board bought the property for 1.56 million dollars and then things changed to, we didn't want you to buy it, but rather stop the development. Well this had been done before and we knew would not stop in the future. The citizens were concerned with what the future costs would be to the taxpayers, if the Village owned the property. At this point we announced that we were going to make it into a Nature Park and there would be no cost to the property owners as we would cover all costs, through Donations and Volunteer Labor. This has all worked out very successfully for 33 years now, where we offer nature at its finest along with many programs, education, etc. for people to take part in and enjoy, 12 months out of the year. As our one shirt that we sell says, "Take A Hike" and I can't think of anything better to do.

Harold J. Friestad
Chairman KNC



The Village of Williams Bay

250 Williams Street

PO Box 580

Williams Bay, WI 53191

Williams Bay EMS

Save lives in your community! The Williams Bay Rescue Squad is seeking dedicated individuals who would be interested in becoming Volunteer EMT's. Volunteers will be compensated an hourly rate plus all schooling will be paid.

You must be at least 18 years of age at the time of certification. Attendance at monthly meetings and Hospital training is required.

For more information, contact EMS Captain Gluth at williamsbayems@gmail.com.

