

Willington Wire Community E-Newsletter November & December 2021

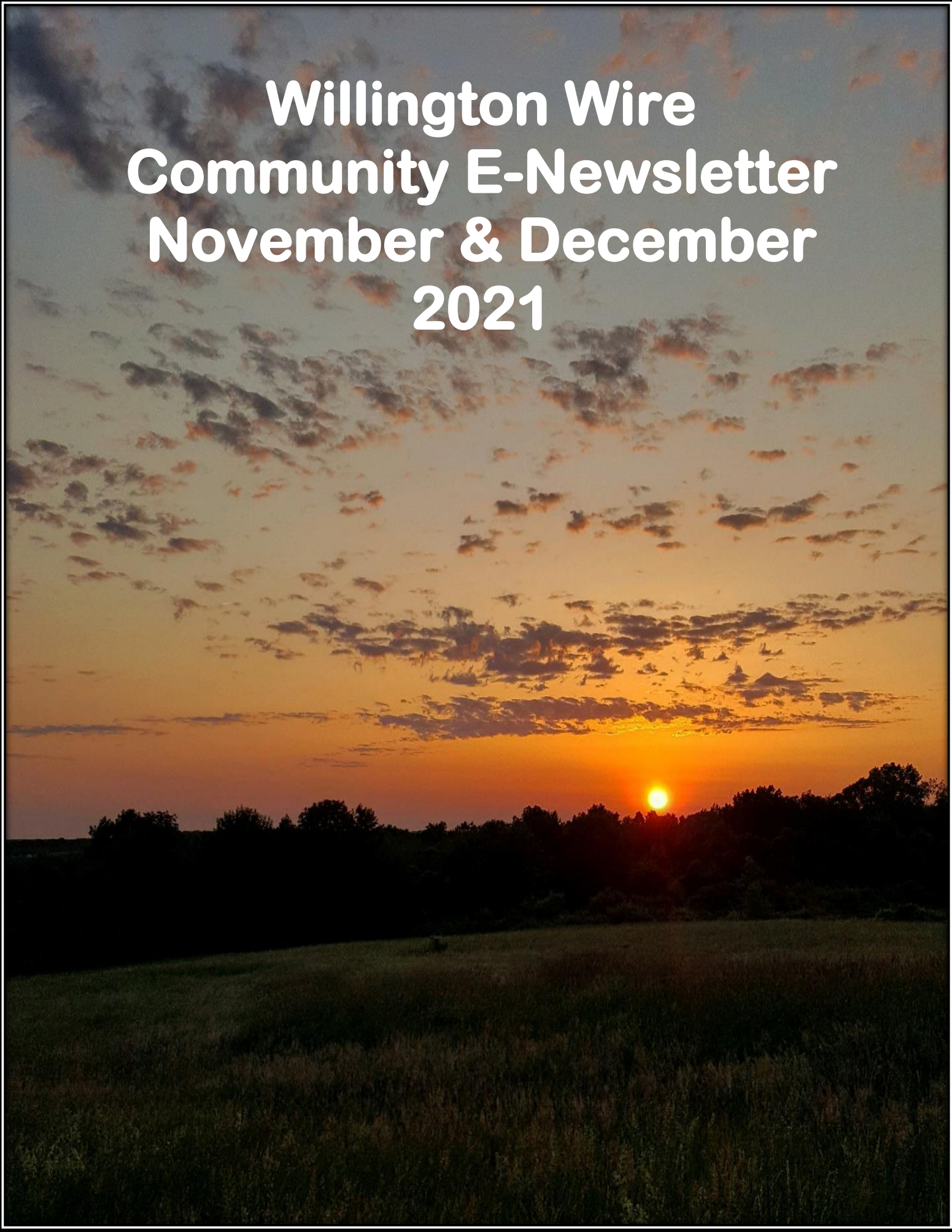




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The Town Office Building will be closed on the following holidays:

Veteran's Day	Thursday, November 11th
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 25th
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 26th
Christmas Eve	Friday, December 24th
New Year's Eve	Friday, December 31st



Town of Willington Office Building Contacts

40 Old Farms Road, Willington, CT 06279 – www.willingtonct.org

Business Hours: Monday 12:30 PM to 7:30 PM & Tuesday through Friday 9:00 AM to 2:00PM

First Selectwoman	Erika G. Wiecenski	860-487-3100
Animal Control Officer	Tina Binheimer	860-428-4422
Assessor	Walter Topliff	860-487-3122
Building Inspector	Jim Rupert	860-487-3123
Business Manager	Donna Latincsics	860-487-3134
Fire Marshal	Dick Palmer	860-429-7757
Human Services	Jennie Arpin	860-429-8321
Land Use	Michael D'Amato	860-487-4123
Parks & Recreation	Alan Humphrey	860-487-3108
Public Works	Troy Sposato	860-684-9313
Registrar of Voters	Christine Psathas & Suzanne Chapman	860-487-3120
Senior Center	Jennie Arpin	860-429-8321
Tax Collector	Janice Clauson	860-487-3111
Town Clerk	Robin Campbell	860-487-3121
Treasurer	Laurie Semprebon	860-487-3136

Willington's Vision Statement:

Willington is a community that seeks to preserve its rural character and protect its natural, historic, and agricultural resources. At the same time, the community recognizes the need to balance the conservation of these resources with residential and business development to meet the needs of its citizens and promote long-term fiscal stability.

To achieve this vision and enhance the quality of life in the community, Willington will strive to:

- Preserve and protect our environment;
- Create social, educational, recreational, agricultural, economic, and housing opportunities;
- Balance conservation and development; and,
- Encourage civic involvement and interaction at the local and regional level.



Boards & Commissions – Meeting Calendar – November & December 2021

Board/Commission	Day	Date	Time
Board of Education	Tuesday	November 9th	7:00 PM
Board of Education	Tuesday	December 14th	7:00 PM
Board of Finance	Thursday	November 18th	7:00 PM
Board of Finance	Thursday	December 16th	7:00 PM
Board of Selectmen	Monday	November 15th	6:30 PM
Board of Selectmen	Monday	December 6th	6:30 PM
Board of Selectmen	Monday	December 20th	6:30 PM
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	November 17th	7:00 PM
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	December 15th	7:00 PM
Economic Development	Wednesday	November 10th	6:30 PM
Economic Development	Wednesday	December 8th	6:30 PM
Historical Society	Tuesday	November 16th	7:00 PM
Historical Society	Tuesday	No December Mtg.	7:00 PM
Housing Authority	Monday	November 15th	4:00 PM
Housing Authority	Monday	December 20th	4:00 PM
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	November 22nd	7:30 PM
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	December 27th	7:30 PM
Library Board of Directors	Monday	November 8th	7:00 PM
Library Board of Directors	Monday	December 13th	7:00 PM
Parks & Recreation	Monday	November 29th	7:00 PM
Parks & Recreation	Monday	December 27th	7:00 PM
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	November 16th	7:30 PM
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	December 7th	7:30 PM
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	December 21st	7:30 PM
School Building Committee	Wednesday	November 17th	6:30 PM
School Building Committee	Wednesday	December 1st	6:30 PM
School Building Committee	Wednesday	December 15th	6:30 PM
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	December 9th	7:30 PM



First Selectwoman's Corner

Dear Willington Residents,

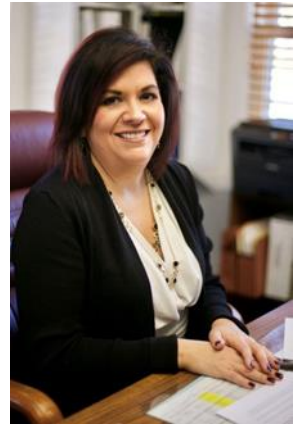
Another school year has started and fall is upon us! This is the perfect time to enjoy the cool crisp days in one of our parks, hiking or one of the many other enjoyable activities you can read about in this publication.

There is also a lot happening at the Town Office Building and with Public Works as we begin our preparations for the winter (and budget season) ahead. We will continue roadside mowing, as well as numerous road repairs needed after the tremendous amount of rain this summer, until the work is complete.

As winter approaches, the various boards and commissions will also begin their budget preparations. For those interested in following the budget process, be sure to go to our town's website, www.willingtonct.org, and sign up for agendas and minutes – or better yet, come out to a meeting – we would love to see you there! You can find a listing of town meetings on the pages of this publication.

The Town Office Building is open 12:30-7:30 p.m. on Mondays and 9-2:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. If your business brings you in person we require that you wear a mask while in the building at this time. I try to be available during office hours or by appointment. Please stop in to share your ideas and concerns as we begin to plan farther into the future. Otherwise I hope to see you out and about in Willington!

Erika G. Wiecenski
First Selectwoman



Please welcome the Town of Willington's Newest Employees!

Kelsey Allard, Administrative Assistant

Alan Humphrey, Director of Parks & Recreation

Christopher Roberts, Assistant Land Use Agent

Nicole Snyder, Assistant Assessor

We wish you a long and happy career with the Town of Willington!



Assessor

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Connecticut General Statute 12-40, all persons who are liable to pay taxes on tangible personal property belonging to them on October 1, 2021 are hereby notified:

You must file a declaration of your personal property on or before November 1, 2021, with the Assessor, or be subject to an estimated assessment and the statutory 25% penalty.

Various exemptions are explained on the declaration and available if filed on time.

NO DECLARATION IS REQUIRED FOR MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED IN WILLINGTON CT

NO DECLARATION IS REQUIRED FOR REAL ESTATE

Personal property includes, but is not limited to, unregistered motor vehicles (including junk autos), Campers, and all business machinery, equipment, tools, commercial furniture and fixtures.

DEFECTIVE CONCRETE

Applications and Engineer Evaluation forms to request reassessment of residential property due to defective concrete are available in the Assessor's Office and on the Town of Willington website. Please note, these forms must be accompanied by an Engineer's report. For additional information, contact the Assessor's office.

Walter E. Topliff Jr.
Assessor
wtopliff@willingtonct.org
860-487-3106

Nicole J Snyder
Assistant Assessor
nsnyder@willingtonct.org
860-487-3107





Willington Boy Scout Troop 82 - Wreath Sale



Pre-Order: Monday, November 1st – Monday, November 22nd

Cost: \$20 each

Payment Options: PayPal to ***willingtontroop82@gmail.com*** or
Cash or Check

- *Check or cash payment expected at time of delivery* or pick up*
- *Please make check out to Troop82*

Wreaths will be delivered* or can be picked up at the Willington Scout Hall

Delivery* and Pick Up expected Thanksgiving weekend

****Delivery available to Ashford and Willington residents only***

Pre-Orders can be placed at: ***willingtontroop82@gmail.com***

- *When ordering, please include full name, address, e-mail, quantity ordered and payment method*

wreaths are approximately 22" inches and come with a red bow

All sales are final and are on a first-come, first-served basis



Button Hill Senior Apartments

Affordable, One-Level Living



- Your Private Front Door is at Ground Level
- Ample Parking Right at Your Front Door
- Heating, Cooling & Electricity Included
- Washer & Dryer in Every Apartment
- Recreation Area and Pet Friendly
- Easy Access to the Senior Center

10-16 Senior Way, Willington, CT

**Applicants must be 62 or older and
meet certain income eligibility requirements**

For more information call our leasing office at:

860-498-0268



Visit us at **www.buttonhill.com**



Call Us Now to Schedule Your Tour



Conservation Commission



Cooler weather is upon us. Nature has started its process of resting until next spring. Squirrels and nuthatches are busy caching nuts and seeds for winter. Birds are migrating. Trees have lost their leaves and now expose their wonderful woody framework to us. It's a great time to get your walking shoes on and observe these changes in the forests, wetlands, fields, ponds and waterways in Willington's extensive nature preserves.

The 300-acre *Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve and Drobney Sanctuary* on Moose Meadow Road has 4-plus miles of trails through woods, over ridges and along ponds and streams. A kiosk with maps is located at the parking area, and a box with nature trail guides is located a short distance down the Taylor Trail. Trail maps are also posted at all trail intersections. Be sure to stop by the beaver pond near the parking area to look for migrating ducks as well as beavers shoring up their dams and harvesting branches to store underwater by their lodge for winter forage.

A nice extension to our Willington trails is provided by the Ashford Link Trail which connects the Fenton-Ruby system to a 1-mile loop trail on the *Langhammer Preserve in Ashford*. This .1-mile link, shown on the trail maps, runs from the Ruby Trail to Lustig Road with the Ashford trail immediately across the road. Please abide by Park regulations to help make visiting an enjoyable experience for everyone. The opportunity to observe wildlife in this sanctuary will be greatly increased for all if pets are kept on leashes.

In southeastern Willington, off Mason Road, there are several trails to explore. The 28-acre *Talmadge Conservation Tract*, which contains the ½ mile *Talmadge Spur Trail* can be combined with the connecting *CT Blue-Blazed Nipmuck Trail* on the UConn Moss Forest Tract to make a 1.5 mile loop, which will take you through scenic woodlands and then back along gravel Mason Road. On the other side of Mason Road is the 138-acre *Royal Knowlton Preserve* which also contains a portion of the Nipmuck Trail that traverses from Mason Road to Marsh Road. The ¾ mile *Knowlton Spur Trail* can be accessed off the Nipmuck Trail as well as off Mason Road across from the Talmadge Spur trailhead. Several miles of the Connecticut Blue-Blazed Nipmuck Trail run through this area, with a portion along the Fenton River as it flows through a deep ravine. Trail maps can be found at the Talmadge & Knowlton trailhead signs on Mason Road near the parking lot area, and also at the sign where the Nipmuck crosses Mason Rd. Trail maps are also available on the Conservation Commission's webpage (see below).

Another trail option in Town is *Joshua's Trust's Chenes Roches Preserve* located off Blair Road. See joshuastrust.org for information about all of their trails.

If you are interested in taking an active part in helping the Town manage its environmental resources, the Commission is always looking for volunteers to help maintain our trails. We also encourage you to attend our monthly Zoom meetings on the third Wednesday of every month. Meeting agenda and Zoom links are posted on the Commission's webpage. Contact Peter Andersen, Commission Chair, at 860-933-6380 or andersen108@sbcglobal.net, or Kathy Demers, Commission Vice-Chair, at 860-377-6416 or kdemers48@gmail.com for more information. Please visit the Conservation Commission webpage under "Boards and Commissions" on the Town of Willington home page, www.willingtonct.org, for meeting schedule, trail maps, programs and links to other websites. Last, we would be happy to hear any comments you may have about your experiences regarding Willington's outdoor resources. Plan to visit Willington's protected forest resources this fall and winter for appreciation of their beauty, observation of their varied ecosystems and habitats, for exercise and for their restorative powers. We hope to see you on the trails!

EC-CHAP

Performance Update

The Packing House Fall Performances



ec-chap.org



thepackinghouse.us

We are pleased to announce that The Packing House is now open for **LIVE PERFORMANCES** and **FILM SCREENINGS**! We are enforcing COVID Guidelines which include a 50% capacity, mask requirement, socially distanced tables, and sign-in.

Please visit [The Packing House](http://ThePackingHouse) for additional details, tickets, and a full schedule of events through December 2021. If you have not subscribed to our newsletter please do so at: www.thepackinghouse.us.

SAVE THE DATES:



EC-CHAP continued...

NOVEMBER 6, 2021: EC-CHAP Jazz Series: “Luke Hendon with Jack Soref – An Evening of Gypsy Jazz”. 7:30pm



LUKE HENDON has had success in the world of Django music, performing with top players from around the world. A Veteran guitarist, Luke has had many successes in his career. He has opened for legendary acts such as Al Green, Sun Ra, and Los Lobos, performed on Broadway, composed and recorded for television and film, worked with dance ensembles, cruise ships, theatre companies, and many, many bands. Luke will be joined by jazz guitarist **JACK SOREF**. Both Luke and Jack are among the notable guitar staff/artist instructors who have taught at the acclaimed Django in June Gypsy Jazz event held at Smith College, North Hampton, MA.

NOVEMBER 18, 2021: EC-CHAP Film Series: “Once”. 2007. (R). 7:00pm

“**Once**” was written and directed by John Carney, and stars Glen Hansard, Marketa Irglova, and Hugh Walsh. “A vacuum repairman (Glen Hansard) moonlights as a street musician and hopes for his big break. One day a Czech immigrant (Marketa Irglova), who earns a living selling flowers, approaches him with the news that she is also an aspiring singer-songwriter. The pair decide to collaborate, and the songs that they compose reflect the story of their blossoming love.” (Rotten Tomatoes)



NOVEMBER 19, 2021: EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series: Eric Sommer in Concert, (Americana/Blues). 7:30pm

Singer/songwriter **ERIC SOMMER** is an unbelievable intersection of improbable influences and experiences channeled into an amazingly diverse catalog and a résumé that reads more like a musical adventure novel than a series of career bullet points. Since the early eighties, Sommer’s wanderlust took him from Boston to New York and Atlanta to Washington D.C. where he founded the Georgetown Film Festival. He has been a troubadour with no fixed address, playing well over 250 gigs a year and slowing down just long enough to record a handful of brilliant albums, including Rainy Day Karma with his band, Solar Flares, and his latest solo effort, Brooklyn Bolero.

DECEMBER 4, 2021: EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series: Tracy Walton in Concert, (Folk/Indie). 7:30pm

TRACY WALTON wears many musical hats: Singer songwriter, bassist, producer, author, and studio owner. He has toured the country with various groups including most recently the duo Belle of the Fall. Tracy has also played bass with David Bromberg, and Vernon Reid among others. Tracy’s 4th solo album, Small Town America has just been released (summer 2021). He also produces albums for artists at his studio, On Deck Sound Studio, in Northfield CT.

DECEMBER 16, 2021: EC-CHAP Film Series: “It’s A Wonderful Life”. 1946. (PG). 7:00pm

“**It’s A Wonderful Life**” (PG) was written by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett; and directed by Frank Capra. Join us for the 4th annual showing of this Holiday classic “*It’s A Wonderful Life*” (1946) at The Packing House. Starring James Stewart, Donna Reed, and Lionel Barrymore. “An angel helps a compassionate but despairingly frustrated businessman by showing what life would have been like if he never existed.” (IMDb). A Holiday Tradition at The Packing House!

DECEMBER 18, 2021: EC-CHAP Jazz Series: “An Evening with Grammy Nominated Artist Nicole Zuraitis – Special Holiday Performance”. 7:30pm

Grammy nominated Vocalist, Pianist, Songwriter and Composer **NICOLE ZURAITIS** returns to The Packing House with a Special Holiday Performance! She is the 2016 New York City Songwriting Competition Coffee Music Project Winner, 2015 second runner-up in the Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competition and the 2014 Herb Albert ASCAP Young Composer Awards Winner. Nicole has headlined the Blue Note (NYC) and maintains residencies at the 55 Bar, Rockwood Music Hall (with the Dan Pugach Nonet), and Redeye Grill. Audiences love Nicole’s limitless enthusiasm, but that’s only part of her story; only part of her talent. This is a performance not to miss!



EC-CHAP Talent Showcase

EC-CHAP has been offering our monthly **Talent Showcase** since 2016. Our Talent Showcase was designed as a platform for local and regional artists to share their talents before a live audience. This is a free event, and as always, acoustic musicians, film makers, poets, comedians, jugglers, puppeteers, and creative artists of all ages are invited to perform.

While we haven’t been able to be together, EC-CHAP has offered a monthly **Virtual Talent Showcase from June 2020 through September 2021** by live streaming pre-recorded video segments submitted each month by local and regional artists.

We have now resumed our **LIVE Talent Showcase** in October and will continue to offer this event Live at The Packing House at **7:00pm on every 2nd Wednesday of the month** (Doors open at 6:30pm). For information about how you can participate in the Talent Showcase, please visit our [website](#). Please call 518-791-9474 to get placed on the schedule. Walk-ins are welcome time permitting.



EC-CHAP continued...

November Talent Showcase: Wednesday, November 10th, 7:00pm

December Talent Showcase: Wednesday, December 8th, 7:00pm

IN CLOSING...

Should you be interested in learning more about EC-CHAP, and how you can support your Willington based cultural organization through our volunteer, membership, and sponsorship programs, please visit www.ec-chap.org; email us at: info@ec-chap.org; or call: 518-791-9474.

TITLE: Exhibits at EC-CHAP's Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery

By: Cate Solari



If you haven't had the chance to view the current exhibit at the Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery entitled, "[Reconnecting Heart Strings](#)", you still have time! The exhibit features the collaborative works of four regional artists including Joshua Allen-Silvia (@jasilv), Laurel Pehmoeller (@laurelfolia), Stephanie Sileo (@stephsileo), and myself, Cate Solari (@cate_solari). We are all founding members of the artist's collective Studio:116 founded in 2017. This show will conclude on **Saturday, November 6th**.

Our next Exhibition, "**Your Local Package Store: A New Way to Package Shop**" featuring the works of solo artist [Thomas Martinez Pilnik](#) is scheduled for viewing **November 20, 2021 – January 8, 2022**. Details below:

Exhibition Information:

Exhibition Title: Your Local Package Store: A New Way to Package Shop

Location: Dye and Bleach House Community Gallery @ EC-CHAP in Windham, CT

Show Dates: November 20, 2021 – January 8, 2022

Opening Reception: November 20, 2021 at 4pm

Exhibition Statement:

The Dye and Bleach House Community Gallery (DBHCG) is pleased to present Your Local Package Store: A New Way to Package Shop, a solo exhibition by Thomas Martinez Pilnik. Engaging with the local landscape and appropriating local language, Pilnik collects discarded boxes from Package Stores in the area around the gallery and hoards his own trash to use as source material - and "product" - for his work at DBHCG. Viewers are encouraged to encounter the work as if visiting their local package store and picking out their favorite item. Conceptually, the piece asks its participants to sit somewhere between newcomer and local, giver and taker, consumer and producer. Pilnik uses these oppositions to force the present audience to disrupt and question their reflexive purchasing decisions, and assumptions of consumption, capitalism, and wastefulness.

The Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery welcomes all to visit our facility, which is open under CDC and CT state guidelines on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm or by appointment. We request that all visitors wear a mask and stay 6ft. distant while they visit and enjoy a variety of art made by these very creative artists. We are located at 156 River

Road in Willington, CT. Check out our website or social media for announcements and information regarding opening hours or closures: WWW.EC-CHAP.ORG.

Cate Solari is an Artist-In-Residence (visual arts discipline) at EC-CHAP; Director of the Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery; and Adjunct Professor, School of Fine Art, at the University of Connecticut. Cate can be reached at: communitygallery@ec-chap.org



TITLE: *A Synergistic Framework for Raising Historical Awareness*

By: EC-CHAP



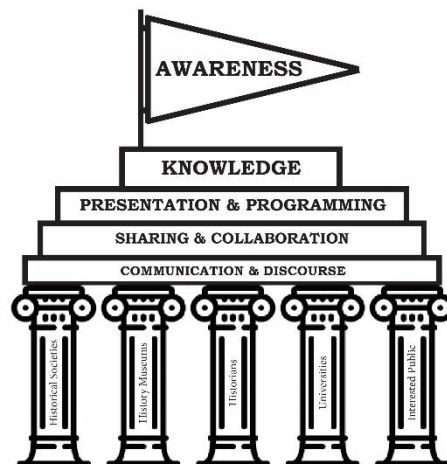
Did you know that there are over 200 organizations identified as “Historical Societies” registered with the Connecticut Secretary of the State’s Office? And did you know that of these, there are over 10 Historical Organizations serving the entire state of Connecticut? And did you further know, that there are over 25 local Historical Societies situated within a 25 mile radius of EC-CHAP in Willington, Connecticut? (Source: <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Register-Manual/SectionX/Historical-Societies>)

Local Historical Societies, Museums, Universities, and Historians provide a rich knowledge of area history – possessing important writings, oral histories, original photographs, artifacts, research, and other resources that describe the evolution of the area they serve. This collection of unique assets and knowledge assists in answering critical questions, and provides a roadmap of sorts to help explain the challenges, hardship, innovation, rewards, and growth that leads to who and what we are today.

Imagine if these organizations and individuals are able to come together to share this knowledge in coordinated public forums. If each organization is given a platform to communicate and describe the historical significance of their piece of the world, what new knowledge and connections could be made? We believe a shared model of collaboration and equity that promotes discourse and engages collective knowledge will result in a heightened awareness and importance of history, and the need to continue to preserve the valuable resources that tell our story.

Prior to the Pandemic, EC-CHAP developed "*A Synergistic Framework for Raising Historical Awareness*" representing a model of collaboration. In 2019, we initiated a dialog with historical organizations and individuals to facilitate opportunities for conversation, collaboration, and programming. There appear to be pockets of rich history just waiting for connections to be made.

The time to re-address this valuable collaboration is upon us. As your regional cultural organization, we hope to play a small part in bringing together the many folks who can share knowledge, common interests, and help to connect the historical “dots” that will yield better understandings. Please stay tuned for opportunities to share and collaborate. If you are interested in participating in conversation, or learning more about this project, please email us at info@ec-chap.org, or call 518-791-9474.



A Synergistic Framework for Raising Historical Awareness



Economic Development Commission

The Economic Development Commission had a busy quarter.

We finalized and submitted for public hearing the South Willington Village Mixed Use zone change (SWV). This change will increase uses and foster growth for the property owners from the Fish and Game Club to the Willington Town line at Route 44 and Route 32. For example, a small manufacturer may be placed in one of the mill buildings, or a bed and breakfast in one of the beautiful Victorian homes. We worked, hard with resident input, to ensure that the expanded uses fit well and complement the Historic Village District.

Our submittal was heard by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the (SWV) zone change was approved on October 5th.

The Commission also supported a change to the Design Commercial District to make it easier and clearer for businesses to open and reused available space in the Route 74 and Route 32 commercial district (Phelps Plaza and surround). This change eliminated much of the red tape and revamped an antiquated application process. This change was also approved on October 5th.

The Commission drafted and forwarded a COVID-19 relief fund request to the Board of Selectmen. The proposal is to expend three hundred thousand dollars from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to Willington small businesses and non-profits. We are recommending disbursement of funds as soon as possible.

We continue to assist businesses, existing and proposed, by reviewing proposals. Please contact us to determine the appropriateness of a proposed use before you spend money. Questions can be directed to the Land Use Office and ask for the Economic Development staff at 860-487-3123.

Richard Maloney
Chairman, Economic Development Commission



Fire Marshal



TOWN OF WILLINGTON OFFICE OF FIRE MARSHAL



As we ease into the colder months, some suggestions to be Fire Safety smart. First as we near the changing of our clocks back to Eastern Standard Time, this is a reminder that you change your batteries in all your smoke detectors and CO alarms, and after doing so, test them. Every month you should test your smoke detector/detectors to ensure that they function properly.

Another safety concern is if you're using alternate heating systems like wood, wood pellets, maybe coal, make sure your chimney is clean, and make sure you're able to burn dry wood that is seasoned. Every month you should crease burning, after cooling check your chimney. Continue to make sure that the chimney isn't building up with the unburn products of combustion called creosote. Unless your chimney is a straight shot to the outside, creosote builds up at the bends, and as the gases cool toward the top, will build up around the joints of the tiles. The creosote will ignite when it's heated and now you have a chimney fire.

Another question is when you clean your wood stove where do you put those ashes. We see fires from home owners putting the ashes in cardboard boxes, and even paper bags. We strongly recommend that you obtain a metal bucket with a cover. After placing the stove ashes inside, cover and remove that metal container to the outside away from any combustibles. Ashes, even if you haven't burned your stove for a couple of days, will have embers that will stay hot for weeks. When you move them they will become hot enough to ignite any combustibles that it is in contact with. Don't dump the ashes in the woods, alongside of the road, you can dump them in your garden, on your driveway, and yes there are some metal drums at the Transfer Station which you can dump them into, **just ashes ONLY. No boxes, bags, or any type of container.**

If you have any questions about Fire Safety or this article, please contact me at 860-429-7757.

Dick Palmer
Fire Marshal

Historical Society

The Willington Historical Society enjoyed an interesting presentation by Richard Donohue at their Annual Meeting held September 24th. Mr. Donohue's presentation, "The Town of Iron Toys: The Mechanical Banks of the J&E Stevens Co." about the history and manufacture of iron banks in Cromwell, CT was entertaining and informative. There was a large display of a collection of J&E Stevens iron banks and a video explaining the details and history of many pieces.

Do you have items in your attic that are related to Willington from long ago? Please consider donating photographs, programs and memorabilia relating to our Town; 19th century tools, housewares or furniture, to the Society to preserve our history. Questions and comments may be sent to our email at: willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook! And follow late breaking news of events, projects, and ideas!

We are always looking for new members who are interested in the history of Willington. Please join us for a meeting to see what is happening in your town. Our next meeting is planned for Nov. 16, 2021 @ 7 pm at the Glazier Tavern on Willington Green.

The Willington Historical Society continues to be dependent on volunteers, members' dues, and donations. That means we depend on you, our fellow townspeople, neighbors, and friends to keep the Society active and moving forward. WHS is in the process of upgrading the Glazier Tavern on the Town Green to meet accessibility guidelines so that the Tavern can be used for local small groups and meetings. Please consider renewing your membership or sending a donation today! You can use the PayPal link on our website at: www.willingtonhistoricalsociety.org, or by mailing a check made out to Willington Historical Society, P.O. Box 214, Willington, CT 06279. The Society is a designated 501(c) 3 non-profit organization and donations are deductible.



Historical Society continued...

The Society's center stage project at present is the 'Open the Door for Accessibility' fundraising project. Over the years the Society has often talked about a more active use of the tavern building, as an active public space. To reach that end, we've launched this fundraising effort in order to make this conversation a reality. The project will address ADA compliance issues as well as several present day code requirements. Coming into compliance will allow more ways to use the tavern building, by both the public and the Society.

OPEN THE DOOR FOR ACCESSIBILITY

A heartfelt THANK YOU to the following people and organizations who are supporting the accessibility efforts for the Daniel Glazier Tavern with their generous donations:

William Bailey	Lynn & Marjorie Brown	Rudy & Joy Favretti
Clyde & Jean Hall	The Hall Foundation	Deb Linares
Bruce & Charlene Lyon	Mark Palmer & Chopeta Lyons	William Navratil
New England Family Credit Union	In honor of Herb Arico	Evelynne Parizek
Corrine Passardi	Reid & Riege Foundation	Betty Robertson
Dale Smith	Jillian Starinovich	Peter Tanaka
	Robert Wilkins	

As of the date of this newsletter these donors within the last year have contributed almost \$11,000 toward this project. Our original goal was \$15,000, but the cost of materials has gone up considerably. The estimated cost is **likely to be nearer to \$20,000**. Any gifts that exceed our final costs will be added to our Museum Fund which is designated for additional renovations to our historic building on the Green.

Donations of any amount will be VERY welcome!

Human Services

Department of Human Services

20 Senior Way, Willington, Connecticut 06279

Tel. (860)429-8321 Email: humanservices@willingtonct.org



WE HAVE MOVED!- The Department of Human Services has moved down to the Senior Center, located at 20 Senior Way. Our food programs are still located at the Town Office building, but please note our new location and phone number.

THANK YOU!- The Department of Human Services wants to extend a heartfelt thank you to all have donated to our Back to School program, as well as all of our Food Drives during this past year! We couldn't do it all without your support, and you make a HUGE difference in the community!



FOOD PANTRY- The Willington Food Pantry offers canned and dry goods, seasonal vegetables, and eggs to Willington residents in need. Located at the Town Office Building, our pantry is currently operating Mondays from 4pm-6pm, and Fridays from 10am to noon.



MOBILE FOODSHARE- Bringing produce, breads, and on occasion, meats to Willington residents. The Foodshare truck comes every other Wednesday from 11-11:30 sharp in front of the Senior Center. Please remain in your vehicle.



Human Services continued...



ENERGY ASSISTANCE – Energy Assistance Appointments are now available! Please contact our office for more information or for an appointment



HOLIDAY PROGRAMS – Need a little extra help this holiday season? Our department is offering assistance with meals and gifts, for both November and December. Contact us to learn more!.

ZOOMTANGLE! – Our popular Zentangle program is being moved indoors for the Winter! Join us for “Zoomtangle” on November 4th and 18th at 10am-11am. Contact us for preregistration information.



CLEVER WHATEVER- Join us for Clever Whatever, our program designed to improve your life, help you save money, and learn new skills! Our next classes are November 6th for increasing efficiency with “Holiday Planning”, and a crafty December 4th “Making Tiny Houses”.

WE ARE SOCIAL! –Be sure to “Like” Willington Human Services on Facebook! We are also now on Twitter and Instagram! Keep up with our events, programs, and happenings. Thanks for your interest and support!



COMMUNITY NEEDS

‘Tis the season of giving, and we welcome donations to our department.

But why should you donate to Municipal Social Services?

- 1) Because the money can be earmarked for exactly what you want it to go to. We have funds for the food pantry, the fuel bank, our veteran’s fund, and more!
- 2) It can be tax deductible. Consult your tax professional for more information.
- 3) It is transparent. All of our financials are public record and audited annually.
- 4) It goes to the benefit of Willington residents in need. Not salaries, overhead, no other stuff- 100% for the residents!

We are blessed to work with such a generous community. We wish you a very happy and safe holiday season.



Gobble, Gobble, Give!



5th Annual



Willington Turkey Drive

Drop off will be at the Willington Town Hall

40 Old Farms Rd.

Saturday November 13th from 9am - Noon

This event continues to be a huge success every year!

Thank you to everyone who donates for your continued support to this amazing community!

~~~~~  
All of the turkeys received will go directly to the Willington Food Pantry to be distributed to local Willington families in need. Please help us give back to our community and ensure that everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner!

**Also accepting donations of perishable(potatos, bread/rolls, pies, etc.)  
& non-perishable food items(please make sure they're not expired)  
that will go to the Willington Food Pantry.**

**For more information please or to make alternate arrangements contact Willington Human Services Department at (860)429-8321 or [humanservices@willingtonct.org](mailto:humanservices@willingtonct.org)**





# Willington Public Library

## Willington Public Library November 2021 Events and Programs

**WPL's Mission Statement:** We welcome and support all people in their enjoyment of reading and lifelong learning. We are dedicated to enriching the community by providing access to a variety of resources, services, and programming.



We would like to hear from you! If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or ideas to share with us, please bring them to our attention. We are here to help and serve.

We had a lot of fun on Saturday, September 25, when we celebrated our re-opening of our regular library hours, which began on September 1st. Thank you to a special group of teenagers who helped make it the special day that it was and for all who came and participated in the many festivities that were offered. We have been and are still here for all your library needs. It is a safe and clean environment. Masks are mandatory when in the building whether vaccinated or not and for everyone over the age of two, as per Town mandate since August 3, 2021.

### **A MOST SPECIAL Program here at your library! Piglet and his piglet mindset, In-Person!!!!**

#### **1:00 pm, Saturday, November 6th**

We are so fortunate to have visiting with us author and veterinarian Melissa Shapiro with her special little deaf blind pink puppy named "Piglet". Piglet and his piglet mindset have become world re-known! Learn how Piglet faces his challenges with a positive attitude (something we can all learn from and about). Through an interactive presentation, you will understand what it's like to be Piglet, how he learned to communicate through tap signals, how he maps his environment, and how he interacts with his human and dog family.

#### **About the Author:**

Melissa Shapiro, DVM, is a veterinarian, a lifelong animal welfare advocate, and mom to three children and many disabled rescued dogs and birds. Since bringing Piglet home in 2017, she has used his social media platform to educate, advocate, and inspire others to adopt pets with special needs. Her nonprofit organization, Piglet International Inc., supports the Piglet Mindset Educational Outreach, a free downloadable educational program that teaches growth mindset, acceptance, inclusion, empathy, and kindness to students and others in the community, as well as various animal rights causes. She lives in Connecticut with her husband Warren, six rescued dogs, three rescued birds, and Piglet, the deaf blind pink puppy.

Their book is titled, "Piglet: The Unexpected Story of a Deaf, Blind, Pink Puppy and His Family". In the tradition of the beloved *New York Times* bestsellers *Marley and Me* and *Oogy: The Dog Only a Family Could Love*, it is a charming, inspirational memoir about empathy, resilience, kindness, and an adorable deaf blind pink dog.

#### **You may ask, what is this Piglet Mindset?**

##### **A Piglet Mindset is:**

- Facing challenges with a positive attitude.
- Focusing on what you have and moving past what you don't.
- Accepting individuals for who they are and including them despite their differences.
- Having empathy and understanding towards others and following up with positive actions.
- Being kind to all people and animals.
- Things we can all learn and be.

You must check these out for more fun and information. Piglet is well known on Facebook, Youtube and every other social media out there. He is a television celebrity and his face and story have been seen in a number of popular magazines. Look here to learn more at...[www.pigletmindset.org](http://www.pigletmindset.org) and Piglet International Inc.

We can learn a lot from this little guy. Come meet Piglet and see what a Piglet Mindset looks like!

**•Seating is limited, so registration is a must. Please call the Library to register.**

**•Books will be on sale and Melissa will be happy to sign and personalize copies.**

#### **"Noir" Movies are back at WPL!**

##### **Friday Noir Movie Matinee Series: Great American Film Noirs**

If you are a fan of the 40's & 50's noir (black & white) movies, where sometimes everything is not always as it seems, join us for a nostalgic afternoon down memory lane and into a world of classic Hollywood filmmaking. Witness legendary acting from a bygone era. Bring a lunch or snack and sit back and enjoy an afternoon at the movies on our BIG screen.



# Willington Public Library continued...

**Showings: First Fridays (unless otherwise stated) at 12:30 pm**

•**November 5th: Quick Sand** (1950) 79m. Mickey Rooney steals \$20 and sinks into robbery and blackmail.

•**December 3rd: D.O.A.** (1950) 83m. "Dead On Arrival". Dying from a slow poison, Edmond O'Brien has 24 hours to track down his own killer! Directed by Rudolph Mate.

**Tuesday, December 7th at 6:00 pm -Needle-Felting Craft** with Angelina Fleury of American Made Crafter's. This month's project will be a Belly Button Snowman Ornament. This is absolutely adorable! All materials and instructions are included in the \$12.00 fee. Class size is limited so register early for a spot. Payment is due upon registering. All Covid safety measures will be met. If you are a repeat felter, you may bring your own tools, if you'd like.

**Friends of the Library Holiday Bake & Crafts Sale...**Join us for an enjoyable visit to this event! This year it will take place on the upper floor of the library, in the Reading Room, and in various locations around the library. There will be a variety of homemade goodies to choose from, and crafters displaying their wares, including hand-sewn, knitted and crocheted items, locally produced honey, handcrafted jewelry, a local author's children's books, and more. **Save the date: Saturday, December 11, from 9 am to 2 pm.**

## **Friends of WPL Membership Drive**

The Friends provide a vital source of assistance and revenue to the library. They are always looking for and in need of more members to help them in their mission. Please think of joining and supporting them, as they help and support the library. Help by giving of your time and energy, to make it a thriving and productive library for our community.

The Friends meet on the second Tuesday of the even numbered months of the year (February, April, June, August, October, and December) at 6:00 pm.

In support of the Friends, membership fees are:

Individual \$5.00/year

Students and Seniors \$5.00/year

Family \$10.00/year

Business Sponsor: \$50.00/year

Lifetime \$100.00

**Consider joining the Friends of the WPL!** They would love to welcome new members – of all ages! For interested young people, this is a great way to serve and fill any community service requirements through school. This is a great way to support your library, by lending a helping hand at library events, and by organizing fundraisers. The funds they earn are used to provide for all library programming, and also for special purchases. There is something for all ages to help with. Applications are available on the library's website or you can pick one up when you come in. Or why don't you attend their **next Friends of WPL meeting** and see what they are all about – **Tuesday, Dec 14 at 6 pm.** We would be delighted to see you there!

**Family Story & Craft Time** on the first Saturdays of every month at 10:00 am. Themed Story and Craft:

•November 6: Celebrate Veteran's Day with "Thanks"

•December 4: A Celebration of Lights

**Butterfly Scavenger Hunt:** There are butterflies fluttering everywhere in the library but where can they be? Can you find them all? Come in and see!

On the last Saturdays of each month at 12:30 pm we have our **Family Movie Time**, where a film is featured on our BIG screen. You are welcome to bring a lunch or snacks but definitely family and friends for some fun.

•Playing November 27... "**Luca**" rated PG. A coming-of-age fantasy. Running time: 1 hour, 35 minutes

•Playing December 18... "**Jingle Jangle: A Christmas Journey**" rated PG. A story where everything is possible! Running time: 2 hours

**Ollie our Guinea pig**, now has new visiting hours on Saturdays between the hours of 9:00 am and 12:00 pm. Stop by and say "Hi". He misses everyone as much as you miss him. You may call to make sure he is "In".

Every Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 - 3:00 pm, our **Knitting Group** meets. You are welcome to attend. Bring a project to work on.

Every first Thursday of the month, we invite you to join in on our **Adult Book Club** at **6:30 pm**. We try to list the books to be read and discussed every quarter. Let us know if you are interested, so we can put you on the reserve list of those who will need to borrow the books for reading.



# Willington Public Library continued...

•**November 4th's Book: "Geisha, a Life" by Mineko Iwasaki.** A true story shared of a past rarely seen of time honored traditions, mystery and misunderstandings about what it means to be a geisha.


•**December 2nd's Book: "The Holdout" by Graham Moore.** A woman finds herself playing multiple roles in this legal drama-meets-murder investigation.

The **Eastern CT Writers Group** headed by Author Felix Giordano meets on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 12:30 - 2:30 pm. "This group is for aspiring and advanced writers working on a novel, novella, a collection of short stories or poetry. Submissions are limited to no more than 10 pages. Critiques and commentary constructive to each writer's work and goals will be encouraged". If interested in attending, you may contact Felix Giordano at...[felix@jbnovels.com](mailto:felix@jbnovels.com)

## Great things are offered at WPL!

•**WPL Website news:** Check out our ever-changing and evolving website. See all the great new features now offered for your information and enjoyment. Visit with all the new books that are arriving every day. Check out our new LOCAL Authors section.

•**Free Wifi!** We had two new access points installed on the outside of our building for your convenience. You can sit anywhere's outside the library and be able to use Wifi for free.

•Help earn money for the library by choosing Willington Pubic Library at **Amazon Smile** when you place an order. 

•We offer **OverDrive, Bibliomation, and Libby** for access to over a million titles that you can download onto any of your devices.

•We have **InterLibrary Loan Services**. If we don't have a book in our own circulation, we will get it for you through another library in CT that does have it. We can meet all your library material needs.

•**Donation Wishing Well** in our entry way. Make a donation and a wish. We hope you will consider participating in this fun and helpful way to raise money for your library.

•**Story Walk:** Read and Walk outdoors. Follow our Story Walk! Our current book on display is "You Matter" by Christian Robinson.

•**Take a Book - Share a Book: Outdoor Lending Library** - Open all year long! Enjoy our free book-sharing center where anyone may take a book or share a book of their own, which they have read. It functions on the honor system. You do not need to share a book in order to be able to take one. If you see something you'd like to read, take it. When you are finished, share it with a friend, bring it back, or you may keep it. This new service is to encourage reading, inspire readers, offer good reads for all ages and interests and offer free access to books when the library is closed. Please do not use this as a means to make multiple book donations. Space is limited. Take one and only leave one in it's place.

•**Sign up for our library e-blast.** It's the best way to keep informed. Call or come in to fill out a form and get connected to what's happening, here at your library.

## Guess what's coming to WPL in 2022...Pokemon!

We have a young boy and his family who are willing to start up this new program. We are looking to see who else would be interested in joining and participating in a **"Pokemon CLUB"**! We'd like to set plans in motion as soon as possible, so we can start as soon as the new year begins. We are thinking of having it on a Tuesday evening, once a month. We will need to buy materials to get this project up and running. So, if you are a Pokemon enthusiast, this is the club for you. Please let us know if you would like to be a part of it, as soon as possible, so we can plan accordingly. Thank you Wyatt!



## Let's start a New Year's resolution at the Library.

As a year end, good will gesture for our patrons, we are extending and offering until the end of 2021 a grace period where if patron's return their books, their late fines, will be erased from their account.

PLEASE help us get our books back on their shelves by returning any overdue books you may still have out. We have almost 500 books missing from our shelves and we need them back. Many patrons have long standing reserves on some of these titles that are missing. This is an expense we cannot incur again, by way of replacing them. For those that have not been returned for whatever the reason, PLEASE think of doing it now and before this year ends. With one exception, if any are lost or damaged, they will need to be replaced at the patron's expense. Don't feel embarrassed. We would just like the books or any other medias you have out returned as soon as possible. We are hoping that this will be our last appeal and patrons will return their past due items. Returns can be done through our drop box at the front of the building.

If you would like to donate something in place of the amount normally incurred and to help ease your mind, we have implemented a "Guilty Conscience Can" located at the front circulation desk. Our main concern is getting these books back on the shelves and into circulation so others may borrow them once again.





## Willington Public Library continued...

Our gift to you...We will continue to waive late fees, as was done in October, until December 31, 2021.

Beginning the new 2022 year, fines will be implemented. We hope you will take advantage of this generous offer. We not only want and need our books back but we want you back too! Thank you for your cooperation.

FYI: Every second Monday of the month, we hold our Library Board meeting at 7:00 pm via Zoom. All are welcome to attend.

During these upcoming winter months, **notice of delays and closings**, as well as program cancellations due to inclement weather can be found on our website: [www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org) or WFSB-TV Channel 3 (or [WFSB.com](http://WFSB.com)) and NBC 30 WVIT (or NBC [30.com](http://30.com)) Updates can also be found on Facebook - [www.Facebook.com/willingtonpubliclibrary](http://www.Facebook.com/willingtonpubliclibrary)

## Parks & Recreation

### Message from the Parks and Recreation Director

Hello and Seasons Greetings,

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Alan Humphrey and I am the new Parks and Recreation Director for the Town of Willington. My goal in taking this job is to continue providing recreational activities that you have had in the past while adding a variety of new programs for all residents to enjoy. After growing up in this town, I know the importance of having a good Parks and Recreation program. If you have an idea for a program that you would like to see, don't hesitate, reach out to me. Gather your friends, family and neighbors together. If we have the people, we can have the program! It's not too early to start thinking about outdoor activities for next spring and summer.

As I re-open the programs that were closed due to COVID-19, periodically check in to the Willington Parks and Recreation Website or our Facebook page to see what's new. I have already posted information about the Thanksgiving Turkey Hunt and the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Town Green.

I look forward to serving the Town of Willington and working with the fantastic people that live here!

Thank you and enjoy the Holiday season.

Alan Humphrey  
WPRD Office: 860-487-3108  
[Ahumphrey@willingtonct.org](mailto:Ahumphrey@willingtonct.org)



# WPRDs Turkey Scavenger Hunt

## WPRD needs your help!!

**Turkeys are on the loose at River Road Park and Fenton-Ruby Park & Wildlife Preserve and I need your help to track them down!**



**3 and under with Wheel:  
Chair Accessibility**

**River Road Athletic Complex**

**For this challenge, you must find 4 missing turkeys around the track.**

**\*\*Wheel chair and stroller accessible\*\***

**4 years old and up:**

**Taylor Pond Scavenger Hunt**

**For this challenge, you must find 9 missing turkeys on the Taylor Pond Trail.**

**\*\*This trail is rated easy and is .9 miles long\*\***

**The Scavenger Hunt will run from Monday, November 8th through Monday, November 22nd. If you find all the turkeys in a location, your family will be entered in a raffle for a chance at a prize!! One entry per household for each area.**

**One winner from River Road and one winner from Taylor Pond will be chosen.**

### Rules

**Grab your phone and take a selfie with each turkey. If you find them all, send all the pictures in an email to me at the Parks and Recreation Dept. (see below) Please include your name and number with the subject name of "TURKEY".**

#### PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Download the map of Fenton-Ruby and carry with you.
- Wear appropriate foot wear.
- Bring plenty of water and snacks.
- Bring a first aid kit.
- Use tick repellent.
- Dogs must be leashed and under control.
- Leave no trace.
- Please stay on the marked trails.
- Do not disturb wildlife or vegetation.
- No littering. Carry out what you carry in.
- Respect the rights of other visitors.

**Please contact WPRD for more information:  
860-487-3108 or [Ahumphrey@willingtonct.org](mailto:Ahumphrey@willingtonct.org)**



# **Annual Community Tree Lighting Willington Town Green December 10th from 7 pm to 8 pm**



## **Please join us for Willington's Annual Community Tree Lighting**

- \* **Select Members of the Hall Memorial School Chorus led by Mr. Phillips will perform at 7:00 p.m. in front of the Community Tree.**
- \* **After the Select Chorus performance, take a walk down to the historic Glazier Tavern, at the west end of the Green, for light refreshments.**
- \* **Ongoing activities at the Old Town Hall include...**
  - \* **Admiring the decorated Christmas Trees**
  - \* **4-H will provide fresh baked cookies and hot chocolate**
- \* **The Girl Scouts will be attending with a surprise.**
- \* **Festive tattoos given by Jennie and the Human Services Dept.**
- \* **AND.... Santa may be visiting on his sleigh!!!**



**Questions? contact Alan Humphrey, 860.487.3108 or [Ahumphrey@willingtonct.org](mailto:Ahumphrey@willingtonct.org)**





# WPRD's Annual Holiday Tree Giveaway

*The time is here to get into the holiday spirit BUT...  
don't get your tinsel in a tangle! Let's get into the  
true holiday spirit by giving to those in need this  
season!*

*WPRD is hosting a tree decorating night on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>  
and we are looking for groups/organizations to sponsor and  
decorate a holiday tree. WPRD will supply the trees but we  
encourage that each group decorate their tree as it represents  
their individual group. The decorated trees will be on display the  
evening of the Community Tree Lighting on  
Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for all to see.*

*Each decorated tree will be given to a Willington  
family in need!*

*When: Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>*

*Where: Old Town Hall*

*Time: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm*

*Fee: \$40.00—Tree (Fee includes tree/stand but each group must  
supply lights and decorations.)*

*Register by Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>*

*Contact Alan Humphrey at the Parks and Recreation Department to sponsor  
your tree. Number of trees is limited.*

*Feel free to reach out with questions*

*Alan Humphrey 860-487-3108 or [ahumphrey@willingtonct.org](mailto:ahumphrey@willingtonct.org)*





# WPRD's Annual Holiday Tree Giveaway



## Registration Form

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline is November 22<sup>nd</sup>**

For more information, please contact Willington Parks and Recreation  
860-487-3108 or [Ahumphrey@willingtonct.org](mailto:Ahumphrey@willingtonct.org)



## Registrar of Voters

Check the Elections Department's website for up-to-date voting event information.

Online voter registration is available 24/7 at [voterregistration.ct.gov](http://voterregistration.ct.gov). This site coordinates with the Department of Motor Vehicles, so have your current Connecticut driver's license or state-issued ID available when applying.

If you have questions, call our office at 860 487.3120 and leave a message.

Suzanne G. Chapman  
Christine Psathas  
Registrars of Voters/Elections Department  
[www.willingtonct.org/elections-department](http://www.willingtonct.org/elections-department)



## School Building Committee

### Willington School Building Committee Update October 2021

The Willington School Building Committee (SBC) has been meeting since January 2021 and continues to research and define a Pre-K - Grade 8 school to meet Willington's educational needs. It is part of the committee's commitment to follow the SBC charge. At this time, the SBC has not determined if a new school building or renovated school building would be best for Willington. The SBC is currently in the process of hiring consultants to help move the process forward.

The SBC was made aware of concerns that community members felt the committee was only looking to build a new school on a new site because they had created a *Land Acquisition subcommittee* (recently renamed Land Assessment Committee). The SBC discussed land owned by the Town of Willington in public session and parcels of land identified by the Board of Education during executive session. The SBC will utilize executive session to review potential land sites, as discussing parcels publicly may risk causing a price increase. Land acquisition may be required as part of the process, whether building a new school on a new site or completing a renovation. As part of the funding reimbursement and grant application, the Office of School Construction Grants and Review (OSGCR) has a minimum acreage requirement that all school districts seeking funding, must meet.

The SBC continues to hold [regular meetings](#) via Zoom on the first and third Wednesday of each month and [agendas](#) and [minutes](#) can be found on the town website. We encourage townspeople to [subscribe to e-Alerts](#) found on the front page of the town website to receive notifications of meetings. Meetings are recorded and can be accessed via the town's [YouTube page](#). Official committee information and documents are available on the [SBC webpage](#). The SBC recently updated its [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document. Community members may provide feedback through email to [sbc@willingtonct.org](mailto:sbc@willingtonct.org) or participate during the present to speak portion of the SBC meetings.

## Willington Senior Center

Willington Seniors, Inc.

20 Senior Way, Willington, CT 06279

860-429-8321 [senior.center@willingtonct.org](mailto:senior.center@willingtonct.org)



Come on out and see all the new events we have happening here at the Center! Accepting members 55 and older.

Mondays- Chair Yoga

Tuesdays- Tai Chi and Coloring

Wednesdays- Women's and Men's Pool, Bingo

Thursdays- Line Dancing

Fridays- Tai Chi

Also offering multiple trips per month, social events, and more!

If you are interested in showcasing your skills as a class, feel free to reach out.



# Tax Collector

## Happy Holidays from the Tax Office!



Wishing you a  
Healthy &  
Prosperous  
Season!

Janice Clauson,  
Tax Collector  
&  
Michele Cyr,  
Asst. Tax Collector

# Town Clerk

## Greetings, Willington Residents!

It is hard to believe we are approaching the end of 2021!

We cannot let this publication be issued without mentioning Willington's #1 Dog for 2021..... This past June, The Town Clerk's office held a contest for the #1Tag. 7 dogs were entered and the residents of Willington Woods were asked to vote for their favorite dog. We are happy to announce this year's #1 winner was Melvin, a 2 year old Shetland Sheepdog owned by the Stevens family! Melvin can be followed on his Instagram Page: Melvin\_the\_doggie. Next time you visit the TOB, stop by to see the contestants who are on display in the office.

Congratulations to Melvin and his family!

As things wind down (after the election), our office has big plans to re-vamp the flow in the vault. We apologize in advance for the appearance, but assure everyone that the public records that are stored in there will still be accessible during this time frame. The end result will be to have all of the land recordings, Grantor/Grantee indexes/maps, etc. in a more orderly fashion. We also appreciate everyone's patience as we try to tackle this huge, complex project.

This year, the Town Clerk's office applied for funding (under the State Library's Preservation Grant) for our maps to be uploaded into our Land Recording system. This means that anyone who is performing an on-line search will be able to access the images of our maps remotely, just like they would the land recordings! This is VERY exciting for our office and will be for our end users as well! Grant awards will be announced sometime in late December – Stay tuned!! Fingers crossed we receive this very important and much appreciated grant funding. As always, we send many thanks to the CT Library for allowing us to participate in the program.

### Important information:

**Passport Forms:** Are available online at: [pptctcm@state.gov](mailto:pptctcm@state.gov). The Storrs Post Office processes passports. Their phone number is 860-429-9681.

**Notary Services:** There are a number of Notary Publics in the Town Office Building. There is a \$5.00 fee for each notary seal being placed on a document.

**Probate Court for Willington:** Barbara Gardner Riordan, Probate Judge; 21 Tolland Green, Tolland, CT 06084. Phone: 860-871-3640 Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

We wish our residents a very happy and healthy holiday season!

If you have any questions, please call our office: 860- 487-3121.

Robin H. Campbell  
Town Clerk

Rachel L. Pierce  
Assistant Town Clerk



# Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars

Consider Donating on **Giving Tuesday-November 30<sup>th</sup>**.

Ask your friends and family to join you in giving to WSFDFS on Giving Tuesday

## Participate in Annual Giving with Payroll Deduction

Many employers in the area partner with charitable organizations like the United Way to enable employees to make charitable contributions through payroll deductions. Setting up contributions via payroll deduction makes it easy to achieve your giving goals by automating the process; and regular small contributions add up overtime.

Did you know, in most cases, you can direct payroll deducted contributions to the charity of your choice? For example, the United Way maintains a list of many charitable organizations for you to choose from. They also allow you to add organizations to their list. This is a great option if you prefer to see your contributions used locally.

The [Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars](#) is set up with the United Way already. Thanks to the generosity of several Willington residents, we receive regular contributions from the United Way for their payroll deducted contributions.

If your employer encourages you to participate in an annual giving campaign through payroll deductions, consider directing your contribution to the [Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars](#).

If you don't see [Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars](#) on the list as an approved charity in your employer's giving program, ask if we can be added!

**Join Us!** We meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at the Town Office Building. For more information on how to join, visit our website or email us at [Willington@DollarsforScholars.org](mailto:Willington@DollarsforScholars.org)

**Want to Donate NOW? Text: WILLINGTONFORSCHOLARS to 44321**

Check us out on our website at [www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org](http://www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org)



Theresa Salisbury and Chopeta Lyons, WSF Board members and Nicholas Mercado and family, 2021 Scholarship recipient

