

The Willington WORD

Spring 2010

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A letter from the First Selectman

Parks & Recreation

WYESS

Willington Public Library

Community Activities

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www.willingtonct.org

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EASTERN CONNECTICUT HEALTH NETWORK

General Information



TOWN OF WILLINGTON OFFICE BUILDING

~ ADDRESS ~

40 Old Farms Road
Willington, CT 06279

~ WEB SITE ~

www.willingtonct.org

~ BUSINESS HOURS ~

Mon. 12:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Tues.-Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

~ CONTACTS ~

First Selectman	Christina Beebe Mailhos	860-487-3100
Assessor	Mary Huda	860-487-3122
Building Inspector	Bradford Freeman	860-487-3123
Business Manager	Donna Latincsics	860-487-3134
Planning & Zoning	Susan Yorgensen	860-487-3123
Parks & Recreation	Teri Gareau	860-487-3108
Tax Collector	Carol Larson	860-487-3111
Town Clerk	Donna Hardie	860-487-3121
Public Works	Lynn Nicholls	860-684-9313
Registrar of Voters		860-487-3120

From the Desk of the First Selectman:

Dear Willington Residents:

Spring is upon us and I encourage all Willington Residents to consider participating in the many opportunities presented by our Recreation Commission to "Get Up, Get Out and Get Moving." In addition to participating in the programs offered, please consider exploring Willington's beautiful outdoors by taking a hike on one of our trails or participating in the Willington PTA's Fun Run on May 29th. There are many other community events planned by the various non-profit groups in Town and I urge you to check the community calendar at www.willingtonct.org for updates.

The events listed in this brochure are low cost and healthy ways to have fun and interact with other members of our community. I feel it is important that our Town offer these opportunities to our residents (especially during this recession) and I thank our Recreation Commission for their hard work and dedication.

Sincerely, Christina Beebe Mailhos
First Selectman Willington

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General Information

From the Desk of the Town Assessor:

Elderly and Totally Disabled Tax Relief

Elderly Homeowner State Tax Credit Program

Elderly and totally disabled tax relief program applications must be filed with the Assessor's office between February 1, 2010 and May 15, 2010. The State of Connecticut Program is available to residents of Willington who:

- Have attained the age of 65 on/before December 31, 2009
- Hold full time residence in Willington
- Received an income not exceeding \$32,300 for a single person or \$39,500 for a married couple

Applications can be obtained at the Assessor's Office, Town Hall, 40 Old Farms Road, Monday 12:30 pm- 7:30 pm and Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm or one can be sent to you by mail if you call 860-487-3122 during the hours above.

Proof of income, social security and 1099 earnings required. Those persons who are already on the program but required to renew have already been mailed an application.

From the Desk of the Town Clerk:

Fishing & Hunting

Springtime again and that means its fishing season. Opening day for Trout Fishing is April 17, 2010. Licenses are available in our office or on line at www.ct.gov/dep. Please take notice of the licensing fees have increased. The Guide Books are available on line also at www.ct.gov/dep/fishing or www.ct.gov/dep/hunting and will be available in the town clerk's office on April 1st. You can contact DEP by phone (860) 424-3105 with any additional questions. Any Connecticut Residents 65 years of age or older are entitled to a free license.

Important Budget Dates

Budget Hearing April 6, 2010

Don't forget the Annual Town Meeting on April 20, 2010

Budget Referendum May 4, 2010 cast your Vote at the Town Office Building, Old Senior Center, 40 Old Farms Road. Absentee Ballots will be available for residents at the Town Clerks Office if you will not be in town on that day. Please contact the Clerk's Office for date of availability. Any questions contact the clerk's office at 860 487-3121

Dog Licenses

June is the time to register your dog. You will receive renewal reminders at the end of May 2010. There is fee of \$8.00 for a spayed/neutered dog and a \$19.00 fee for male/female dog. You can license your dog in person or by mail. All dog license requests must be received in this office in person or in the office via the mail by June 30th. An updated rabies certificate, if not current is required, a check payable to the Willington Town Clerk and a self addressed, stamped envelope should be included, if by mail. New dogs being registered would need the rabies certificate, spayed/neutered papers, check payable to Willington Town Clerk and a self addressed, stamped envelope, if mailed, for us to process your license. Please register your dog in June to avoid additional late fees as of July 1st. There is a \$1.00 per month and \$1.00each additional month per state statute.

Passports

Passports are processed in our office. Forms are available in the clerk's office and also online at pptctcsm@state.gov Get your passport, as soon as possible, if you know you will be traveling. An approximate processing time is about 4 weeks.

Notary Services

We are Notary Publics and can notarize documents. We will not notarize any documents that will be filed on the town land records or persons wills. There will be no fees for this service for town residents.

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

Donna J. Hardie, Town Clerk

Maureen A. Gantick, Assistant Town Clerk

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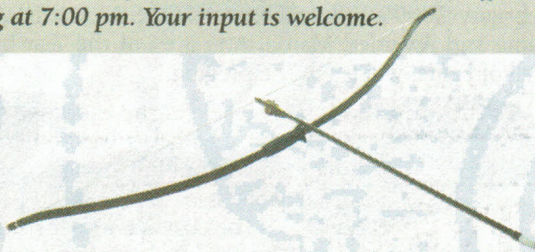
~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

In an ongoing effort to provide the citizens of Willington with programs and facilities for everyone's recreational needs, the Willington Parks & Recreation Department will always commit it's resources to expand and adapt to those needs.

The Willington Parks & Recreation Department in association with the Public Works Department, and outside contractors will maintain the playing fields at Hall School and Center School, the River Road Athletic Complex, and the Town Hall Offices.

By offering a diverse group of recreational programs with the equipment and facilities to safely and properly implement these programs, we hope to get our community to "come out and play". Good health, social interaction, and promoting learning of new physical and mental skills are available to everyone who wants to participate.

The Willington Parks & Recreation Commission meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Town Office Building at 7:00 pm. Your input is welcome.



Archery

This is a fun sport for any fitness level for archers ages 9 to 99. All equipment is provided and no experience is required. We will begin with an overview of proper safety and technique then proceed to mastering the skills necessary to consistently hit the mark! Using recurve bows we will explore both target and 3-D archery styles.

Location: Classes will be held at Town Hall Fields, 40 Old Farms Road, Willington.

Dates: Sundays, April 18th, 25th, May 2nd, 16th, 23rd and June 6th. (6 classes)

Times: 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Fee: \$60.00, Maximum class size is 10 participants; minimum 4 to run program.

Boating Course

A complete, basic safe boating certification course taught in on 8 hour day. Successful completion will allow you to obtain a Connecticut Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation. This course is approved by the State, NASBLA, and recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Instructor: Professional Marine Education

Date: Saturday, May 8th

Time: 8:30 am- 4:30 pm, Willington Public Library

Age: Designated for ages 12+

Fee: \$75.00 Bring a lunch.

Fencing 2010-Session 2

Beginner fencing is intended for students with no prior experience in fencing. Modern fencing is an amateur sport consisting of three weapons; foil, saber and epee.

Instructor: Matt Green

Date: May 1st - August 14th

Ages: 9 to Adult

Open Fencing: Saturdays at the Old Town Hall (Jared Sparks Rd, Willington) 10:00 to 11:00

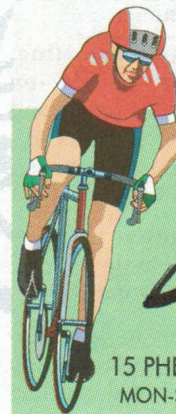
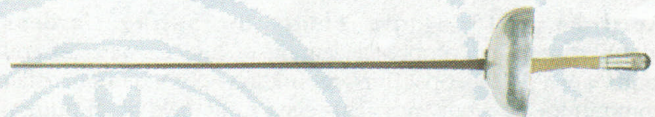
Beginner Fencing: Saturdays at the Old Town Hall (Jared Sparks Rd, Willington) 9:00 to 10:00
Minimum of 5 needed to run

Fee: \$60 per session

Equipment: The Parks & Recreation Department will have equipment available for use during class time. If you intend to purchase your own equipment please email piratedojo@gmail.com first to discuss requirements.

NOTE: Students may wear sweat pants or knickers with full length socks (no shorts). A flat soled sneaker (indoor soccer shoes are good) or fencing shoe is best for footwear.

Registration: Space is limited; 12 Students Max.



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Parks & Recreation *Get Up! Get Out! Get Moving!*

Gardening

5 Sessions

Date: Every 4th Mon. of March, June & August
Time: 6:30-8:30 PM in the town office common room

To meet 4th Saturday of April and May

10:00AM -12:00PM Location TBD

Instructor: Julia Cartabiano, a native of Willington, holds a B.S. degree in Environmental Horticulture from UCONN, operates Trillium Design, a landscape design and installation business.

Fee: \$15/class, Whole series \$70

March 22, 2010, Seeds and Seeding:

How to start your plants from seed An up close and personal look at seeds, what they are and how to get them to do what you want! We will explore techniques for seed germination, transplanting seedlings, growing on, hardening-off and other really cool stuff to get your garden "sprouting" this spring. Prepare to get your hands dirty trying this in class.

April 24, 2010, Native Plants for Spring Gardens:

Identification and proper placement of native plants in your landscape, with tips for rebuilding the natural plant communities in your yard. This class to be held at an outdoor location, with native plant walk, weather permitting.

May 22, 2010 (rain date - May 29, 2010), Composting, Soil Building, and Weed-less Gardening: Hands -on project starting a new garden from scratch! Get down and dirty building a planting area (at a site to be announced), while learning about soil and how it affects your plants, and how you really can have a weed-less garden.

June 28, 2010, Fruits are not just for the nutty! There are a lot of backyard (and front yard!) edible landscaping options. We will explore some old favorites and some unusual choices.

August 23, 2010, Fall Gardening: from lawns to flowers to veggie gardens, there are many gardening opportunities in the fall. It's not too early to plan for winter. We will consider some of the best things to do for your garden this time of year.

Golf Lessons

Whether you are an accomplished player or just a beginner, fine tune your game with basic skill set to accommodate players of all levels. Do yourself a favor and make an important step to improving your golf game with some instruction. Your game will improve as well as your enjoyment of this great game!!

Instructor: Rick Nelson, PGA Professional

Class Times and Dates:

Co-ed Adult: Tue., 5-6 pm- May 5, 12, 19, 26

Ladies: Thur, 6-7 pm- June 4, 11, 18, 25

Kids: Thur., 6-7 pm- July 2, 9, 16
double session ages 8-15

Ladies: Tue., 5-6 pm- August 4, 11, 18, 25

Co-ed: Thur., 6-7 pm-
September 3, 10, 17, 24

Cost: \$60 per student- min 6/ max 8
Contact Skunkamaug Golf Course if weather is questionable-742-9348.

Karate

Traditional Shaolin Kempo Karate for all ages presented by Hidden Dragon II Karate, was recently awarded the 2008 National Martial Arts School of the Year. Sensei Dan, who was February 2009's inductee into the U.S.A. Martial Arts Hall of Fame and Awarded Martial Arts Man of the Year by the same Hall of Fame, will teach the program.

Location: Classes will be held at the Hidden Dragon Karate II Dojo, 11 Phelps Way, Willington. The program will run for six weeks, on Wednesday Nights.

Fee: The cost is \$40 per student.

The next session will be as follows:

Date: Wednesdays: Session 10: March 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, and April 14th, and 21st. Session 11-14 dates to be announced

Class Times:

Beginning Dragons (ages 4-7)

5:00 pm to 5:30 pm-White Belt

Advanced Dragons (ages 4-7)

5:45 pm to 6:15 pm-Yellow Belt

to Orange Belt

Preteens (ages 8 and 17)

6:30 pm to 7:00 pm- White Belt to Orange Belt. Times subject to change. Once students have obtained the rank of Orange Belt, students have the option to join the school full or part time, or leave the program.

ALL NEW STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE HIDDEN DRAGON TEE SHIRTS FOR \$15.00. Make checks payable to Hidden Dragon II.



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YOGA

These yoga classes are for everyone who wants to improve their health and well-being. Yoga is a carefully designed and extensive program using gentle and restorative yoga, modified postures, breath work and meditation with the intent of giving relief from physical pain and improving joint and organ functions.

The techniques taught are appropriate for beginners, older adults as well as advanced yoga students.

Session 2: March 15, 22, 29 and April 5th

Session 3: April 12 & 26, May 3, & 23

Session 4: May 17, 24, June 7, 14

Class Times & Location: Monday Nights 6:30 pm - 7:30pm, Center School, 12 Old Farms Road

Cost: The program fee (per session) is \$20 for four classes.

Drop ins welcome \$10.00 per class

Equipment: All students must bring their own mat and big towel.

Registration: Must have 8 people to run program.

Instructor: Davender Khokhar



Effective July 28, 2009: A pre-registration policy for activities has been set. Pre-registration for all activities is required or a \$5 late fee will be assessed. Registrations are to be done at the Town Office Building only.

Questions: Call Teri Gareau, Parks and Rec Director at 860- 487-3108 or visit www.willingtonct.org for more information.

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Instructor: Sheri Henderson, Limited to 40

Dates and Location: April 13th at Center School All Purpose Room-12 Old Farms Road. No class on April 20th due to school vacation, April 27th - June 22th at Hall School Gym, 111 River Road

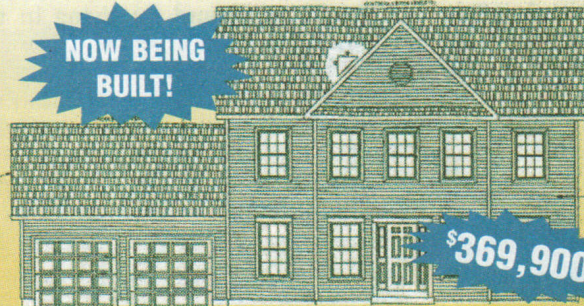
Session 2 of ZUMBA: Starting Tuesday April 13th

Time: Tuesday nights 5:30 pm -6:30 pm.

Cost: 10 week program for \$69.00

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Parks & Recreation *Get Up! Get Out! Get Moving!*

Summer Camp 2010

Explore the great outdoors!

Session 1 - June 28 - July 2 Go Green! We've got the Green Power! Let's get together to have fun learning by doing projects that focus on ways we can help the earth with environmentally friendly activities. We'll learn about where our food comes from and grow some in our garden, discover our friends of the forest on nature walks and through fun craft projects, track the weather, learn how to turn our yucky left over food scraps into rich food for our garden, and play lots of great "green" games and activities. Come and join the green revolution!

Session 2 - July 5 -9 Fun and Fitness, Get Up! Get Out! Get Moving! Our theme for the week will be fitness and developing healthy lifestyles. We will play lots of fun games, take the fitness challenge, engage in team building activities, learn about, make and eat healthy snacks, dance, sing, and have fun through fitness. It's hip to be fit!

Session 3 - July 12 - 16 Thriving and Surviving in the Great Outdoors. Do you have the pioneer spirit? Come and find out this week as we delve into the mysteries of outdoor survival. Discover skills you can use to enjoy being out in the natural world. Try finding your way with a compass, what makes a good shelter, things not to eat or touch in the woods, and fun things to know and do before you hit the trail to enjoy the great outdoors.

Session 4 - July 19 - 23 Celebration of Nations Each day we will explore a different country, its people, culture, wildlife, and games. This year we will visit Kenya in Africa, Peru in South America, Canada in North America and New Zealand. While we visit there each day we will sample their music, food, popular games and natural world. So come along for our trip around the globe.

Session 5 - July 26 - 30 Animal Planet Get ready to have some wildlife fun! This week we will do all things "animal". Whether it is about wild beasts of the jungle or your favorite bunny rabbit we will be thinking about and doing animal projects. If we're very fortunate we might even see some live snakes and other reptiles. So get ready for some "wild" times at summer camp.

Session 6 - August 2 - 6 Holidays Everyone loves holidays, so come and enjoy a different one each day at summer camp. How about Easter eggs, snowball fights, parades, and picnics in August? There is fun for everyone as each day this week is a different holiday theme. Come ready to party and join the holiday fun.

Session 7 - August 9-13 No Theme Week! This is our last week of camp for 2010. We have done a lot of fun and educational activities this summer, so now we can replay some favorites, and just enjoy the pleasures of summer. We will play lots of great games, make fun crafts and cook up yummy snacks. Come hear an exciting story, sing a silly song or take a nature hike. Come be surprised! Anything is possible at No Theme Week!

Camp Costs

A non-refundable, \$25.00 deposit per child, per week, is due at the time of registration. Camp balances are due NO LATER than Friday, June 11th unless prior arrangements have been made with the Park & Recreation Director. All payments must be received one week before the start of a session. **Pay balance by June 1st and receive \$5 discount per Summer camp week.**

Plan A-5 Days

\$135 per week • \$145 for Non Residents

Plan B-3 Days

\$85.00 per Week • \$95.00 for Non Residents

Plan C-2 Days

\$55.00 per week • \$65.00 for Non Residents

Extended Hours - 7:30am-8:30am and 3:00pm to 5:30pm
\$5.00/hour rounded to the nearest 1/2 hour
No extended hours on the last day of camp August 13th

C.I.T. Program

Back by popular demand, the Counselor in Training program is for teenagers ages 14-15. C.I.T.s will have the opportunity to take part in detailed training program with the Camp Director. All C.I.T.s must complete a C.I.T. application, Deadline for C.I.T. registration is April 16th. All C.I.T.s must attend on mandatory training session to be fully qualified. Training dates TBD. All training will be held at the Town Office Building's Common Room at 40 Old Farms Road, Willington. Pre-registration is required.

Cost per Week: \$60 residents, \$70/non-residents

Half-Day Pre-School Camp!

Children ages 3-5 will be offered the opportunity to learn about what camp life is all about. The half-day program will be play group orientated games and create beautiful art projects. The camp is held Monday-Thursday 8:30am-12:00 pm same dates and themes as above.

Cost for 4 days: \$55.00/residents \$65.00/non-residents

Cost for 2 days: \$30.00/residents \$35.00/non-residents

Cost for 1 day: \$15.00/residents \$20.00/non-residents

Special thanks to

Our Elf-Dale Dyer, our Santa from the Willington Hill Fire Department, Jason Philips and the Hall Memorial School Select Chorus, the Willington Willing Workers 4H Club, Deb Linares, Program Planner, The Willington Public Library for all of their efforts in making our "COMMUNITY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION" so special and a great success.

If you are a Willington resident who is in need of financial assistance please call Tara Martin, WYFSS Director at 860-487-3118.

If you are interested in sending your child please download the registration and medical forms at www.willingtonct.org, Town Departments, Parks & Recreation, Summer Camp 2010 or contact Teri Gareau at 860-487-3108 and one will be mailed to you.

Youth, Family & Social Services

Early Childhood Programs

Caterpillar Club: This free play group runs every Thursday from 9:30 to 11:00 am at the Willington Public Library. Parents and children (ages 18 months-4 years) socialize and play together; creating family and community bonds that will last a lifetime.

Toddler Time Music & Movement Class: This very affordable and professionally instructed class meets every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:00 am at the Willington Public Library. This class is specially designed to promote motor and social skills in children ages 18 mos. to 4 years of age. Join anytime and pay as you go! Music & Movement Class is an affordable \$5.00 per class, or \$40.00 per 10 week session.

Toddler Time Pre-School Activity Class: This class meets at the Willington Public Library on Fridays from 9:30 to 11:00 am. Professionally instructed, this class helps to prepare your child for the activities of the pre-school classroom. Join anytime and pay as you go! This activity class is \$5.00 per class or \$40.00 per 10 week session.

Youth Programs

New Horizons Girls Club: Welcome to your future girls! This activity and leadership group meets approximately twice monthly and helps to prepare girls to engage in their community and become independent thinkers. The club runs for girls grades K-6 in the Willington Public Schools. Check out all the details on the WYFSS homepage!

First Friday Hang Out: This program is for Willington 7th & 8th grade boys and girls. Come play board games, card games, Nintendo Wii games, watch movies, listen to music, dance & hang out with friends. This activity is supervised, safe, fun for your tween! There is no charge for this activity thanks to a grant from NECASA.

Coming Soon

Town of Willington April Camp: Do you have to work through your child's April vacation? Send him or her to April Camp! This WYFSS camp will run from April 17-21, and features a different theme each day. Download your program description and registration forms on our homepage after March 15th.

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Senior Programs

Special Event: Robert Rodriguez from the Social Security Administration will give a short lecture at the Willington Senior Center on March 17th at 12:45pm. The topic will be "Low Income Subsidy (LIS)" Learn how you may be able to save money on prescription drugs. All Medicare beneficiaries are welcome to attend. Come visit Willington's beautiful senior center at 60 Old Farms Rd, Willington, CT. Call the Willington Senior Center at 860-429-8321 for directions or general questions about special events, programs, or activities.

Willington FoodShare Mobile Site: Families and seniors alike may attend FoodShare every other Thursday morning at 9:00am sharp. The mobile truck utilizes the parking lot of the Willington Senior Center at 60 Old Farms Rd, Willington CT. Low to moderate income participants receive fresh fruit, vegetables, breads, and various other perishable food items. For more information on FoodShare go to: <http://fdshr.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=index>

Willington Volunteer Network:

Willington Residents Caring for One Another

Willington has a wonderful tradition of caring for its' residents in great need. Through Willington's local churches, schools, boy & girl scout troops, the Hall Foundation, fire departments, support from local businesses, the Volunteer Driver Program, the Friendly Visitor Program, and private donations of both time and money; our small town knows how to "get the job done" for residents who need a helping hand.

This Willington Volunteer Network is a brand new WYFSS initiative that strives to enhance and compliment Willington's existing infrastructure of care. The Network is currently in its early stages, but the initial goals are to (1) create a database of town organizations and individuals already engaged in community volunteer activities, (2) recruit additional volunteers with a wide variety of skill sets, (3) provide additional services to Willington residents most in need of assistance, and (4) secure funding resources to maintain the network and / or to furnish materials and tools needed to complete community projects.

This network is grass roots effort in its purest form. Stated simply, residents all pull together and care for one another to weather these difficult economic times.

Your ideas and suggestions are greatly appreciated and needed. Please consider joining the Willington Volunteer Network Steering Committee! Sign up for Willington Youth, Family & Social Services emails to receive notifications and updates about this new and exciting venture. WYFSS invites you to become a part of the solution!

Wilmington Public Library

~ INFORMATION ~

7 Ruby Road Wilmington, CT

Phone: (860) 429-3854

Fax: (860) 429-2136

Hours:

Monday	12 pm to 5 pm
Tuesday	12 pm to 8 pm
Wednesday	12 pm to 5 pm
Thursday	12 pm to 8 pm
Friday	12 pm to 5 pm
Saturday	9 am to 2 pm
Sunday	CLOSED

www.wilmingtonpubliclibrary.org

~ STAFF ~

Library Director
Roberta S. Passardi

Library Assistant
Margaret Gankofskie

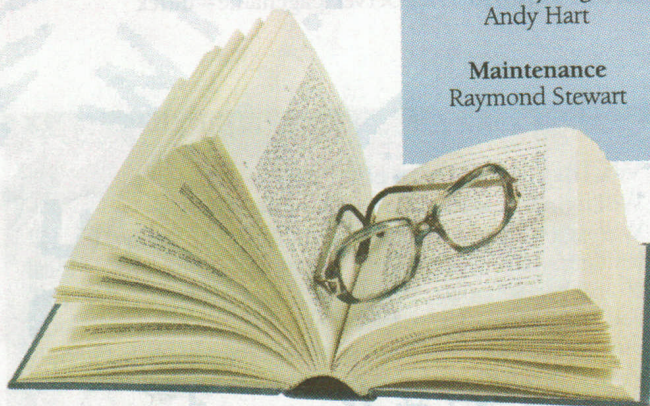
Library Programmer/Page
Deb Linares

Library Aide
Brittany McDougal

Library Page
Kathy Lisiewski

Library Page
Andy Hart

Maintenance
Raymond Stewart



Wilmington Public Library Programs

Our Gratitude Journal continues to be passed throughout the town. If there is anyone individual or group who would like an opportunity to make an entry, we would like to hear from you. This is something we all can participate in. Please call the Library and ask for Debbie and we can put you on the schedule.

We would like to represent the Library, in the Memorial Day Parade on May 31st, with a float. We are looking for volunteers of all ages to help. Please think about participating in this fun project. We would like to start working on this as soon as we have a response. Please let us know if you are interested. Our theme will be "Mother Goose" and we are looking to "dress-up" into her different characters- props and all.

Twilight Tales story time continues on the first and third Tuesday evenings of the month at 6:45 p.m. Join us in a quiet nighttime ritual.

Children Story and Craft Time every Saturday morning is now going to start at 10:30 AM (instead of 10:00), with the hope that more children will be able to attend, and continue until 11:30. Stop buy and join in the fun. We will have other special craft times where there will be a nominal fee asked, to cover material costs.

Visit us for these special crafts and their dates and times.

Saturday, April 10th at 12:00 PM:

Ballet presentation of "Sleeping Beauty" by Leaps and Dreams

Saturday, April 17th at 12:00 PM:

"Pets on Parade": Celebrating Pet Owners' Day with a pet show and tell time

April school vacation (19-23) is also National TV Turn-Off Week.

Tuesday, April 20: Family Game Night at 6:00 PM

Thursday, April 22: In honor of Earth Day, we will be showing both versions of the movie, "The Day the Earth Stood Still". Join us at 4:30 PM, for the original 1951 classic and/or at 6:00 PM for the 2008 remake.

We are hoping to have a special program presented on Saturday, April 15th, for Armed Forces Day.

Thursday, May 20 at 6:30 PM: Jan Mann, Author of "Cruising Connecticut with a Picnic Basket" will be here.

Saturday, June 5 at 2:00 PM: Tea Party (library fundraiser)

Thank You! To those who have been so thoughtful and generous with the donations we have been asking for. Our list is always changing and we so appreciate your help.

For more information pertaining to the above mentioned events and other programs coming, contact us on our web site: wilmingtonpubliclibrary.org or call at 860-429-3854

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Community Groups

Conservation Commission Notes

Spring is here with renewed opportunities to get out and appreciate the trails and natural resources we are fortunate to have here in Willington. Trail maps for Fenton-Ruby Park and the Talmadge Tract/Nipmuck Trail area are available in the Town Office Building and the Library. A trail map and guide to FRP is usually available at the Park information kiosk and is also available at www.willingtonct.org. The Conservation Commission, listed under "Boards and Commissions", also has links to many conservation and natural resource information sites and organizations.

FEATURED HIKE: An interesting place for a short hike is along Roaring Brook. A trail and fishing area along this rock-strewn river bed with its rapids and pools bordered by large oaks and pines can be accessed from a parking area a quarter-mile up Village Hill Road from Rte 32. Stairs lead down from the lot under the bridge. Care is needed on wet rocks and especially in high water. Although this is private property and should be respected as such, public access on the south side of the stream only is allowed by conservation easement. Further downstream to Rte 32, the land is owned by the State of Conn.

The Commission periodically sponsors educational programs to help you understand and appreciate our natural environment and outdoor resources. We sponsored a mammal tracking workshop in FRP in February and an astronomy night in March. These events are publicized through several media, but if you would like to receive email notices for these events you may contact either Pete Andersen (andersen108@sbcglobal.net) or email Chris Demers (cdemers@mindspring.com). Coming up in May will be an event in the Park led by a natural resources expert. And in June, also in FRP, we expect to run a guided nature hike. (See the accompanying schedule.)

Please visit our website for more information on what the Conservation Commission is about. There are also many photos of people, events and wildlife in FRP. We hope to see you at our activities or out on the trails!

April: The loud, shrill mating calls of the American toad can be heard as early as March and as late as May in the Park, but this common amphibian gets really randy in April. At this time of year, the males have moved into shallow ponds and puddles for an evening chorus aimed at enticing the lady toads with an unmistakable, high-pitched musical trill typically sustained for 10 or 20 seconds.

May: The beginning of May is when legions of migratory birds begin to arrive in the Park. The emerging buds and insects feeding off the succulent new leaf growth are a prime attraction for these songbirds. Arriving summer residents include the warbling vireo (typically found feeding in upper tree canopy near wetland borders), Northern orioles and rose-breasted grosbeaks (fond of upper tree canopies near open areas), yellow warblers and common yellowthroats (preferring low, brushy areas near streams), and our ground feeding Eastern towhees and ovenbirds scratching in the leaf litter searching for insects.

June: Painted turtles are laying their eggs this month. The females will be coming ashore to dig 6" deep holes in preferably south facing upland soils with minimal vegetation, rocks, and debris. The eggs hatch in about 10 weeks but the young typically will not emerge until next spring, spending the winter safely in the nest.

Conservation Commission 2010 Schedule of Activities Call Chris at 429-8384 for more information

Reading the Forest Landscape with Jack Barclay

May 1st (Saturday) • 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Forest Edibles & Medicinals with Barbara Ashton

June 5th (Saturday) • 10:00am - 11:30am

Park Day

October 16th (Saturday) • 10:00am - 12:00pm



The Willington Board of Education meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Please visit our website for agendas and minutes.

Superintendent of Schools:
David C. Harding 860.487.3130

Board of Education Chairman:
Mark Makuch

Board of Education Members:
Herbert Arico, Mark Jones, Erika Wiecenski,
Laurie Semprebon, Barry Wallett, Leo Mercado

Center Elementary School Principal:
Colin McNamara 860.429.9367

Hall Memorial School Principal:
Deborah Sullivan 860.429.9391

Willington Pupil Services Director:
Holly DiBella-McCarthy 860.429.1969

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***Banquets *Parties**

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Community Groups

This year the Willington Nursery Cooperative is celebrating 50 years of service to the community.

We are the oldest Cooperative in the state and are doing our best to continue this tradition during these difficult economic times.

In celebration of this milestone we will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner/Dance on Saturday, March 20th at Wilderness Lake in Willington. The cost of this event will be \$35 per couple, \$20 per person, \$5 per child, and is BYOB. Childcare will also be made available.

Please email WillingtonNurseryCoop@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Willington Day 2010

This year Willington Day will be held on Saturday May 29, 2010 instead of on Memorial Day. The Willington Day Committee chose to do this for several reasons: It seems respectful to hold our fair on a day that is not reserved for honoring our Veterans; After a very full day, with the Memorial Day Parade and Willington Day, it is very hard for some families to get their kids off to school on Tuesday; and we wanted to coordinate our event with the Willington PTA's Fun Run event on Saturday, May 29th. Willington Day will follow the 5K race and should be a full day of fun for all!

We hope many Willington businesses and organizations will reserve a booth and help make this a very special day for our Town. Please contact Jennifer Jeffreys at mjeffreys1597@charter.net or (860) 429-1597, if you are interested in having a booth at Willington Day and/or an ad in our program. We hope to see all our neighbors there! **The Willington Day Committee**

Two of the Best Kept Secrets in Willington

The Town of Willington's News & Notifications Directly to your inbox The Town of Willington encourages you to get involved and stay informed! Go to www.willingtonct.virtualtownhall.net/subscriber and choose the town departments for which you would like to receive email announcements about special events, department meetings, and town-sponsored programs for all ages.

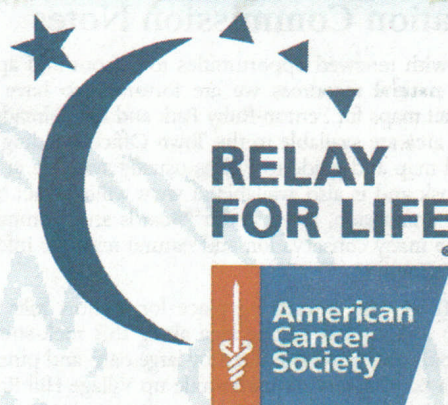


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Please Join Us as a Contestant in Tolland County's Relay For Life 2nd Annual Chili Challenge Saturday, April 10th, 4pm - 9pm

Willington Hill Fire Department, Old Farms Road, Willington

Put you chili up against the best: TEXAS ROADHOUSE, is just one of the local restaurant competitors, we hope you can join us too!

All proceeds go to the RELAY for LIFE, American Cancer Society. Last year we raised over \$2,500 for charity and hope for an even bigger event with your help.

Please call Michelle Puzzo 860-933-9536 for more info.

Relay for Life "Circle of Friends"

The team would appreciate your support in our fundraising endeavors for the event to be held in June, 2010 at Tolland High School. Look for us at Willington Day and opening day of Baseball. The "Circle" team is comprised of mostly Town of Willington, Town Office Building and Willington Public Library employees and their friends.

We would love to have more Willington residents represented at this phenomenal event. Anyone interested in forming a new relay team please contact Michelle Puzzo at 860-933-9536. The 2009 event raised in excess of \$97,000 and the goal for 2010 is over \$100,000. All proceeds go toward cancer research for a cure!

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Community Groups

Willington Federated Church is hosting a "Goods and Services Auction"

Mark your calendars for the 1st Annual Goods and Services Auction hosted by the Willington Federated Church. This event will be held at the Mary D. Edwards Library on Friday, April 9 from 7-9pm. Some of the items up for bid include: a gourmet dinner for 4, babysitting services, chimney cleaning, themed gift baskets and gift certificated. There will be a nominal entrance fee and refreshments will be provided. Watch for more information as the date nears. If you have an item or a service you would like to donate, please contact the Federated Church at (860)429-9911. Please join your neighbors for an entertaining evening.

New Willington Energy Advisory Committee Organized

In January a group of Willington residents, appointed by the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of studying and improving the town's energy usage, held its organizational meeting. We decided to call ourselves the Energy Advisory Committee. Officers Ed Taiman, Chairman; Norman Nadeau, Vice-Chairman; and Carol Springer, Secretary; were elected. The committee will usually meet monthly on the first Thursday of the month. Locations will rotate among the Town's facilities so we can get a first-hand look at each building and its energy-related features. The next meeting will be Monday, March 1, 7:30PM, at the Library.

Our first step will be to arrange energy audits of town-owned buildings. Starting with the Town Office Building the committee will then advise the town on recommended changes to save energy and cost, based on audit results.

Long-term goals include application for grants, and consideration of alternative, renewable sources of energy such as solar, wind, or micro-hydro electricity generation to offset investment costs. We will also advocate for changes in State statutes that currently limit how much savings in one facility can be applied to the town's energy account as a whole.

Encouraging Willington residents to reduce and improve our own energy use through information and support for sustainable change will be an ongoing project. We hope to recruit households to switch the source of their electricity from fossil fuel providers to clean energy providers. The cost is minimal and switching to CLEAN Energy Options helps Willington earn points toward free renewable energy-generating equipment for a public building. Information will be disseminated through the schools and a new Energy Advisory Committee page on the town's web page.

Energy Advisory meetings are open to the public and we invite others interested in assisting this effort to attend or to call the First Selectman's Office (860-487-3100) for more information.

iParentnetwork is still growing, with 326 parents signed up to date. There is tons of

iParentnetwork.org

information relating to parenting on this web site, along with a very comprehensive calendar with all the activities suitable for kids 0-17 in the Tri Town area. If you haven't check it out or joined, now is the time! Visit <http://www.iparentnetwork.org> to sign up. Be a part of the excitement by joining our parent advisory group, a group of parents who act in an advisory role in the development of the web site. If interested, email barbara@caseylight.com

PTA calendar for April, May, June:

April: 15th, Monthly Meeting, Willington Public Library, 6:30pm

May: 3rd, 7th - Teacher Appreciation Week

20th - Monthly Meeting, Willington Public Library, 6:30pm

29th - PTA Fun Run and 5K and Willington Day

June: Have a happy Summer!

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Hope and Wellness

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Community Groups

Willington Fire Department 860.429.0288
426 River Road P.O. Box 161, Willington CT 06279

Tyler F. Millix, Fire Chief and Ronald A. Gantick, President

Throughout the years as I talk to various residents I am always somewhat surprised about how little is known about the Fire Department and the services we provide.

We operate out of two fire stations, one in South Willington and the other in North Willington by I-84. The fire department is made up of approximately 25 active volunteer firefighters and 4 full time employees and 6 part time employees. Back in 1968 due to the increased medical calls within the Town the fire department and the Town felt it necessary to have one paid person on duty during the week from 8am to 4 pm. Over the years the call volumes increased and the paid staff increased as well to keep up with the calls for service. Presently, we have two paid personnel on duty 24 hours a day seven days a week. These firefighter/EMT's provide basic coverage for all calls in conjunction with the volunteer staff. In 2009 the fire department responded to about 850 calls for service of which seventy to eighty percent were medical related emergencies.

About twenty years ago the department began the practice of billing insurance companies for ambulance transports. All monies collected are deposited into the Emergency Services Fund. This fund has allowed the departments to purchase new ambulances and fire apparatus at generally no cost to the taxpayers. In 2009 approximately \$220,000 was deposited into this account. All departments around Willington also bill insurance companies but generally keep the funds internal to their organization. Between the fire department and the Town administration at the time, we felt that the best use for the money was to reduce the capital purchases paid for by the taxpayers and utilize this money for that purpose. This agreement still stands today and we are planning on purchasing two new engine tanks; one of which is for the Willington Hill Fire Department out of this fund.

Approximately eight years ago the Department signed a lease with AT&T to construct a radio tower behind the fire station. It was decided by the membership to use all the rent monies collected to fund a stipend program to the volunteers. This program worked well and although it was not a large amount of money the members appreciated the help with fuel costs etc.

With the increased call volume and the shortage of volunteers to staff the ambulance during nighttime hours the department once again evaluated the needs of the department in regard to staffing and instead of requesting additional funding from the Town for more paid staff, the membership voted to dedicate all proceeds from the tower rental into the payroll account to ensure adequate coverage for the Town. It is our hope that in the near future we can reinstitute the stipend program, but for now it is best used to offset the labor costs associated with ensuring adequate coverage.

In addition to providing medical, rescue and fire services to the Town of Willington we also house and respond out of our area with a State of Connecticut Foam Trailer and the Tolland County Support Services Vehicle. The State of Connecticut purchased eight foam trailers and strategically placed them throughout the State. They can and have been used for major hazardous materials incidents, and large scale fires. To date we have responded to towns as far away as East Lyme, Plainfield, and Colchester for gas tanker accidents and recycling center fires. With I-84 running through our town and with the trucking facilities within our borders this will prove to be a useful tool for Willington as well. The County Support Services Vehicle carries the various equipment needed for a county-wide rescue dive as well as a search and rescue for lost persons. Both apparatus are generally stored in the South Willington Firehouse.

For many years the department staff has coordinated the volunteer driver program for Willington. Basically, when someone needs transportation to a doctor's appointment but does not have the means to get there or they cannot drive, the staff of the department makes phone calls off of a list of volunteer drivers and coordinates transportation.

As always we are in need of volunteers. If you have an interest in any function of the department from emergency operations to administrative tasks we would appreciate talking with you. In addition to the emergency calls there are many other tasks that must be performed on a regular basis. If you have any spare time or are just curious about joining please stop by or give us a call anytime.

The Willington Fire Department is dedicated to providing efficient, timely, and cost effective services to the Town of Willington. We look forward to a new decade of service and appreciate the support of the townspeople. Should you have any questions or wish to provide feedback on our operations please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,
Tyler F. Millix, Fire Chief
Willington Fire Department Inc.



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LAND/USE BUILDING

Office Hours:

Monday, 12:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Tues. - Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Planning-Zoning/Wetlands Agent:
Susan Yorgensen 860-487-3123

Building Inspector:
Bradford Freeman 860-487-3123

Asst. Planning-Zoning/Wetlands Agent:
Gary Jones 860-487-3123

Land Use Department Secretary
Margaret DuPitka 860-487-3123

Eastern Highland Health District:
860-487-3116

Fire Marshal:
Dick Palmer 860-429-7757; cell 860-933-4768

Fire Department:
Stuart Cobb 860-429-0288

PZC Meets:
April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18, June 1 & 15

ZBA Meets:
April 8, May 18, June 10

IWWC Meets:
April 12, May 10, June 14



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