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The Willington WORD

Winter 2014

General Information

From the Desk of the First Selectman:

Dear Willington Residents:

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I'd like to thank all of our residents who voted in our municipal election on November 5th. I am honored to say that I have been re-elected as your First Selectman, along with Kim Kowalyshyn and John Blessington as Selectmen and all three of us are committed to working together for the betterment of the town. John has been on the Board of Selectmen for years and Kim is new (however, she has most recently served as the Economic Development Chairwoman for the past few years and is very knowledgeable about town business.) The Board meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30pm in the Town Office Building and our meetings are open to the public.

At the time of this printing the new Board members for the various Boards, including Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and Board of Education, have not even taken their oaths of office yet, however, we are already making preparations to budget for the next fiscal year that starts on July 1, 2014. Over the next few months, there will be many discussions about programs and services and how we will plan to fund them given increasing costs. The people who sit on the various Boards will ultimately make the important decisions that will lead to a proposed budget for 2014-2015 that will be voted on in the budget referendum in May.

If you are interested in a particular town service, such as the library, public safety, education, recreation, etc., please make contact with the boards that oversee these programs and let them know your questions and concerns as soon as possible so they can incorporate your input before their budgets go to the Board of Finance for consideration. It's important to make your views known early and often in this process.

Thank you for your participation and for helping our elected officials as we make these very important decisions that will affect all of our residents in the years to come.

Sincerely,
Christina Beebe Mailhos
First Selectman, Willington



TOWN OF WILLINGTON OFFICE BUILDING

CONTACTS

First Selectman	Christina Beebe Mailhos	860-487-3100
Assessor	Mary Huda	860-487-3122
Building Inspector	Jim Rupert	860-487-3123
Business Manager	Donna Latincsics	860-487-3134
Dog Warden	Tina Binheimer	860-428-4422
Parks & Recreation	Teri Gareau	860-487-3108
Planning & Zoning	Susan Yorgensen	860-487-3123
Public Works	Lynn Nicholls	860-684-9313
Senior Center	Wilbur Gangaway	860-429-8321
Tax Collector	Carol Larson	860-487-3111
Treasurer	Tish Ignatowicz	860-487-3133
Town Clerk	Donna Hardie	860-487-3121
Social Services	Tara Bergeron	860-487-3118
Registrar of Voters	Christine Psathas & Gail Kapinos	860-487-3120

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday 12:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

ADDRESS

40 Old Farms Road, Willington, CT 06279

WEB SITE

www.willingtonct.org

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General Information/ Park & Rec. Programs

Get up! Get Out! Get Moving!

General Information

Town of Willington Revenue Collection Department

40 Old Farms Road
Willington, CT. 06279

Supplemental Bills Friendly Reminder

This is a reminder to Willington taxpayers that the second installment of your real estate & personal property taxes billed July 1, 2013 and your motor vehicle supplemental taxes billed January 1, 2014, on the grand list of October 1, 2012, are due in full by February 3, 2014. After this date, the tax becomes delinquent and interest will be charged at a rate of 1 ½% per month (\$2.00 minimum), starting at 3% on February 4, 2014.

You can pay your tax bills in person at the Tax Collector's office in the Town Office Building, 40 Old Farms Rd. Public hours are Mon. 12:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Tues. through Fri. 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. If these hours are inconvenient, please use the payment drop box installed outside the Town Office Building.

If paying in person or using drop box, to avoid interest, you must do so before the close of business on February 3rd. We will check the drop box at closing time on February 3rd. We are closed for New Year's Day on January 1, 2014 and Martin Luther King Day on January 20, 2014.

You must have your envelope post marked by February 3, 2014 to avoid paying interest. If you are requesting a receipt, please be sure to enclose a self addressed stamped envelope along with your payment.

You can look up and pay your bills on line @willingtonct.org – Revenue Collection Dept. - view my tax bills or you may still pay by credit card by calling 1-800-272-9829 or on line at www.officialpayments.com. Willington's jurisdiction code is 1707. If you have any questions, please call the Tax Office at 487-3111.

**Carol A. Larson, CCMC,
Willington Tax Collector**

Programs

Willington Parks and Recreation Winter 2014

Day Combination Safe Boating & Personal Watercraft Safety Certification

A complete basic safe boating certification course taught in one (8 hour) day. Successful completion will allow the student to obtain a Connecticut Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation, which enables them to operate recreational vessels up to 65 feet in length including Jet Skis. An easy to understand classroom format is designed for students age 12 and over. PRIOR TO TAKING THIS CLASS each student should create an account online at ct.outdoorcentral.net, and click the START button. Create an account if you don't already have one, and then print the page that includes your Conservation ID number and bring it to class. Once we have entered your score in the DEEP system you will use your account to purchase & print the certificate after the class. Students should bring a pen or pencil to class.



Instructor: Professional Marine Education
Date: Saturday, May 31st
Time: 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Location: Willington Town Office Building
Age: Designated for ages 12+
Fee: \$75 Bring a lunch.

Fencing- Beginner & Open

Modern fencing is an amateur sport consisting of three weapons; foil, saber and epee. Fencing can be enjoyed by men and women of all ages at many levels; from a recreational pastime to National and International Competition.

Instructor: Matt Green

When: December 14th - March 8th- subject to change if cancellations occur in current session.

Where: Old Town Hall, Jared Sparks Road

Open

Fencing: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Beginner

Fencing: 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Cost: Minimum of 5 needed to run
\$60 residents (per session)
\$65 non-residents

Registration: Space is limited; we will accept a maximum of 12 students.

Safety: Fencing equipment and safety rules will be strictly enforced. The Parks and Recreation Department will retain the right to remove students from the program if safety rules cannot be followed.

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: Old equipment may not be suitable for class use, please have any old equipment inspected before the class begins.

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.



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Produced by
the Chronicle

www.thechronicle.com

Publisher
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Production Manager
Lynn Coleman

**Advertising Director &
Custom Publications Sales
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Advertising Designers
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Get up! Get Out! Get Moving!

Park & Rec. Programs / Bus Trips

Volleyball-Adult Co-Ed

Come play Adult Co-ed Volleyball at Hall Memorial School gymnasium. The program is available to all individuals ages 18 and out of high school. USVBA rules are followed and mastery of skills is encouraged. Space is limited to 21 players per night. The program runs year round on Monday Nights from 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., Thursday nights will resume for the spring session following Recreation Basketball.



Registration Fees:

Resident- \$20 - 1 night
Non Resident- \$30 - 1 night

Drop In Fees: (payable at Gym)

Resident - \$3 per night
Non Resident - \$5 per night
Yearly Fees available to residents only \$65

Bus Trips

These trips are being offered in Mansfield, Ashford, Coventry, Ellington, Tolland, Willington, and Windham. Please register in the Parks and Recreation department in those towns if you live there. Everyone else is welcome to register in any of those towns. The pick up location for people registering in Mansfield and Windham will be the commuter lot behind the Eastbrook Mall on Frontage Road. The pick up location for people registering in all other towns will be at the Exit 68 Commuter Parking Lot, Tolland next to Dunkin Donuts.

A Day on your own in Boston

Plan a fun day in Boston. We'll take you to Boston, drop you off at several locations and pick you up at a pre-determined location at the end of the day. The bus will drop off at the following locations: Public transportation is available for many others.



Boston Flower Show

Will showcase how the region's best green thumbs are fearlessly embracing new plants, methods and materials to increase the beauty, the bountiful harvest and the ecological friendliness of their gardens and outdoor spaces. More information can be found at

<http://www.bostonflowershow.com>

Boston Science Museum

Participants can easily spend an entire day exploring this museum. More information about exhibits and special events can be found at www.mos.org.



Quincy Market and Faneuil Hall

Participants can walk around, shop and get great food at this historic area in Boston. More information can be found at

www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com.

Public Transportation

Information can be found at:

www.mbta.com

Location: Boston Massachusetts

Date: Sat., March 15

(registration deadline is Feb. 22)

Time: Bus will leave the commuter lot at exit 68 on I-84 at 7:30 a.m. and will return at approximately 6 p.m.

Fee: \$32 for everyone
(fee includes bus transportation only)

Enjoy a day in the "Big Apple" with friends and family

Visit Battery Park (Statue of Liberty), South Street Seaport, and the 911 Memorial or venture to Midtown and shop!

www.southstreetseaport.com in the ever-changing Manhattan landscape, The Seaport stands out as a community anchor providing entertainment, retail and dining for New Yorkers and visitors to alike.

<http://www.statueoflibertytickets.com> Visit Battery Park the "jump off point" for the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.



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www.911memorial.org

Visit the 9/11 Memorial, A national tribute of remembrance and honor to the men, women, and children killed in the terror attacks of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993



Bus will drop off in mid-town if there is interest, but pickup will be in lower Manhattan only.

Day: Sat., April 5
(Registration deadline March 15)

Time: Bus will leave the Exit 68 Commuter Parking Lot, Tolland next to Dunkin Donuts 7 a.m. and returns approx. 10:30 p.m.

Fee: \$45 for everyone
(fee includes bus transportation only)

MESSAGE FROM PUBLIC WORKS:



WFSB will announce all parking bans. Please remove all basketball hoops and obstructions in pathway of plows. Now is the time you should be repairing your mailboxes. The Town will not replace mailboxes unless actually hit by the snow plow but not snow load.

As usual, sand and salt mix will be available at the Transfer Station to all residents during normal Transfer Station hours; maximum allotment is 1 - 5 gallon pail. Commercial use is prohibited.



'Tis The Season Of Giving

Purchase A \$50 Gift Card In December



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591 Middle Turnpike
Rte. 44, Storrs, CT
860-429-1366
www.redrockcafe.net

Get up! Get Out! Get Moving!

If you have a talent or program that you would like to offer, contact Teri Gareau, Parks and Recreation Director, at 860-487-3108.

Get up! Get Out! Get Moving!

Senior Activities

Senior Activities

60 OLD FARMS ROAD

Breakfast "All You Can Eat"

Date: January 18

Time: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Fee: \$5



Foot Clinics

Date: November 18 & December 9

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Appointment required. Call for date.

Food Share Dates:

Wednesdays- 12/4, 12/18, 1/15, 1/29, 2/12, 2/26 11:00 a.m.

Ongoing Activities:

Yoga- Mondays 10:00 a.m.

Crafts- Mondays 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Tai Chi- Tuesdays and Fridays 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Men's Pool- Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30 p.m.

Pinochle- Fridays 12:30 p.m.

Set Back- Saturdays 7:00 p.m.

WII Bowling- Mondays and Thursdays 12:30 p.m.

Meeting Dates:

• First Wednesday of every month: Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations followed by Bingo



• Second Wednesday of every month: Executive Meeting 12:30 p.m. Public is welcome to attend

• Third Wednesday of every month: General Meeting 12:30 p.m. Public is welcome to attend

911 Reflective Address Signs

The First Step to Providing Emergency Services is Finding Your House

Makes checks payable to:

The Willington Parks & Recreation Department

Mail to: Teri Gareau,
40 Old Farms Road, Willington, CT 06279



Completed signs must be picked up at the Parks & Recreation Office.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Address Number Requested _____

Horizontal _____ Vertical _____

Cost
Only \$12
Seniors \$10

SENIOR FUNDRAISERS

"Flavors of Home" Cookbook-a compilation of the Senior's favorite recipes. Cost is \$9.00.

Books are sold at the Senior Center or at the Town Clerk Office. For more information please call, 860-429-8321.

The Town of Willington with the assistance of the Willington Seniors have been able to obtain a used handicap van for the seniors. The van is in need of a paint job and some maintenance before it can be put into service. Private donations are being sought. If you would like to support this worthy cause, please send your donations payable to the Town of Willington, and write "Handicap Van Fund" in the subject line of the check. Memorial gifts are also welcome. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.



The Willington Seniors

For more information regarding Senior Activities, please call Jean at (860) 429-8321.

OOPS!

Sometimes despite our best efforts, a misprint may make its way into the Word. In this case, changes may be made to some of the programs listed. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Questions: Call Teri Gareau, Parks & Rec Director at 860- 487-3108 or visit www.willingtonct.org for more information.
ALL REGISTRATION FORMS ARE ONLINE

FEDERATED CHURCH HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Annual Federated Church of Willington Christmas Bazaar will take place on December 7th from 9am to 3pm at the church at the corner of Route 74 and Route 320.

Come buy your Christmas gifts from the many Christmas Gift Baskets, Decorated Christmas Wreaths, Fancy cookies by the pound, Recipes in a jar, Baked Goods, Christmas/Attic Treasures, and various crafts.



The Willington Senior Center will also have a table of various items. While shopping you can enjoy a breakfast sandwich or home made lunch in our Holiday Cafe'. Menu will be Corn Chowder, Soup, Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Quiche & Salad, and homemade Apple Crisp, Coffee, Tea, Soda, and Cider.

For Information Call Donna 860 684-4808

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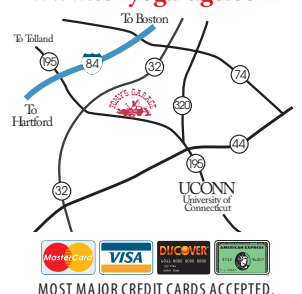
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Community Groups / Town Departments

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**WILLINGTON LITTLE LEAGUE**

Willington Little League would like to Thank the following sponsors for 2013 Season

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Willington Mobil

Willington Veterinary Center

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FCR

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2013 Municipal Election Results**Municipal Election – Town of Willington****November 5, 2013****Registered Voters – 3573****Voted -1195 (33.4%)****First Selectman**

Republican
Sentinel

Vote for One

Peter Tanaka (347)

Christina Beebe

Mailhos (800) Won

Selectman

Republican
Sentinel

Vote for One

John Blessington (499) Won

Kim L. Kowalshyn (629) Won

Town Clerk

Republican

Vote for One

Donna J. Hardie (847)

Board of Finance**Full Term**

Republican

Republican

Sentinel

Sentinel

Vote for any Two

Wilfred Gauthier (416)

James Bulick (471) Won

Elizabeth K. Treiber (696) Won

Barry John Wallett (591)

Board of Finance**4 year Term - TFW**

Sentinel

Vote for One

John Patton (793) Won

Board of Finance**Alternate**

Republican

Sentinel

Vote for any Two

Annemarie Poole (671) Won

Geoffrey Ward Prusak (702) Won

Board of Education

Democratic

Democratic

Sentinel

Vote for any Three

Erika G. Wiczenski (726) Won

Ann C. Grosjean (720) Won

Leonardo Mercado (740) Won

Board of Assessment**Appeals**

Republican

Vote for One

Carol Parizek (889) Won

Planning & Zoning**Commission**

Republican

Republican

Sentinel

Vote for any Three

Doug Roberts (695) Won

Philip J. Nevers (725) Won

John A. Sullivan (756) Won

Planning & Zoning Commission**2 year term - TFW**

Sentinel

Vote for One

Kenneth D. Golden (814) Won

Library Director

Democratic

Sentinel

Vote for any Two

Jennifer E. Pallo (691) Won

Shari L. Cote (765) Won

Regional Board**of Education**

Republican

Democratic

Sentinel

Vote for any Two

Herbert Arico (579) *

Timothy Nolan (579) *

David O. Tharp (643) Won

* - Recanvass

THE WILLINGTON SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

The Willington Scholarship Foundation, an affiliate of Dollars for Scholars, will hold its Annual Open Meeting on Monday, November 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Common Room upstairs in the Willington Town Hall on Old Farms Road. The public is cordially invited to attend.

WSF has been in existence since 1995. Since our founding 304 scholarships totaling approximately 205,000 dollars have been awarded to graduating Willington seniors.

Our scholarships are based solely on academic excellence. The Board of directors obtain the needed information from the students' high school with the written permission of each student applicant. The recipients' names are not known to the members of the board during the process of designating the awards.

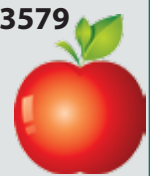
Funding for the scholarships is dependent on the generous support of Willington residents and businesses as well as the P.T.A. WSF is a non-profit organization. The members of the Board of Directors are volunteers. They meet once a month during the school year with their main goals being to prepare mailings which are sent out in February each year, collect the donations and award the scholarships in June.

Interested Willington students may obtain applications in their high school office or via the WSF website: <http://willington.dollarsforscholars.org>

Anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible donation may send it to: Willington Scholarship foundation P.O. Box 194, Willington, CT 06279.



2013 recipients from left to right, Tristan Bock-Hughes, Giulia Bambara, Christopher Raymond, Abigail Firmin, Gina Sinsigallo, Melissa Higley, Christine LaCroix, Aimee Blauvelt, Sarah Swart, Mary Zalewa, Wei Jia Ma, Austin Kosicky, and Joshua Furman. Not pictured are: Miranda Clifone, Nathan Baker, Gabe Rodriguez, and Ryan Seery

Teacher's Contract Referendum Results**Referendum – Town of Willington****November 7, 2013****Registered Voters – 3579****Voted – 547****15.3%****Question:**

Should the legislative body of the Town of Willington reject the Professional Agreement between the Willington Board of Education and the Willington Education Association July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018:

YES NO**127 420****Willington PTA**

Together Striving for
Excellence in Education

Upcoming PTA membership meetings**DEC 19 6:30pm****JAN 16 6:30pm****At the Willington public library**

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our Facebook page
The Willington PTA
Or
our website
Willingtonpta.com

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Willington Public Library



Willington Public Library

December 2013

We would like to express a special "Thank You" to all who made **Mrs. Passardi's Retirement** party a great success. It was a wonderful time had by all who attended.

Mrs. Passardi's 2nd Annual Gift-A-Book to the WYFSS Organization

Give the gift of reading this holiday season! Come into the Willington Public Library to choose from a selection of different age-level tags on our special tree. Then purchase a book to be given to someone between the ages of pre-school and high school. Each gift will then be given to and distributed through our Willington Youth, Family, & Social Services. Unwrapped books must be brought to the library no later than December 14th.

Spreading the Love of Reading Person to Person

World Book Night is a celebration of literacy by publishers, bookstores, libraries and individuals who love books and reading. On World Book Night-25,000 "book givers" will each give away 20 copies of a specially-printed, not-for-resale WBN edition of a book they have read and to complete strangers. The Willington Public Library will be a distribution site again for World Book Night that takes place on April 23, 2014. The books have been chosen and the giver's application is available on the WBN website at <http://www.us.worldbooknight.org>. If you have any questions or want more information, please speak to Debbie at the library.



Success SEPTO:

Regional Special Education Parent Teacher Organization meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Willington Public Library. This organization serves Ashford, Mansfield, Stafford, Tolland, and Willington. All others are welcome. Visit successsepto.org for more information and a list of monthly guest speakers. Each month parents, educators, legislators, and professionals meet to learn and share information about topics such as transitioning, IEP process, autism, special education laws, advocacy, and working collaboratively to meet the complex needs of children.

2nd Annual Craft Fair and Friends Bake Sale

Date: Saturday, December 7, 2013
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Be sure to stop by and check out the wide variety of crafts created by our vendors! We will have 23 vendors, all offering their special handmade gifts. There will be jewelry, photograph notecards, matted pictures, fabric handbags, and many more great crafts.



Community Holiday Open House Celebration

Date: Saturday, December 14th
Time: 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Share the joy of this holiday season with plenty of holiday cheer, a visit from Santa, and homemade cookies provided by the Willington Willing Workers 4H Club. In the Holiday spirit of giving, we ask that you bring an item(s) to support our local food bank.

A Holiday Authors Event

Date: Saturday, December 14, 2014
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Our Holiday Authors Event at the Willington Public Library will feature approximately 30 or more authors. These authors will be available to sell and sign their books and talk with the public personally about their writing. Four selected authors, representing a variety of genres, will give a more in-depth talk about their books to the audience. These will be scheduled as follows:

- **10 am Children's Story Time**
Speaker: Frances Gilbert, *The Cookie Thief* and *Today the Teacher Changed Our Seats*
- **11 am Author of Young Adult Books**
Speaker: Jeanne Rogers, *The Sword of Demelza*
- **1 pm Author of Adult Fiction Books**
Speaker: Chris Gay, *Ghost of a Chance* and *Sherlock Holmes and the Final Reveal*
- **2 pm Author of Adult Non-Fiction Books**
Speaker: Eileen Kaplan, *Laughter is the Breast Medicine*

Holiday Cookie Swap

Date: Tuesday evening, December 17th
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required, so please RSVP by Thursday, December 5th. Let us know what cookie you would like to make, no duplicates are allowed. Please leave a copy of the recipe you will be using.



How to Pay for College

Date: Thursday, December 19th
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Paying for college can easily be one of your life-time's biggest expenses. To help parents better understand their college funding options, the Willington Public Library has made arrangements for Financial Advisor, Tom Polowy, to speak to parents about how the financial aid system works,

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and strategies you can use to help make college affordable. This is a perfect time to make sure you have everything in order, with financial aid papers due in January. This is not a sales presentation. This is high-value information that will benefit you.

January 2014

"Hand Quilting Basics" Class

Date: Tuesday, January 7th
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Instructor: Linda Howe

All levels are welcome. Children 10 years and older may attend with adult supervision. Class size will be limited to twelve. Registration is required. Sign-up at the library, call 860-429-3854, or email Debbie, at dlinares@willingtonpubliclibrary.org



A Connecticut Emergency Preparedness Program

Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2014
Time: 1:00 & 6:00 p.m.

Instructor: Jonathan Best

This program will demonstrate how prepared the state is for a statewide emergency, personal preparedness and an overview of emergency planning. Jonathan Best will provide guidance, planning and supervision carrying out preparedness and response functions.

"Take Me Away": Virtual Vacation

Date: Thursday evening, January 30th
Time: 6:30 p.m.

While the weather is cold outside and the feeling of cabin fever sets in, we long for something to do, to raise our spirits, after the holiday season has passed. We would like to take you on a wonderfully exciting vacation to Korea and Japan as seen through the eye of the camera and personal experiences, of our very own Willingtonites, Emily and Lech Szudlarek. Both have traveled to the far corners of the world as tourists and teachers and we have asked them to share their experiences with us.



Upcoming Special Events to be announced later for February:

February is Library Lovers Month @ your Library
"Take Your Child to the Library" Day

Date: Saturday, February 1st

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