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The **Willington** **WORD**

Winter 2015



General Information

From the Desk of the First Selectman:

Dear Willington Residents:

We are at the beginning of the winter/spring season and are once again planning for the worst, but hoping for the best, both for the safety of our residents and also, for our town operating budgets.

Our new Public Works Director, Derek Dimmock, started just after the first day of Spring this year so, this will be his first winter running our snow removal operation. He is happy to report that the crew is ready for whatever Mother Nature brings our way!

Winter is also the season that the Town prepares next year's operating budget. Starting in December, all of the various departments and Boards, will be working on their proposed budgets for the year that starts on July 1, 2013 and ends on June 30, 2014. The Board of Finance will start meeting weekly in January and continue through March. There are additional meetings that lead up to the annual budget referendum in May. Please check the town website (www.willingtonct.org) to find out when these important meetings will occur. If you can't make it, minutes from most meetings are available if you wish to follow along and see what spending is requested by the various departments and what assumptions are being used to base revenue projections on.

These meetings are open to the public and citizen input is encouraged. It is very difficult for our elected officials to know what the townspeople want, if they do not share their thoughts during budget time.

With the budget meetings and the unpredictable weather, winter and spring in Willington is always busy. Please take time this year to enjoy the Holidays and the natural beauty that the snow brings and welcome spring when it gets here!



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	Derek Dimmock	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	Camber McCue	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



Save The Date!

“Working Together to Preserve Open Space, Local Farmland, Agricultural and Natural Resources”

Willington Conservation Commission is hosting a public awareness event on Saturday, March 14, 2015, from 10-2 at the Willington Public Library at 7 Ruby Road, Willington, to highlight community strategies for preserving open space, local farmland, agricultural and natural resources. Interactive, hands-on and informative displays will showcase the benefits of open space, strategies for natural resource protection and how local farmland and agricultural activity provide regionally important open space as well as food, fiber, fuel and feed. Anyone interested in collaborating, or who would like to have an information table at this event, is encouraged to contact Willington Conservation Commission member, Julia Cartabiano, at wvfcsa@gmail.com or phone 860-487-9954.



Willington Conservation Commission News

A Big Thanks To JJ Mottes Co. Septic And Concrete Supply And Volunteer Friends Of Fenton-Ruby Park And Wildlife Sanctuary

The Willington Conservation Commission wishes to thank JJ Mottes Co. of Stafford Springs for donating pre-cast concrete forms and hardware, so that volunteers could construct 2 new park benches and one picnic table in Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve / Drobney Sanctuary. We also wish to thank volunteers Sue Hochgraf, sons Max and Sebastian, Gary Griffin, Nate Philippi, Peter Andersen, Bob Shabot, Mark Drobney, Marilyn Schreiber, Kathy Demers and Chris Demers, for their time and effort to build benches, picnic table and set trail guide posts, during the 11/2/14 workday at the Park.

The Fenton-Ruby Park, owned by the town of Willington, is located on Burma Road (off Moose Meadow Road). Over 300 acres in size, the Park and Sanctuary is home to many native plants, lots of wildlife and offers four scenic hiking trails for exercise, recreation, bird watching and nature study. Two ponds and portions of the beautiful Fenton River, which winds through the Park, are open

to fishing. For more information about the Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, contact Peter Andersen, WCC Chairman at 860-429-1276.



(Picture of volunteers with picnic table, left to right: Gary Griffin, Chris Demers, Bob Shabot, Peter Anderson, and Mark Drobney)

The Willington Historical Society

Tree Lighting and Open House December 5th at 7:00 pm

Please join the Willington Historical Society and the Willington Selectmen, Friday evening for the lighting of the Community Christmas Tree on the Town Green. Lets join together to start the Holiday Season with a splash of color and a few festive holiday songs.

Following the tree lighting, you are invited to gather at the historic Glazier Tavern, at the West end of the green, to enjoy the warmth of the fires in the hearths and light refreshments.

Special thanks to the West Family for their annual decorating and lighting of our Community Tree.

Do you
remember,
'Leo' the lion



Wanted Willington Game Farm: Photographs, Souvenirs & Other Items

The Willington Historical Society is interested in adding documentation, of the Willington Game Farm, to our historical archives. If you, or someone you know, has photographs of a visit to the Game Farm, or items related to the farm, please consider sharing them with the Society. That sharing may be in the form of a gift or a loan. Alternatively, we would be happy to scan any photos or paper items for our records and return the originals to you.

If you have any items connected with the Willington Game Farm, please contact Joe Froehlich, Willington Town Historian:

Email: willingtonhistorian@charter.net
Phone: (860) 684-6607

Thank you for supporting the
Willington Historical Society.



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Publications For Sale

Are you curious to find out what happened in town during January 1840? Did you know that Jared Sparks became a professor at Harvard University in 1839? Or that in 1881, Willington had six grocery stores! Find these and other interesting historical tidbits in **Chronology of Willington, Connecticut 1727-1927, The First Two Hundred Years.**

John Merrick begins his narrative, “My first recollections of the town are of the East Hollow....” Read all of the articles he wrote for The Stafford Press in **Recollections of John Merrick, A Native of Willington 1833-1865.**

Notecards with hand-drawn pictures of various town landmarks are available.

These items from the Willington Historical Society will make excellent holiday gifts, for those interested in our town's history.

These, plus many more books, are moderately priced and may be purchased in the office of the Town Clerk at the Town Office Building during regular business hours.

Membership & Donors

Annually, the Historical Society issues an appeal to members to renew their membership, and for new members to join. As our friends and neighbors, we respectfully ask you to partner with us to keep history alive in Willington. Dues help pay for our newsletter, program presentations, acquisitions and operating expenses for the Tavern.

In addition to dues, monetary donations are a necessary part of our existence, especially as we continue to renovate and re-purpose the Glazier Tavern for programs, displays, office and research space.

The Willington Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Donations may be made in the form of checks, sent to P.O. Box 214, Willington, CT 06279, or by credit card through our website, www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org. Just click on “Donations” which will display a “Donate” button.

If you have any questions, you may email us at willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com, or call Susan Schur, Treasurer, 860-429-2148.

Won't YOU consider becoming a member and/or a donor for the sake of History?

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
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General Information

THE WILLINGTON TOWN CLERK OFFICE

Fishing & Hunting

Springtime will be in the air and that means fishing season. Opening day for Trout Fishing is April 18, 2015. Licenses are available in the Town Clerk's Office, on the 1st day of January 2015, or on line at www.ct.gov/deep. The Guide Books are available on line at www.ct.gov/deep/fishing or www.ct.gov/deep/hunting and will be in the Town Clerk's office sometime late March, or early in April. Check with the clerk's office to see if they have come in. You can contact DEEP by phone (860) 424-3105, with any additional questions. Any Connecticut Residents 65 years of age or older are entitled to a free license. Anyone with a "Lifetime" has to renew each year, if you are a hunter, or if you salt water fish. Make sure you bring in your old license with the conservation number on it.

Important Budget Dates

Budget Hearing April 7, 2015: Attend the hearing and see how our town budget process works. Get involved. Don't forget the Annual Town Meeting on April 21, 2015. Budget Referendum May 5, 2015: cast your vote at the Town Office Building, 40 Old Farms Road. Absentee Ballots will be available for residents at the Town Clerks Office. Please contact the Clerk's Office for date the absentee ballots will be available. Make sure and get out and vote. 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 2014. There is a 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 \$1.00 each additional month per state statute. "Watch for the #1 Dog Tag Announcement in June"

Passports

Forms are available 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 to 6 weeks. The Probate Judge's Office in Tolland, or the Storrs Post Office, process passports. The Probate Judge's telephone number is 860 871-3640, or the Storrs Post Office is 860 429-9681.

Notary Services

There are a numbers of Notary Publics in the Town Office Building and can notarize documents. The Clerk's Office will notarize any documents except that which will be filed on the town land records and or persons wills. There will be a \$5.00 fee for each document being notarized.

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

Donna J. Hardie, Willington Town Clerk

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, 2014, and your motor

vehicle supplemental taxes, billed January 1, 2015, on the grand list of October 1, 2013, are due in full by February 2, 2015. 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 3, 2015.

REMEMBER: WE DO NOT SEND OUT BILLS OR REMINDERS FOR THE SECOND INSTALLMENTS If you misplaced your bills, or never received one in the mail in July, make sure to call our office for the amount that is due.

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 the drop box, to avoid interest, you must do so **before** the close of business on February 2nd. We will check the drop box at closing time on February 2nd. We are closed for New Year's Day on January 1, 2015 and Martin Luther King Day on January 19, 2015.

You must have your envelope post marked by February 2, 2015, 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 at 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**

Willington EDC News QuickBooks & Facebook!

On August 14th, the Willington Economic Development Commission (EDC), with the generous support of the Windham Regional Chamber of Commerce, successfully hosted a two-hour QuickBooks training. The session, offered as a result of a need expressed by Willington business owners, was free of charge and provided exclusively to Willington businesses. In October, the Willington EDC launched its Facebook page!! Visit the page at <https://www.facebook.com/WillingtonEDC> and be sure to "Like" and "Follow" us, to stay updated about current activities and future events. It's a work in progress, so we'd love to hear from you!

FROM THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS:

Please check our webpage for up-to-date voting event and voter registration information - click on the "Voting and Voter Information" link from the Town's main webpage.



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Registering online is now available through the Secretary of State's website - sots.ct.gov.

Starting in January, we will be conducting the annual canvass of voters. If you receive a letter, please follow the instructions, fill out the necessary information and return the letter to our office, as soon as possible.

Office hours are Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 noon. If you have questions, call and leave a message at (860) 487-3120.

Upcoming voting events:
Annual Town and Region #19 Budget Referendum - May 5, 2015

**Suzanne Chapman
Christine Psathas
Registrars of Voters**

911 Reflective Address Signs

The First Step to Providing Emergency Services is Finding Your House

Make checks payable to:
The Willington Parks & Recreation Department

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

Cost: \$12 | **Seniors:** \$10

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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Completed signs must be picked up at the Parks & Recreation Office.

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vehicle supplemental taxes, billed January 1, 2015, on the grand list of October 1, 2013, are due in full by February 2, 2015. 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 3, 2015.

Parks and Rec Bus Trips, Programs



Get up! Get Out! Get Moving!

BUS TRIPS

These trips are being offered in Mansfield, Ashford, Coventry, Ellington, Tolland, and Willington. If you live in any of those towns, please register in their Parks and Recreation department. Everyone else is welcome to register with the town nearest to them. The pick up location for Willington will be at the Exit 68 Commuter Parking Lot, Tolland, next to Dunkin Donuts.

If there is not sufficient registration to cover the bus cost by the registration deadline, the trip will be cancelled and a full refund will be processed.

Day on your own in Boston
(Registration deadline is Feb. 27)

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:

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 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 is available for many others.

Public Transportation information can be found at: www.mbtta.com

Location: Boston, Massachusetts

Date: Sat., March 14 (registration deadline is Feb. 27)

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: \$42 for everyone (fee includes bus transportation only)



A Day in New York City (lower Manhattan version)
(Registration deadline is April 17)

Enjoy a day in the "Big Apple" with friends and family. The bus will drop-off in Midtown and Lower Manhattan; there will be one pick up to go home, in Lower Manhattan (determined on the day of the trip.)

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

www.southstreetseaport.com

- Visit Battery Park, the "jump off point" for the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. www.statueoflibertytickets.com
- Visit the 9/11 Memorial, a national tribute of remembrance and honor to the men, women, and children, killed in the events of 9/11. www.911memorial.org

Public transportation is also available for other sites in NYC; info







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www.tonysgarage.com

can be found at www.mta.info/nyct

Day: Sat., April 25 (registration deadline is April 10)

Time: Bus will leave the commuter lot at exit 68 off I-84 at 7 a.m. and return approximately 10:30 p.m.

Fee: \$50 per person for everyone (fee includes bus transportation only)

Bronx Zoo
(Register by May 1st)

The Bronx Zoo is one of the premier zoos in the world, covering more than 265 acres. It is home to more than 4000 animal species. Your POP pass (pay one price) includes the exhibits, attractions and special rides. You will want to experience the Zoo Shuttle, Bengali Express Monorail, Skyfari Cable Car (one way) Children's Zoo, World of Darkness, World of Reptiles, Jungle World, Tiger Mountain, Congo Gorilla Rain Forest and the Butterfly Gardens. It is hard to see this entire amazing zoo in one day. Bring your camera, your best walking shoes and your lunch, if you want, or you may purchase it at the zoo.


Day: Sat., May 16 (registration deadline is May 1)

Time: Bus will leave the commuter lot at exit 68 off I-84 at 7:30 a.m. we will leave the zoo at 4:30 pm and stop for dinner on the way home. Return time is approximately 8:00 pm. Register early this popular trip always fills.

Fee: Price will be (includes the coach bus and your ticket to the zoo.)

Please make checks payable to: WPRD and mail to Willington Parks & Recreation Department, 40 Old Farms Road, Willington, CT 06279; Or drop off at the Parks and Recreation Office during normal business hours or in the tax collector's box

If you have any questions, please call Teri Gareau at 860-487-3108



2015 A Look Ahead At Upcoming Trips!

Some dates to be determined and all are subject to change

June (TBD) Red Sox at Fenway

July 4 James Taylor or another concert at Tanglewood

PROGRAMS

Adult Volleyball:

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 are encouraged. Space is limited to 21 players per night. The program runs, year round, on Monday and Thursday Nights, 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Fees:


\$20.00 for Willington Residents 1 Night
\$35.00 for Willington Residents 2 Night
\$30.00 for Non-residents 1 Night
\$40.00 for Non-residents 2 Night

Drop In Fees: (payable at Gym)
Resident - \$3.00 per night
Non Resident - \$5.00 per night

Yearly Fees: available to residents only \$65.00

Boating Course:
1-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



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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 30th

Time: 8:30am-4:30pm

Location: Town Office Building-Common Room

Fee: \$75.00 Bring a lunch

FENCING-BEGINNER AND 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

Date: December 13th Subject to change if cancellations occur in current session. MUST BE REGISTERED BY November 29th.

March 7th Subject to change if cancellations occur in current session. MUST BE REGISTERED BY February 21st.

Where: Hall School, 111 River Rd.

Open

Fencing: 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Beginner

Fencing: 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Cost: Minimum of 5 needed to run \$60 residents (per session) \$65.00 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.

Karate

Traditional Shaolin Kempo Karate and JuJitsu for all ages starting at 3 years old presented by Shaolin Kempo Martial Arts. Shaolin Kempo Martial Kempo Martial Arts was awarded the National Marital Arts School of the Year in 2008 and 2011. Instructor: Sensei Dan, who is a member of the U.S.A. Martial Arts Hall of Fame and was awarded the 2009 Martial Arts Man of the Year and the 2013 Shaolin Kempo Leading Master of the Year, by the same Hall of Fame.



Dates: Tuesday nights: December 2nd and there on (6 week session)

Location: Classes will be held at the Shaolin Kemp Martial Arts Dojo, NEW LOCATION, 11 Phelps Way, Willington.

Time of Classes are as follows:

Tigers-3-8 years old- 5-5:45pm
Leopards-9-17 yrs old-6-7:00pm
Adults-18+ -7:15-8:45pm

Fee: \$40 per student payable to the Willington Parks and Recreation Department, or WPRD Students, will take class with my school students and that they can join at any time.

Get up! Get Out! Get Moving!

Town Parks & Amenities, Seniors, Library

****Once students have obtained the rank of Yellow Belt, students have the option to join the school, full or part time, or leave the program. All new students are required to purchase Shaolin Kempo Martial Arts Tee Shirts for \$15.00. Make checks payable to Shaolin Kempo Martial Arts



LOOKING FOR PROGRAM IDEAS

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

TOWN PARKS AND AMENITIES

Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve: Moose Meadow Road and Burma Road-Hiking/walking trails, bird watching, fishing, non motorized boating, cross country skiing, snow shoeing and picnic area.

Knowlton Property: Mason Road- Hiking Trails

River Road Athletic Complex: 511 River Road - Baseball field, basketball court, pavilion, playscape, multi-purpose field, volleyball sand court and walking path. (one lap=.33 miles). Dogs are welcome, but must be leashed and cleaned up after. Doggie poo bags available. Complex is **CARRY IN-CARRY OUT**



Talmadge Tract: Mason Road- Hiking (adjacent to the Knowlton Property)

Town Office Building Fields: 40 Old Farms Road- Baseball and Softball fields

Park on Village Hill Road: Overlooking the Roaring Brook, popular fishing spot during fishing season.

FACILITY RENTALS

River Road Athletic Complex has a pavilion and fields/courts available for rent for your next birthday party or family gathering!

Pavilion
Residents: \$75.00 for 5 hours or \$20.00 per hour
Non Residents: \$100.00 for 5 hours or \$30.00
All Town Non Profits \$55.00 for 5 hours

Fields/Courts
\$25.00 for a two hour period

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

60 OLD FARMS ROAD

- \$5.00 Breakfast "All You Can Eat" 9:00am-11:00am, 1/17, 3/21 and 5/16



- Foot Clinics- 1:30pm Appointment required. Call for date. 12/29 and 2/23
- Food Share Dates: Wednesdays-11:00am, 12/3
- AARP Safe Drive Class- 12:00pm-4:00pm 10/21
- Flu Clinic-1:30pm-2:30pm, 10/7

Ongoing Activities:

Yoga Mondays 10:15am
Tai Chi Tuesdays and Fridays 10:00am – 11:00am

Men's Pool
Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30pm
Pinochle Fridays 12:30pm
Set Back Saturdays 7:00pm
WII Bowling
Mondays and Thursdays 12:30pm

Meeting Dates:

- First Wednesday of every month: Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations followed by Bingo
- Second Wednesday of every month: Executive Meeting 12:30pm Public is welcome to attend
- Third Wednesday of every month: General Meeting 12:30pm Public is welcome to attend

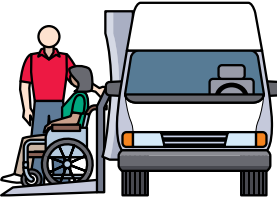


SENIOR FUNDRAISERS

"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.

"Handicap Van Fund"



The handicap bus is in service with the Willington Seniors, thanks to the Town of Willington and the generous donations from the townspeople. It is being used for trips for entertainment, lunch bunch and makes monthly trips to Walmart in North Windham. The trips are available to all Willington Seniors on a first come basis. The bus leaves from the Willington Senior Center. Donations and memorial gifts are still being accepted payable to the Town of Willington Handicap Van Fund.

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

WILLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

7 Ruby Road, Willington, CT
Phone: (860) 429-3854
willingtonpubliclibrary.org and/or facebook

In December...


Friends of the Willington Public Library's Annual Craft Fair & Bake Sale On Saturday, December 6, 2014

Our town will be buzzing with many fun filled activities for the upcoming holiday season. Here at the library, we will be holding our third, Friends of the Willington Public Library's Annual Craft Fair & Bake Sale. The craft fair will take place in our Community and Conference Rooms, downstairs and the Bake Sale will be held in our Reading Room, upstairs, all from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM, or until supplies last. It is sure to be a fun and exciting event. We have so many new vendors, as well as, many of your old favorites. There will be hundreds of wonderful, local, handmade crafts for you to purchase. Some of the items will include: Photo note cards and hand made all-occasion cards, different types of jewelry such as...earrings, bracelets, and



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necklaces, cross-stitch bibs, ornaments, and sweatshirts, mugs, homemade dog biscuits, Tie-Dye and screen printed T-Shirts, bags and towels, many knitted crafts, crochet critters, aprons, quilted tote bags, wraps, handbags, pot holders, and a wide range of different types of holiday and Christmas ornaments (wood, beaded, and other natural elements including sand dollars and even mini (real) gingerbread house ornaments), crocheted blankets and scarves, delicious homemade cranberry sauce, soaps, body scrubs and butters, drawings, paintings, baskets, and a large assortment of fabric mixed medias. So, be sure to stop by and check out the wide variety of crafts, created by our vendors and enjoy some delicious homemade baked goodies. It's a perfect time to start (or finish) some holiday shopping! We hope to see you there!

Just to let you know, it is NOT TO EARLY to sign up for next years 4th Annual Friend's of the WPL's "Craft Fair & Bake Sale" which will be on Saturday, December 5th, 2015, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We already have people registered for 2015 who were not able to come to the last two years fairs. The fee will go up to \$25.00 for 2015's event.

The Annual Community Holiday Open House Celebration! Saturday, December 13th Join us from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, for plenty of holiday cheer.

It has that has taken place here at the library, for the last six years. Stop in and visit! Bring along your family, friends and neighbors to enjoy a visit from Santa Claus. Join in a Carol Sing with Music Teacher Jason Phillips, and the Hall Memorial School Chorus. Enjoy some delicious homemade cookies provided by the Willington Willing Workers 4H Club.

In the Holiday spirit of giving, we ask that you bring in an item(s) to **Support Our Local Food Bank**. In case of inclement weather, we will postpone this event until the following Saturday, December 20th, at the same time... 6:30 until 8:00 PM.

This holiday season, you will also have an opportunity to give and **Help Our Family Of Four-legged Friends In Need**. There are many ways you can help by simply making a donation to the Willington Animal Shelter. While monetary donations are always appreciated and helpful, there is always a need for the following items: Gift cards to PetSmart, Petco, etc., dry dog food, large dog toys, large dog treats such as busy bones, pig ears, and bully sticks, flea and tick products such as Frontline, Vectra, Sentry, for every size dog or Revolution (for cats). We have set up a donation box at the library and "jar" for you to come in and drop off any of these suggested items. We hope you will think of them and give generously and not just at this time, but throughout the entire year.

We have and enjoy every month a **Family Movie Time**. It is always held on the last **Saturday of every month at 12:30 PM**, in the Community Room. Everyone is welcomed! You can bring in your lunch, or a snack, to enjoy during the showing. Feel free to invite family and friends and enjoy a great family movie on the BIG screen. In December, we will be showing **"How to Train Your Dragon 2"**. This movie is rated PG, with a running time of 102 minutes. In case of inclement weather during these winter months, any cancellations or postponements will be made known through our web site at **www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org**, or on our **Facebook page**, and through **Channel 3 WFSB** and **NBC 30** (both on the TV and their web sites).

Looking ahead into Spring...

On **Saturday, May 16, 2015, from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM**...RAIN or SHINE (let's hope shine or remember to bring an umbrella)...We will be holding our third **Annual Touch-A-Truck Event**. It is such a

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Library



great time had by all who attend. We are always looking for local businesses, friends, and neighbors to participate. I hope you will consider!!!! All you need is a "TOY" of some kind that you would like to share and a little time on the day of, and a great BIG desire to please and play and have fun with children of all AGES!!! If you have any fun trucks, cars, machinery, equipment, boats, campers, trailers, farm machinery or equipment, helicopter, anything at all... the sky is the limit and the list endless. If you know of any one we could contact, that you think has something that would be of interest to share, we would love to hear from you and we will make the contacts, with your help.

We are working on plans to have local and famous Chef and Author, Robert Landolphi here in the Spring. Rob's media credits include producing and hosting the "Mangia Radio" show, 91.7 FM-WHUS, and writer and host of a cooking show called "Food for the Journey." He has appeared on the Food Network's "How Do You Iron Chef?" promotion program while hosting the University of Connecticut's Annual Culinary Olympics, and on the new cable food program "Boy Meets Still." Rob has also appeared on CBS Sports and WTNH News programs. He has made guest appearances on numerous "Food Talk" radio programs, and has shared recipes and industry food trend information, with many magazines and newspapers. Rob has entertained audiences all over the country, with his unique cooking style, personality, and down to earth, yet informative demonstrations. Some of his books are...Quick-Fix Gluten Free, Gluten Free Every Day Cookbook: More than 100 Easy and Delicious Recipes from the Gluten-Free Chef, and Cooking Light Gluten-Free Baking: Delectable From-Scratch Sweet and Savory Treats.

There has been a great interest in forming a **Home Schooling Network/Partnership**. Help us make this connection. If you

are involved in home schooling, and are interested in learning more, please let us know and we will see what we are able to do TOGETHER!

Just a reminder... It is NOT TOO EARLY to sign up for our 2015's **Health & Wellness Fair**, which will be on Saturday, October 3rd from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM. The list of for next year's vendors is filling up fast! The fee of \$25.00 will remain the same. The earlier you commit, the better advertising we will be able to do, in being able to mention your business. It was a well received event and we look forward to an even bigger and better turnout next year.

Just a thought for right now... We have been thinking and doing some talking, about having a possible Willington only **"Small Business Fair"**, for some time during the year of 2015. If you would be interested in having something of this magnitude here at the library; we would appreciate hearing from you. We would love to help the small businesses of Willington connect.

There are so many events we are looking forward to presenting over the next six months from this publishing. If you would like to keep abreast of upcoming programs and events being offered, please sign up for our new E-mail Blast. You can visit us on our website, **www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org**, or like us on Facebook.

One last final word... We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers that give of their time on a regular basis. It is greatly appreciated. You know who you are...thank you so very much.

Community Groups

WANTED

The Gardiner Hall Jr. Company: Original Photographs, Artifacts, & Oral Histories

The Friends of The Mill Works, a nonprofit group organized under Windham Arts, has plans to establish a local museum focused on the development and operation of the Gardiner Hall Jr. Company. The objective of this permanent installation, is to examine the historical impact and contributions this company has had on the Town of Willington and its residents, over a period of more than one hundred years. The museum will be located at The Mill Works, formally the home of the Gardiner Hall Jr. Company.

The Friends group is seeking original photographs, equipment, artifacts, and any physical items associated with the Gardiner Hall Jr. Company, its founders, employees, and customers. Items that are donated or loaned to the museum will be identified by the donor's name, and included on display and in any print materials, created for the museum. In addition, the Friends are also interested in conducting interviews with folks, that may have worked for or had a relationship with, the Hall Company. The intent of this collection is to create an opportunity for the residents of Willington and surrounding towns, to learn about the technical innovations, production methods, and the application of unique management practices that shaped the local area.

If you have any related items, or have knowledge of any, or are interested in sharing thoughts or reflections about the Hall Company, please contact The Friends of The Mill Works:

The Friends of The Mill Works:
Email: info@friendsofthemillworks.org
Phone: (860) 836-7516 or (860) 487-3827

The Friends of the Mill works are sponsoring **First Sundays at the Mill Works** featuring Open Studios, musical performances, puppeteers, art demonstrations, cartooning, tours, creative writing, sketching, lectures, book signings, conversations with local authors, food and fine art.

Upcoming dates are February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3, and June 7 from noon to 5PM.

Check website for specific schedule: **themillworks.us/events.html** Bring your family and friends and enjoy this historic landmark.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Willington Center School is registering students entering kindergarten for the 2014-2015 school year. Parents and guardians of children, who will be 5 by January 1, 2016, are asked to call Center School at 860-429-9367, if they have not already done so.

Orientation for kindergarten will be held in June. Parents will be contacted to schedule an appointment.



Get up! Get Out! Get Moving!

Community Groups

Willington Day 2015

This year's Willington Day event is slated for Saturday, May 23, 2015!



WILLINGTON PTA'S 14th Annual Run for Health, Fitness and Recreation

**Saturday
May 23, 2015**

Lace-up your running shoes and join us for the ½ mile, or 1 mile Fun Run. Feeling ambitious? Go the distance and sign up for the 5k race. Sponsorship and registration forms can be found at www.willingtonpta.com. After the 5K race, join us at Willington Day.



THE WILLINGTON SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION 2015 ANNUAL APPEAL:



The 2014 recipients at the June 19th reception: From left to right, Danielle Lavoie, Cheyenne Heywood, Kaeley Vera, Linde Thatcher, Ariana Moustakakis (front), Vanessa Lusa (back), Liam McLean, Skylar Parizek, Colleen Tyler, Kayley Crooke, and Lucinda Mueller. Not pictured: Timothy Nolan, Jacob Marquis, Emily Jacoboski, Julia Nasuta, and Codi Bierce

The Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSFDFS) announces our 2015 annual appeal, celebrating our 20th year. Since 1995, Willington residents and businesses have shown the importance of recognizing student excellence by helping the WSFDFS provide more than \$215,800 to 356 Willington high school seniors. Last year through our many fund raising activities, the WSFDFS was able to provide scholarships totaling \$19,000 to 16 deserving Willington high school graduates.

Please help us again, this year, by donating to our annual appeal. Look for our mailer in your mailbox and remember, no amount is too small. And this year, ask us about our matching funds program.

Mail your tax deductible contributions to Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (or WSFDFS), at P.O. Box 194; Willington CT, 06279.

Also if you have a high school senior in your family who is planning on attending college, be sure to contact the high school guidance office or the WSFDFS website at <http://willington.dollarsforscholars.org> and apply for a scholarship!



WSFDFS silent auction at the Willington Flea Market 2014 where enough for a scholarship was raised through great donations from Willington businesses and residents. WSFDFS Directors, from left to right: Paula King, Laura Rodriguez, Ron Growney, and Judith Marco.

Willington Little League

The Winter Clinics will be held in March at Hall Memorial School. Please check website for specific dates.



Deadline for registration is February 21st. Also, we will have registration for Spring Ball as well as the Winter Clinic, in January during rec basketball games. Registration online will be available in early January.



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.

Fire House Hall Rental

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