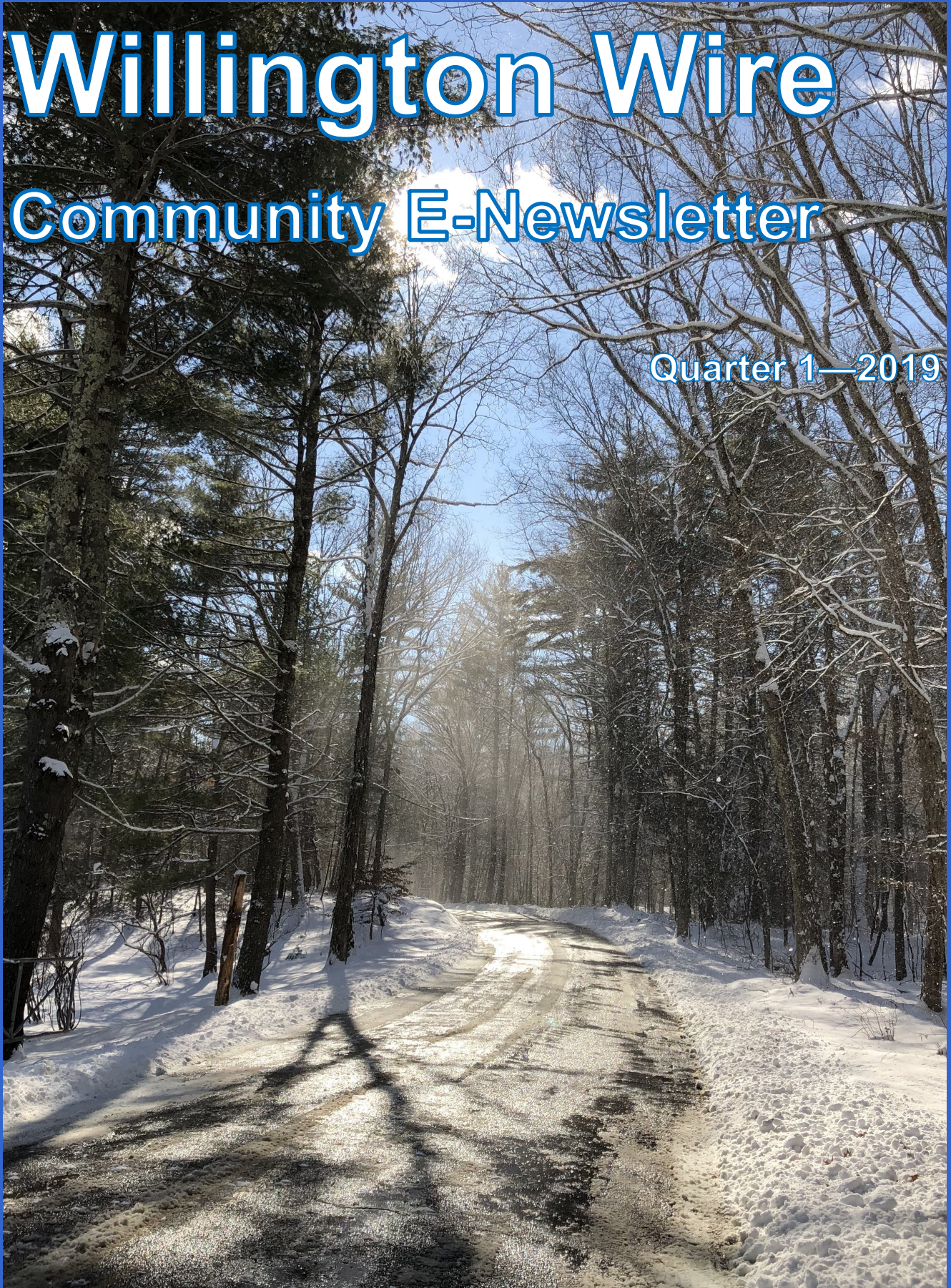


Willington Wire

Community E-Newsletter

Quarter 1—2019



Town of Willington Office Building Contacts

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

Business Hours—Monday 12:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. / Tuesday—Friday 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

First Selectwoman	Erika G. Wiecenski	860-487-3100
Animal Control Officer	Tina Binheimer	860-428-4422
Assessor	Walter Topliff	860-487-3122
Building Inspector	Jim Rupert	860-487-3123
Business Manager	Donna Latincsics	860-487-3134
Elections Department	Christine Psathas & Suzanne Chapman	860-487-3120
Human Services	Jennie Arpin	860-487-3118
Parks & Recreation	Maureen Parsell	860-487-3108
Planning & Zoning	Michael D'Amato	860-487-3123
Public Works	VACANT	860-684-9313
Senior Center	Jennie Arpin	860-429-8321
Tax Collector	Lisa Madden	860-487-3111
Town Clerk	Amy Lam	860-487-3121
Treasurer	Tish Ignatowicz	860-487-3133

Willington's Vision Statement

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

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

- preserve and protect our environment,
- create social, educational, recreational, agricultural, economic and housing opportunities,
- balance conservation and development; and
- encourage civic involvement and interaction at the local and regional level.



Boards & Commissions—Meeting Calendar—Jan, Feb & March

Board/Commission	Day	Date	Time
Board of Education	Tuesday	January 8th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Education	Tuesday	February 12th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Education	Tuesday	March 12th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	January 17th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	January 7th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Tuesday	January 22nd	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	February 4th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Tuesday	February 19th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	March 4th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	March 18th	6:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	January 16th	7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	February 20th	7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	March 20th	7:00 p.m.
Economic Development	Tuesday	January 8th	6:30 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	January 22nd	7:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	February 19th	7:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	March 19th	7:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	January 14th	4:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	February 11th	4:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	March 11th	4:00 p.m.
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	January 28th	7:30 p.m.
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	February 25th	7:30 p.m.
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	March 25th	7:30 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Tuesday	January 8th	7:00 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Tuesday	February 12th	7:00 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Tuesday	March 12th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	January 28th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	February 25th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	March 25th	7:00 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	January 15th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	February 5th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	February 19th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	March 5th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	March 19th	7:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	January 10th	7:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	February 14th	7:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	March 14th	7:30 p.m.



Boards & Commissions—Budget Calendar—Jan, Feb & March

Board/Commission	Day	Date	Time	Location
Board of Education	Wednesday	January 9th	6:00 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Board of Education	Wednesday	January 16th	6:00 p.m.	CES Library
Board of Education	Wednesday	January 23rd	6:00 p.m.	CES Library
Board of Education	Wednesday	February 6th	TBD	**Note: This meeting will take place if necessary.
Board of Finance	Thursday	February 7th	7:00 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Board of Finance	Thursday	February 14th	7:00 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Board of Finance	Thursday	February 21st	7:00 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Board of Finance	Thursday	February 28th	7:00 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Board of Finance	Thursday	March 7th	7:00 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Board of Finance	Thursday	March 14th	7:00 p.m.	TOB Common Conference Room Upper Level
Board of Finance	Thursday	March 21st	7:00 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Board of Selectmen	Monday	January 7th	5:30 p.m.	TOB Selectmen's Conference Room
Board of Selectmen	Monday	January 14th	5:30 p.m.	TOB Selectmen's Conference Room
Board of Selectmen	Tuesday	January 22nd	5:30 p.m.	TOB Selectmen's Conference Room
Board of Selectmen	Monday	February 4th	5:30 p.m.	TOB Selectmen's Conference Room
Board of Selectmen	Monday	February 11th	5:30 p.m.	TOB Selectmen's Conference Room
Capital Improvement Program	Thursday	January 10th	6:30 p.m.	TOB Common Conference Room Upper Level
Capital Improvement Program	Monday	January 14th	6:30 p.m.	TOB Common Conference Room Upper Level
Capital Improvement Program	Thursday	January 24th	6:30 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Capital Improvement Program	Thursday	January 31st	6:30 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Capital Improvement Program	Wednesday	February 6th	6:30 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Capital Improvement Program	Wednesday	February 13th	6:30 p.m.	TOB Lower Level Conference Room
Library Board of Directors	Tuesday	January 15th	7:00 p.m.	Willington Public Library

Help Wanted

Director of Public Works (Full-Time)

The Town of Willington seeks a Full Time Public Works' Director. This is a non-union salaried position that includes benefits. The ideal candidate must have management experience as well as road construction/maintenance, long term planning of capital projects and have familiarity with construction equipment & civil engineering, crew supervision, task assignment, and municipal budgets.

In addition, the position requires excellent customer service skills and experience dealing with the public, vendors and Town Boards/Commissions and computer skills (excel, word, email) is a must. CT driver's license; CDL Class-A preferred. **Bachelor's degree and Road Master Certification is a plus.**

Click below for a complete job description, employment application and more.

EOE/AA



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

**New Years Day—Tuesday, January 1st
Martin Luther King Jr. Day—Monday, January 21st
President's Day—Monday, February 18th**



First Selectwoman's Corner

Dear Willington Residents,

The fall of 2018 was a very busy time at the Willington Town Offices. The Board of Selectmen would like to thank our Town Clerk, Registrars and many poll workers for their hard work on election day (and the weeks leading up to it!)

The Town Office Building has also been undergoing construction that we anticipate will be completed in the coming weeks. Thank you to all of our residents for your patience as we work to make the front steps/ramp once again a solid, safe entrance to our offices.

We also want to thank the many individuals and groups who helped to make the 2018 Annual Community Tree Lighting on the Town Green such a successful community event! This event served as a great reminder that Willington is a wonderful place to live.



Now that the holiday dust has settled, the tough months of winter are upon us. With hard work and a positive attitude, we will be ready for spring when it arrives.

The main reason that winter is the toughest season for Willington staff is the weather. As always, our Public Works crew stands ready to help us deal with whatever comes our way.

Another reason winter is tough for the Town Office staff is that it coincides with budget season and the many meetings that occur in January, February and March. What our many boards and department heads will be doing over the coming months is working together to find ways to maintain services and programs while minimizing any tax increase. We will be watching to see what the new Governor's budget means for Willington. If you are interested in a particular town service, such as the library, public safety, human services, education, recreation, etc., please make contact with the boards that oversee these programs and let them know your concerns and suggestions as soon as possible. They will be able to incorporate your input before their budgets go to the Board of Finance for consideration. Please check the town website at www.willingtonct.org for meeting dates and times.

The Town Office Building is open 12:30-7:30 pm on Mondays and 9-2:00 pm on Tuesday-Friday. I try to be available during office hours or by appointment. Please stop in to share your ideas and concerns.

Best Regards,

Erika G. Wicinski
First Selectwoman

Talk of the Town

Talk of the Town (Employees that is)...

This month's edition is dedicated to the entire TOB Staff. We are lucky to have a staff of caring and dedicated individuals who are always here to serve the town in any capacity. They all have specialized roles but in the end they all answer to YOU, the residents of Willington. They work together to make sure you have the services you need.

Thank you, TOB Staff, for going above and beyond every day!!



Animal Control



With winter now upon us, Willington Animal Control would like to remind our dog owners of some very important things:

Dogs should not be left outdoors in below frigid temperatures for more than enough time to eliminate, unless the dog is being exercised such as running/playing in the yard or going for a jog/walk with their owner. Although most dogs do have an undercoat to help keep them warm, not all do and they can quickly become hypothermic. Dogs of all coat lengths can also get frost bite, most especially on the ears, toes and tail where their circulation is not as good. If you think your dog has become hypothermic or frost bitten, immediately get them into a heated vehicle and to a veterinarian.

CT law also prohibits any dog from being tethered for more than a short period time during a weather advisory by any local, state or federal authorities which includes wind chills, snow, and winter warnings.

We ask that you be thoughtful in extreme cold and keep in mind your dogs breed, age, and physical condition when he or she is allowed outdoors. While a young Alaskan Malamute or Husky may enjoy playing outdoors for a little longer period of time, a Chihuahua or Pit Bull type may not.

It is recommended that cats be brought indoors during severe weather. If you have feral or outdoor only cats, it is highly recommended to provide a shelter with insulation and straw bedding for them to escape the wind and cold.

Livestock should all have a shelter with a "wind break", and we suggest a "run in" shed if you don't have a barn. Also, we suggest a water heater which will prevent the bucket from freezing to prevent you from continuously having to thaw and refill their water buckets.

Reminder to dog owners: Dogs age six months and older are required to be licensed. Licenses are available in the Town Clerk's Office located in the Town Office Building during regular business hours. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required. If you no longer own the dog or the dog is deceased, please contact the Town Clerk by calling 860-487-3121 to update their licensing database.

If you have any concerns for animals being left outdoors for long periods of time in below freezing temperatures and wind chills or need assistance and advice, please contact Willington Animal Control at 860-428-4422.

Tina Binheimer, Animal Control Officer, Town of Willington

Assessor



Revaluation

By now everyone should have received their revaluation notice. Taxpayers will be billed on the new values in July 2019. If you missed the Revaluation Conferences and don't believe your value is correct please complete a Board of Assessment Appeals Hearing Application. Applications can be found on the Assessor's website www.willingtonct.org. Appeals must be completed and returned no later than February 20, 2019.

Homeowners & Totally Disabled

Residents 65 years of age or totally disabled may be eligible for a tax credit on their real estate tax bills. Income guidelines apply and are adjusted each year. You must complete an application starting February 1st and return it no later than May 15th. First time applicants must apply in person.

Renters

Residents 65 years of age or totally disabled may be eligible for the State Renters program. Guidelines and applications will be available from the Human Services Department between April 1st and October 1st.

Disability

Persons totally disabled and receiving SSD benefits may be eligible for a \$1,000 assessment exemption. Proof of award and application must be submitted by October 1, 2019.

Concrete Foundations

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

Walter Topliff
Assessor

Rachel L. Pierce
Assistant Assessor



Willington Public Schools

Is Now Accepting Applications for Substitute Teachers!

We thank our current substitutes for their service!



*Also hiring
Para-educators
(as needed)*

**Center Elementary
School
and
Hall Memorial
School**



**Join our educators
as a
SUBSTITUTE TEACHER!
(as needed)**

Why?

Work at a great place.

Work close to home.

Assist your community.

If you are interested, please call

860-487-3130



Building Department

New State Building Code in effect

On October 1, 2018 a newly adopted State Building Code became effective. The new code encompasses many changes, especially for residential construction and remodeling. In the residential code there are new span tables for lumber as well as span tables for decks, porches and balconies. Wind speed tables have also been revised. After working with the new code for these past few months, the issues we have identified as creating the most confusion are, the taping of seams on roof and setback requirements for roof top solar systems.

The taping of seams on roofs is an effort to create more resilient communities and reduce property damage as a result of water intrusion into finished structures. Often with hurricanes or tornadoes roof coverings are damaged which leads to interior water damage. By taping the seams on a roof for new construction or strip and reroofs taping can mitigate those damages. It should be noted that this does not apply to homes that might have tongue and groove roofers or other wood strip roof decking. The other exception is that taping is not necessary when the entire roof deck is covered by ice and water shield. Taping of seams does not eliminate the requirement for ice and water shield and is an additional measure of protection. Recently there has been an increase in solar permits. For rooftop solar arrays the code requires setbacks on both rake edges and the top. It also requires the identification of areas for ladder placement to permit roof access by fire fighters in the case of an emergency. Those ladder placement areas may not be in front of doors or windows which have the potential to vent smoke or even fire. In fact the purpose of those setbacks is to permit safe roof operations for firefighters and others to access different portions of the roof. Remember any time light shines upon the panels they produce electricity. In fact even moonlight and artificial lighting from light bulbs will produce some power so it is rare to have zero energy production. The setbacks permit safe access away from the powered panels to reduce risk of electrical shock as well. Generally speaking for single ridge roofs the required setback is three feet on the edges and at the peak. There are many variations of roofing which the code has captured so for other types of roofs the code should be consulted.

Please feel free to contact us in the Building Department if you have any questions.

Jim Rupert
Building Inspector
(860) 487-3123

Conservation Commission



Winter bestows a whole new look on the parks and preserves that Willington is fortunate to have. The lack of foliage reveals a multitude of landscape features - waterways, stone walls, hill sides and other views not visible during the rest of the year. Don't let snow stop you from getting some exercise on our great trails. Especially with a fresh snowfall, the forest landscape takes on a whole new perspective. If the snow is deep enough, the Recreation Department has snowshoes to loan if you don't have your own and you'd like to try that experience. Much of the time, though, it isn't long after a snowfall that other enthusiastic snowshoers and hikers have packed the trails enough to not need snowshoes. Most of the trails are also cross-country skiable with the Taylor Trail being the most skier-friendly. Depending on your fitness and skill level, you may have to walk a section or two on the others. As always, please be considerate of others and help us protect wildlife by keeping dogs on leashes.

The 300-acre Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve and Drobney Sanctuary on Moose Meadow Road has 4-plus miles of trails through woods, over ridges and along ponds and streams. A kiosk with maps is located at the parking area, and a box with nature trail guides is located a short distance down the Taylor Trail. Trail maps are now located at all trail intersections to help orient you if there are no maps at the kiosk or if you choose not to carry a paper map. The Ashford Link Trail now connects the Fenton-Ruby system to a 1-mile loop trail on the Langhammer Preserve in Ashford. This .1-mile link, shown on the trail maps, runs from the Ruby Trail to Lustig Road with the Ashford trail immediately across the road.

The 28-acre Talmadge Tract, which contains the Talmadge Spur Trail with 1 ½ and 2-mile loops, will take you through scenic woodlands and along gravel Mason Road. This tract abuts the 400-acre UConn Moss Forest Tract, and on the other side of Mason Road is the 138-acre Royal Knowlton Preserve. Several miles of the Connecticut Blue Trail (Nipmuck) run through this area, with a portion along the Fenton River as it flows through a deep ravine. The ¾-mile Knowlton Spur Trail connects the Nipmuck Trail to the Talmadge Trail. Maps can usually be found at the sign at the Talmadge/Knowlton trailheads on Mason Road where there is now a parking area, and also at the sign where the Nipmuck crosses Mason Rd. Brochures and trail maps for both these areas can also be found at the Town Clerk's office and the library, and the same information is available for Fenton-Ruby on the Conservation Commission website (see below).

Joshua's Trust's Chenes Roches Preserve in north Willington also offers a great hike with many interesting landscape features. See a description under "Town Parks and Amenities".



Conservation Commission Continued...

If you are interested in taking an active part in helping the Town manage its environmental resources, the Commission has openings for two alternate members. Alternate members participate in meetings and may be seated as voting members in the absence of regular members. Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings in the lower level of the Town Office Building on the third Wednesday of every month. Contact Peter Andersen, Commission Chair, at 860-933-6380 or andersen108@sbcglobal.net, or Kathy Demers, Commission Vice-Chair, at 860-377-6416 or kdemers48@gmail.com for more information. Please visit the Conservation Commission website under "Boards and Commissions" on the Town of Willington home page, www.willingtonct.org, for information on conservation issues, programs and links to other websites. Last, we would be happy to hear any comments you may have about your experiences regarding Willington's outdoor resources. Enjoy!

Center Elementary School PreSchool Registration



Willington Center School's PreSchool be accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. Children eligible for PreK must be three years of age by August 31, 2019 and cannot turn 5 before January 1, 2020. Applications will be available March 1, 2019 by calling Center School at 860.429.9367. The application and the Ages & Stages questionnaire will need to be completed and submitted by May 1, 2019. Decision regarding acceptance will be made by the end of the school year.

Center Elementary School Kindergarten Registration



Willington Center School is currently encouraging parents/guardians to begin registering their children for kindergarten for the 2019-2020 school year. Children must be 5 years old on or before Jan 1, 2020. Please call Center School at 860.429.9367. Orientation will be held in the spring.

DID YOU KNOW?

New Software for Building/Land Use Department AND Recreation Department

**You can now Pay Building/Land Use Fees
and Recreation Fees on-line!**

We are pleased to announce our new software, ViewPointCloud, that allows you to apply online for town services such as Building Permits and Land Use, as well as registering for our Parks & Recreations programs!

This user friendly software will allow you to track your application every step of the way. In addition, the software will allow you to make online payments. Our inspectors can also approve your application on site with just a click of a button!

We are very pleased to offer our residents this innovative software.

willingtonct.viewpointcloud.com

Willington Day will be here soon and the Committee is still searching for volunteers!

Do you LOVE Willington Day?

**Do you have ideas on how to make
Willington Day better?**

THEN WE NEED YOU TO JOIN!!

**If you are interested in joining the
Committee, please contact Sarah Reis at...**

**sarahjreis86@gmail.com
860-335-7929**

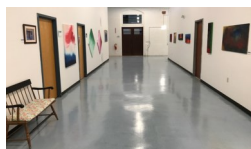




Eastern Connecticut Center for
History, Art, and Performance, Inc.

"An Artist Perspective" By Rebecca Zablocki

As part of our mission at EC-CHAP, we would like to provide an appreciation for the visual arts through education, creation and display. EC-CHAP is very lucky to call The Mill Works facility our home. The building has evolved and sprouted a community of its own, stemming from the use of space as artist studios, offices and other businesses; as well as home to The Packing House performance venue and the Gardiner Hall Jr. History Museum.



The first and second floor of The Mill Works facility boast wide corridors and bare walls perfect for displaying art. Floor-1, home to the Gardiner Hall Jr. History Museum and a handful of our Creative Community

member's studios, is comprised of a large U-shaped hallway, framed by vast white walls and 16' ceilings. Floor -2, the location of The Packing House and many of the other work spaces, contains a long hallway and rich, warm refurbished wood flooring frequented by tenants and their guests. These community spaces are perfect for exhibiting both two and three-dimensional works that may be experienced by visitors during open hours, performance intermissions at The Packing House, and other public events held at The Mill Works.

We would like to introduce you to this space as the newly established "*Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery*". The possibilities are endless... but most importantly, we would like to invite everyone to become a part of it. Perhaps you are new to art, fresh out of school or just beginning to hone in on your skills after retirement; or maybe you are a seasoned artist trying out a new body of work. With competitive galleries and artists everywhere, the art world can be overwhelming; but with the involvement of area artists and art enthusiasts, we would like to develop this space as a free gallery, available for the public to use and enjoy. We hope for the Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery to become a center for artists of all levels and ages in Eastern Connecticut and beyond, and create a place where everyone feels welcome to display or become a patron of the visual arts.

Our plan is to establish a regular weekly schedule of open hours for public viewing supported by the artists that show their works. This collaborative approach will allow us to create a cost-free "platform" for art presentation where local and regional artists may assist with installation design, display their works, and share in the supervision and monitoring of the gallery.

If you, or someone you may know, are interested in learning more about this project, displaying your work, or supporting this community gallery operation, please plan to attend one of EC-CHAP's monthly Information Exchange Meetings.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 6th at 7:00pm in the Gardiner Hall Jr History Museum, 156 River Road, Willington, CT. Please feel free to contact me directly by e-mail: CommunityGallery@ec-chap.org or telephone: (518)791-9474. Spread the word and stay tuned for scheduled hours and exhibit information!

Rebecca Zablocki, is the Assistant Director of the Gallery Store at the Worcester Center for Crafts; EC-CHAP "Artist In Residence"; and Director of the Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery. Contact: CommunityGallery@ec-chap.org.

"At The Museum" By Joan Taraskiewicz



We had a very full and productive Fall Season at the Gardiner Hall Jr History Museum! Our First Sunday at The Mill Works provided children with an opportunity to make "John Martin Spool

Animals". This is a vintage activity that started with Coats and Clark's adding the pattern for the animals in every package of bias tape. The front and the back of the animal are cut out and then glued onto the ends of a spool. The animals stand up on their own and children used them for imaginary zoos and farms. Gardiner Hall Jr Mill also made bias tape and the wooden spools that were used for the thread were actually made here in the wood shop.

The Walking Tour of South Willington focused on the Hall's role in creating this village. Tyler Hall shared with us reams of information concerning his family and its influence on the South Willington area. I have walked this area several times in the past, but Tyler made it really come alive. We were also able to visit the Clara Hall Memorial Church, which is incredibly beautiful. It reminds me of the chapels and cathedrals we saw in Europe last fall.... I hope that we can persuade Tyler to offer this again later in the spring.

Exhibit renovation is moving right along. We are in the process of adding activities for youngsters (of all ages). Gardiner Hall Jr Mill was powered by a waterwheel. Water was collected in Lake Beauty (Now Hall's Pond) and was released down a chute that directed the water over a water wheel. This type of wheel, by the way, is called an overshoot water wheel. I do not know the name of the child who made the water wheel model we have displayed. If you know, please pass that name on to me. I would like to be able to credit him/her appropriately. I have added a water pump so that the model is working and I have added a display about water wheels in general.

If we were to choose a symbol of New England that would represent this part of the country best, the water wheel would be a strong contender. Water wheels took advantage of fast-moving streams racing down the mountains and into the narrow valleys here. Every town in New England had several mills and Willington was no exception. Hike through the woods in this area and you are bound to come across streams with the foundation of an old mill along it.



EC-CHAP Continued...

The swift streams and Yankee ingenuity gave New England a distinct advantage over the South when it came to early economic development.

Among the first mills in all towns were the grist mills which ground corn and wheat into flour. Water wheels also powered sawmills where boards could be cut more efficiently than using the older pit saws. Later the thread and textile mills were able to use these streams to run the 'new' technology needed. Today a new type of water wheel, the generator, is used to produce electricity. Hydropower is an important energy source in some areas. Come visit our new exhibit to learn more about water power and its advantages. Hope to see you here soon!

Joan Taraskiewicz, is a retired educator, member of EC-CHAP, and Curator of the Gardiner Hall Jr History Museum. Contact: curator@gardinerhalljrmuseum.org.

"Performance Update" By EC-CHAP

In this issue of *Willington Wire*, EC-CHAP will begin to share information specific to our three primary areas of focus: History, the Visual Arts, and the Performing Arts. EC-CHAP is pleased and honored to announce three Special Performances planned for 2019! Tickets available at www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming.



We are excited to have **BOB MALONE** return to The Packing House on **Saturday, February 9th**. Bob is a seasoned singer/songwriter, and keyboardist for **John Fogarty**. Bob Malone's performance of

"You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch" - from his new album *The Christmas Collection* - has been featured all year in theaters and online in the official trailer for the new Universal/Illumination production of "The Grinch."



We have the great pleasure of presenting **STEVE KATZ** debut performance at The Packing House this spring! Steve Katz is an original guitarist and founding member of **Blood, Sweat, and Tears**. Steve will provide an intimate "Evening of Music, Questions, and Answers" on **Saturday,**

May 18th. In addition to his professional musical career, Steve is a photographer and author, recently completing his memoir, "*Blood, Sweat, and My Rock 'n Roll Years: Is Steve Katz a Rock Star?*". We can't wait for Steve to join us in May.



On April 13th, EC-CHAP is privileged to host a very special event featuring folk icon **TOM RUSH**! Tom will provide two performances, 4:00pm and 8:00pm, as an annual Benefit Concert to support the **Eastern Connecticut Center for History, Art, and Performance**. Tom will be joined by singer / songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, **MATT NAKOA**. Local

Contemporary Americana band, **HORIZON BLUE**, will provide a prelude opening for Tom and Matt on this magical musical April weekend. Come and experience musical legend Tom Rush, and support your regional cultural center!



EC-CHAP offers a full schedule of live music, film, programs, and exhibitions. January through March will feature new and returning talent to The Packing House. Featured artists include Kala Farnham; Patti Rothberg, Sarah Hanahan Quartet, Grass Roots, Eric Sommer, Greg Abate Quartet, Nicole Zuraitis, and more! Check out our schedule below and visit our website for updates, schedule changes, additions, and cancellations (www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming).

Don't forget about our recurring monthly events, too! These include our "Talent Showcase" (2nd Wednesday); Social Dance (2nd Thursday); and Monthly Information Exchange Meetings. We are pleased to add our new monthly "Bluegrass Showcase Series", a collaboration with the Podunk Bluegrass Music Festival that will feature a new Bluegrass band on the 1st Wednesday of the month (resuming in February).

Here's a look at our performances and films through March 2019. **Senior and student discounts available.**

January 2019

01/09: **"Talent Showcase"**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm. Free admission – All ages. (2nd Wednesday)
01/10: **EC-CHAP Social Dance Series with Kelly Madenjian**. Doors 6:30pm / Dance 7:00pm (2nd Thursday)
01/12: **EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series Kala Farnham (Indie / Folk)**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm
01/15: **EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting**. 7:00pm
01/18: **EC-CHAP Film Series – "Maudie" (PG-13)**. 2017. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm
01/19: **EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series Patti Rothberg (Indie/Rock)**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm
01/26: **EC-CHAP Jazz Series: Sarah Hanahan Quartet with Special Guest**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

February 2019

02/06: **EC-CHAP & PBMF Bluegrass Showcase**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm. (1st Wednesday)
02/09: **EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series Bob Malone (Rock / Jazz)**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm
02/12: **EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting**. 7:00pm
02/13: **"Talent Showcase"**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm. Free admission – All ages. (2nd Wednesday)
02/14: **EC-CHAP Social Dance Series with Kelly Madenjian**. Doors 6:30pm / Dance 7:00pm (2nd Thursday)
02/15: **EC-CHAP Film Series – TBD (Check Website)**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm
02/23: **EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series Grass Roots (Bluegrass)**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm



EC-CHAP Continued...

March 2019

03/02: **EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series Carla Ulbrich (Comedic Singer/Songwriter)**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

03/03: **Spring "First Sunday at The Mill Works (Community Event)**. 12:00pm – 5:00pm.
Free Admission.

03/06: **EC-CHAP & PBMF Bluegrass Showcase**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm. (1st Wednesday)

03/09: **EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series Eric Sommer (Blues)**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

03/12: **EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting**. 7:00pm

03/13: **"Talent Showcase"**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm. Free admission – All ages. (2nd Wednesday)

03/14: **EC-CHAP Social Dance Series with Kelly Madenjian**. Doors 6:30pm / Dance 7:00pm
(2nd Thursday)

03/15: **EC-CHAP Film Series – TBD (Check Website)**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

03/23: **EC-CHAP Jazz Series: Greg Abate Quartet**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

03/29: **EC-CHAP Jazz Series: Grammy Nominee Nicole Zuraitis**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

All performances and film showings are located in The Packing House at The Mill Works, 156 River Road, Willington, CT. For information about EC-CHAP membership, performances, programs, or reservations, please Call: 518-791-9474

Email: info@ec-chap.org

Visit us at www.ec-chap.org

Historical Society



Brrr Winter and this means the Willington Historical Society has retired indoors for the cold winter months. But don't get the idea that the Society is in hibernation!! That's

far from the truth, although we have been known to stop and linger in front of the fire for a little extra heat. With the towns history behind us, we're always in catch up mode. We're always trying to better understand what happened in our past, from our archive items. It's sort of a connect the dots situation. One dot leads to the next dot of information. Has it been a while since you last played connect the dots? If you'd like to resharpen that skill again and learn snippets of Willington's history in the process, we'd like to invite you in for a game. Think about it.

Looking Toward 2019

It's interesting how every 12 months we take the opportunity to speculate and plan for the 'new year'. It's our opportunity to start with a clean slate although our previous years exploits, or lack of them are hot on our heels into this new year. Ahh, but thank goodness for new years resolutions! You might think of it as a way out, from the things that went amiss the previous 12 months.

Historical Society Continued...

Really, a way to set things on a new track for that brand new, New Year (2019).

For the Historical Society that resolution is some straight talk about the Society and our ability to continue moving into the future. The facts are; (1) paid memberships are way down however our costs are not, (2) many of the board members have served for nearly 20 years and would like to move on to other supporting rolls, (3) our webmaster is leaving us this Spring, (4) we need fresh and new ideas, from new people, (5) we need help organizing our paper and photo archives. So ... that's the long and short of looking into our new year of 2019.

No, we won't be closing up shop in the near future, but for those in our community who enjoy the work of the Society and interacting with us at the Glazier Tavern please spread the word. We really could use an infusion of new blood for the new year!

New furnace fundraising continues ... with \$2,197 raised to date, with a total goal of \$7,500. The following Society members, friends, neighbors and foundation have contributed; Dale Smith, Evelynne Parizek, Susan & Bruce Smalheer, Bruce Lyon, Reid & Riedge Foundation (matching Bruce Lyon), Christine Psathas & Bob Shabot, Corrine Passardi, Clyde & Jean Hall, Chopeta Lyons & Mark Palmer, Karen Rabe, Robert Wilkins, Lisa Ferriere, Sue & Paul Schur, Thomas Smith, Anne Sylvia, Ellie Lowell, Fred Glazier, Doris Lake, Maurice Stapleton and several anonymous donors.

Other News

OMG what a great turnout for the lighting of the tree on the Town Green on November 30th! Thanks to all those folks who stopped in at the Glazier Tavern for some refreshments, conversation and warmth by the fires. Glad to have you there.

As an off-shoot of the Willington Garden Club, there was an interest to research and plan a period kitchen garden on the East side of the Tavern building. Anyone interested in joining this effort may contact Pam Wheeler at 860-429-9804 for more information.

Monthly Meetings The Historical Society holds monthly meetings, on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Meetings are held at the Town Office Building at 40 Old Farms Road, during the fall and winter months. The meetings are always open to anyone interested in the history of Willington and the on going activities of the Society.



Historical Society Continued...

Sure, we're inside for Winter, but we're still looking ...

The Society continues to be interested in items that help recount Willington History. You can help!

- * Oral history
- * Genealogical information
- * Historical items
- * Historical documents including letters, diaries or photos relating to:
 - Willington residents
 - Schools, churches, mills, farms
 - Town government
 - Willington glass, buttons or Hall thread
 - Bicentennial Celebration

Contacting the Willington Historical Society:

- email at: willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com
- website at: www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org
- like us on Facebook

Donations may be made through the PayPal link on our website homepage or regular mail at the Society's P.O. 214, Willington CT, 06279

The Society is organized as a designated IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Final thought:

A favorite colonial drink of hard cider and rum was called a Stone Wall. (yes, there is a back story).

Human Services

THANK YOU!- The Department of Human Services wants to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who donated toys, money, food, time, adopted families, or otherwise helped in making the 2018 Holiday Program successful for our resident families in need! We assisted 55 families this year, and we could not have done it without you!

FOOD PANTRY- The Willington Food Pantry offers canned and dry goods, seasonal vegetables, and eggs to Willington residents in need. Located at the Town Office Building, our hours are Mondays from 4pm to 6pm, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 12pm. Also open at the same time and place is our Community Closet, where residents can pick up some gently used clothing, coats, and accessories.

MOBILE FOODSHARE- Bringing produce, breads, and on occasion, meats to Willington residents. The Food-share truck comes every other Wednesday from 11-11:30 sharp in front of the Senior Center. Please bring plenty of bags or boxes.

APRIL CAMP- It's not too soon to think about April Camp! Human Services is pleased to be running our popular April Camp program again in 2019. April Camp is a week full of fun, crafts, games, and activities for kids during spring recess, April 15th through 19th. Visit our Facebook page or webpage for more information as we get closer to April, or contact our office for an application to reserve spots for your children!

Human Services Continued...

RENTERS REBATE - Elderly or Disabled renters may qualify for this program, which starts April 1st. Please contact our office for more information or for an appointment.

WE ARE SOCIAL! -Be sure to "Like" Willington Human Services on Facebook! Keep up with our events, programs, and happenings. Thanks for your interest and support!

Jennie A. Arpin, M.P.A
Director of Human Services



Please welcome the Town of Willington's newest employees!!

Walter Topliff, Assessor
Michael D'Amato, Zoning Agent

Walter brings his many years of knowledge and experience to the Willington Assessor's office. You can find him in his office on Monday evenings from 5:30-7:30 and on Fridays.

Michael brings his extensive knowledge in Planning, Zoning and Wetlands to the Land Use department.

Michael is in his office most Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays.
Contact the Land Use office for any questions.



Parks & Recreation



All Bus Trips are coordinated with the towns of Ashford, Coventry, Ellington, Mansfield, Tolland and Willington. Please register with the recreation department in the town in which you reside. If you do not live in any of the listed towns, you may register with any department. The pick-up location for all is the Commuter Parking Lot at I-84, Exit 68 in Tolland.

Mangia, Mangia



Boston's Little Italy, Sam Adams and Italian Food Tour

Spend the day in Italy without your passport. Boston's Little Italy testifies to the age-old immigrant experience in the new world. Spend the day in one of our country's oldest neighborhoods, and find out what it has to offer. This walking food tour is like a cooking class on foot. Spend the morning learning how Italians eat while you glean insider cooking tips. Gain resources and knowledge on how to identify, and where to buy the very best ingredients. You'll discover the panetteria (bakery), pasticceria (pastry shop), the greengrocer, the deli, an enoteca (wine shop), and a spice and confection store. Enjoy the colorful sights, tantalizing aromas and authentic tastes of bread, pastries, cured meat, cheeses, balsamic vinegar, the freshest seasonal produce and a little liquori in this old-world community. The tour incorporates numerous stops in which we'll enjoy sampling authentic Italian ingredients that can be incorporated into our own cooking and eating adventures.

Once the tour of Italy has finished, there will be free time for you to grab lunch (on your own), or shop in the markets visited during the tour. This is a great time to get stocked up on those authentic Italian ingredients.

During the afternoon, you will head to Sam Adams where you will take a tour and learn about the beer making process. At the conclusion of the tour, you'll get to sample some of their beer. There is a gift shop for your shopping pleasure.

This tour requires a great deal of walking (about five city blocks, or about .3 miles) and standing. Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes and clothing. While the markets are inside, getting to and from each location requires walking outside in the elements. Bring appropriate outerwear.

Date: Friday, April 12th

Depart: 7:30am (Tolland Commuter Parking Lot Exit 68, I-84)

Return: 6:45pm (approximately)

Fee: \$139.00/person

Tour includes roundtrip motor coach, Tours of Distinction tour director, food tour with samples, free time, brewery tour and samples, gratuities (including driver and tour director)

****Registration Deadline—March 1st****

We're working on some great bus trips for 2019. Be sure to check our website for more information.

April: Mangia, Mangia
Walking food tour in Boston's Little Italy and a tour of the Sam Adams Brewery.

June: Yard Goats Family Day

July: James Taylor at Tanglewood

September: Vermont Vine to Wine
Putney Mountain Winery and Grafton Village Cheese Company

October: Roger Williams Spooky Zoo

December: New York City—Day on your Own

Snowshoe Loaner Program



Winter is right around the corner!! Just a reminder that WPRD has four pairs of adult snow shoes and four pairs of kids snow shoes for residents use. Be sure to reserve a pair or two today and head outside and enjoy!!

Why go snowshoeing? What started thousands of years ago as a mode of transportation has evolved into a popular winter activity for recreation and fitness. Here's why... it's fun, it's easy, it's inexpensive, it's a good workout and it's versatile.

Reserve a pair today!!

Public Skate at Bolton Ice Palace



Bolton Ice Palace offers public skating on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Skating is \$7.00/person and skate rental is **FREE** for all Willington residents (must show valid ID).

All children 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult, 18 years and older, on skates, on the ice, on a one-on-one basis, at all times.

A few things to keep in mind while visiting Bolton Ice Palace:

- There is to be NO ball playing or stick handling in the rink.
- Children should NOT be left unattended anywhere in the building as there are many entrances and exits.
- We recommend that skaters wear helmets, but you need to bring your own.
- Please check to verify session times as Bolton Ice Palace may change or adjust session for special arena events.

Bolton Ice Palace

145 Hop River Road — Bolton, CT 06043 — Phone:

860.646.7851

www.boltonicepalace.com



Parks & Recreation Continued...

Gentle Flow Yoga Classes



This class will resume in February. Once the new dates and times have been scheduled, we will post on our website. Be sure to check back!

Calm Your Mind and Promote Wellness

Gentle Flow classes are designed for people of all levels and bodies, great for beginners or those seasoned yogi's looking for a more relaxing class to balance out your practice. Kimberly will guide you through a gentle flow yoga class designed to promote grounding and strengthening to help you reach a deepened state of relaxation. This class will focus on centering the mind with breath work to help bring the mind to rest and prepare the body for yoga postures. Primary focus is on gentle stretches and then moving into a light flow practice to warm and stretch the body.

Please wear comfortable clothing and bring your own mat and props.

Tai Chi



This NEW 10-week course will cover an introduction to Yang Style Tai Chi and will cover the following:

- Strengthening Postures
- Releasing Exercises (Soong)
- The Yang Style Long Form
- 2-person Training Drills
- Push Hands Training
- Martial Applications

The benefits to Tai Chi are better posture, enhanced balance, increased range of motion and better overall mental well-being.

Dates: January 2nd-March 6th / Wednesday Evenings

Time: 7pm—8pm

Location: Old Town Hall, 11 Common Road, Willington

Fee: Resident: \$95.00

Non-Resident: \$110.00

Seniors 65+: \$75.00

Wear comfortable, loose fitting clothing and low-heel footwear

WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARK
Willington's Summer Concert Series

It's only January BUT we are already preparing a great concert line-up for you!! In order to make this happen, we need your help. Please consider sponsoring a concert... every dollar counts!

****Click [HERE](#) to sponsor****

International Folk Dancing



This program features dances from around the world, starting with easy walking-based dances and progressing to more advanced dances as the class is ready. Adults of all ages have found this program to be fun and great exercise. It is a good way to learn about cultural backgrounds and make new friends! No experience is necessary and no partners are necessary. Wear comfortable clothes, close-toed shoes and bring water. Drop-ins are welcome!

Dates: This class is held on Thursday evening's

Time: 7-8:00 p.m.

Location: Old Town Hall, 11 Common Road, Willington (Located on the Town Green)

Fee: This program is being offered at no cost

Instructor: Veronica Craig



International Folk Dancing Class performing at the Annual Willington Community Tree Lighting

Hiking Club



Love to hike? Love the outdoors?
Let's get outside together and explore what nature has to offer!

Frederick Peck will lead you on some great hikes on local trails. We'll meet on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. at a different location every week. Please check the calendar located on our website for the weekly location, cancellations, etc.

Adult Over 30 Basketball Program



We still have a few spots available!!

The season started on September 9th and ends on June 30th on Sunday nights from 7:00 -9:00 p.m. at Hall Memorial School on Route 32 in Willington.

Fee

\$65.00 for Willington Residents

\$75.00 for Non-residents



Parks & Recreation Continued...

Volleyball Adult Co-Ed



Come play Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at Hall Memorial School Gymnasium. This 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 and Thursday nights from 7:30-9:30 p.m. (time subject to change during basketball season) at Hall Memorial School Gymnasium, 111 River Road, Willington, CT.

Registration Fees Per Session:

Resident - \$20.00/1 night or \$35.00/2 nights

Non-Resident - \$30.00/1 night or \$40.00/2 nights

Session 1: September-December

Session 2: January-April

Session 3: May-August

Drop-in Fees: Resident - \$3.00/night

Non-Resident - \$5.00/night

Yearly Fees available to residents only: \$65.00

Babysitter Safety Training



We are offering two courses this year:

Babysitter Safety 101—April 2nd and April 4th

Babysitter Safety 102—April 9th and April 11th

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

We must have a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 students. **Register EARLY as these classes fill quickly.**

Registration Deadline is March 15th

911 Reflective Address Signs

The First Step to Providing Emergency Services is Finding Your House

Makes checks payable to: WPRD (Willington Parks & Recreation Department) and mail to 40 Old Farms Road, Willington CT 06279.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____

Address Number Requested:

Horizontal: _____ Vertical: _____

Cost: \$12.00
\$10.00 Seniors

Signs are highly visible both day and night!!

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

Willington Parks and Recreation Department is **HIRING!!**



Applications for the following seasonal positions will be accepted beginning February 1st. Applications can be found [HERE](#).

Director of Summer Camp

Summer Camp Counselors

WSI Certified Swim Instructors

Certified Lifeguards with Waterfront Skills

EOE/AA



Holiday Tree Giveaway

A **HUGE** thank you to **James and Joyce Gagne of Red Barn Crafts and Trees, Donald and Maureen Parizek** and **Scot and Valerie Rogers** for donating seven, beautiful, holiday trees for WPRDs 2nd Annual Holiday Tree Giveaway. Each one of these trees was sponsored by a local group/family, beautifully decorated and then delivered to Willington families in need. Thank you to the following groups/families for your kindness and generosity and for sharing the true meaning of **Community...**

Cub Scout Pack 82
Wiecenski Family
Willington PTA

HMS Stage Booster Club
Willington Democratic Town Committee

Local Prevention Council
Willington Little League



Cub Scout Pack 82



HMS Stage Booster Club



Local Prevention Council



The Wiecenski Family



Willington Democratic Town Committee



Willington Little League



Willington PTA

Holiday Wreath Giveaway

In conjunction with our Holiday Tree Giveaway, we started the 1st Annual Holiday Wreath Giveaway. As with the holiday tree program, each one of these wreaths was sponsored by a local group/family, beautifully decorated and then delivered to Willington families in need. Thank you to the following groups/families for your kindness and generosity and for sharing the true meaning of **Community...**

Joe & Lisa Colangelo
Ethan Parsell
Mike & Laura Pinatti

Cub Scout Pack 82
Liam Parsell & Graciela Bourquin
The Suchy Family

Girl Scout Troop 60376
Lorraine Pinatti
Willington Town Clerk's Office



Joe & Lisa Colangelo



Cub Scout Pack 82



Cub Scout Pack 82



Girl Scout Troop 60376



Ethan Parsell



Liam Parsell & Graciela Bourquin



Lorraine Pinatti



Mike & Laura Pinatti



The Suchy Family



Willington Town Clerk's Office

Parks & Recreation Continued...



Please call 860-487-3108 or email mparsell@willingtonct.org for program information and registration. More information can be found on our website: <http://www.willingtonct.org>.

Willington Parks & Recreation Commission

Our commission requires seven members per the Board of Selectmen, and we presently have six members. It is a non-compensation position and has a term of three years. The Commission meets on the last Monday of the month and is responsible for the oversight of our town's recreation facilities, recreation programs within and beyond those facilities, and managing the development of new facilities and programs.

With one seat still available, if you are interested in becoming a member, please contact the Parks & Recreation Department. The commission will meet with all respondents.

The Recreation Commission meet the last Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office Building—Selectman Conference Table.

Policies & General Information

Fees: There will be a \$20.00 fee for all checks returned as unpaid due to insufficient funds, stop payment, or any other form of cancellation. Payments shall be made by check or cash. Credit cards are not accepted. All checks should be made out to the Willington Parks and Recreation Department or WPRD.

Financial Assistance: Funding is set aside to assist Willington families that require financial help in registering for programs. For further information and an application, please contact the Human Services Department at 860-487-3118.

Inclement Weather Policy: In the event of inclement weather, programs may be cancelled, and a makeup date may or may not be scheduled. If schools are closed, all programs will be cancelled. Notifications will be placed on WFSB 3 TV.

Non-Resident Policy: Non-residents will be charged an additional \$5.00/\$10.00 depending on the program/bus trip.

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

Payment: Payments may be made by cash, check or credit card. All checks should be made out to the Willington Parks and Recreation Department (WPRD). Returned checks are subject to a \$20 service charge. Credit Cards are now accepted! Visit willingtonct.viewpointcloud.com for registration/payment for all programs, donations and sponsorships.

Photo Policy: WPRD reserves the right to photograph program participants for publicity purposes.

Program Cancellation: WPRD reserves the right to cancel any program that does not meet minimum enrollment requirements. PROGRAM TIMES AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANYTIME. When schools are closed due to inclement weather or school activities, all programming held at the schools will be cancelled for that day/evening. Every effort will be made to notify you. Notification will be placed on WFSB 3 TV. A make-up class will be scheduled if time permits.

Refunds: The Parks and Recreation Department has the right to cancel or consolidate programs if registration is insufficient. Any program cancelled by the Department will result in a full refund. There are no refunds once a program has begun unless accompanied by a doctor's note which will result in a prorated refund. All refunds must be in writing, received at least a week prior to the start of the program (three weeks if a bus trip) and will be assessed a \$5.00 processing fee.

Register Early: Please be sure to register **EARLY** for programs and trips you wish to participate in. WPRD reserves the right to cancel programs and/or trips due to low enrollment.

Scholarship Program: A scholarship program was created to help Willington families participate in all recreational activities offered no matter their financial circumstances. **Donations are always accepted.** Please make checks payable to WPRD and mail to 40 Old Farms Road, Willington.



Parks & Recreation Continued...

We are Social! Be sure to **'LIKE'** Willington Parks & Recreation on Facebook! Check out the Willington Parks & Recreation website at www.willingtonct.org for all of our latest events and programs. Be sure to [Subscribe to E-Alerts](#) at www.willingtonct.org and stay informed of all that we have to offer!

We Want to Hear from You! Do YOU have a hidden talent? We want to see it! Please take a few moments to share your ideas with us. Do you have a talent or program that you would like to see offered? Your input, opinions, suggestions and comments are an invaluable part of our continued improvement to our offerings. We welcome and value your input as we work together to make our parks and programs the best they can possibly be.



A **VERY** special thank you to the following for making our Annual Community Tree Lighting an unforgettable evening for our community.

The Willington Historical Society
The Willington Fire Department #1
The West Family
Valerie Rogers
Jason Phillips
Ken Craig
Carole Frassinelli
HMS Select Chorus
Boy Scouts Troop 82
Girls Scouts Troop 60376

Willington 4-H Club
Veronica Craig and the International Folk Dancers
AND we cannot forget Santa Glenn, his elves and the
Tolland Fire Department!!



Photos courtesy of Dot Drobney of DDrobney Photography

WPRD wishes you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!



Have you set your New Year's Resolutions? Is health and wellness on your list? If so, here are some ways that WPRD can help you be the best that you can be in the coming year.

Adult Basketball
Adult Volleyball
Hiking Club (FREE)
Ice-Skating at Bolton Ice Palace (FREE Rentals)
International Folk Dancing (FREE)
River Road Athletic Complex Walking Track (FREE)
Outdoor Fitness Equipment (FREE)
Snow Shoes (FREE)
Tai Chi
Yoga

We hope that you will take advantage of these programs for a healthier YOU.



Public Works & Transfer Station

Public Works:

Snow Removal Ordinance Volume 6, Page 81

Pursuant to Section 7-148(15), Connecticut General Statutes, use of Town roads is restricted as follows:

- No person shall deposit any snow or ice onto the traveled portion of any Town road. Any person found guilty of a violation of this section shall be fined fifty (\$50) dollars by the Board of Selectman or the Public Works Director. This includes the draining of water from sump pumps and/or other property drainage. Besides the Town fine, residents are also liable for damage to the road and any accidents that may occur as a result of water, ice or snow deposited on the roads.

Winter Parking Ban

A parking ban is in effect during snow storms. Cars parked on Town roads overnight may be towed at the owner's expense. Tune to WFSB (CBS) or WVIT (NBC) for parking ban information.

Mailboxes

Your mailbox should be in good repair, firmly attached to a solid post and properly placed so no part of it is over the pavement. It will have to withstand countless tons of flying snow this winter and may require periodic maintenance. If a mailbox or post is pushed over or damaged as a result of snow or slush coming off a snowplow, it is considered a winter hazard and the Town will not repair or replace the mailbox or post. The height of the bottom of the mailbox to the street should be between 42" – 48" and the mailbox door should be 6 to 8 inches back from the front face of the curb or road edge. In the event a Town plow hits a mailbox, it will be repaired by the Public Works Department.

Portable Basketball Hoops

Portable basketball hoops and similar items should NOT be in the Town right-of-way. The Town is not responsible for damage done by plows to such items left in the Town right-of-way.

Catch Basins & Storm Inlets

Help minimize street flooding by shoveling snow and ice from in front of the storm inlet nearest your house. This includes keeping catch basin grates free of leaves and other debris all year long!

Sand/Salt Mixture

Sand/salt mixture is available at the Transfer Station with a 10 gallon limit per week.

Transfer Station:

Recycling

Please recycle at the Transfer Station. By recycling, costs of operation are reduced.

Transfer Station Hours

The Transfer Station hours are **Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.**

Mattress Recycling

The Transfer Station now has a bin for clean mattresses and box springs. There is no cost to the resident if the mattress and/or box spring are clean. If the mattress and/or box spring is soiled, it then goes into the bulky waste and a charge of \$20.00 per mattress and/or box spring will be assessed.

Registrars



The Registrars of Voters will be conducting the state-required annual canvass of active voters during the months of February and March. If you receive this canvass letter, please follow the instructions printed at the top of the letter. Fill out the necessary information, sign, date and return the letter to our office in the stamped, self-addressed envelope. Failure to return the canvass letter may result in a change in voting status.

If you have questions, call and leave a message at 860 487.3120. Office hours are Tuesday 10 am to 12 pm.

Suzanne G. Chapman

Christine Psathas

Registrars of Voters/Election Department



Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSFDFS)

Would YOU like to be a Class of 2019 Recipient?

Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSFDFS)

- High School Seniors be on the lookout for letters mailed in January!
- Our website is open for scholarship applications Jan 15, 2019 – closes March 15, 2019
- High School Seniors are encouraged to attend our Application Help Day, at the Willington Public Library, on Saturday, February 16th, 2019 12-3 pm. if they need help filling out their application or need technical support.
- Any Willington resident who is a High School Senior and who intends to further their education or training should apply!

Calling all past recipients or their families- Please contact us at Willington@dollarsforscholars.org and let us know about how you are doing with school, job, and career.

Our Annual Appeal will be in mailboxes beginning of March/end of February.

Every dollar will help fund scholarships for our Willington students. To send a contribution, mail to:

The Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars; P.O. Box 194; Willington, CT, 06279.

Or you can donate online, using the "Donate Now" button on our site at www.willington.dollarsforscholars.org



2018 Recipients Olivia Stebbins, Carly Ouellet and Samantha Wojtyna

Want to learn more about WSFDFS? We meet every third Monday at 7:00 pm upstairs in the Town Office Building Community Room. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (@WSFDFS) and on our website www.willington.dollarsforscholars.org

Superintendent's Update

Willington Public Schools Welcomes New Administrators—By Phil Stevens and Ken Craig

The Willington Public Schools conducted two administrative searches this fall to identify a new Pupil Services Director and a Center School Principal. After an extensive process which included students, parents, teachers, administrators, Board of Education members and staff, the Board of Education appointed Marcia McGinley as Pupil Services Director and Richard Napoli as Center School Principal. Both candidates will start after the holiday break.

Marcia McGinley joins the Willington community after spending the last two years as the part-time Pupil Services Director in Regional School District 11 and Chaplin and Hampton School District for the last year. Prior to her leadership experience as a director, Marcia served as the school social worker for Regional School District 11 for sixteen years and is a member of the Eastern Connecticut State University Social Work Honor Society. References for Marcia raved about her ability to connect with families.

Richard Napoli has been identified as the next Principal of Center School. Mr. Napoli spent time as an Assistant Principal in Stratford and Wallingford, and then as the Principal of Parker Farms Elementary School in Wallingford where he served the district for four years. He completed his educational leadership program at Southern Connecticut State University, and most recently completed his Superintendent executive leadership program at UConn. References referred to Rich as having a heart of gold and a master at building relationships and school culture.

The Willington Public Schools Pupil Services Director, Holly DiBella-McCarthy, is retiring after dedicating the last 10 years of her career to the district. Holly's service to our Willington students and families has left a profound mark on the district that will extend for years to come. It goes without saying that Holly will be sorely missed, however, as is the mark of any great leader, she has set us up for success as we welcome Marcia McGinley as the new director.

Center School Interim Principal, Marybeth Moyer, will be heading back to retirement after the holiday break. Marybeth, a retired veteran administrator, joined the Center School community in August as Interim Principal and has completed a highly successful stretch in Willington. On behalf of the Center School community, we wholeheartedly thank Marybeth for her service to our community and wish her happiness in the next stage of her life.

Award Recipients:

Finally, we would like to highlight two of our students who were recently honored by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS). Alivia Tolley and Connor McCaughey were both recognized as recipients of the 2018-2019 CAPSS Award for Student Leadership. CAPSS celebrated Alivia, Connor and other recipients from all over eastern Connecticut by hosting an awards dinner with students, families and school administrators. Our entire community is so proud of Connor and Alivia who have both made a positive impact on Hall Memorial School by being positive student-leaders who lead by example.



Tax Collector



Property Tax Bill Reminders and Motor Vehicle Supplemental Bills have been mailed
2nd Installment & MVS Due by February 1, 2019

How can I pay My Bill?

The Revenue Office accepts cash, money orders or personal checks for payment at the office. If our office is closed, you can leave a check in our Drop Box outside the front door of the building. Our mailing address is 40 Old Farms Rd, Willington CT 06279 if you want to mail in a payment. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope, if you would like a receipt mailed back to you. You may also pay on line at www.willingtonct.org and click on "On-Line Payments" under the "Citizen Action Center". There is a convenience fee of 2.95% for credit cards and \$1.95 for EFT. We also have a public kiosk at Town Hall for on-line credit/debit card payments. The same fees apply.

Why did I get a motor vehicle tax bill in December?

This is your motor vehicle supplemental bill. This bill was generated because you were issued a new motor vehicle registration, or have transferred an existing registration, at some time after Oct. 1, 2017, but before Sept. 30, 2018. You are being billed only for the number of months from your registration date until the end of the assessment year.

When is my Payment Due? When is it considered Late?

Payments due January 1, 2019 must be received, or postmarked, no later than Friday, February 1, 2019.

Interest is charged at a rate of 1 ½% per month from the due date, with a minimum interest charge of \$2.00.

Per §12-146, Interest cannot be waived.

WISHING EVERYONE A HEALTHY, HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS BEGINNING OF 2019!

Lisa A. Madden
Revenue Collector
860-487-3111
lmadden@willingtonct.org

Willington Public Library

Be sure to check out all of the great programs that our library has to offer!!

**Click Here to
Visit our Website**

Town Clerk

Fishing & Hunting

The new 2019 hunting/fishing licenses are now available for purchase. We also have already received the 2019 hunting guides. Springtime is around the corner and that means fishing! The Trout and Salmon Stamp is now required for fishing in any waters where they stock trout and salmon. The cost is \$5.00. 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. We take only check or cash in the office.

Important Dates

The budget referendum will be coming up this May so keep a look out for the dates for the town meeting and for the referendum!

Dog Licenses

There is a fee of \$8.00 for a spayed/neutered dog and a \$19.00 fee for male/female dogs. You can license your dog in person or by mail. 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.

Passports

We no longer process Passports. Forms are available online at pptctsm@state.gov. The Storrs Post Office processes passports. The Storrs Post Office phone number is 860-429-9681.

Notary Services

There are a number of Notary Publics in the Town Office Building that 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.

Probate Court for Willington

Barbara Gardner Riordan, Probate Judge
21 Tolland Green- Tolland, Ct. 06084, 860-871-3640
Monday thru Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

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

Amy R. Lam, Town Clerk
Maureen A. Gantick , Assistant Town Clerk



Town Parks & 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

Wilmington's Public Works Department recently finished constructing a parking lot for hiking trail access on Mason Road. This lot will allow safe parking for access to the Talmadge Spur Trail and the Knowlton Spur Trail. Both trails connect to the Nipmuck Trail, part of the Connecticut Blue Trail System.

Talmadge Tract:

Mason Road – Hiking Trails (adjacent to the Knowlton Property)

Chenes Roches Preserve:

Chenes Roches (transl. oaks rocks) is a 56-acre wooded preserve in northeast Wilmington and owned by Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust. Trails wind through a varied terrain of hardwood forests, stands of pines and along a hemlock-shaded stream in a steep-sided valley. A round trip of 1.8 miles will take you across several small spring-fed streams and an altitude change of about 250 feet from the parking lot to the valley stream. A trail map and additional information about the preserve, including directions, can be found on the Joshua's Trust website, joshuastrust.org. There is a kiosk with trail maps at the small parking area 500 feet past the south end of Laurel Drive. ***Please stay on the trail and respect boundaries where the trail passes near private property.***

Note: The parking area is not plowed in the winter and parking on the road is not advisable.)

River Road Athletic Complex - 511 River Road:

Baseball field, basketball court, pavilion, playscape, swings, multi-sport field, volleyball sand court, walking path (one lap = .33 miles) and outdoor fitness equipment. No golfing allowed. Dogs are welcome but must be leashed and cleaned up after. Doggie poo bags are available. Complex is CARRY IN-CARRY OUT. Dogs are not allowed on the baseball field. **State Statute 22-364 states that dogs must be under the direct control of their owners at all times when using town parks. It is the dog owner's responsibility to clean up all dog waste.

Town Office Building Fields - 40 Old Farms Road:

Baseball and Softball fields

The Park on Village Hill Road:

Overlooking the Roaring Brook, a popular fishing spot during fishing season.

Facility Rentals:

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

Pavilion Rental:

Fee:

Residents:	\$75.00 for 5 hours or \$20/hour
Non-Residents:	\$100.00 for 5 hours or \$30/hour
Town Non-Profits:	\$55.00 for 5 hours

Fields/Courts Rental:

Fee: \$30.00/2 hours



Help Keep Our Parks Clean

At all of our parks, pets must be leashed at ALL times. For your convenience, WPRD has two dog poo stations with poo bags at River Road Athletic Complex.

Help keep our parks clean and PLEASE pick up after your pets.

WPLibrary Survey 2018



Take Our Library Survey

Let us know how we're doing!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3LB7XRW>



The Science Corner with Emily



Greetings everyone and welcome to the Science Corner! For those of you who have not yet met me, I am the Assistant Zoning and Wetlands Agent in town and a geoscience student at the University of Connecticut. I've decided to combine my passion for science and love for writing to create a science article that is enjoyable to read. I hope you enjoy reading this as much as I enjoy writing it; and stop by the office sometime to say hello, I always love connecting with the residents in town.

Winter is Coming!

As a lifelong Connecticut resident I've learned to embrace the seasons. I certainly have my favorites, and winter is NOT one of them. The short days and cold temperatures leave me longing for warmer weather. I find myself missing the sun hitting my skin and driving home from work without having to turn my headlights on. It wasn't until a couple of years ago I thought the distance from the sun is what caused the seasons to change. It makes sense that during the winter months the Earth is farthest from the sun right? Well I was sadly mistaken. In the Northern Hemisphere the Earth is actually closest to the sun in the winter. If you close your eyes and picture the Earth with an imaginary pole through the center from top to bottom. Earth spins around this pole once a day causing periods of light and dark or day and night. If Earth's orbit around the sun was a perfect circle we wouldn't have seasons, however, that imaginary pole is actually tilted causing a lopsided orbit. Although the Earth is closer to the sun in the winter the tilt causes the sun to start lower in the horizon compared to the summer months, giving us shorter days [\(1\)](#). A change in atmospheric circulation aids in the colder temperatures and Nor'easters we often have the pleasure of experiencing here in Connecticut.

The real question on everyone's mind is, what will this winter bring? This year I was hopeful for a mild winter, with talk of an El Nino year I grew even more excited. El Nino is an interaction between the oceanic and atmospheric climate, causing periodic warming of sea surface temperatures along the equator in the central and eastern Pacific. There is a 70 percent probability of El Nino developing, however let's not jump for joy just yet. If El Nino does develop, it will be a weak one and there are other drivers in the atmosphere. The dreaded Arctic Oscillation pushes Arctic air south and was the culprit of the polar vortex that seemed to never end last December. There is no doubt we will experience blasts of Arctic air and the overall temperature is expected to be appropriately cold, a typical New England winter. In terms of precipitation, El Nino winters are generally wetter than average in the southern United States but here in New England around 90 inches of snow is likely [\(2\)](#).

I hate being the bearer of bad news but it looks like we are in for another long, cold, and snowy winter. I hope you enjoyed this first science article, if there are any topics you would like to hear more about feel free to email me eperko@willingtonct.org. I look forward to offering another glimpse into the world of science in the future!

Nancy Vogel leaves us after 18 years of service!



Nancy was a Registrar of Voters before becoming the Assistant Revenue Collector in 2011. We wish her well in the next phase of her life and thank her for her years of service to our community!

Congratulations and Enjoy!!



Wishing you joy and peace in 2019!!



Happy New Year!!!

**Your Friends at the Willington Town
Office Building**