

# Willington Wire

## Community E-Newsletter

### Spring 2021

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**Thank you to all who submitted photos for our cover!**



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

**Good Friday  
Memorial Day**

**Friday, April 2nd  
Monday, May 31**



# Town of Willington Office Building Contacts

40 Old Farms Road, Willington, CT 06279—[www.willingtonct.org](http://www.willingtonct.org)

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

<b>First Selectwoman</b>	<b>Erika G. Wiecenski</b>	<b>860-487-3100</b>
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
Fire Marshal &	Dick Palmer	860-429-7757
Human Services	Jennie Arpin	860-487-3118
Land Use	Michael D'Amato	860-487-3123
Parks & Recreation	Bethany Cologna	860-487-3108
Public Works	Troy Sposato	860-684-9313
Senior Center	Jennie Arpin	860-429-8321
Tax Collector	Janice Clauson	860-487-3111
Town Clerk	Robin Campbell	860-487-3121
Treasurer	Laurie Semprebon	860-487-3136

## Willington's Vision Statement

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

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

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



## Boards & Commissions-Meeting Calendar-April, May, June

Board/Commission	Day	Date	Time
Board of Education	Tuesday	April 13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Board of Education	Tuesday	May 11 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Board of Education	Tuesday	June 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	April 15 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	May 20 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	June 17 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	April 5 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	April 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	May 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	June 7 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	April 21 <sup>st</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	May 19 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	June 16 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Economic Development Commission	Wednesday	April 14 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Economic Development Commission	Wednesday	May 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Economic Development Commission	Wednesday	June 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	April 19 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	May 17 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	4:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	April 20 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	May 18 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	June 15 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	Monday	April 26 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	Monday	May 24 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	Monday	June 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Monday	April 12 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Monday	May 10 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Monday	June 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	April 26 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	May 24 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	June 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.





## Boards & Commissions-Meeting Calendar- Continued...

Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	April 6 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	April 20 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	May 4 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	May 18 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	June 1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	June 15 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	April 7 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	April 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	May 5 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	May 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	June 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	April 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	May 13 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	June 10 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.



**April 6th**

**Board of Finance Budget Hearing**

**April 20th**

**Annual Town Budget Meeting**

**May 4th**

**Budget Referendum**



## First Selectwoman's Corner

Dear Willington Residents,

Spring is in the air! After a long winter we are all ready to get out and enjoy the longer days and warmer temperatures. Our road crew deserves a THANK YOU for all of their hard work keeping our roads clear and safe.

It has now been a year since we had to make difficult decisions to close down our Town Office Building, schools, businesses and restaurants, and distance ourselves from others. Over the past year our community persevered through an unprecedented lockdown, helped neighbors, and did their part to fight this pandemic. Each of you showed why we are Willington Strong, you haven't given up and continue to think beyond yourself as we move forward. We lost 3 of our beloved residents to COVID, along with many others to various causes. We weren't able to mourn them in a manner they deserved, but know our Willington family will miss each and every one of them and keep their families in our thoughts. COVID-19 is still active in our community, and across the state, but with the continued vaccination process we can begin to see a path to better days.

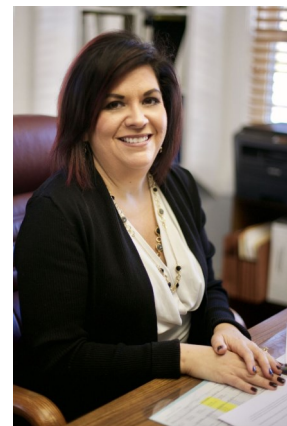
Spring in Willington is a time to get outdoors and connect with friends and neighbors and support local non-profit organizations. This year may not look like what we are used to but there are still many ways to be outside, active and social while being aware of COVID-19 safety protocols, check this brochure and the town website for upcoming events and activities.

2021 has been a productive year so far for many of our Town Boards, Commissions and departments. The budget process for the 2021-2022 fiscal year is in full swing and The Board of Finance, Capital Improvement Committee, Board of Education and many others have dedicated many long evening meetings to bring a sound budget to the voters of Willington. Thank you to all who have participated in the budget process from submitting requests to giving us your feedback to making the final decisions. Mark your calendar for these important dates in the budget process: Tuesday April 6<sup>th</sup> Budget Hearing, Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Meeting, and Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup> to vote in the budget referendum.

Please check the town website ([www.willingtonct.org](http://www.willingtonct.org)) to see a complete list of Meeting dates, agendas and minutes.

I hope to see many of you out and about in Willington soon, until then Stay Safe!

*Erika G. Wiecenski, First Selectwoman*



**The Town of Willington now has a YouTube Channel!  
Stay connected and join meetings right from your living room!**

**Click the link below to view all recent meetings.**

**[Town of Willington CT Official](#)**



# Assessor



The Assessor's Office administers exemption programs which benefit the elderly, disabled, blind, and veterans.

**Elderly/Totally Disabled Tax Relief Program:** Completed applications are due biannually by May 15. Anyone applying after April 15 must apply by appointment. We will be happy to assist you in filing your application. Please call in advance for an appointment so we may provide the time and attention necessary 860-487-3122.

To be eligible for such a tax credit:

- You or your spouse must be at least 65 years of age as of Dec 31, 2020 or over 18 and permanently and totally disabled per Social Security.
- You must be a permanent resident of the State of Connecticut. You must own the property or hold a tenancy for life or for a term of years, which makes the applicable liable for payment of taxes (CGS Sec. 12-48) as of October 1, 2020. The property must be the applicant's primary residence (domicile).
- Your 2020 income cannot exceed \$37,600(single) or \$45,800(married) Income definition: Qualifying income is defined as adjusted gross income for IRS purposes plus any other income not included in such adjusted gross income.

You must provide the Assessor with a copy of your SSA 1099 for 2020, or its equivalent, from Social Security and your 2020 federal income tax return if you file one. The Assessor may require any other proof of income that may be necessary for the certification of the claim, such as interest/dividend statements and pension statements.

**Disabled:** Any individual who receives a disability pension from the Social Security Administration and has been designated by the SSA is eligible for a \$1000 exemption off your assessment. To qualify you must file proof of 100% disability from Social Security (form TPQY) or a copy of your "Award Letter" that states disability. This application only needs to be filed once. Filing Deadline: October 1

**Blind:** Any individual that presents a Certification of Legal Blindness from the Board of Education and Services for the Blind, BESB that states he/she is considered to be legally blind may be eligible for a \$3,000 exemption off your assessment. Filing Deadline: October 1

**Veterans:** If you are a veteran of any war period so declared in the Connecticut General Statutes, you may be entitled to an exemption. An original or certified copy of his/her honorable discharge (DD-214) must be filed in the Willington Land Records prior to October 1. Filing Deadline: September 30

**Additional Veteran's Exemption:** Veterans who maintain a disability rating from the VA of at least 10% are entitled to an increased exemption. Depending on the disability rating and income level. Filing deadline: October 1

Applications can be obtained at the Assessor's Office and can be sent to you by mail or e-mail if you call 860487-6122 during office hours, Monday 12:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Due to the current Health Restrictions: Please call for an appointment before coming to the Assessor's Office.**

Walter E. Topliff Jr.  
Assessor  
[wtopliff@willingtonct.org](mailto:wtopliff@willingtonct.org) or 860-487-3122

Joan M. Oros  
Assistant Assessor  
[joros@willingtonct.org](mailto:joros@willingtonct.org) or 860-487-3122

WELCOME!

Please Welcome the Town of Willington's Newest Employee!

Bethany Cologna, Director of Parks and Recreation

Welcome Bethany!

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



# **Button Hill Senior Apartments**

***Affordable, One-Level Living***



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

**10-16 Senior Way, Willington, CT**

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

For more information call our leasing office at:

**860-498-0268**



Visit us at **[www.buttonhill.com](http://www.buttonhill.com)**



***Call Us Now to Schedule Your Tour***





# Center Elementary School

## Kindergarten Registration



Center Elementary School, Willington, asks parents and guardians to begin the Kindergarten registration process for children who will be 5 years old on or before Jan 1, 2022.

Please call the school at 860.429.9367 for more information.

Orientation will be scheduled in the spring of 2021. More details will follow.

## Conservation Commission

### REQUEST FOR HELP!

**To all who use, enjoy, and appreciate the trails and woodlands in the Fenton/Ruby/Drobney and Talmadge/Knowlton preserves:**



***The Willington Conservation Commission needs your help! If you would be willing to give us a hand in whatever capacity, small or large, to help keep these assets safe and user-friendly, it would be greatly appreciated.***

***Volunteer commission members maintain these resources by building and repairing bridges and boardwalks, paint-blazing the trails, clearing fallen trees from the trails, maintaining trail signs, pruning back brush from the trails, and picking up litter. If you would like to help us continue to provide citizens with the opportunity to enjoy and appreciate our natural environment, please see the contact information under "Opportunity" at the end of this article. Thank you!***

***Trail etiquette for the COVID 19 Pandemic: Please maintain appropriate social distancing at all times and in all areas of our parks and preserves. When on the trail, be prepared to step a safe distance off the trail to let other hikers pass. Have a mask available if you cannot maintain adequate distances. Thank you!***

**Spring!** is here and with it comes the opportunity to watch nature unfold from its winter hibernation. Put your walking shoes on, grab your binoculars and camera (and take the usual tick-deterrent precautions!) and go out and observe the wide variety of wildlife and plants as they bring new life to the forests, wetlands, fields, ponds and waterways in Willington's extensive nature preserves.



The 300-acre Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve and Drobney Sanctuary on Moose Meadow Road has 4-plus miles of trails through woods, over ridges, and along ponds and streams. A kiosk with maps is located at the parking area, and a box with nature trail guides is located a short distance down the Taylor Trail. Several picnic tables and benches are available in the picnic area adjacent to the parking lot and overlooking the beaver pond.

**Suggestions:** (1) Take the Ruby Trail and the Ashford Link Trail over to Ashford's Langhammer Preserve; (2) Observe wildlife from the viewing/fishing deck at the beaver pond; (3) Walk leisurely and partake of the benefits of shinrin-yoku and forest bathing; (4) Walk up Burma Road past the boulders near the Ruby Trail junction (Note: This is not a maintained trail, there may be some rough sections.) and take a right onto Amidon Road (a dirt, woods road) and look for the fairy houses at the base of trees.

**Please abide by Park regulations to help make visiting an enjoyable experience for everyone. The opportunity to observe wildlife in this sanctuary will be greatly increased for all if pets are kept on leashes. Wildlife will adapt to the presence of people, not so much to pets.**

The 28-acre Talmadge Tract, containing the Talmadge Spur Trail will take you through scenic woodlands and along gravel Mason Road. 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 3/4-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).



## Conservation Commission Continued...

**Other hikes:** (1) An interesting and scenic place for a short hike is along Roaring Brook. A trail and fishing area along this rock-strewn river bed with its rapids and pools bordered by large oaks and pines can be accessed from a parking area on the right a quarter-mile up Village Hill Road from Rte 32. NB: There is no maintained trail here and there is one steep climb. Stairs lead down from the lot to a path under the bridge. Care is needed on wet rocks and especially in high water. Although this is private property and should be respected as such, access is allowed by conservation easement. The easement property connects to a CT DEEP trout management area along the brook to Rte 32. (2) See also the information about Joshua's Trust's **Chenes Roches Preserve** under Parks and Recreation.

**Wanted:** We are looking for old aluminum extension ladder sections to which decking can be attached for use as trail bridges. Contact info below.

**Opportunity:** If you are interested in taking an active part in helping the Town manage its environmental resources, the Commission has openings for alternate members. Alternate members can actively 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. (Under COVID protocols, meetings are held by Zoom. See the Town website for the link in the agenda.) Contact Peter Andersen, Commission Chair, at 860-933-6380 or [andersen108@sbcglobal.net](mailto:andersen108@sbcglobal.net), or Kathy Demers, Commission Vice-Chair, at 860-377-6416 or [kdemers48@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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!** the spring and summer! We hope to see you on the trail.



## EC-CHAP



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

### Performance Update

**Title: "The Light at the End of the Tunnel is NOT a train!"**

By EC-CHAP

By the time this issue of the *Willington Wire* is published, we will officially be into the Spring Season with temps rising and daylight extending into the early evening! Things are improving and we would like to take this opportunity to share the status of EC-CHAP offerings through this period of COVID-19.

### THE PACKING HOUSE

As mentioned in the last issue of *Willington Wire*, our last live performance at The Packing House was on March 7, 2020. It has been a challenging time for many... We are pleased to announce that unless there is a change in the pandemic status, we plan to reopen The Packing House for **LIVE PERFORMANCES** and **FILM SCREENINGS** at 50% capacity in September 2021!

We have included a partial list of scheduled performances and events, and plan to continue to offer a series of virtual performances as well. If you have not subscribed to our newsletter please do so at: [www.thepackinghouse.us](http://www.thepackinghouse.us) and visit our [website](#) for upcoming programming. EC-CHAP will require strict compliance of COVID-19 Guidelines (masks, social distancing, and mandatory sign-in).



### SAVE THE DATES:

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2021: EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist**

**Series: "Twice Around", 7:30pm**

We eagerly welcome *Twice Around* back to reopen The Packing House! *Twice Around* (Frank Veres and Luisa Tanno) is an acoustic duo from Milford, CT. Their sound can be classified as singer/songwriter with an essence of Pop and Melancholy. The foundation of their music is acoustic guitar and vocals, often with harmonies and guitar interplay.



**SEPTEMBER 25, 2021: EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist**

**Series: "Ramblin' Dan Stevens", 7:30pm**

Blues Artist **Ramblin' Dan Stevens** is back on stage at The Packing House Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. Dan will share both original work and classic blues with us, while spicing them up with hand-made cigar box guitars and diddley bows.



**OCTOBER 8, 2021: "An Evening with Spiritual Medium Maura Geist", 7:30pm**

Maura is a well known Spiritual Advisor, Angel Communicator, Author and Energy Healer. She has dedicated the last 12 years to helping those who have lost loved ones receive healing and closure through the heavenly messages of those that have crossed over.



## EC-CHAP Continued...

### OCTOBER 9, 2021: EC-CHAP Jazz Series: The "Greg Abate Quartet", 7:30pm

International Jazz Artist, Greg Abate is back with his Quartet! This past March, EC-CHAP presented a *virtual* Concert with the Quartet recorded live at The Packing House on February 27, 2021. Greg's performance featured original compositions and works by Kenny Barron to be included on his new album, *Magic Dance* scheduled for release in April 2021 by Whaling City Sound. **Greg Abate** (sax, flute) will be joined by **Matt deChamplain** (piano), **Lou Bocciarelli** (bass), and **Ben Bilello** (drums).



### OCTOBER 13, 2021: EC-CHAP Monthly Talent Showcase (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday), 7:00pm

Calling all acoustic musicians, film makers, poets, comedians, jugglers, puppeteers, and creative artists of all ages. Here is an opportunity to showcase your work together with other creatives before a live audience. Test ideas and concepts; receive comments. 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Call to be placed on the schedule (518-791-9474).



### OCTOBER 21, 2021: EC-CHAP Film Series: "Begin Again". 2013. (R), 7:00pm

(An appropriate title as we engage in live collaboration!) *Begin Again* stars Keira Knightly, Mark Ruffalo, James Corden, and Adam Levine. "A chance encounter between a down-and-out music-business executive and a young singer-songwriter, new to Manhattan, turns into a promising collaboration between the two talents". (IMDb)



### EC-CHAP Virtual Talent Showcase

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

Since we haven't been able to be together, beginning in July 2020 EC-CHAP has been offering our monthly **Virtual Talent Showcase** by live streaming pre-recorded video segments submitted each month by local and regional artists. We plan to continue this online offering until we can meet again. **The Virtual Talent Showcase will STREAM LIVE at 7:00pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month.** For information about how you can participate in the Talent Showcase, please visit our [website](https://www.ec-chap.org/vts), or call 518-791-9474 for instructions to submit your video (we must receive your video submissions a week before the live stream).

### DYE & BLEACH HOUSE COMMUNITY GALLERY

The Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery reopened in August! Our Community Gallery continues to provide a platform for local and regional visual artists to display their work and collaborate with other artists. New exhibits are installed every 4 to 8 weeks, and available for public viewing Saturdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm.



Upcoming Shows include:

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> – April 24<sup>th</sup>: "E.O. Smith's AP Drawing students"**. This Show will feature digital media, mixed media, printmaking, charcoal, manga inspired work from that of six E.O. Smith's AP Drawing students. Subject matter contains portraits, whimsical fish, ghosts, and surrealism. Work varies in scale from 5x7" to 18x24". The student work is inspired by a Sustained Investigation in which the students create a body of work that portrays a visual underlying theme.

**May 1<sup>st</sup> – June 19<sup>th</sup>: Group Show.**

**July 3<sup>rd</sup> – August 28<sup>th</sup>: Solo Show – Tyana Lopez**

The Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery is located at The Mill Works facility, 156 River Road, Willington, CT. Please visit our website at: <https://www.ec-chap.org/dye-and-bleach-house-community-gallery> for details regarding current shows and exhibits. EC-CHAP requires strict compliance of COVID-19 Guidelines (masks, social distancing, and mandatory sign-in).

### GARDINER HALL JR HISTORY MUSEUM

2014 was a very good year...

The Gardiner Hall Jr History Museum was established in 2014 by a passionate group of dedicated individuals and Board members of the "Friends of The Mill Works". As the original home of the Gardiner Hall Jr Company, The Mill Works facility was listed on the CT State Register of Historic places this same year.



In 2014, the Friends of The Mill Works also wrote a grant application on behalf of the Town of Willington that considered the historic significance and revitalization of the "Village" of South Willington. The grant, entitled "Vibrant Communities Initiative" (VCI), represented a \$50,000 consultancy grant administered by the CT Trust for Historic Preservation (now Preservation CT). We were one of five (5) towns in the state to be awarded the grant. The final report generated from this grant can be viewed at [www.ec-chap.org/vci](https://www.ec-chap.org/vci). Though to date the implementation of recommendations from the report are limited, an outcome from this process was the identification of the *South Willington National Historic District* in 2017.





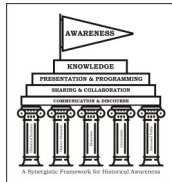
## EC-CHAP Continued...

In 2016, the transition from the Friends of The Mill Works to the Eastern Connecticut Center for History, Art, and Performance (EC-CHAP) brought about a new vision for the museum. The GHJ History Museum was expanded and relocated to its current location at The Mill Works.

The Gardiner Hall Jr History Museum reopened to the public in September 2020, with new artifacts on display. The museum continues its mission to raise awareness of local and regional history and preservation of assets. Our focus is the period from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century to present. The Gardiner Hall Jr History Museum is also open Saturdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm. COVID-19 Guidelines apply.

### IN CLOSING...

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

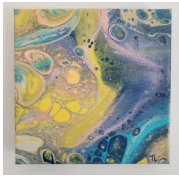


### Art Article

#### TITLE: "Acrylic Pour Art is for Everyone"

By: Tyana Lopez

Acrylic Pouring is a fantastic art form that involves mixing and pouring acrylic paints strategically in order to make organic looking paintings. This process, while appearing relatively simple, is deceptively complex. Taking a look at Acrylics origins, we can see how it may have evolved into what we know today as pour art.



With the discovery of Acrylic Resins as a binding agent in 1915, Acrylic paint became a popular art form around the 1950s, with 1955 producing the first widely and commercially available acrylics. With this, new movements such as Pop Art and Abstract Expressionism began to take hold. Acrylics proved to be a fun new medium to work with as opposed to oil paints, as they dry quickly and allow for bold layering and lines. They were a popular choice with artists such as Andy Warhol, Robert Motherwell, Larry Poons, and Helen Frankenthaler just to name a few.

The flexibility of this new medium has since evolved into many forms since its introduction, and subsequent popularity in the 20th Century and onward. Today, acrylics are used in a variety of different art styles, including Modernism, Abstract Art, and Photo Realism.

Since its inception, Acrylic Pour art has taken off with artists and non artists alike. The process is simple enough: put paint in a cup, pour the cup over a canvas or panel and boom! Art!

This however can be made more complex with the inclusion of stabilizers and silicones. In order to have the correct consistency for pouring your acrylics, often stabilizers are used to thin out the paint in a way that won't weaken its integrity.

They can be anything from commercial paint flow additives, to a mixture of Elmer's glue and water! Silicone can be added in small amounts to increase the chances of "Cells" being created.



Cells are often sought after in acrylic pour art. They are pockets of layered paint that split apart on the canvas, leaving an organic cell like shape behind. Silicones act as a barrier between the layers of paint, and will help encourage the layering and splitting effect.

These processes can get additionally more complex with new techniques being created. Some people work with a spinning canvas, others with a strainer to pour their paint through, others prefer the simple "Dirty Pour" with paint in a cup. Each technique produces fantastic organic looking paintings that are colorful and eye catching.

The best part of this art form is that anyone can do it! If you would like to create something both fun and beautiful, I highly recommend this technique. While messy, it is incredibly satisfying and can make some truly unforgettable art.

The Dye and Bleach House Community Gallery welcomes all to visit our facility, which is open under CDC and CT state guidelines on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm or by appointment. We request that all visitors wear a mask and stay 6ft distant while they visit and enjoy a variety of art, including sculpture, painting, and crafts. We are located at 156 River Road in Willington, CT. Check out our website or social media for announcements and information regarding opening hours or closures: [WWW.EC-CHAP.ORG](http://WWW.EC-CHAP.ORG).



The Dye and Bleach House Community Gallery encourages all local and regional artists alike to participate in our gallery shows! Whether you are a beginner, or an experienced professional, we would love to show your work. Consider adding a gallery show to your resume! We love finding new and exciting art to fill our space, and our next feature could be yours. If you are interested in joining us in showing art, please contact us at [CommunityGallery@ecchap.org](mailto:CommunityGallery@ecchap.org).

*Tyana Lopez is the EC-CHAP Artist-In-Residence, and Director, Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery. You may contact Tyana at: [communitygallery@ec-chap.org](mailto:communitygallery@ec-chap.org)*





# Economic Development Commission



Did you know that Willington has a Commission to further its economic development? The Willington Economic Development Commission (EDC) is a member-appointed group that promotes economic welfare, employment opportunities, and greater quality of life for the residents of the Town of Willington. The EDC supports businesses as they approach compliance with local, state and federal rules. EDC creates a community for business owners to bolster growth, and provides opportunities for collaboration. The EDC meets monthly and welcomes business owners to attend and participate.

Over the next few months, Willington residents will see some exciting changes coming to the 32,754 square feet Willington Crossing, formerly known as Phelps Plaza. Longtime residents of the town might remember the excitement of the new plaza when it was built in 1989. Current investment from developers in 2020 is anticipated to bring a resurgence of interest in the area for business traffic. The Planning and Zoning Commission approved new signage to define the area as open to development and to draw attention to the vacant units, which are available for mixed use. The new signage has 'Willington Crossing' in bold letters that stand out on the ribbon banner and an attractive train illustration, highlighting the historical significance of the area as a commerce hub. The top billed spot is Lots & More, who will be moving into the largest unit in early summer 2021. The signage has markers for the individual businesses which are intended to increase awareness and drive traffic to the plaza, as well as pique interest in the plaza, which is rated in the top 50% of Moody's Analytics Commercial Location Score.

If you would like to have your business listed on the Willington Economic Development Commission website, please contact the commission at [willingtonct.edc@gmail.com](mailto:willingtonct.edc@gmail.com). When we are once again able, we intend to gather in person to explore ways for local businesses to support one another through events and increased networking and communication. In the meantime, forward any requests for business assistance to the above email. Please like us on Facebook, visit our webpage at [willingtonbusiness.com](http://willingtonbusiness.com), and as always, support our local economy!

Richard Maloney  
Chair,  
Willington Economic  
Development Commission



## Elections Department

The next voting event:

Tuesday, May 4--annual Town and Regional School District 19 budget referendum to be held from 6 am to 8 pm at the Town Office Building, Common Room, 40 Old Farms Road.

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



If you are interested in getting information about absentee ballots, contact the Town Clerk's office at 860.487.3121.

June 14 is the deadline to transfer from one party to another and be eligible to vote in the September 14 Municipal Primary of new party. There is a 3-month waiting period to attain voting privileges in the new party.

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

If you have questions, call our office at 860.487.3120 and leave a message.

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



# Fire Marshal & Open Burning Official



## TOWN OF WILLINGTON OFFICE OF FIRE MARSHAL



### Open Burning

Now that the winter is almost passed, our attention will go toward picking up fallen branches, and trees in our yards. What to do with these unwanted trees/branches. Well, first you can load them onto your trailer or truck and bring them to the Land Fill. There is a place beyond the shipping containers that the workers can direct you to unload those items. Another action would be, piling the brush in an area not located near out buildings or in the woods, and calling for an Open Burning permit. This permit is free, and is requirement to burn. Normally the permits are good for about four(4) weeks, this will allow you to schedule your time to complete your clean up. On the Town's web site under Open Burning Official is the guide lines on what to burn and the time your allotted each day.

Please follow those guide lines. If you fail to receive a permit and the Fire Department is called to an unauthorized burning, you may receive a citation.

Takes only a few minutes to obtain a permit, it's completed over the phone, and it's free.

Any further questions, please contact Dick Palmer Fire Marshal, & Open Burning Official, at 860-429-7757.

## Historical Society



With Spring on the way, the Society has a few projects in the works.

We're hoping to start fund raising to help implement the necessary code compliance changes at the Glazier Tavern. The estimate of these change-of-use code compliance items is approximately \$15,000. At present, the Society has not been able to identify any matching grant opportunities to help offset the cost of this necessary project, although we continue to look for those opportunities. Any donations to assist with this project are welcomed and are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law, as the Willington Historical Society is a designated IRS 501(c)3 non-profit organization. The identified compliance changes will allow for greater use of the building by the Society and would allow us to offer the space for use by both public and private groups.

Planning has begun for an exhibit, highlighting the life of Willington native Jared Sparks (1789-1866). Anyone interested in some researching?

Moving forward with some tap room renovations, if anyone has a knowledge of painting faux wood grain, we could use your help bringing several period doors back to life.

Our 1850's three hole privy is still in need of a caring carpenter(s) to extend its well-being. If you would like a small historical project, this could be the one! This

is a Willington original from Polster Road. We would like to restore it to near working condition.

The Society is looking to add older US flags to our archive.

### **Sure, your looking forward to Spring, and 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](mailto:willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)
- website at: [www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org](http://www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org)
- like us on Facebook



## Historical Society Continued...

Please consider renewing your membership or sending a donation today! You may accomplish this through the PayPal link on our website at: [www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org](http://www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org), or by mailing a check made out to Willington Historical Society, P.O. Box 214, Willington, CT 06279. The Society is a designated 501(c)3 non-profit organization and donations are deductible as provided by law.

### Final thought:

As we start getting back to 'normal' consider becoming an active member or a volunteer.

We need your help with a number of projects.

- Tavern preservation
- Archive maintenance
- Yard and Grounds
- Programing and Publicity



## Willington Day

Willington Day is like an old fashioned fair where local businesses, vendors and organizations set up booths to sell or promote themselves.

The main goal of Willington Day is to bring the community together and have fun/get to know your neighbors.

\*\*\*We ask that all those in attendance to continue to be diligent by wearing face masks and practice social distancing. Please be considerate of our fellow neighbors health and safety while enjoying this event.\*\*\*

For more information or to register an ad and/or booth, please go to [willingtonct.org](http://willingtonct.org) and click [Willington Day 2021](#) under News. All ads/booth requests must be submitted by July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Rain Date- August 29th, 11:00am to 3:00pm

Please direct any questions directly to us at [Willingtonday@willingtonct.org](mailto:Willingtonday@willingtonct.org).

Hope to see you all there!

-Willington Day Committee



# Human Services

## Department of Human Services

40 Old Farms Road, Willington, CT 06279

Tel. (860)487-3118 Email: [humanservices@willingtonct.org](mailto:humanservices@willingtonct.org)



**FOOD PANTRY**- The Willington Food Pantry offers canned and dry goods, seasonal vegetables, and eggs to Willington residents in need. Located at the Town Office Building, our pantry is currently operating by appointment only.



**MOBILE FOODSHARE**- Please note NEW LOCATION!~ Bringing produce, breads, and on occasion, meats and more to Willington residents. The Foodshare truck comes every other Wednesday from 11-11:30 at the Town Office building, 40 Old Farms Road.



**UTILITY ASSISTANCE** – Energy Assistance Appointments are available until May! We can also help with your other utilities in certain circumstances year round. If you are having a hard time making ends meet, please contact our office for more information.



**DRIVE THROUGH FOOD DISTRIBUTION** – Offering food, household items, and masks for adults and children, FREE for all residents! Swing by the Town Offices the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every month between 10am and noon- please bring your ID.



**DONATIONS MADE EASY**- We now have a big blue Donation box out back of the Town Offices! Drop your canned and dry goods in the box for the Willington Food Pantry.

Food Only, please!



**COVID VACCINE ASSISTANCE**- If you need assistance with scheduling your COVID-19 vaccines, please reach out to our office! We would be happy to help you find an appointment.



**APRIL CRAFT WEEK** –Due to COVID 19, we will not be hosting April Camp again this year, but we will be offering April Craft week- FIVE DAYS of awesome activities, crafts, and games, along with optional Zoom time! Join us for our Detective Themed week during spring recess.



**RENTERS REBATE TIME** –Elderly or disabled people who rented in 2020 are invited to contact our office to apply for Renters Rebate, a state tax abatement program which can provide a payment of up to \$700 for those who qualify. Contact our office for more information.



**NEW SERIES “CLEVER WHATEVER”** –Join us each month for our newest series, “Clever Whatever”, covering tips, tricks and crafts to make your life easier, more organized, and more decorative! From meal planning to cross stitch, visible mending to bullet journaling, we will show you new ways to improve your life and make it more efficient, decorative, and fun!



**PUBLIC WORKS FILL A TRUCK!** –Join us for our FOURTH Public Works Fill-a-Truck celebration in May! During National Public Works Week, May 16-22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be accepting donations of canned and dry goods for our food pantry. Dates and times of the truck will be forthcoming. Help us help our neighbors in need and let's fill our truck!





## Human Services Continued...



**ZENTANGLE FOR STRESS RELIEF** – Art therapy comes in many forms and we especially love Zentangle! Few supplies are needed to make these lovely patterns and enjoy the peace of mind that comes with the relaxing flow of creating them! In June, we will be hosting classes to help you learn how to Zentangle. Stay tuned to our website or social media to learn more!



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

## Local Swap Shed Alternatives

1) WAIM (Windham Area Interfaith Ministry), 860-456-7270

This is a Willimantic nonprofit that accepts clothing, household goods, furniture, appliances and more.  
<https://waimct.org/>

2) Stafford Thrift Shop, 860-684-6121

The thrift shop takes clean, gently used clothing, small furniture, and household items.  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Stafford%20Thrift%20Shop/103948173006391/>

3) Storrs Freecycle

Freecycle is an online place for people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns and neighborhoods.

<https://groups.freecycle.org/group/StorrsCT/posts/all>

4) Buy Nothing group Ashford/Willington

This is a Facebook group for residents of Ashford/Willington looking to give away items to locals who need or want them. It's easy to join- just request membership on the page!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/223273631350105>

5) Willington, CT Tag Sale

This is another Facebook group for Willington residents to list and find items locally. It is a private group, and membership needs to be requested and approved before listing or looking!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/304184177572107>



# Parks & Recreation

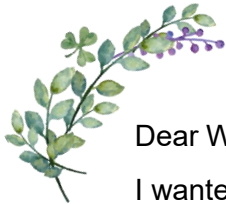


River Road Athletic Complex Playground, Swings and Outdoor Fitness Equipment are open for your use. *When in public and a six-foot distance is unavoidable, face coverings are required to be worn. This does not apply to anyone for whom doing so would be contrary to their health because of a medical condition.*

Our local parks, trails and open spaces have always served as places where people can find respite and seek peace and restoration. During this time of uncertainty, these places are needed now more than ever. PLEASE...

- Refrain from using parks and trails if you are exhibiting any flu like symptoms.
- Follow the CDC's guidance on personal hygiene prior to and during use of parks or trails.
- While on trails, warn other users of your presence and step aside to let others pass.
- Follow CDC guidance on the recommended size of social gatherings including outdoor picnicking, pick-up sports and other group hangouts, and maintain proper physical distance at all times.
- Observe CDC's minimum recommended social distancing of 6-feet from other individuals at all times. If this is not possible, users should find an alternate location or depart that space.

## PLEASE USE OUR PARKS AND TRAILS RESPONSIBLY



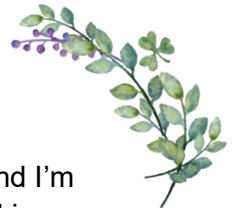
Dear Willington Residents,

I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself, my name is Bethany Cologna and I'm the new Director of Parks and Recreation. I have always had a passion for working with the public, specifically in the recreation field. I'm eager and excited for the opportunity to safely bring recreation programs, events, and activities to the town of Willington. If you have a special talent, hobby, or program idea that you feel would benefit the community, please share them with me. I would love to hear from you!

Be sure to like [Willington Parks & Recreation](#) on Facebook for updates. You can also check out the [Willington Parks & Recreation](#) website at <https://www.willingtonct.org/> for our latest events and programs. Please [Subscribe to E-Alerts](#) on our town website to stay informed on all we have to offer.

I look forward to seeing you all out in the community and at our parks! Be well!

Bethany Cologna  
Director of Parks and Recreation  
[bcologna@willingtonct.org](mailto:bcologna@willingtonct.org)  
860-487-3108



# Parks & Recreation

## Free Kayak Loaner Program



All loans include one life jacket and one paddle per kayak. Loaner equipment is available Monday-Friday by appointment.

May - October (Weather dependent)

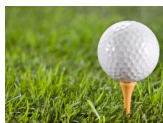
**Pickup: Fridays, by appointment only**

**Drop off: Mondays, by appointment only**

**EQUIPMENT MUST COME BACK CLEAN**

**WPRD will clean and sanitize each kayak when it is returned. Kayaks will then sit for 72 hours before they are sent out on loan again. Please click [HERE](#) for more information.**

## Golf Clinics



Do yourself a favor and make an important step to improving your golf game with instruction from PGA Professional Instructor Rick Nelson. Your game will improve as well as your enjoyment of this great game!

Co-Ed Clinic—Tue. May 4, 11, 18, 25 5-6:00 p.m.

Ladies Clinic—Thurs. June 3, 10, 17, 24 6-7:00 p.m.

**\*\*Register 2 weeks prior to the start of class\*\***

**Location:** Skungamaug River Golf Course  
104 Folly Lane, Coventry

**Fee:** \$80.00/student

**To Register:** complete a [program registration form](#) and mail form with payment to:

Willington Parks & Recreation 40 Old Farms Road,  
Willington, CT 06279

**Please stay tuned, Summer Camp information is coming soon...**



## Projects-in-the-Park

**Save the date for our next Projects-in-the-Park with Mica & ANGEL POND Creations!**

Let's make your creativity come to life with these fun filled paint nights! All materials will be provided. Mica will guide you through the project with step-by-step instruction.

For more information click [HERE](#) or click on the dates below to register for each class.

Thursdays 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.,

[April 29th](#) – 18 inch. Round Tray - \$50

[May 27th](#) – Porch Planter (4 ft. tall) - \$65

[June 24th](#) - Home Sign - \$35



**Location:** River Road Athletic Complex Pavilion

**Fee:** varies for each project

**Note: COVID-19 Guidelines will be followed. Limited seating, one person to a table.**

Be sure to like & follow [Angel Pond Creations](#) Facebook page.

## Virtual Cooking Class for Kids

**Join the Registered Dietitians from Food Explorers for a Virtual Cooking Class for Kids!**



Exploring food encourages children to learn through sensory experiences, hands-on activities and working together to create delicious results.

Learn to make homemade pizza for your family and play a kitchen scavenger hunt! Prepare your meal, then sit down with your family and enjoy!

Session: Food Explorers: Family Lunch Homemade Pizza

**Location:** Zoom

**Date:** April 19<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Age:** Grades 2-7

(parent supervision is needed for younger children)

**Fee:** \$15

**Click here to register:** <https://homemadepizza.eventbrite.com>



Upon registration, you will be given access to the ZOOM link used for the one-time class.

You'll need the following ingredients: Flour, Yeast, Olive Oil, Salt, Sugar, Sauce, Cheese, & Toppings.



## Parks & Recreation Continued...

### Hall's Pond



The opening of Hall's Pond is **tentatively** scheduled for Saturday June 19th. **We are currently seeking Swim Instructors and Lifeguards.** All applicants must be able to work a flexible schedule including weekdays and weekends. Applications can be found on our website. Please submit copies of certifications with your application.

Swim instructors must be at least 18 years or older and required to be WSI (Water Safety Instructor) certified, Lifeguard Certified, CPR and First Aid Certified. All applicants are also required to teach multiple level classes with a minimum of eight children per class. The swim instructor must be willing to communicate with parents as well as the participants and be able to accommodate all aspects and levels of the program.

Seasonal Lifeguards must be at least 16 years or older and must be Lifeguard Certified, CPR and First Aid Certified. Lifeguards will monitor activities in swimming areas to prevent accidents, provide assistance to swimmers, caution swimmers of usage areas, rescues swimmers in danger of drowning and administer First Aid/CPR when needed, maintain order in swimming areas at all times, inspect facilities for any dangers and reports them to the appropriate personnel. Lifeguards principle duties are to ensure the safety and well-being of the patrons and to observe and enforce all rules and regulations of the pond. Dates of employment are June 19 - August 22, 2021.

Interested individuals should contact the Willington Parks and Recreation Department. Open until positions are filled. Preferred candidates will be subject to a background check. More information including pond hours, pond rules and regulations and 2021 pond pass prices can be found on the Parks and Recreation website at [www.willingtonct.org](http://www.willingtonct.org).

### Willington Parks & Recreation Department is

**HIRING!!**



Applications for the following seasonal positions will be accepted.

Job Descriptions & Application can be found [HERE](#).

[Summer Camp Director](#)

[Summer Camp Counselor](#)

[WSI Certified Swim Instructors](#)

[Certified Lifeguards with Waterfront Skills](#)

**EOE/AA**

Mail completed applications and certifications to:

**Willington Parks & Recreation Department**

**40 Old Farms Road Willington, CT 06279**

Or email completed applications to: [bcologna@willingtonct.org](mailto:bcologna@willingtonct.org)





## Parks & Recreation Continued...

### 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!!**

Signs must be picked up at the  
Parks & Recreation Department.



## WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

### Willington's Summer Concert Series

Summer is almost here and the Willington Parks & Recreation Department is excited for our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Wednesdays-in-the-Park Summer Concert Series at River Road Athletic Complex!

We are planning seven concerts this year on Wednesday evenings in July and August from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Every concert is **FREE** to the public, accessible to all and serves the entire community; families, seniors and anyone wishing to attend. Recreation is an important part of a healthy and positive lifestyle and our goal is to provide safe places to play, increase family and community relationships and offer outlets for personal growth. As a resource to the community, our department is honored to coordinate special events like this with the support of local businesses, residents and volunteers.

Don't miss this opportunity to become a valuable sponsor and supporter of this popular community event.



**Reserve your sponsorship package today!**

Click [HERE](#).

It is our hope that we will continue to bring our community together with these family friendly "Wednesdays in the Park".

**Please Note: WPRD will be following all COVID-19 related guidelines for outdoor events and concerts.**





# WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

## Willington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 P.M.

**RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX**  
**RAIN OR SHINE (SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS)**

**JULY 7<sup>TH</sup>**

### BRUCE JOHN

Bruce John has entertained professionally in the area for 59 years! An eclectic mix of Hit Songs, mostly from the 50's, 60's and 70's. Classics like; King of the Road, Mr. Bojangles, Country Roads, Ring of Fire, Dock of the Bay and Hallelujah to name just a few.

[www.brucejohnmusic.com](http://www.brucejohnmusic.com)

**JULY 14<sup>TH</sup>**

### JLamm & Finn

JLamm & Finn is an acoustic duo playing a wide variety of music, mostly covers from the 60's to present day. Genre can be best described as laid back country rock jam Americana. Influenced by Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan, Neil Young, The Band, & Johnny Cash. [www.facebook.com/jlammfinn](https://www.facebook.com/jlammfinn)

**JULY 21<sup>ST</sup>**

### MASS-CONN-FUSION

This seven-piece Show Band features exciting vocalists, polished horn section and tight rhythm section. The extensive repertoire includes Motown, R&B, Funk and hits of the 60's right up to today. [www.massconnfusion.com](http://www.massconnfusion.com)

**JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

### VAL ROGERS & HER JAZZ GROUP

Known throughout the region as one of New England's top Big Band entertainers, Val is joined in an intimate setting in her hometown to play with Friends. Don't miss this unique opportunity of a "one-of-a-kind" show! [www.valrogers.net](http://www.valrogers.net)

**AUGUST 4<sup>TH</sup>**

### FLAMINGO

Flamingo is a fourteen piece all-female big band of experienced professional musicians. We specialize in music from the swing era, with a sprinkling of rock 'n roll, pop tunes, rhythm and blues. [www.flamingobigband.com](http://www.flamingobigband.com)

**AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>**

### ROCK SOLID ALIBI

Rock Solid Alibi is a group of seasoned musicians who have performed together over the last 25 years. The band consists of Mike Armentano, Marty Moran and Steve Armentano. They perform classic rock songs appealing to a wide demographic. In March 2017, they released their debut album, FLY. Containing 8 original songs. [www.facebook.com/pages/Rock-Solid-Alibi](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rock-Solid-Alibi)

**AUGUST 18<sup>TH</sup> TBD**





## WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 P.M.

**RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX**  
**RAIN OR SHINE (SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS)**

### Sponsor Package Benefits

<b>\$800.00</b>	<b>Platinum Concert Sponsor</b> A 3'x8' banner at River Road Athletic Complex through November 2021, Full Page Ad in the 2021 Summer Concert Program, listing in the 3rd and 4th Quarter Willington Wire and listing on the Willington Parks & Recreation website.
<b>\$400.00</b>	<b>Gold Concert Sponsor</b> A Full Page Ad in the 2021 Summer Concert Program, listing in the 3rd and 4th Quarter Willington Wire and listing on the Willington Parks & Recreation website.
<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>Silver Concert Sponsor</b> A Half Page Ad in the 2021 Summer Concert Program, listing in the 3rd and 4th Quarter Willington Wire and listing on the Willington Parks & Recreation website.
<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>Bronze Concert Sponsor</b> A Quarter Page Ad in the 2021 Summer Concert Program, listing in the 3rd and 4th Quarter Willington Wire and listing on the Willington Parks & Recreation website.
<b>Up to \$100.00</b>	<b>Copper Concert Sponsor</b> Listing in the 2021 Summer Concert Program, listing in the 3rd and 4th Quarter Willington Wire and listing on the Willington Parks & Recreation website.

**Deadline for Sponsorship is June 1, 2021**

**\*\*Please mail or email your business card/logo for advertisement with payment\*\***







## WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 P.M.

**RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX**

**RAIN OR SHINE (SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS)**

July 7	6:30 PM	_____ Bruce John <i>Your Name Here</i>
July 14	6:30 PM	_____ JLamm & Finn <i>Your Name Here</i>
July 21	6:30 PM	_____ Mass-Conn-Fusion <i>Your Name Here</i>
July 28	6:30 PM	_____ Val Rogers <i>Your Name Here</i>
August 4	6:30 PM	_____ Flamingo <i>Your Name Here</i>
August 11	6:30 PM	_____ Rock Solid Alibi <i>Your Name Here</i>
August 18	6:30 PM	_____ TBD <i>Your Name Here</i>

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

Business: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date of concert you are interested in sponsoring: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check below which level you are interested in sponsoring!

_____ \$800.00	Platinum Concert Sponsor
_____ \$400.00	Gold Concert Sponsor
_____ \$200.00	Silver Concert Sponsor
_____ \$100.00	Bronze Concert Sponsor
_____ Up to \$100.00	Copper Concert Sponsor

Please make checks payable to WPRD and mail with this form to:  
 Town of Willington, Parks & Recreation Department  
 40 Old Farms Road, Willington, CT 06279  
 Deadline for Sponsorship is June 1, 2021





# Public Works



49 Hancock Road, Willington CT 06279  
860-684-9313  
public.works@willingtonct.org

**Public Works:** will remain closed to the public but can be contacted at 860-684-9313 with any questions and/or emergencies. The staff will continue to work their normal hours but will be maintaining a safe distance from all residents for everyone's health and safety.

**Transfer Station:** will maintain normal business hours on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 8:15-3:45 p.m. The Swap Shed will remain closed until further notice. For the safety of our staff and residents, please practice social distancing at all times. **Staff will not be able to assist residents with their trash removal.** For the time being, all bottles and cans should be placed in the recycling bin.

## **WILLINGTON TRANSFER STATION SWAP SHED WILL OPEN APRIL 10, 2021** DUE TO COVID-19 THE FOLLOWING MUST BE FOLLOWED:

- THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY IN THE SWAP SHED IS 2 PEOPLE
- PLEASE LIMIT YOUR VISIT IN THE SWAP SHED TO 5 MINUTES TO ALLOW OTHERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENTER
- PLEASE MAINTAIN 6 FEET OF SOCIAL DISTANCE IN AND OUT OF THE SWAP SHED
- MASKS MUST BE WORN
- IF SOCIAL DISTANCING IS NOT MAINTAINED OR THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY EXCEEDS 2 PEOPLE THE ADDENDANTS WILL CLOSE THE SWAP SHED

### **Mid-Northeast Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility**

57 Hancock Road, Willington CT 06279  
860-864-3163

**Items not accepted:** Crew will leave in your vehicle

- Loads in excess of 100 lbs. solids or 10 gallon liquids
- Oil and Antifreeze (including diesel fuel, brake, transmission, power steering fluids)
  - Take to your transfer station (Coventry D.P.W.)
  - Tolland residents: take to Bill's or Anderson Automotive
- Any Latex based products not taken by pain program
  - Latex caulk and sealers
  - Latex adhesive
  - Latex driveway sealers
  - Drywall, Joint compound, etc.
- Spray Paints (aerosols)
- Propane Tanks (your town will take these at the transfer station)
- Smoke Detectors
- Fertilizers (without pesticides and herbicides)
- Pesticides in sprayers (being pesticides in original containers)
- Asbestos
- Fire Extinguishers
- Cooking materials (oil, etc.)
- Medicines, skin care
- Fluorescent Bulbs & Batteries (if your transfer station takes)
- Lead Acid Batteries
- Unlabeled materials, unknowns
- Types of materials not expected from home

**Questions? Call MidNEROC 860-965-1910**



## MID-NORTHEAST CHEMICAL WASTE DROP-OFF FACILITY HAZARDOUS WASTE CENTER 2021 SCHEDULE

Open 12 Days

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
APRIL	12	13	14	15	16	17 OPEN	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
MAY	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15 OPEN	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
JUNE	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19 OPEN	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
JULY	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17 OPEN	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
AUGUST	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21 OPEN	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
SEPTEMBER	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18 OPEN	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
OCTOBER	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16 OPEN	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



## Science Corner with Emily



Octopuses are the most neurologically complex invertebrates on Earth with a vastly different fundamental makeup compared to vertebrates. At a glance they are incredibly vulnerable with such soft bodies and eight long tentacles. It is a wonder how they have survived this long. Having studied and observed their behavior for decades there is a clear answer to that question. They are masters of camouflage and trickery, outsmarting everything around them.

Their soft bodies give them the advantage of being able to squeeze between impossibly small nooks and crannies along the ocean floor. They have been observed building dens and even using rocks to create doors. Their eight long arms lined with hundreds of suckers move independently due to a complex bundle of neurons, acting as a brain allowing them to smell, touch and manipulate objects. The photo below is showing one of the many ways an octopus can hide in plain sight. Using these suckers to quickly grab scattered shells on the sea floor and wrapping itself into a tight ball until an unfortunate fish swims too close.

The skills of an octopus are far from over. Octopuses belong to an exclusive group called Cephalopods, one of this group's unique abilities is to change colors based on surroundings. Octopuses, squid and cuttlefish all make up this group and have a specialized cell in their skin called chromatophores. These cells have a stretchy sac filled with red, yellow, brown or black pigment. When muscles around the cell tighten the pigment sac becomes wider making it more visible on the octopus' skin. Unlike other animals in the kingdom that have chromatophores, cephalopod's cells are individually attached to a nerve, meaning the expansion and contraction is controlled by the nervous system. Their brain signals the color response when predator or prey are observed. They can not only change their skin color but texture as well. Manipulating their skin to appear as barnacles or coral on a rock. Taking it a step farther, the mimic octopus is known for contorting its body to appear as a sea snake or flatfish.



Octopuses have great escape tactics as well; they can shoot themselves forward quickly away from prey by expelling water from a muscular tube called a siphon. They can also release a cloud of black ink, obscuring a predator's visual field and sense of smell. Allowing the octopus to make a fast dash for cover. Even if caught, the octopus can sacrifice an arm to a predator and still survive. Possessing the ability to regenerate the limb over a short time period.

In captivity they have been observed dismantling filtration systems, squirting water at people and shooting water out of the tank to cause a commotion. New research has been published arguing octopuses not only feel physical pain but emotional pain and pleasure as well. This emotional side of them is beautifully highlighted in the documentary "My Octopus Teacher". In a kelp forest off the coast of South Africa, a filmmaker highlights the life of a common octopus and follows her for almost a year. The two form a deep connection and she shows him her world; how she sleeps, lives and eats. If you are looking for something to watch on Netflix this weekend, I highly recommend this documentary. It will certainly leave you with a newfound love for the octopus!



# Tax Collector

## TAX OFFICE

***We're looking forward to the summer and hope to see you all face to face again soon!!!***

Greetings Willington Residents:

Due to COVID-19, the Town Office Building is still closed to the public until further notice.

We are still strongly encouraging everyone to make payments by mail, by use of our drop box located outside the front entrance or online at [www.willingtonct.org](http://www.willingtonct.org). Please note that there is a convenience fee of 2.95% for credit cards and \$1.95 for EFT for online payments.

If you need to make your payment in person, this will be done by appointment only. Please call the Revenue Department at (860)487-3111 to set up a time to come in.

As a reminder, tax bills will be mailed out in June. These bills will be due July 1st, and may be paid without penalty until August 2, 2021. If you do not receive a bill, please contact our office at 860-487-3111 or email me at [collector@willingtonct.org](mailto:collector@willingtonct.org).

Please note, that per §12-130 **"Failure to send out or receive any such bill or statement shall not invalidate the tax."** Or in simpler terms, failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the tax payer of his/her responsibility for the payment of taxes or delinquent charges. So please make sure to reach out to our office if you do not receive an expected bill.

## What am I being Taxed on?

You are being taxed on Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicles as of October 1, 2020.

Real Estate – All real property listed on the Grand List.

Personal Property – In the most general terms, personal property is everything subject to ownership, excluding land, any interest in land or any permanent improvement thereon. It is property that is not permanently affixed to or part of real estate. By its very nature then, personal property is moveable. This broad definition includes tangible items such as airplanes, campers, unregistered vehicles, items for business as furniture, fixtures, equipment, and animals.

Registered Motor Vehicles – Vehicles listed with the Department of Motor Vehicles are coded by tax town, and the Assessor is provided a list of registered vehicles annually. Willington's Town Code is 160.

All tax bills are mailed directly to property owners unless the Tax Collector receives specific instructions to send the bill to your bank or financial institution.

Real Estate and Personal Property tax totaling \$100 or more are due in two installments; July and January. Motor vehicle tax is due in one installment in July. Please note, we do not send out bills for the second installment in January. There is a stub on the July bills for the January payment.

## 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. You may also pay on line at [www.willingtonct.org](http://www.willingtonct.org) and click on the button that says **"OnLine Tax Payments"**. There is a convenience fee of 2.95% for credit cards or \$1.95 for EFT. You can also call 844-859-7566 to pay by phone, but an additional fee of 75 cents will be added. We do have a public access computer at Town Hall which will allow you to make a credit card payment on line.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and prosperous summer. See you in July!

Janice C. Clauson  
Revenue Collector  
860-487-3111  
[jclauson@willingtonct.org](mailto:jclauson@willingtonct.org)

Michele Cyr  
Assistant Revenue Collector  
860-487-3111  
[arc@willingtonct.org](mailto:arc@willingtonct.org)





# Town Clerk

Town Clerk News:

Happy Spring!

The Town Office Building remains closed to the public, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however we are taking appointments to conduct business & to access the vault. Also, for your convenience, the Town Clerks' window is accessible during normal working hours for drop-offs of land recordings, vital requests & other items that need to be conducted day to day. You will see the very last window on the far left side of the front of the building has a stepping stone path to the window for that very reason. Just knock on the window for assistance. We will be happy to see you!

In the meantime, check out our webpage on [willingtonct.org](http://willingtonct.org) (under Town Departments). We have been updating our page to give our residents helpful and informational links to the various services we offer such as:

- Marriage worksheets (to obtain a marriage license)
- Justices of the Peace
- Birth Certificates
- Land Recordings

## **Marriage Licenses**

Spring is a popular time for weddings! In order to process a marriage certificate, you must submit a Marriage Worksheet in advance. The fee for a license is \$70 which also includes the cost of the processed vital which will be returned to the couple after the event.

## **Hunting & Fishing licenses**

With spring also comes outdoor activity. We are happy to announce that we are back to issuing sportsmen licenses! Stop in to get yours today!

You may also obtain these licenses in the comfort of your own home by accessing the following website:

<https://ct.aspirafocus.com/internetsales>

## **Dog licenses**

June is dog-registration month. The annual fee for all spayed/neutered dogs is \$8.00 each and the fee for all male/female dogs is \$19.00 each. An updated rabies certificate must be presented (if we do not already have on file). If mailing in your registration, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to be returned to you. Payments may be in the form of cash or check, payable to Town of Willington, we do not accept credit cards in our office. All dogs registered after June 30<sup>th</sup> will incur a \$1.00 late fee each, per month thereafter; per Connecticut General Statute: 22-338. . Be on the lookout for the annual reminders, which will be sent out at the end of May.

## **Mark your calendars:**

A low cost Rabies Vaccine Clinic will be held at the Town Office Building on Saturday June 12, 2021. For details, check the Town Clerk's & Animal Control Pages on the town's website, closer to the event.

## **Vital Requests**

If you are in need of obtaining a certified vital, you will need to fill out a vital request form, which can be found on the Town Clerk's page on the website. The cost for the vital is \$20

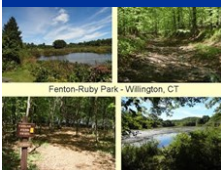
As always, we are happy to serve our residents!

Robin Campbell  
Town Clerk

Rachel Pierce  
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

Willington's Public Works Department constructed 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 Willington 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](http://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.

## Kevin Legare Memorial 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.

## River Road Athletic Complex - 511 River Road:

Randy Lerner Memorial 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.

**NOTE: All activities at River Road Athletic Complex are monitored under 24-hour video surveillance.**

## 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

## Community Sports Equipment Shed



Willington Resident, Atticus Makuch, built a **NEW** Community Sports Equipment Shed for his Eagle Scout project. All of the equipment inside has been donated; basketballs, soccer balls, bats, balls, etc. and may be **borrowed and returned** by anyone at the park. If you have any equipment to donate, feel free to add it to the shed!



# Willington Public Library



**Willington Public Library**  
**7 Ruby Road, Willington, CT 06279**  
**860-429-3854**  
**[www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org), Facebook & Burbio**

**Happy Spring!**

## **NEW Re-Opening Schedule**

We are now OPEN on all of our original 6 days a week!

Mondays remain for Seniors ONLY

Tuesday - Saturday are for EVERYONE

## **NEW HOURS:**

Monday and Wednesday: 12:00 - 4:00 pm

Tuesday and Thursday: 12:00 - 7:00 pm

Friday and Saturday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Appointments are no longer required.

Curbside Pickup and Book Donations are available during our opened hours.

For safety reasons, we are asking that patrons limit their library time to browsing and checking out items. Per State mandate...Face coverings are required. Social distancing is still in practice.

We ask that you continue to ring the doorbell to be let in. Capacity may be limited at times and you may need to wait outside until it is your turn to enter.

To request items, renew books, or ask a question, just call us at 860- 429-3854, we are here to help you, in any way we can.

**For new, updated or changing information...we recommend you **check often** on our website ([www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org)) and our other social medias (Facebook, burbio.com, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube) for up-to-date information. Join our library's E-Blast, just call and we can sign you up to begin receiving these same notices of what and when things are happening at the library.**

With the joy and anticipation of Spring, comes new hope and possibilities.

This Spring will bring with it a new pavilion and picnic table area outside, along with the beginnings of a beautiful butterfly garden we have been planning. These are both provided by way of generous donations from loving patrons. Friends and family members made donations in memory of Mrs. Claire Avery, who was an avid patron and a great advocate and supporter of our library. The garden will be dedicated in her loving memory. Mr. Donald Ferlow gave a gift on behalf of his daughter Nancy, who has and continues to volunteer at our library. It is because of her love, care, interest, and commitment to, in and for, our library, that this donation was made possible. Our many heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone!

We should also have by now, our free standing Library available outside for you to enjoy and take advantage of.

**Library Board meetings** are now being held, on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. The Public is welcome to attend via virtual Zoom meetings during the pandemic.

**We aren't the only one's opening up more these days....Museum and Attraction Passes** are still available to use. Please take advantage of them. Check out our wide selection of Museum and Attraction Passes on line at [www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org) to see what we have to offer!

All passes listed on our website, have their own separate websites, which we suggest you check out and see what they are offering. They are always changing. Just click on the Website to each individual pass to get connected. These passes are provided by Friends of Willington Public Library.



## Willington Public Library Continued...

### Programs that continue to meet virtually:

The **Adult Book Club** meets on the **first Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm**, Beginning in April, and depending on Covid, the meetings will be outside at the library, if the weather is nice or resume back to the Zoom format.

Upcoming selections are:

\*\*\*For April only, **2nd Thursday at 6:30**: April 8th: "This Tender Land" by William Kent Krueger

May 6th: The Little Old Lady Who Broke All the Rules by Catherine Ingelman-Sunberg

June 3rd: Nomadland by Jessica Bruder

July 1st: Finding Dorothy by Elizabeth Letts

August 5th: The Mystery of Mrs. Christie by Marie Benedict

The **Eastern CT Writers** have been meeting. Please check out their blog for their up-to-the-date information, and to participate, go to...<https://easternconnecticutwriters.blogspot.com>

Two NEW virtual programs being offered in the month of April:

**FREE Legal Advice Clinics:** April 27, 28, and 29, all days, 10:00 am - 7:00 p.m. (Pre-Registration is required to accommodate an appointment. Sign up at [ctbar.org/ProNonoClinic](http://ctbar.org/ProNonoClinic) by April 20, 2021. You will be able to meet remotely with a lawyer for a 30 minute session and receive free legal advice in one of the following areas: Bankruptcy (Commercial/Consumer), Family Law (Divorce, Child Support, Custody/Visitation), Landlord/Tenant (Commercial/Residential), Consumer Law, Pardons, Employee Rights/Unemployment, Immigration Law, and Tax Law. *Lawyers will provide brief legal advice on the date of the clinic; they will not continue to represent you.*

### Virtual Money Smart Week: April 10 - 17, 2021...FREE. Virtual. Money Smart.

Virtual Money Smart Week 2021 will focus on one daily "Money Smart" theme. Content will be provided by government, non-profit and educational institutions through a combination of 10-15-minute presentations, checklists, toolkits and other pertinent resources. This week-long free virtual campaign aims to help people better manage their personal finances with a focus on those hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. For more info. and to learn more about each individual presentation go to: [www.moneysmartweek.org](http://www.moneysmartweek.org)

This year's line-up includes:

Saturday, April 10 @ 11:00 a.m.

Talking Cents (The University of Chicago Financial Education Initiative)

Sunday, April 11 @ 11:00 a.m.

Saving (FINRA Investor Education Foundation)

Monday, April 12 @ 1:00 p.m.

Basic Banking (The Economic Awareness Council)

Tuesday, April 13 @ 1:30 p.m.

Student Loans (U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid)

Wednesday, April 14 @ 2:00 p.m.

Fraud Protection (Internal Revenue Service)

Thursday, April 15 @ 2:00 p.m.

Personal Finance (Global Financial Literacy Excellence Center)

Friday, April 16 @ 1:00 p.m.

Housing Protections + Resources (Consumer Financial Protection Bureau)

Saturday, April 17 @ 11:30 a.m.

Budgeting (University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension)

View more details at [www.moneysmartweek.org](http://www.moneysmartweek.org). Events are free and open to the public, but registration is advised. Questions for the panelists can be submitted during the registration process.



### Our Grab-Bag Book Sale continues!

We have filled bags with 5-10 books (or maybe more!) with a mix of hardcovers and paperbacks, almost new or gently-used, available in various categories, and will be sold for \$5 per bag (cash only please).





## Willington Public Library Continued...

Categories available are in: Romance, Mysteries, Historical fiction, Action/adventure/thrillers, all Nora Roberts, all James Patterson, The Great Classics, Children (picture books, easy readers), Children (middle school level), Children (Newberry winners), Crafts, Cookbooks, Biographies, Animas/ nature, Civil War (non-fiction), and WWII (non-fiction). If you have any suggestions or requests of your own you would like, let us know and we will try to fill them for you.

These bags can be purchased during any of our library openings, or via curbside pick-up. Take a chance! Maybe you'll discover a new author, or maybe an old one you would enjoy reading again. Give one to your child or grandchild to open up and enjoy the surprises they may find. Give one to a shut-in, or donate one to a homeless shelter. Use your imagination! Books are a wonderful gift to give for any occasion and for any or no reason at all.

Ollie, our library Guinea pig is doing very well. He misses all of his friends.

We are always adding new story times for the children. Check out our website for details and showings.

Updates of new book arrivals can be found on our website. We are always looking for suggestions to add to the library's collection. If you are looking for a particular title, please let us know. We will do our best to bring it to you and to the enjoyment of others.

Even though it has been hard over this last year, due to the Covid pandemic, to bring you quality programming, it is our hope that at this time, more will become available for your enjoyment and learning experience. We are hoping to be introducing in-house and in-person programming soon. Please continue to check often on our WPL website and our many other, various media sites.

We would like to bring to you, what you would like to see in programming. If you have any suggestions or have something you yourself can offer, please let us know. We would be happy to accommodate, if at all possible.

**Will you help your library?** We ask for your continued support with participating in the **AmazonSmile!** incentive program.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Support the library by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). *First: Enter: Email (phone for mobile accounts) Then: Start by picking your charity*  
*At Search: Choose: Willington Public Library*

Once you have registered for the Willington Public Library as your charity, every time you place an order you are automatically contributing to your library. When you bring up your Amazon account, you will notice under the search bar, it will state...Supporting: Willington Public Library. Every little bit helps a lot!

***Thank you for your patronage!***

**Libraries = Strong Communities**



# Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars



## A Reminder and Appeal

### Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSFDFS)

- **Reminder** to first year post-secondary students: Make sure to Apply for our Renewable Scholarship. The deadline is June 15th.
- **Annual Appeal:** Help us be around for another 25 years to help students succeed by donating whatever you can to the 2021 Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars annual appeal drive.

#### To contribute:

Mail a check to: **The Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars; P.O. Box 194; Willington, CT, 06279** or Text: WILLINGTONFORSCHOLARS to 44321.  
or Donate online: at [www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org](http://www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org)  
Click the "Donate Now" button on our homepage.

- And please consider joining our Team! We meet every third Monday at 7:00 pm upstairs in the Town Office Building Community Room. Due to COVID we are currently Zooming our meetings so just email us at [Willington@DollarsforScholars.org](mailto:Willington@DollarsforScholars.org) if you'd like to join us!



2020's Anything Printed Scholarship recipient, Elana Bray

Check us out on these platforms: [www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org](http://www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org)



## Willington School Building Committee

### Willington School Building Committee Katherine Viveiros, Chairman

The Willington School Building Committee has started meeting to discuss the future of our school buildings.

Over approximately 7 years, the Willington Board of Education (BOE) spent a significant amount of time identifying avenues to address the future of the school facilities. After exhaustive [data collection](#), public presentations and public input, the BOE made a unanimous recommendation in September, 2019 requesting the Board of Selectmen establish a School Building Committee (SBC) to pursue the building of a preschool through 8 school. A Special Town Meeting was held on January 30, 2020 where residents approved the formation of a School Building Committee.

The Selectmen appointed eleven members to the [School Building Committee](#) from a diverse background in construction, project management, education, and finance. The charge of the committee is to define a preschool through grade 8 school to meet Willington's educational needs. The formation of a School Building Committee does not mean the town is building a new school. Defining the town's school facility needs may result in the committee recommending renovating one of the schools to make one preschool through grade 8 building, building a new preschool through grade 8 building, or maintaining our two schools.

The SBC will be holding [regular meetings](#) via Zoom on the first and third Wednesday of each month and [agendas](#) and [minutes](#) can be found on the town website. We encourage our townspeople to [subscribe to e-Alerts](#) found on the front page of the town website to receive notifications of meetings. Meetings are being recorded and can be accessed via the town's [YouTube page](#). The SBC will be posting information on the Town website in the near future.

The School Building Committee welcomes public feedback. Community members may email their comments to [sbc@willingtonct.org](mailto:sbc@willingtonct.org) or participate during the present to speak portion of the SBC meetings.

