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

4th of July —Thursday, July 4th Selectman's Day—Friday, July 5th Labor Day — Monday, September 2nd







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	Troy Sposato	860-684-9313
Senior Center	Jennie Arpin	860-429-8321
Tax Collector	Janice Clauson	860-487-3111
Town Clerk	Amy Lam	860-487-3121
Treasurer	Diane Bulick	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—July, Aug & Sept

	_		
Board/Commission	Day	Date	Time
Board of Education	Tuesday	July 9th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Education	Tuesday	August 13th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Education	Tuesday	September 10th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	July 18th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	August 15th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	September 19th	7:00 p.m.
		·	·
Board of Selectmen	Monday	July 1st	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	July 15th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	August 5th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	August 19th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Tuesday	September 3rd	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	September 16th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectifier	Worlday	September 10th	υ.συ μ.π.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	July 17th	7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	August 21st	7:00 p.m.
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Conservation Commission	Wednesday	September 18th	7:00 p.m.
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Economic Development	Wednesday	July 10th	6:30 p.m.
Economic Development	Wednesday	August 14th	6:30 p.m.
Economic Development	Wednesday	September 11th	6:30 p.m.
		1 1 100	
Historical Society	Tuesday	July 16th	7:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	August 20th	7:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	September 17th	7:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	July 15th	4:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	August 19th	4:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	September 16th	4:00 p.m.
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	July 22nd	7:30 p.m.
Inland Wetlands/Watercourses	Monday	September 23rd	7:30 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Tuesday	September 10th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	July 29th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	August 26th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	September 30th	7:00 p.m.
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Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	July 2nd	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	July 16th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	September 3rd	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	September 17th	7:30 p.m.
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Zoning Roard of Appeals	Thursday	luly 11th	7:30 n m
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	July 11th	7:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	September 12th	7:30 p.m.



First Selectwoman's Corner

Dear Willington Residents,

Summer is in full swing here in Willington and we hope you are enjoying the outdoors and warmer temperatures.

While many of the town's boards and commissions take time off over the summer, our town employees are very productive. The Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments are particularly busy this time of year. Our Public Works crew will be chip sealing several roads in the coming months along with the regular maintenance that comes with summertime. Willington Parks and Recreation staff are keeping busy with swimming at Hall's Pond, entertaining our residents with Wednesdays in the Park Summer Concert Series and having fun with our youth at another successful season of Summer Camp.



The Town Office Building is open 12:30-7:30 p.m. on Mondays and 9-2:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. I try to be available during office hours or by appointment. Please stop in to share your budget ideas and concerns as we begin to plan farther into the future. Otherwise I hope to see you out and about in Willington!

Erika G Wiecenski Town of Willington First Selectwoman

Talk of the Town

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

Thinking about getting married right here in Willington? First you need to stop and see Amy Lam our Town Clerk or Maureen Gantick, Assistant Town Clerk to apply for your marriage license. The Town Clerk's office has many important functions in the Town of Willington. The Town Clerk is responsible for recording, maintaining and preserving town records such as: the Town ordinances; meeting schedules, official agendas and minutes, land records, vital statistics, discharge records for service men and women. You obtain your fishing, hunting and dog licenses from our Town Clerk. The Town Clerk's office works with the Registrar of Voters with all elections, primaries and referendums. This is just a small list of what Amy and Maureen do in their office. They are always ready to welcome you to the Town Office Building with a smile so... the next time you visit stop in and say hello.

Thank you Amy and Maureen for your dedication to Willington's residents and preserving our history!



Assessor



The Board of Assessment Appeals will hold a session to hear appeals of 2018 Motor Vehicle Values on Monday, September 16, 2019 at 40 Old Farms Rd, Willington, CT from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Those aggrieved by the assessed value of their motor vehicle listed on the 2018 Grand List may attend. No application is necessary.

Office of the Assessor

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Connecticut General Statute 12-40, all persons who are liable to pay taxes on tangible personal property belonging to them on October 1, 2019 are hereby notified that they must file a declaration of their personal property on or before November 1, 2019, with the Assessor, or be subject to an estimated assessment and the statutory 25% penalty. Various exemptions are explained on the declaration and available if filed on time.

NO DECLARATION IS REQUIRED FOR MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED IN WILLINGTON CT NO DECLARATION IS REQUIRED FOR REAL ESTATE

Personal property includes, but is not limited to, unregistered motor vehicles (including junk autos), campers, all business machinery, equipment, tools, commercial furniture and fixtures.

DEFECTIVE CONCRETE

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 forms must be accompanied by an Engineer's report. For additional information, contact the Assessor's office.

Filing deadlines for various exemptions and classifications for the 2019 Grand List are as follows:

PUBLIC ACT 490

All applications for classification of forestland must be received by October 1, 2019. All applications for classification of farmland and open space must be received by October 31, 2019.

VETERANS

All property owners claiming exemption due to military service must file their DD214 form with the Town Clerk by September 30, 2019. Discharge paperwork is only filed once. This information is for NEW veterans. Veterans claiming disability exemption must submit proof from the Veterans Administration. PA 85-573 allows veterans an additional exemption if their income is within the approved limits. This application must be filed by October 1 bi-annually.

DISABILITY

Persons totally disabled receiving SSD benefits may be eligible for a \$1000 property exemption. Proof of award and application must be submitted by October 1, 2019.

HOMEOWNERS & TOTALLY DISABLED Residents 65 years of age or totally disabled may be eligible for a tax credit on real estate; income guidelines apply and are adjusted each year. You must request an application in February 2020 and file it on or before May 15, 2020.

RENTERS

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

The Assessor's Office is open to receive the above lists and applications Monday 12:30-7:30 and Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Walter E. Topliff Jr.
Assessor
wtopliff@willingtonct.org or 860-487-3122

Rachel L. Pierce
Asst. Assessor
rpierce@willingtonct.org or 860-487-3122



Conservation Commission



Spring has sprung and much of nature has fully unfolded in all its many forms. Put your walking shoes on, grab your binoculars and camera (Take the usual tick-deterrent steps!) and go out and observe the wide variety of wildlife and plants in 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. Trail maps are also posted at all trail intersections. Several picnic tables and benches are available in the picnic area adjacent to the parking lot and overlooking the beaver pond and a deck for wildlife observation and fishing is located at the edge of the beaver pond.

A nice extension to our Willington trails is provided by the Ashford Link Trail which 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.

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 running free.

The 28-acre Talmadge Tract, which contains the Talmadge Spur Trail with 1½ 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 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).

See also the information about Joshua's Trust's **Chenes Roches Preserve** under Parks and Recreation. See *joshuastrust.org* for information about all of their trails.

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 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, <u>www.willingtonct.org</u>, 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.

Plan to take advantage of Willington's protected forest resources this spring and summer for appreciation of their beauty, observation of the varied ecosystems and habitats, for exercise and for their restorative powers. The Japanese practice of shinrin-yoku, or forest bathing, is beneficial for both physical and mental wellbeing. Immersing your senses in the surrounding forest has been proven to reduce stress, boost the immune system and lower heart rate and blood pressure. There is plenty of information on the interweb.

Enjoy the summer! We hope to see you on the trail.







Performing Arts

"Performance Update" By EC-CHAP

As we officially welcome "Summer", and transition into our new Season, the EC-CHAP Board of Directors would like to thank our members, sponsors, volunteers and patrons for helping to make our 2018-2019 Season a success! Though you may consider our message to be redundant. we will never tire to convey our gratitude and appreciation... for without your continued support and belief in our mission, we would be unable to sustain our programming and fulfill your needs as your Regional Cultural Center. Thank you.

Our Performance Season at The Packing House will begin in September 2019 and will run through May 2020. We will be posting performances and programs through the summer, and encourage you to visit our website for upcoming events: www.thepackinghoouse.us/upcoming!

Please join us for an "Information Exchange Meeting" Wednesday, July 10th; and an ongoing conversation: "Raising Historical Awareness Through Collaboration" Wednesday, July 17th. Both sessions will begin at 7:00pm in The Packing House.

The Packing House is located at The Mill Works, 156 River Road, Willington, CT 06279. Parking is free and located onsite and across the street. For questions, program or rental information and table reservations, please call 518-791-9474.

Email EC-CHAP (info@ec-chap.org) or The Packing House (info@thepackinghouse.us).

Peace.

EC-CHAP Board

July 2019

07/10: EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting. 7:00pm

07/17: "Raising Historical Awareness Through Collaboration". 7:00pm

07/20: Gardiner Hall Jr History Museum: New Hours -Saturdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm

August 2019

08/03: **Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery**: "THREE". Saturdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm

08/07: EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting. 7:00pm

September 2019



09/12: EC-CHAP Social Dance Series with Kelly Madenjian. Doors 6:30pm / Dance 7:00pm (2nd Thursday)



09/14: EC-CHAP Jazz Series: Greg Abate Quartet. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

09/18: EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting. 7:00pm



09/21: EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series: Ramblin' Dan Stevens (Blues). 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, or visit us at www.ec-chap.org. Visit The Packing House directly at: www.thepackinghouse.us.

The Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery" By Rebecca Zablocki



Community - The key word in the title of EC~CHAP EC-CHAP's new effort, The Dye & Bleach Eastern Connecticut Center for History, Art, and Performance, Inc.

House Community Gallery. Located in a communal space on the first floor of The Mill Works historic facility, it is the pathway for

tenants and guests. We would also like for it to become a stepping stone on the journey for patrons and participants of the arts. Though the town in which we reside lacks a formal "downtown", as your Regional Cultural Center, we hope to revitalize our historic location, and to once again become Willington's "Main Street" as was the case a century ago.



Commercial, for-profit galleries are of the utmost importance in the art world, a gathering place for the artistic community and representing and showing the world talented artists, and those that have

dedicated their lives to the arts. Even with the everchanging landscape of the art world and gallery models, we would like to recognize the importance of these spaces and participating in the patronage of elite and local galleries that represent professional artists and provide opportunity for those that have practiced and trained in the arts.



Our Community gallery, while lucky enough to have some very talented artist's works on display, is not a sales gallery. Artist selection may be curated to create a group of complimentary artists for each show,

however we welcome all artists to display their works here.



EC-CHAP Continued...



We would like to become a place where people of the greater New England area can come together, on the pathway of their career or hobby. You may step into our

space and be surprised to find the works of a professional artist that resides in your community, or the work of a young person that is just beginning their journey in the arts, you may even find community members who only use art making to relax or create in their spare time. These artists may have works in renowned galleries, for others this may be the first stop before they take the leap into the professional art world, or they may have created a few pieces that they are proud of and do not plan on picking up a paintbrush ever again. The possibilities are endless and we would like to highlight the importance of art for everyone, especially within our regional community.

Even patrons of the arts have a journey to make, you may witness parents bringing their little ones to a Jiu Jitsu class in the building and hear the little "OOHs & AHHs" as they pass by a colorful painting or intricate sculpture. Perhaps visiting our community space will inspire someone to venture to other area galleries. We would like to be a little reminder to the community that art is all around us and that fostering art making could mean something different to everyone.

While it is possible that sales may be conducted as a result of this space, such transactions are done directly with the artists themselves. We invite the community to check out these shows, visit us every few weeks to see the artwork on view. Open hours are overseen by the artists themselves, so you may be lucky enough to meet the artist of the works you are viewing.

The Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery is open on Saturdays, 10am-2pm during exhibitions; we are closed for installation between shows. Beginning this summer, you may also have the chance to visit the Gardiner Hall Jr. History Museum during your time here, and take a look at the history of our building and the surrounding town.

The Community Gallery will be closed for the month of July, the current exhibit, THREE will be on view August 3 to August 24, 2019, featuring the works of Randall Nelson, a professional Willington sculptor whose wooden animals fill the space with personality, Marilynn (Lynn) Lacoss another local Connecticut artist whose pastel works and watercolor paintings express the undulations of color and light in nature and Lily O'Brien a talented high-school student, whose small works speak loudly, expressing emotion and character through color and mark making.

Keep an eye out for the next exhibit, which will be on view September 7 to October 26, 2019. If you are an artist that would be interested in participating in future shows, or have a group that would be interested, please send images of artwork and brief info to:

communitygallery@ec-chap.org

Rebecca Zablocki
Director, Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery

"A Textile Community in Days Past"

By Tyler Hall



It is a great honor to serve our community as the Curator of the Gardiner Hall Jr. History Museum at The Mill Works. With this role I have been given a platform to

share the rich history of South Willington, the Gardiner Hall Jr. Company (founder of The Mill Works facility), and the subsequent innovators that followed. With this opportunity I hope to illuminate the unique qualities of this historic site. As a historian I have learned that perhaps one of the greatest and most effective ways to share the past is through story. Through this medium we can visualize a time much unlike our own.

It is easy to think of today's companies as singular entities that simply exist to produce goods. Look into the not-sodistant past, however, and it is clear that the manufacturers of the mid-19th and early-20th centuries were responsible for the creation of thriving, vibrant communities. Many manufacturers of the industrial era provided tenement housing for their employees, and the company store sold necessities such as food, clothing and medicine. Often, rent and other purchases would be deducted from weekly pay, or bought with company currency. As private investors purchased land around these manufacturing centers, communities would grow. New factories were constructed, towering storefronts would adorn the thoroughfares, and wealthy managers and entrepreneurs would construct ornate mansions overlooking the city.

The Gardiner Hall Jr. Company was a dynamic organization that influenced nearly all aspects of community life in South Willington. Unlike this organic development that took place in larger cities such as Willimantic and Norwich, Gardiner Hall Jr. visualized his own picturesque New England village that would satisfy the financial, recreational, educational and spiritual needs of the community he wished to create. Through countless hours, and the labor of hundreds of men and women, his vision was realized.

Built upon company land, along privately maintained streets, stood brilliant white tenements, each with its own two-story wraparound porch. Employees would meticulously maintain the village grounds. A crew of workers would sweep the sidewalks every Saturday morning, grass would be kept short, and daily inspections would ensure that every window blind in the village hung at the same level. Evenly spaced maple trees decorated the streets. "Gardiner Hall Jr. Painting and Decorating" painted the tenements, schools, barns and shops, never letting a building fall into disrepair. Those that needed it got fresh wallpaper. A pig, chickens, and a garden plot were given to each family. In the gardens they grew a wide array of vegetables; common were corn, potatoes. asparagus, and cucumbers. A communal underground storage bin was provided where they could store their harvest.



EC-CHAP Continued...



Peddlers on horse drawn wagons sold fresh meat, ice cream, and clean rags. Workers filed to and from the mill between shifts. The village was bustling with many cultures and languages, yet a shared a unified sense of community.

At the end of the village street, abutting the factory was Lake Beauty, a man-made reservoir that served as source of recreation and relaxation. A crescent shaped beach provided a much needed place to cool off in the summer months, and a two-story Victorian gazebo offered a sweeping view of the water. A steam boat took passengers on short excursions around the lake. In the winter months, ice was harvested from the pond with large, horse drawn saws.

Hundreds of acres of farmland surrounded the village, plowed and cultivated by company employees. This left the village encompassed by rolling green hills. Black and white spotted Holstein cattle dotted the landscape, prized animals that provided the village with fresh milk each morning.

Separate of the company, Gardiner Hall Jr. and his children devoted their time and resources to the betterment of the community. Gardiner Hall Jr. constructed the Clara Hall Elliott Memorial Church, which served as the center of the community. Charitable functions were often held, employees enjoyed free dinners as an eight-piece orchestra provided entertainment. Owners, management and employees came together as equals to enjoy the festivities. Hall Memorial School and an adjoining athletic field were built by Fannie Parker and Alice May Holman, wife and daughter-in-law of Gardiner Hall Jr. The school represented a substantial upgrade from the traditional one-room school houses that had served the town of Willington.

Though trees have grown in the fields, and machines no longer tick away in the mill, you can still visit this wonderfully preserved site. The vision of one man and the labor of hundreds of men and women have steadfastly resisted our ever changing world.

Please join us for an ongoing conversation: "Raising Historical Awareness Through Collaboration" Wednesday, July 17th at 7:00pm in The Packing House. Refreshments provided.

PLEASE NOTE: Effective Saturday, July 20, 2019, the Gardiner Hall Jr, History Museum will be changing our hours from Wednesdays, 9:30am to 11:30am to Saturdays, 10:00am to 2:00pm to align with open hours for the Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery.

For more information, please visit: www.ec-chap.org, email: curator@gardinerhalljrmuseum.org, or call: 518-791-9474.



Tyler Hall Curator, Gardiner Hall Jr. History Museum

"The future is just history waiting to happen" - EC-CHAP



WILLINGTON FLEA MARKET

The 57th Annual Willington Flea Market will be held on Saturday, September 7, 2019, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Willington Town Green, sponsored by the Federated Church of Willington

Features include: ANTIQUES, ARTS & CRAFTS, BAKED GOODS, FOOD & BEVERAGES AND much, much more!

Donations: \$2, children under 12 free, FREE PARKING!

For more information, please call the church office 860-429-9911.



Historical Society



As Summer arrives and we head off on vacation and other warm weather activities remember to mark your calendar for Saturday September 7th, which means time for the annual Federated Church Flea Market on

the green. The Society will again be participating, at our usual spot, at the top of the green. Stop by and say hello and check your knowledge of antique items at our "what is it table".

If you happen to have any family photos of people, places or events that occurred in Willington over the years, we would like to see them. The Society would like to scan them for our archives so future Willington generations will have a record of their past.

Tavern open house ... In conjunction with the flea market the Glazier Tavern will be open to the public from 10 am to 3 pm. Plan on a visit to see what's 'cookin'.

Society membership:

Start your relationship with Willington History! Kindly consider a paid, yearly membership with the Willington Historical Society.

Memberships are	available for:	
Student \$10	Individual \$25	Family \$35
Corporate \$75	Lifetime \$300	

Membership forms may be downloaded from our website and are available at the Town Clerk's office.

Memberships support these Programs

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

Join us as we move forward but keep our eyes on the

New furnace fundraising continues

With \$2,856 raised to date, with a total goal of \$7,500. The following Society members, friends, neighbors and foundations have contributed; Dale Smith, Evelyne 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, The Hall Foundation, Inc., Randy Belair, E.J. & Doris Letsch, Mark & Shari Masinda and several anonymous donors.

Other News

Older than thought ... recent research by Willington Town Historian, Mark Palmer, has revealed that the tavern building could have been built as early as 1806 and not by Daniel Glazier.

Carpenter Wanted... to help with the restoration of the Society's 1850's three hole privey. The privey is a Willington original from Polster Road.

Split-rail fence, update ...the hope is to construct a New England style rail fence along our small field that faces Common Road. The project was recently approved by the Historic District Commission, so the building phase can begin, once more rails are split. The trees have been cut and the logs are waiting. If you're handy with a maul and wedges or would like to learn ... contact the Society. We'll be splitting rails that are 14 feet in length. Believe me that the ash logs split quite easily, if started in the right direction!

Wall Restoration ... at present work is progressing on the interior, north wall in the taproom area. The focus of the project is to restore the missing peg and chair rails to the wall as well as restoring the original wall and moulding colors.

Wanted ... 3 Locust poles, for use as fence posts (8 ft. long).

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

Yes, It's Summer vacation time, and we're looking ... The Society continues to be interested in items that help

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
- Willington's 275th celebration parade

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: Your trash ... may be the Society's treasure.



Human Services

THANK YOU!- The Department of Human Services wants to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who donated food to the Public Works Fill a Truck! We appreciate your generosity and all you do to help our residents during the summer months, when the kids are home from school and household food budgets increase!

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 Foodshare truck comes every other Wednesday from 11-11:30 sharp in front of the Senior Center. Please bring plenty of bags or boxes.

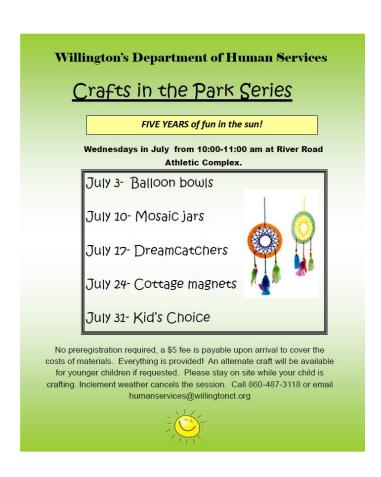
PAJAMA CLUB- Human Services is pleased to be running our new Pajama Club for kids. Just \$10 per child for 3 hours, and we will keep them occupied with games, crafts, toys and more! Perfect for a date night! Look on our social media, or on the Town website for dates that you can sign your kids up!

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

MARSHMALLOW MADNESS!- Catapults, shooters, buildings, humongous s'mores and more! This fun, free event will be SWEET! Join us for Marshmallow Madness this summer- stay tuned for more information on a date!

BACK TO SCHOOL –If you are in need of a backpack or school supplies, Human Services has got you covered! Reach out to us toward the end of August for our Back to School Program, helping residents start the new school year out right with everything they need. Donations will be accepted in August as well.

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!









It Takes a Village Hill & Willington's Department of Human Services together are now offering:



Willington Emergency Housing Assistance

- Almost half of all renters and homeowners with mortgages spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing.
- Housing-related matters are the top requests for assistance to Willington Human Services.
- Among 3,444 CT homeless households, the most common reason for leaving their last residence was "rent problems."

How can you help?

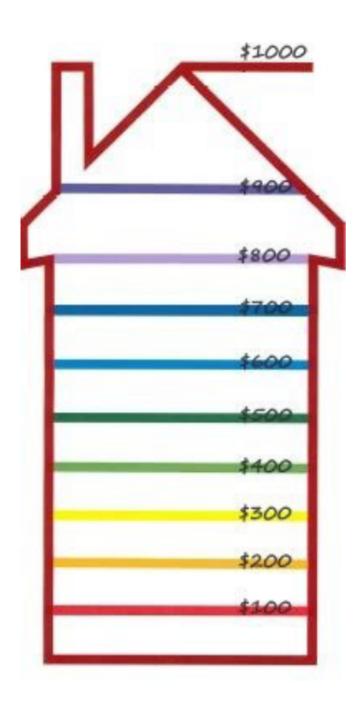
We are accepting donations to assist our community members in need of a one-time gift toward housing costs. Please make checks payable to Willington Human Services, and note in the memo line "WEHA".

For more information or to seek assistance, please contact It Takes a Village Hill at ittakesavillagehill@gmail.com or Human Services at 860-487-3118





Willington Emergency Housing Assistance Fundraiser



Did you know?

- Willington's poverty rate is 17%.
- 23% of Willington children are eligible for free/reduced price meal programs.
- Willington's median monthly rent is over \$1000.
- The median Willington mortgage cost is over \$1700.
- The Federal Poverty Guideline for a single person is \$12,490.
 For a family of four, the guideline is \$25,750.
- CT is the sixth most expensive state to live in. Only NY, HI, CA, MA, AK, and NJ are more expensive!



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.

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

Vine to Wine in Vermont



Journey to Vermont for a unique experience! Spend some time at Vermont Distillers, who are best known for their unique lines of liqueurs and vodkas. Enjoy the famous 100-

mile view from atop Hogback Mountain Scenic Overlook. Then we'll stop at Honora Winery & Vineyards where you will enjoy a "Vine to Wine" tour, in addition to a tasting of the Vineyard's own wines. Then there's lunch: a traditional Polish buffet! Lastly, we'll visit the Grafton Village Cheese Company, where you'll experience the art of Vermont cheese making and peruse their company store!

Date: Sunday, September 1st

Departs From: Tolland Commuter Lot, Exit 68, I-84

(Near Dunkin' Donuts)

Departure Time: 7:45am **Return Time:** 7:45pm

Fee: \$111/person

Registration Deadline is July 29th

Roger Williams Spooky Zoo
October—More info coming soon

Day on your own in NYC
December—More info coming soon

Free Kayak Loaner Program



All loaners include one life jacket and one paddle per kayak. Loaner equipment is available Monday-Friday by appointment. May - October (Weather dependent)

Pickup:

9:15-2:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday 12:45 –7:30 p.m. Mondays

Drop off:

9:15-2:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday 12:45-7:30 p.m. Mondays

EQUIPMENT MUST COME BACK CLEAN

Gentle Flow Yoga Classes



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.

Dates: July 10th-August 28th / Wednesday Evenings

(no class on 7/17 and 8/7)

Time: 6:30-7:45 p.m.

Location: Willington Public Library

Lower Level Community Room

Fee: \$45.00 / 6 classes

Drop In Fee—\$10.00/class

Gentle Flow Yoga and Sound Healing



Join Kimberly Ratti for this special class as she leads you through a gentle flow yoga class followed by an enlightening sound healing with beautiful quartz crystal bowls facilitated by Edie

Jemiola. Everything in and about our bodies resonates to sound. Sound used with intention can shift the energy in and around the body to help reestablish physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being. Join Kimberly and Edie for an evening of deep relaxation and stress reduction for the body, mind and spirit!

Date: July 19th

Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Fee: \$25.00

Location: Willington Public Library

(Lower Level Community Room)

Instructors: Kimberly Ratti (RYT 500)

Edie Jemiola

Usui & Karuna Holy Fire III Reiki Master/ Teacher, certified Holographic Sound Healing Teacher/Practitioner, Melchizedek Method

and Magnified Healing Instructor

Please wear comfortable clothing and bring your own mat, props, pillow and blanket



Adult Co-Ed Pickleball



Come play and learn the game of Pickleball, a fun sport that combines many elements of Tennis, Badminton, and Ping-Pong. All levels, from beginners to

advanced, are welcome!

Dates: June 19th — Aug 21st / Wednesday Evenings

No pickleball on 7/3 and 8/7

Drop In Fee—\$5.00/night

Time: 7-8:30 p.m. Location: HMS Gym

Fee: \$35.00 / 8-week session

Equipment is available for use Minimum 18 years old to play

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,

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

Volleyball High School Co-Ed



Join other high school students and have fun playing volleyball! Rules will be followed and mastery of skills will be encouraged

Location: Hall Memorial School Gym Dates: July 16th, 23rd and 30th

Time: 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Entering Grades 9-12 Age:

FREE Fee: Instructor: Jan Castle

Instruction will be available for beginners. Space is limited to 21 players per night.

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 evenings

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

Golf Clinics



Several Clinics will be offered from May through September at Skungamaug River Golf Course! Do yourself a favor and make an important step to improving your golf game with some instruction. Your game will

improve as well as your enjoyment of this great game!

Youth Clinic—July 11, 18, 25 & Aug 1 6-7:00 p.m.

Ladies Clinic—Aug 6, 20, 27 (Double session on the 27th)

5-6:00 p.m.

Co-Ed Clinic—Sept 5, 12, & 19

6-7:00 p.m.

(Double session on the 19th)

Register 2 weeks prior to the start of class

Location: Skungamaug River Golf Course

104 Folly Lane, Coventry

\$80.00/student Fee:



Swimming Lessons



American Red Cross group, private and semiprivate lessons are being offered at Hall's Pond this summer!

Session 1: July 15th-18th Monday thru Thursday

July 22nd-25th Monday thru Thursday

Session 2: August 5th-8th Monday thru Thursday

August 12th-15th Monday thru Thursday

Group Lesson Fee: \$60.00 / Willington Resident

\$70.00 / Non-Resident

Semi-Private Fee: \$40.00 / Willington Resident

\$50.00 / Non-Resident

Private Fee: \$25.00 / Willington Resident

\$35.00 / Non-Resident

**Call to schedule private and semi-private lessons. Each lesson is one half hour in length.

WPRD is an authorized provider of the American Red Cross Swimming and Water Safety Program. All lessons will be instructed by Bethany Dostie and Molly Sullivan American Red Cross Certified Water Safety Instructors

Adult Over 30 Basketball Program



Registration

Registration is open for Willington Residents from August 19th through September 2nd.

After September 2nd, the program is open to adults from area towns and Willington Residents. LIMITED TO 20 PLAYERS.

Registration will be **limited to twenty players**, on a first come first serve basis during your open registration dates. The Adult Registration form must be completely filled out, accompanied by the appropriate fee and returned to the Parks & Recreation Department Office. Registrations will not be accepted at the gym or prior to stated dates.

Season

The season will run from September 8th to June 28th on Sunday nights from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Hall Memorial School gymnasium on Route 32 in Willington.

Fee

\$65.00 for Willington Residents \$75.00 for Non-residents

REGISTER EARLY— PROGRAM FILLS QUICKLY

Youth Recreation Basketball



Registration opens on September 1st and closes on October 1st.

Evaluations/Assessments will be held in late October or early November (TBD). Times, dates and registration forms will be available on the Recreation Department website and will also be sent out in the Digital Backpack.

Our Recreational Basketball Program teaches basic skills, dribbling, passing, shooting, good sportsmanship and fun!

All home games and practices are held at the Hall Memorial School Gymnasium.

About the Program

Instructional League—Grades 1 and 2

Registrations accepted until November 1st This 10 week program begins on Saturday, December 7th and continues through Saturday, February 8th.

Grades 3-8

Games are played on Saturdays beginning in December with the last game of the season in February. Jamboree/ Tournament play will be held following the regular season games.

Program Philosophy

It is expected that players will do their best at all times and avoid negative remarks (or gestures) to any player and act in a sportsmanlike manner always, win or lose. All participants shall treat one another with dignity and respect. Be generous when you lose; be gracious when you win.

Parents

Volunteer parents are needed to help with keeping the book, running the time clock, cleaning bleachers, sweeping the floor and picking up bathrooms. Please remember no food or drink besides water is allowed in the gym. Please keep siblings in the bleachers with you and not wandering the gym or entry way.

Together we can have a successful program!



17



Hall's Pond is OPEN!

June 22nd-August 18th

2019 Pond Pass Prices

Willington Resident Family	\$65.00
Non-Resident Family	\$75.00
Willington Resident Individual	\$40.00
Non-Resident Individual	\$45.00
5-Visit Pass (max 4 people)	\$35.00
1-Day Pass (max 4 people)	\$10.00

Pond Hours (Open 7 days a week) Sunday-Saturday 12:00-7:00 p.m.

Passes must be purchased at the Recreation Dept. Cash or Check Only.

Introduction to LIFEGUARDING



Introduction to Lifeguarding is designed to guide youth to the American Red Cross Lifeguarding course by building a foundation of knowledge, attitudes and skills for future lifeguards.

Participants are not required to master or perfectly execute skills. They will learn techniques and build stamina during this program.

Introduction to Lifeguarding will introduce participants to:

- The skills needed for entry to the American Red Cross Lifeguarding course.
- Communication and decision-making skills.
- The basic responsibilities of a lifeguard.
- The basic knowledge and skills required to be a life guard.

Dates: July 8th—12th, 2019
Times: 3:00-6:00 p.m.
Location: Halls Pond
Fee: \$60.00

Instructor: Bethany Dostie, Certified Water Safety

Instructor

Class size is a minimum of four and maximum of 10 Participants.

Discounted Tickets



Thanks to the Connecticut Recreation & Parks Association (CRPA), WPRD has received Discounted tickets to Six Flags, The Adventure Park (Storrs & Bridgeport), CT Science Center and Lake Compounce!

Come pick up your Good For Any Day Tickets while supplies last!

 Six Flags:
 \$40.00 (compare to \$67.99)

 Adventure Park:
 \$32.00 (compare to \$46.00)

 CT Science Center:
 \$15.50 (compare to \$23.95)

 Lake Compounce:
 \$29.50 (compare to \$51.69)

Tickets are available and can be picked up at the Recreation Department during normal business hours.

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.

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.

Kids Summer Camp



WPRD & Human Services have teamed up to offer 6-weeks of summer camp for children ages 5 to 12. Sign up for one week or all six weeks, full day or half day. Camp will be held 8:30-4:30 p.m.

Week 1: 7/8-7/12 Week 2: 7/15-7/19 Wildlife Week Air & Space Week Week 3: 7/22-7/26 Week 4: 7/29-8/2 Splish-Splash Week Jurassic Week

Week 5: 8/5-8/9 Week 6: 8/12-8/16

Superhero Week Campers vs. Counselors Week

Location: Hall Memorial School

Fee: \$200.00/week Full Day of Camp

\$150.00/week Additional Siblings

\$100.00/week Half Day of Camp (9:00-12:00)

Ages: 5-12 years old

Activities include sports, games, crafts, nature, swimming, free time, field trips and MORE!





WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

THANK YOU 2019 SPONSORS!!

Platinum Concert Sponsors

United Bank
Willington Termite & Pest Control

Gold Concert Sponsors

Baywood Kennels Shaolin Kempo Martial Arts

Silver Concert Sponsors

Brookside Garden Center Bill & Suzanne Chapman Connecticut Valley Orthodontics Franc Motors, Inc. Landon's Tire Price Chopper Willington Pizza

Bronze Concert Sponsors

C & T Electric Maureen Gantick
Hipsky Construction Holiday Spirits, Inc.
William & Sarah Jean
Kelleher Construction Services
McCaughtry & Associates, Inc.
Secret Pages Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, LLC
Derrick, Erika, Jacob and Kyle Wiecenski

Copper Concert Sponsors

Creative Mark Engraving DDrobney Photography
Mark & Dot Drobney
David & Tish Ignatowicz





WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 Р.М.

RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX

JULY 10TH BRUCE JOHN

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

JULY 17TH PATTY TUITE GROUP

Playing various rock favorites, jazz, blues and sometimes originals at our performances. "Rhythm and Blues that'll move your shoes"! Pattytuite.com

JULY 24TH LEAF JUMPERS

Playing the best of 90s and 2000s adult rock. Bands like U2, REM, Counting Crows and many others that all ages will love. The band has played all over the East Coast from Maine to Georgia on some of the biggest and most well known stages.

www.leafjumpers.com

JULY 31ST FLAMINGO

A 15-piece all female big band. Their repertoire includes jazz standards from the Big Band

Era as well as music from the 50s and through the 80s. The band is composed of

professional musicians and has performed in a wide variety of settings throughout

Connecticut and southern Massachusetts for well over twenty years.

www.flamingobigband.com

AUGUST 7TH WHISKEY, WINE AND COKE

An acoustic trio covering popular hits by The Beatles, Carly Simon, Hall & Oates, Etta James and many more. coyoteriverband.com/artist/whiskey-wine-coke

AUGUST 14TH 1974

Combining the guitar-centered power riffs of the 60s and 70s with a lush, rich vocal arrangement that simultaneously knocks you down and lifts you up. www.1974online.com

AUGUST 21ST 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





WEDNESDAYS IN THE PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 Р.М.

RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Summer Concert Concessions

Looking for a way to fundraise for your group?

WPRD is looking for local groups to work with us to provide burgers, hotdogs,
etc. for our Summer Concert Series.

- Each group must provide all equipment; grills, tent/canopy, table, chairs, tablecloth and signage.
- Each group must obtain required health department permits.
- Groups must be set up with cars removed from concert area no later than 30 minutes prior to concert start.
- Cars cannot be brought back in to table location until at least 20 minutes after the concert ends OR residents have cleared out making it safe to drive into the area.

Vendor Agre	eement:			
	ss Name:		will pa	articipate as a vendor
	Wednesday, July 10th Wednesday, July 24th Wednesday, August 7th Wednesday, August 21st	t.	Wednesday, July 17th Wednesday, July 31st Wednesday, August 14th	
Group/Busine	ss Contact Information:	Email		Phone
Questions? Please contact WPRD at 860-487-3108 or mparsell@willingtonct.org				





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. 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.

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

<u>Fees:</u> 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.

<u>Financial Assistance:</u> 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.

<u>Inclement Weather Policy:</u> 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.

<u>Payment:</u> 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.

<u>Program Cancellation:</u> 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.

<u>Register Early:</u> 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.

<u>Scholarship Program:</u> 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.



<u>We are Social!</u> Be sure to "**LIKE**" Willington Parks & Recreation on Facebook! Check out the Willington Parks & Recreation website at <u>www.willingtonct.org</u> for all of our latest events and programs. Be sure to <u>Subscribe to E-Alerts</u> at <u>www.willingtonct.org</u> 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.

Registrars

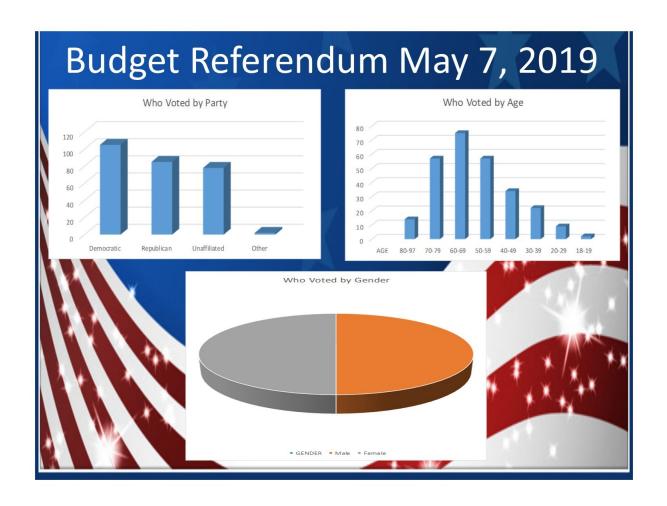


News From the The **ANNUAL** Budget Referendum was held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. There was a 7.8% voter turnout. See more statistics below.

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

Register to vote online at voterregistration.ct.gov; available 24/7. If you have questions, our office hours are Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 pm. You may also call 860 487.3120 and leave a message.

Suzanne G. Chapman Christine Psathas Registrars of Voters/Election Department www.willingtonct.org





Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars

Congratulations to the Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars Class of 2019 Recipients!



Calling all Past WSFDFS Recipients

We are nearing our 25th anniversary and would like to hear how our "alum" are faring and what your scholarships meant to you. There are over 400 past recipients, counting this year's class. We would love to hear your stories!

Email us at Willington@dollarsforscholars.org or visit our website at www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org to get in touch with us!

Save The Date

Please visit our booth at the Willington Federated Church's Flea Market this Fall! We will be hosting an exciting new fundraiser that we hope you will find easy, convenient and fun! We hope you tell your friends!

More to come...

Check us out on Facebook, Twitter and our Website!

Superintendent's Update

Willington Public Schools Facilities Survey

The Willington Board of Education had a facilities study completed by Friar Architecture in 2017. The comprehensive survey of our two schools, Center School (built in 1952) and Hall School (built in 1922), resulted in the identification of the following options: repair our schools, renovate our schools to like new condition, or build new. To view a presentation on the facilities study go to www.willingtonpublicschools.org and click the tab titled *Willington Public Schools Facilities Study* at the top of the page. The purpose of the survey is to solicit feedback regarding how the Board should address our aging facilities and the options identified in the facilities study.

You can fill out the survey online by going to www.willingtonpublicschools.org and click the tab titled Willington Public Schools Facilities Study at the top of the page, or complete a paper version available at the Town Office Building or Willington Public Library. Surveys need to be completed by August 1.

Feel free to email the superintendent (<u>pstevens@willingtonct.org</u>) with any questions or feedback regarding the facilities study or survey. It is our goal, through consensus, to reach the best solution for the future of our schools and the needs of our Willington students and families.







Tax Collector



PROPERTY TAX BILLS HAVE BEEN MAILED <u> 1st Installment Due by August 1, 2019</u>

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 the button that says 'OnLine Payments". There is a convenience fee of 2.95% for credit cards and \$1.95 for EFT. We also have a public kiosk at the Town Hall for on-line credit/debit card payments. The same fees apply.

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

Payments due July 1, 2019 must be received, or postmarked, no later than August 1, 2019. Payments due January 1, 2020 must be received, or postmarked, no later than February 3, 2020.

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.

What am I being taxed on?

You are being taxed on Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicles as of October 1, 2018.

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.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and prosperous summer!

Janice C. Clauson, Revenue Collector 860-487-3111 - collector@willingtonct.org

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

Knowlton Property:

Mason Road - Hiking Trails

Willington'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 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. 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.

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

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.



Town Parks & Amenities Continued...

Facility Rentals:

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

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

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.

Willington Public Library



Willington Public Library 7 Ruby Road

We've had some changes...

We'd like to introduce and welcome into our library family, two new members to our Staff, Joe and Jennifer. We hope you will stop in and say hello. Thank you to Lea, for doing a great job filling in, while we wait for a new Director. Everyone is doing an outstanding job and we are happy and grateful to have them here with us; and a special thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, who continue to support us with their time, care, and energy! We had to

thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, who continue to support us with their time, care, and energy! We had to say good-bye to our former Director Krissy but wish her well, in her new endeavor. We also had to say good-bye to Sarah, who served on our Library Board. We wish her all the best, for her future as well.

We now have a name for our **new library bear!** We welcome, **Agent Grizzly 207** (Super Spy Grizzly) to our Library! You can catch him, watching you, as you enter into the library. You can find him to the left, above the Magazine and New 14 Day Book shelving. Thank you, to all who participated in the contest. All the names were great!

OLLIE TIME: It has been difficult for the staff to find or to take the time, to accommodate our patrons, who want to come in and give our pet Guinea Pig Ollie, some wonderful play time, exercise and/or attention. We are now going to set aside a specific time, where this can be done on a regular basis. Ollie LOVES the attention the children and families give him. Thank you for being such good friends to him. We will now be offering a new program, where once a week, we will have someone available, so we can take Ollie out for a visit with you. If you would like to participate in this, that someone will be available now, on Tuesday's between 11 am - 2 pm. Please keep in mind, that this practice will only be possible, as long as Ollie is up for it. We must always consider his feelings, wants, and needs. Also, everyone must follow the special rules, that Ollie requires.

Museum and Attraction Passes Available

Our library is bringing in wonderful programs and offering many outside programs and events, for you to take advantage of, through our many new PASSES Program. PLEASE, take advantage of them, they are here for you to use. These many Passes that are offered, are provided by and thanks to, the Friends of the Willington Public Library's group. Our list of passes has grown since last summer and continues to grow, as of right now...bringing the outside WORLD to you, for FREE or at a fraction of the cost. We now offer many museums and attractions, both in-state and now, out-of-state. Come check out our selection or view them on our website www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org We are always open to suggestions, please let us know.



At this reading, our **Summer Reading Program**, has been well on it's way. Our theme this year is a **Summer of SPACE: A Universe of Stories!** Join us for eight weeks of fun, learning and prizes. We have already blasted off, with an exciting number of fun and educational programs, we provided during the month of June. There are still so many more exciting things to do this summer, to go along with this theme. You will find more programming listed below.

Beginning July 2 and continuing on, for 6 weeks until August 6, we are having a special program on Sustainable Farming and Gardening (includes both flowers and vegetables!) This will be headed by Caitlyn Lovely, who is a Senior at UConn. Caitlyn will incorporate these ideas and systems through simple and interesting ways, that will appeal, be understood and can be applied, by people of all ages! What does Sustainable mean? In short, it is a continuous cycle, of giving back to nature and our environment, over a long period of time. She will also be teaching us how, what, and why effect this has to do on and with our "space" in relation, to this years summer reading theme. Classes will meet on Tuesday evenings (July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and August 6) at 6:30 pm. There will be a lot of fun, interesting, and

The Traveling Lantern Theatre Company will be performing, "My Mother the Astronaut...to the moon and beyond! on Thursday, July 18th at 6:00 pm. Aquarius' mom is an astronaut and today is "Take your child to work day". Aquarius can't wait to go to NASA and find out what it's like to be in space! They visit Mission Control where she meets scientists and engineers who show her what they do and she learns all about space travel. Her imagination blasts off and she dreams of incredible journeys through the cosmos!

educational activities, to learn and enjoy, throughout this

program. Join us for one or all, of these presentations.

Bluegrass Music Concert, Saturday, Saturday, July 20th at 1:00 pm.

Sweet Potato Pie, Some Sweet, Down-Home Bluegrass Music Performance

Some old friends got together on the back porch, to play and sing some old gospel and bluegrass tunes. They had so much fun, they decided to call themselves 'Sweet'

Potato Pie' and share their music with anyone who wants to listen, dance, and sing along.

Rich Young picks and grins on banjo. Rich is the owner of Still River Guitars in Eastford, CT. He plays guitar and banjo and spends his professional time building classical guitars, mandolins and restoring and repairing stringed instruments.

Al Dziedzic is a musician from Ashford and when he's not pickin' bluegrass on the Dobro, he's playing keyboards and saxophone in his blues band, "Back Ali Blues".

Susan Dziedzic is on vocals and guitar and, being a G.R.I.T.S. (Girl Raise In The South), keeps the music true to its southern roots.

Please join us once again, on **The CT Authors Trail, Thursday, August 8th at 6:30 pm.** The CAT is celebrating their eleventh year, with now 29 libraries participating from this part of the state. Beginning July 9 in Franklin and ending September 18 at the Mohegan Sun, with Author Luanne Rice and her new book "Pretend She's Here". Local authors will showcase their books and share their stories. Pick up a Passport here or at any participating library and start collecting stamps, which can be handed in, for chances to win prizes.

The more CAT libraries you attend, the more chances of winning, both at the night of their own individual library event or at the Grand Finale event itself. Each library event, including ours, will offer their own individual "gift" to whoever comes to their own program. So, come celebrate with us here, at our library, with local Writer and Author Sarah Whelan. Sarah will read from and sign her new fiction novel, "The Struggle Within: a Novel". Sarah Whelan has a master's degree in criminal justice and twenty years of experience in the field. She is a paid public speaker who presents at law enforcement conferences across the country. She brings this knowledge and experience to her new book. The Struggle Within touches on many of the inequalities in the criminal iustice system, with diverse characters, page-turning action, and ethical ambiguities.

Everyone, everywhere, is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. To commemorate this great event, in our Nation's history, at our Grand Finale on August 10th at 1:00 pm, we have the honor and privilege of presenting an outstanding performance by renown storyteller, Tom Callinan. For over 40 years, Tom has been a full-time creative and performing artist (over 200 performances per year). Mr. Callinan's media credits include: ABC-TV's "Good Morning America", CNN's "Earth Matters", environmental program, PBS children's show, "Shining Time Station", and CPTV's "Positively Connecticut"...among others; AND, he is here for us, this summer! Tom has developed a participatory program about space, that draws on his extensive repertoire of songs, stories, and a display of memorabilia related to that, and other, historic space achievements. Tom's fascination with the concept of space exploration can be traced to President John F. Kennedy's 1961 speech before a Joint Session of Congress, announcing his goal of sending an American safely to the Moon and back before the end of the decade. You won't want to miss this event. Watch history come to life. This program is called "SPACE CHALLENGERS" is FOR ALL AGES! This Grand Finale event, will be held on Saturday, August 10th at 1:00 pm, in our Community Room.



Tuesday, August 13th, at 6:30 pm, Bill Fournier, JPL/ NASA Solar System Ambassador, will be giving a presentation on Meteorites.

The Perseids are the most popular meteor shower (streams of cosmic debris entering Earth's atmosphere at extremely high speeds on parallel trajectories) as they peak on warm August nights as seen from the northern hemisphere. The Perseids are active from July 17 to

August 24. They reach a strong maximum on August 12 - 13, depending on the year. Normal rates seen from rural locations range from 50-75 shower members per hour at maximum. The Perseids are particles released from comet 109P/Swift-Tuttle during its numerous returns to the inner solar system. They are called Perseids since the radiant (the area of the sky where the meteors seem to originate) is located near the prominent constellation of Perseus the hero when at maximum activity.

Bill's interest in space was stimulated through reading early science fiction in his youth.

After the program, attendees are invited to stay and view the Perseids Meteor Shower, which is peaking August 12 - 13...weather permitting. The Perseids will be at their peak August 12-13 night.

The Friends of WPL's Annual Book Sale will be on Saturday, September 7th and will run all day, from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm with free admission. Our book sale kicks off the same day as the Flea Market, on the Town Green. We have thousands of books, which are sorted into categories, with most books being priced from \$.50 to \$2.00, with the exception of collectible and specially priced books that are also available for purchase. So, come and get your first choice in picks. Our sale then continues, through the rest of the month of September, where we offer the remaining books at \$4.00 per bag or 3 bags for only \$10.00. We provide the bags, and either way, we offer you a great deal. Come in and shop.

Join us, for any or all, of our **FREE** programs, listed below: **WPL Adult Book Club:** meets on the **1st Thurs. of each month, at 7:00 pm** in our Reading Room. Please note, in July, they will meet on the second Thursday, due to the Fourth of July holiday closing on the first Thursday.

Looking ahead:

July 11 - The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce

We are skipping **August** due to the length of the Stephen King book.

September 5 - 11/22/63 by Stephen King

October 3 - Enchantress of Numbers by Jennifer Chiaverini

November 7 - Where the Crawdads Sing by Della Owens

December 5 - Any suggestions for December would be welcome.

We would like to extend an invitation to all. Come join and share in, on the fun, informative, and engaging discussions. Choose one or all. Everyone is welcome to participate.



Family Movie Time: last Saturday of the month, starting at 12:30.

On July 27: How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World

On August 31: UglyDolls

No showing in September, due to the Friends of WPL's annual Book Sale



Knitting Group: Group meets every Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 - 3:00

Qigong: Class meets every Thursday at 4:00 pm

Sound Healing & Meditation: class is every 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm...upcoming dates to look forward to...July 16 and August 20, there will be no class in September, due to our Friends annual Book Sale. Given by instructor Mary Tardif.

Mommy & Me Play Group: meets every 1st & 3rd Thursdays from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. This group offers the chance for parents and their young children to come together, to make friends and share experiences and it's FREE! Many thanks to Jamielee, who heads this program, here at the library.



Sing, Spell, Read, & Write: We had a wonderful year and we learned so much, while having lots of fun! This is a total language arts curriculum for the

21st century! Teaching for 3-6 year olds learning readiness, phonemic awareness, letter recognition, manuscript writing, visual and auditory discrimination. We are off for the summer but will begin again in the fall, on **September 6th, at 9:30 - 11:00 am.** Schedule for the new and upcoming year will be announced shortly, so please be looking. Many thanks to Missy Almquist! Enjoy your summer!

Story & Craft Time: We gather on the 1st & 2nd Saturday of the month and enjoy stories, a related craft and activity, to go along with the theme. Begins 10:00 -11:00 am. It's always a surprise and lots of fun!

We welcome our very own, **Eastern CT Writer's Group** created, established and run by local author Felix Giordano. We would like to thank Felix for continuing on with this wonderful and beneficial endeavor for our library and it's patrons. I hope everyone will take the chance to check what this group is all about and what wonderful programs they bring for us to learn from and enjoy. This group has two purposes.



The writer's group is held on the **second and fourth**Saturdays of the month from 12:30 - 2:30 Upcoming dates: July: 13 & 27, August: 10 & 24, September: 14 & 28

Guidelines: The Eastern CT Writers group will be modeled after the lowa Writers Workshop. Submissions are expected no later than one week prior to the meetings and are due on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

Submissions can be novel chapters, short stories, memoirs, and poetry and are limited to no more than 3,000 words and no more than 10-12 double-spaced pages.

Critiquing must be respectful and the author of each piece should not interrupt the critique or comment on the critique unless asked. Verbal critiquing should consist of major issues such as point of view, plot and character development, or the story arc of the short story, poem, memoir, or novel.

Grammar, punctuation, and other items not dependent to the story should be written as part of the critique but not verbalized during the discussion. Each submission will be allotted an even amount of time for critiquing based upon the number of submissions and available time.

The Eastern CT Writer's group also meets for their monthly meetings on every first Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted). Meet & Greet @ 9:30 am, Writing Discussion @ 10:00 am, Meeting @ 10:30 am, Lectures, questions, & answers @ 11:00 - Noon...where they bring to us guest lecturers and authors, on many interesting topics related to publishing, reading, writing and many other topics of interest, regarding books in our world today. A variety of programs of interest to published authors, aspiring authors, and interested writers are presented. There are no dues, the public is invited and participants are welcome to attend either the meeting, writer's group, or both.

Upcoming events for this program:

July 6: Outlining, Character Profiles, and Creating Backgrounds

August 3: Publishing Your Book **Sept. 7:** No meeting this month For more information, please go to...

https://easternconnecticutwriters.blogspot.com

The month of **September is Library Card Sign-Up Month!** If you don't have your library card already, come on in and see what we have to offer and get one. Your library card can be used in a huge variety of ways, which includes being able to be used, at any public library, in the whole state of Connecticut. You can see what other libraries in the state, have to offer, as well. All of which you are entitled to use. It will open up a whole new world for you!

We are still enjoying our "Wishtree", outside on the library grounds, based on the many books we have in the library, with this theme. Our Wishtree will be available to anyone who would like to make a "wish" that will be represented, in the form of a ribbon (you can bring your own, or we will supply one) and then tied to the tree's branches. This "wish", in whatever form your heart wishes to call it, will not be written down, you will just know it in your heart and mind. You may also choose to have it represent an intangible blessing or a prayer request. Wishes could be for peace, rest, health, etc. These tidbits can represent hopes for something better. If you were to tie a Wishtree, what would it be? Only you will know. Help fill our tree with Wish Knots. Everyone needs to hope. Be the change you WISH to see in the world.

We have also been working on a new project called **'The Story Walk'** and it is almost ready! It should be finished in time for summer. We will be combining wonderful children's picture books with all the joys and benefits of reading and walking and sharing, together outside. Our first book is titled "Only One You" by Linda Kranz. (It is erected, at the back side parking lot of the building, up on the grass and following the line of Route 74.) Available for you to enjoy whether we are open or not

We are **in need of** and looking to acquire, some **White Birch wood**, for an upcoming Friends craft project, we will be working on, for our Holiday Craft Fair, which is held in December. Many of us have had a rough winter and a stormy spring, weather wise; which unfortunately, has brought down some of our trees. We would like to take these and put them to good use and still get some enjoyment out of them. If you have any or know of where some might be had, please let Debbie know at the library. If you are unable to bring in the wood yourself, we can try to find someone who could help us out with gathering it and bringing it to the library. Thank you!

If you attended the Willington Day Celebration and stopped by the Anything Printed Copy Center booth, we may have your Spin Art Project you created. It seems many items were in need of drying and couldn't be taken home right away. We now have them here at the library for you. Please stop by to collect your work of art. We will hold on to them for a short while. They are quite beautiful and would make a lovely gift to give someone special, for a special occasion.

We have a lot more programs coming up that are not mentioned here in the Willington Wire newsletter. As they are finalized, you will be able to find out more about them on our website, at www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org, on Facebook, and on Burbio. Connect with US! Sign up for reminders of upcoming events and programs that can be sent directly to you through our, very own Eblast. A link to our email blast will be coming soon on our website but for now, call us at 860-429-3854 or stop in to sign-up. It's a great way to keep in touch and see what is happening at your library. We all need reminders!



Friends of WPL Meetings...The Friends meet on the second Tuesday, of all the even numbered months of the year. Our next meeting will take place on August 13th at 6:00, in the Conference Room. We are always in want and need of volunteers for this wonderful group of people. Please consider joining. We can always use your help. Thank you, to all of you, who are already members, of this great and important organization.

Library Board Meetings...The Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. They will resume, after summer break on September 10th, at 7:00 pm, in the Conference Room. We are in the process of looking for a few people, who would be interested in joining our Library Board. A new election year is coming up and we will be loosing some of our current Board members. Thank you to the many, who have served us so well. We have greatly appreciated, all that you have contributed to our success and in making this an outstanding library, for our community. All the best, in what your futures hold ahead, for each and everyone.

Looking ahead:

More Needle-Felting classes being offered...we are thinking of offering a Needle-Felting Craft Club, where once a month, beginning in January of 2020, we can work on a project. If you would be interested in such an offer, please let us know. (Pumpkins in Oct., Snowmen in Nov.)

Medicare/Social Security Workshop: Thursday, October 3 at 6:00 pm

"Gargoyles": The Grotesque 10...Thursday, October 17 at 6:30 pm

"Star Gazing" with the Astronomical Society of Greater Hartford...Tuesday, October 22, rain-date- Tues. Oct. 29 at 6:30 p.m.

From all the Staff at the WPL, Have a safe and enjoyable your summer!

The Science Corner with Emily

The Great Sphinx

Hey everyone and happy summer to you all! I hope you are enjoying my snippets of science, I am very excited to share this next article with you. It is a topic I have become quite fascinated with these past few months. Having just completed my degree in Geoscience I felt it was only fitting to share this theory with you brought about by a geology professor at the University of Boston- the water erosion theory of The Great Sphinx.

The Great Sphinx is located outside of Cairo, Egypt on the western bank of the Nile River near the Great Pyramid. The limestone statue carved out of the Giza Plateau sits roughly 66' tall and depicts the body of a lion and the head of a human. Egyptologist believe Old King Pharaoh Khafre ordered the statue to be constructed around 2500 BCE. However, from a geologic perspective this dating does not add up.

Dr. Robert Schoch first visited the Sphinx in 1990 and immediately noticed the body and walls of the enclosure depict heavy erosional features caused by rainfall and water runoff. The Sphinx, which sits on the outer boundary of the Sahara Desert has been arid for 5000 years. Additionally, structures that are securely dated back to the Old Kingdom only depict wind and sand erosion which is distinctly different from water erosion.



Many Egyptologists immediately disputed this theory stating the Sphinx depicts a dynastic Egyptian head which did not begin until 3000 BCE. However, looking at the head of the Sphinx relative to the body, the head is too small and believed to have been re-carved due to severe weathering and erosion. Schoch used seismic technology to test his theory at the base of the Sphinx to measure the depth of subsurface weathering. Soundwaves were generated that penetrated the rock, reflected, and returned to the surface. The extraordinary depth of weathering further supported his theory, wind and sand erosion could not account for weathering that deep.

Disputes continued to swirl due to a lack of evidence of advanced civilizations prior to 3000 BCE. Then, suddenly in 1996, Göbekli Tepe (the world's oldest temple) was discovered in Turkey and securely dated back to 12,000 years ago. Now, a major mystery is before us as to why these early civilizations disappeared and reemerged thousands of years later. Looks like you will have to tune in to my next article to hear the theory and supporting evidence of what happened to these ancient civilizations.



