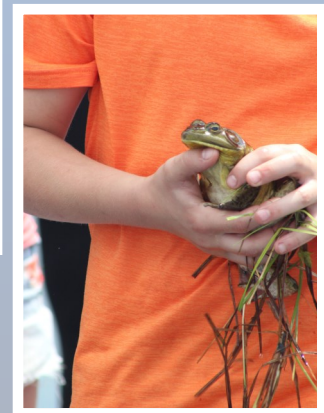


# Wilmington Wire

## Community E-Newsletter

Quarter 2—2019



# 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        |
| 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            | Joeylee Stebbins                    | 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—April, May & June

| Board/Commission             | Day       | Date       | Time      |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Board of Education           | Thursday  | April 11th | 7:00 p.m. |
| Board of Education           | Tuesday   | May 14th   | 7:00 p.m. |
| Board of Education           | Tuesday   | June 11th  | 7:00 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Board of Finance             | Tuesday   | April 9th  | 7:00 p.m. |
| Board of Finance             | Thursday  | April 18th | 7:00 p.m. |
| Board of Finance             | Thursday  | May 16th   | 7:00 p.m. |
| Board of Finance             | Thursday  | June 20th  | 7:00 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Board of Selectmen           | Monday    | April 1st  | 6:30 p.m. |
| Board of Selectmen           | Monday    | April 15th | 6:30 p.m. |
| Board of Selectmen           | Monday    | May 6th    | 6:30 p.m. |
| Board of Selectmen           | Tuesday   | May 20th   | 6:30 p.m. |
| Board of Selectmen           | Monday    | June 3rd   | 6:30 p.m. |
| Board of Selectmen           | Monday    | June 17th  | 6:30 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Conservation Commission      | Wednesday | April 10th | 7:00 p.m. |
| Conservation Commission      | Wednesday | May 15th   | 7:00 p.m. |
| Conservation Commission      | Wednesday | June 19th  | 7:00 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Economic Development         | Wednesday | April 10th | 6:30 p.m. |
| Economic Development         | Wednesday | May 8th    | 6:30 p.m. |
| Economic Development         | Wednesday | June 12th  | 6:30 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Historical Society           | Tuesday   | April 9th  | 7:00 p.m. |
| Historical Society           | Tuesday   | May 21st   | 7:00 p.m. |
| Historical Society           | Tuesday   | June 18th  | 7:00 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Housing Authority            | Monday    | April 15th | 4:00 p.m. |
| Housing Authority            | Monday    | May 20th   | 4:00 p.m. |
| Housing Authority            | Monday    | June 17th  | 4:00 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Inland Wetlands/Watercourses | Monday    | April 22nd | 7:30 p.m. |
| Inland Wetlands/Watercourses | Monday    | May 20th   | 7:30 p.m. |
| Inland Wetlands/Watercourses | Monday    | June 24th  | 7:30 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Library Board of Directors   | Tuesday   | April 9th  | 7:00 p.m. |
| Library Board of Directors   | Tuesday   | May 14th   | 7:00 p.m. |
| Library Board of Directors   | Tuesday   | June 11th  | 7:00 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Parks & Recreation           | Monday    | April 29th | 7:00 p.m. |
| Parks & Recreation           | Monday    | May 20th   | 7:00 p.m. |
| Parks & Recreation           | Monday    | June 24th  | 7:00 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Planning & Zoning            | Tuesday   | April 2nd  | 7:30 p.m. |
| Planning & Zoning            | Tuesday   | April 16th | 7:30 p.m. |
| Planning & Zoning            | Tuesday   | May 7th    | 7:30 p.m. |
| Planning & Zoning            | Tuesday   | May 21st   | 7:30 p.m. |
| Planning & Zoning            | Tuesday   | June 4th   | 7:30 p.m. |
| Planning & Zoning            | Tuesday   | June 18th  | 7:30 p.m. |
|                              |           |            |           |
| Zoning Board of Appeals      | Thursday  | April 11th | 7:30 p.m. |
| Zoning Board of Appeals      | Thursday  | May 9th    | 7:30 p.m. |
| Zoning Board of Appeals      | Thursday  | June 13th  | 7:30 p.m. |



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

**Good Friday—Friday, April 19th  
Memorial Day—Monday, May 27th**



## 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.

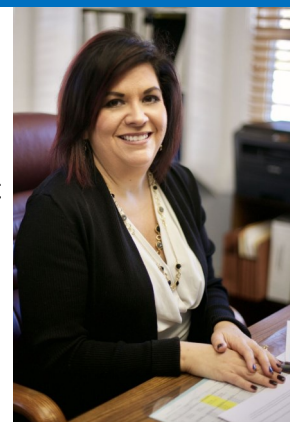
Spring in Willington is a time to get outdoors and connect with friends and neighbors and support local non-profit organizations. This busy time of year is an opportunity to explore the many outdoor activities available such as a Willington Little League game, The Willington PTA's Fun Run on May 25<sup>th</sup> or hiking on one of our trails. Willington Day will be held on May 25<sup>th</sup> at River Road Athletic Complex. Check this brochure and the town website for all events and activities.

2019 has been a productive year so far for many of our Town Boards, Commissions and Departments. The budget process for the 2019-2020 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 9<sup>th</sup> Budget Hearing, Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Town Meeting, and Tuesday May 7<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.

Erika G Wiecenski  
Town of Willington  
First Selectwoman



## Talk of the Town

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

The Willington Parks and Recreation department is a vital part of our community and this edition is dedicated to our Director, **Maureen Parsell**. If you are reading this then you have Maureen to thank for ensuring that we get as much information out to our residents as we can through the Willington Wire. In addition to overseeing the Wire, Maureen is responsible for the Youth, High School and Adult Basketball Programs, Concerts in the Park, the many bus trips offered, Hall's Pond swimming, Summer Camp, and the Community Tree Lighting to name a few. She is a one person department that never stops working to provide opportunities for our residents to participate in. So if you attend yoga, borrow snowshoes or a kayak, take a bus trip to Tanglewood, play Pickleball or Adult Volleyball, attend Folk Dancing or play at River Road Athletic Complex, know it's all because Maureen is helping to make that available to Willington.

**Thank you Maureen for your dedication to our Parks and Recreation Department here in Willington!**



**April 9th**  
Board of Finance Budget Hearing

**April 23rd**  
Annual Town Budget Meeting

**Both meetings to be held at the Old Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.**

### Congratulations!

**Tish Ignatowicz**

After 9 1/2 years as Treasurer, Tish is our new full-time Account Analyst in the Finance Department.

**Jayson Righenzi**

After 3 years at the Transfer Station, Jayson is our new Administrative Assistant for the Public Works Department.



## Animal Control



Welcome spring! With spring and warmer weather in the air, Willington Animal Control would like to remind our dog owners of some very important things:

We would like to remind dog owners that all dogs over 6 months of age residing in Connecticut must have a current license attached to his/her collar. These licenses are the fastest way to reunite your pet if he/she becomes lost.

If you currently own a dog over 6 months of age which is not currently licensed, you may stop by the Town Clerk's Office to purchase a new tag. Fees are \$8.00 for Spayed/Neutered dogs or \$19.00 for dogs not Spayed/Neutered. Licenses are available in the Town Clerk's Office located in Town Office Building during regular business hours. Hours are Monday 12:30 to 7:30, and Tuesday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Or mail a copy of your dog's current Rabies Certificate, proof of Spay/Neuter (if applicable), a self-addressed stamped envelope and the appropriate fee and your check payable to "Town of Willington", to the Town Clerk's Office, 40 Old Farms Rd, Willington 06279—Attn: Dog Licenses. Please include a \$1.00 per month fine for each month you are overdue. For example if you are licensing a neutered dog in September then your fee would be \$8.00 and your fine would be \$3.00 totaling \$11.00.

Also, with the warmer weather we welcome dog owners to enjoy our town parks and trails, however dogs MUST be leashed at all times. Our parks and trail systems are for all residents to enjoy. Please be courteous, because we are all sharing the same paths!

Willington Animal Control in conjunction with Fenton River Veterinary Hospital, will be hosting a low cost Rabies clinic at the Willington Town Office Building, (40 Old Farms Rd) on June 8th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Town Clerk will also be in her office to accept 2019/2020 dog licenses.

Are you a Livestock owner who would like to assist Willington Animal Control during a large animal emergency? Assistance needed could be anything from manpower, to housing, trailering, or just food donation. If you are interested, please e-mail us at [Animalcontrol@willingtonct.org](mailto:Animalcontrol@willingtonct.org).

If you are on Facebook, please be sure to visit our page "Town of Willington Animal Control" to see any animals we have for adoption, animals which are lost or found, and for any notices regarding animals in Willington and surrounding towns.

**Tina Binheimer, Animal Control Officer, Town of Willington**

## 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 bi-annually by May 15. Anyone applying after April 15 must apply in person. 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, 2018 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, 2018. The property must be the applicant's primary residence (domicile).
- Your 2018 income cannot exceed \$36000(single) or \$43900(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 2018, or its equivalent, from Social Security and your 2018 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**



## Assessor Continued...

**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**

**Walter Topliff**  
Assessor

**Rachel L. Pierce**  
Assistant Assessor

## Budget Referendum

YOUR TOWN  
YOUR TAXES

BUDGET  
REFERENDUM  
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019

Polls open  
6:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
40 Old Farms Road

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

## Center Elementary School PreSchool Registration



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

## Center Elementary School Kindergarten Registration



Willington Center School is currently encouraging parents/guardians to begin registering their children for kindergarten for the 2019-2020 school year. Children must be 5 years old on or before Jan 1, 2020. Please call Center School at 860.429.9367. Orientation will be held on May 28th by registration only.

## Conservation Commission

Connecticut Trails Day – A Forest Trail Loop Hike thru Willington and Ashford

*Participate in CT Forest and Park Association's 2019 Connecticut Trails Day!*  
Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 am to 1 pm

Starts in Willington at the Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve parking lot on Burma Road (Off Moose Meadow Road).

Join us for a leisure 3-mile loop hike through the beautiful forests along the Ruby Trail in Willington and the Langhammer Trail in Ashford. Terrain is mostly flat with some gently rolling hills and possible trip hazards, such as roots and rocks. Bring water, snacks, sturdy footwear, sunscreen, bug repellent and a sense of wonder! History about the Fenton-Ruby Park and the Langhammer property will be shared. We'll see wildflowers, mountain laurel and hear forest birds along the way. Calm dogs on leash welcome, but please call hike leader to discuss ahead. If rain threatens, call to see if event is still on.

**Pre-Registration encouraged and appreciated.**

**Sponsored by the Willington and Ashford Conservation Commissions.**

To register contact hike leader, Rick Peck at [fredpeck47@gmail.com](mailto:fredpeck47@gmail.com) or 508-450-1210.





**Town of Willington Animal Control**  
**is hosting a:**

**“Low Cost”**  
**2nd Annual Vaccine Clinic**  
**Willington Residents & Non-Residents**

**Saturday**  
**June 8, 2019**  
**10:00am – 12:00pm**

**Location:** Willington Town Office Building  
40 Old Farms Rd.  
Willington, CT

**Veterinarian:** Fenton River Veterinary Hospital

**Cost (cash only!):**

Rabies Vaccine: \$10  
Canine DA2PP: \$20  
Feline Distemper: \$20  
Heartworm/4DX Test: \$45

**PLEASE NOTE:** Dogs & cats must be LEASHED/CRATED!  
To receive a 3 yr vaccination, you must bring proof of  
prior vaccination.

The Town Clerk’s Office will also be open from 10:00-12:00 p.m. for you to  
purchase your 2019/2020 dog licenses.

For more information or if you may need special accommodations for you or your pet, please call: Willington  
Animal Control – 860-428-4422





## EC-CHAP Continued...

### “Performance Update” By EC-CHAP

EC-CHAP offers a full schedule of live music, film, programs, and exhibitions. April through June will feature new and returning talent to The Packing House. Featured artists include Sarah Hanahan Quartet, Comedian Max Dolcelli, Jazz vocalist June Bisantz (CD Release Event), Bluegrass band Grass Roots CD Release Event), Spiritual Medium Maura Geist, and more! Check out our schedule below and visit our website for updates, schedule changes, additions, and cancellations...

([www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming](http://www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming)).

We would like to remind you of two remaining Special Performances planned for the 2019 Season! Tickets still available at [www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming](http://www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming).



On April 13<sup>th</sup>, EC-CHAP is privileged to host a very special event featuring folk icon **TOM RUSH!** Tom will provide two performances, 3:30pm and 7:30pm, as an annual Benefit Concert to support the **Eastern Connecticut Center for History, Art, and Performance**. Tom will be joined by singer / songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, **MATT NAKOA**. Local

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



It is with great pleasure that we present **STEVE KATZ** debut performance at The Packing House! Steve Katz is an original guitarist and founding member of **Blood, Sweat, and Tears**. Steve will provide an “*Evening of Music, and Intimate*

*Conversation*” on **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**. In addition to his professional musical career, Steve is a photographer and author, recently completing his memoir, “*Blood, Sweat, and My Rock ‘n Roll Years: Is Steve Katz a Rock Star?*”.

EC-CHAP is pleased to introduce a new monthly series, “*Readings at The Mill Works: A Literary Series with Brian Sneed*” (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month). This series compliments our monthly “*Talent Showcase*”, providing an exclusive platform for local and regional writers to join Featured Authors and share original works. This is an opportunity to read before a live audience and exchange constructive feedback. 6:00pm Sign-In / 6:30pm Readings begin.

Don't forget about our ongoing monthly events as well! These include: our *Bluegrass Project*, a collaboration with the Podunk Bluegrass Music Festival, featuring a different regional bluegrass band each month (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday); *Talent Showcase* (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday); *Social Dance with Kelly Madenjian* (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday); and monthly Film Series with screenings of Classic Award Winning Films, unique Artistic Films, thought provoking Documentaries, and Original Film Screenings.

We also host *Monthly Information Exchange Meetings*, providing an opportunity to discuss what EC-CHAP is all about and share your feedback and interests. If you're a local or regional artist, an enthusiast of the arts and/or historic preservation, or simply someone interested in supporting cultural programming, please join us! We'll review programs, membership and volunteer opportunities, and how you can become involved. Check our website for dates.

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

### April 2019

04/02: **EC-CHAP Presents “Readings at The Mill Works – A Literary Series with Brian Sneed**en”. Doors 6:00pm / Readings 6:30pm (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month)

04/03: **Monthly Bluegrass Project: Featuring Cabin Fever**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month).

04/06: **EC-CHAP Jazz Series: Sarah Hanahan Quartet - Part-3**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

04/07: **Spring “First Sunday at The Mill Works (Community Event)**. 2:00pm – 5:00pm. Free Admission.

04/10: **“Talent Showcase”**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm. Free admission – All ages. (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)

04/11: **EC-CHAP Social Dance Series with Kelly Madenjian**. Doors 6:30pm / Dance 7:00pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)

04/13: **SPECIAL PROGRAM: An Intimate Performance with Tom Rush – A Benefit Concert to Support EC-CHAP**. Two Shows: Afternoon - Doors 3:00pm / Show 3:30pm; and Evening - Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

04/16: **EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting**. 7:00pm

04/25: **Fundraiser: Tolland Community Women – Comedy Night with Max Dolcelli**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm

04/26: **EC-CHAP Film Series – “Cool Hand Luke” (GP)**. 1967. Doors 7:00pm / Film Screening 7:30pm

### May 2019

05/01: **Monthly Bluegrass Project: Featuring Still Pickin' Band**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month).

05/04: **EC-CHAP Jazz Series: June Bisantz “Loves Tango” – A CD Release Event**. Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

05/07: **EC-CHAP Presents “Readings at The Mill Works – A Literary Series with Brian Sneed**en”. Doors 6:00pm / Readings 6:30pm (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month)

05/08: **“Talent Showcase”**. Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm. Free admission – All ages. (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)



## EC-CHAP Continued...

05/09: **EC-CHAP Social Dance Series with Kelly Madenjian.** Doors 6:30pm / Dance 7:00pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)

05/16: **EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting.** 7:00pm

05/17: **EC-CHAP Film Series – “Basquiat” (R). 1996.** Doors 7:00pm / Film Screening 7:30pm

05/18: **SPECIAL PROGRAM: An Evening of Music and Intimate Conversation with Steve Katz.** Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

05/19: **EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series: Grass Roots “Buffalo Nickel Liberty Dime” – A CD Release Event (Bluegrass).** Doors 3:30pm / Show 4:00pm

### June 2019

06/01: **EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series - Carla Ulbrich “Professional Smart Aleck” (Comedic Singer/Songwriter).** Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

06/05: **Monthly Bluegrass Project: Featuring Bluegrass.** Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month).

06/07: **An Evening with Spiritual Medium Maura Geist** Doors 7:00pm / Show 7:30pm

06/08: **Intuitive Workshop with Maura Geist.** Doors 9:30am / Workshop: 10:00am

06/11: **EC-CHAP Monthly Information Exchange Meeting.** 7:00pm

06/12: **“Talent Showcase”.** Doors 6:30pm / Show 7:00pm. Free admission – All ages. (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)

06/13: **EC-CHAP Social Dance Series with Kelly Madenjian.** Doors 6:30pm / Dance 7:00pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)

06/15: **EC-CHAP Film Series – “Don’t Worry, He Won’t Get Far on Foot” (R). 2018.** Doors 7:00pm / Film Screening 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](mailto:info@ec-chap.org), or visit us at [www.ec-chap.org](http://www.ec-chap.org).*

*Visit The Packing House directly at: [www.thepackinghouse.us](http://www.thepackinghouse.us).*

## “Introducing The Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery”

By Rebecca Zablocki

As a part of our vision to become one of Southern New England's premiere cultural destinations, here at EC-CHAP we have created the “**Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery**”. This new effort will occupy the main corridors of The Mill Works and fill it with one of our strongest passions, ART! As this winter treks on, we have been able to use this season to prepare the space as well as build relationships with local artists.

We are currently in the process of updating the space with fresh paint and installation of our new Walker Display System. We can officially say that the space will be ready this March and our first display of art will be in full swing by the time we have our next open house event, “**First Sunday at The Mill Works**” on **April 7<sup>th</sup>** from **2:00pm to 5:00pm**. We are looking forward to welcoming you in as we spring into this new project!

As the Community Gallery grows, we hope to also grow our list of contacts and create a schedule for future exhibits. The Community Gallery model will function with a regular weekly schedule of open hours, manned by displaying artists and volunteers. This collaborative approach will allow us to create a cost-free “platform” for art presentation where local and regional artists may assist with installation design, display their works, and share in the supervision and monitoring of the gallery.

We hope that this space will help to bring awareness to the talent within our community - but we also hope it inspires others to be creative. Our first exhibit will host a mixture of media from a handful of local artists including sculptures made from found metal objects as well as some more traditional landscape and contemporary images. We look forward to hosting groups of students, new-found artists that discover their hobby during retirement, full-time artists that have a new body of work and so much more. The space can accommodate for the work of painters, sculptors, printmakers, photographers and so much more and we cannot wait for you to become a part of it.

Feel free to join us in the new Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery this spring! Stay tuned for our hours, or plan to visit during *First Sunday at the Mill Works* on April 7th! If you or someone you know is an artist at any level or stage in their practice and would be interested in displaying work in our new community gallery, feel free to contact [communitygallery@ec-chap.org](mailto:communitygallery@ec-chap.org) and don't forget to check us out and follow along with us on Instagram (@ec\_chap\_inc) & Facebook (Eastern Connecticut Center for History, Art, and Performance). EC-CHAP is located at The Mill Works, 156 River Road, Willington, CT 06279.

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



# EC-CHAP Continued...

## “Raising Historical Awareness” By EC-CHAP

Did you know that there are over 200 organizations identified as “Historical Societies” registered with the Connecticut Secretary of the State’s Office? And did you know that of these, there are over 10 Historical Organizations serving the entire state of Connecticut? And did you further know, that there are over 25 local Historical Societies situated within a 25 mile radius of EC-CHAP in Willington, Connecticut? (Source: <https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Register-Manual/SectionX/Historical-Societies>)

Local Historical Societies, Museums, Universities, and Historians provide a rich knowledge of area history – possessing important writings, oral histories, original photographs, artifacts, research, and other resources that describe the evolution of the area they serve. This collection of unique assets and knowledge assists in answering critical questions, and provides a roadmap of sorts to help explain the challenges, hardship, innovation, rewards, and growth that leads to who and what we are today.

Imagine if these organizations and individuals are able to come together to share this knowledge in coordinated public forums. If each organization is given a platform to communicate and describe the historical significance of their piece of the world, what new knowledge and connections could be made? We believe a shared model of collaboration and equity that promotes discourse and engages collective knowledge will result in a heightened awareness and importance of history, and the need to continue to preserve the valuable resources that tell our story.

As a part of addressing this broader historical view, EC-CHAP intends to begin dialog with local, regional and statewide historical organizations and individuals to facilitate opportunities for conversation, collaboration, and programming. There appear to be pockets of rich history just waiting for connections to be made. As your regional cultural organization, we hope to play a small part in bringing together the many folks who can share knowledge, common interests, and help to connect the historical “dots” that will yield better understandings.

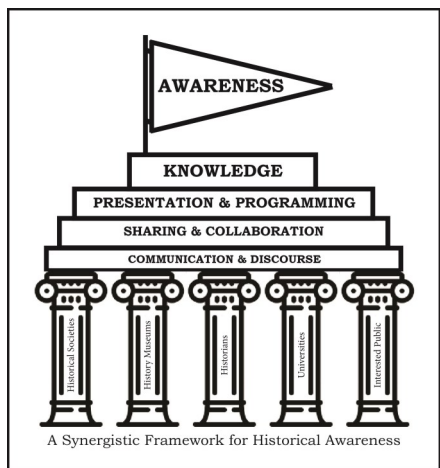
The Eastern Connecticut Center for History, Art, and Performance (EC-CHAP) has been very fortunate to be one of twelve recipients of the 2019 “*Good To Great*” grant administered by the Connecticut DECD, State Office of Historic Preservation. We plan to discuss how this grant has allowed us to develop a facility preservation and adaptive reuse plan at our Spring “*First Sunday at The Mill Works*” scheduled for Sunday, April 7th.

In addition to announcing this preservation effort, we are scheduling a breakout session on April 7th to introduce a proposed framework to engage regional historical organizations and interested individuals in conversation and collaboration. EC-CHAP believes in *synergistic mathematics* where  $1+1=3$  (where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts).

If you are interested in exploring a proposed model for collaboration, and helping to be a part of this synergistic effort to raise historical awareness and preserve the past, please join us on April 7th at The Mill Works, 156 River Road, Willington, CT from 2:00pm to 5:00pm.

For additional information, please contact EC-CHAP at [info@ec-chap.org](mailto:info@ec-chap.org), or call 518-791-9474.

**Remember... “The future is just history waiting to happen” - EC-CHAP**



## Garden Club

***“Anyone who thinks that gardening begins in the spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the whole year; for gardening begins in January with the dream.” -Josephine Neuse***



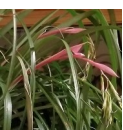
The Willington Garden Club has been very busy! In October, John Howe, a local beekeeper, presented an informative and very engaging program on beekeeping! We got to taste some of the delicious nectar! If you'd like to buy some local raw honey, he is located on 315 River Road, Willington. He can also be reached by email at [lead.drone@gmail.com](mailto:lead.drone@gmail.com). Many thanks to John for his time, enthusiasm, and great smile!



After Thanksgiving, the garden club members met once again at the town office building to make wreaths. Members brought lots of supplies to share including bags of greens from their yards, pruners, and coat hangers which were used for the structure of the wreaths. This year we had an especially wonderful selection of greens including grasses, holly, PJM Rhododendron, white pine and hemlock cuttings. Participants brought a spool of floral wire and ribbon to make a bow. However there were extras of everything just in case. Once again, Jenny led a successful workshop where new members learned to make stunning wreaths! And, as usual, we enjoyed tasty treats! This is an annual tradition to which town folks are invited!



Julia Cartabiano, Willow Valley Farm, joined us in January for a discussion of **spring seed starting with success**. Julia's presentation helped us remember the joy of spring gardening! Julia's presentation was a wonderful follow-up to our "Seed Gathering" workshop with Ann Cilfone last fall. Many of us gathered lots of seeds such as marigolds, zinnias, hollyhocks, nasturtium and Blackberry lily among others. As we have sat patiently wondering what to do with all these glorious seeds, along comes Julia to guide us! She introduced us to cow pots, various seed starting medium, worm castings, and the varied temperatures need for germination! Words of caution...don't start your seeds too early, provide warmth and plenty of light for successful germination and happy seedlings! Julia's wealth of information and warm presentation style made for an informative but casual meeting. You can find out more her by visiting the farm website, Willow Valley Farm at <https://wvfcsa.wordpress.com/about/> or going to their Facebook site at <https://www.facebook.com/WVFCSA/>



One of the joys of a garden club is the sharing of plants, perennials, annuals, and house plants. When my Queen's Tears (*Billbergia nutans*) was in bloom in January, I was able to share the offshoots with members. In addition, there were enough offshoots to share with avid gardeners in the Town Offices! It's an epiphyte from Brazil, *Billbergia nutans* is ideal for partially shady locations around the home or garden.

## Garden Club Continued...

The tough leaves have toothed edges, and flowers are borne on long stems. The striking pink bracts have blue and green blossoms and long yellow stamens. It usually blooms during March and April in our greenhouses, and the flowers last 6-8 weeks. Also called "Friendship Plant" because it produces many offshoots, or young plants, to give to friends. Water frequently in the growing season. From [Logee's Tropical Plants](#). If you have too many house plants, please consider sharing them with your friends in the garden club.



Friendship is a major aspect of the garden club which we celebrate as often as we can! Our potluck dinners are delightful. Dinners are held in the more intimate setting of someone's home. Members bring luscious dishes such as chicken with almonds, pierogi, spinach salads, and homemade breads and, of course, yummy desserts. We hope you will join us one day and learn more about the good work of the garden club.

There's a lot ahead for the spring. Construction at the town offices front entrance is almost complete. We will need new topsoil and mulch for the spring and some more cleanup and planting will be necessary. Select Seeds contributed a lot of plant material and we will be seeking donations from them again this year. It was much appreciated! We would also like to tackle the concrete eyesore on the side of the building this year. Julia said she would take a look and give us an idea of what to do with it, since the rest of us are stumped. Help with these two projects is needed. Our next meeting is on March 26, 2019 at 6:30pm in the Town Offices Bldg. Shauna Shane of Fenton River Gallery will be our speaker.

For more information about the Willington Garden Club or if you'd like to be added to our distribution list, contact Regina Chatel, [reginachatel@charter.net](mailto:reginachatel@charter.net).



### 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.**



# Historical Society



## Society Membership

Start your relationship with Willington History!

Over the past several years, paid memberships in the Society has experienced a slow, steady decline. In response to this decline, the Society would like to take this opportunity to address the situation with our friends, neighbors, visitors and readers.

As a non-profit organization that is staffed on an all volunteer basis, we rely on memberships, gifts, grants and bequests to fund our ongoing operations. As memberships have decreased, so has the pool of willing volunteers to fill the various Board of Directors positions that make the Historical Society a viable organization here in Willington.

Yes, taking on the responsibility of the management of the Glazier Tavern has been an additional challenge to our group. However, it was a necessity for the Society to have a noticeable presence in the community as a way to highlight our rich history.

As President of the Society for the past fifteen years, I would ask those in our community who have enjoyed their interactions at the Glazier Tavern, our sponsored programs, or through our news in the Willington Town quarterly newsletter or the Historical Society's Newsletter, The HourGlass, to 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 past!*

## Spring Program

### Statues, Boulders, and Monoliths: The World War One Memorials of Connecticut.

Presented by Richard Franklin Donohue, President of the Cromwell Historical Society.

Save the date of Wednesday, April 17, at 7 PM for this upcoming program. The program will be held at the Willington Town Office Building, located at 40 Old Farms Road, in the upper level Community Room.

As the First World War ended, American communities hurried to memorialize the great efforts of their sons and daughters. Changes in culture and civic ideas since the American Civil War led to extensive public discourse about what memorials should and should not be.

Government leaders, artists, historians, and the monument industry itself promoted ideas from simple tablets to monoliths rivaling those of Egypt and Rome. Memorials throughout Connecticut exemplify this entire range of monumental styles.

Having visited and cataloged more than 200 monuments through the 169 towns in Connecticut. Richard Franklin Donohue will display images of the monuments and share stories of their design, placement, and the people memorialized on them. Special attention is given to the people and memorials of the hosting town and vicinity.

Additionally, the Willington Historical Society will display a number of photos, of the May 30, 1921 dedication of our World War One Monument, located at the top of the Willington Town Green.

## New furnace fundraising continues

With \$2,497 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, and several anonymous donors.

## Other News

A split-rail fence, is in the planning stage. The hope is to construct a New England style rail fence along our small field that faces Common Road. Making it a reality will be dependent on several things; first, getting a certificate of appropriateness from the Historic District Commission; second, splitting the rails for the fence. Hope springs eternal, since 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!

## 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 warmer weather. The meetings are always open to anyone interested in the history of Willington and the on-going activities of the Society.



## Historical Society Continued...

### Yes, It's Spring cleaning time, and we're 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  
Willington's 275<sup>th</sup> celebration parade

#### 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

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:

*"tis hard for an empty sack to stand upright."*

*-Poor Richard (1757)*

## National Public Works Week

May 19-25, 2019



Human Services is excited to once again be working with our Public Works department to fill a truck during National Public Works Week

**May 19th through 25th!**

Help show your support for our local families in need and celebrate all that our Public Works departments do for us! We will be accepting donations at the transfer station on Wednesday May 22nd from 9-3pm, at the Library on Thursday May 23rd from 9-4pm, and the rest of the week during business hours at the Town Office Building. Canned and dry goods, household items and toiletries will be accepted.

**Thanks for your support!**

## Human Services

### 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 all! The Foodshare truck comes every other Wednesday from 11am-11:30 sharp in front of the Senior Center. Please bring your own bags.

### KIDS NUTRITION

Baffled about what to feed your child? Can't get a picky eater to enjoy healthy choices? Join us in May for "Teach Tasty", a short class to learn about tips, tricks and recipes to help your picky child eat better! Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for more information!

### APRIL BASKETS

For residents in need, we are pleased to offer April Baskets, with all the fixings for a spring celebration meal! Registrations required for this income based program. Distribution starts April 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact the department with any questions.

### RENTERS REBATE

Elderly or Disabled renters may qualify for this tax abatement program, which starts April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please contact our office for more information or for an appointment.

### CRAFTS IN THE PARK

Coming soon, our FIFTH year of fun in the sun! Offering crafts Wednesdays in July at River Road Athletic Complex from 10-11:00 am. Inclement weather cancels. \$5 for materials, all of which are provided. No registration necessary! Our crafts this year are:

- July 3- Balloon bowls
- July 10- Mosaic jars
- July 17- Dreamcatchers
- July 24- Cottage magnets
- July 31- Kid's Choice

### WE ARE SOCIAL!

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



## Land Use

You may have seen some new faces if you've come by the Land Use Department over the past year. We are happy to report we have made some changes as well! In November of 2018 we worked in collaboration with the Assessor and Tax Collector to launch an online permitting program that allows residents and contractors to apply for permits anywhere, anytime. We have been working with the system over the past few months to make the application process as seamless as possible with the creation of project templates. These templates ask a series of yes/no questions to determine which permits you need for your project. Should you encounter any issues or do not have access to a computer, we have one set up in front of the Land Use office and one of our staff members would be happy to assist you.

<https://willingtonct.viewpointcloud.com>

In addition to our permitting software we have contracted with MainStreet GIS and developed a Willington specific GIS website. This website turns Town, State and Federal data into visible layers over parcels. Within this website you are able to view aerial photographs as far back as 1934, measure distances, view wetlands, parcel and open space data to name a few. The data links to Willington's assessor's platform for all parcels in town. We recommend using this website with Google Chrome. If you encounter any issues with the website or have questions contact the Land Use office or [eperko@willingtonct.org](mailto:eperko@willingtonct.org).

<http://www.mainstreetmaps.com/ct/willington/public.asp>



# Join us at April Camp, as we explore: **Our Incredible World!**

**April 15th-18th at the Willington Hill Fire Department.**

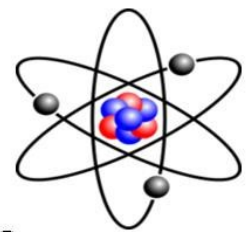
**Preregistration required!!**

**Monday- Fantasy and Fiction**

**Tuesday - Man Made Marvels & Natural Wonders**

**Wednesday- Amazing Creations**

**Thursday- Scientific Energy**



**\$150 for the week. Daily rate available.**

**Contact Human Services at 860-487-3118 or email  
[humanservices@willingtonct.org](mailto:humanservices@willingtonct.org) to register.**



## 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.**

### Boston Red Sox vs. Tampa Bay at Fenway



**Perfect for a graduation or Father's Day gift!**

This trip includes charter bus, ticket to game (outfield grandstand #1), cookout before game (stopping at approximately 10:45 a.m. Cookout will include hot dogs, hamburgers, pasta, sausage and peppers, meatballs, assorted salads, chips, water and soda), and games & prizes on the bus.

**Date:** Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>  
**Departs From:** Tolland Commuter Lot, Exit 68, I-84 (Near Dunkin' Donuts)  
**Departure Time:** 10:00am  
**Game Time:** 1:05 p.m.  
**Return Time:** 2.5 hours after end of game  
**Fee:** \$150/person

**\*\*Registration Deadline is May 22nd\*\***

### James Taylor at Tanglewood



The bus will arrive at Tanglewood at approximately 5:30 p.m. There are plenty of places to buy dinner inside but you're welcome to bring in food, coolers, wine, etc. There is no cooking allowed on the grounds. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. and will be followed by a spectacular fireworks display over the Stockbridge Bowl in celebration of Independence Day.

**Date:** Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>  
**Departs From:** Tolland Commuter Lot, Exit 68, I-84 (Near Dunkin' Donuts)  
**Departure Time:** 3:00 p.m.  
**Return Time:** 12:00 a.m.  
**Fee:** \$69.00/person  
(Fee includes transportation, lawn ticket to the show and driver gratuity)

**\*\*Registration Deadline is June 14th\*\***

### 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 1<sup>st</sup>  
**Departs From:** Tolland Commuter Lot, Exit 68, I-84 (Near Dunkin' Donuts)  
**Departure Time:** 7:45 a.m.  
**Return Time:** 7:45 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$111 Per Person

**\*\*Registration Deadline is July 29th\*\***

### Babysitter Safety Training 101 and 102



**Babysitter Safety 101—April 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup>**

This course is for any youth ages 10 to 15 years of age with the most common age of 12. This is an entry level course intended to teach age appropriate skills necessary to care for children of all ages using team babysitting, mother's helper and individual babysitting concepts. The course focuses on safety with emphasis on prevention. Basic first aid and obstructed airway management for a conscious choking adult/child and infant will be covered. Other topics include hand washing, diapering, bottle feeding, personal safety, interview skills and many more topics. Booklet, handouts and Babysitter Safety Certificate of completion included.

**Babysitter Safety 102—April 9th and April 11th**

This course is for any youth ages 12 to 16+ with a sincere interest in advanced concepts and skills of First Aid including CPR certification. Building on the entry level skills from Babysitter 101, objectives for this scenario based, expanded course includes additional First Aid concept, Adult/Child and Infant CPR. Requires written and skills testing to receive 2-year certification. Student receives book, handouts and Rescue Shield breathing barrier device. **Prerequisite: Babysitter Safety 101 within the last 365 days.**

**\*\*Must Attend Both Days\*\***

**Time:** Babysitter 101—2:45-4:45 p.m.  
Babysitter 102—2:45-4:15 p.m.  
**Location:** HMS Health Room  
**Fee:** \$60.00





## Parks & Recreation Continued...

### 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:** April 10th-May 15th / Wednesday Evenings

**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

### Tai Chi



This 8-week course will cover an introduction to Yang Style Tai Chi and will cover the following:

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

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

**Dates:** April 3-May 22 / Wednesday Evenings

**Time:** 7pm—8pm

**Location:** Old Town Hall, 11 Common Road, Willington

**Fee:** Resident: \$72.00  
Non-Resident: \$82.00  
Seniors 65+: \$62.00

**Wear comfortable, loose fitting clothing and low-heel footwear**

**Minimum Age—12 years or older**

**\*\*Registration Deadline—April 2nd\*\***

### International Folk Dancing



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

**Dates:** This class is held on Thursday evening's

**Time:** 7-8:00 p.m.

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

**Fee:** This program is being offered at no cost

**Instructor:** Veronica Craig



### Hiking Club



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

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

### 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:** April 2nd—June 4th / Tuesday Evenings  
*No class on 4/9, 5/14 and 5/21. These three days will be played on Wednesday, 4/10, 5/1 and 5/8.*

**Time:** 7-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** HMS Gym

**Fee:** \$40.00 / 10-week session  
Drop In Fee—\$5.00/night

**Equipment is available for use**

**Minimum 18 years old to play**



# Parks & Recreation Continued...

## Volleyball Adult Co-Ed



Come play Adult Co-Ed Volleyball at Hall Memorial School Gymnasium. This program is available to all individuals ages 18 and out of high school. USVBA Rules are followed and mastery of skills is encouraged. Space is limited to 21 players per night. The program runs year round on Monday and Thursday nights from 7:30-9:30 p.m. (time subject to change during basketball season) at Hall Memorial School Gymnasium, 111 River Road, Willington, CT.

### Registration Fees Per Session:

Resident - \$20.00/1 night or \$35.00/2 nights  
Non-Resident - \$30.00/1 night or \$40.00/2 nights

**Session 1:** September-December

**Session 2:** January-April

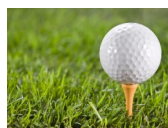
**Session 3:** May-August

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

Non-Resident - \$5.00/night

Yearly Fees available to residents only: \$65.00

## 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!

Co-Ed Clinic—May 7, 14, 21 & 28 5-6:00 p.m.

Ladies Clinic—June 6, 13, 20 & 27 6-7:00 p.m.

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

Ladies Clinic—Aug 6, 20, 27 5-6:00 p.m.

(Double session on the 27th)

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

**Fee:** \$80.00/student

## 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**

## 911 Reflective Address Signs

### The First Step to Providing Emergency Services is Finding Your House

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Address Number Requested:

\_\_\_\_\_

Horizontal: \_\_\_\_\_ Vertical: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$12.00  
\$10.00 Seniors

### Signs are highly visible both day and night!!

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

## Willington Parks and Recreation Department is HIRING!!



Applications for the following seasonal positions will be accepted beginning February 1st.

Applications can be found [HERE](#).

Summer Camp Counselors  
WSI Certified Swim Instructors  
Certified Lifeguards with Waterfront Skills

EOE/AA



# Parks & Recreation Continued...



## Hall's Pond

The opening of Hall's Pond and the Last Day of School Pond Party is **tentatively** scheduled for Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. 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 21 - August 18, 2019.

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 2019 pond pass prices can be found on the Parks and Recreation website at [www.willingtonct.org](http://www.willingtonct.org).

## Recreation Basketball



A **VERY** special thank you to the following coaches for volunteering their time and knowledge to help our young athletes grow as players and teammates...

- |              |            |             |               |                |
|--------------|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| Allan Ayers  | Jen Bowes  | Jon Gareau  | Rich Mailhos  | Erin Pelletier |
| Connie Bedan | John Bowes | Jacob Hall  | Amy Page      | Brady Tolley   |
| Chris Beebe  | Ed Carroll | Zeke Kallio | George Paquin | Chris Toomey   |

We also had several E.O. Smith students volunteering to help with our Instructional (Grades 1-2) and Youth Basketball Programs (Grades 3-8):

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Tyler Bechta       | Abby DeFeo      |
| Ryan Gilbert       | Connor Grosse   |
| Cayla Harris       | Quin Hills-Gunn |
| Elle Jeffreys      | Richie Mailhos  |
| Sophia Mailhos     | Jack Maloney    |
| Kate McAvoy        | Jack Molloy     |
| Mitchell Parizek   | Ana Peczuh      |
| Maddie Silverstein |                 |

*A great coach motivates,  
Builds confidence  
Reinforces good sportsmanship  
Encourages teamwork  
Instills a love of learning for the sport  
& inspires us to reach our goals*  
**Thanks Coach!**  
- Unknown

**Thank you for your commitment and dedication to our program, your teams and the youth of Willington!**

## Wednesdays in the Park Summer Concert Series



Summer is right around the corner and the Willington Parks & Recreation Department is excited for our 4<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 literally 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!**

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





# WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

Wilmington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 P.M.

**RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX**

**JULY 10<sup>TH</sup>**

## **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](http://www.brucejohnmusic.com)

**JULY 17<sup>TH</sup>**

## **PATTY TUIE GROUP**

Playing various rock favorites, jazz, blues and sometimes originals at our performances. "Rhythm and Blues that'll move your shoes"! [Pattytuite.com](http://Pattytuite.com)

**JULY 24<sup>TH</sup>**

## **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](http://www.leafjumpers.com)

**JULY 31<sup>ST</sup>**

## **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](http://www.flamingobigband.com)

**AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup>**

## **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](http://coyoteriverband.com/artist/whiskey-wine-coke)

**AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup>**

## **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](http://www.1974online.com)

**AUGUST 21<sup>ST</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)





# WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 P.M.

**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 Agreement:

Group/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ will participate as a vendor at the following concert:

- |   |                        |                          |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, July 10th   | Wednesday, July 17th   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, July 24th   | Wednesday, July 31st   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, August 7th  | Wednesday, August 14th | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday, August 21st |                        |                          |

Group/Business Contact Information: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Phone

**Questions? Please contact WPRD at 860-487-3108 or [mparsell@willingtonct.org](mailto:mparsell@willingtonct.org)**



# KIDS SUMMER CAMP



**WPRD and Human Services are teaming 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.**

**Dates:** Week 1: 7/8-7/12      Week 2: 7/15-7/19  
Week 3: 7/22-7/26      Week 4: 7/29-8/2  
Week 5: 8/5-8/9      Week 6: 8/12-8/16

**Location:** Hall Memorial School  
111 River Road

**Fee:** \$200.00/week Full Day of Camp  
\$150.00/week Additional Siblings  
\$100.00/week Half Day of Camp (9:00-12:00 p.m.)

**Ages:** 5-12 years old

Activities include: sports, games, crafts, nature, swimming at Hall's Pond, free time, field trips and MORE!

**\*\*Registration Deadline is May 31st\*\***

**Registration and half the total fees are due by May 31st.**

**Must have 20 students enrolled to run camp.**



For more information, please contact Parks & Recreation at 860-487-3108 / mparsell@willingtonct.org or Human Services at 860-487-3118 / humanservices@willingtonct.org



# COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING PROGRAM



The goal of this program is to develop leadership skills that you can use throughout life and to help others and yourself identify and achieve goals. We will help develop your skills in leading and working with campers in a day camp setting.

CITs will learn how camp is run as well as learning to plan for special events (field trips, etc.), what skill set is needed to work with kids (conflict resolution, management, etc.), how to supervise a group of children, how to keep kids engaged in camp activities, how to communicate with counselors and activity leaders and the basic skills needed to be a successful Camp Counselor. CITs will be assigned to a Camp Counselor and assist with activities such as games, sports, arts and crafts, etc.

**All CIT applicants should be interested in working with children and possess maturity, flexibility, a strong work ethic, and the ability to have fun.**

**TIME REQUIREMENT:** One week camp session and attendance at a training session prior to the start of the program.

**SESSIONS:** Session 1: July 8-July 12                      Session 2: July 15-July 19  
                  Session 3: July 22-July 26                    Session 4: July 29-August 2  
                  Session 5: August 5-August 9                Session 6: August 12-August 16

**FEE:** \$75.00/Residents or \$85.00/Non-Residents

**Location:** Hall Memorial School, 111 River Road

**Ages:** Teens Entering Grades 8th, 9th and 10th



**\*\*Space is Limited — Apply by May 31st\*\***

For more information, please call 860-487-3108, 860-487-3118 or email [mparsell@willingtonct.org](mailto:mparsell@willingtonct.org) or [humanservices@willingtonct.org](mailto:humanservices@willingtonct.org)



## Parks & Recreation Continued...



Please call 860-487-3108 or email [mparsell@willingtonct.org](mailto: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**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





## Parks & Recreation Continued...

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

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

## Registrars



Please check the Elections Department's website for up-to-date voting event and voter registration information. The next voting event:  
Tuesday, May 7--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.

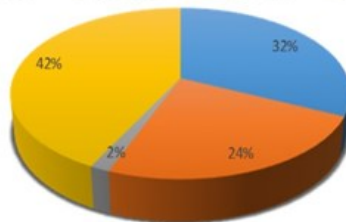
Register to vote online at [voterregistration.ct.gov](http://voterregistration.ct.gov); available 24/7. If you have questions, our office hours are Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 pm. You may also call 860 487.3120 and leave a message.

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

## From the Elections Department

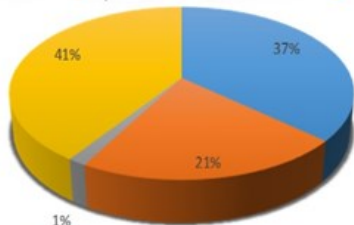
Willington Voter Registration 11.6.2018

■ Democratic ■ Republican ■ Minor Parties ■ Unaffiliated



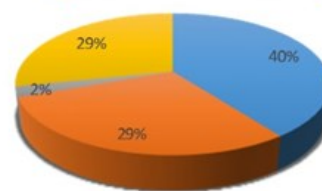
Connecticut Voter Registration 11.6.2018

■ Democratic ■ Republican ■ Minor Parties ■ Unaffiliated



US Voter Registration 7.13.2018

■ Democratic ■ Republican ■ Minor Parties ■ Unaffiliated



# Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSFDFS)



Thank You to all the WSFDFS 2018 Donors!  
Please consider the following reasons  
for giving in 2019...

Dear Willington Neighbor:

We'd like to take this space to share some highlights of what you, the Willington community, have accomplished in supporting Willington students.

For example, did you know:

- Choosing to donate to a local non-profit lets your money work for the future of our young people? Check out the amazing stories on our website under About Us/Alumni/Past Recipients!
- The first class of Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSFDFS) recipients are now 40-41 years old and many have children of their own?
- Some of your neighbors have their employers match their donations? Travelers, Aetna, CIGNA, Voya, and Bank of America are just some of the companies that have. Consider seeing if your employer will match your donations!
- Since 2015, the WSFDFS one-year scholarship awards have been at least \$1,000 and sometimes as high as \$3,500?
- Also, since 2015, 13 scholarships included financial need? The VFW provided six \$2000 scholarships and the WSFDFS sponsored three multiple year, renewable awards of \$4500?
- Willington residents and businesses – you, your neighbors, and Willington friends – have contributed over \$30,000 in 2018, helping to fund the \$36,500 awarded to 20 students?
- Almost 400 Willington individuals have received scholarships, totaling approximately \$400,000 awarded?
- Our recipients have received national – and worldwide! – recognition!
- And finally, we raised \$3,650 from new donors in 2018!



Jeff Kelly presenting Sierra Gareau the 2018 Willington Pizza Scholarship.

February marks the beginning of our annual appeal for the 2019 graduating class. Please help support them succeed in their post-secondary education by contributing whatever you can to the **2019 Willington Scholarship Foundation Drive**.

Please consider sending a contribution to: **Willington Scholarship Foundation; P.O. Box 194; Willington, CT, 06279**. Or visit our website [www.willington.dollarsforscholars.org](http://www.willington.dollarsforscholars.org) and click on Donate Now.

Please check us out on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

## Superintendent's Update

### CAS Elementary Arts Banquet winners



Center Elementary School sent two students to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Connecticut Elementary Schools Celebration of the Arts Festival at the Aqua Turf Club. Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) annually honors two outstanding students in the highest grade level of each elementary school in Connecticut. Two CES fourth graders were recognized and awarded because they excel in the areas of visual and performing arts and also exhibit high levels of citizenship and cooperative skills. Please join Center Elementary School in congratulating Bowen Daugherty and Kody Stegmeir for their hard work and passion for the arts! Thank you to our CES music teacher, Mrs. Castle, and art teacher, Ms. Spector, for their tremendous work with our students.

### HMS CAS Superintendent Awards



Two HMS 8th graders were recognized at an awards dinner in November with leadership awards by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents. Alivia Tolley and Connor McCaughey were chosen for this prestigious award because of their hard work, dedication, and ability to bring out the best in other students. Connor and Alivia consistently embody the HMS core values: respect yourself, respect others and respect the work. Congratulations to Alivia and Connor for being recognized for this award.



## Superintendent's Update Continued...

### Staff Retirements



Patti Locke, the Principal's Secretary at Center School, announced she will be retiring at the end of the school year. Patti has worked at Center School since 1985.

She is one of the friendly faces you see when you walk into the office and the cheerful voice you hear on the phone when you call the school. We wish Patti a happy retirement and thank her for her many years of service to the school and town.

Robin Strong, a special education teacher at Hall School, announced her retirement at the end of the school year. We thank her for her 33 years of service to her students and extend well wishes for a wonderful retirement.

Lastly, Linda Nichols, head chef at Center School, will be retiring at the end of this year. Linda has served the district for 20 years and we thank her for her service as well.

### CES School of Distinction

We received notification from the CT State Department of Education regarding the *Next Generation Accountability* results for the 2017-2018 school year. This is a set of 12 indicators that help define how well a school is preparing students for success in college, careers, and life. Center School was identified as a school of distinction for the second year in a row for high growth and performance. HMS also scored well including the high school graduation indicator, which shows how well students are prepared for high school. Willington outperformed students from Ashford and Mansfield with a two year average of 95%.

### Connecticut Children's Medical Center PJ Day for Kids

Willington schools and Town Office Building staff proudly collected and donated \$1,086.25 by participating in PJ Day for Kids along with other schools and businesses across the county. On December 14, 2018, students and staff were able to wear their PJ's to school and a \$1.00 donation. Donation proceeds benefited the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at the hospital.

### Follow Willington Public Schools on Social Media!

Willington Schools regularly uses social media outlets to keep the community, families, and students informed about what's going on at school. Please feel free to visit and like one of our three pages (found below). This is a great way to ensure that you stay up-to-date on all of the wonderful news coming out of our schools!

Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/WLGTNSchools>

Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/willingtonschools/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HMSWillington/>

Willington Day  
Saturday, May 25th  
11-3:00 p.m.

### River Road Athletic Complex

The Willington Day Committee would like to invite you to participate in Willington Day 2019 on Saturday May 25, 2019 from 11-3 p.m. The Willington Day tradition has always been to host an old fashioned fair designed to bring the town together for some affordable family fun. Our location will be at the River Road Athletic Complex at 511 River Road (Route 32) Willington.

We would love to build on the past few year's success and great turnout. We hope many local businesses and organizations will reserve a booth and help make this a very special day in our town. Willington Day is a great way for the community to get creative and come up with a fun event or idea to promote your group or business. It is a wonderful way to meet and make a personal connection with your customers and fellow townspeople. All vendors will get a free announcement over our PA system during the fair to promote your booth or event!

Please consider placing an ad in our Willington Day Program. The money we collect from the ads is the major source of funding used to produce Willington Day. In years past we distributed over 400 programs. It is a great way to promote your group or business to our audience! *(If the event is cancelled due to weather, the programs will still be printed and distributed to businesses in town.)*

Thank you for your support of and participation in this great town event. We hope to see all of our neighbors there!

Click [HERE](#) for Ad and Booth Registration Form

If you have any questions or need further information please email Sarah at [willingtonday@willingtonct.org](mailto:willingtonday@willingtonct.org).



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Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/WLGTNSchools>

Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/willingtonschools/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HMSWillington/>



Saturday, April 27, 2019  
3:00 p.m - 5:00 p.m

RIVER ROAD ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Please bring a non-perishable item  
★ for the FOOD PANTRY. ★

Let's **WOW**'em  
**WILLINGTON**

Strengthening the community  
one neighbor at a time!



# Tax Collector



***We are looking forward to the summer!!!!  
We enjoy seeing you all in July!***

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 1, 2019. If you do not receive a bill, please contact our office at 860-487-3111 or email me at 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, 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.

## **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 the Town Hall which will allow you to make a credit card payment on line.

## **How does my New Assessment change my Tax Bill for July?**

We put a Tax Calculator Page on the Revenue Departments Webpage under "How Does My New Assessment Change My Taxes?" located on the left side menu. It will calculate the variance in Taxes by Assessment value changes and once the new Mil Rate is set by the Board of Finance, we will update this page to reflect the upcoming Tax Calculations (not including any exemptions).

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

Joylee Stebbins  
Acting Tax Collector

Janice Clauson  
Assistant Tax Collector

# Town Clerk

## **Fishing & Hunting**

Springtime is in the air and that means fishing. Opening day for Trout Fishing is April 13, 2019, second Saturday in April. Licenses are available in the Town Clerk's Office or on line at [www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep). The Guide Books are available on line at [www.ct.gov/deep/fishing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/fishing) or [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) or are in the Town Clerk's Office. The Trout and Salmon Stamp is now required for fishing in any waters where they stock trout and salmon. The cost is \$5.00. You can contact DEEP by phone (860) 424-3105 with any additional questions. Any Connecticut Residents 65 years of age or older are entitled to a free license. Anyone with a "Lifetime" has to renew each year if you are a hunter or if you salt water fish. Make sure you bring in your old license with the conservation number on it.

## **Important Budget Dates.**

Annual Town Meeting on April 23, 2019.  
Budget Referendum is May 7, 2019. Vote at the Town Office Building, 40 Old Farms Road. Absentee Ballots will be available for residents at the Town Clerks Office. Please contact the Clerk's Office for the date absentee ballots will be available.  
Make sure you get out and vote.  
Any questions contact the clerk's office at 860 487-3121

## **Dog Licenses**

June is the time to register your dog. You will receive renewal reminders at the end of May 2019. There is a fee of \$8.00 for a spayed/neutered dog and a \$19.00 fee for male/female dog. You can license your dog in person or by mail. All dog license requests must be received in this office in person or in the office via the mail by June 30th. An updated rabies certificate, if not current is required, a check payable to the Willington Town Clerk and a self addressed, stamped envelope should be included, if by mail.



## Town Clerk Continued...

New dogs being registered would need the rabies certificate, spayed/neutered papers, check payable to Willington Town Clerk and a self-addressed, stamped envelope, if mailed, for us to process your license. Please register your dog in June to avoid additional late fees as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. There is a \$1.00 per month and \$1.00 each additional month per state statute.

### **Rabies Clinic**

We will be hosting a rabies clinic again this year at the town hall. It will be June 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm and the Town Clerks office will be open for dog registration! We will be doing Rabies for \$10, Distemper for \$20. Thank you to Fenton River Veterinary!

### **#1 Dog Tag Announcement.**

1. If you register your dog in June
2. You bring in 2 non-perishable food items for each dog, for the town food pantry
3. Your name will go into a drawing
4. At the end of the day on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June we will do the drawing
5. You will receive the #1 Dog Tag if your name is picked
6. You will also be refunded your license fee.

### **Passports**

We no longer process Passports. Forms are available online at [pptctcm@state.gov](mailto:pptctcm@state.gov). The Storrs Post Office processes passports. The Storrs Post Office phone number is 860-429-9681.

### **Notary Services**

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

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

**Amy R. Lam**  
Town Clerk

**Maureen A. Gantick**  
Assistant Town Clerk

## Town Parks & Amenities



### **Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve:**

Moose Meadow Road and Burma Road; hiking/walking trails, bird watching, fishing, non-motorized

boating, cross country skiing, snow shoeing and picnic area.

### **Knowlton Property:**

Mason Road – Hiking Trails  
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.



## Town Parks & Amenities

### **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.)

### **River Road Athletic Complex - 511 River Road:**

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

### **Town Office Building Fields - 40 Old Farms Road:**

Baseball and Softball fields

### **The Park on Village Hill Road:**

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

### **Facility Rentals:**

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

### **Pavilion Rental:**

#### **Fee:**

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

### **Fields/Courts Rental:**

**Fee:** \$30.00/2 hours

## The Science Corner with Emily



The hummingbird has always been my favorite New England bird. To me, their arrival signifies the cold months are behind us and spring has arrived. There are over 300 species of hummingbirds across the globe but only one in our region, the ruby-throated hummingbird, whom in my opinion is a true pioneer. These little birds are small but mighty. Weighing in around five grams, equivalent to a seedless grape and standing a few centimeters above a golf tee. These birds flap their wings 53 times per second and reach speeds of 30 miles per hour!

The ruby-throated hummingbird is famous for their migration path. These birds breed in eastern North America but migrate to Central America during the colder months. In order to reach their winter vacation destinations they must cross the Gulf of Mexico, a 600 mile journey they embark on solo. Equating to about 20 hours of continuous flight. Although there has not been a lot of research on how they make the 600 mile journey, there are theories they land on ships traveling across the Gulf to rest their wings and relax before continuing onward.

The ruby-throated hummingbird arrives back in New England around early to mid-April. Males begin courting a mate through elaborate dancing while females begin building their half dollar sized velvety nests. Females lay between 1-3 half inch sized eggs up to twice a year. After mating season, males and females separate. Males generally leave the area in early August and females stay with their young until September, then migrate south separately.

In order to attract hummingbirds to your yard, plant red or orange tubular flowers and set up feeders. Nectar can easily be made at home by combining a quarter cup of sugar-per cup of water. Food coloring is not necessary and water should be changed regularly, especially in warm weather, sugar water can ferment and produce toxic alcohol. While watching these exciting birds at home, pay close attention to their feet. Although they are barely visible, the ruby-throated hummingbird can actually contort their bodies and bend their feet in such a way to scratch their head and neck. It's quite the site to see!



I would like to give a special thank you to Jennie Arpin who provided the photo for the article this quarter  
A hummingbird nest from her own backyard!



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

**Andrew Brown**  
Assistant Transfer Station Operator

**Troy Sposato**  
Director of Public Works

**Diane Bulick**  
Treasurer

**Joylee Stebbins**  
Acting Tax Collector

**Janice Clauson**  
Assistant Tax Collector

**Welcome Andrew, Diane, Janice, Troy and Joylee!! We wish you a long and happy career with the Town of Willington!!**



# Willington Farm Tour and CT Trails Weekend

**By: Jackie Kulig**

On June 2, from 2-6PM, local Willington farms and the Willington Conservation Commission will host their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "Willington Farm Tour" event, encouraging residents to visit local farms and incorporate Willington-grown products into their households. This year's event will also coincide with CT Trails Weekend, an opportunity for residents to enjoy their local parks and trails. The Willington and Ashford Conservation Commissions have teamed up to offer a hike, which will begin at 10AM at the Fenton-Ruby Park on Burma Road in Willington and pass through the abutting Langhammer property in Ashford. Our goal is to make it easy for families to enjoy an entire day outdoors, close by, and hopefully learn a thing or two about our town's abundant natural resources.

One of several town-owned Willington properties open to the public, the Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve is a great place to recreate year-round. The town encourages hiking, picnicking, fishing, boating, bird watching, cross country skiing, and snow shoeing. The park is located at the intersection of Moose Meadow and Burma Roads, about 1.8 miles north of Route 74. To get to the park from the Town Green, go north on Jared Sparks Road for 2.5 miles. Then turn right onto Moose Meadow Road and, after .4 miles, turn left onto Burma Road, the park entrance.

The June 2<sup>nd</sup> hike at Fenton-Ruby Park will be led by Rick Peck and is scheduled from 10AM-1PM. After the hike, you should have time to grab some lunch, or better yet, bring a picnic to eat by Taylor Pond. The farms will be ready for your arrival at 2PM.

The 2019 Willington Farm Tour is hosted by 5 working family farms, offering their goods through farm stands, CSAs, farmers' markets, pre-orders, online sales, and in-field pick-ups. There are so many options these days to bring the farm to you, or bring your family straight to the farm! The Willington Farm Tour is a great chance to figure out which option works best for you and your family. Whether your priority is a healthful diet, sourcing ecologically-responsible products, incredible flavor, culinary creativity, or supporting your hard-working friends and neighbors, Willington's got you covered.

Willington farms produce a variety of vegetables, herbs, meats, eggs, hay, straw, mushrooms, syrups, jams, jellies, etc. -- similar products to what would have been grown by subsistence farmers during early colonialization. Many farmers and residents in town also make maple syrup, collect wild plants, such as nuts, berries, and greens, and hunt wild game. These practices kept native people fed for thousands of years and are a great way to eat a healthy, seasonal diet, while expanding your culinary adventures.

Sourcing local products can be difficult at times, but your farmers are using 21<sup>st</sup> century technology and methodology to make it more straightforward for the consumer. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA, farm share) is perfect for customers who want to get their products straight from the farm and make a connection

with where their food comes from. This option often lets you choose between several seasonal products each week, while maintaining a commitment to a particular farm/farmer. Weekly pick-ups make eating local a routine, rather than a chore.

Farm stands are a convenient, quick stop for customers who are looking to add some local food to their diet, or to supplement their garden/CSA. In Willington, a farm stand is always closer than a grocery store! Farmers markets give a greater variety of regional products and often provide a fun atmosphere for meeting family and friends. Some farms also offer online ordering and/or delivery. These are great subjects to ask about on June 2!

Your first stop on the farm tour could be Cowlick Farms, located at the junction of Seckar Road and Rt. 74. Ray and Victoria Lee of Cowlick Farms raise chickens on pasture for both meat and egg production. Their self-serve farm stand contains the freshest meat in town, and the most convenient! They have whole chickens, a variety of cuts, chicken sausage, pot pie, soup, broth... and the list keeps growing. Ray and Victoria's freezers also contain:

Fenton River Farm beef! Scott and Heidi Morey run Fenton River Farm with help from several community members and 4-H Willing Workers. Their cows come back with ribbons from many local fairs each year. Scott and Heidi also run Fenton River Veterinary Hospital in Tolland, with a new location opening soon in Stafford. Their farm is located on Moose Meadow Road, about a ¼ mile from Rt. 74. You'll see their bucolic pastures just past their neighbor's farm stand...

Their neighbors being Willow Valley Farm (my farm). Willow Valley Farm is a third-generation family farm, growing a variety of vegetables for farmers markets, our farm stand, and our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. Julia Cartabiano, her son Spencer, and I practice sustainable growing methods, which include NO GMOs, Pesticides, or Synthetic Fertilizers. Our ½ acre blueberry patch and much of our farm machinery dates back to the 1950s when Julia's parents purchased the farm.

Ghost Fawn Homestead, run by Ken and Cari Donaldson, is located at 142 Tolland Turnpike (Rt. 74). The farm was established in 2015 and provides a variety of vegetables for their CSA program using "beyond organic" growing methods. The farmers and their children also raise a variety of livestock. Ask these farmers what you might expect in a 2019 CSA share, or what it's like to grow up on a farm in Willington!

Last, but not least, is Bluebird Farm. In fact, I think they may have the *most* variety of farm products available! Carmen and Joe Hall's farm is located at 211 Jared Sparks Road, on 40 acres of field and forest land. They make a diverse selection of jams, preserves, syrups, mustards, marmalades, etc. under their name "New England Spreads".



# Willington Farm Tour and CT Trails Weekend Continued...

They also raise cows, sheep, turkeys, geese, rabbits, and chickens/ducks for eggs. You may also see some pigs, goats, alpacas... maybe more!

We hope you will give Willington farms a try this season. Even if you've visited us before, you're sure to see something new – farmers are always coming up with hare-brained schemes to improve for “next year”. This is what makes local agriculture so exciting – the innovation, the determination, the fresh start each spring... and of course the fruits of our labor.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about the hike or Farm tour: [wvfcsa@gmail.com](mailto:wvfcsa@gmail.com), 860-617-7022

## Willington Lettuce Wraps

- 1 lb. ground beef and/or chicken \*FRF, CF
- 3 cloves garlic, garlic scapes, or ramps \*GFH, WVF, or wild harvested
- 1 bunch kale, spinach, mustard greens, etc. \*GFH, WVF
- 1 bunch radishes \*GFH, WVF
- 3 scallions \*GFH, WVF
- 1 butterhead lettuce \*GFH, WVF
- 2 tbsp soy sauce
- 2 tbsp rice wine vinegar
- Hot sauce, chili paste, or spread to taste \*BF
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- 1/4 cup finely chopped peanuts
- black pepper to taste
- 2 eggs \*BF, CF, GFH

Optional garnish: cilantro or basil \*GFH, WVF

Cook the ground meat, garlic, and kale (or other green) stems on medium in a skillet, breaking the meat into small pieces as it cooks. Add soy sauce, hot sauce/chili paste/spread, peanuts, and black pepper part way through cooking. Once the meat is cooked thoroughly, add the leafy part of the kale/green (chopped) and rice wine vinegar, and stir until the greens are wilted, about another minute. Then stir in the sesame oil and turn off the heat. If you can multi-task, scramble two eggs in a separate pan at the same time. Add the eggs to the stir-fry once they're both finished cooking. Separate your head lettuce into single, large leaves. Wash each leaf, especially down near the stem. Slice radishes into thin rounds, and chop scallions. Scoop small servings of the stir-fry onto individual lettuce leaves, top with sliced radishes and scallions, and wrap it up -- a little messy to eat, but well worth it!!

\*BF = Bluebird Farm, CF = Cowlick Farm, FRF = Fenton River Farm, GFH = Ghost Fawn Homestead, WVF = Willow Valley Farm

**3rd Annual WILLINGTON FARM TOUR**

|   |                      |                       |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | BLUEBIRD FARM        | 211 Jared Sparks Road |
| 2 | COWLICK FARM         | Seckar Road & Rt 74   |
| 3 | FENTON RIVER FARM    | 54 Moose Meadow Road  |
| 4 | GHOST FAWN HOMESTEAD | 142 Tolland Turnpike  |
| 5 | WILLOW VALLEY FARM   | 39 Moose Meadow Road  |

Sponsored by the Willington Conservation Commission

*-The Joe Green Memorial-*

## Easter Egg Hunt

\*\*\*\*\*

**April 20<sup>th</sup> @11:30 AM**  
**Willington Hill Fire Department**  
**-24 Old Farms Road-**

\*\*\*\*\*

*-Free Event-*

Open to family members of Willington residents up to & including 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Featuring a visit from the Easter Bunny, a bag of treats for every child and a free bike raffle.

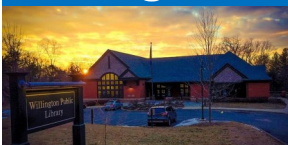
*-Don't forget the Parent's raffle: \$1 a ticket-*

Win Cool Stuff! Something for everyone! All donations and raffle profits support next year's egg hunt





# Willington Public Library



**Willington Public Library**  
7 Ruby Road

**Friends of WPL meetings**...Tuesdays, April 9 and June 11 at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room

**Library Board meetings**...Tuesdays, April 9, May 14, and June 11 at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room

Join us for any and all of our **FREE** programs here at the library:

**WPL Adult Book Club:** 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm...books to be read- in April: "The Boston Girl" by Anita Diamant, May: "The Clockmaker's Daughter" by Kate Morton, and June: "Pachinko" by Min Jin Lee



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

**Qigong (Chair):** Thursdays at 3:00 - 4:00 pm

**Mommy & Me Play Group:** 1st and 3rd Thursday 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:** every other Friday 9:30-11:00... upcoming dates: April 5, May 3 & 17. 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. Many thanks to Missy!

**Story & Craft Time:** on the 1st & 2nd Saturday of the month, we enjoy stories and a related craft to go along with their theme...10:00 -11:00 am

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 pm.** In April: 13 & 27, May: 11 & 25, June: 8 & 22.

## Guidelines:

The Eastern CT Writers group will be modeled after the Iowa 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.

Below is the list of **ECW** upcoming programs here at the library:

**ECW...May 4, 2019 - How to Share Your True Crime Book with Media Outlets - with author Anne K. Howard 9:30 a.m.-noon; 9:30 am: Meet & Greet; 10:30 am: Writing discussion/lecture/questions and answers; 1:00 pm: Book Discussion/Reading/Signing** Spend the day Saturday, May 4, 2019 with Anne K. Howard, author of "His Garden: Conversations with A Serial Killer" who will participate in a Book Discussion/ Reading followed by an Author Book Signing. Ms. Howard is a practicing attorney and true crime author. Her book, "His Garden: Conversations with A Serial Killer" won the Pencraft Literary Award for Best Non-Fiction of 2018. Insights will be offered on the ins and outs of corresponding with a serial killer through the written correspondence, recorded phone conversations, and the face-to-face prison visits. *A word to the wise: writing true crime is not for the faint of heart.* It takes courage, stamina, and a certain degree of reckless abandon. The book and interviews with Howard are featured in an episode of "21st Century Serial Killers," airing on the Justice Channel in early 2019.

**June 1, 2019 - Marketing Your Book - with Wayne English, 9:30 a.m.-noon**

**For more information, please go to...**  
<https://easternconnecticutwriters.blogspot.com/>



## Willington Public Library Continued...

**Sound Healing & Meditation:** every 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm...upcoming dates to look forward to... April 16, May 21, and June 18 Given by instructor Mary Tardif. Thank you Mary!



**Family Movie Time:** last Saturday of the month at 12:30. Look for upcoming titles TBA



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 will finally be ready this Spring! 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.



Just in time for National Hug Your Dog Day...**“Rescue Me, PLEASE!”** program, **Thursday, April 11, 6:30 - 8:00 pm.** Dog adoptions have increased in recent years in direct contrast to pet store and breeder sales.

That’s a good thing but there are many issues to be aware of before you make that virtuous leap to save a life. If you’ve ever considered adopting a dog or volunteer with a rescue group, this lecture is essential! Felix and Kiki, his rescued Boingle (German Shorthaired Pointer/Beagle mix) will help you navigate through the adoption options. They will explain all about dog rescue through firsthand knowledge and experience, trial and error, demonstrations, forms, photos, and videos. Mr. Giordano has fostered, transported, and adopted dogs on behalf of German Shorthaired Pointer Rescue since 1998. And no, Kiki is not available, she is just an example of a wonderful dog who needed a forever home.

**HAPPY  
NATIONAL  
SCRABBLE  
DAY**

**Saturday, April 13th is Scrabble Day!**

Come celebrate the popular board game created in 1938 by Alfred Mother Butts, an American architect. Gather around with family and friends and challenge each other to a battle of words. Playing will be going on all day, if you would like to join in on the fun and friendly competition. Just some neat tidbits to share... the word Scrabble comes from the Dutch word, *schrabbelen*, meaning to struggle and scramble. It has been sold around the world in 121 countries and in 31 different languages. It is very much played like a crossword puzzle.

FYI...**Tuesday, April 16th** is “Wear Your PJ’s To Work Day”. Any one else joining in on the fun?

**Tuesday, April 18th at 6:30 pm...“Social Security In Retirement”** program. Retirement is one of the most important life events many of us will ever experience. When to collect Social Security may be the single most important decision you make in context of planning your retirement. This is a great opportunity to learn key concepts you need to know BEFORE applying for Social Security. Depending on your age, S.S. filing strategies may boost lifetime benefits and increase retirement income by tens of thousands. Always consider S.S. payout as a component of your retirement plan. Many questions to be addressed and answered...regulations, sums, benefits, changes, income, the future...by Investment Advisors, Michael Alimo and David Weyner.

**Saturday, April 20th 10:00 a.m. - A Special Visit** Spring is here and back for a visit is Stormy the Bunny!

**“You Wrote It, Now What?” Saturday, April 20, 10:30 - 12:00 and then again at 1:00 - 3:00 pm for a Book Discussion, Reading, & Signing**

Join multi-genre, indie & traditionally published author & speaker Elsa Kurt for her presentation, You Wrote It, Now What? She’ll guide you through the writing, publishing, and self-promoting journey & dispel the most common concerns we face as writers. Through her own shared experiences, Elsa hopes to inspire and encourage new and aspiring authors to pursue their writing goals armed with confidence and knowledge. She has written 8 contemporary women’s fiction novels and several romance novellas.



**Pretzel Day**

**Friday, April 26th is “Pretzel Day”.** Stop by and play a fun game of Twister with the kids. We will have out, for your fun and enjoyment, a couple of Twister games for you to play with the family. Come get all twisted into a knot and see what it feels like to be a “pretzel”.

**Do more. Watch less... Together!** Just a reminder, **Screen-Free Week is April 29 - May 5. READ!!!** It’s a great past time and we have a wonderful selection, here at the library, for all ages to enjoy. Stop buy, say “hello” and grab a few.



## Willington Public Library Continued...

**Monday, May 6 - Saturday, May 11...Friends of the WPLibrary's "Mother's Day Gift and Bake Sale".**

Beginning Monday and throughout the week, May 6 through Saturday May 11, we will have gifts available for sale. Only on **Saturday, May 11th**, will be our **annual "Bake Sale" portion of this holiday event, beginning 9:00 - 2:00 pm**



**Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 pm..."Tax Free in Retirement" program.** Join us to learn about strategies that can help you get closer to a tax free retirement. Discover how you can safely build a tax favored position in retirement using methods that have been around for over 500 years. If taxes increase in the future, will my chances of outliving my money be reduced? Am I paying too much in taxes now, is there a way to reduce them? Are Roth IRA conversions right for me, how does this affect my taxes today? These and many other questions to be addressed and answered.

**Author Reading with Barbara Lawrence, Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm.** Book, **"I Walk with a Limp: My Personal Journey as a Trauma Survivor"** by Barbara

**A. Lawrence** is filled with heartrending and inspirational prose and poetry. Her story empowers other trauma survivors to find their own voice and aims to educate others about the immense challenges that survivors face. Her goal is to help other survivors understand that they are not alone in their struggles. Her words help to educate others about what it's like to live with PTSD and ease the stigma surrounding mental illness. Barbara's message is one of perseverance, courage, and hope. She offers the reader a glimpse into how she has discovered her inner warrior, learned to work through her fears, and strengthen her Spirit as she strives to live an authentic life.



Please join us, as we welcome music scholar and now author, Richard Mueller, to his hometown library, to discuss his new work, **"Beauty and Innovation in la machine chinoise: Falla, Debussy, Ravel, Roussel"** book. Although musical beauty is intuited and cannot be described in words, it exists and can be located on the basis of ideas shared by philosophers, musicologists, and composers. **Thursday, May 16, at 6:30 pm for a Book Talk & Musical Performance** by our very own local **Author, Musician, and Renowned Music Scholar, Richard Mueller.**

*Richard Mueller, an independent scholar and a native of the Midwest, is a pianist, organist, musicologist, and composer. He received degrees in music from Harvard, Indiana, and the University of Chicago (MA, composition, and PhD, musicology, '83). Relocated to Connecticut in 1990, Richard opened his piano studio in Willington in 1992.*



**June 15, 2019...Our Summer Reading Program begins!**

Our theme this year is **SPACE!** We will have a special opening program event on Saturday, June 22. Join us for eight weeks of fun, learning and prizes. Our Grand Finale will be held on Saturday, August 10th. Special programs will be coming your way, so look for our schedule of events to be announced, as we come closer to the date and summer.

**Take Our Library Survey: Let us know how we're doing!**

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

## WiSE

### Introducing "WiSE": Willington's Sustainability and Energy Committee

Last November, at the request of a group of Willington residents, the Board of Selectmen formed "WiSE", a new Town committee, to help our Town and community address issues of energy use and environmental sustainability.

Our charge is to educate residents about ways to increase energy efficiency and decrease environmental impacts. We will also advise elected officials on how to assess energy consumption and efficiency in Town owned properties and functions. We will support application for programs available through the State and Federal Governments, and from energy providers.

In our monthly meetings we have discussed: whether to join the Statewide Sustainable CT. program, the possibility of improved recycling and recycling education, working with other groups to organize roadside trash clean-ups, maybe composting school cafeteria waste, showing environmental education movies at the Library, alternative energy solutions for residents, etc...

Interested?? Sign up for electronic delivery of our minutes through the Town; or call the First Selectman's office or Pam Wheeler (member), 860 429 9804.

**Look for our table at Willington Day, at River Road Athletic Complex, Saturday, May 25, Memorial Day weekend.**

