

Wilmington events

VOLUME 3 • QUARTER 1 • 2018



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First Selectwoman's Corner



Erika G. Wicenski

Dear Willington Residents,

Happy New Year!

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen I would like to thank all of our residents who voted in the recent municipal election on November 7th. I am honored to have been elected your First Selectwoman, along with Liza Makuch

and John Blessington as Selectman. The three of us are committed to working hard for all Willington residents. The Board meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Town Office Building. Our meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to join us.

By now the many new and reelected members of the various boards & commissions including; Board of Finance, Board of Education, and Planning & Zoning Commission, are sworn in and getting to work. This time of year is particularly busy for our boards/commissions as we are preparing budgets for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2018. Over the next several months, there will be many meetings and discussions regarding programs and services in Willington. These boards will have the difficult task of deciding how to provide for such services given the current economic status and a decline in State funding. This will all lead to a proposed budget to send to a budget referendum to be voted upon in May.

If you are interested in any of the town services, such as parks & recreation, education, the library, etc. now is the time to reach out to the boards that oversee these programs and ask any questions or concerns you have. To have your voice heard and your input considered, making your views known early and often in the process is the best way to be involved.

Thank you in advance for helping our elected officials make the important decisions that will ultimately affect all of Willington's residents.

Sincerely,

Erika G. Wicenski

First Selectwoman, Willington

Visit our website at:
www.willingtonct.org

We hope you will find our website to be a useful tool to find updated information and explore our wonderful community.

**FENTON RIVER
VETERINARY
HOSPITAL**

State-of-the-Art Facility
for your Dog, Cat or Small Animal

**We are committed
to providing your animals with
the highest quality care possible.**

**Small Animal Care
Large Animal & Equine
Farm Calls**

Meet Jonathan XIII (right) and Jonathan XiV (left). Fenton River Hospital is proud to be working with these two handsome boys! Be sure to keep up with these two guys on their Facebook and Instagram pages.

**#UConnHuskies #UConnAlumni #HuskiesForever
#fentonriverveterinaryhospital #uconnanimalscience**

**Scott D. Morey, DVM, MS
Heidi L. Morey, DVM, MS
Weston H Brown, DVM
Kathryn R Garner, BVM&S**

860.870.8701
9F Fieldstone Commons
(Big Y Plaza)
Tolland CT

FentonRiverVet.com
fentonrivervet@gmail.com
Check us out
on facebook!

Elections Department



Between January and May, we will be conducting a canvass of voters who have moved out-of-town or who have not voted in a federal election in at least the past four years.

If you receive a canvass letter due to an address change, please read, fill out the information requested and return.

If you receive a canvass letter and you still reside in town, please read through the letter to confirm the information is

correct, check the box "I still live at the address shown on this form" and return. A stamped, self-addressed envelope will be enclosed with all letters for your convenience.

These canvass letters, by law, are sent to residence addresses and not to post office boxes. By sending to the residence, it will confirm that you still reside at that address. Directions on the envelope will request that the post office forward to a mailing address, if necessary.

If you receive a letter addressed to someone who no longer lives there, please make that notation on the unopened envelope and place back into the mailbox. The letter will be returned to us and we will take action as is necessary.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

- Monday, May 14 - last day to change party affiliation for the August 14 primary.

UPCOMING VOTING EVENTS

- Wednesday, May 2** - Regional School District 19 and town budget referendum.
- **Please note that this year's referendum is on a WEDNESDAY.*

Registering to vote is available online - voterregistration.ct.gov. If you have any 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 and Christine Psathas, Registrars of Voters, Election Department

Town of Willington Website Updated



The Town of Willington website recently received a much needed facelift. The updated site can now be viewed on ALL screens - mobile, laptop, tablets and desktop - which wasn't possible with the old site. The updated site went live on December 11. Town Departments, Boards and Committees will be able to update their own pages so that current information will be on the site much quicker than with the former site. Links to the various Facebook pages associated with Town Departments can now be accessed under the Social Media tab. Please be patient as we are learning the new software.

The Town website can be accessed at www.willingtonct.org.

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Dream Team
Home Improvement

PAINTING / CARPENTRY
GENERAL HOME
IMPROVEMENT

River LeFebvre
Owner

860-617-2930
Dreamteamhomeimprovement@gmail.com

Lic. #HIC.0646537 | Insured

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Thank you, Donna Hardie!

Our Town Clerk, Donna Hardie retired on January 8, 2018 after 21 years of service to the Town of Willington!

Donna began her career with us in February 1996 as Assistant Town Clerk, took over as Town Clerk in March 2000 and has been here ever since!

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I would like to congratulate Donna for her dedication to the residents of the Town of Willington!

Erika G. Wiczenski, First Selectwoman

events

TM Ventures, LLC
dba Essex Printing & Events Magazines

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Centerbrook, CT 06409

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www.essexprinting.com

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COVER IMAGE

The fires warm glow at Willington's
Historic Glazier Tavern

COVER PHOTO

Courtesy Dot Drobney
of DDrobney Photography

OVER 1,000,000 READERS
16 TOWNS EVERY QUARTER

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Tax Bills have been Mailed

Property Tax Bill Reminders and Motor Vehicle Supplemental Bills have been mailed. Second installment & MVS due by February 1, 2018

generated because you were issued a new motor vehicle registration, or have transferred an existing registration, at some time after Oct. 1, 2016, but before Sept. 30, 2017. You are being billed only for the number of months from your registration date until the end of the assessment year.

HOW CAN I PAY MY BILL?

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

WHY DID I GET A MOTOR VEHICLE TAX BILL IN DECEMBER?

This is your motor vehicle supplemental bill. This bill was

WHEN IS MY PAYMENT DUE?

WHEN IS IT CONSIDERED LATE?

Payments due January 1, 2018 must be received, or postmarked, no later than Wednesday February 1, 2018. Interest is charged at a rate of 1 ½% per month from the due date, with a minimum interest charge of \$2.00. Per §12-146, interest cannot be waived.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and prosperous beginning of 2018!

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

Assessors - Revaluation of Real Estate

The Town of Willington is scheduled to begin a revaluation of real estate to be effective October 1, 2018. In January/February 2018, mailers will be sent to all property owners within the municipal limits; inspections are expected to begin during the spring 2018. The information below should assist with preparing for the process.

WHAT IS A REVALUATION?

Revaluation is the process of estimating new real estate values, based on specific rules and current data. This requires revaluing all properties at the same point in time to provide uniformity in property assessments and to ensure that all property owners are paying only their fair share of the cost of community services. State statute requires that properties are assessed at 70% of their current fair market value as

of the date of the revaluation. Revaluation is NOT intended to raise revenues.

WHY IS A REVALUATION NEEDED?

The State of Connecticut, under provisions of Section 12-62 of the CT General Statutes, requires a revaluation of all real estate at least once every five years. It is an unfunded State mandate. Willington completed revaluations in 2008 and 2013.

WHAT IS FAIR MARKET VALUE?

Section 12-63 of the CT General Statutes requires properties reflect their fair market value, and NOT the value at a forced or auction sale. Fair market value is a standard defined by the courts as the price established between a willing buyer and willing seller, taking into consideration all the uses to which the property is adapted.

HOW DOES THE NEW ASSESSMENT AFFECT MY TAX BILL?

The revaluation project sets new values (not taxes) for the real estate portion of the 2018 Grand List. When values are finalized in April 2019, your elected officials will have the Grand List information needed to establish mill rates. Tax bills reflecting the 2018 assessments will be issued on July 1, 2019.

WHO WILL CONDUCT THIS REVALUATION?

The Town contracted services with the professional real estate valuation company, Vision Government Solutions, Inc.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation during the 2018 revaluation project.

Willington Welcomes New Town Clerk

WILLINGTON TOWN CLERK

As of January 9, 2018, Amy Lam will be taking over the role of Town Clerk. Welcome to the Town of Willington, Amy!

Transfer Station

RECYCLING

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

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

The Transfer Station hours are Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays 8:30 am to 3:45 pm.

MIDNEROC

See Midneroc schedule to the right for household chemicals. Used paint can be brought to local hardware stores.

To download previous issues of Willington Events visit www.eventsmagazines.com and download the issue you desire!

Mid-Northeast Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility Hazardous Waste Center 2018 Schedule 57 Hancock Road 860-684-3163							
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
April	16	17	18	19	20	21 OPEN	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
May	30	1	2	3	4	5 OPEN	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
June	14	15	16	17	18	19 OPEN	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
July	28	29	30	31	1	2 OPEN	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
August	11	12	13	14	15	16 OPEN	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
September	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	2	3	4	5	6	7 CLOSED	8
October	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21 OPEN	22
November	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31	1	2	3	4 OPEN	5
December	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18 OPEN	19
January	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	1 CLOSED	2
February	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15 OPEN	16
March	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
April	1	2	3	4	5	6 OPEN	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
May	15	16	17	18	19	20 OPEN	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
June	29	30	31	1	2	3 OPEN	4

Town of Willington Office Building Contacts

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

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

First Selectwoman	Erika G. Wiecenski	860-487-3100
Assessor	VACANT	860-487-3122
Building Inspector	Jim Rupert	860-487-3123
Business Manager	Donna Latincsics	860-487-3134
Dog Warden	Tina Binheimer	860-428-4422
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	Susan Yorgensen	860-487-3123
Public Works	Derek Dimmock	860-684-9313
Senior Center	Ed D'Agata	860-429-8321
Tax Collector	Lisa Madden	860-487-3111
Treasurer	Tish Ignatowicz	860-487-3133
Town Clerk	Amy Lam	860-487-3121

Willington Public Works Department

SNOW REMOVAL ORDINANCE
Volume 6, Page 81 Pursuant to
Section 7-148(15), Connecticut
General Statutes, use of Town roads
is restricted as follows:

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

WINTER PARKING BAN

A parking ban is in effect during snow

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

MAILBOXES

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

a Town plow hits a mailbox, it will be repaired by the Public Works Department.

PORTABLE BASKETBALL HOOPS

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

CATCH BASINS & STORM INLETS

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

SAND/SALT MIXTURE

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

Willington Human Services *Thanks All*

Willington's Human Services Department would like to thank all the individuals, businesses, organizations, and volunteers who came together to make this year's holiday program a tremendous success! Our program participants were delighted at the food and gifts received this year, thanks to your generous donations! As always, we are grateful for such a caring community!

Willington Human Services

40 Old Farms Road, Willington, Connecticut 06279

Phone: 860-487-3118

Email: humanservices@willingtonct.org

THANK YOU!

The Department of Human Services wants to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who donated toys, money, food, time, adopted families, or otherwise helped in making the 2017 Holiday Program successful for our resident families in need! We could not have done it without you!

FOOD PANTRY

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

MOBILE FOODSHARE

Bringing produce, breads, and on occasion, meats to Willington

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

APRIL CAMP

It's not too soon to think about April Camp! Human Services is pleased to be running our popular April Camp program again in 2018. April Camp is a week full of fun, crafts, games, and activities for kids during spring recess, April 16th through 20th. Visit our Facebook page or webpage for more information as we get closer to April, or contact our office for an application to reserve spots for your children!

RENTERS REBATE

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

WE ARE SOCIAL!

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

Willington Senior Activities

20 Senior Way

- January 20th, March 17th & May 12th
\$5.00 Breakfast "All You Can Eat"
8:30 am-10:30 am
- Foot Clinics - 1:30 pm - Call 429-8321
for an appointment.

FOOD SHARE DATES

Wednesdays - 1/10, 1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7,
3/20, 4/4, 4/18, 5/2, 5/16, 5/30, 6/13, 6/27
at 11:00 am

Free Bread available every Wednesday
at 10:00 am

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Yoga Tuesdays 2:00 pm

Bingo 1st, 3rd, & 4th Wednesday
at 12:30 pm.

Crafts 2nd Wednesday of the Month
at 4:00 pm.

Tai Chi Tuesdays and Fridays
10:00 am - 11:00 am

Men's Pool Tuesdays and Thursdays
at 6:30 pm.

Pinochle Fridays 12:30 pm

Set Back Saturdays 7:00 pm

WII Bowling Mondays and Thursdays
League signups ongoing.

Computer classes 4th Monday of the
month at 9:00 am.

Lunch Bunch visits a different local
restaurant every 2nd Thursday
at 12:30 pm.

Round trip transport to Wal-Mart every
3rd Tuesday at 12:00 pm.

Monthly Trips to the Casino.

Walmart 3rd Tuesday of the Month
at 12:00 pm.

Senior Café every day at 11:30. Must
sign up in advance.

MEETING DATES

- **First Wednesday of every month:**
Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations
followed by Bingo.
- **Second Wednesday of every month:**

Executive Meeting 12:30 pm.
Public is welcome to attend.

- **Third Wednesday of every month:**
General Meeting 12:30 pm
Public is welcome to attend.

VETERANS MEMORIAL STONES

The new Veterans Memorial has been
dedicated and we are still taking orders
for pavers to be placed in the Memorial.
The program has been established to be
ongoing forever.

SENIOR FUNDRAISERS

*"Flavors of Home" Cookbook is a
compilation of the senior's favorite
recipes.* Cost is \$9.00. Books are sold at
the Senior Center or at the Town Clerks
Office. For more information please call,
860-429-8321.

The Town of Willington, with the assis-
tance of the Willington Seniors, has a used
Continued on page 8

GHOST FAWN HOMESTEAD

presents:

2018

CSA

now introducing

MARKET STYLE SHARES

**customize your weekly haul
of fresh & delicious produce**

**traditional weekly shares
also available**

to sign up, visit

ghostfawnhomestead.com



Willington Seniors... continued from page 7

handicap bus for the seniors. The bus is in need of ongoing maintenance. Private donations are being sought. If you would like to support this worthy cause, please send your donations payable to the Town of Willington, and write "Handicap Bus Fund" in the subject line of the check. Memorial gifts are also welcome. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Your Senior Center has established a community garden for seniors in Town to be located in the vicinity of the Center. If you are interested in having a small

garden, sign-up sheets are in the senior center.

Are you looking to Downsize? Now is the time! Our Annual Tag Sale Fundraiser is coming up in April. Are you looking to get rid of some things? Give us a call or drop the items off at the Center.

THE REST

- Potluck supper and a Movie
- Annual Banquet
- Monthly Nature Walks
- Coffee Klatch Group every first Food Share Day of the Month at 9:00 am

- Afternoon Concert trips to the Coast Guard Academy
- Talks on safe ways to exercise for seniors
- Puzzles, and games available at the senior center
- New state-of-the-art computers for surfing the web
- High Speed WiFi Access free at the Center

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

Willington Public Library

7 Ruby Road, Willington, CT 06279
860-429-3854, www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org & on Facebook

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING FUN TO LEARN AND DO AT THE LIBRARY... MEETING PEOPLE'S WANTS AND NEEDS!

Please contact the Library if there is a program you would like to see or if you have a program you would like us to consider presenting. We do our best to offer all of our programs at no cost, to our community, thanks to the Friends of WPL.

Notice of cancellations: With winter approaching, look for cancellation of programs due to inclement weather or conditions beyond our control, by checking out our website at www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org or watch WFSB- Channel 3 (or WFSB.com) and NBC 30 WVIT (NBC30.com). Updates can also be found on Facebook.

We had a great Crafts Fair and Bake Sale this year. The Friends made swags this year to sell and held a Silent Auction. Our staff made beautiful and fun cat ornaments as our annual Library collectibles fundraiser. We wish to say "Thank you" to everyone for their help and support with the giving of their time, gifts, and talents to make such an event possible. The money earned will go to benefit the library in many useful and helpful ways. It's not too early to sign-up for next year's Craft Fair event. We have already received eleven vendors for next year, so we are already half way there, to being filled. Please think about joining us, if you make handmade items, that you would like to sell; tables are only \$25.

Another great money maker for the library, are our WPL Tote Bags, which are 13" x 14" heavy weight canvas, in a beautiful deep evergreen color, toting our new logo for \$20.00.

Come in, visit, and sit a spell, in our Kathy and Friends Book Shoppe. We have just done some renovating and everyone loves

the change. It is open during our regular library hours. You are sure to find many special and unique treasures at awesome prices, to keep for yourself or give as a gift.

Be a Friend! Join the Friends of the Willington Public Library... you can never have too many friends...be one of ours! Applications are available at the Library. We meet every other month starting in February, on the second Tuesday of the month, from 6:00 - 7:00 pm, beginning on February 13, 2018. Please think about joining this great and important group of volunteers. We need them and they need your help. Hope to see you there!



ALL programs are sponsored and made possible due to the hard and dedicated work of the Friends of the Willington Public Library. Thank you one and all, for all you do!



Something fun to do during the cold winter months... We now offer Movies on our BIG SCREEN in the community room. Let us know what movie, the date and time you would like and we will set up your very own movie showing, for you and all your friends. Movie start time must be at least two and a half hours before the Library closing time.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Knitting Group: every Tuesday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, in the Reading Room. All ages and experience are welcome!

Story & Craft Time: 1st & 2nd Saturday of the month, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Game On @ Your Library: 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. There are all different kinds of games to choose from and play. So, bring along your family and friends, for a fun night out.

Free Play Building Day: 3rd Saturday of the month, 1:00 - 2:00 pm. Choice of different kinds of building materials - Building Blocks, Lego, Lincoln Log, Fiddle Stix, and more!

Sound Healing & Meditation: 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Suggested donation of \$10, but all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Family Movie Time: last Saturday of the month at 12:30 pm. Bring not only your family and friends, but also a snack or lunch that you can enjoy, while you are watching the movie... watch for upcoming titles, to be announced.

WPL Adult Book Club: 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, in the Reading Room. Email kdonnelly@willingtonpubliclibrary.org to find out about our upcoming books.

Writing, Poetry, Journaling Group: Group meets on the second Tuesday of the month, from 5:00 - 6:00 pm, to develop self-expression through creative poetry, writing, and journaling. Each month a special topic is chosen to write about. Get inspired! Bring any work that you have already completed. Please let Debbie know if you would be interested in attending or you may also contact the groups facilitator Nancy Bunnell at ncbunnell@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

Saturday Writer's Group: is held on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month, from 1:00 - 2:30 pm with Author Felix Giordano. Bring a story, chapter, or poetry, not to exceed ten pages, to be discussed and/or critiqued. If interested in attending, please notify Debbie by email at dlinares@willingtonpubliclibrary.org or by calling the library, at 860-429-3854 or contact Felix Giordano at felix@jbnovels.com.

OUR THANKFULNESS TREE PROJECT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

The community came together and shared with us and others, what they are most thankful for. Just to share a few with you... for the military and their families and the sacrifices they make for us and our freedoms, school, mom and dad, family, food, clothes, a house, friends, God, hospitals, family, medicines, a beautiful town library, helpful volunteers, life, pets, books, a second chance, for everything, wonderful library staff, the freedom to read, Jesus and His amazing grace, blessings of living in the town of Willington...again, just to name a few! Thank you for sharing what is so important in your lives with everyone who participated.

MRS. PASSARDI'S GIFT-A-BOOK DRIVE

Thank you to those, who participated in our annual Mrs. Passardi's Gift-A-Book Drive, this Christmas Holiday to support our town's Human Services Department. Because of your thoughtfulness and generosity, children from pre-school to high-school received many wonderful books as gifts.

During these winter months, we are going to be having some fun in and around the library, with some Yarn Bombing. Yarn bombing is a type of graffiti or street art that employs colorful displays of knitted or crocheted yarn, or fiber rather than paint or chalk. If you have any old worn or pilled sweaters, scarves, or blankets for example, these make great items to work with for such a project as this. We hope you will help us brighten up the place during these cold, dark, and dreary months, by adding some color to our surroundings.

LOOKING FORWARD

Please join us, for our Friend's annual Mother's Day Gift & Bake Sale coming, in the beginning of May.

AND, there are many more things to come! To find out more, please ask to sign-up for our library e-blast and check us out on line, at our website... www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org and on Facebook. We wish you a HAPPY and HEALTHY 2018!

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The Willington Historical Society

CONSIDER A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION ...

that involves your personal participation in one of the ongoing activities of the Historical Society.

Not sure about becoming involved because you don't know much about Willington History? That has been voiced many times, by many people! The Society is all about learning (more) about and promoting our town's history. We can all do that, if we just take a minute and have, even a slight interest in history.

Not sure what the Society does? If you've attended an open house or driven by the Glazier Tavern, you've seen the most visible part of the Society which is the restoration of a Willington tavern, along with displays of various items from our towns past.

On the flip side, we collect things, right, like, just about everyone else! However, our focus centers on Willington events, people, industries and the remnants of those areas.

Projects that always need attention and help are; (1) programming (2) transcribing birth records from 1880s - 1922 into a searchable database; (3) scanning archive photos for digital access; (4) organizing the amazing files of the towns past Historian, Isabel Weigold; (5) recording new items that arrive; (6) figuring out what project to address next.

We also gladly welcome you into Willington's historic Glazier Tavern. But only after someone has cleaned the building, set out the tables, set up the displays, split the wood, started the fires, baked, set out the refreshments, thereby enabling us to open the doors to invite you in. Please consider being part of the welcome committee.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The Society holds monthly meetings that are open to all, on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. During the winter

months these meetings are held at the Town Office Building, 40 Old Farms Road. Check the Society or Town websites for the full schedule.

DID YOU KNOW

The Willington Historical Society receives support, but no financial funding from the Town of Willington. The Society is organized as a designated IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The Society's operations are dependent on a variety of donations, gifts and grants. Did you know that you can designate the Historical Society as a recipient for donations from purchases from Amazon? By buying through SmileAmazon.com, our organization receives one half a percent of your purchase price. Every little bit helps!

Additional information about the Society and Willington's historic 1815 Daniel Glazier Tavern can be found on the Society's web site at: www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org. Email: willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com Also, like us on Facebook.

As a reminder, all donations, gifts and funding are fully tax deductible, because of its IRS 501(c)(3) designation as a non-profit organization. Donate online at: www.willingtonhistoricalsociety.org or at WHS P.O. Box 214, Willington, CT 06279.

IT MAY BE WINTER...

But several indoor projects are in the works at the Glazier Tavern:

- The interior walls surrounding the newly-installed windows in the taproom need to be lathed and plastered.
- The installation of the missing chair rail and wall rail on the north wall of the taproom, along with additional plaster repair.
- Some wall re-arrangement in the kitchen area.

Wonder how we're doing with these projects? Stop in, when we're around!

BECOME A MEMBER

If you're a little short on time, but wish



to help, consider supporting the Society by becoming a member and/or a donor. Don't forget that memberships also make thoughtful gifts for holidays, birthdays and anniversaries. Membership dues and donations allow for the continuing restoration work at Willington's historic Glazier Tavern.

A NEW YEAR, AND, WE'RE STILL LOOKING ...

The Historical Society continues to look for items that help recount Willington history. You can help!!

- Old hand tools, tin and wooden kitchen ware.
- Whale oil lamps.
- Mill photos or items. Especially the mills that stood on Roaring Brook.
- Willington glass, especially whiskey bottles.
- 1700s - 1840s tavern tables and period chairs.
- Also, photographs, 'especially' consider sharing old family photos from the WW I monument dedication or the 1927 Bicentennial plaque dedication. Please scan or share your photos, for our archives.
- Finally, we continue to seek individuals who are willing to serve on the Program and Publicity Committees. As an added bonus, the chairperson of each committee is automatically a member of the Executive Board which helps decide the direction that the society is going.

Not sure if an item may be of interest? Feel free to contact us, please (It may take a few days for us to get back to you, we only do this part-time).

Contact the Willington Historical Society with general email at: willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. Membership forms are available on our website at:

www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org.
Donations may also be made through the
PayPal link on our website homepage.

UPCOMING EVENT

April 19, 2018 - to recognize the sinking of the ship, Titanic, a program of memorabilia and reflection. To be held at 7:00 pm in the Willington Library Community Room.

This informative program is free and open to the public!

FINAL THOUGHT

2017 again saw changes at the Glazier Tavern. Thank you to all those who contributed financially toward the new roof on the building. Thank you for painting the Tavern Sign. Thank you for guiding

and working on the installation of the replacement windows and siding in the taproom area. Thank you for painting the new siding, this fall. Thank you for baking. Thank you for being an active member. Thank you for visiting.

Bob Shabot, President
Willington Historical Society

Willington Parks & Recreation

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

WILLINGTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Our commission requires seven members per the Board of Selectmen, and we presently have six members. It is a non-compensation position and has a term of three years.

2018 WPRC MEETING SCHEDULE

The Willington Parks & Recreation Commission will meet the last Monday of every month at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted.	January 29th	May 21st	September 24th
	February 26th	June 25th	October 29th
	March 26th	July 30th	November 26th
	April 30th	August 27th	December 17th

2018 Bus Trips

WASHINGTON D.C. BUS TRIP

Spring is a favorite time of year for many, and nowhere is this more apparent than in Washington D.C. For our nation's capital, spring signifies the arrival of more than just milder weather. This season marks the blooming of the magnificent cherry blossom trees, creating a vibrant spectacle of gorgeous pink flowers. Tours of Distinction will be your guide to a spectacular weekend in Washington D.C. This is a bucket-list trip for sure and a great get-away weekend package you don't want to miss!!

Date: Friday, March 30th – Sunday, April 1st
Departure Time: 7:00 am. (The coach bus will leave the Tolland Commuter Parking Lot off of I-84 at Exit 68)
Return Time: Sunday, April 1st at approximately 9:00 pm.
Fee: \$545/per person triple
\$635/per person double
\$899/per person single
Fee includes: roundtrip motor-coach, 2-nights' accommodations at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn, 4 meals; 2 breakfasts/2 dinners, Admission/Tram Tour of Arlington National Cemetery, Full Day Guided Tour of Washington DC, Guided Illumination Tour of Washington DC, Tours of Distinction Tour Director, Gratuities for Tour Director, Bus Driver and Local Guides

Registration Deadline is February 9th.

The Commission meets on the last Monday of the month and is responsible for the oversight of our town's recreation facilities, recreation programs within and beyond those facilities, and managing the development of new facilities and programs.

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

A DAY ON YOUR OWN IN NEW YORK CITY'S LOWER MANHATTAN

No New York City neighborhood has greater historical resonance than Lower Manhattan. This is, after all, where the City began. Sights like Trinity Church, Federal Hall, Wall Street, One World Trade and the 9/11 Memorial & Museum are centuries apart in their creation, but all bring undeniable emotional impact.

We'll drop you off in Lower Manhattan where you will be free to wander on your own. You can book a tour or take a self-guided tour, visit a museum or spend the day shopping. There are so many things to do and see in Lower Manhattan. Here are just a few suggestions...

- Things to do in Lower Manhattan - <http://www.nycgo.com/boroughs-neighborhoods/manhattan/lower-manhattan>
- 9/11 Memorial & Museum – <http://www.freetoursbyfoot.com/visit-911-memorial-nyc/>
- Statue of Liberty - <http://www.freetoursbyfoot.com/visit-statue-liberty/>
- Staten Island Ferry - <http://www.freetoursbyfoot.com/staten-island-ferry/>
- Walk over the Brooklyn Bridge - <http://www.freetoursbyfoot.com/walking-the-brooklyn-bridge/>

Before getting back on the bus to come home, don't miss your chance to have dinner in the Stone Street Historic District.

Continued on page 12

Parks & Recreation... continued from page 11

Located just a few blocks from the modern high rise buildings of Wall Street, Stone Street remains a cobblestone testament to New York's Dutch past.

Date: Saturday, April 14th
Departure Time: 7:00 am from the Tolland Commuter Parking Lot off of I-84 at Exit 68
Return Time: The bus will return to the Tolland Commuter Parking Lot at approximately 10:00 pm.
Fee: \$50.00/person (Transportation Only)
Registration Deadline is March 23rd.
This trip qualifies for "Buy 3 tickets, get the 4th 50% off"!!!

BRONX ZOO

The Bronx Zoo is one of the premier zoos in the country and is home to more than 4000 animal species. Your total experience ticket gives you access to the exhibits, attractions and special rides! You will want to experience the Zoo Shuttle, the Bengali Express Monorail, the Children's Zoo, World of Darkness, World of Reptiles, Tiger Mountain, Congo Gorilla Rain Forest and the Butterfly Gardens. It's hard to see this entire amazing zoo in one day! Bring your camera, your best walking shoes, and your lunch, or you may purchase it at the zoo. We will leave the zoo at 4:30 and stop for dinner on the way home.

Date: Saturday, May 12th
Departure Time: 7:30 am from the Tolland Commuter Parking Lot off of I-84 at Exit 68
Return Time: The bus will return to the Tolland Commuter Parking Lot at approximately 8:00 pm.
Fee: Under 2 years old - \$40.00
Ages 2-12 \$65.00
Ages 13-64 - \$70.00
Ages 65 and older - \$65.00

Registration Deadline is April 27th. Due to the popularity of this trip, we expect to sell out quickly. Please Register Early!

Programs

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 pm (time subject to change during basketball season) at Hall Memorial Gym, 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

PICKLEBALL

WPRD brings Pickleball to Willington!! 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! Due to the popularity of this sport, we expect to fill up quickly. Register today!

Where: Hall Memorial School Gymnasium

Dates: March 6-May 2

Tuesdays: 6:30-7:45 pm

Wednesdays: 7:30-8:45 pm

2 Days/Week: \$50/Resident

\$70/Non-Resident

1 Day/Week: \$30/Resident

\$40/Non-Resident

Drop In Fee: \$5/Resident

\$7/Non-Resident

Maximum 18 people - Equipment is available for use

FREE SNOWSHOE LOANER PROGRAM

Bring on the Snow!!! The Willington Parks and Recreation Department has snowshoes that were obtained through a grant from Eastern Highlands Health District initiative "Healthy Eating, Active Living" (HEAL). The Department has 4 sets of adult and 4 sets of youth snowshoes for use. Loaner equipment is available Monday-Friday. Reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance. Only one open reservation will be allowed per household. After the completion of one reservation, another will be allowed. Maximum rental is three days.

Why go snowshoeing? What started thousands of years ago as a mode of transportation has evolved into a popular winter activity for recreation and fitness. Here's why...

It's fun: Snowshoeing extends your hiking or running season into winter. It lets you enjoy winter solitude and can be a social activity. All ages and ability levels can enjoy the sport together.

It's easy: As the saying goes, "If you can walk, you can snowshoe."

The learning curve is much shorter than that of skiing or snowboarding. A few techniques worth practicing: widening your stance (to avoid stepping on snowshoe frames), going up and down hills, traversing slopes and pole usage.

It's inexpensive: Required gear includes snowshoes, appropriate footwear and clothing, and (maybe) a pair of poles. That's it! No lift ticket is required.

It's a good workout: Snowshoeing offers low-impact, aerobic exercise that helps you stay in shape during the winter.

It's versatile: You can go easy or go hard. Plus, you can snowshoe many trails that you can't ski due to trees or low-snow conditions.

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

Continued on page 14

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to learn about cultural backgrounds and make new friends! No experience is necessary and no partners are necessary. Wear comfortable clothes, close-toed shoes and bring water. Drop-ins are welcome!

Dates: This class is held on Thursday evenings
Time: 7-8:00 pm
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

BABYSITTER SAFETY 101

This 2-day course is for youth 10-15 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. Bring a snack.

Dates: Tuesday, April 3rd and Thursday April 5th
Time: 2:45-4:45 pm
Location: HMS Library
Fee: \$50.00
 Registration deadline is March 23rd. Must have a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 students.

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.

Continued on page 16

4th Annual Community Tree Lighting

It was a particularly special night for the Annual Community Tree Lighting this year. Our 40+ foot Evergreen Memorial Tree that was planted in the 1920s had rotted at the base and was put to rest earlier this year. In its place, an 8-foot blue spruce was planted and now adorns our Town Green. Both of these trees were planted in memory of two Willington men who gave their lives during World War I; Henry Toberman and George Bartek.

A special thank you to the following for making this evening unforgettable...

- The Evergreen Committee; John Blessington, Derek Dimmock, Andy Marco, Bob Shabot and Ralph Tulis
- Walter West
- Robert Shabot and the Willington Historical Society
- Valerie Rogers
- Jason Phillips
- Ken Craig



- Carole Frassinelli
- Kathleen Narowski
- HMS Select Chorus
- Boy Scouts Troop 82
- Willington Girls Scouts
- Willington 4-H Club
- Willington Human Services
- Veronica Craig and the International Folk Dancers
- Willington Fire Department #1
- And of course, Santa Glenn, his elves and the Tolland Fire Department!!

Holiday Tree Giveaway

A HUGE thank you to Donald and Maureen Parizek, Scot and Valerie Rogers and Grimaldi's Tree Farm for donating seven, beautiful, holiday trees for WPRDs 1st Annual Holiday Tree Giveaway. Each one of these trees was sponsored by a local group/family, beautifully decorated and then delivered to Willington families in need. Thank you to the following groups/families for your kindness and generosity and for sharing the true meaning of Community...

- Blessington Farm
- Local Prevention Council
- Mailhos Family (not pictured)
- Willington Democratic Town Committee
- Willington Girl Scouts
- Willington Little League
- Willington PTA



Blessington Farm



LPC (Local Prevention Council)



DTC (Willington Democratic Town Committee)



Girl Scouts



Little League



Willington PTA

Parks & Recreation... continued from page 14

TALMADGE TRACT

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

CHENES ROCHES PRESERVE

The heavily forested Chenes Roches Preserve has wide trails that give visitors access to the property's interior, which contains a large, old white oak tree. The property lies among wet and wooded areas, including several springs that flow into the Willimantic River through a small stream. Behind Chenes Roches is a dramatic ridge line created by a series of fault lines parallel to the river. Chenes Roches has several great examples of large glacial erratics. Chenes Roches Preserve is located at 65 Blair Road, Willington, CT and is approximately 55 acres.

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: All: \$30.00/2 hours

REGISTRATION INFO:

Don't wait until the last minute!! Please be sure to register EARLY for programs and trips you wish to participate in. WPRD reserves the right to close out a program and cancel trips due to limited space or low enrollment. You can download registration



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.

forms, get updated information on upcoming programs, events and facility rental information! Please visit our website at: www.willingtonct.org/Public_Documents/WillingtonCT_Recreation/recreation.

QUESTIONS

Please call Maureen Parsell, Director of Parks and Recreation at 860- 487-3108 or email mparsell@willingtonct.org.

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.

PAYMENT

Payments may be made by cash or check. 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 not accepted at this time. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

WILLINGTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks and Recreation Commission meet the last Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Town Office Building - Selectman Conference Table.

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.

WE ARE SOCIAL!

Be sure to "Like" Willington Parks & Recreation on Facebook! Check out the Willington Parks & Recreation website at www.willingtonct.org for all of our latest events and programs. Be sure to Subscribe to E-Alerts at www.willingtonct.org and stay informed of all that we have to offer!

We Want to Hear from You! Do YOU have a hidden talent? We want to see it! Please take a few moments to share your ideas with us. Do you have a talent or program that you would like to see offered? Your input, opinions, suggestions and comments are an invaluable part of our continued improvement to our offerings. We welcome and value your input as we work together to make our parks and programs the best they can possibly be. Please email me at mparsell@willingtonct.org to provide your input or suggestions. Better yet, stop in to the Town Office Building during regular business hours.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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

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

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



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Charting the Future of the Willington Schools

The Willington Board of Education initiated a Facilities Study to enable the Board of Education and the community to plan strategically and through consensus reach the best solution for the future of the schools.

Friar Architecture Inc. was engaged by the Willington Board of Education to prepare an Architectural consult study of the two schools; Center School serving students in PK-4 and Hall Memorial serving students in grades 5-8. Currently the schools enroll a total of 440 students and the student population is expected to remain relatively unchanged for the next ten years.

The Facilities Study was received by the Board of Education in September and

includes a series of facility options for maintaining separate schools, as currently exists, and consolidating the two schools, which would require additional space. The Study includes estimated costs for each of the options and potential state reimbursements to the Town. A facility condition assessment and code review, sometimes called capital improvements, was also completed for each building.

Since that time, several public presentations have been made and will continue as the Board of Education gathers feedback from all constituents prior to making any recommendation for the future of the Willington Schools. Electronic access to the Facilities Study can be found at www.willingtonpublicschools.org along with

announcements of future public presentations. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) about the Facilities Study is available on the Willington website as well.

In assessing direction for the Willington Schools for the future, the Board of Education recognizes the need to provide a safe, inclusive and inviting learning environment, equipped with appropriate and flexible learning spaces that take into account different ways in which learning takes place, is technology smart and meets the 21st century skill needs of all of our students. The Board will consider and weigh the value of the improvements with the cost to the community, all in the best interest of the Willington students and their families.

Center Elementary School PreSchool Registration



Willington Center School's PreSchool will be accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year. Children eligible for PreK must be three years of age by August 31, 2018 and cannot turn five before January 1, 2019. Applications will be available March 1, 2018 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, 2018. Decision regarding acceptance will be made by June 8th.

Center Elementary School Kindergarten Registration



Willington Center School is currently encouraging parents/guardians to begin registering their children for kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year. Children must be 5 years old on or before Jan 1, 2019. Please call Center School at: 860-429-9367. Orientation will be held in the spring.

Willington PTA

P.O. Box 202, Willington, CT 06279

Phone: 860-883-5317

Follow us on Facebook Willington PTA

Happy New Year from the Willington PTA!! We are a group of parents and faculty members that work together to benefit our children. PTA events are a great way to meet other parents and teachers. Volunteering can allow you to use your skills for a great cause - our children and bringing the community together.

Our regular membership meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month (except April which will be held on April 12) at 6:00 pm at the Center Elementary School library. Our meetings last 30 minutes followed by a committee meeting for the nearest community event.

In addition to our events, we also have a few favorite fundraisers scheduled for our schools including Square One Art, School Spirit Wear, Box Tops for Education and Scrip.

Please see our upcoming events below:

FEBRUARY 2018

Mother/Son Bowling: Bowling, pizza, fun and friends. Come to Spare Time in Vernon for this fun event scheduled for February 10th at 10:00 am.

MARCH 2018

Father/Daughter Dance: Get your dance shoes ready for the daughter dance scheduled at Hall Memorial on March 10th at 6:30 pm.

APRIL/MAY 2018

Screen Free Week and Teacher Appreciation Week: Both week-long events will be held April 30 through May 4.

Road Race/Silent Auction: Tie up your sneakers and bring your checkbooks for the annual road race and silent auction scheduled for May 26th! We have a goal of 120 members and as of today's date, we are at 110. We look forward to meeting and exceeding our goal. If you are interested in becoming a member, please send an email to membership.willingtonpta@gmail.com and we will forward you a membership form.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION!!!

One of our most popular fundraisers is Box Tops for Education. These are square cut out boxes found on many popular brands of food including General Mills, Old El Paso, Hefty, and more. Box Tops are each worth 10¢ each for schools and are found on hundreds of products. When students, families, schools and communities work together to collect Box Tops, the money adds up fast. We count and submit these Box Tops consistently throughout the school year and, twice annually, we receive a check that totals our submittal amount. To date we have raised \$1,025.20 for our schools. In January, we will be installing a pink large mailbox



beside the recycling container at the transfer station. We ask that you clip Box Tops for Education from participating food boxes and place the clipped coupons in the mailbox. We will collect and submit them regularly. We also have collection mailboxes at the Library and Post Office. Please speak with your neighbors regarding our efforts as each little square is cash for our schools. For Parents, we will be sending out our January Box Top Collection Sheets in the digital backpack. Please clip your box tops and submit at the end of January. Please visit www.boxtops4education.com for a complete list of participating products. Your help with this fundraiser is greatly appreciated.

Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars Announces 2nd WSFDFS Renewable Scholarship Recipient

THE WILLINGTON SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

The Willington Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce the name of the recipient of the second WSFDFS Renewable Scholarship. Kyle Timmer, a 2016 graduate of E.O.Smith High School, applied for the three year scholarship as he was completing his freshman year at Bowdoin College. This scholarship will give him a financial boost for each of his next three years providing that he meets the requirements of maintaining a B average or better and submitting a letter verifying that he is in good behavioral standing with his college. Kyle is pursuing a major in bio chemistry and a minor in math with plans to become a doctor.

In a thank you letter to WSFDFS, Kyle wrote: "This award helps me in more ways than just financial need. Receiving this award encourages me, first of all, to continue succeeding in school in order to

continue receiving the scholarship." Adding, "I have learned from this award not to dwell on hardships I may face and instead use these obstacles as a checkpoint to reevaluate the things that are important to me, making sure not to let them slip away."

We at WSFDFS and our donors congratulate Kyle and wish him continued success in the pursuit of his dreams. WSFDFS aims to assist high school students who are Willington residents as they graduate and move on to pursue a post-secondary education. This includes accredited technical institutions as well as colleges and universities.

Anyone wishing to help may send a donation to the WSFDFS at P.O. Box 194, Willington, CT 06279 or donate online at: www.willington.dollarsforscholars.org. Also, designate WSFDFS as your nonprofit choice for the AmazonSmile Program as you shop with Amazon.



Kyle Timmer

Conservation Commission

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, joshuustrust.org. There is a kiosk with trail maps at the small parking lot just north of 65 Blair Rd. 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, especially with snow, is not advisable.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTES - Winter 2018

Winter is upon us bestowing a whole new look on Willington's parks and preserves. The lack of foliage reveals a multitude of landscape features - waterways, stone walls, hill sides and views not visible during the rest of the year. Don't let snow stop you from getting some exercise on our great trails. Especially with a fresh snowfall, the forest landscape takes on a whole new perspective. If the snow is deep enough, the Recreation Department has snowshoes to loan if you don't have your own and you'd like to try that experience. Much of the time, though, it isn't long after a snowfall that other enthusiastic snow-

shoers and hikers have packed the trails enough to not need snowshoes. Most of the trails are also cross-country skiable with the Taylor Trail being the most skier-friendly. Depending on your fitness and skill level, you may have to walk a section or two on the others. As always, please be considerate of others and help us protect wildlife by keeping dogs on leashes.

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

The 28-acre Talmadge Tract, which contains the Talmadge Spur Trail with 1 ½ and 2-mile loops, will take you through scenic woodlands and along gravel Mason Road. This tract abuts the 400-acre UConn Moss Forest Tract, and on the other side of Mason Road is the 138-acre Royal Knowlton Preserve. Several miles of the Connecticut Blue Trail (Nipmuck) run through this area, with a portion along the Fenton River as

it flows through a deep ravine. The 3/4-mile Knowlton Spur Trail connects the Nipmuck Trail to the Talmadge Trail. Maps can usually be found at the sign at the Talmadge/Knowlton trailheads on Mason Road where there is now a parking area, and also at the sign where the Nipmuck crosses Mason Rd. Brochures and trail maps for both these areas can also be found at the Town Clerk's office and the library, and the same information is available for Fenton-Ruby on the Conservation Commission website (see below).

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

Happy New Year from the Gardiner Hall Jr Museum!

It's time to ring in the New Year at The Mill Works in Willington. Instead of giving news about the museum I'd like to write about our work in progress for The Packing House which includes our game night. Game Night has been in development for the past few months and taken longer than expected to get to the point where we are ready to take it for a test drive. Our original idea was to have a trivia game night and the concern here was that there are many trivia games in the area and how could we make ours stand apart. Well, with brainstorming and research we think we've

come up with a very unique slant on trivia! Without giving our clever ideas away we think our version of trivia will add a whole new dimension to the "same old, same old." And importantly we would like feedback, suggestions and even criticism from those who would be willing to come out and test it for us! I will send out an email to our followers and try to get several teams together to test out our new and improved Trivia game. If you are one of the lucky email recipients please try to come and have an hour of fun with us at The Packing House!

First Sunday, on December 3, was a festive way to ring in the holiday season. We had many visitors to the museum, including a reporter from the Courant who wrote a very nice article about our Mill! Our next First Sunday is scheduled on March 4th, I'll keep the public informed so you can stop in for a visit. Check our performance schedule in

the paper and set a date to come on out and listen to good music, take in a film, bring your beer or wine and don't forget some food to enjoy during the show! Hope to see you soon!

Pamm Summers

EC-CHAP Program Update & Event Schedule February 2018 - April 2018

Happy New Year! If you haven't yet visited the Gardiner Hall Jr Museum or The Packing House at The Mill Works, we invite you to visit us soon! If you've joined us in the past, we welcome you back!

In addition to a great lineup of late winter and spring performances, films, and our Talent Showcase (2nd Wednesday), EC-CHAP is excited to announce two new programs! These include a year-long "Artist In Residence" (AIR) program featuring visual artists Rebecca Zablocki and Jesse Sullivan;

and monthly Drum Circle with Bob Bloom (3rd Tuesday of the month). We also have plans to offer a songwriting clinic so stay tuned!

As your Community Cultural Center, we invite you to join us at our information meetings to learn about membership and how you can become involved in programming, performing, and exhibiting within our creative spaces. For information, please visit www.ec-chap.org, call 518-791-9474, or email info@ec-chap.org. EC-CHAP is a volunteer member-based 501.c.3 nonprofit

organization. All proceeds from programs and events go to support EC-CHAP operations and programming.

LOCATION

All performances, events, and film showings sponsored by the Eastern Connecticut Center for History, Art, and Performance (EC-CHAP) take place in The Packing House at The Mill Works, 156 River Road, Willington, CT 06279. Phone: 518-791-9474; Web: www.thepackinghouse.us; Email: info@ec-chap.org

Continued on page 22

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EC-CHAP... continued from page 21

For tickets, performance details, program additions and changes, please visit our website at: www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming. For additional information and table reservations, please call: 518-791-9474.

“TALENT SHOWCASE”

2nd Wednesday of the Month

Our Talent Showcase is designed as a platform for local and regional performers of all ages to share their talent. Showcases are scheduled on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May (previously the 2nd Thursday). Admission is free and open to the general public. We strongly recommend that those interested in performing call to register in advance at: 518-791-9474. Performers may also sign in at the door before the show (time permitting).

“ARTIST IN RESIDENCE” (AIR) PROGRAM

The Board of the Eastern Connecticut Center for History, Art, and Performance (EC-CHAP) is proud to announce our inaugural “Artist In Residence” (AIR) Program! We believe the provision of collaborative experiences to serve and promote visual artists passionate in their craft represents an integral part our mission and growth as a regional cultural institution. As a result, after significant planning, meetings, and review, we have formally established our first artist residency with Rebecca Zablocki and Jesse Sullivan.



Artists in Residence:
Rebecca Zablocki, left photo and Jesse Sullivan, bottom photo.



Rebecca and Jesse are an artist couple who recently relocated back to Connecticut. The two completed their Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees from the University of Hartford's Hartford Art School. Rebecca, primarily a printmaker, is originally from Long Island, NY, and Jesse, a potter and writer, was born and raised in Vernon, CT.

Directly following graduation from the Hartford Art School, Jesse secured an Artist In Residence position at the Worcester Center for Crafts in Worcester, MA. During his two years there he was able to focus on his body of work creating pottery, while also teaching and helping to maintain the community ceramics studio. Rebecca returned to NY for a year where she worked in a gallery and art studio, teaching and managing the space. She currently holds the position of Assistant Director of the Gallery and Gallery Store at the Worcester Center for Crafts. Please join us in welcoming Rebecca and Jesse to the EC-CHAP Artist In Residence program where you will see and learn more about the work of these fine artists.

“DRUM CIRCLE WITH BOB BLOOM”

3rd Tuesday of the Month

Beginning January 16th, EC-CHAP will offer an interactive Drum Circle experience with master drummer Bob Bloom. Bob's percussion experience extends nearly two decades serving as a faculty assistant to Dr. Babatunde Olatunji for his “Language of the Drums” courses at The Omega Institute, Rowe Conference Center, and Kripalu Institute for Yoga and Health. Bob has drummed and sang as a performance member of Olatunji's internationally renowned African music and dance company, “Drums of Passion” in concerts at venues including Lincoln Center, The Washington Monument, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Jorgenson Hall.

Drum circles will be offered every 3rd Tuesday of the month from 7:30 pm - 9:15 pm (doors open at 7:00 pm). Bring your favorite hand drums. No drums? No problem! Your heart and hands can enjoy the djembes, doumbeks, tubanos, and bongos from the colorful cargo that Bob is trucking to the circles. For more information, please visit: www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming.

EC-CHAP Program and Event Calendar

Our program and event calendar for February through April 2018 is included below. Please check our website frequently for details, additions, or cancellations: www.thepackinghouse.us/upcoming.

FEBRUARY

- Friday, 02/02: Nicole Zuratis (Jazz). Doors 7:00 pm / Show 7:30 pm
Sunday, 02/04: Mark & Beverly Davis (Classical Guitar). Doors 2:30 pm / Show 3:00 pm

- Friday, 02/09: Film Showing: TBD (Check Website).
Doors 7:00 pm / Show 7:30 pm
- Saturday, 02/10: Gracie Day (Indie). Doors 7:00 pm /
Show 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, 02/13: EC-CHAP Information Exchange Meeting.
7:00 pm
- Wednesday, 02/14: "Talent Showcase". Doors 6:30 pm /
Show 7:00 pm. Free admission - All ages.
- Saturday, 02/17: Lisa Martin (Folk). Doors 7:00 pm /
Show 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, 02/20: Drum Circle with Bob Bloom.
Doors 7:00 pm / Program 7:30 pm.
- Friday, 02/23: Jeff Przech with Ashlee Paraidis
(Folk / Americana). Doors 7:00 pm /
Show 7:30 pm
- Saturday, 02/24: Ramblin' Dan Stevens (Blues).
Doors 7:00 pm / Show 7:30 pm

MARCH

- Saturday, 03/3: The Music and Art of Patti Rothberg (Indie
/ Rock). Doors 7:00 pm / Show 7:30 pm
- Sunday, 03/04: Spring "First Sunday at The Mill Works".
Community Event. Noon - 5:00 pm.
Free admission.
- Friday, 03/9: Film Showing: TBD (Check Website).
Doors 7:00 pm / Show 7:30 pm
- Saturday, 03/10: Kevin Harris Project (Jazz). Doors 7:00 pm
/ Show 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, 03/14: "Talent Showcase". Doors 6:30 pm / Show
7:00 pm. Free admission - All ages.
- Thursday, 03/15: EC-CHAP Information Exchange
Meeting. 7:00 pm
- Friday, 03/16: Eric Lee (Folk). Doors 7:00 pm /
Show 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, 03/20: Drum Circle with Bob Bloom. Doors
7:00 pm / Program 7:30 pm.
- Saturday, 03/24: Greg Abate Quartet (Jazz). Doors 7:00 pm
/ Show 7:30 pm

APRIL

- Tuesday, 04/10: EC-CHAP Information Exchange
Meeting. 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, 04/11: "Talent Showcase". Doors 6:30 pm /
Show 7:00 pm. Free admission - All ages.
- Friday, 04/13: Horizon Blue (Folk / Bluegrass). Doors
7:00 pm / Show 7:30 pm
- Saturday, 04/14: Bruno Raberg (Classical, Jazz, World).
Doors 7:00 pm / Show 7:30 pm
- Tuesday, 04/17: Drum Circle with Bob Bloom. Doors
7:00 pm / Program 7:30 pm.
- Friday, 04/20: Film Showing: TBD (Check Website).
Doors 7:00 pm / Show 7:30 pm

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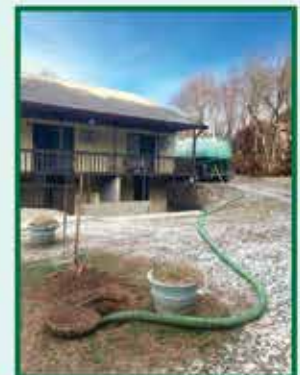
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The 8th annual goPINK project raised over \$29,000 to support women facing breast cancer at Middlesex Hospital Cancer Center. Since 2010, dozens of business, schools and teams have helped raise a grand total of \$184,575 to provide free integrative medicine therapy to over 1,000 patients! Essex Printing and Events Magazines is a proud supporter of the goPINK project. For more information visit gopinkproject.com.

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