

Willington Wire

Community E-Newsletter

Summer 2021





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



Independence Day
Labor Day

Monday, July 5th
Monday, September 6th



The Transfer Station will be closed on Sunday, July 4th



Town of Willington Office Building Contacts

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

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

First Selectwoman	Erika G. Wiecenski	860-487-3100
Animal Control Officer	Tina Binheimer	860-428-4422
Assessor	Walter Topliff	860-487-3122
Building Inspector	Jim Rupert	860-487-3123
Business Manager	Donna Latincsics	860-487-3134
Elections Department	Christine Psathas & Suzanne Chapman	860-487-3120
Fire Marshal & Open Burning Official	Dick Palmer	860-429-7757
Human Services	Jennie Arpin	860-487-3118
Land Use	Michael D'Amato	860-487-3123
Parks & Recreation	Bethany Cologna	860-487-3108
Planning & Zoning	Michael D'Amato	860-487-3123
Public Works	Troy Sposato	860-684-9313
Senior Center	Jennie Arpin	860-429-8321
Tax Collector	Janice Clauson	860-487-3111
Town Clerk	Robin Campbell	860-487-3121
Treasurer	Laurie Semprebon	860-487-3136

Willington's Vision Statement

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

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

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



Boards & Commissions—Meeting Calendar—July, Aug & Sept

Board/Commission	Day	Date	Time
Board of Education	Tuesday	July 13 th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Education	Tuesday	August 10 th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Education	Tuesday	September 14 th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	July 15 th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	August 19 th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Finance	Thursday	September 16 th	7:00 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	July 6 th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	July 19 th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	August 2 nd	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	August 16 th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	September 7 th	6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen	Monday	September 20 th	6:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	July 21 st	7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	August 18 th	7:00 p.m.
Conservation Commission	Wednesday	September 15 th	7:00 p.m.
Economic Development Commission	Wednesday	July 14 th	6:30 p.m.
Economic Development Commission	Wednesday	August 11 th	6:30 p.m.
Economic Development Commission	Wednesday	September 8 th	6:30 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	July 19 th	4:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	August 16 th	4:00 p.m.
Housing Authority	Monday	September 20 th	4:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	July 20 th	7:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	August 17 th	7:00 p.m.
Historical Society	Tuesday	September 21 st	7:00 p.m.
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	Monday	July 26 th	7:30 p.m.
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	Monday	August 23 rd	7:30 p.m.
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	Monday	September 27 th	7:30 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Monday	July 12 th	7:00 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Monday	August 9 th	7:00 p.m.
Library Board of Directors	Monday	September 13 th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	July 26 th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	August 30 th	7:00 p.m.
Parks & Recreation	Monday	September 27 th	7:00 p.m.



Boards & Commissions—Meeting Calendar Continued...

Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	July 6 th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	July 20 th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	August 24 th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	September 7 th	7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning	Tuesday	September 21 st	7:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	July 7 th	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	July 21 st	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	August 4 th	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	August 18 th	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	September 1 st	6:30 p.m.
School Building Committee	Wednesday	September 15 th	6:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	July 8 th	7:30 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	Thursday	September 9 th	7:30 p.m.

Willington Flea Market— Federated Church of Willington

Dear Members and Friends of the Federated Church of Willington,

Regarding the Flea Market normally held on the Willington Town Green in September, after much discussion and for a number of reasons our church has decided not to hold this year's event.

Moving forward, the plan is to discuss the Flea Market at our church Annual meeting in February to determine whether or not we will proceed in 2022.

We appreciate the support that has been given by you all and our community over the years and wish you nothing but the best as we all re-adjust and recover after the last year and a half.

Yours in Christ,
The Federated Church of Willington



Willington Day

Willington Day is like an old fashioned fair where local businesses, vendors and organizations set up booths to sell or promote themselves while providing fun activities or games for kids.

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

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

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

Please direct any questions directly to us at Willingtonday@willingtonct.org.

Hope to see you all there!

Best wishes,

The Willington Day Committee



First Selectwoman's Corner

Dear Willington Residents,

Summer is in full swing here in Willington, I hope you are enjoying the outdoors and warmer temperatures. Locally and across the state we continue to work towards Reopening Connecticut in a safe, responsible manner. As COVID-19 cases declined and vaccinations increased we saw progress to getting us safely back towards normal. The Town Office building fully reopened to the public on June 7th, after 15 months of limited access and the staff looks forward to our new normal. Our restaurants and small business are back to full capacity and are eager to have you visit them!



While many of the town's boards and commissions take time off over the summer, other boards and our town departments remain very productive to support ongoing needs and services. The Public Works Department is particularly busy this time of year. Our crew will be chip sealing several roads in the coming months along with the regular maintenance that comes with summertime. Willington Parks and Recreation is keeping busy with the popular Wednesdays-in-the-Park Summer Concert Series and Summer Camp. Hall's Pond is open and ready for swimmers after a brief hiatus last summer.

The Town Office Building is open 12:30-7:30 p.m. on Mondays and 9-2:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. If your business brings you in person we require that you wear a mask while in the building at this time. I try to be available during office hours or by appointment. Please stop in to share your ideas and concerns as we begin to plan farther into the future. Otherwise I hope to see you out and about in Willington!

Erika G Wicewski
Town of Willington, First Selectwoman

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

Click the link below to view all recent meetings.

[Town of Willington CT Official](#)



Assessor



The Board of Assessment Appeals will hold a session to hear appeals of 2020 Motor Vehicle Values on Monday, September 13, 2021 @ 40 Old Farms Rd, Willington, CT from 6:30 pm. Those aggrieved by the assessed value of their motor vehicle listed on the 2020 Grand List may attend. No application is necessary. Be prepared to bring the vehicle(s) being appealed to the Hearing.

Office of the Assessor

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Connecticut General Statute 12-40, all persons who are liable to pay taxes on tangible personal property belonging to them on October 1, 2021 are hereby notified:

they must file a declaration of their personal property on or before November 1, 2021, with the Assessor, or be subject to an estimated assessment and the statutory 25% penalty.

Various exemptions are explained on the declaration and available if filed on time.

NO DECLARATION IS REQUIRED FOR MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED IN WILLINGTON CT

NO DECLARATION IS REQUIRED FOR REAL ESTATE

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

DEFECTIVE CONCRETE

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

Filing deadlines for various exemptions and classifications for the 2021 Grand List are as follows:

PUBLIC ACT 490

All applications for classification of forestland must be received by October 1, 2021. All applications for classification of farmland and open space must be received by October 31, 2021.

VETERANS

All property owners claiming exemption due to military service must file their DD214 form with the Town Clerk by September 30, 2021. Discharge paperwork is only filed once. This information is for NEW veterans. Veterans claiming disability exemption must submit proof from the Veterans Administration. PA 85-573 allows veterans an additional exemption if their income is within the approved limits. This application must be filed by October 1 bi-annually.

DISABILITY

Persons totally disabled receiving SSD benefits may be eligible for a \$1000 property exemption. Proof of award and application must be submitted by October 1, 2021.

HOMEOWNERS & TOTALLY DISABLED Residents 65 years of age or totally disabled may be eligible for a tax credit on real estate; income guidelines apply and are adjusted each year. You must request an application in February 2022 and file it on or before May 15, 2021.

If you are currently on the Homeowners program and it is not your year to reapply and your income has changed substantially, you may consider reapplying in February 2022.

Walter E. Topliff Jr.

Assessor

wtopliff@willingtonct.org or 860-487-3122

Joan M. Oros

Assistant Assessor

joroas@willingtonct.org or 860-487-3122



Boy Scouts

Willington Boy Scouts Troop 82

The Willington Boy Scout Troop 82 is a member of the Connecticut River Council in East Hartford, Connecticut. The Troop currently has 14 registered scouts along with a committee that consists of parent volunteers that support that Scoutmaster and the scouts in their journey to the highest rank of Eagle Scout. As scouts age out and earn the highest rank of Eagle, new scouts are entering the Troop. This troop is boy lead where the scouts hold leadership positions and govern themselves with the assistance of the Scoutmaster and Assistance Scoutmasters. The Willington Boy Scouts live by the Scout Oath and Scout Law every day and are encouraged to "Do a Good Turn Daily".

The troop has partnered with The Town of Willington Human Services and Parks and Recreation Departments to complete service projects to benefit the community. Scouts are encouraged to give back to their community and help others in need. Troop 82 participates annually in the Scouting for Food collection which supports the residents of Willington. the Troops most well-known fundraiser is Breakfast with Santa that donates 100% of the proceeds to help support the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, Connecticut.

The Willington Boy Scout Troop 82 welcomes future scouts to join us and build ever lasting friendships. The troop is always recruiting new scouts and welcomes those interested in scouting to attend a Monday Night meeting. Please contact Ken Fluet, Scoutmaster at kfluet@charter.net for any questions or interest in joining the Troop 82 scout family.



Pictured Above:

On June 6th Boy Scout Troop 82 completed their service project by planting a garden around the flagpole and memorial for Coach Kevin Legare at the Town Office Building Fields. The Coach Kevin Legare Field Dedication is scheduled for August 28th. Willington Garden Club and Knights and Sons Construction donated to help support this garden project.



Boy Scout Troop 82 Pictured Above:

Front Row (left to right): Kyle Sepe, Alex Cook, and Ryan Sepe

Second Row (left to right) Colin Galligan, Kyle Parent-Cummings, Michael Pippin, and Brendan Cook

Third Row: Ken Fluet, Scoutmaster

Missing from the photo: Cameron Bourbeau



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Call Us Now to Schedule Your Tour



Conservation Commission



Spring has sprung and much of nature has fully unfolded in all its many forms. Put your walking shoes on, grab your binoculars and camera (Take the usual tick-deterrent steps!) and go out and observe the wide variety of wildlife and plants in the forests, wetlands, fields, ponds and waterways in Willington's extensive nature preserves.

The 300-acre Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve and Drobney Sanctuary on Moose Meadow Road has 4-plus miles of trails through woods, over ridges and along ponds and streams. A kiosk with maps is located at the parking area, and a box with nature trail guides is located a short distance down the Taylor Trail. Trail maps are also posted at all trail intersections. Several picnic tables and benches are available in the picnic area adjacent to the parking lot and overlooking the beaver pond and a deck for wildlife observation and fishing is located at the edge of the beaver pond. The beavers have been quite active this spring. Their dams have raised the water level a considerable amount in Taylor Pond.



A nice extension to our Willington trails is provided by the Ashford Link Trail which connects the Fenton-Ruby system to a 1-mile loop trail on the Langhammer Preserve in Ashford. This .1-mile link, shown on the trail maps, runs from the Ruby Trail to Lustig Road with the Ashford trail immediately across the road.

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

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

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

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

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

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





ec-chap.org

thepackinghouse.us

Performance Update

Title: The Packing House Reopens in September!

By EC-CHAP

We are pleased to announce that unless there is a change in the pandemic status, we plan to reopen The Packing House for **LIVE PERFORMANCES** and **FILM SCREENINGS** at 50% capacity in September 2021!

We have included a partial list of scheduled performances and events, and plan to continue to offer a series of virtual performances as well. Please visit The Packing House for additional details, tickets, and a full schedule of events through December 2021. If you have not subscribed to our newsletter please do so at: www.thepackinghouse.us. EC-CHAP will require strict compliance of COVID-19 Guidelines (masks, social distancing, and mandatory sign-in).

SAVE THE DATES:

SEPTEMBER 18, 2021: EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series: "Twice Around" with Curtis Brand, (Folk) 7:30pm

We are pleased to have CT Based acoustic duo, **Twice Around** and local singer songwriter **Curtis Brand** celebrate the Reopening of The Packing House on September 18th. They will collectively share original works seasoned with a few of your classic favorites.



SEPTEMBER 25, 2021: EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series: "Ramblin' Dan Stevens", (Blues) 7:30pm

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



OCTOBER 2, 2021: "An Evening with Singer Songwriter and Keyboardist Bob Malone", (Rock/R&B) 7:30pm



LA Based musician and keyboardist **Bob Malone** returns to The Packing House with stories and a great lineup of original songs. As a member of John Fogerty's band, he has played with Bruce Springsteen, Bob Seger,

Jackson Browne, Jimmy Buffett, and Alan Toussaint; playing the New Orleans JazzFest, Radio City Music Hall, The Hollywood Bowl and is featured on the 2019 concert album/DVD "50 Year Trip: Live at Red Rocks."

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



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

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

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



OCTOBER 13, 2021: EC-CHAP Monthly Talent Showcase (2nd Wednesday), 7:00pm

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

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

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



OCTOBER 23, 2021: EC-CHAP Acoustic Artist Series: AJ Jansen Band – The Outlaw Woman of Country Show, (Country) 7:30pm

Outlaw Women of Country is the Brain-child of **AJ Jansen** Singer and Songwriter in her own right. Growing up listening to just some of these amazing Female Artists sparked an idea that would create a show that journeys through the Songs by Kitty Wells to Shania Twain and more. Jansen first hit Nashville stages in 2006 after winning the Connecticut Country Music Association's "Female Vocalist of the Year" award. Since then, she's performed at countless venues - from New York's The Bitter End, to Nashville's iconic Tootsies.



EC-CHAP Continued...

EC-CHAP Virtual Talent Showcase

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

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

Upcoming Virtual Talent Showcase Schedule:
Streaming Wednesday, July 14th
(Video Submissions Due July 7th)

Streaming Wednesday, August 11th
(Video Submissions Due August 4th)

Streaming Wednesday, September 8th
Video Submissions Due September 1st)

IN CLOSING...

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

TITLE: EC-CHAP Presents Summer Exhibit: "The Mill Works Artist Community"

By: EC-CHAP

The Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery remains closed for the month of June for improvements and upgrades. We will reopen on Saturday, July 17th exhibiting the original works of six artists that comprise The Mill Works Artist Community.

Please join us in welcoming Jack Broderick, Martha Ennis, Christopher Gunderson, Emily Lyon, Carol Mackiewicz, and Jessica Regele to the Dye & Bleach House Gallery.

This exhibit will run from July 17th to September 18th. An Artist Opening Reception will be held Saturday, July 17th at 4:00pm. A Closing Reception is also planned for September 18th to transition from the conclusion of this exhibit to the Grand Reopening of The Packing House with a performance by CT Based acoustic duo *Twice Around* and local singer songwriter *Curtis Brand*.

Jack Broderick

Jack has traveled and painted extensively in Ireland, Argentina, Spain, Cuba and Italy. He has exhibited internationally in Paris, Tokyo, Buenos Aires, Palermo and Tilcara.



In 2003 and 2004, Jack participated in several international gallery shows in Buenos Aires, Paris and Palermo. In October 2003, he had a one man show in the Galeria EdeA, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In January 2004, he was in a diverse show of 5 artists from Japan, Argentina and the United States in Paris, France. The following month he was in an invitational show in La Galeria Civica di Enna in Palermo, Italy. In April 2004, Jack was awarded a residency at the Fundacion Valparaiso in Mojacar, Spain. In April 2006, he exhibited in the Niche-Gallery in Tokyo, Japan. He taught a plein air workshop in Vagliagli, Italy in 2006 and 2007 and has taught painting in Buenos Aires.

He is an Elected Member of the Lyme Art Association and the Connecticut Plein Air Painters Society. Currently he teaches painting and drawing at his studio in The Mill Works, Willington, Connecticut. Jack has been a member of The Mill Works Community for 10 years.

Martha Sternberg-Ennis



Martha Ennis is a resident of Willington, CT and full time physician at the University of Connecticut. Martha is a pastel artist who continually explores a delicate balance of color and space. She has recently explored work in charcoal creating a series of work representing interesting spaces and water views of the mill. Martha has been a member of The Mill Works Creative Community for 8 years and maintains a studio onsite.

Christopher Gunderson

Christopher Gunderson is an Eastern CT-based illustrator, graphic designer and muralist. His work is featured in various locations throughout the state, as well as in MA, VA, and Washington DC. He specializes in creative installations in local restaurants, children's illustration, and portraits by commission.



Chris led a Community Engagement Team to develop concepts for a 200-foot mural entitled "A Canvas of History and Social Change". This project, funded by a DECD CT Office of The Arts REGI grant, and proceeds from a concert performed by Tom Rush and Matt Nakoa, took approximately one year to complete. A dedicated team of EC-CHAP volunteers helped to prepare the retaining wall

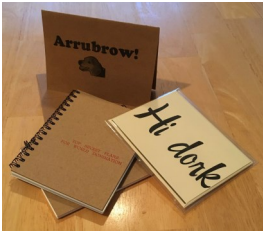
EC-CHAP Continued...

as a “canvas” for Chris to sketch the image, and put color to a story of local history and innovation which spanned over 160 years.

You can view this mural at EC-CHAP's home at The Mill Works along River Road (CT Rout 32) in South Willington, CT. Chris has also been a member of The Mill Works Community for 10 years and counting.

Emily Lyon

Emily Lyon has been publishing zines and artists' books since the 1990s. Her work has been archived and exhibited across the USA and in the UK. She has a BFA in Printmaking from UConn and an MFA in Creative Writing from Southern CT State.



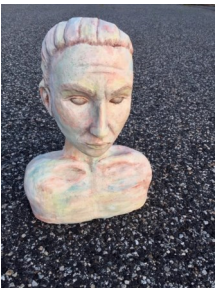
Emily currently works as an NYC-based flight attendant and owns a record shop in Vernon (recordssthegoodkind.com), and continues to make text-based art as often as possible. Emily has been a member of The Mill Works Community for 10 years.

Carol Mackiewicz

Carol Mackiewicz is an artist who finds great joy in painting, drawing, collaging, and printmaking. Carol uses colors to evoke feelings and create an atmosphere of well-being. Carol is also a trained art therapist practicing in Massachusetts and lives in Brimfield, Ma with her loving husband, children, cats and dogs. Carol has been a member of The Mill Works Community for 7 years.



Jessica Regele



Jessica Regele is a native Connecticut Sculptor specializing in one of a kind ceramic and found object art. The Artist received her Associates of Fine Art Degree from Manchester Community College. Jessica is also a Certified Herbologist through the renowned Rosemary Gladstar's Sage Mountain Herbal Center and a Paranormal Enthusiast. From sculpture to decorative herbal pendants, many of

her works reflect a talismanic approach to protecting one's living space, giving each piece a utilitarian aspect of being as well. Jessica has been a member of The Mill Works Community for 11 years.



The Dye & Bleach House Community Gallery welcomes all to visit our facility, which is open under CDC and CT state guidelines on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm or by appointment. We request that all visitors wear a mask and stay 6ft. distant while they visit and enjoy a variety of art made by these very creative artists.

We are located at 156 River Road in Willington, CT. Check out our website or social media for announcements and information regarding opening hours or closures: WWW.EC-CHAP.ORG.

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

HISTORY Article

TITLE: A CANVAS OF HISTORY & SOCIAL CHANGE

By: EC-CHAP

It has been nearly two years since the completion of the 200-foot mural located along Route 32 (River Road) in South Willington. This mural entitled, *A Canvas of History & Social Change* depicts an historical timeline of the creativity and innovation that took place at The Mill Works facility, home of EC-CHAP, over the past 160-years.



This mural was funded in part by CT DECD, Office of the Arts, with the remaining funding from a benefit concert featuring Tom Rush and Matt Nakoa. The year-long project required hours of planning; historic research; design recommendations by a regional Community Engagement Team; support from our colleagues at Sherwin-Williams; and the artistic talent of muralist Christopher Gunderson. You can view our short video, *"The Story Behind the Canvas"*, which describes the historical content and making of the mural by visiting our website, <https://www.ec-chap.org/acanvas>.

Last fall 2020, Chris Gunderson completed enhancements to the mural, adding detail and color to the content of the image. A team of volunteers came together and applied a clear protective coating to the entire area in an effort to better preserve this work from deterioration by the elements.



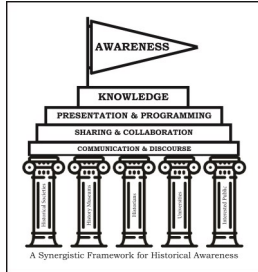
Community Gallery and Gardiner Hall Jr History Museum!

You can't miss this project on the east side of the road as you drive slowly along your route. We invite you to view this mural more closely and safely by parking in the lot on the west side of the road, using the cross walk, and walking up the sidewalk to the mural. While on site, consider visiting the Dye & Bleach House



EC-CHAP Continued...

We plan to develop and offer a *virtual programming component to the Museum*. Over time, we envision this to include an historical lecture series, tours, and documentaries. We will also be revisiting our “Framework for Historic Awareness” to foster collaboration and resource sharing among historians and historical institutions. If you’re interested in learning more, please email info@ec-chap.org, or call 518-791-9474.



Economic Development Commission



The Willington Economic Development Commission, First Selectman Erika Wiecenski and EDC Planning Staff met with South Willington businesses and residents on May 26th to discuss a transportation initiative for sidewalks and sightline improvements. We also discussed how to slow traffic in the Village. The improvements will begin Spring of 2021. Sidewalk improvements will run from Hall School all the way to the Fish and Game Club. The Commission along with Economic Development Planning Staff presented a new set of zoning regulations that will increase flexibility in land use, allowing more appropriate uses such as restaurants and beer manufacturing.

The regulations will now be transferred to the Planning and Zoning Commission for action. We encourage residents to get involved and join our group.

More info please call 860-487-3123.

Willington is on the move.

Richard Maloney
Chairman, Economic Development Commission



Elections Department

Please check the Elections Department's website for up-to-date voting event and voter registration information at willingtonct.org/elections-department.

News From the
Elections Department



Upcoming voting events and deadlines:

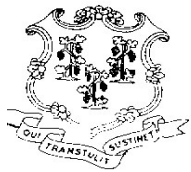
- Wednesday, August 11--deadline to submit petitions for municipal primary to the Registrars
- *Tuesday, August 24--absentee ballots become available for municipal primary; these are available from the Town Clerk
- *Tuesday, August 31--registration session for municipal primary; session to be held in Registrars' office from 12 to 2 pm
- *Thursday, September 9--deadline for mail-in voter registrations for municipal primary
- *Monday, September 13--deadline for in-person registrations for municipal primary
- *Tuesday, September 14--municipal primary; to be held from 6 am to 8 pm at the Town Office Building, Common Room

*dates apply only if municipal primary is needed

Registering to vote is available 24/7 online at voterregistration.ct.gov. 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

Fire Marshal & Open Burning Official



TOWN OF WILLINGTON OFFICE OF FIRE MARSHAL



Neighbors

One of the things that you may not be aware of is when you dispose of batteries, whether their from a radio, video games, flash lights, remote controls, and list goes on, is they may not provide power to activate your equipment but there is still life with in. Ever wonder what is the correct way to dispose them. They recommend that each battery be taped over both contacts. This way if you dispose of them into the common trash nothing would contact the posts to generate heat and cause a fire. Yes, fires do occur from improperly battery disposal. So the next time when your battery doesn't run your remote control, take the battery out, tapes over the contacts securely and you won't provide a place fore fire to start.

The last item is fire pits. You are allowed to have fire pits on your property, they can only be four(4) feet in diameter, they must be away from any combustibles (house, shed, deck), and most importantly when you retire for the evening it must be out. You are only allow to burn rough cut wood only, no trash, finish lumber, and demolition materials are allowed.

There is no Burning Permit required for fire pits. One caution if they become a problem with adjoining property owners, the State could issue you a crease burning order. Be cautious, and courteous.

As always, any questions, please contact my office at 860-429-7757.



Girl Scouts

Willington Girl Scout Troop 67079

Troop 67079: Helena Prytko, Molly Bedan, Maren Farrar, Bella Medeiros, Isabelle Jean, Isla Lord.

Troop leaders: Connie Bedan and Hanna Prytko

Girl Scout Troop 67079 recently earned their Bronze Award. The Bronze Award is the first of the high awards and the highest honor Juniors can achieve. To earn the award, the project must impact or solve an issue in the community and be sustainable. The troop decided that it was important for kids to have access to books about diversity, social justice, racism, multiculturalism and the problems facing the world now. They wanted to make an impact on kids their age and younger with books that they could read and learn from.

The troop started with researching elementary school and middle school age appropriate books and set a goal of raising \$600. To earn money for the books, the girls designed bookmarks with quotes about diversity and reading and asked for sponsors to donate \$10 to have a nameplate included in the book. Through the community's generosity, the troop raised \$1200, which allowed for the purchase of 92 books. The troop was able to personally deliver the books to Center and Hall School libraries on May 28th 2021.

The girls in the troop hope that the kids in school enjoy the books, learn about different points of view and issues that other kids face in the world and that it makes a difference in how they treat and respect others.



Girls Scout Troop 67079 pictured from left to right: Isla Lord, Isabelle Jean, Bella Medeiros, Molly Bedan, Maren Farrar, and Helena Prytko.



Historical Society



This Summer season, there are a few thoughts to be shared, as the Historical Society starts planning to once again welcome our friends, neighbors and members back into the Historic Glazier Tavern and help get us back to a 'normal' situation.

This should not be a revelation, but a reminder that the events that happen today, become part of tomorrow's history. Our organization which exists to help preserve the history of each of our past days, cannot exist without PEOPLE and MONEY, One without the other just doesn't work.

The Historical Society needs people, YOU, who can donate your time and talents, whether you have a background in history or not. You don't have to remember dates, or names, or events, to make a difference in moving the organization forward "with our eyes on the past".

The 2nd part that we can't do without is money, because there are ongoing expenses. We have a beautiful building on the Town Green, but in order for it to be used to its greatest potential, money is needed for renovations to make it accessible to all. And then there are items like electricity, insurance, security system, postage, etc, etc that are regular occurrences.

PLEASE, consider helping by stepping forward and stepping up, with your presence and/or your monetary dues and donations. Our Willington history is important!

Contacting the Willington Historical Society:

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

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



Human Services

40 Old Farms Road, Willington, Connecticut 06279

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

*****A heartfelt thank you to all who donated to our Fill a Public Works Truck food drive in May. We appreciate all you do to help us help others! *****



FOOD PANTRY- The Willington Food Pantry offers canned and dry goods, seasonal vegetables, and eggs to Willington residents in need. Hours are Monday evenings from 4pm to 6 pm and Fridays from 10am to noon.



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



UTILITY ASSISTANCE – We can help our residents with their utility bills! If you are having a hard time making ends meet, please contact our office for more information on programs that can assist your family.



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



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



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



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

Parks & Recreation



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

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

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

PLEASE USE OUR PARKS AND TRAILS RESPONSIBLY



Parks & Recreation Continued...

Free Kayak Loaner Program



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

May - October (Weather dependent)

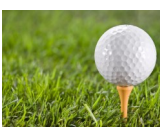
Pickup: Fridays, by appointment only

Drop off: Mondays, by appointment only

EQUIPMENT MUST COME BACK CLEAN

WPRD will sanitize each kayak when it is returned.
Please click [HERE](#) for more information.

Golf Clinics



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

Ladies Clinic—Aug 3, 10, 17, 24 5-6:00 p.m.

Co-Ed Clinic—Sept 9, 16, 23, 30 6-7:00 p.m.

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

Location: Skungamaug River Golf Course
104 Folly Lane, Coventry

Fee: \$80.00/student



Projects-in-the-Park

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

Let's make your creativity come to life!
All materials will be provided and ready for you when you arrive at the park.

Click [HERE](#) for more information & to register

Day/Time: Thursdays 6:00—8:00 p.m.

July 22—Porch Planter (4 ft. tall) - \$65

August 19—Town Sign—more details to follow

September 23—TBD—more details to follow

Location: River Road Athletic Complex Pavilion

Fee: varies for each project

We hope you will join us for a fun-filled paint night!

Hall's Pond is OPEN!

June 26th-August 22nd

2021 Pond Pass Prices

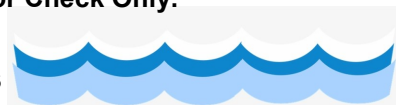
Willington Resident Family	\$65.00
Non-Resident Family	\$75.00
Willington Resident Individual	\$40.00
Non-Resident Individual	\$45.00
5-Visit Pass (max 4 people)	\$35.00
1-Day Pass (max 4 people)	\$10.00

Pond Hours (Open 7 days a week)

Sunday-Saturday 12:00-7:00 p.m.

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

Swimming Lessons



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

Swim Test Evaluations: July 10th & 11th
5:00-7:00p.m. at Halls Pond.

Session 1: July 12th-15th Monday thru Thursday
(rain date Fri. July 16th)

July 19th-22nd Monday thru Thursday
(rain date Fri. July 23rd)

Session 2: August 10th-13th Tuesday thru Friday
(rain date Sat. August 14th)

August 17th-20th Tuesday thru Friday
(rain date Sat. August 21st)

Group Lesson Fee: \$65.00 / Willington Resident
\$75.00 / Non-Resident

Semi-Private Fee: \$45.00 / Willington Resident
\$55.00 / Non-Resident

Private Fee: \$30.00 / Willington Resident
\$40.00 / Non-Resident

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

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



Parks & Recreation Continued...

WILLINGTON SUMMER CAMP



Willington Parks & Recreation is offering 6-weeks of summer camp to children ages 5 to 12.

Sign up for one week or all six weeks.

Dates: Week 1: 7/12-7/16

Week 2: 7/19-7/23

Week 3: 7/26-7/30

Week 4: 8/2-8/6

Week 5: 8/9-8/13

Week 6: 8/16-8/20

Days: Monday—Friday

Time: 9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Location: Hall Memorial School 111 River Road

Fee: \$200.00/week Full Day of Camp
(cash or check)

Ages: 5-12 years old

Activities include: swimming at Halls Pond, sports, games, crafts, nature, free time, & MORE! All COVID-19 guidelines will be followed. Campers & staff do not need to wear face masks while outdoors.

Registration and payment can be dropped off at WPRD or mailed to: WPRD 40 Old Farms Road Willington, CT 06279.

Please make checks payable to WPRD.

For more information, contact Parks & Recreation at
860-487-3108 / bcologna@willingtonct.org



911 Reflective Address Signs

The First Step to Providing Emergency Services is Finding Your House

Make 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 or \$10.00 Seniors



Signs are highly visible both day and night!!

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





WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

6:30-8:30 P.M.

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

JULY 7TH

BRUCE JOHN

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

www.brucejohnmusic.com

JULY 14TH

JLamm & FINN

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

JULY 21ST

MASS-CONN-FUSION

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

JULY 28TH

VAL ROGERS

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

AUGUST 4TH

FLAMINGO

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

AUGUST 11TH

ROCK SOLID ALIBI

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

AUGUST 18TH

WHISKEY WINE & COKE

With 3 members of the Coyote River Band, this is Whiskey Wine & Coke Acoustic Trio. We are a musical trio with a male and female lead singer and acoustic guitarist. We cover songs from the 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's and modern country. Through the intimacy of a trio, we engage our audience to experience musical nostalgia while dancing and singing along to timeless favorites <https://www.facebook.com/whiskeywineandcoke>





WEDNESDAYS *IN THE* PARK

Willington's Summer Concert Series

Thank You 2021 Sponsors!!

Platinum Concert Sponsors

Willington Veterinary Center
Scranton Motors
King Energy

Gold Concert Sponsors

Willington Termite & Pest Control
Baywood Kennels Doggie Daycare & Pet Spa
Willimantic Waste Paper Co.

Silver Concert Sponsors

Bill & Suzanne Chapman	Willington Pizza House
C & T Electric	Tony's Garage LTD
Red Rock Café	Willington XtraMart
Home Selling Team	Franc Motors Inc.
Daisy & Friends Books	

Bronze Concert Sponsors

Kelleher Construction Services	Hipsky Construction LLC.
Carol Noyes & Paul Plunkett	Erika & Derrick Wiecewski
Stavens Brothers Water Wells	Ghost Fawn Homestead
Connecticut Valley Orthodontics	The Barn Yard

Copper Concert Sponsors

David & Tish Ignatowicz	Creative Mark Engraving
DDrobney Photography	Artisans at Middle River



Public Works



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

Public Works: is open to the public. The staff will continue to work their normal hours but will be maintaining a safe distance from all residents for everyone's health and safety.

Transfer Station: will maintain normal business hours on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 8:15-3:45 p.m. For the safety of our staff and residents, please practice social distancing at all times.

Staff will not be able to assist residents with their trash removal. For the time being, all bottles and cans should be placed in the recycling bin.

WILLINGTON TRANSFER STATION SWAP SHED IS OPEN DUE TO COVID-19 THE FOLLOWING MUST BE FOLLOWED:

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

Mid-Northeast Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility

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

Items not accepted: Crew will leave in your vehicle

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

Questions? Call MidNEROC 860-965-1910



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

Open 12 Days

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



Science Corner with Emily



Oh Possum!

Opossum's are certainly not the cutest animal in the kingdom but what they lack in looks, they make up in originality. The opossum's we see in New England are adapted from the south and are properly referred to as the Virginia opossum. They are about the size of a house cat with a hairless tail used to stabilize itself while walking along branches, they're agile climbers and great swimmers. Incredibly adaptive, these marsupials are one of the oldest living mammals, having waddled on past the dinosaurs.

They are arguable the least picky eater at the table, working over the environment like vacuum cleaners. Picking up grubs, insects, mice and of course the garbage you left out the night before. Should you try to whisk them away, their first line of defense will be to drool and hiss or snarl followed by their more popular trait, playing dead. We are often told as kids animals carrying rabies will drool or snarl but this isn't true for the opossum. Their low body temperature and strong immune system allow them to resist many diseases including rabies. The most notable disease that is no match for the possum, is Lyme Disease. Not only do they not suffer from Lyme Disease, opossums are remarkably good at getting rid of ticks. They have cat like grooming habits and when they find a tick on them, they simply lick it off and swallow it. Opossum droppings have been researched and it is estimated in one season a possum can kill about 5,000 ticks!



Opossums also have impressive memories when tracking down food or avoiding danger. In one study, opossums were able to locate a food source down a previously traveled runway better than many other foraging pests. Another study found that they remembered toxic chemicals a year after encountering them. Along with a sound memory, opossums are one of the few animals that don't fear snakes. They can resist the venom of nearly any kind of snake, the one exception being the coral snake, and can even eat them without problems.

Opossums do not hibernate in the winter; they take shelter in hollow logs or under decks and rummage for whatever food they can find. If you happen to see one lumbering around your yard at night make sure your trash is inside, otherwise let them be. They often take the blame for destruction caused by other animals but in reality, they are sweet-tempered marsupials. They don't dig or claw, leave foul odors or pick fights with other animals. They simply waddle around eating whatever rodents, insects, fruit, snails and other leftovers they can find then move onward to the next yard. So next time you see an opossum hopefully you'll think twice before being disgusted by their presence, they're helping us out more then we realize!

Tax Collector

PROPERTY TAX BILLS HAVE BEEN MAILED

1st Installment Due by August 2, 2021

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 one of our Drop Boxes located outside the front entrance of our building. Our mailing address is 40 Old Farms Rd, Willington CT 06279 if you want to mail in a payment. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like a receipt mailed back to you. You may also pay on line at www.willingtonct.org and click on the button that says "**OnLine Payments**". There is a convenience fee of 2.95% for credit cards and \$1.95 for EFT. We also have a public kiosk at Town Hall for on line credit/debit card payments. The same fees apply.



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

Payments due July 1, 2021 must be received, or postmarked, no later than August 2, 2021.

Payments due January 1, 2022 must be received, or postmarked, no later than February 1, 2022.

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.



Tax Collector Continued...

What am I being Taxed on?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and prosperous summer! We look forward to seeing you in person once again.

Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax or interest per CT State Statute.

Janice C. Clauson

Revenue Collector
860-487-3111
collector@willingtonct.org

Michele Cyr

Assistant Revenue Collector
860-487-3111
arc@willingtonct.org

Town Clerk

Happy summer to all of our residents!

It is still not too late to license your dogs! Please remember Connecticut General Statute 22-342 denotes that every dog must be licensed annually. The fees are \$8 for each spayed/neutered dog and \$19 for each male/female dog. Please don't forget to include the additional \$1 penalty per dog for the month of July. More information can be found at: willingtonct.org/town-clerk.

Veterans who served in the military during a time of war (or Active Military), and own property or motor vehicles in the Town of Willington may file their military discharge paperwork in order to be eligible to receive tax exemptions. The original DD214 (or a certified copy) must be filed with the Town Clerk, at which time an Armed Services receipt will be signed as well. The deadline to file is September 30th each calendar year. If you have questions regarding your exemption qualifications, please contact the Assessor's office at 860-487-3122.

We hope everyone enjoys their summer!

Robin Campbell, Town Clerk

Rachel Pierce, Assistant Town Clerk



Town Parks & Amenities

Fenton-Ruby Park and Wildlife Preserve:

Moose Meadow Road and Burma Road; hiking/walking trails, bird watching, fishing, non-motorized boating, cross country skiing, snow shoeing and picnic area.

Knowlton Property:

Mason Road – Hiking Trails

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



Talmadge Tract:

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

Chenes Roches Preserve:

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

Please stay on the trail and respect boundaries where the trail passes near private property.

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

Kevin Legare Memorial Fields - 40 Old Farms Road:

Baseball and Softball fields

The Park on Village Hill Road:

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

River Road Athletic Complex - 511 River Road:

Randy Lerner Memorial Baseball Field, basketball court, pavilion, playscape, swings, multi-sport field, volleyball sand court, walking path (one lap = .33 miles) and outdoor fitness equipment. No golfing allowed.

Dogs are welcome but must be leashed and cleaned up after. Doggie poo bags are available.

Complex is **CARRY IN-CARRY OUT**. Dogs are not allowed on the baseball field. **State Statute 22-364 states that dogs must be under the direct control of their owners at all times when using town parks. It is the dog owner's responsibility to clean up all dog waste.

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

Facility Rentals:

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

Pavilion Rental Fee:

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

Fields/Courts Rental:

Fee: \$30.00 for 2 hours

Community Sports Equipment Shed

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



Willington Public Library



Curbside Service discontinued as of July 1st. The library is now open and safe. If you have any special needs, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate.

Our Summer hours:

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

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

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

Sunday: Closed

For summer programming, we will be doing something very different this year for our **2021 Summer Reading Program "Tails and Tales"**.

When planning ahead, everything was still unsettled as to what the Covid pandemic situation was going to look like and what restrictions would still be in place. So with that in mind, it was determined that this year's Summer Reading Program would not only be about the library and what it has to offer but about getting out doors and becoming more involved with our community. This program is open to all ages, from Infant to Senior. We have something for everyone to do and it will be your choice as to what you want to participate in.

This eight week celebration will run from **Saturday, June 26 - Saturday, August 14**, and will offer free fun all summer long! The Tails & Tales Adventure Activity Trail map is for all ages. Create your own adventure here at the library and out and about our community.

Free - Family - Fun - Read Books - Win Prizes

All participants will need to register at the library to receive their Trail Map. On it you will find numerous things to choose from and participate in, both in and at the library and within our community. You will create your own adventure using the activities on the back of your map. You may only try for the prize in your own age or grade level.

All of these activities can be done at your own leisure and pace and with your own interests in mind. Some deal directly with things "library" and some things involve our "community". To meet the criteria, you will need to do things from both areas.

For every activity completed, you will move one space on the map. After each set of five activities completed, you will get a chance to enter to win the prize for your age or grade level. Once you have completed the entire map of 20 activities, you will earn a bonus ticket for another chance to try at winning. If time allows, you can pick up another map and do as many more different activities as you would like for even more chances at winning your prize. You could have a total of 5 chances in all per completed map.

Due to Covid last year, we lost out on doing things together. Let's make this a summer to remember! Join in and have some fun!

We have a new **"StoryWalk" story** in place now for you to enjoy!

StoryWalk is a book that has been dismembered, laminated and presented page by page along an outdoor path to promote reading and exercise. StoryWalk provides an innovative and delightful way for children (and adults) to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Please stop by and enjoy the beautiful outdoors as you walk along and read **"YOU MATTER" by Christian Robinson**. Bring a snack and rest awhile on one of our beautiful benches throughout the library grounds.

Do to **generous donations made** in loving memory by caring patrons, we will soon complete our pavilion with picnic table, and establish a memorial butterfly garden. We will announce when each is completed.

Ollie, our library guinea pig will be coming home right after school lets out. You can visit with him on Fridays and Saturdays during the summer. He wants to bring along some of his friends for you to meet. He has missed all of his friends here at the library so much! He hopes you will stop by to say "hello".

A Garden for Ollie

We would like to create a special container garden outside for our guinea pig Ollie, here at the library. We would like to get everyone involved in someway or another. We are in need of donations with pots, soil, fertilizer, seeds and/or plants. We will need help with the planting and are open to any suggestions or ideas concerning this task. Any help in these areas would be greatly appreciated. We would like this to be a fun and educational ongoing project.

We are looking to plant some of Ollie's favorite foods like tomatoes, many types of lettuces, strawberries, cucumbers, sweet peppers, along with many different types of herbs like basil, cilantro, and parsley.

Meanwhile, if you would like to bring in some fresh "goodies" to share from home, here are some suggestions... for vegetables: lettuces: romaine, red or green leaf lettuces, parsley, red, green and yellow peppers, carrots, broccoli, zucchini and tomatoes. He likes these fruits: oranges, apples, blueberries, banana, strawberries and kiwis.



Willington Public Library Continued...

Ollie just loves his fresh vegetables and fruits. Do you like the same things Ollie likes? You probably like things that **Ollie can't have** like peanut butter, potato chips, cookies, crackers, bread, cheese, and definitely no chocolate for him! Thank you for caring and wanting to share.

Please check out and enjoy the great selection of **Museum and Attraction Passes** available to Willington residents which you can find listed on our website: go to www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org

Summer "Tails & Tales" Family Movie Matinees:

When the weather is hot, come in too cool off in our air-conditioned Community Room and watch a movie on our "BIG" screen! Bring a snack or your lunch while enjoying your movie or maybe bring a favorite comfy chair or blanket and pillow. Relax and be cool while enjoying what is being featured.

DAYS, TIMES, AND SHOWINGS -

Tuesday, July 6: A Dr. Doolittle Day:

12:30 - 2:30 pm: Doolittle (2020 w/Robert Downey, Jr.) rated PG, 1 hr 42 mins.

3:00 - 5:30 pm: Doctor Doolittle (1967 w/ Rex Harrison) rated G, 2hrs. 32 mins.

Wednesday, July 14: 12:30 pm: An American Tail (1986) rated G, 1 hr. 21 mins.

Thursday, July 22: 2:00 pm: Balto (2002) rated G, 1 hr. 18 mins.

Monday, July 26: 12:30: The Land Before Time (1988) rated G, 1 hr. 9 mins.

Tuesday, August 3: 3:00 pm: Gulliver's Travels (2011 w/Jack Black) rated PG, 1 hr. 25 mins.

Wednesday, August 11: 12:30 pm: Pete's Dragon (2016) PG 1 hr. 43 mins.

Thursday, August 19: 2:00 pm: Disney's Atlantis: The Lost Empire (2002) rated PG, 1 hr. 36 mins.

Saturday, August 14: 10:00 am: Disney's Raya and the Last Dragon (2021) rated PG, 1 hr. 57 mins.



Craft Days in the Community Room: 1:30 pm on Mondays: July 19, August 2, and August 16

Summer Reading "Tails and Tales" Storytime: 1:30 pm on Tuesdays, July 13, July 27, and August 10

Our **Adult Book Club** has continued to meet via Zoom during Covid. They are still preferring to do that at this time, if the weather is uncooperative. Otherwise, they will meet outside on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm, in our side parking lot. All are welcome at anytime and for any or all books. Let us know if you would like to join or if you have any further questions. We will be happy to keep you posted and connected.

Upcoming Adult Book Club Reads:

July 1 - "Finding Dorothy" by Elizabeth Letts

August 5 - "The Mystery of Mrs. Christie" by Marie Benedict

September 2 - "While Justice Sleeps" by Stacey Abrams

The Library will be closed on Saturday, August 28, so we can participate in this year's Willington Day. Please stop by our booth and say "hello" and join in on our festivities. Come meet our Library Board and introduce yourself. Get to know the members who serve.

Library Board meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Prior Covid, meetings were held in the Library's Conference Room. As of this writing, we have been meeting through Zoom. Check with the library for updates as to what is next.

It has not yet been decided but we are hoping to have our Friends Annual Book Sale in September. More news to follow on this later.

Become a member of the Friends of the Willington Public Library. Application maybe found on line and at the Library. They meet on the second Tuesday in the months of February, April, June, August, October and December at 1:00 pm in the Library's side parking lot, while the weather is nice. If this changes, they will meet in our Community Room.



Willington Public Library Continued...

We are looking forward to presenting programs indoor once again. Indoor programming will resume in the Fall. If there is anything in particular you would like to see offered, we would like to hear your suggestions. If there is a program you wish to offer yourself, again, we would like to hear of this as well for consideration.

It is our hope and intention, if all continues to go well from the Covid pandemic, to be back to our prior Covid regular hours of operation and to full capacity with all areas of the library open to the public and with programs running after September 1st. A great way to end Summer and begin the Fall season.

***We HOPE to restore these original hours in the Fall:

Monday and Wednesday: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Tuesday and Thursday: 11:00 am - 8:00 pm

Friday and Saturday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sunday: Closed



Please stay posted of all library information by checking out our website in the coming months at www.willingtonpubliclibrary.org and sign-up for our library E-Blast reminders (call or come in to register) and through our many social medias (Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, Twitter, and burbio.com).

Enjoy your summer and see you at the library!
-The Staff of WPL

Willington School Building Committee

Willington School Building Committee Update

The Willington School Building Committee (SBC) has been meeting since January and continues to work through prior data and gather new information in order to define a preschool-grade 8 school to meet Willington's educational needs.

On Monday, May 17, the Director of the Office of School Construction Grants and Review (OSCGR), Kosta Diamantis, visited Hall Memorial School. OSCGR is the organization responsible for approving or denying building project applications and would have a significant stake in the cost of a building project (renovation or new school) in Willington. Director Diamantis was invited by the School Building Committee to tour the Willington Schools to collect data and provide recommendations for the future of our buildings. During the walkthrough, Director Diamantis stated he would not support a renovation project for Center or Hall Schools due to the age, condition, and student enrollment. The SBC created an overview of information learned during his visit that can be viewed on the SBC website. As a follow-up to his visit, the SBC invited Kosta to attend a future public meeting for a question and answer period via Zoom.

The SBC continues to hold [regular meetings](#) via Zoom on the first and third Wednesday of each month and [agendas](#) and [minutes](#) can be found on the town website. We encourage our townspeople to [subscribe to e-Alerts](#) found on the front page of the town website to receive notifications of meetings. Meetings are recorded and can be accessed via the town's [YouTube page](#). Official committee information and documents are available on the [SBC webpage](#).

The School Building Committee welcomes public feedback. Community members may email their comments to sbc@willingtonct.org or participate during the present to speak portion of the SBC meetings. The SBC Communications Plan, which addresses information-sharing strategies and community engagement opportunities, will be posted to the SBC website soon.



Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars



Congratulations 2021 Recipients!

Willington Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars (WSFDFS)

Willington Scholarship Foundation Directors' Award

Awarded to a Willington HS Senior who exemplifies academic excellence and made possible by funds from the WSFDFS Directors and the Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation.

Reza Shahrudi

The Jared Sparks Award

Awarded to a Willington HS Senior who exemplifies academic excellence.

Eleanore Jeffreys

The Corporal Henry Toberman VFW Post 938 and Auxiliary Scholarships

Ryan Toomey

Darienne Halle

Named Scholarships

These scholarships are made possible by the generosity of Willington residents, organizations and businesses, the WSFDFS Directors Fund with matching donors: PTA, Stafford Lions, the Borovicka Family, The Sonny Hipsky Family, Jeff Kelly of Willington Pizza, Pam & Joe Varholý of Anything Printed, Stafford Savings Bank and Rob & MaryJo Whalen of MycoScience, Inc.

The Sonny Hipsky Memorial Award

Mary Iacampo

Willington PTA Endowment Scholarship

Daniel Grimson

Anything Printed Scholarship

Luke Horn

Stafford Savings Bank Scholarship

Rachel Distin

Stafford Lions in Memory of Thomas Borovicka Scholarship

MaryKate Frassinelli

Willington Pizza Scholarship

Gabriella Courtois

MycoScience, Inc. Scholarship

Nickolas Mercado

Willington Scholarship Foundation Scholarships and Awards

Awarded to Willington HS Seniors who exemplify commitment to academic achievement. These scholarships are made possible by the generosity of Willington residents, organizations businesses and funds from a **Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation** grant.

Skylar Watson

Ryan Fox

Rosalinda Sifuentes

Katherine Rothauser

John Bray

Haley Rothauser

Molly Sullivan

Check us out, volunteer or donate on our website at www.Willington.DollarsforScholars.org

