

Ellington events

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First Selectman's Corner

A very happy 2018 to everyone! January started off with lots of snow, sub-zero temperatures and gusty winds blowing. Thank goodness for our dedicated Public Works Department. These people work countless hours, especially after large snowstorms, to get the roads and sidewalks cleared, treated and safe.

2017 was a year that presented the challenge of keeping our Town budget intact even as CT wrestled with the state budget. As a member of the Capital Region Council of Governments, I have been attending meetings faithfully for two years. In this group, I have met all of the First Selectmen/Selectwomen, Mayors and Town Councilmen from around the state. I was honored to be elected Secretary of the Executive Committee for 2018.

As you can imagine many of our meetings revolved around the fiscal crisis going on in the state legislature. In those meetings I again thought of how lucky Ellington is to have a strong Finance Department and Board of Finance. We take fiscal responsibility very seriously so as to protect our residents and our businesses. 2018 will be challenging as well, but we are optimistic that we can handle whatever comes down the road. Important information and dates regarding the budget process are included within this newsletter.



First Selectman Lori Spielman and NBC Connecticut's Chief Investigative Reporter Len Besthoff discuss the Crumbling Foundations state of affairs in Ellington.

The Winterfest Celebration was a great success. There were many activities going on at the Library, the Congregational Church, the Nellie McKnight Museum and the Gazebo. The EVFD Torchlight Parade was terrific with the fire trucks all decorated in lights. Kids and adults lined the streets and Santa and Mrs. Claus were a great hit. Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of the very hard working volunteers that put this all together. This is one example, among many, of why Ellington is a wonderful Town to live in.

Our Holiday Lighting Contest was a great success as well. In fact, there were nice articles in the Hartford Courant, The Reminder, and North Central News about the contest. Thank you to our **continued on page 3**

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DANIEL M. VELTRI, M.D.

Board Certified in Orthopedics with Subspecialty Certificate in Orthopedic Sports Medicine

- Assistant Team Physician - New York Giants, 1992-94
- Active Triathlete, Ironman Competitor
- Football Team Physician - South Windsor, Tolland, Coventry, E.D. Smith, East Cheshire, Manchester and East Hartford High Schools



LANCELOT MORGAN, PA-C

Board Certified in Orthopedics

Physician Assistant who conducts medical exams, diagnoses and treats illnesses, orders and interprets tests and assists in surgery



MICHAEL MARCHETTI, D.O.

Family Practice Board Certified

- Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship trained at the University of South Carolina
- Assistant Team Physician for the 2017 Women's Basketball National Champions
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- Management of sports related medical issues – exercise induced asthma, etc.
- Concussion management
- Diagnostic Ultrasound and Ultrasound guided injections

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of Joyful Reflections Photography

www.eventsmagazines.com

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“Events Magazines work!

We were thrilled to receive a call for reservations at GrandView Campground, just two days after the magazine was delivered to recipients. We are looking forward to increasing our presence in neighboring areas, as Events spreads the word for us.”

Grandview Camp Resort, Moodus, CT

Selectman's Corner ... continued from page 1

sponsors - Kloter Farms, Homestead Heating and Plumbing, and Earthlight Technologies. The lucky winners were Alex Brennan for Most Creative, Paul Scordato for Best Theme, Tony & Betty Keilty for Judges' Choice, and Barber Utilities for Best Business. Our Emergency Management Director and the Town Hall Annex put together some great department displays as well. Special thanks to the Beautification Committee for all of their hard work to make Ellington look so festive. The positive comments from residents have been very heart-warming. I want to say a HUGE thank you to all of the sponsors that allowed us to hold the Inaugural Scarecrow Contest and 2nd Annual Holiday Lighting Contest in 2017. Because of their generosity, the Town was able to foster festive community spirit and we can't wait to continue these efforts in 2018. Winners of the 2nd Annual Holiday Lighting Contest received great prizes from Kloter Farms, Homestead Comfort and Earthlight Technologies.

New England Lean Consulting was the Flagship Sponsor for the Scarecrow Contest; they generously donated prizes for Best Business and Fan Favorite. Joyful Reflections Photography, Kloter Farms and Hometown Pizza.



Eleven-year old Ellington resident (and future First Selectman), Joshua Rockefeller shadowed me for a day and was an honorary First Selectman. He had great questions and everyone enjoyed having him at Town Hall. If Joshua is an example of the youth that will one day be at the helm of the Town of Ellington, we could not be in better hands.

January 2018 started off with a well-attended staff meeting at Town Hall. Homemade food and good conversation made what is always a productive meeting even better! We are all proud of our Town and appreciate the support our community gives us. We are on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and the Town website is better than ever. The television program on CVC is also going well. I have been able to interview many of our Town residents about their businesses and interests as well as people in the Public Safety realm.

Spring is right around the corner... at least that is what I keep telling myself! Let's think flower gardens, green grass, warm temperatures and the smell of manure in the air! Thank you to all who, on Election Day, gave me another term to continue to do this job that I love. Remember, my door is always open.

Respectfully,
Lori Spielman, First Selectman



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Assessor's Office

Kim Bechard, Assessor
860-870-3109
kbechard@ellington-ct.gov



HOMEOWNER'S TAX RELIEF PROGRAM

The Homeowner's Tax Relief Program allows

a tax credit for qualifying individuals. To qualify, the homeowner (or spouse, if domiciled together) must have been 65 years of age by the end of 2017 and must reside at the property. 2017 income cutoff is \$43,000 if married, and \$35,300 if not married; this is defined as adjusted gross

income and tax-exempt interest, plus any other income not included in the adjusted gross income. Totally disabled persons, regardless of age, are eligible provided they have a Social Security Award Letter or SSA-1099 with Medicare premiums. The filing period for this tax relief program is February 1 through May 15, 2018.

ADDITIONAL VETERAN'S EXEMPTIONS

An additional exemption may be available for those veterans who meet the income requirements noted above. Applications for this program must be filed between February 1 and October 1, 2018.

APPLICATIONS

Both of these programs require applications to be filed every two years. If you are currently on one or both of these programs and it is your year to refile, applications will be mailed to you February 1. Forms are available in the Assessor's Office.

For questions or help completing the forms, contact either the Assessor's Office or Anna Turner, MSW, Elderly Outreach Social Worker, Human Services Department at 860-870-3131 or email aturner@ellington-ct.gov.

Spotlight on the Tax and Revenue Collector's Office

MEET THE MEMBERS OF YOUR TAX AND REVENUE COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.

The Town's Tax and Revenue Collector, Ann Marie Conti, is responsible for the collection of taxes on real estate, personal property, and motor vehicles. Other collection functions include sewer assessments and sewer use fees, as well as trash collection

fees. Also serving the Town in the Tax and Revenue Collector's Office are Heidi Tucker, Deputy Tax and Revenue Collector and Jackie Wagner, CCMC, Tax Clerk.

Tax rates are determined by the Board of Finance through the municipal budget process, with the annual tax rate (mill rate)



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Full time program for school age children entering kindergarten and older in September 2018

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Country Clubhouse Christian Preschool
12 Main Street, Ellington
860-454-4282

CountryClubhouseEllington.com

Little House In The Country
2 Nutmeg Drive, Ellington
860-872-0252

depending on how much money is needed to fund the municipal budget and how much property is available to be taxed (grand list) as of the assessment date (grand list date) of October 1. Like all Connecticut towns, Ellington operates on a fiscal year, beginning July 1 and ending the following June 30. Tax bills are issued July 1 each year and payments are due semiannually in July (first installment) and the following January (second installment). Motor Vehicle bills are due in one installment. The current mill rate is 31.7.

State statutes dictate the procedures to be followed for the billing and collection of taxes and the record-keeping involved and also govern when and how bills are sent; what notice is to be given or

published concerning taxes; the rate and applicability of interest; how liens are applied; and what means of delinquent collections are permitted. Your tax dollars are essential to the successful maintenance and growth of this great Town. Tax revenue supports the Hall Memorial Library, the Ellington Senior Center, Ellington Public Schools, Town building and road maintenance, parks and recreation programs and police protection to name just a few of the vital services provided. Our Tax and Revenue Department boasts a high tax collection rate and much of that is due to the Ellington residents who diligently pay their taxes in full and on time. The Tax and Revenue Department staff members are always available to assist taxpayers who have questions.



Photo by:
Catherine Cella of
Joyful Reflections
Photography.

Winter Weather Cancellations and Delays

WEATHER-RELATED NOTICES, SUCH AS...

- Town office closings
- Delayed openings
- Meeting cancellations
- Program cancellations

...WILL BE POSTED ON THE FOLLOWING:

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/townofellington

Twitter: [@townofellington](https://twitter.com/townofellington)

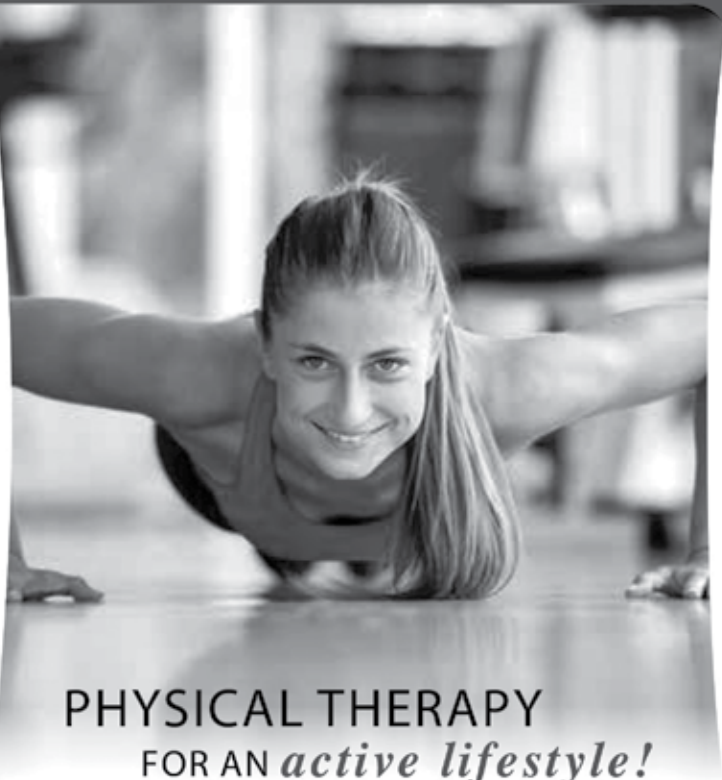
Also, check WFSB Channel 3 for cancellation notifications.



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The 2018-2019 Budget Process is Underway!

BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND BOARD OF FINANCE MEET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 BUDGET

In early January, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance members joined to begin the months-long budget process. In Ellington, the method used to determine the budget is an open process. Every citizen who is registered to vote (property owners and those who rent) is welcome to participate. Your involvement is very important. Please take the time to become familiar with Ellington's proposed budget once it becomes available. All of the meetings held in this process are open to the public. Town departments, commissions and agencies will review programs and services in order to determine how much it will cost to operate the Town for the next fiscal year. This includes the Board of Education, which will estimate how much it will cost to operate the schools and school-related services.

In accordance with the Town Charter Section 1003, Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr., Finance Officer/Treasurer, compiles the Budget Book for the Board of Finance on or before March 15. The

compilation of the Budget Book includes the submitted budgets from the Board of Selectmen on General Government, Board of Education, and Capital Improvements. It also includes the estimated projection of revenues for the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year. All budget documents are posted on the Finance page of the Town website so that the citizens of Ellington have complete information at their disposal to increase their knowledge and to assist them in participating in the budget process.

BOARD OF FINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Important Dates to Remember!

Annual Budget Public Hearing - April 10, 2018 at 8:00 pm
Ellington High School, 37 Maple Street

Annual Budget Meeting - May 8, 2018 at 8:00 pm
Ellington High School, 37 Maple Street

Ellington Emergency Response Team Uses Technology as Force Multiplier



Ellington is one of many Connecticut towns and cities that have formally organized a team of residents to assist the community when emergencies arise. Ellington's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was established in 2008 and presently includes approximately thirty members. Ellington CERT is recognized as one of the "civil preparedness forces" created by state law, and is nationally registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). CERT programs around the country serve in a support role to police, fire and ambulance professionals. In addition, CERT Teams provide shelters for displaced persons during emergency events, assist with search and rescue operations, traffic control services and other support functions.

CERT members volunteer their time to continually train to assist in a variety of disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts. In Ellington, CERT members have pre-positioned resources to provide temporary shelter and food service to Townspeople at the Ellington High School, Middle School and Crystal Lake School facilities. As required by law, these "people" shelters are also equipped, and CERT members trained, to provide shelter for the domestic pets of those staying at the shelter. In 2011, the Ellington CERT operated the shelter at the high school.

Approximately half of the Ellington CERT members are amateur radio operators (Hams) licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. The key characteristic of Ham radio is that it functions when cell phone, land phone lines and the internet are not operating due to weather or other issues.

In Ellington, CERT Ham Operators use amateur radio for communications between

the school shelters and the Town Emergency Operations Center (EOC). CERT members rely on Ham radio communications when they are operating at field locations in various areas in Town.

Ellington CERT received permission from the Enfield CERT leadership to use the Enfield team's radio "repeater" system. Ellington CERT Hams practice radio operations on a regular basis to confirm their equipment capabilities and keep their skills sharp.

A Ham radio repeater receives signals from low power handheld Ham radios, then rebroadcasts it at higher power. We would like to say thank you to the Enfield CERT for allowing Ellington CERT to operate on their repeater system. The Enfield Repeater allows Ellington CERT members to communicate with each other throughout Town.

Ellington CERT Hams conduct weekly call-ins on non-repeater frequencies as part of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) system. The ARES group is the field arm of the American Radio Relay

League that recruits and trains operators to provide emergency communications. The state's emergency response framework and municipal model operations plans call for ARES to partner with municipalities when requested to provide communications support functions needed during emergencies or the immediate aftermath during recovery operations.

Ellington CERT welcomes all those interested in joining the CERT program and helping our community. CERT meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance building next to Ellington High School. Ellington CERT leadership is provided by Joseph Palombizio as the Ellington Emergency Management Director and John Streiber as the Deputy Emergency Management Director. For more information, email John Streiber at: jstreiber@ellington-ct.gov.

Winter Farmers' Market to be Held at the YMCA



The winter season of the Ellington Farmers' Market held at the Indian Valley YMCA has three remaining Saturdays. The final three winter markets will be held on February 17,

March 3 and March 17 from 2:00-4:00 pm. The market then takes a seven-week break before the start of the summer market on Saturday May 12 in Arbor Park.

The Ellington Farmers' Market continues to match SNAP dollars throughout the winter market. Visit the market's website at: www.ellingtonfarmersmarket.com for information. Questions, suggestions and comments can be sent to ellingtonfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Ellington Town Hall Hours

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Monday | 8:30 am - 6:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday | 8:30 am - 4:00 pm |
| Friday | 8:30 am - 1:30 pm |

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Town Offices will be closed on the following dates

| | | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Monday | February 19, 2018 | Presidents' Day |
| Friday | March 30, 2018 | Good Friday |
| Monday | May 28, 2018 | Memorial Day* |

*There will be a one day delay in trash collection for this holiday.

Check the Hall Memorial Library website for closing dates at: library.ellington-ct.gov.

Town of Ellington DIRECTORY

55 Main Street, P.O. Box 187
Ellington, CT 06029

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Animal Control | (860) 870-3155 |
| Assessor's Office | (860) 870-3109 |
| Building Department | (860) 870-3124 |
| Emergency Services (Non-emergency) | |
| Crystal Lake Fire Department | (860) 870-3174 |
| Ellington Volunteer Fire Department | (860) 870-3190 |
| Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps | (860) 870-3170 |
| Emergency Management | (860) 870-3182 |
| Finance Department | (860) 870-3115 |
| Fire Marshal | (860) 870-3126 |
| First Selectman's Office | (860) 870-3100 |
| Human Services | (860) 870-3128 |
| Housing Rehabilitation | (860) 870-3132 |
| Library (Hall Memorial) | (860) 870-3160 |
| Police (non-emergency) | (860) 870-3154 |
| Public Works | (860) 870-3140 |
| Recreation Department | (860) 870-3118 |
| Registrars of Voters | (860) 870-3107 |
| Senior Center | (860) 870-3133 |
| Tax and Revenue Collector | (860) 870-3113 |
| Trash (Bulky Pick-up) All American Waste | (860) 289-7850 |
| Town Clerk | (860) 870-3105 |
| Town Planner | (860) 870-3120 |
| Youth Services | (860) 870-3130 |

Calendar of Events for Boards and Commissions

All Town Hall meetings take place in the Meeting Hall on the third floor, 55 Main Street, unless otherwise noted.

Check the town website (www.ellington-ct.gov) prior to attending, as dates and times may change.

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| February 5 | Zoning Board of Appeals | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| February 6 | Conservation Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| February 6 | Board of Finance | Town Hall | 8:00 pm |
| February 7 | Trails Committee | Town Hall | 6:00 pm |
| February 12 | Human Services Commission | Arbor Commons | 6:00 pm |
| February 12 | Board of Selectmen | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| February 12 | Inland Wetlands Agency | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| February 13 | Library Board of Trustees | Hall Memorial Library | 7:00 pm |
| February 14 | Economic Development Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| February 14 | Parks and Recreation Commission | Arbor Commons | 7:00 pm |
| February 14 | Permanent Building Committee | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| February 15 | Republican Town Committee | Town Hall | 7:30 pm |
| February 19 | Presidents Day | All Town Offices | Closed |
| February 20 | Democratic Town Committee | Town Hall | 7:30 pm |
| February 21 | Charter Revision Commission | Town Hall | 6:30 pm |
| February 21 | Water Pollution Control Authority | Public Works | 7:00 pm |
| February 26 | Board of Selectmen (Budget Meeting) | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| February 26 | Planning and Zoning Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| February 27 | Housing Authority | Snipsic Village | 6:00 pm |
| February 28 | Patriotic Committee | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| February 28 | Board of Education | Administration Building | 7:00 pm |
| March 1 | Plan of Conservation & Development | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 5 | Zoning Board of Appeals | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 6 | Conservation Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 6 | Board of Finance | Town Hall | 8:00 pm |
| March 7 | Trails Committee | Town Hall | 6:00 pm |
| March 7 | Permanent Building Committee | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 12 | Human Services Commission | Arbor Commons | 6:00 pm |
| March 12 | Board of Selectmen | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| March 12 | Inland Wetlands Agency | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 13 | Ethics Commission | Commission Room A | 7:00 pm |
| March 13 | Library Board of Trustees | Hall Memorial Library | 7:45 pm |
| March 14 | Economic Development Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 14 | Parks and Recreation Commission | Arbor Commons | 7:00 pm |
| March 15 | Design Review Board | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 20 | Board of Finance (Budget Hearing) | Town Hall | 7:30 pm |
| March 20 | Democratic Town Committee | Town Hall Annex | 7:30 pm |
| March 21 | Charter Revision Commission | Town Hall | 6:30 pm |
| March 21 | Water Pollution Control Authority | Public Works | 7:00 pm |
| March 26 | Planning and Zoning Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 27 | Housing Authority | Snipsic Village | 6:00 pm |
| March 27 | Patriotic Committee | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| March 27 | Board of Finance (Budget Hearing) | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| March 27 | Republican Town Committee | Commission Room A | 7:30 pm |
| March 28 | Board of Education | Administration Building | 7:00 pm |
| March 30 | Good Friday | All Town Offices | Closed |
| April 2 | Zoning Board of Appeals | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| April 3 | Health and Safety Committee | Town Hall Annex | 11:00 am |
| April 3 | Conservation Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| April 3 | Permanent Building Committee | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| April 4 | Trails Committee | Town Hall | 6:00 pm |
| April 5 | Plan of Conservation & Development | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| April 9 | Emergency Mgmt. Advisory Council | Town Hall | 2:00 pm |
| April 9 | Human Services Commission | Arbor Commons | 6:00 pm |
| April 9 | Inland Wetlands Agency | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| April 10 | Budget Public Hearing | Ellington High School | 8:00 pm |
| April 11 | Economic Development Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |

| | | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| April 11 | Parks and Recreation Commission | Arbor Commons | 7:00 pm |
| April 16 | Board of Selectmen | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| April 17 | Library Board of Trustees | Hall Memorial Library | 7:00 pm |
| April 17 | Democratic Town Committee | Town Hall Annex | 7:30 pm |
| April 18 | Charter Revision Commission | Town Hall | 6:30 pm |
| April 18 | Water Pollution Control Authority | Public Works | 7:00 pm |
| April 19 | Design Review Board | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| April 19 | Republican Town Committee | Town Hall | 7:30 pm |
| April 23 | Planning and Zoning Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| April 24 | Housing Authority | Snipsic Village | 6:00 pm |
| April 24 | Patriotic Committee | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| April 25 | Board of Education | Administration Building | 7:00 pm |
| May 1 | Conservation Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| May 1 | Permanent Building Committee | Town Hall | 7:00 pm |
| May 2 | Trails Committee | Town Hall | 6:00 pm |
| May 3 | Plan of Conservation & Development | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| May 7 | Zoning Board of Appeals | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| May 8 | Annual Town Budget Meeting | Ellington High School | 8:00 pm |
| May 9 | Economic Development Commission | Town Hall Annex | 7:00 pm |
| May 9 | Parks and Recreation Commission | Arbor Commons | 7:00 pm |

Town Hall Annex – 57 Main Street
 Arbor Commons – 31 Arbor Way
 Public Works – 21 Main Street

Snipsic Village – 20 Main Street
 Administration Building – 47 Main Street
 Hall Memorial Library – 93 Main Street

Ellington Housing Rehabilitation Program

Ellington Community Development Office
 Ellington Senior Center, 40 Maple Street, Ellington, CT
 Telephone: 860-870-3132
 Facsimile: 860-870-3158
 TTY/TDD: 860-870-3196



DOES YOUR HOME NEED REPAIR?

If you own and live in a single or multi-family residential property in Ellington that is occupied by low- or moderate-income households, you

may be eligible for financial assistance to make repairs to your property.

The Town manages the Ellington Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program, which offers financial and technical assistance to property owners in Ellington, Somers, Suffield, and Windsor Locks. The Program's purposes are to correct building code deficiencies, improve energy efficiency and improve housing conditions.

The program currently has no waiting list for Ellington residents. The types of work that the Program assists with include upgrades to electrical, plumbing, heating systems and insulation, energy conservation improvements, roofing and window replacement, septic system repair, asbestos and lead-paint abatement, and accessibility modifications.

Funding assistance is provided in the form of a 0% interest "deferred payment loan" (DPL). The DPL is only repaid when the property is sold. If the property is transferred to an heir, the loan does not need to be repaid but it remains in effect until a sale at a future date. Financial assistance is limited to \$30,000 per housing unit.

Low income property owners may qualify for 100% of the cost of repairs. Moderate income property owners may qualify for 75% of the cost of repairs.

| Income Category | Household Size | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Low | \$32,100 | \$36,700 | \$41,300 | \$45,850 | \$49,550 | \$53,200 | \$56,900 | \$60,550 |
| Moderate | \$47,600 | \$54,400 | \$61,200 | \$68,000 | \$73,450 | \$78,900 | \$84,350 | \$89,800 |

* Income limits change periodically.

If you have any questions, need more information about the Program or want an application, call or drop by the Community Development Office. Office hours are Tuesdays, 9:00 AM - 4:00 pm.



The Town of Ellington is committed to promoting open access to its housing programs to all persons.

Human Services Department

Joy Hollister, Director
860-870-3128
jhollister@ellington-ct.gov



VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Did your household earn less than \$54,000 in 2017? Would you like FREE assistance with filing your taxes? If so, and when you have all your tax documents, please call us to schedule a VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) appointment. You must provide the following information (if applicable) for all persons on return: valid photo ID, Social Security cards,

birth dates, income and wage information (1099, W2's, etc), Form 1095-A (ACA), 2016 tax return, Form 1098 (mortgage interest, property taxes), Form 1098-T or 1098-E, child or dependent care expenses including the name, address and tax ID # (or SS or ITIN) of provider, bank routing and account number for direct deposit, any other pertinent documents or papers. Married couples must both be present to sign return. All VITA tax preparers are trained and certified in tax law by the IRS.



Human Services for income limits or for more information.

FOOD BANK

Human Services operates a food bank of non-perishable items for qualified Ellington residents. Please contact

WHAT WE DO

The Human Services Department provides programs and services to assist residents with their basic needs. The Department is an intake site for Energy Assistance, Operation Fuel and Renters Rebate. We also assist residents with applying for SNAP (food stamps), HUSKY, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, etc. If we cannot directly assist you we will refer you to who can, if applicable. Please call us to discuss what you or a loved one could be eligible for or to discuss what is out there for services for your situation. Some programs we offer have income and asset limits.

Youth Services, Elderly Outreach and the Senior Center fall under the Human Services umbrella. Please look for their information and programs also listed in this magazine.

Department of Public Works

Timothy Webb,
Director of Public Works/WPCA Administrator
860-870-3140 | twebb@ellington-ct.gov

BULKY WASTE - Will not be picked up unless it is called into All American Waste at 860-289-7850.

SECURE YOUR MAILBOX - Residents are asked to make sure their mailboxes are secured and sturdy before the winter snow begins. Mailboxes damaged by snow load will not be repaired by the Town.

WINTER SAND - Sand will be available to residents throughout the winter months. The pile is located at the Town Garage, 21 Main Street on the Firehouse house. This is for residents only; no contractors.

HOFFMAN ROAD BRUSH DROP OFF - The brush drop off center will be reopen on Saturdays starting April 7, 2018. Items accepted are leaves, brush, firewood and tree trunks. You may call Harvest New England at 860-871-7442 for items not accepted at this drop off center. Grass clippings are not accepted.

RECYCLE SHED AND HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE - Currently the MIDNEROC collection center in Willington is closed for the winter; it is scheduled to open again on April 21, 2018. The Town's recycling shed at 21 Main Street continues to be open during working hours: Monday-Friday

7:00 am - 3:30 pm. The following items are accepted at the Public Works shed: batteries, waste oil, antifreeze, motor oil, oil filters, propane tanks, fluorescent light bulbs, computer components, and electronics. Paint is NOT accepted at this location.

TEXTILE RECYCLING - The Town has a box for textile recycling located at the Town Garage. Usable as well as non-usable clothing items are accepted. Also accepted are shoes, belts, handbags, stuffed animals; all must be bagged and put into the container.

SNOW REMOVAL FROM FIRE HYDRANTS AND

SIDEWALKS - If you have a fire hydrant or sidewalk in front of your home, it is your responsibility to clear it. Sidewalks are required to be cleared within 24 hours of a storm's end.

REMINDERS

- It is illegal to discharge sump pumps into the sanitary sewer; they must be discharged to the exterior.
- Please do not dispose of items into our storm drains. They run directly into our lakes and streams.



Save the Date

DPW OPEN HOUSE THURSDAY,
MAY 24, 2018

New Feature this year at our Open House, FILL-A-TRUCK. We will be collecting nonperishable food items to be donated to the Town's food bank.

Ellington Veterans' Services

Joseph A. Palombizio, Emergency Management Director/Ellington Veterans' Service Contact Person (VSCP)
860-870-3182 | jpalombizio@ellington-ct.gov

Starting in November 2016, all honorably discharged veterans of every era became eligible to get a photo identification card from the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) due to a law passed in 2015. The law, Veterans Identification Card Act 2015, orders the DVA to issue a hard-copy photo I.D. to any honorably discharged veteran who applies. The law states that the card must contain the veteran's name, photo and a non-Social Security identification number. Veterans may apply for the card online at www.vets.gov/#. At the bottom of the page click on "Apply for Printed Veteran I.D. Card". Congress passed the I.D. law as a way to help veterans prove their service without showing a copy of their DD-214 discharge papers. This allows Veterans to receive the benefits and discounts they deserve. The I.D. law coincides with military exchange stores opening online shopping to all honorably discharged veterans which began in November 2017. Veterans who opt to utilize the military exchange store online shopping benefit must be verified through VetVerify.org.

RECENTLY PASSED STATE LEGISLATION -

AFFECTING VETERANS AND THE MILITARY

PA17-83 s3: Burial in the State Veterans' Cemeteries: National Guard and reservists who do not have active duty service beyond training may now be buried in a state veterans' cemetery.

PA17-79 s23: Handicap Placards for Veterans with PTSD: Veterans with PTSD have an option to receive a windshield handicap placard. The new law allows an applicant to get the placard by providing certification from a U.S. DVA psychiatrist that (1) he or she is a veteran who has service-connected PTSD and (2) meets the federal definition of a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk.

PA17-127 s127. Medicaid Programs for Certain Family Members:

The legislature passed a law that allows an armed forces member on active duty to apply on behalf of his or her spouse or child for any Medicaid home or community-based program in Connecticut for which the spouse or child is eligible.

PA17-127 s1-13 Prohibition of Discriminatory Practices on the Basis of Veteran Status:

A new law prohibits discrimination on the basis of a veteran's status in employment, public accommodations, the sale or rental of housing, the granting of credit and other laws over which the Commission on Human rights and Opportunities (CHRO) has jurisdiction. The law authorizes any veteran aggrieved by an alleged discriminatory practice to file a discrimination complaint with CHRO.

PA17-83 s2. Veteran Status on Driver's Licenses / I.D. Cards: Former service members entitled to military retirement pay under federal law, regardless of age, may request to have their veteran status listed on their driver's license or identity card.

CTVETERANS MOBILE APP (FOR IPHONE, IPAD AND ANDROID DEVICES)

The Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs Mobile allows Connecticut Veterans and residents to access crisis assistance by phone, text, and online chat. CT DVA services are available through the app menu, including an interactive map of Veterans clinics and hospitals in Connecticut. The application will allow users quick access to:

- Housing
- Veterans Benefits and Services
- Healthcare and Hospitals
- Crisis Assistance by Phone, Text Message and Online Chat
- Supporting a Veteran
- Flag Status
- Business and Jobs
- Connecting with DVA on Social Media

For more information about this app, download it on the AppStore or contact CT DVA at: 860-616-3600.

ELLINGTON VETERANS COFFEE HOUSE TIME

The Ellington Human Services Department has initiated a Veterans Coffeehouse Program. All veterans are welcome to attend. Meetings are held monthly at the Hall Memorial Library, 93 Main Street. Meetings start at 10:30 am. Please join us for comradery, staying abreast of Veterans information and supporting one another.

Upcoming meeting dates are on the following Thursdays:

February 15, March 15 and April 19. For more information, call Joe Palombizio, Emergency Management Director, 860-870-3182 or Anna Turner, MSW, Elderly Outreach Social Worker at 860-870-3131.

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Ellington Parks & Recreation Department

CONTACT INFORMATION

31 Arbor Way
P.O. Box 187
Ellington, CT 06029
Phone: 860-870-3118
Fax: 860-870-3198
Parks & Recreation website:
parkrec.ellington-ct.gov
Email:
recreationstaff@ellington-ct.gov

RECREATION STAFF

Recreation Director: Robert Tedford
rtedford@ellington-ct.gov
Assistant Director of Recreation: Mary M. Bartley
mbartley@ellington-ct.gov
Administrative Assistants:
Tina Modzelewski
tmodzelewski@ellington-ct.gov
Brittany LeMire
blemire@ellington-ct.gov

OFFICE HOURS

Mondays 8:30 am-6:00 pm / Tues-Thurs 8:30 am-4:00 pm / Fridays 8:30 am-1:30 pm

Recreation News

A NOTE FROM THE RECREATION DIRECTOR, BOB TEDFORD

December and January have been historic from the standpoint of inclement weather, so let's hope that February and March are less intrusive!

Here are just a few reminders on winter access and postponement guidelines. Please be extra careful accessing sidewalks and parking lots, as sand/salt and snow/ice can be prominent. In case of inclement weather, and if the public schools are closed or released early, ALL day or evening recreation programs are automatically postponed for that day. Weekend programming is, historically, decided upon by 6:30 am that day. All postponements are placed on the Parks & Recreation website and Facebook, as well as the following media outlets: WFSB 3 - WTNH 8 - WVIT NBC 30; cancellations will be listed under "Ellington Recreation Department."

Some highlights and upcoming events deserve a special note:

- On Saturday, March 24, the 2018 Ice Breaker plunge will take place at Crystal Lake; this event will support our veterans.
- The 2017 Hunter K. Giroux Holiday Youth Basketball Tournament was very successful, with four teams taking part in the 8th grade boys' event. This event is named after the late Hunter K. Giroux, a long-time supporter of all facets of parks and recreation, as well as a quality coach at all levels. Applications are available at the Recreation Office for anyone interested in applying for one of the annual scholarships awarded in June of each year.
- The current youth basketball season has enrolled 44 teams plus the instructional (Saturday morning) teams. It goes without saying that in spite of limited gymnasium access, due to the many recreation and school programs, the recreation coaches do an excellent job of providing an enjoyable experience for each player. The program would not operate efficiently without the assistance of over 135 volunteer coaches.
- 2018 Triathlon: Please continue to check the Town website for updated information.
- Adult Pickleball: Due to the popular demand, the Tuesday

night Adult Pickleball Program has continued to flourish. Pre-registration is required before participating.

SPRING REGISTRATIONS (IMPORTANT): Please be aware that spring programming registration is underway.

Trails-support: As a follow-up to a previous outline, we have received a generous influx of interest from organizations and Town residents, indicating that they are more than willing to provide support to this important cause, which includes the Hockanum River Trails, the Batz property, and possibly other venues as well. Feel free to contact the department if you wish to be included on the list.

Spring Athletic Officials: If you have an interest in becoming or returning as an athletic official in soccer, lacrosse or softball, please contact me at rtedford@ellington-ct.gov. There are defined timelines for becoming certified, so please contact me by the third week of February.

2018 Summer Staff: Applications are available for those interested in applying for the various summer staff positions, especially the waterfront and day camp positions. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

I wish everyone a safe and healthy winter!!

PROGRAM REGISTRATION PROCESS

The Ellington Parks and Recreation Department has a registration process for all recreational programs/camps through our ActiveNet Online Program. The process for online registration is easy and convenient for all. The process involves following these simple steps:

- Go to our website at parkrec.ellington-ct.gov
- Click the blue button - ActiveNet Registration
- Click the ActiveNet link under "Register Online"
- Select "Sign in" if you have an account or select "Create an Account" to set one up

It is imperative that an adult household member set up the family account. The advantage to setting up an account is the

convenience of registering for recreational programs and camps at your leisure. You will need an e-mail address to set up your account, a password, and dates of birth for all family members. (Remember to add family members to your account). If you don't have access to a computer, we can assist in setting up your account at the Recreation Office during regular office hours. In-office online registration allows you to pay by cash, check or charge with no convenience fee being applied to your credit card. Note: there is a convenience fee applied to your credit card when registering at home. We reserve the right to limit class size and to cancel classes that do not meet minimum requirements. Ellington residents are given preference for all programs during the first week of registration. If you have any questions or problems please contact Mary Bartley, Assistant Director of Recreation.

ADA: The Town of Ellington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in provision of programs and services. If you or a family member need special assistance, please make us aware of your needs at the time of registration.

Scholarship Programs: If a need arises, please make a confidential inquiry to Bob Tedford, Recreation Director at: rtedford@ellington-ct.gov.

Payment: Registration is not considered valid until the program fee is paid. We accept cash, checks, American Express, Visa, MasterCard and Discover Card.

Refunds: Requests for refunds must be in writing prior to the program starting.

ELLINGTON CRYSTAL LAKE PLUNGE

On Saturday March 24, 2018, it will be time to come out of hibernation, get off the couch, and take the plunge that benefits Veterans and local charities. Whether you go knee deep, waist high or take the full plunge, all are welcome to join us for the fun. Our goal is to create an event that gives back to local communities and Veterans that are serving today and to those who served in the past. To join in on the fun, participants need to raise a minimum of \$100. The Ellington Crystal Lake Plunge is presented by the South Windsor Police Department and Crystal Lake Fire Department.

For information, please contact CPL Ronald Littell at: Ronald.littell@southwindsor.org. The plunge will be held at Crystal Lake on Route 140 in the Town of Ellington. Day-of registration will be from 10:00 am - 11:45 am, and the participants will take the plunge at 12:00 noon.

ELLINGTON HIKING CLUB

This group takes a hike every Tuesday at a new site each week; site notification is made the Monday prior (via email). Meet at Arbor Park Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am. Bring water, snack, sunscreen,

and bug spray; wear proper footwear. Pre-registration is required at the Recreation Office, 31 Arbor Way.

Eligibility: Adults (18 years of age and over)

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI LESSONS/ CLINIC

Weather and snow permitting, the Recreation Department will offer cross-country ski lessons at a local cross-country course for Ellington residents. A pre-season clinic will be offered during winter months as weather permits, which will cover the following aspects: safety, type/style of skis, snowshoes, and instruction on how to enjoy cross-country skiing. If interested in being contacted with more information and a firm date and time for the clinic, please call the Recreation Office at 860-870-3118.

2018 DICK GUNN & CLARE LANDMANN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS/JAMBOREES

It's that special time of the youth basketball season when the Town recognizes two long-time volunteers for their many years of loyal support to the Town's recreation growth, from both a program and athletic facility standpoint. The Tournament-Jamboree is tentatively scheduled between the 2nd and 3rd week of March and will be posted on the Parks & Recreation website once the exact dates and time frames have been established. Even if you do not have a child that participates in any of the leagues, you will want to visit one or more of the games and witness the friendly yet competitive nature of the teams involved. Volunteers are being sought to help assist with this event. Please call 860-870-3118 if you would like to volunteer.

UNIFIED BASKETBALL

The unified basketball program is available for those that are emotionally and/or physically challenged. Limited space is available for non-residents.

Program Contact: Allison Breen - abreen@ellington-ct.gov

Day: Mondays

Dates: March 19, 26; April 2, 16, 23, 30; May 7, 14

Grades K-6: 5:45 - 6:30 pm (Session 1)

Grades 7-12: 6:30 - 7:15 pm (Session 2)

Location: Ellington Middle School

Fee: \$25

Code: UNIFIED.BBK618 (Session 1)

Code: UNIFIED.BB71218 (Session 2)

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION FA/CPR/AED COACHES CERTIFICATION

Register on the Adult Programs page at parkrec.ellington-ct.gov under CPR & First Aid

Day: Saturdays

Dates: February 3, 24; March 24

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Location: 31 Arbor Way

Fee: NA

The Recreation Department has two certified AED/First Aid/CPR Instructors, Allison Breen and Kristen Wasielewski, on staff. New
continued on page 14

Parks and Recreation... continued from page 13

classes have been scheduled that will allow all Ellington coaches, athletic officials, program instructors, and staff of Ellington Recreation-sponsored sports and activities to get certified. Please understand that each coach is required to complete this training. Only six coaches are allowed per class. You are required to stay the entire time in order to receive your certification.

Adult Sports/Programs

MEN'S INFORMAL BASKETBALL

Pre-Registration is MANDATORY before participating.

Day: Mondays
Date: Ongoing until June 5
Over 30: 5:30 pm - 7:15 pm
Under 30: 7:15 pm - 9:00 pm
Location: Windermere
Fee: \$10 Resident/ \$25 Non- Resident

INFORMAL COED VOLLEYBALL

Ages: 18 and up
Day: Wednesday Evenings
Dates: Ongoing through April 25th
Time: 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Location: Ellington Middle School
Fee: \$10 Resident/ \$15 Non-Resident

INFORMAL MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Pre-registration is required in order to notify of specific program dates

Ages: 18 and up
Day: Monday Evenings as gymnasium space permits
Dates: Ongoing through February
Time: 7:15 pm - 9:00 pm
Location: Ellington Middle School
Fee: \$25 Resident / \$30 Non-Resident

INFORMAL ADULT BADMINTON

Pre-registration is required in order to notify of specific program dates

Ages: 18 and up
Day: TBD as gymnasium space permits
Dates: TBD through February
Time: 7:45 pm - 9:15 pm
Location: Windermere School
Code: 0016-BDM18

ADULT TENNIS LESSONS (INDOOR)

Instructor: Rich Willis
Day: Wednesdays and Fridays
Dates: March 7, 9, 14 and 16
Time: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Location: Crystal Lake School
Fee: \$40
Code: Tennis.Indoor37

ADULT TENNIS LESSONS (OUTDOOR)

Instructor: Rich Willis
Day: Wednesdays
Dates: April 18, 25; May 2, 9 (Session A)
May 23, 30; June 6, 13 (Session B)
Time: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Location: Schwartz Park
Fee: \$40
Code: Tennis. OutdoorM (Session A)
Tennis. OutdoorN (Session B)

ADULT CARDIO TENNIS (OUTDOOR)

Instructor: Rich Willis
Day: Saturdays
Dates: TBD
Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: Schwartz Park
Fee: \$40

PICKLEBALL

Pickleball is a cross between tennis, badminton, and ping pong. Players use oversized ping pong paddles and a wiffle ball that moves slower than a tennis ball. The game is played on a badminton-size court that is divided by a 34-inch high net and the size of the court makes playing the game easier for baby-boomers and active seniors. Pickleball can be played as a singles or doubles game. Register online through ActiveNet.

Day: Tuesdays
Time: 5:15 pm - 6:45 pm
Location: Windermere School
Fee: \$5.00
Code: PICKLE.SP18

ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL

Interested in playing adult co-ed softball in Town? Skill level and prior experience does not matter. Contact Bob Tedford at: 860-870-3118 or email: rtedford@ellington-ct.gov.

ADULT WIFFLE BALL LEAGUE

Please contact either Erik Knickerbocker at uconn9913@yahoo.com or recreationstaff@ellington-ct.gov. There will be (5) players on the field at one time. The league will use rules and field dimensions constructed by the EWBL. This program is for adults ages 18 and older, co-ed program.

ELLINGTON'S ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Ultimate Frisbee, a sport similar to football or soccer but played with a Frisbee, is for both men and women of all ages. Pre-registration is required through the Activenet system. No Fee. Contact Karl at ksneubec@gmail.com or visit <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ellingtonultimate/info>
Location: Brookside Park beginning Monday, May 1
Time: 6:00 pm

KOKONDO KARATE

Instructor: Paul Ward
Ages: 14 and up
Day: Thursdays
Dates: January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 8 15, 22
(Session 7)
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; April 5, 12 (Session 8)
Time: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Location: 375 Hartford Turnpike, Route 30, Vernon
Fee: \$49 per session
Code: KARATE.S1811 (Session 7)
KARATE.S1818 (Session 8)

Adult Fitness Programs

GINNY'S FITNESS FOR LONGEVITY

Instructor: Ginny Hogan (fitnessforlongevity@gmail.com
or 860-463-3238)
Ages: 18 and up
Day: Mondays & Wednesdays
Date: Program is ongoing; new participants
are welcome
Time: 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm
Location: Center School
Fee: \$40 prepaid punch card/8 classes or
\$7 walk-in fee

Programs are open to residents and non-residents. All you need is an exercise mat, water bottle, foam roller and sense of fun. Classes will follow the Ellington Public Schools calendar. No classes when school is closed.

ZUMBA®

Instructors: Tressa Giordano & Joanne Britton (tressag.
zumba.com and joannebritton.zumba.com)
Ages: 16 and up
Days: Tuesday & Thursday Evenings
Date: Program is ongoing; new participants
are welcome
Time: 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Location: Ellington Senior Center
Fee: \$40 pre-paid punch card/8 classes or
\$8 walk-in fee

Classes will follow the Ellington Public School Calendar.
No classes on vacation or school cancellation days. Perfect for
everybody and every body!

VACATION CAMP

April Break

Registration Deadline: 04/01/2018
Grades: K-8
Dates: April 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
Time: 7:30 am - 5:00 pm
Location: Ellington Middle School
Fee: See website for more information
Code: APRIL.CAMP2018

Preschool Programs

MUSIC & MOVEMENT FOR TOTS

(Adult participation is required)

Instructor: Jill Maznicki

Spring Session MW18

Day: Wednesdays
Dates: April 4, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
(June 6 makeup date)
Time: 10:15 am - 11:00 am
Location: Hall Memorial Library
Fees: \$75 Resident / \$80 Non-Resident
Min: 6
Max: 10

Spring Session MT18

Day: Thursdays
Dates: April 5, 19, 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
(June 7 makeup date)
Time: 10:15 am - 11:00 am
Location: Hall Memorial Library
Fees: \$75 Resident / \$80 Non-Resident
Min: 6
Max: 10

Youth Sports Programs

GIRLS & BOYS SPRING LACROSSE OUTDOOR PROGRAM March 12 to June 10, 2018

The Recreation Department will be offering spring travel teams for grades 1 through 8. The registration deadline was January 31, 2018; all registrations going forward will be placed on a wait list, based on roster availability. Please contact rtedford@ellington-ct.gov if you have interest in volunteering.

New information!

We anticipate the CT Youth Lacrosse League will move to a U-based system for deciding teams. The following chart will help determine who is eligible for which team. Birth certificates are required before the start of the season.

| CWL Division | New Birthday range for 2018 season | New USL age designation | Old grade-based designation |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Senior | March 1, 2003 - Aug 31, 2005 | 14U | 8th & 7th |
| Junior | Sept 1, 2005 - Aug 31, 2007 | 12U | 6th & 5th |
| Bantam | Sept 1, 2007 - Aug 31, 2009 | 10U | 4th & 3rd |
| Lightning | Sept 1, 2009 - Aug 31, 2011 | 8U | 2nd & 1st |

TRAVEL GUIDELINES

2018 Playing Time Guidelines: The boys and girls lacrosse programs will be considered "travel" programs during the 2018 season. Current Town policy requires each player to receive a minimum of 25% playing time, per game; however, it is anticipated that every attempt will be made to increase playing time percentage over the course of the regular season.

continued on page 16

Parks and Recreation... continued from page 15

Evaluation Session: The Recreation Department reserves the right to establish/schedule two evaluation sessions (based on enrollment) in order to provide/select balanced teams and assign teams to the appropriate levels of competition; Bantam, Junior and Senior levels. It will be required that each player attend at least one of the two evaluation sessions. Time and location will be determined after registration closes.

Mandatory Parents Meeting: There will be mandatory parents/players meeting in March at the Ellington High School Auditorium (date & time forthcoming) to review details and season expectations, costs, fundraising and rule changes for 2018.

Lacrosse Equipment Required:

Girls: Stick, goggles, mouth guard and cleats
Boys: Helmet (black), mouth guard, shoulder & elbow pads, cleats, athletic supporter, gloves and regulation stick.

Season Practice Schedules:

Lightnings practice: 1-2 days per week
Bantams practice: 2-3 days per week
Juniors and Seniors practice: 3-5 days per week

Fees: (Families with 3 or more participants will receive a \$10 family discount per child.)

Lightning Program: \$45
Bantam Program: \$95
Junior Program: \$105
Seniors Program: \$115

INTRO LACROSSE CLINIC FOR GRADES K-2

This clinic will be designed to introduce kids to lacrosse. Basic fundamentals of throwing, catching, cradling and shooting will be covered. Players do not need equipment for this clinic; the equipment will be provided.

Day: Saturdays
Dates: April 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19
Time: 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Location: Ellington High School
Fee: \$25

JUKIDO

Instructor: Paul Ward - All skill levels welcome
Ages: 6 and up
Day: Thursdays
Dates: January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 8, 15, 22 (Session 7)
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; April 5, 12 (Session 8)
Time: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Location: 375 Hartford Turnpike, Route 30, Vernon
Fee: \$49 per session
Code: 2018.JUKS111 (Session 7)
2018.JUKS318 (Session 8)

YOUTH TENNIS PROGRAMS (INDOORS)

Tiny Tot Tennis

Instructor: Gary Marquez
Ages: 3-5
Day: Mondays
Dates: February 26; March 5, 12, 19
Time: 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Location: Crystal Lake School
Fee: \$40
Code: TINY.TTTW18

Pee Wee Tennis

Instructor: Gary Marquez
Ages: 5-7
Day: Mondays
Dates: February 26; March 5, 12, 19
Location: Crystal Lake School
Time: 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm
Fee: \$40
Code: PEE.PWEW18

Youth Tennis

Instructor: Gary Marquez
Ages: 8-13
Day: Mondays
Dates: February 26; March 5, 12, 19
Location: Crystal Lake School
Time: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Fee: \$40
Code: YOTH.TNW18

YOUTH TENNIS PROGRAMS (OUTDOORS)

Tiny Tot Tennis

Instructor: Gary Marquez
Ages: 3-5
Day: Mondays
Dates: April 16, 23, 30; May 7 (Session 4)
May 14, 21; June 4, 11 (Session 5)
Time: 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Location: Brookside Park
Fee: \$40 per session
Code: TINY.TTT174a (Session 4)
TINY.TTT175m (Session 5)

Pee Wee Tennis

Instructor: Gary Marquez
Ages: 5-7
Day: Mondays
Dates: April 16, 23, 30; May 7 (Session 4)
May 14, 21; June 4, 11 (Session 5)
Time: 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm
Location: Brookside Park
Fee: \$40 per session
Code: PEE.PWE174a
PEE.PWE175m

Youth Tennis Lessons

Instructor: Gary Marquez
Ages: 8-13 years old
Day: Mondays
Dates: April 16, 23, 30; May 7 (Session 4)
May 14, 21; June 4, 11 (Session 5)
Location: Brookside Park
Time: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Fee: \$40 per session
Code: YOTH.TN174a
YOTH.TN175m

High School Tennis Preseason Clinic

Dates: March 14 - 16
Time: 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Fee: \$55

Check website for further details.

YOUTH COED INFORMAL VOLLEYBALL

Instructor: Mike Martin
Grades: 5-8
Day: Wednesdays
Dates: March 14, 21, 28; April 4
Time: 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm
Location: Ellington Middle School
Fee: \$20
Code: YOUTH. COEDVB18
Min: 8
Max: 16

YOUTH COED TRACK & FIELD

Program Coordinator: Dan Dryburgh
Grades: 1-8
Wednesdays: April 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; June 6
Time: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Saturdays: April 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26; June 2, 9
Time: 9:00 am-10:30 am
Location: Ellington High School Track
Fee: \$25
Code: 1212.track18
Parents and High School Students are welcomed as volunteers.
Please contact the Recreation Department at recreationstaff@ellington-ct.gov.

SPRING SOCCER 2018

Coed In-House Soccer Program

The Recreation Department will be offering a Spring Soccer Clinic for children ages 4 - 8 in April 2018. Due to the growing number of children interested in the sport of soccer, WE NEED YOUR HELP. Even if you have never played, coached or watched soccer, your participation is vital to this program. In conjunction with the Recreation Department, we will be offering a free Coaches Clinic in order to assist in helping you grow to love the game of soccer. Not only will you enjoy yourself, the smiles on the children's faces are worth every

minute you put into this program. Ages 4, 5, and 6 will be coached on one night; ages 7 and 8 will be coached on a different night. Depending on how many teams are formed, there will be a "Soccer Match" night where one team plays another team in a scrimmage/match. This

cannot be successful without your help and volunteer time; contact the Recreation Department at recreationstaff@ellington-ct.gov or rtedford@ellington-ct.gov. Please note: The quantity of volunteers will determine how many children will be accepted into this program.

Ages: 4 - 6 (Monday Session)
Dates: April 23, 30; May 7, 14, 21 (June 4 makeup date)
Ages: 7 - 8 (Wednesday Session)
Dates: April 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23 (May 30 makeup date)
Time: 5:30 pm - 6:45 pm
Location: Middle School Soccer Field
Fee: \$35
Code: INHSE.SOC4618 (Monday Session)
INHSE.SOC7818 (Wednesday Session)

2018 Spring Outdoor Youth Soccer

Registration Deadline to RETAIN a fall 2017 roster spot is April 10, 2018.

Fee: \$35

The Recreation Department will offer an outdoor soccer program
continued on page 18

Music Together.
Arts from the Heart

Contact us to visit a class!

Discover the joy of making music together with your family!

Ellington · Manchester · Windsor
artsfromtheheart.net · (860) 338-3038

Parks and Recreation... continued from page 17

for boys and girls based on current Connecticut Junior Soccer Association age/birth date guidelines (see chart below). Based on enrollment and evaluation results of the respective coaches, teams may be formed in the following age groups:

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| U-14 Boys and Girls | Full sided | (11 vs. 11) or Small sided (6 vs. 6) |
| U-12 Boys and Girls | Small sided | (9 vs. 9) or (11 vs. 11) |
| U-11 Boys and Girls | Small sided | (9 vs. 9) |
| U-10 Boys and Girls | Small sided | (7 vs. 7) |
| U-9 Boys and Girls | Small sided | (7 vs. 7) |
| U-8 Boys and Girls | Small sided | (4 vs. 4) |

Placement will be determined by skill level, age compatibility and available roster space. The Recreation Department will make the final determination regarding a player's placement to a respective age level; a player may attend evaluation clinics at an age group higher than his/her current age, but cannot attend an evaluation clinic at a lower age division. Registration forms received after that date will be placed in the "as available" file until final registrations/two evaluations have been completed. It is important to note that the spring 2018 season could bring about new age groups and/or placements based on 'actual enrollment' as of April 10, 2018. Since spring soccer is considered an off-season sport, roster size and team alignment may be adjusted in order to provide a roster placement for all registrants. If a player wishes to attend an evaluation session in order to (1) qualify for a specific age group/level or, (2) is a new player that was not rostered in the fall of 2017, please make sure that this information is provided on the registration form.

The current Parks & Recreation Commission policy holds the following provision: Players that were selected to travel soccer teams for the fall 2017 season in Division 3, 4 or 5 levels, and who register by the defined deadline for spring soccer 2018, are eligible to return to their existing team for spring soccer, provided that particular team is enrolled in the spring 2018 schedule. Players, where eligible, who wish to receive a rating in order to move up a division must attend a minimum of one spring evaluation.

Evaluations

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Dates: | Monday, April 16 & Tuesday, April 17 |
| Time: | 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm |
| Location: | Brookside Park |

Boys & Girls Soccer Travel Division Levels

| | | |
|----------|---|------------------------------|
| Division | 3 | Highly Experienced (U12-U14) |
| Division | 4 | Competitive (U8-U14) |
| Division | 5 | Recreational (U8-U14) |

Travel Team Soccer Age Groups for Seasonal Year 2017 Fall through 2018 Spring

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Year of Birth | Age Group |
| 2008-2009-2010 | U10, U9, U8 |
| 2006-2007 | U12, U11 |
| 2003-2004-2005 | U15, U14, U13 |

COED T-BALL PROGRAM

Participants must provide their own glove. NO WOODEN OR METAL BATS ARE ALLOWED FOR THIS PROGRAM.

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Ages: | 4 - 5 (as of 12/31/2017) |
| Day: | Saturdays |
| Dates: | April 28; May 5, 12, 19; June 2, 9 |
| Time: | 10:00 am - 11:00 am |
| Location: | Ellington High School |
| Cost: | \$25 (includes T-shirt) |
| CODE: | 1217.tb118 |

Parent Volunteer Coaches are needed for this program. A coaches' meeting will be determined by April 1, 2018.

ELLINGTON GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Contacts: Keith Jarvis (egspresident1@gmail.com) and Andrew McCoy (amccoy2@gmail.com.)

Returning players-Register online at ellingtongirlssoftball.org. Select "Register Online" tab from the drop-down menu on the homepage. You will also be able to register for player clinics at this time.

First time players are required to register in person and provide an original birth certificate. Parent/Guardian must show their driver's license at time of registration. Check the website for details.

Registration Dates for New Players

| Dates | Time | Location |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Saturday, January 27 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm | Middle School Cafeteria |
| Saturday, February 3 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm | Middle School Cafeteria |

All Minor and Major League Players will be evaluated at an Evaluation Clinic in March. Pre-Season Player Clinics will be scheduled in February/March, before the Evaluation Clinic. All Clinics have limited space; sign-ups will be offered during registration on a first-come, first-served basis. Practices will begin sometime in early April depending on weather/field conditions.

| League | Age | Fee |
|---------|------------------|--|
| | (As of 12/31/17) | (Plus \$25 concession fee & any optional clinic fee) |
| Rookies | 6* to 8 | \$65 |
| Minors | 9 to 10 | \$75 |
| Majors | 11 to 12 | \$85 |
| Seniors | 13 to 16 | \$85 |

*may be 6 years old with at least one year of T-ball experience

ELLINGTON LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

Contact: Derek Baehre (dbaehre01@hotmail.com or 860-716-8469)

Returning Players - Online registration is requested at: www.ellingtonll.org through 2/28/18.

First time players MUST bring a birth certificate to registration (Ages 6 & up)

Registration Dates for New Players

| Dates | Time | Location |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Saturday, January 27 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm | Middle School Cafeteria |
| Saturday, February 3 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm | Middle School Cafeteria |

| Division* | Age (As of 8/31/2018) | Fee** (Plus \$35 deposit, refundable upon serving a volunteer shift) |
|---------------|--------------------------|---|
| T-Ball | 6-7 | \$70 |
| Instructional | 7-9 | \$70 |
| Farm | 7-10 | \$110 |
| Minors | 8-11 | \$120 |
| Majors | 10-12 | \$120 |
| Juniors | 13-15 | \$120 |

*details regarding the evaluation process to determine division of play is posted on the Ellington Little League website at: www.ellingtonll.org.

**\$10 family discount for second family member and \$30 family discount for three or more family members.

Volunteers Needed in Many Areas! - Ellington Little League is looking for volunteers for coaching and Board of Director (BOD) positions. Please contact any BOD member - BOD members contact information can be found at <http://www.ellingtonll.org>.

EVALUATIONS

Juniors, Major, Minor, and Farm League tryouts will be held in March 2018 - Dates and locations to be posted on website: www.ellingtonll.org.

Coaches/Players Clinic(s) - Multiple clinics will be available to both players and coaches over the winter. Details of these programs will be posted on the Ellington Little League website: www.ellingtonll.org.

Day Trips

These trips are being offered in Mansfield, Ashford, Coventry, Ellington, Tolland, and Willington. Please register at your local Recreation Department. The departure location for all trips is the Commuter Lot off I-84 - Exit 68, next to the Dunkin Donuts on Route 195. Return times are approximate. No alcohol or glass items allowed on bus. Limited number of tickets per town per trip; register early! Fees include transportation and entry for game or show, as noted

A DAY ON YOUR OWN IN NEW YORK CITY'S LOWER MANHATTAN - APRIL 14, 2018

Registration Deadline: April 6th

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, 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. 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.

Departure Time: 7:00 am

Return time: 10:30 pm

Fee: \$50 per person
(includes bus transportation only)

RED SOX @ YANKEES BASEBALL GAME - JUNE 30, 2018

This will be the 8th of 19 scheduled Red Sox/Yankees matchups in the 2018 season

Departure time: 1:30 pm

Game time: 7:15 pm

Return time: Approximately 2.5 hours after end of game

Seating location: Upper Level Grandstand

Fee: \$150 per person (includes transportation, games on the bus ride, a pregame cookout and game ticket)

Outdoor Offerings

COMMUNITY GARDENS (BATZ PROPERTY)

97 Shenipsit Street, Ellington

A limited number of garden plots will be offered with the projected parcel being 25' x 25', to be used for growing plants for non-commercial use. Upon the completion of a water-access project by an Ellington Boy Scout (to complete his Eagle Scout Badge Requirements), it is anticipated that there will be a limited water supply available for both the youth and community gardens. The fee is \$25 per plot (one per family) with a \$15 deposit to be returned pending satisfactory fall cleanup. Please contact the Recreation Office for more information. Registration is open until March 31, 2018; applications are available at the Parks & Recreation Office, 31 Arbor Way.

CHILDREN'S GARDEN

Encourage your child to learn about the joys and benefits of gardening, with "hands-on" opportunities while promoting **continued on page 20**

Parks and Recreation... continued from page 19

healthy eating habits. Program will utilize gardening, stories and arts & crafts, to allow your child to experience nature while discovering the cycles of life. Age appropriate "cooking" skills will be introduced in order to provide children motivation to try fresh fruits and vegetables while encouraging a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.

Day: Saturdays
Dates: April 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26
Ages 3-5: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Ages 6-10: 10:00 am - 11:15 am
Location: Arbor Commons
Fee: \$20.00

LEARNING TO COOK

Age-appropriate cooking skills will be introduced while learning about how to utilize produce available. Encourage your child to learn about the joys and benefits of gardening, with hands-on opportunities. The program will also focus on what to do in the garden in late spring and summer.

Ages: 9-12
Dates & Time TBD: Schedule will be determined based on interest level
Location: 31 Arbor Way, with field trips to the Batz Community Garden
Fee: \$20.00

2018 Seasonal Employment Opportunities

Applications for seasonal employment are available for those interested in applying for the following positions within the Recreation Department. Please contact the Recreation Office at: 860-870-3118 or recreationstaff@ellington-ct.gov to obtain an application form.

Open Positions:

- ASA (Softball Umpire)
- Day Camp Counselor
- Youth Lacrosse Official
- Site Supervisors
- WSI and LGT Lifeguards
- USSF (Soccer) Official
- Special Event Instructors

Ellington Girls Scouts



The Ellington Girl Scouts were busy for the holidays. The Ellington Service Unit sponsored a family for Thanksgiving, providing the whole meal, and also sponsored a child in need for Christmas. Our Ellington Girl Scouts rallied

together to collect pajamas to donate to the Pajama Project. In total we collected 174 pairs of pajamas to donate to children (infant to 18 years old) who are living in shelters.

Troops 10367, 10368, 10722, 10725, 10726, 10740/10733, 10744, 10737, and 13118 participated in this collection! A big thanks to the community who also donated pajamas at the Hall Memorial Library drop off.

Our Ellington Girl Scout leaders finished up the year by making five no-sew fleece blankets for the families that live at the Clairvaux House in Rockville, which serves single moms and their children. We can't wait to see what 2018 brings for your Ellington Girl Scouts! If anyone has any questions about Girl Scouts in Ellington, please contact Jenna Miller at: jmristau@gmail.com.

EPS' Student Enrollment Prompts New Policy



At the September 27, 2017 Ellington Board of Education meeting, the Board unanimously approved Policy 5117 School Enrollment Zones. The policy was publicly discussed at four meetings including three full Board of Education meetings July through September 2017. The policy went into effect on January 1, 2018. The new policy does not impact students enrolled in the Ellington Schools prior to January 1, 2018.

WHY A NEW ENROLLMENT ZONES POLICY?

The Town of Ellington is growing. In August 2017, the Connecticut State Data Center reports that Ellington's popula-

tion is projected to increase from approximately 16,000 residents in 2017 to 22,000 residents in 2040. From 2007-2017, the Ellington Public Schools has had its student population increase approximately 4.5% whereas surrounding area school systems have witnessed a decline - approximately -17% in South Windsor and Somers, and -20% in Tolland. Since 1999, the Ellington Schools have seen student enrollment increase approximately 24%.

The Ellington Schools requested its annual school enrollment projection report from the New England School Development Council (NESDEC). The report projects a rise from the current (as of January 2018) student enrollment of approximately 2,700 to 2,900 in 2027.

Should the Ellington Schools' student enrollment continue to grow, it will be increasingly difficult to balance our class sizes and provide equitable learning opportunities for students at Windermere, Center, and Crystal Lake Elementary Schools.

WHAT IS POLICY 5117 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT ZONES?

The policy allows the school administration to determine the best school placement for new students at one of Ellington's three elementary schools regardless of which enrollment zone the student's primary residence is located.

WHAT IS AN ENROLLMENT ZONE?

Ellington Schools' enrollment zones have been in place for over twenty years. The policy doesn't change the established enrollment zones. Each Ellington residence falls within one of the three enrollment zones attributed to our three elementary schools.

WHICH FAMILIES WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE POLICY?

The policy will primarily impact a small number of students entering kindergarten or newly enrolled in the district.

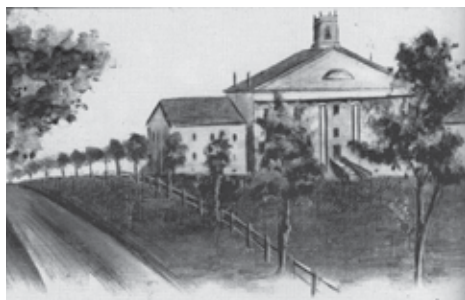
IF MY FAMILY ALREADY HAS A CHILD ENROLLED IN AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, COULD THE SIBLING BE ASSIGNED TO A DIFFERENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL?

No, students with a sibling enrolled in an elementary school will be assigned to the same school as their sibling.

HOW MAY A PARENT LEARN MORE ABOUT THE POLICY?

- Access the full policy and frequently asked questions (FAQ) by visiting the school district's website at www.ellingtonpublicschools.org and navigating to the Parent section.
- Attend an information session on February 28th and March 28th at 5:30 pm at the Ellington Board of Education offices.
- Contact Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools, at: snicol@ellingtonschools.net or 860-896-2300.

Dr. Scott V. Nicol,
Superintendent



The Ellington School.

Photo courtesy *Images of America Ellington* by Lynn Kloter Fahy, historical society archivist.

Ellington Historical Society

Hollow Road, the Ellington School was initially for boys only and the students came from the surrounding states as well as the West Indies and Brazil. When Hall's health failed, the school became more of a village academy and admitted girls. The school closed in 1870 and burned down in 1875.

John Hall's oldest son Edward founded Edward Hall's Family School for Boys in 1844. This school was located on Main Street and offered living in a family setting while attending school. Classes were comprised of about 12 students who stayed from three to five years. The classics, including Latin, were emphasized, and students enjoyed life in the rural

community with activities such as sledding and skating in the winter. The school closed in 1875 due to Edward Hall's failing health and eventual death.

Yanosuke Iwasaki of Japan was a student at Edward Hall's Family School for Boys in the early 1870s. The family-like setting was an opportunity for him to learn English and socialize with American boys. Yanosuke returned to Japan and became the second president of the Mitsubishi Corporation in 1885. The corporation was originally a shipping company but modernized and diversified under Yanosuke's leadership to become the company we know today.

LOCAL PRIVATE SCHOOLS

In the era before the public school system, local private schools were prominent in Ellington. Mr. John Hall opened a school in 1829 for the education of his own children and eventually included children from outside his family. Located on Frog

Cub Scout Pack 77 Webelos Visits the First Selectman



Webelo Den Leader Matt Ellis requested the opportunity to bring Webelos from Cub Scout Pack 77 to Town Hall with the following objectives:

- to meet with a government leader;
- to learn about the government leader's role in the community
- to discuss important issues facing the community, and tour Town Hall.

First Selectman Lori Spielman and Emergency Management Director Joe Palombizio were happy to host the Scouts. The Webelos also visited the Town Hall Departments and learned a little bit about the role of each within the structure of the Town government.

Hall Memorial Library (HML)

Susan Phillips,

Director

93 Main Street

860-870-3160

Website:

library.ellington-ct.gov

LIBRARY HOURS

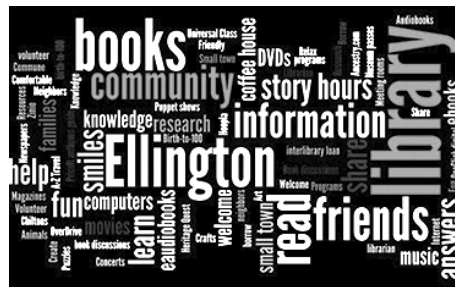
Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 8:00 pm

Friday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Check the Library website for holiday closing dates.



WE ARE EXCITED TO TELL YOU...

The Library is the proud recipient of an “EXCITE: Transform Libraries” grant from the Institute of Museums and Libraries, one of only six teams chosen from the Eastern seaboard. The educational sessions provided by this grant program will provide us with the tools to innovate and transform our library to better meet your needs. Our greatest chance of success will lie in the input we gain from you, our patrons. We will be looking to collaborate with you over the next few months so please stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to join us as part of this “EXCITE”-ing project!

YOUR LIBRARY - THE BEST DEAL IN TOWN?

Everyone is always looking for ways to save money and get a deal. Your library is the best deal in Town! Check out what it has for you.

- **Read for Free:** Yes, we have lots of books, of all kinds, new ones and old favorites, for all ages, along with audiobooks and ebooks. If we don't have the one you want, just ask! But did you know how much you are saving by checking out James Patterson's latest from the library? The cost of an average adult hardcover book is \$29.00, an average children's hardcover book is \$18.00, and an average adult fiction paperback book is \$16.00.
- **Magazines and Newspapers for Free:** Magazine titles from Time Magazine to People to Mother Earth News, including a year of back issues, are available for loan; you can also use our download service, Zinio, to read on your device. Local newspapers as well as the Wall Street Journal, New York Times and others are available for reading in the library. The average cost of a magazine is \$5.60 per issue and the average cost of a digital-only newspaper subscription is \$15.11 per month.
- **Movies and Music for Free:** New DVDs are available a few days after release, and there is something for everyone in our large collection. There are CDs, too, for all ages. You can also stream movies, TV shows and music with HOOPLA. A new DVD is \$21.95, and streaming services have monthly charges.
- **Free Programs for Adults and Teens:** Where else can you see new release-on-DVD movies (with hot popcorn!), attend historical programs and hands-on craft programs, participate in book groups or a knitting group, and check out a great Friday night music performance all for free? Movie: \$5.00 Tuesday nights, Educational program at local college: \$10.00. Making new friends: priceless!
- **Internet, Wi-Fi and Access to Computers, Printers, Fax and Scanner:** You can have free internet access and Wi-Fi, on your

device or ours. The average cost of internet service is \$45/month for the slowest service, and we all know about the cost of printer ink. Prints and photocopies are just \$.10 for B&W and \$.25 for color at the library. We have fax service and a scanner too!

- **Job Preparation:** JobNow is a very powerful service that provides you with practical tools to help you get a job, as well as a learning library with live skills-building lessons, videos, practice tests for college entrance, college placement, grad school and an ESL center. Test prep course elsewhere can cost up to \$1,000.
- **Find Your Family History:** For family genealogists, we offer free access to the search programs Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest.com, AmericanAncestors.org and Fold3.com. Ancestry, Fold3 and AmericanAncestors require you to search in the library, but HeritageQuest will allow you to search from home after logging in with your library card number. The cost of an online genealogy membership is at least \$19.99 per month.
- **Great Services for Parents and Kids:** We are a significant resource to parents. Where else could your children find a free summer program that encourages reading, allows them to take home armloads of books for free and have a blast all summer long? Throughout our summer programs, authors, wildlife experts and a myriad of others drop by bringing their special knowledge to share. We have a collection of parenting books, thousands of DVDs for the kids (and adults, too!), and a staff that can help you or your child find the exact right title.

The Bottom Line... Hopefully, you already have a library card, but if not, stop in soon to get one. Obtaining a library card is free and simple: visit the library, fill out an application, present ID and proof of residency and you have instant, free access to a world of entertainment and information! Such a deal!

HAPPY 250TH ANNIVERSARY TO EAST WINDSOR!

In 1633, settlers laid claim to the vast area of land on both sides of the Connecticut River, now known as Windsor, East Windsor, South Windsor and Ellington. The first English settler in what is known today as East Windsor was William Pynchon, the founder of Springfield, Massachusetts. In 1636, he erected a warehouse for his settlement's transshipment of goods at what is now known as "Warehouse Point". Warehouse Point served as the southern border of Springfield, Massachusetts for 132 years - until 1768 - when Warehouse Point was annexed by the Connecticut Colony. Pynchon selected the site of Warehouse Point because of its location near the Enfield Falls - the first major falls in the Connecticut River, where all seagoing vessels were forced to

terminate their voyages and transfer goods to smaller vessels. By constructing a warehouse at this location, Pynchon essentially forced all northern Connecticut River business to run through him and his settlement at Springfield.

Initially, settlers avoided the East Side of the river due to the Podunk Indian tribe that inhabited the area, particularly following King Philip's War in 1675. But the lure of the fertile land won out, and settlers began to traverse the river to farm and eventually establish homesteads. In 1733, when Reverend John McKinstry became the minister of the first Congregational Church in Ellington, only 11 families lived in this "Great Marsh" area. Eventually in 1768, East Windsor parish was partitioned from Windsor. The center of town was in what is now East Windsor Hill in today's South Windsor. Ellington parish separated from East Windsor in 1786.

To celebrate our shared history, the five libraries in the original "East Side" have joined together and created a fun scavenger hunt for you and your family to enjoy during the month of February. To play, visit the Hall Memorial Library to pick up your booklet, and look for the five items here. Then visit the other libraries—South Windsor Public Library and Wood Memorial Library in South Windsor, and Broad Brook Library and Warehouse Point Library in East Windsor; find the five items in each of those libraries. Once you have found all the items and all have been verified, you will be entered into a drawing to win a gift certificate to The Book Club Book Store in South Windsor.

Winter/Spring Events

Coffeehouse: Tom Callinan

Friday, February 9 at 7:00pm

Carole Barber: The Role of Herbs in an Early American Household

Thursday, February 22 at 7:00 pm

Coffeehouse: The Jolly Beggars

Friday, March 9 at 7:00 pm

Coffee, Tea & History: Carole Bielefield as Abigail Adams* (sponsored by Friends of the Library)

Sunday, March 11, 1:30 pm

Kim Larkin: Celtic Chocolate & Irish Tea with Sing-a-Long*

Tuesday, March 13 at 6:30 pm

Pauline Arendt: History and Highlights of the Wadsworth Atheneum

Tuesday, March 27 at 6:30 pm

Chris West: "And We'll Never Be Royals"

Hat-Making Workshop*

Tuesday, April 10 at 6:30 pm

Coffeehouse: Airborne Trio

Friday, April 13 at 7:00 pm

Richard Symonds: Lost Mill Sites of Tolland County

Thursday, April 26 at 7:00 pm

Jan Holland: Picnic Pals Cupcakes*

Monday, April 30 at 6:30 pm

Judith Bird: Pretty Paper, Paint & Glue*

Tuesday, May 8 at 6:30 pm

Coffeehouse: East Side Ramblers Dixieland Jazz Band

Friday, May 18 at 7:00 pm

Jeff Romano: New England Hikes

Tuesday, May 22 at 6:30 pm

**Program has limited seating, so register early!*

Register online at www.library.ellington-ct.gov or call us at: 860-870-3160 for assistance.

MOVIES AT THE LIBRARY

| | |
|---|--|
| Marshall | February 7 at 6:30 pm February 8 at 1:00 pm |
| Thank You for Your Service | February 14 at 6:30 pm February 15 at 1:00 pm |
| Only the Brave | February 21 at 6:30 pm February 22 at 1:00 pm |
| Last Flag Flying | February 28 at 6:30 pm March 1 at 1:00 pm |
| Wonder | March 7 at 6:30 pm March 8 at 1:00 pm |
| Roman J. Israel, Esq. | March 14 at 6:30 pm March 15 at 1:00 pm |
| Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri | March 21 at 6:30 pm March 22 at 1:00 pm |

**Movies will be shown weekly, (usually) on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm and Thursday afternoons at 1:00 pm. Please check the library's website at library.ellington-ct.gov or call us at: 860-870-3160 for schedule changes and future film announcements.*

COFFEE, TEA & HISTORY

The Friends of Hall Memorial Library are delighted to announce that we will be sponsoring a new quarterly performance series at the library: Coffee, Tea & History. This Sunday afternoon series will showcase actors and actresses bringing historical figures to life in an atmospheric setting. All shows will be family friendly, providing a terrific opportunity for all ages to learn more about the chosen characters. Our first show will take place on Sunday, March 11 at 1:30 pm when Abigail Adams visits with us. Events are free and light refreshments will be served, but seats are limited so please register online at www.library.ellington-ct.gov or call us at 860-870-3160 for assistance.

MINI-GOLF AT THE LIBRARY

By the time you read this we will (hopefully) have concluded our 3rd annual Mini-Golf @ the Library fundraiser. Kloter Farms has once again given us their invaluable support as our Flagship Sponsor; we could not run this event without their backing as well as the generosity of numerous other local businesses.

continued on page 24

Library... continued from page 23

We would like to thank our hole sponsors:

CD Builders; Cold Creek Tavern; Dymotek; Dzen Garden Market; Eastern Connecticut Physician Associates; Earthlight Technologies; Ellington Dental Associates; Ellington Printery; Green Lawn Meadow Care; Homestead Plumbing, Cooling, Heating, Energy, Water; Indian Valley YMCA; Integrated Rehabilitation Services; Johnny Appleseed's Farm; Kloter ice Cream Barn; Landmark Surveys LLC; Luann's Bakery; Manchester Pediatric Associates; Merrill Industries; New England Mechanical Services; New England Lean Consulting; Nutmeg Stairs & Cabinets; Schneider's Flooring; Thrivent Financial; United Bank; WordCom; and Zahner Dental.

We would also like to thank those who contributed

wonderful prizes for our Teacup Raffle: Angellino's Italian Restaurant; Aromatherapy Alchemists; Camp Woodstock; Chuck Wagon Restaurant; Cold Creek Tavern; CT Hair Design; CT Science Center; Ellington Farmer's Market; Farm Car Care; Hartford Stage; Highland Park Market; Indian Valley YMCA/ Yankee Trails; Jorgensen Theatre; Luann's Bakery; Monet's Table; Nutmeg Stairs & Cabinets; New England Pizza and Restaurant; Pizzeria Da Vinci; Rein's Deli; Simply Thai Restaurant; Strong Family Farm; Travelers Insurance; Utsav Indian Cuisine; Wen Ming House; and Wood-N-Tap. And last, but not least, our food and entertainment providers: Pizzeria Da Vinci; Friends & Family Roadside cart; Country Pure Foods; Subway of Ellington; Law Offices of Bruce Fader; and Laurie Hessler, face painter extraordinaire! Thank you to all of our volunteers and patrons who helped to make this event an overwhelming success!

WE WANT YOUR SEWING MACHINES

Do you have an old portable sewing machine just sitting in your closet gathering dust? If so, why not consider donating it to the Library? We are looking for a few more portable sewing machines in good working condition to have on hand so that we can offer sewing and fabric arts classes. In fact, we'll be using the machines we already have for our April 10 Hat-Making Workshop. The more machines we have, the more participants we can accommodate. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

APRIL IS "FOOD FOR FINES" MONTH

April is once again "Food for Fines" month at the Library. From Sunday, April 1 through Monday, April 30 you can make your fines disappear and help stock the shelves of our local food bank. Here's how it works:

- Bring non-expired, non-perishable food items to donate to the Hall Memorial Library.
- For each item you donate, \$1 of your library fines for overdue materials will be forgiven.
- Fines can only be forgiven on overdue materials that have been returned. You can log in to your online library account or ask at the library to check which materials you currently have checked out or whether you have a fine.

- Food for Fines credit cannot be applied toward fees for items that have been lost or damaged.
- All donations collected during Food for Fines Month will be distributed to the food bank in our community.

NEED AN EXAM PROCTOR?

If you are taking an online course and need a proctor for your exams, the library is the place to be. Call or stop in to the Reference Room and we can make the arrangements.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Library will be closed: Presidents Day, February 19
Good Friday, March 31
Easter Sunday, April 1

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

When the weather outside is frightful, check for library closings on WFSB TV or the Library webpage at <http://library.ellington-ct.gov/148/Hours-and-Directions>.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The next Bag of Books sale will be held Friday, April 20-Sunday, April 22. Hundreds of great used books, DVDs, puzzles and other items will be available at \$9.00 per bag full. Such a deal!



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK
is **APRIL 8-14, 2018**

"Discover your passions and achieve your goals at the library."
— MISTY COPELAND
National Library Week Honorary Chair

LIBRARIES LEAD ALA American Library Association Library of Congress **LIBRARIES TRANSFORM**

Celebrate National Library Week!

PASSPORT TO CONNECTICUT LIBRARIES PROGRAM

Passport to Connecticut Libraries is a statewide program running throughout the month of April. Libraries in all parts of the state will be participating in the program.



To join in the fun and celebrate all the great libraries in Connecticut, stop in to the Hall Memorial Library and show your valid library card to pick up your free Passport. Visit other participating libraries and have your Passport stamped. If you visit at least five participating libraries and have your Passport stamped, then return your Passport to a participating library by May 6th, you will be entered into a draw-

ing for a chance to win a \$150 Visa gift card (for adults) or a \$100 Visa gift card (for children under 18).

From the Childrens' Department

Healers with Halos, formerly Allen's Angels Therapy Dogs, will be visiting our library monthly, as they have for the past six years. These specially trained therapy dogs will be here February 10 and 24; March 10 and 24; and April 14 and 28 from 10:30-11:30 am. On each of these Saturdays, boys and girls ages 5-12 can come in to the children's area of the library to read to these wonderful listeners. This is a great way to practice reading skills, as well as get some very special one-on-one time with a new friend who just happens to have four legs and a wagging tail. Online registration is recommended and is ongoing. Go to the library website, www.library.ellington-ct.gov, locate the Event Calendar, find the date you wish to come, and click on the "sign-up hand." Each child is asked to bring a favorite book from home to read. You will get about ten minutes to read and visit with a dog. All children's programs are free and open to the public. Please call the library at 860-870-3160 for more information.

Registration for preschool story hours began on January 28. Go to the library web site or call the library to register. Story Hours for 3-5 year olds who are ready for an independent program will be held on Tuesdays, 10:15-11:00 am, beginning February 6 and continuing for nine weeks. Children who are already 2 ½ years

old can attend Story Hour, along with an adult, on Fridays from 10:15-10:45 am, beginning February 9 and continuing for seven weeks. All preschool story hours include books, flannel board stories, songs, and movement activities and in the 2 ½ year old story hour, a weekly craft is included. Babies and Books, for children 9 months to 2 ½ years old, will be held on Mondays from 10:30-11:30 am, beginning February 5 and continuing through March 26. For this program, parents will read board books to their child, there will be songs and there will be about 45 minutes of open play time and time for adults to socialize. The library will furnish toys. Come join us and meet some new friends!

Your Children's Department has some very special materials for preschoolers and their parents. This past fall we added five new Sprout Early Learning Backpacks to our collection. That gives us a total of 13 backpacks filled with books, games, and other manipulatives for parents to use with their young children to help in learning basic concepts. These educational materials are not "stand alone" toys, but valuable teaching tools. Take a look and see if one or more of them is of interest to you or your little one. The NEW titles provided are: "Fish counting 1, 2, 3," "Going to the market," "I am special and unique," "My pizza shop," and "Shapes all around." You will find the backpacks hanging on the ends of the shelves labeled "Reference." They really are "backpacks," just the right size for your preschooler to carry on his/her back. We think they will love them! Check them out!



In the front seated you have: Mary Lou Dyjak and Peg Busse. In back standing are: Patti Wendell, Diane Madore and Chris McKechnie.

WHO WE ARE

The Friends of Hall Memorial Library is a not-for-profit organization established in 1986 to raise funds to support our library. Our recently elected Board of Directors includes:

President: Peg Busse

Vice President/General:

Chris McKechnie

Vice President Communications:

Diane Madore

Treasurer: Patti Wendell

Secretary: Mary Lou Dyjak

Friends of Hall Memorial Library

Our Membership Coordinator is Joanne Cheney. Larry Dunn, our previous treasurer, has retired after many valued years on the Board. Daniel Sclare has been appointed as the ongoing liaison from the Friends of Hall Memorial Library to the Library Board.

OUR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Our active membership consists of approximately 100 Ellington residents who volunteer their time and resources to help enhance the library experience for all residents by attending monthly board meetings, sharing ideas, providing annual membership donations and participating in fundraising activities. Member involvement through fundraising enables the library to offer important programs and items to the community that would otherwise fall outside of the regular library budget. Such programs include the summer reading programs, discounted or free museum passes, special book purchases, new technology, equipment requests and

maintenance of the beautiful armillary planter at the library entrance.



OUR NEW LOGO

Several years ago the armillary was gifted to the library by the Friends and, today more than ever, it

continues to reflect the ideals of the Friends of Hall Memorial Library. This past November Laura Callahan, graphic designer and resident of Ellington since 2010, designed a logo that incorporates the armillary and that logo received approval by the Library Board of Directors to be used on all publications related to the Friends. Our new logo conveys the spirit of our organization and signifies the library's value in offering navigational guidance through knowledge, as it points to the stars and connotes unlimited possibilities for learning and exploration in an opening world.

continued on page 26

Friends of the Library... continued from page 25

NEW MEMBERS WANTED!

We welcome new members, new ideas and more involvement for offering even more exciting and enriching programs! Please join us! Just stop by the library, complete the Friends of Hall Memorial Library membership application form at the front desk, make a membership donation in the amount of your choice and elect to participate in fundraising activities that interest you. And don't forget to stop to see our bulletin board outside the reading room for news, recent or upcoming events, Board Meeting highlights,

and Book Cellar hours. We are also on Facebook under Friends of Hall Memorial Library Ellington Connecticut. Friend us!

OUR SUCCESSES

Through membership donations, Semi-Annual Bag of Books sales (October sales were \$1,500!), Holiday Cookie Sales of nearly \$1,300, and Book Cellar Sales of \$9,000, we are well on our way to providing funding for several new and exciting library programs for 2018. Our Spring Bag of Books Sale is April 19 - 21. Come join us!

Ellington Senior Center

Erin Graziani, Director

40 Maple Street

Website: seniorcenter.ellington-ct.gov

Phone: 860-870-3133

In addition to our many regularly scheduled programs, a variety of classes, guest speakers, entertainers, trips and other special events are scheduled monthly. Please stop in to get your copy of our monthly newsletter, The Maple Street Monthly; Follow us on Facebook or check out our website: <http://seniorcenter.ellington-ct.gov> to see what is offered!

WINTER WEATHER REMINDER

For delays and closings tune to channels 3, 8 & 30 or check out our website to subscribe to alerts. If the Ellington Public Schools are closed or delayed due to weather, so is the Senior Center.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Below is a list of special events that have been planned so far! Be sure to get a flyer for more information and sign up in advance so we can plan proper seating:

- Thursdays, February 1 - April 12: AARP Tax Aide - Trained volunteers will complete federal and state income tax returns at no charge for those 50 and older. Call for an appointment time.
- Feb. 5 & Mar. 5 at 3:00 pm-EHS Presents: "Music Mondays." Come to enjoy music performed by the students of Ellington High School.
- Feb. 6, 2:00 pm-The Ivy at Ellington will be at the Center to speak about Assisted Living at the Ivy, services, deposits and the process of moving into Assisted Living.

- Feb. 14, 1:00 pm - "Amore" Songs of Love, a multimedia presentation by Janice Chaplin, featuring Italian love songs and more performed by your favorite singers.
- Feb. 21, 1:00 pm - "History for Fun: St. Valentine" presented by Joe Ouellette
- AARP Smart Driver Course will be offered: March 13, 11:30 am - 3:30 pm; April 26, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm; May 15, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Pre-registration required.
- Mar. 15, 12:30 pm - St. Patty's Day Celebration with a traditional corned beef & cabbage dinner and entertainment by "Fiddle Hill". Tickets in advance: Ellington residents \$15, Non-Residents \$16.
- Mar. 21, 1:00 pm - "History for Fun: St. Patrick", presented by Joe Ouellette
- Mar. 22, 1:00 pm - Informational Program on the New Medicare Cards, presented by Anna Turner, MSW, Elderly Outreach Social Worker.
- April 4, 1:00 pm - Volunteers Meeting All members of the Ellington Senior Center are invited, encouraged and welcome to participate in these meetings. Suggestions welcome!
- April 12, 1:00 pm - Ellington Singers Spring Musicales 2018!
- May 10, 1:00 pm - "Explore Art from the Atheneum" with Wadsworth Docent, Pauline Arendt. Seating limited, pre-registration required.

ELLINGTON SENIOR CENTER

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Ellington residents age 55+ are welcome to join us for the following programs.

**Call or visit our website for additional details, including schedule and/or fees.*

MONDAYS 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Canasta
10:00 am - 1:00 pm Chess Mates
11:00 am - 12:00 pm Tai Chi*
11:30 am - 12:30 pm Intermediate Line Dancing with Nicole*
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Easy Line Dancing with Amelia
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm 1:1 Computer Help with Bill*
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Needle Crafts
1:15 pm - 2:45 pm Board Games

TUESDAYS 8:30 am- 4:00 pm

9:00 am - 12:00 pm Bridge
9:30 am - 11:45 am Adult Coloring
10:00 am - 10:45 am Chair Exercises*
11:00 am - 11:45 am Simple Circuit Fitness*
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm Blood Pressure & Diabetic Screening*
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Dominoes
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm CrossSculpting*
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Setback

WEDNESDAYS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

9:00 am - 3:00 pm Podiatry Clinic* (3/7, 4/4, 5/2)
9:00 am - 10:00 am Ellington Men's Club*
9:30 am - 12:00 pm Cut Ups Carving Club
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Maple Street Kitchen Lunch*
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm 1:1 Computer Help with Bill*
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Musical Insights*
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm Shuffleboard
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm Yoga*

THURSDAYS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

9:30 am - 11:45 am Sew and So
 10:00 am - 10:45 am Chair Exercises*
 11:00 am - 11:45 am Simple Circuit Fitness*
 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Maple Street Kitchen Lunch*
 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Memories & Creative Writing*
 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Ballroom, Polka & Fun Dancing
 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm 1:1 Computer Help with Bill*
 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm Chair Yoga*
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm CrosSculpting*

FRIDAYS 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

9:00 am - 12:00 pm Wii Bowling

SATURDAYS

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Setback
 6:30 pm - 10:00 pm Open Billiards

DAILY PROGRAMS

Open Billiards, Library, Le Petite Café*,

Just Visiting, Weather Permitting:
 Weekday Walking Club

LUNCH PROGRAM

The Maple Street Kitchen (MSK), serves home-cooked meals on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 12:00 pm for a \$3.50 donation. Reservations must be made by noon the day before by calling the center or signing up at the front desk. MSK is partially funded by a grant received by North Central Area Agency on Aging Inc., "Funded in part by the Older American's Act." Mondays and Tuesdays grab a sandwich, salad, fruit, etc. while they last in La Petite Café. Items vary weekly and suggested donation price is listed individually

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Transportation is available to Ellington residents for medical, social and nutritional programs by calling the Transportation Line Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, 860-870-3137. EMATS is partially funded

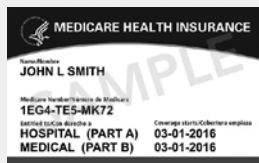
by a grant received by North Central Area Agency on Aging Inc., "Funded in part by the Older American's Act."

TRIPS & CRUISES

See our website or check the Information Center for more information:

April 19: Culinary Institute, Hyde Park, NY, \$128
 May 22: Circle Line Sightseeing of Famous NYC Landmarks, \$118
 June 12: Mississippi Riverboat Cruise on Webster Lake, Webster, MA, \$92
 June 20-26: Discover Glacier National Park, starts at \$2899 pp.
 July 10: "Return to Camelot, Kennedy Wedding Remembered" Newport, RI, \$98
 August 27-29: "Jesus" at Sight & Sound Theatre, Lancaster, PA, starts at \$451 pp.
 Sept. 23: Berkshire Railroad Foliage Express, North Adams, MA, \$88

Elderly Outreach



Anna L. Turner, MSW,
 Municipal Agent for the Elderly
 Town of Ellington Human Services
 Phone: 860-870-3131
 Fax: 860-870-3198

NEW MEDICARE CARDS INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

Thursday March 22, 2018 at 1:00 pm

Presenter: Anna L. Turner, MSW/
 Municipal Agent for the Elderly
Location: Ellington Senior Center.

WATCH YOUR MAIL - NEW MEDICARE CARDS COMING IN 2018

Your Medicare card is changing in 2018! Medicare will be mailing new Medicare cards between April 2018 and April 2019, with a new Medicare number that will be unique to you. **Sample card above.**

Please call the Senior Center at: 860-870-3133 to sign up to attend this program.



Ellington Residents!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE ON A TOWN COMMITTEE OR COMMISSION?

Openings currently exist on the following committees and commissions. Any elector of the Town of Ellington interested in serving the community on one of the boards/commissions should call the First Selectman's office at: 860-870-3100 or email us at: info@ellington-ct.gov for a Statement of Interest or visit our website at Ellington-ct.gov, select Government/Boards & Commissions/Applications to Serve.

Ad Hoc Beautification Committee
 Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee
 Board of Assessment Appeals
 Building Code Board of Appeals
 Economic Development Commission
 Ethics Commission
 Inland/Wetlands Agency

3 terms to April 30, 2018
 1 term to December 31, 2018; 1 student term to December 31, 2018
 1 term to January 31, 2020; 1 alternate term to January 31, 2019
 1 term to April 30, 2020
 2 alternate terms to January 31, 2019
 1 term to January 31, 2020
 1 alternate term to June 30, 2019

Ellington Youth Services

Diane Lasher-Penti, LMFT, Youth Services Director
Tressa Giordano, Youth Program Coordinator
Deb Stauffer, Prevention Coordinator
Kayla Condon, Program Instructor
Website: Youth.ellington-ct.gov
Phone: 860-870-3130

To register for our programs please go to our website or visit our office at 31 Arbor Way. Check us out on Facebook and Twitter!

Inside Out Toddler Preschool Playgroups: Join us for socialization, arts and crafts, stories, snack, discovery and networking with other parents of toddlers and preschoolers ages 6 months to age 4.

Dates: Wednesday, Thursday, and/or Friday mornings,
February 28 - April 27 (Winter II Session)

Time: 9:00 am-10:00 am

Fee: \$28 for residents,
\$33 for non-residents.

Location: Crystal Lake School House, across from Sandy Beach

Spirit Karate: Children with special needs and their parents are invited to spend an afternoon learning karate in an environment that is safe and fun. Come meet new friends and learn new skills. This is a FREE event, but pre-registration is required; non-residents are welcome!

Date: Sunday, March 4

Time: 2:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Location: American Karate, 175 West Road in Ellington.

Spirit Lacrosse: Children ages 5 - 14 with special needs, along with their parents, are invited to spend an afternoon enjoying fun lacrosse activities, learn skills, have snacks and make new friends. Local high school and college level coaches will be on staff. This is a FREE event, and non-residents are welcome. Pre-registration is required, and all registrants will receive a free t-shirt!

Date: Sunday, May 6

Time: 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Location: Pinney Fields, Ellington

Rugged Farmer Obstacle Course: Join us for a fun family obstacle course, filled with farm challenges all along the way. Help us raise funds for the Jacob Roger Poulin playground project. Watch our website and Facebook page for more exciting details about this event.

Date: Sunday, April 22

Time: 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Location: Brookside Park.

Small Town Big Talent Show: Audition dates are TBD for our annual talent and variety show. All ages are encouraged to share their talents. The show will take place on Saturday, April 7th. For more information, contact: bigtalent2016@gmail.com.

Blanket Making Club: All projects created in this club designed for 5th graders and older will be donated to the Project Linus, which is a



Photo by Tressa Giordano.

non-profit organization; they provide homemade blankets to children in need. Their blankets are lovingly made by adults and children from all walks of life and many different sources. These blankets provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need, through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers."

Dates: February 5, 12, 26; March 12, 26; April 2

Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: Arbor Commons, 31 Arbor Way

Tech Talk Parent Series: Ellington Youth Services and Ellington Middle School are teaming up again this year to provide several nights of information and discussion regarding technology and our families. We will be offering opportunities to learn and engage in conversations about our children's screen time. Open to all parents! Refreshments provided. On Tuesday, February 27 from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm at the Ellington Middle School Library, School Resource Officer Tina Roy of the South Windsor Police Department will show us the newest apps our kids are using and the dangers that come with them. Email dstauffer@ellington-ct.gov if you'd like to attend.

QPR TRAINING - QPR Suicide Prevention Training Workshop - Question, Persuade, and Refer. QPR is a simple educational program that teaches ordinary citizens how to recognize the warning signs of a mental health emergency and how to get a person at risk of suicide the help they need. Refreshments served. This is a FREE workshop. Register by emailing: dstauffer@ellington-ct.gov.

Date: Tuesday, March 13

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Location: Arbor Commons, 31 Arbor Way.

ANGST - Raising Awareness Around Anxiety Movie: This film was created by parents and educators who have personal experience with anxiety. They believe that by watching this film together as a community we can raise awareness and start the conversation around anxiety. Join for us for screening of Angst, a film about anxiety, truth and hope. Register by emailing: dpenti@ellington-ct.gov.

Date: Friday, March 9, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Location: Ellington Senior Center, 41 Maple St.



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Lake Front on Crystal Lake with a Dock! \$359,900

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joecarnemolla@aol.com
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Office: 860 872-2023

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The Ellington Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc. - Cadet Program

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE TASKS THAT CADETS CAN DO

- Attend weekly training sessions
- Obtain basic level fire service training in preparation to become a regular member of the fire department
- Ride on fire apparatus
- Attend public relations events
- Assist in fire prevention education activities
- Respond to fire-related incidents
(once appropriately trained and reach 16 years of age)

CADET OFFICERS 2017-2018

President – Ryan McConnell
Vice President, Administrative – Cole Kilgore
Secretary – James-Paul Forbes
Treasurer – Chris Hoover

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Dept. Cadets meet on Tuesday nights from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. For more information contact Station 43 at: 860-870-3190.

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1928. We are proud to continue serving the Town of Ellington and its citizens with the finest possible volunteer emergency fire and rescue services. As 2018 begins, we look forward to celebrating our 90th year. Please take a moment to read about Captains Peter Hany, Jr. and Brendan Burke. In future issues we hope to bring you information about the other officers and members.

member of the Fire Department, Peter has obtained many certifications including Firefighter II and Fire Service Instructor, as well as being certified in confined space rescue and as a hazmat technician. Peter is a past recipient of the Department's Firefighter of the Year Award. Peter is currently employed by Hockanum Mansions as a mechanic. In his free time, Peter enjoys welding and fabricating metals

CAPTAIN PETER HANY JR.



Peter was born and raised in Ellington and currently lives with his wife Kelly and their four children: Katie, Chris, Ethan and Lindsey. Peter has been a member of the Ellington

Volunteer Fire Department since 2003. He is currently a Captain after previously serving as Lieutenant and serves as the Department's Parade Chairman, in addition to serving as the Chairman of the Town's Patriotic Committee. Three of Peter's children are members of the fire department as well. Chris and Ethan are both members of the Cadet Program, while Katie, having completed the Cadet Program, is now a member of EVFD.

Prior to joining the fire department, Peter was a member of Rescue Post 512 from 1987 through 1991 when he joined the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corp, and he remained a member until 2003. As a

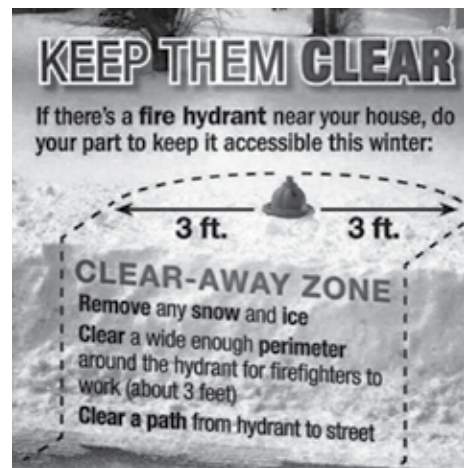
CAPTAIN BRENDAN BURKE



Brendan was born and raised in Ellington and currently lives with his wife of 7 years, Larrissa, and their two children, Harper and Mairenn. Brendan has been a mem-

ber of the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department for the last 16 years. He is currently a Captain and has held the rank of Assistant Chief in the past. Brendan began serving the residents of Ellington in 1996 while attending EHS, where he was a member of Rescue Post 512, becoming President during his senior year.

Brendan is currently employed by the Town of Manchester where he has been a 9-1-1 Dispatcher for the last 14 years. In his free time Brendan enjoys maintaining his historic Main Street home, playing with his children (especially outdoors) and caring for their two dogs, two rabbits, and six chickens.



The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department members would like you to remember to clear a path to the fire hydrant: Don't let a fire hydrant covered in snow prevent firefighters from being able to quickly extinguish a fire in your home. It is important for anyone whose property is adjacent to a fire hydrant to remove snow from and around it as soon as possible after a snowfall.

Snow should be cleared three feet around the hydrant with a path to the street.

If you know someone who has a hydrant attached to their property and they are either incapable of removing the snow or hasn't cleared it; please help protect them, yourself and the rest of your neighbors by shoveling the hydrant out on your own. This simple good deed can save lives and property damage.

Visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/EllingtonFD/.

Ellington Resident State Troopers' Office

Sergeant Brian Santa,
Resident State Troopers' Supervisor
860-870-3154 (non-emergencies)

ELLINGTON WELCOMES A NEW RESIDENT STATE TROOPER AND THREE NEW POLICE OFFICERS

The Ellington Resident Troopers' Office would like to welcome Trooper Joseph Hayward, Officer James Desso, Officer Steven Estes and Officer Todd Harmon as the newest members of the Ellington law enforcement team.

Trooper Joseph Hayward is a five-year veteran of the CT State Police and served those years assigned to Troop C (Tolland Barracks). Trooper Hayward is a certified Accident Reconstructionist and will serve as a D.A.R.E instructor. Trooper Hayward holds an Engineering Degree and currently serves as a Commissioned Officer in the Air National Guard.

Officer Steven Estes is a 26-year law enforcement veteran. Officer Estes recently retired from the West Hartford Police Department as a Lieutenant where he served in the Patrol Division. Officer Estes is a certified firearms instructor and brings a wealth of training experience to the Town. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and served as a US Navy Officer.

Officer James Desso is a 33-year law enforcement veteran. Officer Desso started with and actively serves with the Stafford Resident Troopers' Office. Officer Desso currently holds the rank of Sergeant with Stafford and retired from the CT State Department of Corrections as the acting Major of Operations for Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution in Enfield. Officer Desso holds many certifications and has received a host of special awards in recognition of his commitment to providing exceptional service to the community.

Officer Todd Harmon is a 20-year law enforcement veteran. Officer Harmon retired from the CT State Police in September 2017 as a State Police Sergeant. While a member of the CT State Police, Officer Harmon was assigned to Troops C, D, H and K, the Traffic Services Unit and the Headquarters Office of Field Operations. In addition, Officer Harmon served as an Ellington Resident State Trooper from 2000 to 2005. During this time, he taught D.A.R.E. in the Ellington School system and developed a strong working relationship with the community. Officer Harmon also served as an enlisted soldier in the Army National Guard.

The Town of Ellington is very pleased and fortunate to welcome these experienced and highly-trained law enforcement officers. Welcome Trooper Joseph Hayward, Officer James Desso, Officer Stephen Estes and Officer Todd Harmon. The Town is in good hands!

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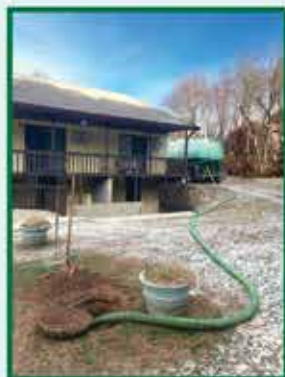
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Rescue Post Members enjoying the holidays at the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance building.



EVAC President Peter Hany, Sr. enjoying a holiday meal with his wife and a few Rescue Post Members.

41 Maple Street, P.O. Box 71, Ellington, CT 06029

Main: 860.870.3170 | Fax: 860.870.3173

Email: information@ellingtonambulance.org

WEB: www.ellingtonambulance.org

Ellington Volunteer Ambulance would like to extend a welcome to new members. Not only do we serve our community, but we also often take the time to thank our volunteers with a feast! The food was donated and prepared by our volunteers and Rescue Post Members, and those of us who were working over the holidays were still able to enjoy time with our families. Visit our website at www.ellingtonambulance.org for more information on how to join!

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