



THE ELLINGTON CONNECTION

www.ellington-ct.gov

Spring 2011

**Maurice Blanchette, First Selectman
860-870-3100**

Thank You To The Many, And The One

I write this at the end of February, as we now enjoy an end (or is it just a reprieve) to a terrible winter that took a toll on Ellington residents and their property, both private and public. We dealt with an unprecedented combination of many serious snow storms from mid-January through mid-February, cold temperatures that limited melting and instead stacked dangerous levels of snow and ice weight everywhere, and the work and expense of ridding that snow from our roads and roofs. The traditional remedy of clearing drains and waiting for it to melt was no longer enough. On February 9, testing performed by our Town Engineer showed excessively high snow weight on school roofs; at that time, local forecasters were talking about another very heavy snow storm a week later. But, with a lot of help, the danger was overcome. Collectively, I want to recognize the MANY who participated in the various efforts to move the snow.

Thank you to the contractors who normally supplement our plowing crews, and to the contractors who tackled snow removal from the more dangerous parts of our school roofs, for sticking by us when there were a lot of buyers for their services, almost at any price.

A big thank you goes to the men and women of the Ellington Department of Public Works who worked through a merciless string of very long days and nights to keep our roads open, went back many times to push snow a bit further to enlarge those roads and improve sight lines, and dealt with overwhelmed equipment during this extraordinary period. The pay for the very

large number of hours worked in a very short time could not possibly compensate for the total exhaustion I saw on their faces.

Special thanks for quick response goes to the volunteers of Ellington Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) and Crystal Lake Fire Departments who removed snow from Center School and Crystal Lake School, respectively, and more; they brought their equipment to the task. A grateful thank you to Chief Varney and his EVFD crew who, at my request, brought the new ladder truck to reach up and out to the top of Hall Memorial Library and the highest point on Center School so that the Town Engineer could safely take snow load samples.

And much, much thanks to the many volunteers who responded to the general plea for help put out by Superintendent Cullinan (see his article on Page 2) to remove snow from the school roofs. This is one of the many reasons to celebrate 'VOLUNTEER WEEK' noted below.

In a poignant reminder of the importance of volunteers to Ellington, Emery Zahner just announced that he is stepping down from the Planning & Zoning Commission after **33 years**, many of those as Chairman. His timing is logical, the length of service is inspirational, and the value to Ellington for this ONE volunteer is incalculable. Thank you, Emery. Live long and prosper.

Maurice Blanchette

**Annual Budget Hearing
April 12, 2011 @ 8 PM
Ellington High School**

**Annual Budget Meeting
May 10, 2011 @ 8 PM
Ellington High School**

**VOLUNTEER WEEK
April 10—April 16
*Thank You!...***

For more information and details of the Proposed 2011-2012 Budget, visit our website, www.ellington-ct.gov, select 'Town News' or pick up a copy of the budget documents at the Town Clerk's Office or the Hall Memorial Library.

to all of Ellington's many volunteers. Your gift of time makes Ellington a better place!

Stephen C. Cullinan, Superintendent of Schools
860-896-2300 ~ www.ellingtonschools.org

Although this is the spring edition of the Ellington Connection, I am compelled to focus on winter – hopefully for the last time. Recently someone remarked that this winter has produced “once in a lifetime” events. I certainly hope they are correct.

Throughout January and much of February, I began to think of myself as Bill Murray’s character in the movie “Groundhog Day.” Wake up. It is snowing. Cancel school. The following morning – wake up, it is snowing, cancel school. The next day repeat, and then repeat and then repeat again. I couldn’t escape the sound of Sonny & Cher singing, “I got you babe...”

Apparently snow, cold, cancellations, early dismissals and delayed openings were not enough. The accumulation of snow created dangerous intersections, impassable sidewalks and serious concerns from the weight of the snow upon roofs. In consultation with a structural engineer we cleared roof drains and leveled snow drifts, but the snow continued to accumulate. The simple answer to the question, “Are our schools’ roofs safe?” was to measure the weight of the snow. The design specification for our schools is thirty pounds per square foot. Our initial measurements of actual weight were between forty and fifty pounds per square foot. Obviously this meant more school closings and a massive snow reduction project.

It would be impractical to write all that transpired over an eight day period of time which allowed us to safely open all facilities at all schools. Quite simply, it took a lot of people and resources to accomplish that task. My purpose in presenting this topic is not to relate all of the details of that week, but rather to say thank you. Thanks to so many who did so much on behalf of the students and staff of the Ellington Public Schools. Not only did you guarantee the safety of so many people, you also protected six very valuable resources for this community. On many occasions I have stated that, in coming to Ellington, I came to superintendent’s heaven. This crisis has shown again just what a wonderful place Ellington is to live or work.

The danger in attempting to say thank you by name, is that inevitably you will miss some people. I do know, however, to offer only a generic thank you without mentioning the names, would not be a proper tribute. Thus, with apologies to those I fail to name, I offer my sincerest gratitude to ALL who made the re-opening of the Ellington Public Schools possible.

The combined efforts of all volunteers (see Page 3), along with unnamed others, completed enough of the snow reduction project that the decision of the town’s engineer to declare the schools safe to open occurred at 4:30 p.m. on Super Bowl Sunday. This allowed those interested enough time to get home to watch the entire game, assuming they

were able to stay awake until the end. The turnout from the Ellington community was most impressive. Some volunteered their entire weekend, while many offered the hours they could spare. Many did this work at the expense of foregoing similar snow removal needs at their own homes.

This project was filled with a lot of hard work and thankfully a few laughs. Some volunteers turned their efforts into a daily workout routine. Depending upon technique you could do cardio, weight training and even abs without the cost of a gym membership. Some parents were shoveling with a mission. As much as they truly love their children, after six days at home, it was time to get the kids out of the house and back to school. Thoughtful citizens (**Melissa Abbruzzese, Tabetha Avtges, Kathy Broding, Joan Koval, and MaryBeth Lipman**) dropped off water and cookies at various work sites – never did a bottle of water taste so good. Personally, I appreciated the unexpected opportunity to meet many parents. I even met a gentleman who is not a resident and has no connection to Ellington except that he heard on the news that we were looking for volunteers and, for him, it was the right thing to do. That was impressive!

A major portion of the snow reduction operation was completed by district and town staff in conjunction with private contractors. Under the direction of Anthony Littizzio, custodial and maintenance personnel who certainly went above and beyond were: Keith Arvisais, Walter Bolstridge, Ray Clark, Michael Condel, Neil Ducharme, George Dumas, Don Healey, Charlie Maupin, Sharon Perkins, Ed Pigeon, Jeff Schiavetti, Bob Selley, Jack Sherman, Peter Simmons, Len Szarek, Victor Tosado, and Dale Wilson. Among the contractors used in this operation were: Dave Stavens and Barber Utilities LLC; Greg Gale and Gale Construction; Rick Neil and Neil Sign Company; Steve Ziter and Ziter Construction; Roland Tracy and Tracy Brothers Roofing; Charlie Schiavetti & Schiavetti Remodeling; Banton Construction Company; Scott Mangold and Homecheck Construction; Onager Corporation; New Britain Roofing; Roof Concepts; and VMS Construction. Certainly a debt of gratitude is owed to George Fetko and the Ellington Public Works Department.

First Selectman Maurice Blanchette was most supportive and provided assistance in a number of important areas, while the town’s structural engineer, Jim Thompson, created a detailed analysis that guided our snow reduction process.

Hopefully our “groundhog day” experience is over. I certainly won’t miss it. I will, however, always remember the weekend when so many members of this community joined together in a common cause, to allow our kids to return to school – safe schools. For all of the efforts of so many people, on behalf of the students and staff of the Ellington Public Schools, I sincerely say –Thank You – your efforts are truly appreciated. Now if I could just get that song out of my head...

Stephen C. Cullinan

Among the many who volunteered in this snow reduction project were:

Rob Ames	Austin Dillingham	Ann Marie Hayes	Danielle O'Connell	Brian Smith
Bruce Andrews	Dean Dillingham	Paul Heyman	Barry O'Grady	Christine Spartz
Kathy Andrews	Shay Diwinsky	Chris Hill	Pam Peters	Barb Spartz
Paul Angell	Brian Dubiel	Mike Hoffman	Jenna Pincince	Martin Spartz
Betsy Arbeiter	Sean Dwyer	Jack Hook	Catherine Piotrowski	Megan Squadrito
Lauren Arbeiter	Michael Elkin	Amy Hornish	Deanna Piotrowski	Kelly Stauffer
Christopher Avtges	Dave Feindel	Matthew Hornish	Kristyn Piotrowski	Tom Stauffer
LaNae Bahler	Brian Fitzgerald	Ed Hoyt	Matthew Piotrowski	Joe Stimac
Tom Bahler	Nicole Fitzgerald	Mark Joyse	Michael Piotrowski	Karl Stocker
A.J. Barone	Cecilia Fitzgerald	Donald Judson	Emily Rancourt	Lori Stocker
Raymond Beaulieu	Cody Fongemie	Tracy Kiff-Judson	Brian Randall	Kurt Sullivan
John Bellezza	Valerie Gagnon	Bob Kraus	Dan Randall	John Szymanski
Jeremy Burke	Roco Gallicchio	Kristy LaPorte	Bernie Raver	Jennifer Tautkus
Chaohong Cai	Emma Gardner	Max LaPorte	Carissa Raver	Keith Tautkus
Jack Campisi	C. Gervin	Zack LaPorte	Joe Raver	Beth Tautkus
Marc Castonguay	Bob Gillis	Joe Leslie	Neil Rinaldi	Teena Tautkus
Catherine Cella	Michelle Giordano	Michael Lessard	Steve Saverse	Bob Tedford
Ray Chamberland	Bruce Gordon	Jason Lipman	Adam Sawamura	Mike Thomas
Brian Chamberlin	Tom Gorham	Jae Lorenzet	Annie Sawamura	Dan Uriano
Mike Chichlowski	Tim Gorton	Jackie Low	Gayle Sawamura	Kevin Vail
Mike Cleary	Mike Gresh	Bob Ludwig	Janelle Sawka	Cheryl Warriner
Rick Cleary	Ian Grinaski	Christina MacGillis	John Sawka	Bob Warriner
Sam Close	Tim Grinaski	Gene MacGillis	Brian Sayward	Chris Weitz
Elaine Cooke	Roy Gurnon	Gary Magnuson	Bradley Schafer	Madelina Williams
Deb Copper	Ted Hale	Steve Martino	Ruth Schafer	Francine York
John Cycenas	Paul Hany	Remi Masson	Beth Shaw	Jim York
Tracy Cycenas	Jack Harrington	Tim McCluskey	Matt Shea	Karen Zaffanella
Aaron Daley	Joseph Harrington	Hector Morera	Diane Sirois	Umberto Zaffanella
Connor Defemia	Kaitlin Harrington	Jon Moser	Justin Skee	Ann Ziter
Lisa Defemia	Sarah Harrington	Matt Murphy	Kevin Skee	

Ellington Volunteer Fire Department:

Mike Varney	Brendan Burke	Gary Feldman, Sr.	Debra Messier	Robert Smith
Thomas Adams	John Burns	Vincent Gambacorta	Karl Neubecker	Ben Stephens
Clayton Bannock	Dominick Cristelli	Peter Hany, Jr	Jack Rich II	Kelly Toomey
Brandon Bartell	Elizabeth Feldman	Francis Maguire	Andrew Slicer	Regan Toomey
Fred Bird	Gary Feldman, Jr	Kimberly Mellow	Randall Smith	John Turner

Crystal Lake Fire Department: Chuck Pippin and members

Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps: Peter Hany

Diane McKeegan, Town Clerk
860-870-3105

2011 Annual Dog Registration

Connecticut law requires any dog age 6 months or older be registered in the office of the Town Clerk.

Dog Licenses expire June 30th
New Licenses must be purchased between June 1 and June 30.

A rabies vaccination certificate must be submitted to the Town Clerk at the time of registration. Spaying or neutering certificates must be presented unless already on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Fee Schedule:
\$ 8 Neutered or Spayed
\$19 Male or Female

After June 30th a late fee of \$1.00 per month is due along with your license fee at the time of registration.

If you would like to register your dog through the mail you must include *a self-addressed stamped envelope* for the tags & license to be returned to you.

Reminder postcards will not be mailed ~ your reminder will be sent to you via email if you supplied us with your email address. To receive renewal info and reminders, submit your email address to:

townclerk@ellington-ct.gov.

Fishing Season Opens April 16, 2011

Resident fees for 2011

- \$28 Fishing
- \$19 Hunting
- \$32 Inland & Marine Fishing
- \$38 All Waters Fishing & Hunting Combo

You can purchase your license on-line at the DEP website: www.ct.gov/dep or in the Town Clerk's Office.



This year the Town Clerk's Office is having a Contest to award **Tag #1** for 2011-2012.

The winning dog will receive a new license at no charge! The first 50 entries will be entered into the contest.

Please submit a photo of your dog (no larger than 4"x6") and a 50 word or less essay about your dog. Entries must be received or post-marked no later than Monday, May 2, 2011.

Photos and essays will be judged by members of our Senior Citizen Center. Winner will be announced May 23, 2011. Check our website to view the winning entry. Please include your name, address and phone number with your entry. Drop off or mail to:

Ellington Town Clerk Photo Contest
PO Box 187
Ellington, CT 06029

Rhonda McCarty, Assessor
860-870-3109

Homeowners' Tax Relief Program

The homeowners' 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 2010, reside at the property and meet the income requirements*. Income 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 initially eligible for the program provided they have a Social Security Award letter specifying a date of entitlement during the current benefit year or a SSA-1099 with Medicare premiums.

Applications must be filed every two years. If you are currently on the program and it is your year to file you were already mailed an application. Anna Tuner, MSW/Elderly Outreach Social Worker, is available to assist seniors in completing the application. Call her at 860-870-3131 before April 29, 2011.

The filing period for the homeowners' program is February 1st through May 13th. Applications are available at the Assessor's Office.

Additional Veterans' Exemptions

Any person entitled to a veterans' exemption may also be entitled to additional exemptions if they meet the income requirements*. Applications must be filed every two years. If you are currently on this program and it is your year to file you were already mailed an application. The filing period for this program is between February 1-October 1. Applications are available at the Assessor's Office.

***Income requirements: To qualify for the 2010 benefit year the maximum income is \$39,500 for a married couple and \$32,300 for a single person.**

George Fetko, Public Works Director
860-870-3140

Hoffman Road Brush Drop Off Area

Hours of Operation

Opens April 2, 2011

April, May, June

Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Tuesday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Thursday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Proof of residency required.

Items accepted: leaves, brush, firewood and trunks of trees.

Items not accepted: Construction materials, grass clippings and tree stumps. GreenCycle (860-827-1490) on Sadds Mill Road will accept stumps.

Household Hazardous Waste

The Town of Ellington Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for September 17, 2011; however, Ellington residents can attend any of the MDC sponsored drop-off location. Visit www.themdc.com for the 2011 schedule.

The following items can be dropped-off at the Town Garage, 21 Main Street, during office hours, M-F 8AM-3:30PM:

- ◆ Waste Oil
- ◆ Antifreeze
- ◆ Vehicle Batteries
- ◆ Propane Tanks—5 lbs. & 20 lbs.
- ◆ Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- ◆ Computer components & electronic waste

Household hazardous waste can pollute our air, land, and water supplies, if they are thrown in your regular trash, on the ground, down your sink or toilet or into a storm drain.

A product is considered hazardous if it is:

Toxic - can injure or kill if swallowed, inhaled or absorbed through the skin

Flammable – ignites easily and burns rapidly

Corrosive - can cause permanent tissue damage through contact

Reactive - creates an explosion or produces deadly vapors

Other labels for hazardous materials are **Caustic, Combustible, Oxidizer and Poison.**

Understanding Stormwater

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground.

Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river or wetland. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water. Storm drains connect to water bodies.

Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals and people.

- Sediment can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow.
- Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.
- Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary.
- Debris—plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles and cigarette butts—washed into water bodies and choke, suffocate or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.
- Household hazardous waste like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick or die from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.
- Polluted stormwater often affects drinking water sources.

Stormwater Pollution Solutions:

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.
- Sweep driveways, sidewalks and gutters.
- Never dump anything down storm drains or in streams.
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard.
- Compost your yard waste using a mulching mower blade. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into the storm drains.
- Do not dispose of household hazardous waste in sinks or toilets.
- Pick up after your pet.
- Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil. Bring it to the Town Garage waste oil drop-off shed.
- Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly. A well-functioning septic tank should be pumped every other year.

Susan Phillips, Director, Hall Memorial Library
860-870-3160 ~ www.biblio.org/ellington

Library Hours

Monday-Thursday 10AM-8PM

Friday-Saturday 10AM-5PM

Sunday 1PM-5PM

See page 20 for Holiday closing schedule.

Library Receives Grant

A long-recognized and growing need in our community is instruction in the use of computers and technology for the general public. Every day, a continuous stream of patrons visit the library to make use of the computers and internet access provided here. Their level of competency and comfort runs the gamut from the nervous novice (How do I use this mouse anyway?) to those who are more savvy (I want to send this picture by email, but I want to crop it first). From those who need to type a letter, to those who wish to set up an email account, to those who need to fill out an employment application online, to those designing websites with photos, all require assistance at some level. The difficult economic times have brought even more job-seekers to the library to write resumes and to search for and apply for jobs online. Currently, what assistance and instruction that is provided is done on a one-on-one basis or in impromptu group sessions.

As the result of a generous grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving received in July, the library is now able to provide a more formal approach to computer instruction. The funds allowed us to retrofit an area in the Reference Room into a computer lab/instruction space, purchase laptop computers and to hire an instructor to develop and teach classes in basic computer skills. The first series of four-part sessions are currently underway, and more are scheduled. They cover basic computer skills, email, internet and word processing. In addition, there will be four individual sessions focusing on job searching on March 18& 19 and April 1&2. If you are interested in participating, call the library at 860-870-3160 for information and to register. Also, if you have suggestions for additional classes, please let us know.

Staff Retirement

After 13 happy years at Hall Memorial Library, Library Assistant Greg Frey will retire at the end of March. Greg joined the library staff in November 1998 after retiring the first time from a career as a math teacher. Be sure to stop in to say good bye!

**Celebrate National Library Week
April 10-16, 2011**

Knitting/Handicraft Circle

The knitting circle at the library will continue through the spring on every other Thursday evening from 6:30-8:30. This ongoing program is open to knitters, of course, but also to any handcrafter who would like the company and camaraderie of a group of like-minded souls. So bring your crocheting, quilting, cross-stitch or whatever and treat yourself to a fun night at the library.

Ellington Picture Perfect Calendar

We asked and you answered—the Ellington Picture Perfect fund raising project will continue for another year. We received lots of good suggestions, too, so things will be changing. The pictures must be easily identifiable as Ellington scenes and submissions will need to meet certain technical requirements in order to produce a quality calendar. So as you take your pictures of the mountains of snow we have experienced this winter and the taste of spring we all long for, be aware and use the highest resolution you have available.

Food for Fines

To celebrate National Library Week, the library will hold a new-fine amnesty program, “Food for Fines”, from April 9-17. How it works: Return your overdue Hall Memorial Library materials during that period. Bring along some non-expired, non-perishable food items. For every food item you bring, a maximum of \$1.00 will be waived from that fine (prior fines not included). Maximum fines for books are \$3 and \$5 for videos and DVDs, so plan accordingly. Donated food items will only be used to waive OVERDUE FINES, not fees for lost or damaged items. You MUST bring the items to circulation desk so we may remove the fines from your account. Do not drop food items in the book drops. Food items will be donated to the Food Pantry.

Spring Book Discussion Series

Are you tired of looking at snow? Join us for a book discussion featuring “Traveling Memories” from faraway warm places. From February through May the Library will host a grant-funded series, led by Sara DeBeer, featuring books by female travelers:

February 16—*A Year in the World* by Frances Mayes

March 16—*Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert

April 20—*Nothing to Declare* by Mary Morris

May 18—*Fried Eggs with Chopsticks* by Polly Evans

The grant, courtesy of the Connecticut Humanities Council, provides multiple copies of the books and a discussion facilitator. Programs are free and open to all. Copies of the books are available at the library.

YA (Young Adult) Stuff

If you stopped in at the library between January 27–31, you probably got a chance to taste some of the goodies we were selling to raise money for our trip to NYC to tour the New York Public Library. We're planning a bus trip on Saturday, April 30, and have been busy raising money to help fund this grand adventure. We are offering seats to the general public at \$35 person. Seats sell quickly and are sold on a first come, first serve basis so act fast. The cost covers the bus trip only; all other expenses are your responsibility.

Teens at the library will be participating in a joint book discussion with the Senior Center and other town seniors. Our first discussion, "If I Stay", will be on Tuesday, March 1 from 3:30–4:30 pm at the Hall Memorial Library. The second discussion, "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd, will be on Tuesday, April 5 from 3:30-4:30 pm at the Ellington Senior Center.

We're always looking for book and music suggestions from our teen patrons. If you have a suggestion for the young adult area, please drop it off at the main circulation desk with a note that it's for the "Young Adult" Department.

Children's Department News

Story Hours are in full swing at the library for all preschoolers. The 3-5 year olds are offered story hours every Tuesday 10:15-11:00, or every Wednesday 1:00-1:45. This program will continue until April 12, 2011. No registration is required. Just come when you can and join us for stories, songs, and movement activities. It's all FREE!

AND THE WINNER IS...

The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies! This is the book chosen by the 4th-6th graders across Connecticut as the recipient of the 2011 Nutmeg Book Award. Each year ten titles are chosen by the librarians of the Nutmeg Committee for children to read each winter and then to cast their vote.

The 2012 Nutmeg Nominees have arrived – ten different titles for you to read and choose your favorite. The titles are: *Deep and Dark and Dangerous* by Mary Downing Hahn; *Dying to Meet You* by Kate Klise; *Extra Credit* by Andrew Clements; *The Gollywhopper Games* by Jody Feldman; *Herbert's Wormhole* by Peter Nelson; *The Key to Rhondo* by Emily Rodda; *Masterpiece* by Elise Broach; *Savvy* by Ingrid Law; *Signal* by Cynthia DeFelice; and *Stolen Children* by Peg Kehret. The Library has multiple copies of each of these titles. Ask a staff member if you cannot find the one you want. Come on in and get started! It's always a good read!

For more information about the Nutmeg Book Awards go to www.nutmegaward.org.

HAVE YOU TRIED OUT OUR GREAT NEW GAME COMPUTERS? Hall Memorial Library received a second grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving which allowed us to purchase two AWE Literacy Learning Stations. These self-contained computers host a wide variety of educational games suited for ages 3 to 10 years. Try them out!! They have a colorful keyboard, a child-size mouse, awesome audio and also touch-screen capability. Literacy Learning Stations are internet-free computers with seven subject areas. Within each subject area many choices of games are available. You're sure to find several that you enjoy!

Friends of the Hall Memorial Library**BIG BAG
BOOK SALE
April 15-17**

Hundreds of gently used books, videos, DVDs and CDs for all ages will be offered at \$8 per bag full.

Friday and Saturday:
10:00 am-4:45 pm
Sunday:
1:00 pm-4:45 pm

**Celebrating
25 Years
of Service****BOOK CELLAR
HOURS**

Mondays 6:00 pm- 8:00 pm
Thursdays 2:30 pm- 4:30 pm
Saturdays 10:00am-12:00 pm
Sundays 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm

On May 20, 1986 a small group of Ellington citizens met in the meeting room on the second floor of the Hall Memorial Library. Their purpose? To form the **Friends of the Hall Memorial Library**. Over the years, membership in the group has waxed and waned reaching as high as 100 and currently numbering about 30. The mission of the group is to support and promote the Library and its programs by being active library advocates in the community and by raising funds to cover those added extra niceties that are not covered by the general budget. The best known fundraising activities are the two large annual book sales, one in April and one in October, the ongoing sales in the Book Cellar, and the annual holiday cookie sale. Past activities have included plant sales, auctions, and a town-wide telephone campaign in 1988 that raised the funds for the library to automate the circulation system for the first time. Monies from the Friends regularly fund the wireless access at the Library, the museum passes, the downloadable audio and ebook collections, the BookFlix online literacy program and the summer reading programs for all ages. Last year, they donated funds to purchase 900 additional books, DVDs and CDs for patrons of all ages, when the library materials budget was reduced. This year, they funded the furniture in the new computer lab/study room.

Anyone can join—new members are always encouraged and welcome, and participation can range from simply signing up and paying dues, to baking cookies for the cookie sale, to helping with book sales or manning the Book Cellar. To get an application, go to the library website and click on "Friends of the Library", or pick one up the next time you are in the library.

**Anna Turner, Elderly Outreach
860-870-3131**

Social Security & Disability Applications

April 7 at 12:30 PM

Please join us at the **Ellington Senior Center** for this free Lunch & Learn program with Rob Rodrigues from the Social Security Administration. Lunch at 12:30 & presentation at 1:00 pm. RSVP for this program by April 4th by calling 860-870-3131. Call the Senior Center at 860-870-3133 for transportation.

Quilt Display & Open House

April 13 from 6 to 7:30 PM

The East of the River/Ellington Parkinson's Disease support group will have a fun evening event at the **Hall Memorial Library**. Please join us for a viewing of a section of the beautiful quilt that was displayed at the International Parkinson's disease convention in Glasgow, Scotland—this section includes the quilt piece submitted by our Ellington group! Open to the public & all are invited to join us—refreshments served.

Fall Prevention & Balance Testing

April 26 at 12 Noon

Please join us at the **Ellington Senior Center**. Peter Visgilio from Integrated Rehab in Ellington will give good information on this important topic. This is a free lunch & learn program—lunch at 12noon and presentation at 12:30. You must RSVP by April 22 by calling 860-870-3133 and to book transportation.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

**April 30 from 8 AM to 12 NOON
Resident State Troopers' Office, 31 Arbor Way**

The Ellington TRIAD Senior Safety program will participate in this national program with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to gather unused prescription drugs. This is a collaborative effort with TRIAD, the State Police & DEA to remove potentially dangerous substances from homes. Bring your prescription drugs/medications (NO syringes or sharp objects accepted) on April 30th only. Any questions, call the Resident State Trooper at 860-875-1522

Assisted Living Facilities

May 3 at 2 PM

“So what are Assisted Living facilities all about?”
The Ellington Senior Center will host a presentation by a panel of representatives from local “assisted living” facilities to speak on what is included in monthly fees, the application process and “pre-admission assessments”. Refreshments served. RSVP for this program by April 28 by calling 860-870-3131. Call the Senior Center at 860-870-3133 for transportation.

TRIAD Public Safety Program

June 2 at 1 PM to 3 PM

Annual TRIAD Ice Cream Social & Public Safety program. **Save the Date—Details to follow in next edition of The Ellington Connection.**

**Erin Graziani, Senior Center Director
860-870-3133**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce, Mr. Wayne Reynolds, Chairman for the Senior Center Steering Committee. This past Fall, the Steering Committee was established to look into building a new Senior Center. Please read the following message from Mr. Reynolds, informing the community of this important project.

The Ellington Senior Center Steering Committee has been hard at work looking at what programs, services, and activities are provided in neighboring Senior Centers. They believe it is time that Ellington has a new Senior Center that provides you with an environment where you can maintain your health, independence, dignity, self respect, and productivity through participation in recreational, social, educational, informational and healthy activities and programs.

Be on the lookout for meetings we will be scheduling where you can hear about the new Senior Center we want to establish in Ellington. Learn how you can support the achievement of this important project! For more information on the proposed Senior Center and how you can be involved in making it a reality, call Wayne Reynolds, Chairman of the Ellington Center Steering Committee at 860-872-9229, or Vice Chairwoman, Susanne Hannigan at 860-875-5396.

ELLINGTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2011 SPRING PROGRAMS

Address:

31 Arbor Way/P.O. Box 187

Email: recreation@ellington-ct.gov**Office Hours :**

Monday 8:30 am-6 pm Friday 8:30 am-1:30 pm

Tuesday-Thursday 8:30 am-4:00 pm

Phone: (860) 870-3118**Fax:** (860) 870-3198**www.ellington-ct.gov**

Registration Process

The Ellington Parks and Recreation Department has implemented a registration process for ALL recreational programs/camps through our Active-net On-Line Program. The process for the on-line registrations is easy and convenient for all. The process involves following these simple steps:

⇒ **Go to www.ellington-ct.gov;**

⇒ Click on Town Services

⇒ Click on Parks & Recreation

⇒ Select "Click here for Active-net On-line Registration!"

It is imperative that an adult household member setup the family account. The process for requesting an account is simple and takes but only a few minutes of your time. 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 setup your account, a password and dates of birth for all family members. (Remember to add family members to your account).

If you do not have access for setting up an account at home, we can assist you in setting up your account here at the Recreation Department Office during regular office hours. In office on-line registrations 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.**

If you have any questions or problems please contact Mary Bartley, Recreation Supervisor.

Crystal Lake Sprint Triathlon

July 17, 2011 (Rain Date July 24th)

The Ellington Recreation Department, with the assistance of Town Residents Mike Scully and Bill Dougherty, have developed the 2011 triathlon course and obtained approvals from various Town departments.

The sprint triathlon will be held on July 17 at 8AM at Crystal Lake in Ellington, CT. The course will consist of a 1/4 mile swim in the pristine waters of Crystal Lake, a 12-mile road bike through the beautiful country roads of Ellington and Stafford, and finally, a rolling 3.1 mile run around Crystal Lake. All levels of ability are welcomed. We will try to have 3 waves consisting of men's, women's and beginners.

- ◆ Swim 1/4 mile in Crystal Lake
- ◆ Bike 12 miles through Ellington & Stafford
- ◆ Run 3.1 miles around Crystal Lake area

The triathlon will be limited to 220 participants; there will be on-line sign-up starting March 1, 2011 through the Triathlon website: www.ellingtontriathlon.com or the Ellington Parks & Recreation website at www.ellington-ct.gov. The cost will be \$65 per participant.

Our team is looking for volunteers, please send an e-mail to ellingtontriathlon@gmail.com with your contact information. All profits from the race will be donated to local charities in Ellington. We look forward to an awesome race and please spread the word. Come out for a great event that will benefit a local charity.

2011 Summer Teen Adventures

A new and exciting summer indoor/outdoor recreation program is being considered by the Recreation Department for current 7th-8th grade boys and girls. With the added use of the renovated, historical Crystal Lake Schoolhouse (located directly across from the Town's waterfront property/Sandy Beach), numerous opportunities will open on a year-round basis for both passive and non-passive recreation.

The concept for the 7th-8th grade summer program includes 3 to 4 days per week, most likely in the 12noon -5pm time range, and will include social activities within the designated space in the schoolhouse, and weather permitting, swimming, volleyball and other outdoor activities.

Projected Dates: Week of July 5th through Week of August 8th, specific days pending interest level. A maximum of 20 participants a day and a minimum of 10 will be required in order to offer the program.

To Pre-Register: Please send an e-mail with name/phone/address to rtedford@ellington-ct.gov no later than May 2nd. If you have additional suggestions that may benefit the implementation of this program, please feel free to communicate that information, call 860-870-3118. **Fee:** To be Determined and communicated in follow-up correspondence.

ACTIVITY	ID CODE	DATES	TIMES	AGES	FEE	LOCATION
Tiny Tot (Outdoor) Tennis Lessons Instructor: Charles Huggins	TINY.TTTJ	Session J: April 25; May 2,9,16	5:30-6:15pm	Ages 3-5	\$35	Brookside Park
	TINY.TTTK	Session K: May 23; June 6,13,20	5:30-6:15pm	Ages 3-5	\$35	Brookside Park
Pee Wee (Outdoor) Tennis Lessons Instructor: Charles Huggins	PEE.PWEJ	Session J: April 25; May 2,9,16	6:30-7:15pm	Ages 5-7	\$35	Brookside Park
	PEE.PWEK	Session K: May 23; June 6,13,20	6:30-7:15pm	Ages 5-7	\$35	Brookside Park
Cardio Tennis	0205.CARW	Session C: March 3,10,17,24	8:30-9:30pm	14 & up	\$30	Crystal Lake School
	0205.CARA	Session A: April 16,23,30; May 7	8:30-9:30am	14 & up	\$30	Crystal Lake School

Cardio Tennis is a fusion of tennis and aerobics. It's an hour of constant movement that provides high paced fitness and an opportunity to improve your tennis game at the same time. There's music, props, loads of tennis balls and laughs too. It's tennis, fitness and fun all rolled into one. Cardio is perfect for the novice and experienced player alike.

Youth Outdoor Tennis Lessons Instructor: Charles Huggins	YUTH.TENA	Session A: April 25; May 2,9,16	7:15-8:15pm	Ages 8-13	\$35	Brookside Park
	YUTH.TENB	Session B: May 23; June 6,13,20	7:15-8:15pm	Ages 8-13	\$35	Brookside Park
Tennis Lessons Adult Beginners Instructor: Rich Willis	0205.ASTBA	Session A: April 16,23,30; May 7	9:30-10:30am	14 & up	\$35	Brookside Park
	0205.ASTBB	Session B: May 21, 28; June 4,11	9:30-10:30am	14 & up	\$35	Brookside Park

The beginner class is for those players looking to learn all of the tennis strokes, learn to rally with consistency and learn how to game play and score. Beginner classes are skill and drill based.

Tennis Lessons Adult Intermediate Instructor: Rich Willis	0205.ASTIA	Session A: April 16,23,30; May 7	10:30- 11:30am	14 & up	\$35	Brookside Park
	0205.ASTIB	Session B: May 21, 28; June 4,11	10:30- 11:30am	14 & up	\$35	Brookside Park

The intermediate class is for those players that can rally with some consistency and know how to play games. Emphasis is on improving stroke production including serve and focusing on tactics. Intermediate classes are skill improvement and game based.

Jukido Thursday Evenings Instructor: Paul Ward	0504.JUK410	Session 4: Feb 17,24; March 3,10,17,24	5:30-6:45pm	6 & up	\$45	Windermere School Gymnasium
	0504.JUK511	Session 5: March 31; April 7,14,28; May 5,12	5:30-6:45pm	6 & up	\$45	
	0504.JUK612	Session 6: May 19,26; June 2,9,16	5:30-6:45pm	6 & up	\$40	
KRIPALU Yoga Inst. Jack Fila, RYT E-mail: yogamanjack@cox.net	KRIP.YOGA8	Session 8: April 14,21,28 May 5,12,19,26 June 2,9,16	6:30-8pm	18 & up	\$80 (or \$8/ walk-in class)	Hall Memorial Library

Youth Track & Field Boys & Girls ~ Grades 1 to 8

April 30 - June 25

Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 pm

Saturdays 9:00-10:30 am

Fee: \$25.00 (includes T-shirt)

Code ID: [1212.track11](#)

All practices commence at the Ellington High School Track

Running, fresh air, running, outdoor games, running, forest treks, running and track & field meets adds up to a whole lot of fun and, of course, running! Ellington's unique outdoor whatever-the-weather-program lets your school-age child learn about health and exercise, hydration and nutrition, stretching, strength and endurance, competition and teamwork, and respect for each other and for our environment. We gather together twice a week at Ellington High School and other designated sites for lots of well-supervised jogging, sprinting, trail running, occasional races with other towns, and lots of outdoor games....rain or shine! Skill or fitness level is unimportant, but the desire to become more fit is, as well as the requirement to run. Parents, how about volunteering your time and joining your child on our runs through forest trails and around the track? Now that's quality time with your son or daughter!

Program Coordinator Coach Mike Dolen seeks volunteer help from track parents and Ellington High School students.

E-mail: mdolen1@comcast.net

Eastern CT Women's Soccer Club

The **Eastern CT Women's Soccer Club** is an outdoor recreational league for women aged 23 and over. It's focus is to provide a safe, fun, and relaxed environment for women to continue a love for the game of soccer, and to promote sportsmanship, friendship, and fitness. Games are officiated and played on a full field at Brookside Park on Sunday mornings. There is no residency requirement for our club. Spring Registration information will be posted on our website and will take place in March. Fee: \$35.00 Spring Season runs from April through June. A Women's Summer "CUP" series is also being planned with the CT State Soccer Association. For more details visit: www.soccerkicks.net.

Community Gardens/Batz Property, 97 Shenipsit St.

A limited number of garden plots will be offered this spring, with the projected parcel being 25' x 25', to be used for growing of plants for non-commercial use. Water is NOT available on site. The fee is \$18 per plot (one per family) with a \$15 deposit to be returned pending satisfactory fall cleanup. To receive an information packet in advance, please call the Recreation Office (860-870-3118) and provide a mailing address. Registration is in person only. Register by **March 31 @ Recreation Dept.**

United States Tennis Association Adult Tennis League

The Recreation Department is looking for beginner level men and women to form one or more tennis teams representing Ellington in a league featuring teams from surrounding communities. Five to ten players are needed per team. Each match will consist of 1st singles, 1st doubles and 2nd doubles matches. Matches will be held on Monday evenings beginning at 6pm. The season will run mid-June to August. The league will be governed by the USTA. Membership in the USTA will be required. This league is for those who fit the national tennis rating of 2.5 women & 3.0 men.

Adult Ladder Tennis Singles and Doubles

Join the growing Ellington crowd in our Wednesday night ladders at Brookside Park. Come and play singles or doubles. You tell us your choice. Play starts at 6pm and will continue as long as players are available.

Cost \$10 per player for the season and a new can of tennis balls every week that you play. Open to men and women.

High School Age Tennis Spring Warm-Up

**Wednesday , March 16th
5:30-7:00pm**

Location: Ellington Middle School

**Thursday, March 17th and Friday March 18th
2:30pm-4pm**

Location: Enfield Tennis Club

Get a jump on the outdoor season with this training session with Enfield Tennis Club pros. Bring your own tennis racket and tennis sneakers.

Fee: \$30.00 per player

Contact Ellington Recreation Department by March 10th to reserve spot.

An Ellington Tennis Party

Players of all ages, join us at Enfield Tennis Club on Saturday, April 2nd, 7:30pm to 10pm for an Ellington only tennis party. Pizza will be served. Some matches will be scheduled and some open play will be available.

Fees: \$20.00 per person or \$45.00 max per family. Contact the Ellington Recreation Department by March 21st to reserve your spot.

2011 Spring Outdoor Youth Soccer (U18-U9) \$28.00

(To seek clarification contact Bob Tedford at 860-870-3118)

The Recreation Department will offer an outdoor soccer program for boys and girls based on current CT Junior Soccer Association age/birth date guidelines (see chart). Based on enrollment and evaluation submittals of the respective coaches, teams may be formed in the following age groups:

- U-18 Boys and Girls ~Full sided (11 vs. 11) on the playing field
- U-16 Boys and Girls ~ Full sided (11 vs. 11) on the playing field
- U-14 Boys and Girls ~ Full sided (11vs. 11) on the playing field

- U-12 Boys and Girls ~ Small sided (8 vs. 8) on the playing field
- U-11 Boys and Girls ~ Small sided (8 vs. 8) on the playing field
- U-10 Boys and Girls ~ Small sided (7 vs. 7) on the playing field
- U-9 Boys and Girls ~ Small sided (7 vs. 7) on the playing field

Placement will be determined by skill level, age compatibility and available roster space. The Recreation Department will make the final determination regarding a players placement to a respective age level. Please check the town's Park & Recreation website to review: attachment "J"/ NE District age restrictions/ re CJSA travel teams.

DEADLINE FOR PLAYERS TO REGISTER IN ORDER TO RETAIN THEIR FALL 2010 TEAM ROSTERED SPOT IS APRIL 4, 2011. IF A REGISTRATION FORM IS RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE THE PLACEMENT WILL BE BASED ON "AS AVAILABLE" AND/OR THROUGH THE 2 EVALUATION CLINICS THAT ARE SCHEDULED.

Attention all Travel Soccer Coaches: In conjunction with the CJSA and the Northeast District, we will be holding a coaches clinic that will touch on specific aspects of coaching youth soccer at a competitive level. Please indicate your interest to the Recreation Department. Time, date and location to be determined.

**Spring Soccer Age Groups
CT Junior Soccer Association
Birth Date Guidelines**

**Age Groups
for Seasonal Year
Sept 1, 2010
to Aug 31, 2011**

- U-19 Players born 8/1/91 and younger
- U-18 Players born 8/1/92 and younger
- U-17 Players born 8/1/93 and younger
- U-16 Players born 8/1/94 and younger
- U-15 Players born 8/1/95 and younger
- U-14 Players born 8/1/96 and younger
- U-13 Players born 8/1/97 and younger
- U-12 Players born 8/1/98 and younger
- U-11 Players born 8/1/99 and younger
- U-10 Players born 8/1/00 and younger
- U-9 Players born 8/1/01 and younger
- U-8 Players born 8/1/02 and younger

**2011 In-House Spring Soccer Program
Boys & Girls ~ Ages 4-8
(Ages as of 12/31/2011)**

ATTENTION ALL SOCCER PARENTS, COACHES OR FANS. In order for our youth soccer programs to be a success, we need you. The Ellington Recreation Department will be offering various FREE coaches clinics to any adults who are interested in coaching soccer or just "helping out".

What a great way to spend time with your children and their friends. You will find that both you and your children will enjoy every moment. So, if you are looking to learn more about teaching our youth the game of soccer, let us assist you. There will be various dates and times based on enrollment of adults. Interest must be communicated with the Recreation Department so we can plan the clinics. For as little time as 2 hours a week, you and the kids will have a ton of fun. Your reply is appreciated. Time, date and location to be determined.

Ages 4, 5, and 6 will be coached on one night;
Ages 7 & 8 will be coached on a different night.

Both clinics will be held at the Ellington Middle School. Depending on how many teams are formed there will be "Soccer Match" night where one team plays another team in a scrimmage/match.

Ages 4-6 Mondays:
April 11,25; May 2,9,16,23

Ages 7 & 8 Wednesdays:
April 13,27; May 4,11,18,25

Time Frame: 5:30-6:45pm

Location: Ellington Middle School Soccer Field

Fees: \$22.00

Spring Evaluation Clinic Dates

Pre-registration is required PRIOR to going to any evaluation clinic. A player who is registered and plans to return to the same team he/she played on in the FALL of 2010 cannot attend an evaluation. The clinic dates have been scheduled to determine a rating for "new" registrations or for individuals that wish to become eligible for a higher ranked division. To qualify (for a new division other than the team he/she played on in the Fall 2010) a player MUST attend a minimum of one (1) Evaluation Clinic in order to receive a rating.

DIVISION	DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
U 9-10 BOYS	March 28 & 29	6pm-7pm	Crystal lake School
U 9-10 GIRLS	March 28 & 29	6pm-7pm	Center School
U11- 12 GIRLS	March 28 & 29	7pm-8pm	Center School
U 11-12 BOYS	March 28 & 29	7pm-8pm	Crystal Lake School
U 13-14 GIRLS	March 28 & 29	8pm-9pm	Center School
U 13-14 BOYS	March 28 & 29	8pm-9pm	Crystal Lake School
U 16 & U 18 BOYS/GIRLS	No tryouts required Players MUST pre-register at the Recreation Department		

The Northeast District offers different levels of play for various age groups:

Division 3, 4 & 5: U12 and U 14 Boys & Girls

Division 4 & 5: U10 Girls & Boys Teams will be formed based on the coaches evaluations relative to the final enrollment.

North Eastern District Roster Guidelines (Spring Soccer)

Attachment J– NE District Roster Guidelines

Team rosters are required for NE District competition. Limitations on the ages of players allowed on rosters U14 and younger is based upon the league that the team is participating in. The two year age specific range is the two years including the age of the oldest player on the roster and one year younger. For a league, the two year age specific range is the two years including the league age of the playing format and one year younger. Players that fall into the two year age specific range and up to 3 players one year younger than the two year age specific range are permitted on a roster. Exception: No player younger than U8 is allowed to participate in these competitions. Point of enforcement is with the district registrars only at the time the roster is validated. Exception requests will be entertained primarily when no alternate competition is available for the players in question. Exceptions must be granted by the competition chair, league commissioner or delegate. No exceptions will be granted for players too old for the age group. No exceptions will be granted for U7 or younger players. The following table shows which U-ages may play in a given District division

Division	U-Ages That May Play in a Division Without Restriction	U-Ages for Which There is a Three-per-Team Number Restriction in a Division	U-Ages That Are Disallowed from Playing in a Division
U14	Any number of U14 and U13 players may play on a team in a U14 division.	A maximum of three U12 players may play on a team in a U14 division. This rule applies even if there is no U13 division	No U11 or younger permitted in a U14 division. This rule applies even if there is no U 13 division.
U13	Any Number of U13 and U12 players may play on a team in a U13 division.	A maximum of three U11 players may play on a team in a U13 division.	No U10 or younger permitted in a U13 division.
U12	Any number of U12 and U11 players may play on a team in a U12 division.	A maximum of three U10 players may play on a team in a U12 division.	No U9 or younger permitted in a U12 division.
U11	Any number of U11 and U10 players may play on a team in a U11 division.	A maximum of three U9 players may play on a team in a U11 division.	No U8 or younger permitted in a U11 division.
U10	Any number of U10 and U9 players may play on a team in a U10 division.	A maximum of three U8 players may play on a team in a U10 division.	No U7 or younger permitted in any division.
U9	Any number of U9 and U8 players may play on a team in a U9 division.	No U7 or younger players permitted in any division.	No U7 or younger players permitted in any division.

Ellington Roadrunners

2011 YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEERLEADING

Boys & Girls ages 6 to 13

Registration Information:

Wednesday, May 18th ~ 6pm-7:30pm &

Saturday, May 21 ~ 10am to 12noon @ Brookside Park

A non-returnable copy of the child's birth certificate is required at registration. The fee is \$85 first child, \$70 for the second child, and \$60 each additional child in the same family. After May 21st, registration fees are increased by \$10, and can be mailed to:

Ellington Roadrunners

P.O. Box 501 Ellington, CT 06029

For more information contact Chris Weitz @
cmweitz@comcast.net

Visit website: www.ellingtonroadrunners.com

The league operates through volunteers.
Parent volunteers are also welcome to sign up.

Ellington's Ultimate Frisbee

Beginning April 18th @ Brookside Park

Ultimate Frisbee is back! Now in our 4th season, we continue to grow in numbers and popularity. Ultimate, a sport similar to football or soccer but played with a Frisbee, is played by men and women of all ages. Our group has people from high school to their fifties, men and women, people both with and without experience. We enjoy a competitive game but we enjoy teaching new people and always have a fun time. The sport is a great way to get in shape too. There is no fee to play, and you don't need to be an Ellington resident to join us. Pre-registration is required at the Recreation Office or Online by going to the Parks & Recreation website. Please contact Karl at ksneubec@gmail.com

We have a website for posting field and/or time changes: <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/ellingtonultimate>.

2011 Recreation Department T-Ball Programs

Registrations will be accepted at the Recreation Department
March 10 through April 6

Recreation Department Instructional T-Ball

Boys & Girls Ages 4–6

(Age 4 in 2011 up to those who will turn 6 years old before August 1, 2011)

Saturday Mornings 10:00 am-11:00 am

Ellington High School (Fields located behind the school)

May 7,14,21,28; June 4,11
(Rain Date June 18 if needed)

Cost : \$25 per player (price includes T-shirt)

ID Code: 1214.tb11

**Parent
Volunteer
Coaches
NEEDED**

All participants will need to provide their own glove. Please label your child's glove with his or her name. The program will cover the fundamentals of baseball and softball (Throwing, Catching, Fielding, Batting, Base Running, Positions and Rules).

Recreation Department Advanced T-Ball

Must have played one year of Instructional T-Ball to qualify for Advanced T-Ball

Boys & Girls Ages 6 & 7

(Children that do not make the age guideline for either the
Boys or Girls Little League Programs)

May 7,14,21,28; June 4, 11
(Rain Date June 18 if needed)

Ellington High School fields ~ 11:15am - 12:15pm

Cost : \$25 per player (includes T-shirt)

ID Code: 1214.advt11

**Parent
Volunteer
Coaches
NEEDED**

Program will be a coach-pitch/T-ball format. The program will cover the fundamentals of baseball and softball.

Coaches Meeting

For all T-ball coaches will be held on **May 3, 6:30pm @ the Recreation Department Conference Room. To register, please e-mail Mary Bartley mbartley@ellington-ct.gov**

Northern Connecticut Girls Softball League

The Recreation Department will sponsor summer softball for girls in the U12/U14/U16 age brackets, pending final enrollment. **The deadline for registering at the Recreation Office is May 27.** Inquiries received after May 27 will be accepted ONLY if roster space is available.

Age Guidelines:

U12: Born on or after 1/01/1998

U14: Born on or after 1/01/1996

U16: Born on or after 1/01/1994

Fee: \$95.00 per player which helps reduce costs associated with equipment, umpires, tournament fees and uniforms. Sponsors help support this league.

NO Metal Spikes Allowed!

Evaluation clinics will be held after May 5 and a schedule will be posted on the Park & Recreation website. Pre-registration is mandatory. A registrant may attend an evaluation clinic in a higher age group but must also attend a minimum of one clinic at the age appropriate level. The Recreation Department reserves the right to determine final rosters based on the travel team (athletic) policies that pertain to team placement and the selection process.

Please visit the NCGSL website: www.ncgsl.org
or e-mail:

ellingtonncgsl@yahoo.com

Spring/Summer ASA 2011 Umpire Certification

The Recreation Department will offer a pre-season training clinic for individuals 18 or over that have an interest in becoming an American Softball certified umpire. Assignments that could become available include youth (female) spring league softball games and summer NCGSL league contests.

Please contact Bob Tedford @ rtedford@ellington-ct.gov by mid –March if interested.

Adult Softball (18 Years and Older)

Interested in playing Co-Ed Softball in Town? Skill level and prior experience does not matter. The goal is to provide for a recreation opportunity and to have fun together. The possibility exists of providing some preseason indoor practice times during the month of April. Contact Bob Tedford at the Recreation Office 860-870-3118 or email rtedford@ellington-ct.gov with individual or team interest.

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Activity	Date	Time	Ages	Fee	Location	
Music & Movement Adult participation required Instructor: Jill Maznicki	Wednesdays : Code: <u>MNM.WED4</u> March 23,30; April 6,13,27; May 4,11,18	10:15am-11am	Ages 1-3	\$65 Resident \$70 Non-Resident	Hall Memorial Library	
	Thursdays: Code: <u>MNM.THR4</u> March 31; April 7, 14,28;May 5, 12 , 19,26	10:15am –11am	Ages 1-3	\$65 Resident \$70 Non-Resident	Hall Memorial Library	
Come sing, dance, play, and move to the beat. Jill is an experienced teacher with a degree specializing in Early Childhood Education. She will lead the class in finger plays, songs, bounces, as well as developmentally appropriate group activities. (10 per Session)						
Pee-Wee Cheer Squad Instructor: Jill Maznicki	Tuesdays: May 3,10,17,24 Code: <u>PREW-CHEER</u>	3:45pm –4:45pm	Ages 3-5	\$35	Brookside Park	
We will learn to move as a team, develop individual skills and improve overall fitness and coordination. Friends, fun and fitness all rolled into one! (10 per session)						
1-2-3 Move with Me Instructor: Amy Kreider	Tuesdays: March 29; April 5,12,26 May 3,13,17,24,31; June 7 Code: <u>123M.WME</u>	10:30-11:30am	Ages 2.5—3.5	\$70 Resident \$75 Non-Resident	Brookside Park	
An outdoor activity class consisting of all different activities to get the kids outside & moving around. Activities include, but not limited too: Parachute play, scarves, marching, dancing, hula hoops, hot potato, Simon says, ring-around-the rosie, throwing, catching, kicking soccer balls, bouncing basketballs, hitting t-balls, and blowing bubbles. (10 per session)						
Activity	Code	Date	Time	Ages	Fee	Location
Men's Informal Basketball	0205.50311	Monday Evenings Concludes June 20th (Closed Apr 18;May 30) (March-May Location to be determined)	5:30pm-9pm	Over 30	\$5	Windermere School
	0205.50411			Under 30		
Co-Ed Volleyball	0204.504S	Wednesdays: Concludes April 27th	7:30-9:00 pm	18+ up	\$3	EMS
CPROHeart LLC Babysitter Safety Course	BABE.SITT11	Session C: April 26 & 28	2:30-5:30pm	11 to 15	\$45	Ellington Middle School Cafeteria
	BABE.SITT12	Session D: May 3 & 5	2:30-5:30pm	min: 10 max :15		
Women's Self-Defense	0503.WSD10	To Be Determined Based on Interest	7pm	12 & Up	No Fee	Windermere School
Adult Outdoor Soccer	AODS.402	Tentative start April (weather & field conditions permitting)	6-8pm Wed. 9-11am Sun.	18 & Up	\$5	Brookside Park
Youth indoor (Co-ed) Soccer	0301.CES10	Spring Session: March 18; April 1, 8, 15, 29	6-7pm 7-8pm 8pm-9:15pm	Gr. 3-4 Gr. 5-6 Gr. 7-8	\$15	Middle School

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ACTIVITY	DATES	TIMES	AGES	FEE	LOCATION
Zumba® Fitness Joanne Britton & Tressa Giordano	March 15th to June 16th There are no classes on April 19 & 21	7:30-8:30 PM	14 & up	\$40 punch card for 8 classes Or \$8 Walk-in	Middle School
	Zumba® classes are ongoing and run Tuesdays and Thursday nights, starting March 15 to June 16. Entrance to classes will be through the use of a prepaid punch cards purchased on site or by paying the \$8 walk-in fee. When participants see a Zumba® class in action, they can't wait to give it a try. Zumba® classes feature exotic rhythms set to red-hot Latin and international beats. Before participants know it they're getting fit and their energy levels soar! There's no other fitness class like a Zumba® Fitness Party. It's easy to do, effective and totally exhilarating, often building a deep-rooted community among returning students.				
Zumba® Disco Inferno Night	March 31	7:30-8:30 PM	14 & up	\$8 or bring a new friend to Zumba® and you come FREE!	Middle School
Live DJ! ~ Guest Instructors! ~ Prize for the best disco costume!					

Outdoor Golf Lessons @ Ellington Golf Center Fee: \$65 per session		
Dates	Time	Ages
Session 1: <u>April 16,23,30; May 7</u>	11am -12noon 12noon-1pm 3pm- 4pm 4pm- 5pm	Women's Class Co-ed Adult Class Youth 6-9 years old Teens 10-13 years old
Session 2: <u>May 10,17,24,31;</u>	6pm-7pm 7pm-8pm	Youth 6-9 years old Teens 10-13 years old
Session 3: <u>May 12,19,26; June 2</u>	6pm-7pm 7pm-8pm	Women's Class Co-ed Adults Class
Session 4: <u>June 7,14,21,28</u>	6pm-7pm 7pm-8pm	Youth 6-9 years old Teens 10-13 years old
Session 5: <u>June 9,16,23,30</u>	6pm-7pm 7pm-8pm	Women's Class Co-ed Adults Class
Session 6: Mini-Camp <u>July 11,12,13</u>	9am -12noon	Ages 9 to 13
Session 7: Mini-Camp <u>July 25,26,27</u>	9am -12noon	Ages 9 to 13
Session 8: Mini-Camp <u>August 8,9,10</u>	9am-12noon	Ages 9 to 13
Session 9: <u>July 7, 14, 21, 28</u>	6pm-7pm 7pm-8pm	Women's Class Adult Class
Session 10: <u>August 4, 11, 18, 25</u>	6pm-7pm 7pm-8pm	Women's Class Adult Class

Youth Informal Basketball Boys/Girls Current Grades 9th-12th
An informal youth basketball program will be offered during the spring months for boys and girls currently enrolled in grades 9th-12th.
The program dates are as follows: (Thursday Evenings) April 14, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26; June 2 Time: 7pm-9pm Location: Windermere School Fee: \$15 Pre-Registration is Required Active-net Code: <u>YIB.912</u>


2011 Seasonal Employment Applications

Applications are available as openings exist for those interested for the following positions within the Recreation Department:

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

Contact the Recreation Office at 860-870-3118/recreation@ellington-ct.gov for an application.

AED/ First Aid/ CPR

Register online ONLY at
Ellington.safety@yahoo.com

This is an e-mail so please list your name, phone and sport for Allison.

Instructor: Allison Breen

The Recreation Department now has a certified AED/First Aid/CPR Instructor on staff. New classes have been scheduled that will allow ALL Ellington Coaches, Athletic Officials, Program Instructors, and staff of Ellington Recreation sponsored sports and activities to register.

All classes will be held at the Recreation Office at 31 Arbor Way; **FREE of charge**

- ◆ Saturday March 26, 2011 9am-2pm
- ◆ Tuesday April 5, 2011 5pm-9pm
- ◆ Wednesday April 13, 2011 5pm-9pm
- ◆ Tuesday May 31, 2011 5pm-9pm
- ◆ Saturday June 4, 2011 9am-2pm

Please understand that each coach is **REQUIRED** to complete this training. **We can only allow six (6) coaches per class, so register early.**

April Vacation Camp pending BOE

April 18,19,20,21

7:30 am-5:00 pm @

Ellington Middle School

Children in Kindergarten through 8th Grade

The camp's daily schedule will include passive and non-passive activities, crafts, sports, music, movies, special events and nature hikes. Refreshments/drinks will be provided, both morning and afternoon.

Pre-registration required no later than April 11th
Registration Online Only

\$72/Week (\$18/Day) 5 Full Days ~ 8:30 am- 3pm

\$67/Week 2nd & 3rd child

\$48/Week (\$12/Day) 5 Half Days ~ 8:30am-12Noon

\$43/Week 2nd & 3rd child

Discounts do not apply to Before/After Care

\$4 daily Before Care 7:30am-8:30am

\$7 daily After Care 3pm-5pm

Campers should bring outdoor clothing & a bagged lunch

Youth Basketball Clinics

Co-Ed Grades 1st-8th

Dates: April 26; May 3, 10, 17, 24

Location: Windermere School Gymnasium

Time Frames: Grades 1st-4th 5:30-6:45pm

Grades 5th-8th 6:45-8:00pm

Fee: \$25

Instructor Stan Ogrodnik, former East Catholic High School and Trinity College Basketball Coach, has designed a basketball clinic especially for the "young" basketball player. This clinic will emphasize and teach basic fundamentals and learning to play the "right way".

Enrollment will be limited, register early!

Total Body Blast

Instructor:
Ginny Hogan
Monday and Wednesdays
\$5 per class/pre-payment
or
\$7 drop-in fee

Session A: March 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 28, 30; April 4, 6

6:00-7:15pm

14 & up

\$50/ 10 classes

To Be Determined

Session B: April 11, 13; May 11, 16, 18, 23, 25; June 1, 6

6:00-7:15pm

14 & up

\$45/ 9 classes

To Be Determined

Blast off those calories, tone your muscles, and boost your metabolism with a total body workout that includes strength training, cardio intervals, and core work. The course is led by a certified personal trainer/group exercise instructor. Bring stability ball, hand weights, and a mat. Resistance tubing can be purchased from the instructor. All fitness levels are welcome. Participation both nights is recommended, but not required.

Crystal Lake Sandy Beach 2011

[Weather & Staff permitting]

Pre-Season: Weekends only starting June 11, 12, 18, 19 ~ 12 noon—5:00 pm

Full Season: June 25-August 21 ~ Weekdays: 12:00 noon-6:30 pm;
Weekends: 11:00 am-6:30 pm;

FEES FOR SWIMMING LESSONS/DAILY FEES/ BEACH PASSES ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE!

Beach Passes will not be available until May 10th

Crystal Lake Sandy Beach 2011 Swim Lesson Information:

The Ellington Parks & Recreation Department will be offering Swimming Lessons at Crystal Lake Sandy Beach Facility for residents ages 3 years-Adult. This year we will be offering the American Red Cross Six Comprehensive Course Levels that will teach you and/or your child how to swim skillfully and safely. The prerequisite for each level is the successful demonstration of the skills from the preceding level, except for Level 1, which has **No** prerequisite. Each level of the Learn-to-Swim includes training in basic water safety and helping a swimmer in distress.

You can find the swim level descriptions online at our website. Check off what skills your child can do in the water. If all skills are checked off in one level your child is ready to move to the next level. The online list serves as a guide to help choose an appropriate level at registration time. This will help minimize the switching of participants and classes so please review all skills.

2011 Swim Lessons

- Session # 1** July 5 - July 8 (Tuesday-Friday)
July 11 - July 14 (Monday-Thursday)
- Session # 2** July 18 - July 22 (Monday-Thursday)
July 25 - July 28 (Monday-Thursday)
- Session # 3** Aug. 1 - Aug. 4 (Monday-Thursday)
Aug.8 - Aug 11 (Monday-Thursday)

We use Fridays as make-up days if needed

Lessons are filled on a First-Come, First-Serve Basis with a maximum of 10 students/class; no exceptions.

Note: Ellington Participants from summer of 2010 will receive a letter by April 30th as to which class level they are to register for in the 2011 session.

**REGISTRATION ON-LINE & IN PERSON FOR
ELLINGTON RESIDENTS STARTS MAY 10 @ 9AM**

Adults and/or special needs individuals that would like to take swim lessons, contact Mary Bartley @ 860-870-3118 or email: mbartley@ellington-ct.gov

Boston Red Sox Trip July 8th

The Recreation Department will sponsor (including transportation by bus) a trip to Fenway Park in Boston on July 8 to watch the Red Sox compete against division rival the Baltimore Orioles.

Tickets are available (first come, first serve -Right field /Box 92) at the Recreation Office during normal business hours.

Fee per ticket is \$95.00 per person, including transportation.

Registration form must be completed at the time payment is made. The motor coach will leave Arbor Park at approximately 4:15pm and return immediately at the conclusion of the game.

Introductory Lacrosse Grades K-3

“Once you try the game, you are hooked” echoes long-time lacrosse coach John Burgess. Girls and boys in Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade are invited to participate in an instructional setting on the following Saturday mornings from 9-10am: May 7, 14, 21, 28; Location to be determined; NO FEE; Active net Code: intlax.k123

Fundamentals and fun are the emphasis, lacrosse sticks will be provided for use during the sessions, however, girls are required to wear eye protection.

Ellington High School players will serve as “Big sisters/lacrosse buddies” which will enable the new players the opportunity to receive a lot of one-on-one instruction!

If you would like to volunteer to assist or discuss the program content further, feel free to email Tom Stauffer: tpstauffer@aol.com

Current availability exists on Boy’s Bantam Lacrosse team; players seeking an evaluation rating need to contact the Recreation Department immediately - 860-870-3118

Ellington's Ultimate Summer Camp Extravaganza!

2011 SUMMER CAMP

Full Day:	8:30am - 2:30pm	\$75 per child/per week (\$15 a day)
Half-Day:	8:30am - Noon	\$40 per child/per week (\$8 a day)
Before Camp Care:	7:30am - 8:30am	\$10 per child/per week (\$3 per day)
After Camp Care:	2:30pm- 4:30pm	\$35 per child/per week (\$7 per day)

**Note: A reduction of \$10 per week (full day/full week camper)
for 2nd and 3rd children in same household**

Ages: 4-12 (4 as of 12/31/10) MUST be Potty Trained ~ Strictly Enforced

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Pre-Registration Required. All registrations will be done by the Activenet On-Line system. If you don't have internet access at home you can register on-line at the Recreation Department. In office on-line registrations allows you to pay by cash, check or credit card without convenience fees.

- After Camp Care, minimum of 12 registrants .
- Partial weeks are prorated
- **CAMPERS ARE TO BRING A BAGGED LUNCH EACH DAY!**
- Campers should bring a water bottle daily.
- **SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED.**
- Campers are to come dressed appropriately for camp activities ~ **no flip flops!**
- Friday Pizza Parties for LUNCH!! Addition \$2 fee per week
- Epi-Pen/Meds need to have a Doctor's note and must be submitted on the first day of camp

Camp Theme

Week 1	June 29,30; July 1	Camp Spirit Week!
Week 2	July 5,6,7,8	Dr. Seuss Week!
Week 3	July 11-15	Nature Week!
Week 4	July 18 - 22	Underwater Week!
Week 5	July 25 - 29	Olympic Week!
Week 6	August 1 - 5	Fiesta week!
Week 7	August 8 - 12	Wild -N-Crazy Week!
Week 8	Aug 15 ,16, 17,18	Express Yourself Week!

Location: Center School

**Camper-to-Counselor ages 13-15 years
(16+ must apply for counselor positions)**

Session 1: June 4th, 2noon-2pm Group Interview maximum of 15 applicants @ Recreation Office

Session 2: June 8th, 5:30pm-7:30pm Group Training maximum of 12 chosen applicants@ Recreation Office

A maximum of 12 people will be chosen for volunteer positions for the 2011 Summer Day Camp. These are not paid positions. Each chosen participant will be given 2 weeks of "work" at camp based on performance (at the discretion of the Directors). As a Camper-to-Counselor you will be working side-by-side with Camp Directors and Counselors, becoming part of the camp support staff, building leadership skills and providing assistance and encouragement to camp participants. Potential candidates who have completed the 7th grade may register at the Recreation Department.

Note: Participation in the Camper-to-Counselor Program does not guarantee placement at the Summer Day Camp. Placement will be determined by Camper-to-Counselor Instructors through the evaluation process. Applications on a first come, first serve basis (**Register no later than April 15, 2011**).

Ellington Community Scholarship Association

29th Annual Phone-A-Thon
March 21st, 28th and 29th ~ 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Dozens of students and adults will be calling residents seeking tax-deductible contributions to help high school seniors in Ellington continue their education.

Anyone who is not contacted during the phone-a-thon but who wishes to contribute can send a donation to **ECSA, P.O. Box 54, Ellington, CT 06029**. Those interested in establishing a permanent fund may inquire at the same address.

Ellington Women's Club Spring Fundraiser

Saturday, April 30, 2011 @ 7 pm
Ellington High School

Celebrity impersonator, Rick Virga, renowned for his "Elvis Tribute" shows will be making his first appearance in north central Connecticut, along with his "All the King's Men" band, on April 30, 2011.

Advance tickets are \$20 per person/\$25 at the door. Purchase advance tickets by sending a check, made out to "Ellington Women's Club", along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope, to: EWC Treasurer, P.O. Box 282, Ellington, CT 06029. For further information, please call 860-871-8122 or email Ellingtonwomensclub@yahoo.com.

Fair on the Green

Saturday, May 7, 2011 ~ 10 AM—4 PM

Join your neighbors on Saturday, May 7 for a fun Ellington community gathering. There will be crafters, a business expo, Kids games run by Rise Above, food, entertainment, and more! For more information, e-mail ellingtonfair@att.net or call 462-3627. Sponsored by Friends of Ellington Tennis.

Board/Commission Vacancies

Vacancies exist on the following Boards/Commissions:

- Committee for the Preservation of the Pinney House
- Conservation Commission Alternate
- Economic Development Commission Alternate

Please call the First Selectman's Office at 860-870-3100 for a Statement of Interest form or download one from our website ~ www.ellington-ct.gov; select 'Government' tab; 'Boards & Commissions'; 'Vacancies'.

Meetings are held monthly in the evening.

Farmers' Market

Arbor Park (Main Street)
 Every Saturday beginning April 30

9AM-12:30PM

www.ellingtonfarmersmarket.com

Ron Bahler—860-871-6266

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Town Offices and the Library will be closed on the following dates:

April 22	Good Friday
May 30	Memorial Day*
July 4	Independence Day*

*There will be a **one day delay** in trash collection for the Memorial & Independence Day holidays.

The Library will also be closed on

April 24	Easter Sunday
May 8	Mother's Day

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

Town Hall
 55 Main Street
 P O Box 187
 Ellington, CT 06029

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