

The Ellington Connection

Winter 2015-2016

Lori Spielman, First Selectman

Phone: (860) 870-3100 email: lspielman@ellington-ct.gov

Growing up on a dairy farm here in Ellington it never occurred to me that one day I would have the honor to serve my Town as First Selectman. The work was hard, the sense of family and community was strong. I never had any desire to leave.

I joined different boards and commissions because I wanted to be involved; I knew it would make a difference.

I started a business and built Lori Spielman Landscaping on the principles of honesty, trust, efficiency and a commitment to do the best job I could; attributes I learned from both of my parents and grandparents.

As First Selectman I intend to do the same thing.... Do the very best job I can.

A strong community is built on a foundation of good will, good communication and the willingness to reach out and help our neighbors and our local businesses. I thank the people who have served on different boards and are leaving and I look forward to working with the new people who are coming onboard.

A fresh start is never a bad thing. A sense of positivity, transparency, and openness will be how this office conducts itself. It is a new day. Do not be shy about visiting me. I welcome new voices, new people and new opinions.

Let's make Ellington the very best town it can be. Have a wonderful Holiday.

Lori Spielman
First Selectman



Winter Weather Cancellations and Delays

Weather related

- Town office closings
- delayed openings
- meeting cancellations
- program cancellations

will be posted on the Town website at

ellington-ct.gov.

Also check WFSB Channel 3 for cancellation notification.



The November 3 Election brought a few other changes to our elected boards and Commission

A grateful goodbye to:		Years of Service	A warm welcome to our newly elected Officials:	
Maurice Blanchette	First Selectman	6	Jaime Foster	Board of Education
Mary Cardin	Zoning Board of Appeals	12	Sean Kelly	Planning & Zoning Commission
Howard Friedman	Board of Education	13	Robert C. Sandberg, Jr.	Planning & Zoning Commission
Douglas Harding	Planning & Zoning Commission	4	Kerry Socha	Board of Education
Dale Roberson	Board of Education	17	David Stavens	Board of Selectmen
David Stavens	Planning & Zoning Commission	5	Your gift of time makes Ellington a better place!	

The Ellington Connection

Town of Ellington 2016 Trash & Recycling Collection Calendar

Recyclables are collected every other week. Shaded weeks = pick-up weeks

January							February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					D	2		1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29						27	28	29	30	31		
31																				
April							May							June						
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					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				D	D	D	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	D	D					26	27	28	29	30		
July							August							September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
3	D	D	D	D	D	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	D	D	D	D	D	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
31																				
October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	D	D	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31																			

D = one day delay for New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day and Thanksgiving Holidays;
 When a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday there is no delay in the collection schedule.
 All items for curbside pick-up must be placed outside by 6:00 a.m. on pick-up day.

The Ellington Connection

Ann Marie Conti, Tax and Revenue Collector
(860) 870-3113 email: aconti@ellington-ct.gov

Diane McKeegan, Town Clerk
(860) 870-3105 email: townclerk@ellington-ct.gov

The second installment of real estate and/or personal property tax will become due on January 1, 2016.

Taxes Due in January

The last day to pay without penalty is Monday, February 1, 2016. Interest is charged on all late payments at the rate of one and one half percent per month from the due date of January 1st as per Connecticut General Statute 12-146.

The supplemental motor vehicle tax bills will be mailed the last week in December. Supplemental bills are prorated to reflect the registration time of your vehicle after October 1, 2014 and before September 30, 2015. Vehicles that have been traded in will receive a prorated credit netted against the newer vehicle if the same plate is transferred.

Please retain your tax receipts for income tax purposes.

A payment history report may be obtained from the Tax Collector's office; a 50 cent per page copy fee will be charged. Information is also available online at ellington-ct.gov, select the blue button labeled "View or Pay a Bill".

The Tax Office offers the option of paying taxes online. By visiting the Town of Ellington's website at ellington-ct.gov, real estate, personal property and motor vehicle taxes can be paid with a credit/debit card or from an online checking account. Invoice Cloud will charge taxpayers a convenience fee for electronic check (\$0.95 processing fee) or credit/debit card (2.95% processing fee). Please note that credit/debit cards are not accepted in the Tax Office.

2016 Hunting and Fishing Licenses

Sports Licenses and Permits for 2016 became available on December 1st in the Town Clerk's Office. Acceptable methods of payment include cash or check. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) website allows for the purchase of licenses and permits directly at ct.gov/deep. The DEEP accepts credit and debit cards.



Vital Records Certificates

Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates are available for \$20 per certified copy. Birth records are restricted by law and an application must be completed. Birth certificates are available in the town of residence of the mother at the time of birth or in the town of the hospital where the birth took place.

Dog Licenses

Per CT State law, all dogs must be registered at age six months or within 30 days of acquiring your pet. Proof of rabies vaccination and spay/neutering certificates must be presented.



Fee Schedule ~ Male or Female Dog

Neutered or Spayed dogs	\$ 8
Unaltered dogs	\$19

Walter E. Topliff, Jr., Assessor

(860) 870-3109 email: wtopliff@ellington-ct.gov

The Homeowners Tax Relief Program allows a tax credit for income qualifying individuals. To qualify, the homeowner (or spouse, if domiciled together) must be 65 years of age by the end of 2015 and reside at the property. 2015 income is \$42,900 if married, \$35,200 unmarried; and defined as adjusted gross income and tax exempt interest, plus Social Security and 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 the Homeowners' Program is February 1 through May 15.

Additional Veteran's Exemptions may also be available for those veterans who meet the income requirements. Applications for this program must be filed between February 1 and October 1.

Both of these programs require applications to be filed every two years. If you currently receive benefits on one or both of these programs and it is your year to re-file, applications will be mailed to you February 1. Forms will be available after February 1 in the Assessor's Office. For questions or help completing the forms, contact the Assessor's Office or Human Services at (860) 870-3131.

Revaluation Update: All Ellington Property Owners will be receiving their new property values from the 2015 Revaluation in early December. Please visit the website for future revaluation updates.

The Ellington Connection

Economic Development Commission

Sean Kelly, Chairman

Lisa M. Houlihan, Town Planner

860-870-3120 email: planner@ellington-ct.gov

The Ellington Economic Development Commission would like to congratulate the following Ellington businesses for receiving awards at the 58th Annual Meeting of the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce:

- **Cold Creek Brewery** - *Best New Business*
- **Barn Yard** – *Beautification*
- **Dymotek** - *Economic Development*

These businesses are just 3 Ellington companies listed on the *Shop Ellington* site – an electronic business directory designed to connect Ellington businesses and consumers.

When you shop locally, 68% of spending goes back to

our community (Civic Economics).

Ellington residents can use Shop Ellington to find local goods and services, and **Ellington businesses** can use Shop Ellington to **create a complimentary website** to advertise a wide-range of information, such as hours, menus, services, specials, events, job opportunities, and more.



Consumers can scan the QR code and download the *Shop Ellington* app today.

Businesses can type the URL into any online search and choose “For Business Owners” to use Shop Ellington to help promote your business. (<http://ellington-ct.gov/Pages/shopellington.aspx>)



John Turner,

911 Municipal Coordinator

(860) 870-3190 email: jturner@ellington-ct.gov

As winter closes in, there are steps that can be taken to assist emergency services workers to provide efficient service to our residents.

- First and most importantly, make sure your house number is posted in a manner that is clearly visible from the street and properly identifies the residence or access driveway.
- Completely clear all of your driveway and sidewalk areas from snow and ice accumulations and apply sand for traction if necessary. Keep a small container of sand near the entrance steps in case responders need to provide additional traction for a stretcher or equipment.
- Have your heating sources serviced so they are ready to provide a season of safe and efficient service.
- Make sure your Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors have working batteries and are tested.
- Remove snow and ice from around all neighborhood fire hydrants.

In an emergency, response time is critical! Being able to quickly find a location, having a clear access to the residence and being able to have fire hydrants available for immediate use saves time for the responders.

Stay safe all season long!

Sergeant Patrick Sweeney,

Resident State Troopers' Office Supervisor

(860) 875-1522 email: psweeney@ellington-ct.gov

Winter Safety Tips

The Ellington Resident Trooper's Office reminds residents to be extra cautious while driving in inclement weather. Reducing your vehicle speed, distance between vehicles, and conducting preventative maintenance to your car will help keep you, your family, and your vehicle safe this winter season.



The winter is also an enjoyable time to be outside enjoying the cold weather cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, and snowmobiling. Those that snowmobile must be respectful of property owners that allow them permission to operate on their land and also those properties you cross or ride along to get to your destination. Riding a snowmobile upon property you do not have permission to do so can constitute trespassing.

There are several CT General Statutes that operators and homeowners should be mindful of. It is the responsibility of the operator of a motor vehicle to remove any accumulated ice or snow from such motor vehicle including the hood, trunk and roof so that any ice or snow accumulated on such vehicle does not pose a threat to persons or property while the vehicle is being operated. In addition, the depositing of snow onto a roadway make it more difficult for our Public Works crews to clear the roads and make them safe for travel. The depositing of snow onto a roadway is punishable by fines.

Please have an enjoyable and safe Christmas and Holiday season.

The Ellington Connection

Timothy Webb, Public Works Director/WPCA Administrator
(860) 870-3140

email: twebb@ellington-ct.gov

Snow Removal from Fire Hydrants

Residents are asked to clear any snow from fire hydrants on your property or nearby. Open a path to the hydrant and clear an area all around the hydrant. All fire hydrants should have a reflective pole marker. If the hydrant near you does not, please call the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department at (860) 870-3190 and leave a message with the specific location of the fire hydrant.

Snow Removal from Sidewalks

Homeowners are required to remove any snow or ice from sidewalks in front of their property within 24 hours following the cessation of the fall of snow or ice, per Town Ordinance. Failure to do so is subject to a fine.



Parking Ban

Residents are reminded that the Ordinance Concerning Parking on Public Highways within the Town prohibits street parking during and after any period of snowfall or icy condition, while said highways are hazardous to traffic. This will allow the Department of Public Works to be able to safely and efficiently remove the hazards of snow and ice from the roads. Violation of this ordinance will result in the removal of the vehicle at the owner's expense and may result in a fine.



Secure your mailbox: Residents are asked to make sure their mailboxes are secured and sturdy before the winter snow season begins. Mailboxes that are damaged by the snow load will not be repaired by the Town.

Winter Sand is Available: Sand is available to residents throughout the winter months. The pile is located at the Town Garage, 21 Main Street, on the Firehouse side.

Christmas Tree Pick Up: Christmas trees will be picked up during the first two weeks of January. Please leave them at the curb, butt-end out and free of ornamentation and tree stands. If the trees are not cleaned, they will not be picked up. If residents prefer, trees may be dropped off at any time by the grey shed at the Town Garage on 21 Main Street.



Drop Off Recycling Center at the Town Garage Public Works Complex 21 Main Street

The following items are accepted at the Public Works Facility Shed: Car batteries, waste oil, antifreeze, motor oil, oil filters, propane tanks, fluorescent light bulbs, computer components, electronics, car and lawn mower batteries. Do not leave paint at the shed.

Drop off is permitted only during these hours.

Monday through Friday

6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Drop Off Recycling Center will be open 9 am-noon on Saturday, January 9 and Saturday, January 16, 2016

Proof of residency is required and will be verified by the Department of Public Works staff.

For more information, call the DPW at (860) 870-3140 or visit the website at Ellington-ct.gov; "Town Departments"; "Public Works".

New Permit Fees Apply for Working in the Town Right-of-Way

Effective October 14, 2015, the Board of Selectmen approved a permit fee in the amount of \$35 for working in the Town right-of-way. Anyone who is working in the Town right-of-way must take out a permit. Permits should be obtained and paid for at the Building Official's office. The permit application form can be found on both the Building Department and Public Works websites.

The Ellington Connection

Diane Lasher-Penti, Youth Services Director

(860) 870-3130

email: youthservices@ellington-ct.gov

website: youth.ellington-ct.gov

Programs	Date/Time	Description	Fee/Location
Ellington Gallery Night	Saturday, February 13, 2016 <i>Snow Date:</i> February 20, 2016 6:00 - 9:00 pm	Calling all artists! Display your artwork at the 2nd Annual Gallery Night. Email your interest to ellingtongallerynight@gmail.com	Ellington Senior Center
Small Town Big Talent Community Variety Show	Show Date April 2, 2016 7:00 pm	Show off your talent at the Annual Variety Show! Auditions: February 22 and 23 5:30 - 8 pm Email: BigTalent2016@gmail.com	Ellington High School Auditorium
Around the World in One Night	Friday, March 4 <i>Snow Date:</i> Saturday, March 11 5:30-8:30 pm	Come experience a variety of cultures through food, dance, art, tradition and fun. This event is geared for children though adult and will bring you on a journey that will teach and inspire.	Ellington Senior Center
Parents Supporting Parents with Special Needs	Tuesdays: January 12, February 9, March 8, April 5 6:00-7:00 pm	The goal of this peer led group is to help provide support, networking and resources to one another. Special presenters may be invited to speak on topics chosen by the parents participating in the group.	Free 31 Arbor Way
Anxiety! 4-night Series	Thursdays: January 7, 14, 21, February 4 7:00-8:00 pm	Topics include: what is anxiety? Different types of anxiety; Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CTB) therapy, 7 pieces of the puzzle; skill building; how to ride out panic; mindfulness and other relaxation strategies. Come for a night of discussion and information about anxiety that affects millions of children and families.	Free 31 Arbor Way
Youth Zentangle	Tuesday: January 19, February 16, March 15, April 19 5:30-6:45 pm	Zentangle is an easy to learn method of creating beautiful images from repetitive patterns. It is a fascinating new art form that is fun and relaxing which increases focus and creativity. No experience necessary; come and doodle, create and de-stress. Age 8 and up. Supplies provided.	\$20 31 Arbor Way



Join the "Moo-vement"!

Go to our website at Decidetobekind.com and our Facebook page at facebook.com/decidetobekind for ways in which you and your family can spread kindness throughout Ellington!



Attention Ellington High School students: Do you have an idea for turning your talent or passion into a youth program or activity? If so, please visit the Youth Services website for more information on *Launch My Idea*. It is a great way to mentor younger students in your community while gaining valuable leadership experience.

The Ellington Connection

Erin Graziani, Senior Center Director

(860) 870-3133 email: egraziani@ellington-ct.gov website: seniorcenter.ellington-ct.gov
40 Maple Street, P.O. Box 187, Ellington, CT 06029

Beginning January 1, all participants must complete a new 2016 Registration Packet. Packets will be at the front desk in mid-December, and must be completed prior to participating in Senior Center programs as of 2016. Volunteers will be assisting with this process throughout January. Thank you as we work together with this new process. Preference is given to Ellington residents for all programs where space is limited.

Senior Center Programs	Date/Time	Description	Fee
Musical Insights Holiday Program & Wassail Bowl	Monday 12/14/2015 3 pm - 4:30 pm	Join us for a presentation of Verdi's <i>"La Traviata"</i> , an opera with festive tinkling and sparkle, highlighted with our traditional Wassail Bowl.	Free Sign Up requested
Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group	Thursdays 1/7/2016; 2/4/2016 2 pm-3:30 pm	Facilitated by Sandi Pino, LCSW, Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT, Inc.	Free Sign up requested
Cruise Informational Seminar	Wednesday 1/13/2016 1:00 pm Snow date: 1/20/2016	Come and learn about all of the cruises we will be offering in 2016. This is your chance to see pictures and ask questions from the experts!	Free Sign up requested
Chair Yoga	Mondays 11 am-11:45 am Ongoing	Classes are suited for adults dealing with an injury or illness that causes decreased mobility or pain in the body. Instructor: Christine Olmstead. Walk-in.	Residents \$4, Non-residents \$5
Mat Yoga	Wednesdays 2:30 pm -3:30 pm Ongoing	From November 1-February 29 session discounts will be given on a per class basis; regular rates resume March 1. Instructor: Christine Olmstead	Residents: \$6 Non-residents: \$7
Tai Chi	Fridays, 11 am-12 pm Ongoing	From November 1-February 29 session discounts will be given on a per class basis; regular rates resume March 1; Instructor: Roberta Villanova. Walk-in.	Residents: \$5 Non-residents: \$6
Chair Exercises	Tuesday & Thursday 10 am-10:45 am Ongoing	The class focus is on range of motion and general conditioning. It is adapted to meet the participants' needs. Instructor: Linda Stein	Residents: \$4/class Non-residents: \$5/class
Simple Circuit Fitness Exercise for Active Adults	Tuesday & Thursday 11 am-11:45 am Ongoing	Classes are focused on strength training and balance using a variety of props, including a balance ball, elastic bands and weights. Bring your own equipment. Instructor: Linda Stein	Residents: \$7/class Non-residents: \$8/class
AARP Tax Aide	Thursdays 9 am-2 pm by appointment	Trained volunteers will complete federal and state income tax returns for those 60+. Stop in or call for an appointment beginning 2/4/2016.	Free

Transportation Services are available to residents for medical, social and nutritional programs. Call Transportation Services at (860) 870-3137 Monday-Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Maple Street Kitchen: "Home cooked" lunches are generally served on Wednesdays and Thursdays at noon. Menus can be found at the Senior Center and on the website.



The Ellington Connection

Susan Phillips, Director, Hall Memorial Library (HML)
(860) 870-3160 email: hallmlib@ellington-ct.gov

Winter Library Hours

Monday-Thursday	10 am-8 pm.
Friday- Saturday	10 am - 5 pm
Sunday	1 pm - 5 pm

Check the Library website for holiday closing dates.

Book Cellar Hours

Monday	6:30 pm - 8 pm
Thursday	2:30 -4:30 pm
Saturday	10 am - 12 pm
Sunday	Closed

Friends of the Library (FOL) News! If you need holiday gifts for booklovers, the *Friends of the Library* may have just what you need. Once again, festively decorated “Book Bundles” will be available. These are bundles of 3-6 almost-new books, grouped by age-level, theme or genre, packaged and displayed in the main reading room of the library. The Book Cellar has great buys as well, with many gently-used books, movies and other items for all ages. Can’t decide? There are gift certificates to the Book Cellar also, in any denomination you choose—great for teacher gifts!

The **Annual Holiday Cookie Sale** will be held beginning Sunday, December 20. Beautiful one-pound trays of home-baked holiday favorites will be available at \$9/tray while the supply lasts. Feel free to call for availability (860) 870-3160.



The Book Cellar is currently closed on Sunday due to a need for volunteers. If you would like to help, please call Peg, FOL President, at (860) 966-6331.

New *Friends* members are always welcomed! Minimal commitment, big impact!

Save the Date!!! Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 6; you’ll want to be here when we turn the entire Library into a gigantic Miniature Golf Course! This will be a fun-filled, family-friendly fundraiser for the Friends of the Library group. We are thrilled to have Kloter Farms as our flagship sponsor; other local businesses will be asked to back the other 17 holes and help to build the obstacles. Coincidentally this is also National Take Your Child to the Library Day, so we will have additional entertainment in the form of a strolling magician, face-painting and much more. Tickets will be reasonably priced and all monies raised will go toward supporting programs that don’t fit within the library’s regular budget. You don’t have to have a child to participate; you just need to be young at heart! Look for information at the Library. Watch our website for details.

Check our Cake Pans! Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful patrons, the Library has received more than 140 different cake pans and they are all available for you to borrow! Our selection includes every shape and size you can imagine. Each cake pan is bagged individually and includes a laminated sheet with baking instructions; pans go out for a 3-week loan period. We ask that you wash them both before and after use; we will not check pans back in if they are dirty. A huge thank you to all who contributed to the collection.

Volunteers Wanted - Share your Traditions! One of the Library’s missions is to serve as a gathering space for the community, as well as a place for imparting information. Our community has become much more diverse, with many terrific new families moving in and coming by to get their library cards. We are very excited about this and would like to showcase some of the cultures, ethnicities and traditions that are now a part of our Town. To that end we ask for your help - if you are interested in introducing some of your unique customs to your neighbors, please contact the Programming Coordinator to discuss setting up a program. We are particularly interested in holding a Holi celebration to welcome spring and would love to have families to assist in the planning of the event.

Ellington History Publications Available! Publications from the Ellington Historical Society are available for purchase at the library. Titles include “Ellington: Chronicles of Change” by Dorothy Cohen; “Ellington: Images of America” by Lynn Kloter Fahy; and, “Crystal Lake, Tolland County: Images of America” by Lynn Kloter Fahy.

Interested in History? If you are interested in history - Ellington’s or otherwise, you will enjoy the meetings and activities of the Ellington Historical Society. Meetings are held six times per year at the Library, and feature business and activities of the Society and also great programs and refreshments. The next meeting is Thursday, January 28 at 7:00 pm. Join us!

Library Book Discussion Series: “*Every Bookstore Has a Story*” is the title for the current Library book discussion series. The books, some fiction and some non-fiction, explore a variety of themes, relationships and experiences with the coincidence of bookstores as location. Copies of books are available at the Library. Check out upcoming titles at the Library or on the website. The next discussion will be on December 16, 2015 at 7 pm (*The Ghost and Mrs. McClure* by Alice Kimberly) All are welcome! Refreshments are served.

The Ellington Connection

Adult Programming at Hall Memorial Library

Event	Date	Time
Coffeehouse: <i>The Zumbyes</i> *	Friday January 8	7:00 pm
Sydney Sherman: <i>You Are Not Alone</i>	Tuesday January 19	6:30 pm
Kevin Johnson: <i>Private William Webb, an African-American Civil War Soldier</i>	Thursday January 28	7:00 pm
Program to be determined	Tuesday February 2	6:30 pm
Friends of the Library Mini-Golf Fund Raiser (see page 8)	Saturday February 6	All Day
Coffeehouse: <i>Tom Hanford- My Funny Valentine</i> *	Friday February 12	7:00 pm
Janet Holland: <i>Wilton Cake Decorating Basics</i> *	Thursday February 18	6:30 pm
Bev Russo: <i>Quilts and the Underground Railroad</i>	Thursday February 25	7:00 pm
Coffeehouse: <i>The Jolly Beggars</i> *	Friday March 4	7:00 pm
Sharon Leonard: <i>Pysanka Egg Workshop</i>	Saturday March 5	10 am and 1 pm
Philip Parda: <i>Why Drink Tea?</i> *	Tuesday March 8	6:30 pm

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

Let's go to the Movies at Hall Memorial Library

Danny Collins	December 9 December 10	6:30 pm 1:00 pm
Broken Circle Breakdown	December 16 December 17	6:30 pm 1:00pm
The Intern	January 6 January 7	6:30pm 1:00pm
Pawn Sacrifice	January 13 January 14	6:30pm 1:00pm
A Walk in the Woods	January 20 January 21	6:30pm 1:00pm
Infinitely Polar Bear	January 27 January 28	6:30pm 1:00pm

Please check the Library's website or call for future film showings and schedule changes. All movies will begin promptly.

Family Game Night

Come out for a family-friendly night of board-gaming (family not required!). Whether you are an avid gamer, someone looking to expand your horizons, or just looking for a fun night out, join us for the evening!

The Library will be open exclusively for gaming on select Friday evenings starting in January, with games running from 6:30 pm until everyone goes home. Bring your own board or card game to play, or enjoy one of the many we will supply. Everything from games for the kids to strategic games for adults will be on hand and local gamers will be here to help you learn.

Pat Grundman, Children's Librarian

(860) 870-3160 email: pgrundman@biblio.org

Cold weather is approaching, and that means curling up in a warm spot to do lots of reading. This is definitely the place to come to get all of your favorite books to keep you busy during the long cold winter months. You do need a library card, of course. Ellington residents 5 years old and up can get a library card of their very own.

As 2016 rolls in, Hall Memorial Library will be launching "1000 Books Before Kindergarten":

an incentive program to encourage families with young children, 0-5 years old, to read a wide range of books, with the goal of reading 1,000 before the child enters Kindergarten. It's a lot of fun! It's never too soon to introduce books and stories to the young! Watch for details.



YA (Young Adult) Stuff

We want to hear from the teens! Look for a survey in the teen area over the winter. We will ask your opinion on everything about your Library - summer reading ideas, prizes, programs, materials, book discussions, and other topics. Your voice is important and we want to hear from you. Please stop in and fill out a survey during January and February. Every teen that completes a survey will be entered in a drawing to win a jar of goodies!

Winter months bring out the "craftster" in all of us! We will have random craft projects set out for you to do when you come to the Library over the next few months. Stop by the Teen area and stay awhile.

Scott V. Nicol, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
(860) 896-2300

Email: snicol@ellingtonschools.net

Planning Is Everything

Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower once stated, *“Plans are nothing; planning is everything.”* It is in this spirit that the Ellington Public Schools (EPS) continues to work cooperatively with Town of Ellington stakeholders regarding several multi-year initiatives designed to continue a high level of service to its students.

Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK): On September 2, 2015, Board of Education (BOE) members and EPS administrators took part in a “brainstorming” session on the feasibility of FDK. This session was a public meeting open for all to attend.

At this meeting, information regarding the benefits of FDK was presented. Currently, 132 school districts, 10 charter schools and 14 magnet schools provide full-day kindergarten to all children. 88% of Connecticut kindergartners are in full-day programs. According to Kelly Donnelly, a spokesman for the CT State Department of Education, during the 2014 – 2015 school year, only 13 school districts did not offer FDK. This leaves approximately 2,000 out of 36,400 kindergarten students who do not have access to full-day instruction. About 150 of those students are in Ellington.

In addition, the Town of Ellington shares a border with eight area towns (East Windsor, Enfield, Somers, South Windsor, Stafford, Tolland, Vernon, and Willington). All of these towns offer FDK.

As a result of this session, the BOE directed the Superintendent of Schools to work with the administration to develop a plan with the goal of implementing FDK for the 2016 – 2017 school year.

The school administration has provided progress updates at each of this school year’s BOE meetings. A comprehensive plan, including the financial cost, regarding the implementation of FDK will be presented to the BOE at the December 16, 2015 meeting to be held at 7 PM at the Administrative Building. The public is welcome to attend. The school administration and the Board of Education have a long standing tradition of working cooperatively with the Board of Selectman (BOS) and the Board of Finance (BOF). This cooperation will continue on December 1, 2015 at the regularly

scheduled Board of Finance meeting to be held at 8 PM at the Town Hall. At this time, school administration and BOE members will answer questions posed by the BOF regarding FDK.

The BOE fully recognizes the benefits FDK has on a child’s education. Extensive research shows those students attending FDK demonstrate higher academic achievement in later grades; better attendance in K-4; enhanced social, emotional and behavioral development; and reduced retention and remedial rates. Therefore, the BOE will continue to work with the school administration and the locally elected boards to ensure its implementation as soon as is feasible.

Crystal Lake Building Project: On August 25th a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to celebrate the opening of the newly renovated wing at Crystal Lake School. Parents, students, staff, BOE members and other town officials were able to tour the new wing.

Construction continues at Crystal Lake. Principal Larkin has ensured a clear physical separation between areas under construction and those in use by school staff and students. Principal Larkin regularly works with appropriate personnel to update school safety and security plans as the construction project evolves.

Construction on the new media center and renovated gymnasium was completed October 2015. On October 21st, the Board of Education held its monthly meeting in the media center and on October 23rd, students participated in an evening Halloween party in the gymnasium sponsored by the PTO. It is anticipated that the new cafeteria will be available January 2016 with the entire building project to be completed by Summer 2016.

Windermere Building Project: Phase two of a three phase building renovation project was completed during the summer of 2015. Four classrooms in the K-2 wing were reconfigured adding bathrooms and sinks. In the main office area, one office was added. The outside playscape area was upgraded. Phase three will occur during the summer of 2016, in which four classrooms in the grade 5-6 wing will be reconfigured adding bathrooms and sinks. This will conclude the building project.

For both the Windermere and Crystal Lake Building Projects, the Permanent Building Committee, chaired by Peter Welti, have been great partners with the Ellington Public Schools to ensure the Town of Ellington taxpayers’ dollars are being responsibly spent while giving the town quality school buildings we should be proud.

The Ellington Connection

K – 6 Transition: The Ellington Public Schools has moved one year closer to completing its Kindergarten to Grade 6 transition initiative. This transition will be completed by the start of the 2017 – 2018 school year in which K – 6 students district-wide will attend their neighborhood elementary school: Windermere, Crystal Lake, or Center School.

Currently, all grade 5 and 6 students attend Windermere. For the 2016 – 2017 school year, all grade 6 students (for the last time) will attend Windermere.

EPS looks forward to the 2017 – 2018 school year when all students entering the school system are ensured the opportunity to spend seven consecutive years, kindergarten through grade 6 in the same school.

Follow Us On Twitter: In keeping with the times, the Ellington Public Schools continues to expand our methods of communication with all stakeholders. One such method that Ellington administrators, over 50% of teachers and I utilize is Twitter. You may follow me on Twitter using my handle [@SuperNicol](https://twitter.com/SuperNicol). Stay tuned for Instagram, Facebook and other social media mediums.

Yet, let us not forget the best way to connect with one another. Mark Twain once stated, *“Let us make a special effort to stop communicating with each other, so we can have some conversation.”* In that spirit, all Ellington staff, including myself, are always willing to meet with stakeholders for an in-person meeting to *“have some conversation.”*

Dr. Scott V. Nicol

Follow me on Twitter [@SuperNicol](https://twitter.com/SuperNicol)

Ellington Public Schools
Where Children Come First

Ellington High School
will host a
Book Fair at
Barnes and Noble
in Manchester!



Come and support the Ellington High School Library as they host a holiday themed book fair at Barnes and Noble, 270 Buckland Hills Drive, Manchester, CT

Friday, December 11, 2015
from 6 pm to 8 pm

Bring your Book Fair voucher or mention Ellington High School when you make a purchase that day at Barnes and Noble. Copies of the voucher will be posted on the Ellington High School Library website at ellingtonschools.org/ehslibrary.

Beginning Friday, December 11 through Wednesday, December 16, you may also shop online at bn.com/bookfairs to help raise funds for new books! Please make sure to include the Book Fair Voucher ID on the payment page at checkout.

In addition, if you purchase a cheesecake from the Cheesecake Factory in the Barnes and Noble Café, that purchase will also help the school! The cheesecake is available in a variety of flavors! Bon appétit!

Ellington Public Schools Contact Information

Ellington Board of Education

47 Main Street
(860) 896-2300
Dr. Scott V. Nicol, Superintendent

Ellington Middle School

46 Middle Butcher Road
(860) 896-2339
Mr. David Pearson, Principal

Crystal Lake School

59 South Road
(860) 896-2322
Mr. Michael Larkin, Principal

Ellington High School

37 Maple Street, PO Box 149
(860) 896-2352
Mr. Neil Rinaldi, Principal

Center School

49 Main Street
(860) 896-2315
Ms. Trudie Luck Roberts, Principal

Windermere School

2 Abbott Road
(860) 896-2329
Mr. David Welch, Principal

The Ellington Connection

Robert Tedford, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

Phone: (860) 870-3118 Fax: (860) 870-3198
 Address: 31 Arbor Way, P.O. Box 187
 Email: recreationstaff@ellington-ct.gov

Office Hours:

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

**Attention
Coaches!**

AED/ First Aid/ CPR Required Classes

Register via email at Ellington.safety@yahoo.com

Instructors: Allison Breen or Kristen Wasielewski

New classes have been scheduled that will allow all Ellington Coaches, Athletic Officials, Program Instructors and Staff to register **free of charge**. All classes will be held at the Recreation Department Office, 31 Arbor Way.

- Tuesday, December 29 5:30 pm-10:30 pm
- Tuesday, January 5 5:00 pm-10:00 pm
- Wednesday, January 20 5:00 pm-10:00 pm
- Wednesday, February 3 5:00 pm-10:00 pm
- Tuesday, February 23 5:00 pm-10:00 pm

Each coach is **required** to complete this training. Only **six (6)** coaches allowed per class, so register early. When you register, please leave your full name, phone number, the date you wish to attend and the sport you are coaching.

2016 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 and 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.

Basketball	ID Code	Dates	Time	Ages	Fee	LOCATION
 Men's Informal Basketball	2016.50316	Monday Evenings	5:30-9:00 pm	Under 30	\$10	Windermere School
	2016.50416	January through June <i>(Closed January 18; February 15; April 11; May 30)</i>		Over 30		
Unified Basketball Special needs program Kim Skewes (860) 875-3707 dskewes@comcast.net	UNIFIED.BBK6 Session 1	Tuesday evenings	5:45-6:30 pm	Grades K-6th	\$25	Middle School
	UNIFIED.BB712 Session 2	March 29 April 5, 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24	6:30-7:15 pm	7th-12th		
Informal High School Basketball Boys & Girls*	1119.BB912W15 1119.BGS91215	December 12 to March 6 <i>(Registration ongoing)</i>	Varied Time Slots	Grades 9-12	\$70	Site Varies

*CIAC rules prohibit anyone playing on a High School team from participating in this program. Interested in competitive play? We anticipate forming a competitive team to play games with surrounding towns. Pre-registration is required.

8th Grade Boys Travel Basketball Tournament at Ellington Middle School, 46 Middle Butcher Road

December 26 6:00 pm First Round Games Ellington playing at 7:30 pm	December 27 (December 28 snow date) 4:00 Consolation Game 6:00 Championship Game	Anyone interested in placing an advertisement in the program brochure contact Bob Tedford no later than December 19.
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The Ellington Connection

Activity	ID code	Dates	Time	Age/Grade	Fee	Location
Volleyball Co-Ed	2016.CVB1	Wednesdays January 6 - April 30, 2016	7:30-9:00 pm	Ages 18 & up	\$10	Middle School
Youth Volleyball Co-Ed	2016.YCEVB	Wednesdays March 16, 23, 30 April 6, 20	6:00-7:15 pm	Grades 5-8	\$20	Middle School
Youth Indoor Soccer Co-Ed	2016.CES14	Spring Session Fridays March 25; April 1, 8	5:00-6:00 pm 6:00-7:00 pm 7:15-8:15 pm	Grades 3-4 5-6 7-8	\$5	Crystal Lake School
Women's Informal Basketball	2016.W18	Wednesday Evenings Dates to be determined	7:30-9:15 pm	Ages 18 & up	\$12	Center School
Jukido Instructor Paul Ward	2016.JUK1016	Session 16: Thursdays December 3, 10, 17 January 7, 14, 21 Session 17: Thursdays January 28; February 4, 11, 18, 25	5:30-6:30 pm	Ages 6 & up	\$52 per session	Vernon Community Arts Center 375 Hartford Turnpike
NYSCA Coaches Clinic Softball/Soccer/Football Coaches	No Code	This is an online program for all sports	N/A	All Recreation Coaches	\$25	Online Program
	This program is available online at nays.org/NYSCAONLINECLINICS					
Activity	ID Code	Dates	Time	Age/Grade	Fee	Location
After School Mini 6-Week Bowling Program Bus Transportation provided to Spare Time Vernon from Center School, Crystal Lake School and Windermere School	0516.CEN6S Center School 0516.WIN4S Windermere School (K-4) 0516.WIN6S Windermere Grades 5-6 0516.CLS6S Crystal Lake School	Mondays Spring session March 7, 14, 21, 28 April 4, 18 Make-up date April 25 	4:00-6:00 pm <hr/> 3:00-5:00 pm	Grades K-4 <hr/> Grades 5-6	\$65 All bowling forms are to be returned to the Recreation Department, not your child's school. Thank you!	Spare Time Vernon Lanes 350 Talcottville Road Vernon
Parents will be responsible for picking up their children at the Spare Time Vernon Lanes. Includes 1½ hours of bowling, shoe rental, transportation to Spare Time Vernon Lanes and free pizza party on the last day.						

Adult Wiffle Ball League: There are plans to offer an adult wiffle ball league this spring for those ages 18 and over. The league will use rules and field dimensions constructed by the EWBL, which have been in effect for the past 15 years. If you wish to enter a team or as an individual, please contact either Erick Knickerbocker at uconn9913@yahoo.com or leave your name, address and phone at recreation@ellington-ct.gov.

The Ellington Connection

Activity	ID Code	Dates	Time	Ages	Fee	Location
USTA10 Tennis Max 8	USTA.10S16	Session J: Dates to be announced.	TBA	Grades K-4	\$35	TBA
Tiny Tot Indoor Tennis Lessons Max 8	TINY.TTTW16	Mondays: February 29 March 7, 14, 21,	5:30-6:00 pm	3-5 years	\$40	Crystal Lake School
Pee Wee Indoor Tennis Lessons Max 8	PEE.PWEW16	Mondays: February 29 March 7, 14, 21,	6:15-6:45 pm	5-7 Years	\$40	Crystal Lake School
Youth Indoor Tennis Lessons Max 8	YOUTH.TNW16	Mondays: February 29 March 7, 14, 21,	6:45-7:45 pm	8-13 years	\$40	Crystal Lake School
High School Tennis Players Boys & Girls	EHST.TENN16	Week of March 14 Weekdays (TBD)	3:00-4:30 pm	Grades 9-12	\$55	TBD
Players must provide their own racquet, sneakers & transportation to practices						
Tennis Lessons Adult Beginners (Indoor Lessons)	2015.40W16	Wednesdays & Fridays March 2, 4, 9, 11	7:00-8:00 pm	Adult Beginner 14 & up	\$35	Crystal Lake School
Indoor Golf Lessons (affiliated with Ellington Golf Center)	2016.GOLFP	Session: Wednesdays March 16, 23, 30; April 6 Instructor: Jeff Wadsworth	7:00-8:00 pm	Adult Co-Ed	\$60	Crystal Lake School
Wear sneakers, all-purpose shoes. Mats and plastic golf balls will be provided						
Women's Self-Defense	2016.WSDG	Fridays April 8 and 22	7:00 pm	12 & up	No Fee	Windermere School
Cross-Country Ski Lessons/ Course	Weather and snow permitting, the Recreation Department will offer cross-country ski lessons and a local cross-country course for Ellington residents. A pre-season clinic will be offered at the end of December or early January, which will cover the following aspects: safety, type/style of skis, snowshoes, instruction on how to enjoy cross-country skiing. If interested in being contacted with a firm date and time for the clinic, please call the Recreation Office at (860) 870-3118.					
Ellington Recreation Hiking Club	This group takes a hike every Tuesday; a new site each week and site notification is made the Monday prior (via email). Meet at Arbor Park on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am. Pre-registration is required at the Recreation Office, 31 Arbor Way. Eligibility: Adults 18 year of age and over. Bring: water, snack, wear proper footwear and dress appropriately for the weather conditions.					

2016

Seasonal

Employment

Applications for seasonal employment will be available January 5, 2016 for those interested in applying for the following positions within the Recreation Department:

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

Please contact the Recreation Office at (860) 870-3118 or recreation@ellington-ct.gov to obtain an application form.

The Ellington Connection

2016 Ellington Girls Softball League Registration

Register online at ellingtongirlsoftball.org

Select "Register Online" tab on left of Home Page. You will also be able to register for player clinics at this time.

Softball Registration dates for new players:

Dates	Time	Place
Saturday, January 30	9 am-12 noon	Middle School Cafeteria
Saturday, February 6	9 am-12 noon	Middle School Cafeteria

First year players are required to provide an **original** birth certificate and parent/guardian must show their driver's license at time of registration.

Online registration begins December 1. Check the website for details.

League Age & Fees

League	Age As of 12/31/15	Fee <i>(plus \$25 refundable concession deposit and any optional clinic fees.)</i>
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 if child has played at least one year of T-Ball*

- ♦ 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; signups will be offered during registration on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- ♦ Practices will begin sometime in early April depending on weather/field conditions.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- ♦ Umpiring Minor & Major League Games
- ♦ Coaching
- ♦ Concession Stand

League volunteers who have regular contact with players must attend one of the registration sessions. Please complete a Little League Volunteer Application (which can be found on our website under the Registration Tab at top of the page, and bring it along with your driver's license (we will need to keep a copy).

Contact:

Keith Jarvis at egspresident1@gmail.com

Andrew McCoy at amccoy2@gmail.com

Ellington Girls Softball League is not affiliated with the Ellington Recreation Department. The Ellington Girls Softball League Program is an all-volunteer organization. For more information, visit ellingtongirlsoftball.org

CLASS	ID CODE	DATES	TIME	AGES	FEE	LOCATION
Little Hands Instructor: Jill Maznicki Adult participation is required.	LITT.HANW16	Tuesdays January 5, 12, 19, 26 February 2, 9, 23, March 1 (make-up dates March 8, 15)	9:15-10 am	1-3 years old Max: 8	\$65 Resident \$70 Non-Resident	Old Crystal Lake Schoolhouse
Music & Movement Instructor: Jill Maznicki Adult participation is required.	MNM.THUW16	Thursdays January 7, 14, 21, 28 February 4, 11, 18, 25 (make-up dates: March 3, 10)	10:15-11:am	1-3 years old Max: 10	\$65 Resident \$70 Non-Resident	Hall Memorial Library
	MNM.WEDW16	Wednesdays January 6, 13, 20, 27 February 3, 10, 17, 24 (make-up dates: March 2, 9)	10:15-11 am	1-3 years olds Max: 10	\$65 Resident \$70 Non-Resident	Hall Memorial Library

Check our website for program descriptions and details regarding classes.

The Ellington Connection

Ellington Little League Baseball (ELL)

*Players Ages 6 to 16 years of age
(as of August 31, 2016)*

Online registration at ellingtonll.org opens from January 27- February 28, 2016
Returning players are requested to register online.

ELL is not affiliated with the Ellington Recreation Department. The ELL program is an all-volunteer organization. The league is affiliated with Little League, Inc. and follows the rules and guidelines set forth by the national organization including the age chart for 2016 .

Registration Dates for New Players to Little League Baseball

Ages 6 & Up

Dates	Time	Location
Saturday, January 30	9 am-Noon	Middle School Cafeteria
Saturday, February 6	9 am-Noon	Middle School Cafeteria

First time players must bring a **birth certificate** to registration

Volunteer Managers & Coaches

Managers and coaches are selected for all divisions and teams. Please complete a volunteer application on website by February 25, 2016.

Coaches/Players Clinic (s)

Dates will be posted on Little League website.

Volunteers Needed: Contact Derek Baehre (860) 716-8469, Division Contact (below) or any Board of Director Member.

Ellington Little League Baseball Fees & Contacts

Division	Ages	Fees*	Contact	Phone
T-Ball	6	\$60	Sean Capshaw	(203) 237-9778
Instructional	7-8	\$75	Sean Capshaw	(203) 237-9778
Farm/Minors	8-11	\$110	Paul Catalano	(860) 841-8084
Majors	10-12	\$110	Mike Murphy	(860) 916-6906
Junior/Senior	13-16	\$115	Jim Laughlan	(860) 558-5334

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

Note: all fees require an additional \$35 family concession stand deposit, refundable upon serving in the concession stand.

Little League Baseball Evaluations to be held in March 2016

Date and location to be posted on the Little League website at Ellingtonll.org
(Age as of August 31, 2016)

Age 8

Evaluations to determine placement if placed in Instructional League or Farm League. Optional: Player may choose to remain in Instructional League. Number of spots in Farm League subject to availability.

Age 9

Evaluations required for placement in the Farm League or Minor League; Number of spots in minors subject to availability.

Ages 13-15

Evaluations required for placement on Junior league team.

Major League Tryouts to be held in March 2016

Date and location to be posted on the Little League website at Ellingtonll.org

Age 10-12

All major league players ages 10, 11 & 12 must attend Major League tryouts to be eligible for Major League draft. All 12-year-olds will play in Majors unless a special waiver is granted.

Free Baseball Bash! Skills Clinic & Games

For Players 7-10 years old
(as of 8/31/16)

Date: TBD March
Time: 9:00 am-11:30 am
Place: Ellington Middle School



Umpires! All interested and returning umpires (adults and children age 13 and up) must complete an application on the website at ellingtonll.org. Training will be provided.



The Ellington Connection

Vacation Camps for Children Grades K through 8

The Recreation Department will sponsor **Two Vacation Camps:** December & April for children Grades K-8. The daily schedule will include passive and non-passive activities, crafts, sports, music, movies, special events, science experiments, nature/hikes and possibly sledding!!

All Vacation Camps will be held at Ellington Middle School

Payment

- Full payment is required at time of registration.
- Family deductions for 2nd and 3rd child in same household will be \$5 per child; this only pertains to full day/full week campers registered.
- Discounts **do not** apply to before and after-care fees.

Camp Information

- Campers should bring outdoor clothing (boots, hats, mittens, snow pants). No child will be allowed to participate in any outdoor activities unless dressed appropriately!
- **All items should be labeled with the child's full name.**
- Full Day Campers should bring a bagged lunch and snack (if wanted).
- Refreshments/drinks will be provided to campers both in the morning and afternoons.

		Full Day/ Full Week	Half Day/ Full Week	Before-Care: 7:30 am-8:30 am After-Care 3:00 pm-5:00 pm	DEADLINE DATE to register for camp
December Camp	December 28, 29, 30	\$54.00 1st child	\$36.00 1st child	Before-Care: \$4.00/day/child	December 15
		\$49.00 2nd & 3rd child (or \$18 a day)	\$31.00 2nd & 3rd child (or \$12 a day)	After-Care: \$7.00/day/child	
April Camp	April 11, 12, 13, 14, 15	\$90.00 1st child	\$60.00 1st child	Before-Care: \$4.00 per day	April 5
		\$85.00 2nd & 3rd child (or \$18 a day)	\$55.00 2nd & 3rd child (or \$12 a day)	After-Care: \$7.00 per day	

Class	ID Code	Dates	Time	Ages	Fee	Location
ZUMBA® Instructors: Tressa Giordano & Joanne Britton	NO CODE	Tuesdays and Thursdays January 5 - June 30, 2016	7:30-8:30 pm	Adults (14+)	\$40 pre-paid punch card worth 8 classes or \$8.00 walk-in fee	Ellington Senior Center
ZUMBA KIDS® Instructor: Tressa Giordano	ZUMBA.KID16	Tuesdays January 5 February 2 March 1	6:45-7:15 pm	Ages 6-12 Boys and Girls	\$15 for All classes or \$5 walk in fee per class	Center School Or Senior Center
Ginny's Fitness for Longevity Instructor: Ginny Hogan fitnessforlongevity@gmail.com	No code Registration Required at the First Class	Session D: Mondays and Wednesdays Beginning January 5 to June 8	6:00-7:00 pm	14 years and up	\$40 for a pre-paid punch card/8 classes \$5 per class pre-payment or \$7 walk-in fee	Center School Room #23 or Hall Memorial Library

Check our website for program descriptions and details regarding classes.

The Ellington Connection



Girls & Boys Spring Lacrosse Outdoor Program

March 14 to June 14, 2016

The Recreation Department will be offering
Spring Travel Teams for grades: 1st through 8th.

Registration must be received by January 25, 2016 so we can determine number of teams and roster size.

Requests to move up a level must be made in writing to the Recreation Department prior to January 25, 2016.

Coaching Positions: Those individuals interested in applying for coaching positions are required to attend the Coaches Information Session on January 31 from 10-11am at the Recreation Office. Questions, please email Bob Tedford at rtedford@ellington-ct.gov.

Lacrosse Equipment Required:

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

Season Practice Schedules:

Bantams Practice 2-3 days per week
Juniors and Seniors Practice 3-5 days per week

Divisional Placements

Lightning Program Grades 1 & 2 (Fee \$45)

Girls minimum: 15; maximum: 20
Boys minimum: 15; maximum: 20

Bantam Program Grades 3 & 4 (Fee \$75)

Girls minimum: 15; maximum: 25
Boys minimum: 15; maximum: 25

Junior Program Grades 5 & 6 (Fee \$85)

Girls minimum: 15; maximum: 25
Boys minimum: 15; maximum: 25

Seniors Program Grades 7 & 8 (Fee \$95)

Girls minimum: 15; maximum: 25
Boys minimum: 15; maximum: 25

Families with 3 or more participants will receive a \$10 family discount. Additional fees will be required for both boys and girls uniforms.

Pre-registration is required for all programs and clinics

Boys & Girls Lacrosse Clinics Program

Intro Clinic for Grades K-2

Saturday Program ~ April 23 - May 21, 2016
9:00 am-10:00 am at Ellington High School
Cost: \$25 per player

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.

Boys & Girls Lightning League: The

Lightning Lacrosse Program is targeted at 1st and 2nd grade players. Teams would practice 1-2 days per week, with a few games against other Lightning teams from surrounding towns.

January 25, 2016 is the deadline to register to ensure team placement, provided the minimum and maximum enrollment figures have been met; if that has occurred a "wait list" will be kept in order to determine if and when openings do exist.

Travel Lacrosse Guidelines

2016 playing time guidelines: The boys and girls Lacrosse programs will be considered "travel" programs during the 2016 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.

Evaluation Session: The Recreation Department reserves the right to establish/schedule three 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 2 of the 3 evaluation sessions. Time and location will be determined after registration closes.

Mandatory Parents Meeting: There will be mandatory parents/players meeting in March to review details and season expectations, costs, fundraising and rule changes for 2016. Date & Time TBA.

The Ellington Connection

2016 Spring Outdoor Youth Soccer ~ Fee: \$30.00 (U14- U8)

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 below). Based on enrollment and evaluation submittals 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) on the playing field
U-12 Boys and Girls	Small sided (8 vs. 8) or (11 vs. 11) 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
U-8 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 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.

Please visit the website for the Soccer 2015-2016 Seasonal Year Age Groups Guidelines



The deadline for players to register in order to retain his/her Fall 2015 roster placement is **April 8, 2016**. 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 2016 Season could bring about new age groups and/or placements based on 'actual enrollment' as of April 8, 2016. 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 2015, please make sure that this information is provided on the registration form.



Evaluation Dates:

Friday, April 8
6:00-7:15 pm

Saturday, April 9
9:00 am-10:15 am

at Brookside Park

In-House Spring Soccer Program ~ Ages 4-8 years Boys & Girls

The Recreation Department will be offering a Spring Soccer Clinic for children in April 2016. Due to the growing number of children interested in this sport of soccer, we will 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 rtdford@ellington-ct.gov. Please note: The quantity of volunteers will determine how many children will be accepted into this program.

Ages 4-6
CODE: INHSE.SOC4616
Mondays
April 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16
May 23 makeup date

Time
5:30-6:45 pm
Location
Middle School Soccer Field
Fee: \$25

Ages 7 & 8
CODE: INHSE.SOC7816
Wednesdays
April 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18,
May 25 makeup date

Day Trips! Refer to the Town website for more details at parkrec.ellington-ct.gov. *Fee includes transportation only.

Trip	Code	Dates	Time	Location	Fee*
Ski Trip Loon Mountain New Hampshire	LOON.TRIP15	Saturday March 12, 2016	Depart: 7:00 am Return: 9:00 pm	<i>Dunkin Donuts commuter lot off I-84, Exit 68</i>	To be determined
Day in Boston	BOSTON.TRIP16	Saturday, April 23, 2016	Depart 7:30 am Return: 6:00 pm		\$45

The Ellington Connection



Local and Fresh...Our Community at its Best

Winter Market

Over 25 vendors bringing you local and fresh!

Dates:

December 19
January 9 and 23
February 6 and 20
March 5 and 19

Check the website for Location, hours and details.

Dianne Trueb (860) 872-0121

Email: ellingtonfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Visit our website at ellingtonfarmersmarket.com

We're blogging at ellingtonfarmersmarket.wordpress.com

Get Involved!

Do you want to get involved in your Town?

Vacancies exist on the following Boards, Committees and Commissions.

Board/Committee/Commission

Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

Ad Hoc Planning Committee for the Pinney Street Town-owned Property

Building Code Board of Appeals

Community Voice Channel Board of Directors

Conservation Commission

Ethics Commission

Inland/Wetlands Agency Alternate

Vernon Area Cable TV Advisory Council

Any elector of the Town of Ellington interested in serving the community on one of the above-listed boards, committees or commissions should call the First Selectman's office (860) 870-3100 and request a Statement of Interest or visit our website at Ellington-ct.gov, select 'Government', select 'Boards & Commissions', select 'vacancies'.

Coming soon!

Ellington's New Website to launch in early 2016!

The Town will launch a newly designed website in early 2016! We are working diligently on designing a comprehensive, dynamic and informative website that will truly serve the needs of Ellington's residents, businesses and visitors.

We will keep you posted on the launch date!

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:

December 24 Christmas Holiday

December 25 Christmas Holiday*

January 1 New Year's Day*

January 18 M.L. King, Jr. Day

February 15 Presidents' Day

*There will be a one day delay in trash collection for these holidays.

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

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

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