

THE ELLINGTON CONNECTION

www.ellington-ct.gov

Spring 2012

Maurice Blanchette, First Selectman
860-870-3100

Voters Approve Projects

In case you haven't heard, on February 14 Ellington voters approved two construction projects to address needs of both younger and older residents.

A major school project (passed by 71% of those who voted) will change Crystal Lake School as follows: renovates-as-new the existing structure, especially the older section and major systems that date to when the school was built over 55 years ago, bringing it into the modern world and up to current code; adds 18,350 square feet in a two-story configuration in preparation for an immediate increase in students; re-aligns the main driveway from Route 140 to 59 South Road (property acquired last year from a willing seller) for safety; adds two multi-purpose recreation fields on the South Road property for students and after hours general use; configures the building for use as a basic emergency shelter; and addresses a whole lot of smaller but important needs like increased parking, connecting to the street sewer line, providing space for spectators in the gym, etc. The work will be done in phases, while students are attending the school and over at least two summers.

Windermere Elementary/Intermediate School will be altered to receive the Town's pre-K school program which currently resides at Center School; the changes include adding more bathrooms. At just the right time, Windermere Intermediate School, now attended by all the Town's 5th and 6th graders, will no longer exist; all K through 6th grade students will attend their district school.

This will address severe overcrowding now (becoming impossible soon) at Windermere School. It will also benefit Crystal Lake district students who have an hour plus bus ride to the Intermediate School.

Submitted to the State before July 2012, approval of the project is expected by July 2013; to qualify for reimbursement of 50⁺% of cost, construction should begin after that.

A Senior Center (passed by 70% of those who voted) will be built across Maple Street (Route 140) from Ellington High School on land the Town already owns. It will be more than 2.5 times larger, and much more suitably configured, than the space now leased for this use on Church Street. The Senior Center Steering Committee has already raised \$50,000 for this, towards a self-professed goal of \$500,000 in public and private grants and donations for the project. Congratulations to the Committee for its efforts to successfully advance the project, and best wishes for success in fund raising.

The 20-year bonded cost of these two combined projects is expected to result in a 1 mil peak-year effect on the tax rate. It's not a small amount, but should bring noticeable quality-of-life improvement to many. Of course, yearly *Operating Budgets* also need support, for the benefit of all residents.

Maurice Blanchette

Annual Budget Hearing
April 10, 2012 @ 8 PM
Ellington High School

Annual Budget Meeting
May 8, 2012 @ 8 PM
Ellington High School

VOLUNTEER WEEK
April 15—April 21
Thank You!...

For more information and details of the Proposed 2012-2013 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

“We’re Number One – Or Not”

I recently sent an e-mail to the members of the Board of Education with the above title. Most members of the Board are familiar with my sense of humor and I am sure they immediately detected my sarcasm. Some may have even anticipated the content of my communication from the title. Although the title may have contained some humor, the content certainly did not.

Most citizens of Connecticut know that there are 169 towns and cities in the state. When analyzing school statistics by district/municipality that number becomes 166. I have never compared the lists to note the difference, but all data is analyzed and presented by the Connecticut State Department of Education. All school districts in Connecticut are required to submit a multitude of annual data reports. One such report contains all financial data from the previous school year.

One major statistic that is reported annually is Net Current Expenditures per Pupil (NCEP). School districts contain many similarities, yet they can also be quite different. Districts differ in grade configuration, size and composition of student population, and urban/suburban/rural settings among others. Annually, financial statistics are compared across a variety of categories. The full report for 2010-2011 has yet to be released; however, the significant comparison of how much money each district spends per pupil it educates was published by the Connecticut State Department of Education in November.

The data provided by the Connecticut State Department of Education revealed that for the 2010-2011 school year (last year) the Ellington Public Schools ranked number 166 out of 166 in educational spending per pupil. That places the Ellington Public Schools last in per pupil spending in the state. It is fact that Ellington spends less than every other district in the State of Connecticut on a per pupil basis. This data is readily available on the Connecticut State Department of Education’s website.

The Town of Ellington is certainly not last in the state in terms of town wealth. When using the Adjusted Equalized Net Grand List per Capita (AENGLC) Ellington ranks number 106 in town wealth. When using the Educational Cost Sharing (ECS) formula Ellington ranks number 120 in wealth. There are numerous statistics related to student achievement data. Across all measures of student achievement the Ellington Public Schools are consistently in the top twenty-five to thirty-five percent.

What does being last in per pupil spending look like when compared to other districts and its impact upon the entire budget? Data from 2010-2011 reveals that, if the Ellington Public Schools had the per pupil spending of the districts below, the entire budget would need to be increased as follows:

Tolland	Add	\$ 999,908
Granby	Add	\$ 3,925,463
Somers	Add	\$ 4,799,009
Suffield	Add	\$ 5,054,480
Coventry	Add	\$ 6,048,894
Stafford	Add	\$ 6,606,535
South Windsor	Add	\$ 8,477,242
Vernon	Add	\$ 8,732,713
Bolton	Add	\$ 9,394,740
East Windsor	Add	\$10,798,457

Let’s look at it by per pupil ranking. Instead of being number 166 if Ellington were:

160	Add	\$1,610,475
150	Add	\$3,234,575
140	Add	\$3,975,775
130	Add	\$4,866,850
120	Add	\$5,341,000
106	Add	\$8,147,750

I can continue to list numbers but the results would be redundant. In terms of spending per pupil, the Ellington Public Schools are certainly not number one. Upon reading the above I’d like to know your thoughts and reactions. Please do not misinterpret my intent in this communication. The Ellington Public Schools are a wonderful place for children to be educated. We are proud of the achievement of our students within the resources provided. However, the above should invoke an inquiry as to what services and programs would be available to the students in Ellington if we were not the lowest in the State of Connecticut in spending per pupil. That sounds like an appropriate topic for future contemplation.

The above commentary did not elicit much response when posted on my blog. This is most likely the result of the limited readership of my Superintendent’s Blog. I do not believe it is the result of a lack of opinion on the topic. I did receive two responses to this posting. One can be viewed on the district website. The other came via e-mail. The posted commentary (I encourage you to read it) while indicating sadness regarding this state of affairs, recommends a healthy dialogue on what services and programs we should be offering to the children of Ellington. The e-mail offered kudos as this is a “feather in your cap”.

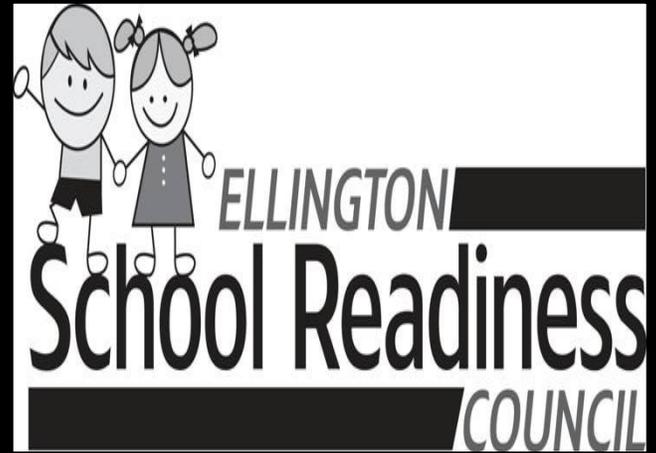
Those who know me would probably state that I am fiscally conservative. My wife would agree with that statement with the exception being what is spent on our two children. I believe that for many of us, when it comes to our own children, we can never do enough. I believe that many, if not all, administrators in the district know how difficult it can be to get the superintendent to approve the expenditure of money. During budget deliberations one member of the Board of Education regularly refers to me as "The Grinch." Thus, getting the most effective and efficient services for our money is a source of pride for our district. However, failure to provide the programs and services that the students in Ellington need to be successful in the global economy is inexcusable. There is a need and we must address it.

Next year the federal Jobs in Education Fund will expire. This means a loss of approximately one-half million dollars in federal support for the Ellington Public Schools. These funds are needed to support the following positions: 1.28 FTE Special Education, 1.0 FTE School Psychologist, 1.0 FTE Guidance Counselor, 1.0 Elementary Classroom, 1.0 FTE Music, .5 FTE Remedial Reading, and .4 FTE Mathematics, as well as eight at-will classroom support positions. In my opinion, the loss of these positions would be devastating for the students in the district.

The upcoming budget cycle may be the most difficult one in many years. The loss of federal funding as described above, coupled with a significant increase in health insurance costs, will demand more revenue to meet existing need. When one considers that we are already last in per pupil spending in Connecticut, my fear is how far behind we will fall. We need to build for the future, yet I fear we will be forced to take a step back into the past. We need to create a plan that will meet the educational needs of all of our students in a rapidly changing, increasingly technological, global society. We have already won the race to the bottom (in terms of per pupil spending). Whether we remain there or how much further behind we fall is to be determined.

As stated earlier, the achievement of the students in the Ellington Public Schools far exceeds its rankings in terms of town wealth or per pupil spending. That is a tribute to our students, their families, our staff and the wider Ellington community. There is a challenge before us. That challenge is not to continue to achieve as we have in the past, but for our students to achieve at higher and higher levels. That is what the future will demand of them and of their country. We must do all we can to assist each and every student to be prepared to meet the ever changing challenges and opportunities that await them. We can settle for nothing less. Your response is welcome at the Superintendent's Blog on the website for the Ellington Public Schools, www.ellingtonpublicschools.org.

Stephen C. Cullinan



The Ellington School Readiness Council will sponsor a free workshop series for parents of:

- preschool aged children and
- preschool/day care providers

Investigations, Activities, and Explorations Around Early Literacy and Numeracy Skills

Mondays from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

April 9th, 23rd, 30th and May 7th

Hall Memorial Library in Ellington.

All participants will be provided with books and materials. Child care will be provided during the sessions.

Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Call Irene at 860-896-2300 ext. 19 or email at ieastman@ellingtonschools.net.

Ellington Community Scholarship Association

Annual Phone-A-Thon

March 12, 19 & 20 ~ 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.

**Registrar of Voters
860-870-3107**

**Presidential Primary
April 24, 2012
6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

- District One: Ellington High School
37 Maple Street; and
- District Two: Crystal Lake School
284 Sandy Beach Road

Please see below for important dates regarding party enrollment changes, voter registration deadlines and absentee ballots.

Tuesday, April 3, 2012: Absentee ballots become available from the Town Clerk's office.

Tuesday, April 10, 2012: Special Voter Registration Session from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Registrar's Office, Town Hall, 55 Main Street.

Thursday, April 19, 2012: DEADLINE for mail-in voter registrations for new voters, and for unaffiliated voters, to enroll in a party for voting in its primary. For new voters, mail-in applications must be postmarked, or received by the Registrars of Voters by this date. For unaffiliated voters, the mail-in application must be received (not merely postmarked) by this deadline.

Monday, April 23, 2012, 12:00 Noon: In person enrollment deadline for new voters and unaffiliated voters enrolling in a party in person at Town Hall.

Voter registration cards may be obtained from the Town Clerk's or Registrars' Office at Town Hall, 55 Main Street, or at the Hall Memorial Library, 93 Main Street, or can be downloaded from the Town Website at www.ellington-ct.gov or the Secretary of the State website at www.sots.ct.gov. If you have questions regarding your voter registration or district, contact the Registrar's Office at 860-870-3107.

Wanda DeLand

Republican Registrar of Voters
wdeland@ellington-ct.gov

Susan Luginbuhl

Democratic Registrar of Voters
sluginbuhl@ellington-ct.gov

**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 2011, 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, an application has been mailed to you.

The filing period for the homeowners' program is February 1st through May 15th. Applications are available at the Assessor's Office.

Additional Veterans' Exemptions

Any person entitled to a veteran's 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, an application has been mailed to you. The filing period for this program is between February 1st and October 1st. Applications are available at the Assessor's Office.

***Income requirements:**

To qualify for the 2011 benefit year the maximum income is \$39,500 for a married couple and \$32,300 for a single person.

**Diane McKeegan, Town Clerk
860-870-3105**

**Fishing Season Opens
April 21, 2012**

Resident fees for 2012

- \$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.



Tim Webb, Public Works Director
860-870-3140

Hoffman Road Brush Drop Off Area

Hours of Operation

Opens April 7, 2012

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 will be scheduled for the Fall of 2012 (date to be determined); however, Ellington residents can attend any of the MDC sponsored drop-off locations. Visit www.themdc.com for the 2012 schedule.

The following items can be dropped-off [year round] 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.

Help Keep Pollution Out of Storm Drains

Only rain in the drain! That's because storm drains and roadside ditches lead directly to our lakes and rivers. So, any oil, pet waste, leaves, trash or dirty water from washing your car that enters a storm drain gets into our lakes and rivers. We all need to be aware of what goes into our storm drains.

What can you do?

- Sweep fertilizer off of driveways and sidewalks, back onto your lawn.
- Keep leaves, grass clippings, trash and fertilizers out of storm drains.
- Do not dump motor oil, chemicals, pet waste, dirty soapy water, or anything else down the drain.

Keep our water clean!

Sweeping Program

We will be sweeping the roads starting in the Crystal Lake area. We will then proceed to the south end of town working north. The Sweeping Program will begin in March, weather permitting.

Bulky Waste Pickup

Bulky waste includes scrap metal, appliances, aluminum, copper, brass, tools, water tanks, pipes, faucets, tires, rims, furniture, carpet, toys, toilets, sinks, tubs, mattresses, box springs, etc. Wood and carpet cannot exceed 4 ft. in length. Carpet should be rolled and tied. No more than 2 cubic yards of bulky waste allowed per week. To schedule a pickup, please call **four days** before your *regular* collection day: **All American Waste 860-289-7850**

Note: Demolition/construction debris is not picked up under the bulky waste program.

Message from the Tree Warden

The Public Works Director, who is also the Tree Warden, would like to remind residents that they should not cut trees that touch wires or are in the town right of way. Trees in the wires are the responsibility of CL&P. Trees in the town right of way are the responsibility of the town.

Please keep a safe work environment when cutting any trees or brush on your property. We would also like to thank the residents for their patience during the debris removal that resulted from winter storm Alfred. The brush received at the Hoffman Road Drop Off Area that the residents brought to the site was ground and resulted in a total of 5,710 cubic yards of wood chips.

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.

SPRING PROGRAMS

- **Laura and Jason Gardiner: Ballroom Dancing -Demo and Lesson-** Wednesday, March 21, 7:00-8:30pm
- **Hanna Perlstein Marcus: "Sidonia's Thread: The Secrets of a Mother and Daughter Sewing a New Life in America"**- Tuesday, April 3, 6:30-8:00pm
- **High School and Beyond - College Planning Workshop** (for parents and students), presented by Mark Danaher- Tuesday, April 10, 6:30-8:00
- **Cathy Testa: Container Gardens-** Tuesday, April 17, 6:30-8:00pm
- **Jeff Huffmire: Fly Tying Workshop-** Saturday, April 14, 10:30am-2:30pm (limited to 8 participants)
- **How to Pay for College**, with Craig Brietsprecher- Tuesday, April 24, 6:30-7:30pm
- **Diana Ross McCain: It Happened In Connecticut** - Thursday, April 26, 7:00-8:00pm
- **Younhee Shin: Korean Spirit and Culture-** Saturday, May 5, 1:00-2:30pm
- **Susan Schoenberger: Author, "A Watershed Year"**-Tuesday, May 15, 6:30-8:00pm
- **Pat Wright: Dog Listener-** Wednesday, May 30, 6:30-8:00pm.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR LIBRARY CARD!

In this age of identity theft, the library has one hard and fast rule: *all transactions require presentation of your library card.* This includes checking out, renewing and reserving any materials, renewing over the phone, and using the computers. If you find you have forgotten your card after choosing some materials, we will hold them for you until you return with your card. Library cards are free to all residents over the age of 5 and getting one takes only a few minutes. Fill out an application, present an ID and proof of residency and begin to enjoy all the great stuff your library has to offer.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The March book discussion title is *The Razor's Edge*, by Somerset Maugham. Copies of the book are available at the front desk. We will also be showing both versions of the movie prior to the discussion date of March 21. Call or check the website for show times.

NEED AN EXAM PROCTOR?

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

EBOOKS

If you have taken the plunge and gotten an ereader, the library has ebooks! HML is part of a collective that is building a collection of ebook titles for use by library patrons. Go to the library website at www.biblio.org/ellington, click on the link to "Downloadable Audio and EBooks" and check out this collection. If you need help with the initial downloads, bring your reader in and we'll walk you through the process.

MOVIES AND POPCORN

- **The Descendants-** Friday, March 23 at 1:00pm and Tuesday, March 27 at 6:30pm. This film is rated R.
- **The Iron Lady-** Friday, April 13 at 1:00pm and Monday, April 16 at 6:30pm. This film is rated PG-13.
- **Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close** - Friday, April 27 at 1:00pm and Tuesday, May 1 at 6:30pm. This film is rated R.

TUMBLEBOOKLIBRARY SERVICE AT HML

TumbleBookLibrary is an online collection of animated, talking picture books which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they'll love. TumbleBooks are created by adding animation, sound, music and narration to existing picture books in order to produce an electronic picture book which you can read, or have read to you. This new service is available on the computers in the Children's Room and also at home from the library website at www.biblio.org/ellington.

Children's Department News

The Hall Memorial Library has truly **"Gone to the Dogs"** – the Allen's Angels Therapy Dogs, that is. Every other Saturday from 10:30-11:30, several Allen's Angels Therapy Dogs get themselves comfortable upstairs in different corners of the Children's area, just waiting for stories to be read to them. These dogs are trained to behave themselves and be very good listeners. Children ages 5 to 12 years old are welcome to register for a 10-15 minute session with one of these friendly dogs. Participants may bring a favorite story from home or they may read a chapter of a favorite book. Parents are asked to wait in a different space while their child reads. Dog handlers will remain with the dogs during the reading. Big dogs, little dogs, short hair, long hair. . . you never know who you'll meet at the library! This is a wonderful way for children to practice reading skills and also to gain confidence as a reader. Come join in the fun!

This year the winner of the Nutmeg Award for the intermediate grades is *Stolen Children* by Peg Kehret. Congratulations!! Ten new titles are on our shelves as the 2013 Nutmeg Award Nominees. There is no time like the present to come and get started with a new title. The ten nominees are: *Potato Chip Puzzles* by Berlin; *Because of Mr. Terupt* by Buyea; *Powerless* by Cody; *Born to Fly* by Ferrari; *Wonder of Charlie Anne* by Fusco; *Tale Dark & Grimm* by Gidwitz; *Baseball Great* by Green; *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Lin; *Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* by Philbrick; and *My Life as a Book* by Tashjian.

Celebrate EARTH DAY 2012 at the Library on April 21 @ 3PM with a special magic show. Full Effect Productions will return to our library with a wonderful family show!

Area Preschools will be invited to enjoy a performance of music and storytelling by Mary Jo Maichack on May 10. This program is made possible by a grant from The Connecticut Humanities Council.

Summer will soon be upon us. Your Children's Department is in the process of making plans for lots of summer activities to keep you busy and **READING**. The theme for summer 2012 is "Dream Big. . . READ!" It's a little too early to give out the details, just yet. Perhaps your friendly librarians will visit you at school before the end of this year and share all of the fabulous details with you then. Look for us one day in June.

Friends of the Hall Memorial Library

BIG BAG BOOK SALE May 18-20

The Friends are currently collecting gently used books and DVDs to feature at the sale, so if you have any books that you no longer want, bring them into the library any time. Also remember, the Book Cellar, the Friends used book store, is open all year round.

BOOK CELLAR HOURS

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

YA (Young Adult) Stuff

The Young Adult Advisory Board successfully ran two fundraisers this winter. Our Bake Sale made \$200 from a variety of cupcakes, cookies, breads, cakes, brownies and fudge. Overheard throughout the sale, "It's hard to pick just one!" Thank you to all who baked for us – we couldn't have done it without you!

Our third annual Read-A-Thon was held on February 10th. The teens loved having the library by themselves that night. From pizza and cookies for dinner to moving furniture around to get more comfortable, the teens got to see a different side of the library during this event. Since we are still gathering pledges from the Read-A-Thon, our earnings aren't known yet - but judging from the smiles on the teens' faces, the event was a huge success!

All of this fundraising was to get us to the Boston Public Library in the spring. While we may not have raised enough to get to Boston this year, we'll keep plugging away at fund raising and will get there as soon as we can! As Andrew Carnegie said, "Anything in life worth having is worth working for."

For the second year, we'll be teaming up with the Ellington Senior Center to hold a joint book discussion between teens at the library and the seniors in our community. The first discussion will be on Tuesday, April 3rd from 3-4 pm at the Hall Memorial Library. The teens have picked the book, "Between Shades of Gray" by Ruta Sepetys for the first discussion. The seniors will pick the title for the second book discussion to be held at the Library on Tuesday, May 1st from 3-4 pm. Refreshments will be provided. Copies of the books will be available at the library about a month before each discussion. This program is open to any teen or senior in the community.

**Celebrate National Library Week
April 8-14, 2012**

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

**Heartburn Awareness &
Cardiovascular Disease Management**

**Wednesday, March 28th
12:00 Noon—Lunch
12:30 pm—Program
Ellington Senior Center**

Students from the UConn School of Pharmacy will be reviewing important information on “heartburn” and cardiovascular disease issues. This is a “Lunch & Learn” program—12noon for luncheon, and then program. You must RSVP for this program by calling the Ellington Senior Center at 860-870-3133 to register by March 23.

National Drug Take Back Day

**Saturday April 28th
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Ellington Resident Troopers’ Office
33 Arbor Way [off of Main Street]**

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Ellington Resident State Troopers will be collecting your accumulated unwanted, unused prescription medications for safe disposal—just bring them to the Resident Troopers’ Office for this special program. NO NEEDLES OR SYRINGES will be accepted.

If you have questions about this program contact the Resident Trooper at 860-875-1522, Monday through Friday, 8am to 3pm.

Parkinson’s Disease Support Group News

**April is Parkinson’s Awareness Month—
Special Program with Dr. Toni DeMarcaida on:**

**Friday April 20th
11:00 am
Ellington Senior Center**

Join us to learn more about Parkinson’s Disease treatment and medication updates. This is a Lunch & Learn program, sponsored by Teva Pharm.

Lunch at 11:00 am
Dr. DeMarcaida’s presentation at 12noon.

You must RSVP for this event as seating is limited—call Anna Turner at 860-870-3131 to register to attend this event.

**911 Emergency on Medical Dispatch & Being
Prepared for Emergencies**

**Thursday, May 3rd
2:00 pm
Ellington Senior Center**

Mr. Jack Turner will present information on contacting 911 to report an emergency and how you should be prepared in case of your own emergency in your home. Refreshments served.

Please RSVP for this program by calling the Ellington Senior Center at 860-870-3133.

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

The referendum passed! I thank those in the community who showed their support by voting in favor to build a new home for the Senior Center!

I sincerely appreciate and thank the Senior Center Steering Committee members: Wayne Reynolds, Chairman, Sue Hannigan, Vice-Chairman, Tom Dzicek, Morris Webber, Amelia Kurpat, Estelle Williamson; Doris Crayton, Human Services Director; Anna Turner, Elderly Outreach; Peter Williams, Building Official and Melinda Ferry, Human Services Commission Chairman for their devotion and all their diligent work to achieve this reality! The support given by Laurie Burstein, former Selectman Liaison and from all members in the Human Services Commission is greatly appreciated. I acknowledge the Friends of the Senior Center who participate at the center and those who volunteer many hours for this success.

I am also grateful that the school projects are going forward as a result of the referendum vote! This reminds us that indeed, “Ellington is a great place to grow.” For all ages. Thank you, senior citizens, parents and all supporters for this significant outcome that shows coming together and continuing to work together is the greatest achievement of all.

ELLINGTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2012 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 set up the family account. The process for requesting an account is simple and takes 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 set up 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 registration allows you to pay by cash, check or charge with no convenience fee being applied to your credit card. **Note: there is a convenience fee applied to your credit card when registering at home.**

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

Crystal Lake Sprint Triathlon July 15, 2012 (Rain Date July 22)

The Ellington Recreation Department, with the assistance of Town Resident Bill Dougherty, has developed the 2012 triathlon course and obtained approvals from various Town departments.

The Sprint Triathlon will be held on July 15 at 8:00 AM at Crystal Lake in Ellington. 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 3.2 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 3.2 miles around Crystal Lake area

The triathlon will be limited to 220 participants; there will be on-line sign-up starting March 1, 2012 through the Triathlon website: www.ellingtontriathlon.com or the Ellington Parks & Recreation website at:

www.ellington-ct.gov.

The cost will be \$70 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.

2012 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 12 noon -5:00 pm 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 9th through Week of August 10th, 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 rtdford@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.

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ACTIVITY	ID CODE	DATES	TIMES	AGES	FEE	LOCATION
Tiny Tot (Outdoor) Tennis Lessons Instructor: Charles Huggins	TINY.TTTL	Session L: April 23, 30, May 7, 14	5:30-6:15pm	Ages 3-5	\$35	Brookside or Schwartz Park
	TINY.TTTM	Session M: May 21, June 4, 11, 18	5:30-6:15pm	Ages 3-5	\$35	Brookside Park
Pee Wee (Outdoor) Tennis Lessons Instructor: Charles Huggins	PEE.PWEL	Session L: April 23, 30, May 7, 14	6:30-7:15pm	Ages 5-7	\$35	Brookside Park
	PEE.PWEM	Session M: May 21, June 4, 11, 18	6:30-7:15pm	Ages 5-7	\$35	Brookside or Schwartz Park
Cardio Tennis	0205.CART	To be determined if interest warrants	TBA	14 & up	\$30	Brookside Park
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.TENC	Session C: April 25, May 2, 9, 16	6-7 pm	Ages 8-13	\$35	Brookside Park
	YUTH.TEND	Session D: May 23, 30, June 6, 13	6-7 pm	Ages 8-13	\$35	Brookside / Schwartz Park
Tennis Lessons Adult Beginners Instructor: Rich Willis	0205.ASTBC	Session C: April 25, May 2, 9, 16	7-8 pm	14 & up	\$35	Brookside Park or Schwartz Park
	0205.ASTBD	Session D: May 23, 30, June 6, 13				
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 25, May 2, 9, 16	8-9 pm	14 & up	\$35	Brookside Park or Schwartz Park
	0205.ASTIB	Session B: May 23, 30, June 6, 13				
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.JUK1112	Session 11: March 1, 8, 15, 29, April 5, 12, 26, May 3	5:30-6:45 pm	6 & up	\$52	Windermere School Gymnasium
	0504.JUK1212	Session 12: May 10, 17, 24, 31, June 7			\$30	
KRIPALU Yoga Inst. Jack Fila, RYT E-mail: yogamanjack@cox.net	KRIP.YOGS	Spring Session 2012: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	6:30-7:45 pm	18 & up	\$80 (\$9 for walk-in class)	Hall Memorial Library

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

April 25 - June 9, 2012
Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 pm
Saturdays 9:00-10:30 am

Fee: \$25.00 (includes T-shirt)
Code ID: [1212.track12](#)

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 what-ever-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 seeks volunteer help from track parents and Ellington High School students.

If interested in helping with the program e-mail:
rtedford@ellington-ct.gov or mbartley@ellington-ct.gov

Eastern CT Women's Soccer Club

The **Eastern CT Women's Soccer Club** is an outdoor recreational league for women aged 23 and over. Its 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.

Introductory Lacrosse Clinic Grades K-2

The Ellington Recreation Department will be offering **Intro Clinic for Grades K-2**. This clinic will be designed to introduce kids to lacrosse. Basic fundamentals of throwing, catching, cradling and shooting will be covered. Players do not need equipment for this clinic, the equipment will be provided.

Dates: May 5 - June 9, 2012
Saturday Program 9 am-10 am
Location: Ellington High School

Cost: \$ 20.00 per player
Code: [InstLax.2012](#)

Hiking Club



Hiking Club is a year-round program, pending weather conditions. The Ellington Hiking Club meets on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am in Arbor Park Parking Lot before departing for that particular week's location.

Please register at the Recreation Office to be added to the e-mail contact list.

High School Age Tennis Spring Warm-Up

March 12th ~ 4:30-6:00 pm
@ Ellington Middle School

March 13th & 15th ~ 3:00-4:30 pm
@ Manchester Racquet Club

Fee: \$30.00 per player



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

Contact the Ellington Recreation Department by March 10th to register online.



Community Gardens/Batz Property, 97 Shenipsit Street

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.**



2012 Spring Outdoor Youth Soccer \$30.00 (U9 - U18)
 (For 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 (11 vs. 11) Or Small sided (6 vs. 6) 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; 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. The deadline for players to register in order to RETAIN his/her FALL 2011 roster placement is **APRIL 9, 2012**. Registration forms received after that date will be placed in the "as available" file until final registrations/2 evaluations have been completed. It is important to note that the spring/2011 season could bring about new age groups and/or placements based on "actual enrollment" as of April 9, 2012. 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 2011, please make sure that this information is provided on the registration form so an accurate accounting may be kept.

**Spring Outdoor Soccer
 Tryout Dates
 at Brookside Park**

April 9 & 11 6 pm-7:15 pm for U10/U12/U14 Boys and Girls for those who wish to qualify for a team in a respective age group.
April 13 6 pm-7:15 pm Makeup date for either April 9 or 11 date, if required.

**Spring Soccer Age Groups
 CT Junior Soccer Association
 Birth Date Guidelines
 Age Groups
 for Seasonal Year
 September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2012**

- | | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| U-19 | Players born 8/1/92 and younger |
| U-18 | Players born 8/1/93 and younger |
| U-17 | Players born 8/1/94 and younger |
| U-16 | Players born 8/1/95 and younger |
| U-15 | Players born 8/1/96 and younger |
| U-14 | Players born 8/1/97 and younger |
| U-13 | Players born 8/1/98 and younger |
| U-12 | Players born 8/1/99 and younger |
| U-11 | Players born 8/1/00 and younger |
| U-10 | Players born 8/1/01 and younger |
| U- 9 | Players born 8/1/02 and younger |
| U- 8 | Players born 8/1/03 and younger |

In-House Spring Soccer Program ~ Ages 4-8 years
Calling All Parents, College/High School Students and Coaches

The Ellington Recreation Department will be offering the Spring Soccer Clinic for children again this coming April. Due to the growing number of children interested in the 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 Coach's Clinic, in order to assist in helping you grow to love the game of soccer. Not only will you enjoy yourselves, 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 & 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. This cannot be successful without your help and volunteer time. So please contact the Recreation Department @ recreationstaff@ellington-ct.gov; rtedford@ellington-ct.gov or bryan.forst@sbcglobal.net. Please note, the quantity of volunteers will determine how many children will be accepted into this program. **Boys & Girls Fee: \$25.00**

Ages 4-6

Mondays:
 April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21;
 June 4, 11 make-up dates

Time Frame: 5:30-6:45pm

Location: Ellington Middle School
 Soccer Field

Ages 7 & 8

Wednesdays:
 April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
 June 6 make-up date

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 & 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 U13 division.
U13	Any number of U13 & 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 & 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 & 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 & 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 & 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 2012 YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEERLEADING

Including: Ellington, Somers, East Windsor
Boys & Girls ages 6 to 13

Registration Information:

Wednesday, May 16, 6 pm-7:30 pm &

Saturday, May 19, 10 am to 12 noon @ 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. A \$50 refundable concession fee is also due at registration. Registration forms will be available online after May 1st. Separate checks for registration fees and concession fee are appreciated. 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 23

@ Brookside Park

Ultimate Frisbee is back! Now in our 6th 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 begin play Mondays & Fridays, between 5:30 and 6 pm. 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. Bring a light & dark t-shirt, water, cleats or sneakers and be prepared for a great time & workout.

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>.

2012 Recreation Department T-Ball Programs

Registrations will be accepted at the Recreation Department
March 1 through April 16

Recreation Department Instructional T-Ball

Boys & Girls Ages 4–6

(Age 4 in 2011 up to those who will turn 6 years old before December 31, 2011)

Saturday Mornings 10:00 am-11:00 am

Ellington High School (Fields located behind the school)

April 28, May 5, 12, 19, June 2, 9
(Rain Date June 16 if needed)

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

ID Code: 1214.tball12

**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)

April 28, May 5, 12, 19, June 2, 9
(Rain Date June 16 if needed)

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

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

ID Code: 1214.advt12

**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 April 26 at 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.

- *Special situation: Players graduating from 8th grade and entering 9th grade, will have the option-at their parents' and coaches' discretion, to elect to play in either the High School division or the Middle School division, but not both.*

Fee: \$95.00 per player to 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.

e-mail: recreation@ellington-ct.gov

Spring/Summer ASA 2012 Umpire Certification

The Recreation Department will offer a pre-season training clinic for individuals 18 or over who 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 recreational 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.

Activity	Date	Time	Ages	Fee	Location
Music & Movement Adult participation required Instructor: Jill Maznicki	Wednesdays: Code: MNM.WEDS8 April 4, 11, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (make-up June 6, 13)	10:15am-11am	Ages 1-3	\$65 Resident \$70 Non-Resident	Hall Memorial Library (Max 10 per session)
	Tuesdays: Code: MNM.TUES7 April 3, 10, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (make-up June 5, 12)	9:15am –10:00am			Crystal Lake Schoolhouse (Max 8 per session)

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.

Little Hands Instructor: Jill Maznicki	April 5, 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (make-up June 7, 14) Code: LITT.HAND5	10:15-11:00 am	Ages 2-3	\$65 Resident \$70 Non-Resident	Hall Memorial Library (Children's room)
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Chase away those long winter days with this hands-on sensory art experience! Children will use their senses to create art using edible media such as yogurt pudding, crackers, cool whip, cheerios and much more! Play time with friends is a must and a portion of class time will be set aside for children to interact with others and make new friends. Dress for mess! (10 per session)

Outdoor Pee Wee Sports Instructor: Jill Maznicki	Mondays: April 2, 9, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, June 4 (make-up June 11, 18) Code: OPWS.MON	10:00-10:45 am	Ages 3 & 4	\$65 Resident \$70 Non-Resident	Brookside Park
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Fresh Air, friends and a fun multi-sport experience! Come learn the basics of soccer, t-ball, tennis and basketball in a cooperative, small team setting. Please wear sneakers and bring a water bottle. Some adult participation required.

Pokémon Club Instructor: Jill Maznicki	Fridays: April 13, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1, 8 (make-up 6/15)	3:45-4:45pm Code: POKE.CLUB3	Grades: 1-4	\$40	Hall Memorial Library Max 15
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Gotta catchem all!!! Come join Pokémon Club! This club is perfect for the long-time card collector or newly interested. It is a great way to strengthen reading and math skills using the Pokémon cards to challenge opponents to a battle or sound out those crazy Pokémon names. Please bring only enough cards to class that you can keep track of. **NO TRADING OF CARDS WILL BE ALLOWED DURING CLUB TIME.**

Total Body Blast Instructor: Ginny Hogan Monday & Wednesdays	NO CODE Registration Required at the First Class March 5, 7, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28, April 2, 4, 9, 11	6:00-7:15pm	Adults Only	\$5 per class pre-payment or \$7 walk-in fee \$40 Punch Card/8 classes ALL payments due at registration	Hall Memorial Library
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Blast off those calories and tone your muscles with a full-body workout that targets your major muscle groups. Get strength training, cardio and core training in each workout. Modifications are made to suit all ability levels. Bring a stability ball, hand weights & a mat. Consistency, group support and determination will give you positive results. Join us!

Class	ID	Dates	Times	Ages	Fees	Location
Youth Informal Basketball Boys/Girls	YIB.912	(Thursday Evenings) April 26 May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	7-9 pm	Current Grades 9-12	\$15	Windermere School
An informal youth basketball program will be offered during the spring months for boys and girls currently enrolled in grades 9-12.						
Youth Basketball Clinics	YBC.2012	(Tuesday Evenings) April 24 May 1, 8, 15, 22	5:30-6:45pm 6:45-8:00pm	Grades 1-4 Grades 5-8	\$18	Windermere School Gymnasium
This clinic will emphasize and teach basic fundamentals and learning to play the "right way".						
CPROHeart LLC Babysitter Safety Course	BABE.SITT19	Session # 19 May 15 & 17	3:30-6:30 PM	11 to 15 min: 10 max :15	\$45	Windermere School Cafeteria
CPROHEART LLC Babysitter Safety Course teaches the skills necessary to care for children of all ages in a variety of settings. The course is intended for 11 to 15 year olds. It covers; diapering, feeding, burping, soothing techniques for an infant, toddler considerations, behavior issues and skills for good behaviors, house safety, fire extinguishers and phone safety. It covers injury prevention, first aid, and choking, and basic CPR techniques. The course covers how to call 911, what to do while waiting in an emergency. The course is six hours, it can be done in two, three-hour sessions and includes a workbook and certification upon completion. It is fun and very interactive with a lot of hands on practice in diapering, bandaging, and role playing. Bring a snack & water bottle, wear comfortable clothing. No cell phones on, no computer games or iPods during class, .						
Men's Informal Basketball	0205.50311	Monday Evenings Concludes June 11 (Closed Apr 16, May 28)	5:30 pm-9 pm	Over 30	\$5	Windermere School (March-May Location to be determined)
	0205.50411			Under 30		
Co-Ed Volleyball	coedvb.504S	Wednesdays: Concludes April 25	7:30-9:00 pm	18 & up	\$3	EMS
Women's Self-Defense	0503.WSD10	To Be Determined Based on Interest	7 pm	12 & up	No Fee	Windermere School
Adult Outdoor Soccer	AODS.402	Tentative start April (weather & field conditions permitting)	6-8 pm Wed. 9-11am Sun.	18 & up	\$5	Brookside Park
Youth indoor (Co-ed) Soccer	0301.CES11	Spring Session: March 23, 30, April 13, 27	6-7 pm 7-8 pm 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	Tuesdays & Thursdays Starting: January 4 - June 14	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. Classes will follow the Ellington Public Schools Calendar NO Classes on Vacation Days or School Cancellation Days. Zumba® is the Latin-inspired, easy -to -follow, calorie-burning dance fitness party. Feel the music and let loose. Bring a water bottle and towel.				



Outdoor Golf Lessons @ Ellington Golf Center Fee: \$65 per session		
Spring 2012 Dates	Time	Ages
Session 1: April 14, 21, 28, May 5	11 am -12 noon 12 noon-1 pm 2 pm- 3 pm 3 pm- 4 pm	Women's Class Co-ed Adult Class Youth 6-9 years old Teens 10-13 years old
Session 2: May 8, 15, 22, 29	6 pm-7 pm 7 pm-8 pm	Youth 6-9 years old Teens 10-13 years old
Session 3: May 10, 17, 24, 31	6 pm-7 pm 7 pm-8 pm	Women's Class Co-ed Adults Class
Session 4: June 5, 12, 19, 26	6 pm-7 pm 7 pm-8 pm	Youth 6-9 years old Teens 10-13 years old
Session 5: June 7, 14, 21, 28	6 pm-7 pm 7 pm-8 pm	Women's Class Co-ed Adults Class
Session 6: Mini-Camp July 9, 10, 11	9 am -12 noon	Ages 9 to 13
Session 7: Mini-Camp July 23, 24, 25	9 am -12 noon	Ages 9 to 13
Session 8: Mini-Camp August 6, 7, 8	9 am-12 noon	Ages 9 to 13
Session 9: July 5, 12, 19, 26	6 pm-7 pm 7 pm-8 pm	Women's Class Adult Class
Session 10: August 2, 9, 16, 23	6 pm-7 pm 7 pm-8 pm	Women's Class Adult Class

Lifeguard Training Course

The purpose of the American Red Cross Waterfront Lifeguarding Course is to teach participants the knowledge and skills needed to prevent and respond to aquatic emergencies both in the pool & at a waterfront environment. If interested, please E-mail Mary Bartley @ mbartley@ellington-ct.gov Or Felicia LaPlante @ flaplante@ellington-ct.gov. The course will be conducted at the Crystal Lake Beach and the Old Crystal Lake School House. Minimum of 5 enrolled; Maximum allowed 10.

Eligibility:

- 15 years old by the last day of class,
- Swim 550 yards
- Retrieve 5lb. brick from 8ft of water

Cost: \$225 Resident; \$250 Non-resident ~ Dates & Times to be determined by May 1

Deadline for Class Registration is May 1 (Minimum enrollment 6)

Note: This class certifies you as an American Red Cross Lifeguard. Although the Town of Ellington offers this class, there is no guarantee that completion of this program will entitle an applicant to be placed in a position at Sandy Beach for the Summer of 2012.

2012 Seasonal Employment

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
email: recreation@ellington-ct.gov

Summer Day Camp: Camper-to-Counselor

ages 13-15 years

(16+ must apply for counselor positions)

Session 1: June 2, 1-3 pm Group Interview
maximum of 15 applicants @ Recreation Office

Session 2: June 6, 5:30-7:30 pm Group Training
maximum of 12 chosen applicants @ Recreation Office

(Register no later than April 15, 2012)

A maximum of 12 people will be chosen for volunteer positions for the 2012 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.

April Vacation Camp 2012

April 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

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 2
Registration Online Only

\$90/Week (\$18/Day) 5 Full Days ~ 8:30 am- 3 pm

\$80/Week 2nd & 3rd child

\$60/Week (\$12/Day) 5 Half Days ~ 8:30 am-12 Noon

\$55/Week 2nd & 3rd child

Discounts do not apply to Before/After Care

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

\$7 daily After Care 3 pm-5 pm

Campers should bring outdoor clothing & a bagged lunch

Kid's Fair!

Save the date! May 5, 2012

The Ellington Recreation Department and Rise Above are hosting a Kid's Fair at Brookside Park from 1-3 p.m. There will be many games, crafts, prizes, and even face painting! You can register online, or at the Recreation Department and the fee is \$10 per family. Please be sure to register by April 28th. At the door, the fee will be \$5 per person. The rain date will be on May 6th. Parents must accompany children. For more information call the Recreation Department at 860-870-3118.

We hope to see you there!



AED/ First Aid/ CPR Instructor: Allison Breen

Register online ONLY at
Ellington.safety@yahoo.com

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

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 activities to register.

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

- Monday, April 2 5:30 pm-10:30 pm
- Saturday, April 28 9:00 am-2:00 pm
- Monday, May 7 5:30 pm-10:30 pm
- Saturday, June 2 8:00 am- 1:00 pm

Please understand that each coach is **REQUIRED** to complete this training.

Maximum six (6) coaches per class allowed, so register early.

Crystal Lake Sandy Beach 2012

[weather & staff permitting]

Pre-Season: Weekends only starting June 9, 10, 16, 17 ~ 12 noon-5:00 pm

Full Season: June 25-August 19 ~ 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 15

Crystal Lake Sandy Beach 2012 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.

2012 Swim Lessons Schedule

Session # 1	June 25 - June 28	(Monday-Thursday)
	July 2, 3, 5, 6	(No Class on July 4th)
Session # 2	July 9- July 12	(Monday-Thursday)
	July 16 -July 19	(Monday-Thursday)
Session # 3	July 23 - July 26	(Monday-Thursday)
	July 30 - Aug 2	(Monday-Thursday)

Fridays are used for 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 2011 will receive a letter by May 1st as to which class level they are to register for in the 2012 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 @ mbartley@ellington-ct.gov



2012 SUMMER CAMP

Ellington's Ultimate Summer Camp Extravaganza!

Ages 4-12 (Must be 4 Years old as of 12/31/11) Must be potty Trained (*Strictly Enforced*)

Fees & Hours:

Full Day:	8:30am - 2:30 pm	\$75 per child/per week (\$15/day)
Half-Day:	8:30am - Noon	\$40 per child/per week (\$8/day)
Half-Day:	12 noon- 3:30pm	\$40 per child/per week (\$8/day)
Before Camp:	7:30 - 8:30am	\$10 per child/per week (\$3/day)
After Camp:	2:30- 4:30pm	\$35 per child/per week (\$7/day)

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

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 pro-rated
- 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.

Location: Center School

CAMPERS BRING BAGGED LUNCH EACH DAY!

Week	Dates	Daily Activity Schedule
Week 1	June 25-29	7:30 am-9 am Free Play
Week 2	July 2, 3, 5, 6	9 am-12:30 pm Groups divided, Crafts, Outdoor & Indoor Activities, Free Play (weather permitting)
Week 3	July 9-13	12:30-1pm LUNCH
Week 4	July 16-20	1 pm-3 pm All Outdoor & Indoor Activities (weather permitting)
Week 5	July 23-27	3pm-4:30pm Free Play
Week 6	July 30-Aug 3	
Week 7	August 6-10	
Week 8	Aug 13-17	



Information Session:
Monday, June 4th 5-7pm @ Recreation Office

Field Trips possible pending enrollment.

Ellington Cemetery Annual Meeting and Spring Clean-up

The **Annual Meeting of the Ellington Cemetery Association** will be held on:

Tuesday, April 3, 2012
Ellington Senior Center Meeting Room
7:00 pm

Please take notice that cemetery lots must be cleared of all winter decorations by April 1st. Thank you for your cooperation in this effort.

You can also visit our website for current rules and regulations at www.ellingtoncemetery.com.

Farmers' Market

Arbor Park (Main Street)
 Every Saturday beginning May 5

9AM-12:00PM

www.ellingtonfarmersmarket.com

Ellington Women's Club Spring Fundraiser

The Ellington Women's Club, in conjunction with the Women's Club of Enfield, will be presenting a rousing

“Creedence Clearwater and John Fogerty Tribute Concert”
via New York's acclaimed Green River Band on:

Saturday, April 21st at 7:00 p.m.
Enrico Fermi High School Auditorium
124 North Maple St., Enfield, CT.

Advance tickets are \$20 per person (\$25 at the door) and can be obtained by mailing your request and check (with a stamped, self-addressed envelope) to: Lorraine Dentamaro, 17 St. James Avenue, Enfield, CT 06082.

For further information, please call 860-253-9163 or email lzac1950@yahoo.com. The proceeds of this fun-filled and high energy performance CCR revival show by Green River will benefit the many local organizations and causes that both the Ellington and Enfield Women's Clubs contribute to each year. We hope the public will be supportive of this grand Spring fundraiser!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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

April 6	Good Friday
May 28	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 8	Easter Sunday
May 13	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

Board/Commission Vacancies

Vacancies exist on the following Boards/Commissions:

- Ad Hoc Crystal Lake Milfoil Committee
- Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee
- Ad Hoc Committee for Preservation of Pinney House
- Ethics Commission
- Zoning Board Of Appeals 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.

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

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