



THE ELLINGTON CONNECTION

ellington-ct.gov

Winter 2014-15

Maurice Blanchette, First Selectman

(860) 870-3100

email: mblanchette@ellington-ct.gov

Ellington Town Charter, SECTION 1208. REVIEW AND AMENDMENT OF CHARTER reads:

“The Board of Selectmen shall review the several provisions of this charter from time to time as it deems such review to be in the best interest of the town, but not less than once every five (5) years, said review to be published as part of the Annual Town Report. The amendment of this charter may be initiated (a) by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board of Selectmen or (b) by a petition signed by not less than ten (10) percent of the electors of the town as determined by the last completed registry list of the town, such initiation in either instance to result in the appointment by the Board of Selectmen of a charter revision commission, said commission to consider any proposed amendments to the then existing charter. Such proposed amendments shall not become effective until and unless the same shall have been approved by a majority of the town electors voting thereon at a regular election or if approved at a special election by a majority equal to at least fifteen (15) percent of the electors of the town, as determined by the last completed registry list of the town. The provisions of Chapter 99 of the General Statutes, as amended, as may now or hereafter apply to the manner of amending said charter shall prevail in the event of any conflict with the provisions of this section of the charter.”

The charter was last revised in 2007, following the work of the 2005-2006 Charter Revision Commission; the CRC recommended in a memo on December 26, 2006 to the BOS that “the BOS not wait five years until the next Charter Revision to study changing the current form of government to Town Manager/Administrator.” We are now beyond that time, but the current BOS has reached the same conclusion

and is now working on establishing a Charter Revision Commission to review sections of the charter such as the following: (a) to accommodate revised State Statutes [replace Library Board of Directors with Library Board of Trustees] [members of the zoning board of appeals shall not be members of the zoning commission] [sealed bids shall be required for purchases greater than \$25,000 rather than \$7,500]; (b) to accommodate internal requests [make the Ad Hoc Design Review Board a permanent Board]; (c) to professionally service a larger and still growing population [review form of government]; and, (d) to address input from residents at an open hearing early in the work of the Commission. Keep informed by checking the Town website for the most current information.

Senior Personnel Changes: DPW Foreman Robert Willis retired recently after more than 41 years with the department; 18 year DPW veteran Leonard Descheneaux succeeded him. Assistant Foreman Jack Rich, also with more than 41 years of DPW service, recently announced his retirement, effective end of 2014.

On August 18, 2014 the BOS appointed Dorian R. Famiglietti of the firm Kahan Kerensky & Capossela LLP in Vernon to succeed long-serving Atherton (Joe) Ryan as Ellington Town Attorney.

Thank you: In spite of trying weather, the private Winterfest committee headed by Ellen Karadimas and supported by many volunteers put on *Winterfest 2014* on December 6. Thank you to all the volunteers and spectators for the exciting event.

Maurice Blanchette

Sergeant Patrick Sweeney

Ellington Resident State Troopers’ Supervisor

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

With the winter season upon us, the Ellington Resident State Troopers’ Office reminds residents to be extra cautious while driving in inclement weather. Reducing your vehicle speed, increasing the distance between vehicles, and conducting preventative maintenance to your car will help keep you, your family, and your vehicle safe this winter season.

Winter is also a good time to be outside enjoying the cold weather with cross country skiing, snow shoeing, and snowmobiling activities. Those who snowmobile must be respectful of property owners who 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 be on can constitute trespassing.

Under CT General Statutes 14-252a and 13b-221, failure to remove any accumulated ice and snow from your vehicle and the depositing of snow onto a roadway are punishable by fines. Depositing snow upon State and Town roads makes it more difficult for our DPW crews to remove snow and make the roads safe for your travel. Also, Town ordinances are enforceable under CT General Statute 7-148. Failure of homeowners to remove snow from sidewalks in front of their homes within 24 hours of a snowfall is subject to a fine.

Please have an enjoyable and safe Christmas and Holiday season.



**Town of Ellington
2015 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	D	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31				
April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	D	D	D	D	D	30	28	29	30				
							31													
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	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	D	D	D	D	D	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							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	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	D	D	28	20	21	22	23	24	D	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

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

Tim Webb, Director Public Works/WPCA Administrator
 (860) 870-3140 email: twebb@ellington-ct.gov

Cindy Roman, Assessor
 (860) 870-3109 email: croman@ellington-ct.gov

Sewer Grinder Pumps

Residents in the Crystal Lake area that have outside access to public grinder pumps should keep them clear of snow and debris should an occurrence for maintenance arise.

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.



Sand is Available to Residents

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, they may bring them to the Town Garage, 21 Main Street, any time and leave them by the grey shed.



**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.	3:30 p.m.
The Drop Off Recycling Center will be open 9am-noon on Saturday, January 10 and Saturday, January 17, 2015	

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

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

Homeowners Tax Relief Program:

The Homeowners' Tax Relief Program allows a tax credit for qualifying individuals. To qualify, the homeowner (or spouse, if domiciled together) must have been 65 years of age by the end of 2014, 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 will be mailed to you. The filing period for the Homeowners' Program is February 1 through May 15. Applications will be available at the Assessor's Office after February 1, 2015.

Additional Veteran's 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 will be mailed to you. The filing period for this program is between February 1 and October 1. Applications will be available at the Assessor's Office after February 1, 2015.

Income requirements: To qualify for the 2014 benefit year the maximum income is:	
\$42,200	Married Couple
\$34,600	Single Person

If you have any questions please contact the Assessor's Office at (860) 870-3109 or contact Anna Turner of Ellington Human Services at (860) 870-3131 for assistance in completing the forms.

Save the Dates! It's Budget Season!		
Tuesday April 14, 2015	Budget Public Hearing 8:00 p.m.	Ellington High School 37 Maple Street
Tuesday May 12, 2015	Annual Town Budget Meeting at 8:00 p.m.	

Budget documents will be available for review at Hall Memorial Library (93 Main Street), the Town Clerk's Office (55 Main Street) and on the Town website at Ellington-ct.gov.

Stephen C. Cullinan, Superintendent of Schools
 (860) 896-2300 email: scullinan@ellingtonschools.net website: ellingtonschools.org

The Best Day of the School Year!

What is the best day of the school year? Were I to pose that question to a large or mixed audience I believe I would receive quite a variety of responses. The more cynical among you would readily reply, "The last day!" Whether you are a student or a staff member your answer might quickly be followed by a smiling, almost giddy, rendition of "School's Out for Summer." Unfortunately, I have heard many of you sing, so let's leave the vocals to Alice Cooper.

The optimists among you might reply, "The first day!" We all start with a clean slate. That first day might be the first day of kindergarten (dreaded by many parents), the first day of high school or maybe the first day of college. Just think about it – a chance to go back to college. How cool would that be? Okay let's weigh the options – work or college? Work or college? Work or college? I think that one is pretty easy.

Some members of the Class of 2015 might say that the correct answer to my inquiry is "Graduation Day!" Graduation Day represents accomplishment, achievement, celebration of the journey and most importantly, new opportunities on the horizon. On that day we may experience the emotional contrasts of joy and sadness along with hope and fear. On Graduation Day we witness laughter and tears and we listen to words of reflection on the past and encouragement for the future. I must admit that I do enjoy Graduation Day.

There are some evil people among you who would respond that the best day of the school year is, "Any snow day!" (I know who you evil people are!) Maybe years from now, in retirement, I may (and I repeat **may**) gain some appreciation for a snow day. But for now, they rank among the worst days of any school year.

There are many excellent answers to this question. Among them might be: the day of the championship game; the day of my first drama production or the day of my last concert; the day our class won the spirit assembly; or the day we delivered the fruits of our food drive to the food pantry. I think that the number of responses to this question is almost endless.

My favorite day of the school year may be the same as yours or quite different. My favorite day of the school year is Veterans Day. I believe that Ellington High School has held a recognition of our veterans for the past eighteen years. Ellington Middle School introduced a program eight years ago. Our elementary schools introduced formal programs three years ago. For many of those years the actual ceremony was on a day other than Veterans Day.

This year at Ellington High School, senior Allison Letizia, who has been involved in the planning of the high school program for the past four years, stated that of all the holidays we celebrate in the United States her favorite holiday is Veterans Day. I was moved by the sincerity and the power of her words. Student

representative to the Board of Education Jennifer Roy has also been involved annually in the high school program. She stated that over the years she has gotten to know some of the veterans and how much she and the other students enjoy speaking and learning from them during the Veterans Day breakfast. Most of the speakers at the high school program are students. This is as it should be. Our veterans efforts were to provide for the future and our students are that future. Annually our guests marvel at how respectful the students of Ellington High School are regarding the program and towards our veterans. I think there are two reasons for this. The first is, that quite honestly, they are great kids. Second, the veterans deserve it and the students know this.

Ellington Middle School held its eighth Veterans Day recognition which featured an entire cast of student speakers. The students did it all. The welcoming address, a number of veteran's recognitions, several poems, a trumpet solo and music from the chorus were all delivered by students. Representatives of the future said thank you and offered appropriate recognition to those who made that future possible.

Students at Windermere School personally invited veterans to come to their school on Veterans Day. Among the distinguished guests were moms and dads, grandmothers and grandfathers, aunts and uncles, cousins and friends. After sharing breakfast in the cafeteria, veterans went to various classrooms in the school to speak about their service to their country and to answer some well-prepared student questions. I was fortunate to spend some time with the fourth grade that day as they listened and learned. In response to student questions we heard variations of the following:

"In the military I learned discipline." "I learned the importance of collaboration." "You have to learn how to rely on the person next to you as you are in it together." "The hardest part of my service was being away from my family." "I was fortunate to travel to many countries and learned a lot about other cultures." "Through my experience I learned just how great a country we live in today." "I did take advantage of the GI Bill. I earned a bachelor's degree, a master's degree and am working on my doctorate." I repeatedly heard words such as loyalty, honesty, sacrifice, commitment, hard work and pride. I heard of being proud of your service, proud of those you served with and certainly pride in your country. Windermere principal David Welch, whose son is currently serving in our military, delivered a moving tribute to all veterans via the intercom.

At Center School students also invited veterans to attend the school's annual recognition. With great pride our young students introduced their guests to an all school assembly in

the gymnasium. Music teacher Tim Adams led the students in a musical presentation for our veterans. Each veteran took a few moments to share some of their experiences with our students who listened intently. The importance of the same qualities and attributes mentioned previously were stressed by our speakers. One of our veterans stated that this was only the second time in the last forty-five years that he had been invited to celebrate Veterans Day. I certainly hope he joins us every year. Another veteran described his service to our students and as he looked at the approximately four-hundred young students seated before him, he closed by stating, "As I look out at so many angels here today, I must state that it was all worth it."

What's the best day of the school year? I know the competition with some of the alternatives is stiff. However, my choice is a day when you pay tribute to the men and women who served in our military to protect our freedom. It is a day when you pay tribute to those who served to help citizens of other nations to hopefully begin to experience the freedoms we enjoy in this great country. It is a day when we pay tribute to the citizen soldier whose service embodies true sacrifice for others. It is a day when, along with our students, we reflect upon the ideals upon which this nation was founded. It is a day to say thank you and well done. Most importantly, it is a day along the journey as we prepare to pass the torch of freedom to future generations to ensure that they know the cost to secure it and the obligation to maintain it. Veterans Day is certainly my favorite school day. As I think about that day maybe Allison is right – maybe it's my favorite holiday as well.

Stephen C. Cullinan

Ellington Public Schools
Where Children Come First

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

2015 Hunting and Fishing Licenses

Sports Licenses and Permits for 2015 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. Applications 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

All dogs must be registered at age six months or within 30 days of acquiring your pet by Connecticut State law. 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

Please call the Town Clerk's Office at (860) 870-3105 or email townclerk@ellington-ct.gov if you have any questions.

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

January 1, 2015 Taxes Become Due

The second installment of real estate and/or personal property tax will become due on January 1, 2015. The last day to pay without penalty is Monday, February 2, 2015. 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, 2013 and before September 30, 2014. 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.

Please call the Tax and Revenue Collector's Office at (860) 870-3113 or email aconti@ellington-ct.gov if you have any questions.

Susan Phillips, Director, Hall Memorial Library (HML)

(860) 870-3160

email: hallmlib@ellington-ct.govwebsite: library.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.**hoopla is here
and your library card is your ticket!**

We're excited to announce a new digital entertainment/media service, **hoopla**, enabling you to borrow movies, videos, music and audiobooks straight from your browser, tablet, or smartphone, thanks to the generous support of **The Friends of the Hall Memorial Library!**

hoopla gives you free access to thousands of titles anywhere and anytime you have an internet connection, with more new content being added all the time. And, with hoopla, there are no hold lists, no extra apps and no waiting for your title to buffer. View hit movies or listen to your favorite artist and more without expensive subscription fees - **all you need is your valid library card!**

hoopla can be accessed on Apple iOS 6.0+ or Android devices, and via the four major web browsers. To access the system on your mobile device, you'll need to first download the **free hoopladigital app** from the App Store on your device. There is no need to download an app or extension for your web browser.

To get started, visit the library webpage at library.ellington-ct.gov and click '**Sign Up for hoopla!**' And to help you view these great movies and shows on your TV, the Library has purchased Google Chromecast HDMI streaming media players for you to borrow.

Project Gutenberg titles now available to you through our Library catalog. Project Gutenberg is a volunteer effort to digitize and archive cultural works, to "encourage the creation and distribution of eBooks". It was founded in 1971 and is the oldest digital library. Most of the items in its collection are the full texts of public domain books and are primarily works of literature from the Western cultural tradition. In addition to literature such as novels, poetry, short stories and drama, Project Gutenberg also has cookbooks, reference works and issues of periodicals. The releases are available in plain text but, wherever possible, other formats are included, such as HTML, PDF, EPUB, MOBI, and Plucker. Most releases are in the English language, but many non-English works are also available. Links to these titles have been added to the online catalog, making them easier for you to access. For more information about this exciting project, visit the website at <https://www.gutenberg.org/>.

Notifications about Materials on Reserve: One of the great services offered by the Library is the reservation of materials that are checked out or requesting of items that we do not own. This is a fast and easy process that we can do for you, in person or by phone, or you can do from your computer or other smart device. Once the item is here for you, you will be notified in the way that you specified, either a phone call, email or text message. Remember that the person whose library card was used for the request will be the one getting the notification message. So if your child's card was used, the child will be getting the message.

Around the World in 80 Clues: The Library book discussion for the fall/winter season, *Around the World in 80 Clues* features mysteries in foreign lands.

Next titles are:

- ♦ January 21 - *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, by Stieg Larrson (Sweden)
- ♦ February 18 - *The Flower Master*, by Sujata Massey (Tokyo)

All sessions meet at 7:00 pm at Hall Memorial Library; refreshments are served. Join us!

Monthly Coffeehouse The Library's new upstairs setting for Friday evening live music and performances has proven to be a success! Please remember to register in advance for these shows as seating is limited due to safety considerations. The performances are free and light refreshments will be available. Your donations to help defray our costs are welcomed and appreciated.

**Oral History Project:**

Volunteers from the Library, Historical Society, Senior Center and Farmer's Market will be undergoing training in oral history interviewing techniques this month and will be anxious to begin putting their new skills to use in January. We're actively recruiting folks who would like to be interviewed, so please contact Francie at the Library at (860) 870-3160 if you would like to participate. Interviews will take place at the Library, the Senior Center, or any location that is convenient for you; we'll even come to your home to chat! Our goal is to preserve your stories for the benefit and enjoyment of the current residents of Ellington as well as future generations who would like a glimpse of life in Ellington in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Please consider sharing your stories!

Adult Programming at Hall Memorial Library

Event	Date	Time
Coffeehouse: <i>Comedy on the Move with Robert Rivest*</i>	Friday January 9	7:00 pm
<i>Declutter Your Life and Start Living</i> with Carleen Fischer Hoffman	Tuesday January 13	6:30 pm
<i>WOBBLIES in Connecticut</i> with Steve Thornton	Thursday January 22	7:00 pm
<i>New England Diner Cookbook</i> with Mike Urban	Tuesday February 3	6:30 pm
Coffeehouse: <i>Tin Pan Valley Trio*</i>	Friday February 6	7:00 pm
Crossword Puzzle Tournament	Saturday February 7	1:00 pm
<i>They Called Her Reckless-A True Story of War, Love and One Extraordinary Horse</i> with Janet Barrett	Tuesday February 17	6:30 pm
<i>The Gargoyles of Yale</i> with Mathew Duman	Thursday February 26	7:00 pm
Coffeehouse: <i>The Jolly Beggars*</i>	Friday March 6	7:00 pm
<i>How to Preserve Your Old Photos and Documents</i> with Christine McCarthy	Tuesday March 10	6:30 pm
<i>Pysanka Egg-Making Workshop</i> with Sharon Leonard*	Saturday March 21	10:00 am
<i>Nepalese Cooking</i> with Madhu Gupta	Wednesday March 25	6:30 pm
Coffeehouse: <i>Phil Rosenthal*</i>	Friday April 10	7:00 pm
<i>Lotus Flower Lantern Workshop</i> with Younhee Shin*	Tuesday April 14	6:00 pm

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

Movies (All films begin promptly on time)

<i>The Good Lie</i> rated PG-13	January 7 January 8	6:30 pm 1:00 pm
<i>Boyhood</i> rated R	January 14 January 15	6:30 pm 1:00 pm
<i>Get On Up</i> rated PG-13	January 21 January 22	6:30 pm 1:00 pm
<i>The Judge</i> rated R	January 28 January 29	6:30 pm 1:00 pm

Films will be shown most Wednesday evenings and Thursday afternoons. Check on the website at library.ellington-ct.gov or call (860) 870-3160 for future movie announcements.

Crossword Puzzle Tournament: The Friends of the Library will sponsor the 1st annual Crossword Puzzle Tournament on Saturday, February 7, 1:00-3:00 pm at the Library. Twenty participants will try solving four not-yet-published crossword puzzles created by NY Times Puzzle Master Will Shortz! Prizes in several categories! In-person registration begins on January 2; \$5.00 per person entry fee payable at registration. Look for more details at the Library or on the webpage at library.ellington-ct.gov.

From the Children's Librarian, Pat Grundman
(860) 870-3160 email: pgrundman@biblio.org

A Silly Song Sing-a-Long

Tuesday, December 30	11:00 am	All Ages
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Edward Leonard will lead this program, a mix of popular children's songs, interactive musical games, dance and rhythms. Edward will lead the activities with his voice, guitar, drums and a grab bag of musical surprises and gags. Free tickets may be picked up at the Children's Desk beginning December 20.

The Lionheart Puppet Company will perform "The Reluctant Dragon"

Saturday, January 3	10:30 am	Ages 4 to 11
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This production is recommended for children ages 4-11 and their families, of course. This puppet show is based on the story by Kenneth Grahame. Free tickets will be available December 20.

Allen's Angels Therapy Dogs

Saturdays: January 17, 31, February 14, 28, March 14 and 28	Register on the website.	Ages 5 to 12
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Allen's Angels Therapy Dogs help children practice their reading skills at the Library. These specially trained dogs listen as children read aloud helping the children to build confidence in their reading ability, as well as become comfortable around various sizes and types of dogs. Register online at library.ellington-ct.gov; go to the event calendar; click on the Read To The Dogs sign-up hand icon. Register at any time and there is no limit as to how many Saturdays a child may participate

Bring Your Child to the Library Day

Saturday, February 7	10:30 a.m.	All ages
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This year, **Bryan Flint** will be performing his special brand of magic in the large upstairs meeting room. Free tickets are available beginning January 31 at the Children's Circulation Desk. Come join in the fun!

Thank you "Friends"!

The Friends of the Hall Memorial Library funded some new Playaway Views and some Playaway Bookpacks. Playaway Views are small, rechargeable viewers that play animations of classic picture books. They are handheld and are great for car trips or any time. The Playaway Bookpacks are "read-a-longs" that include a recording of the story and also the book in print to read along with it. No device is needed to hear these books, just headphones. A very big thank you goes out to our generous Friends of the Hall Memorial Library Group!

Erin Graziani, Senior Center Director

(860) 870-3133

email: egraziani@ellington-ct.govwebsite: seniorcenter.ellington-ct.gov

For more information, including our daily/weekly programs, the Maple Street Kitchen Menu and our Monthly Newsletter - *The Maple Street Monthly*, please stop in to our Information Center at the Senior Center, 40 Maple Street, call us at (860) 870-3133 or visit us online at seniorcenter.ellington-ct.gov.

Special Events!

Program	Date/Time	Description	Cost
<i>New Year's Dance Party</i>	Monday, December 29 1:00-3:00 pm	Come celebrate the New Year dancing the afternoon away with local area dancers. Admission includes live music with Richie Mitnick on keyboard and light refreshments.	Tickets: \$3 at the Door
<i>East Chicago Joe</i>	Monday, January 26 1:00-2:00 pm	Enjoy the song styling of Sinatra, Bennett and the Great American Song Book as we welcome Joe Cadena! Joe has entertained in Vegas, Atlantic City and more.	Tickets: \$8 in Advance \$10/Door
<i>How's Your Balance?</i>	Thursday, January 29 2:00 pm	Sponsored by Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT, Inc. Presented by Sandee Wood, RN	free
<i>Master of Harmonica: Richard Badowski</i>	Thursday, February 19 1:00-2:00 pm	Many genres of music are included in this show: Blues, Jazz, R & B, Rock & Roll, Pop, Soul, Country, TV Themes, Broadway and Classical.	Tickets: \$5 in Advance \$8/Door
<i>Richie's Dance Party!</i>	Monday, February 23 1:00-3:00 pm	Richie is back for more music and dancing! Admission includes light refreshments and Richie Mitnick back on the keyboard with music to dance to.	Tickets: \$3 at the Door
<i>AARP Tax Aide</i>	Thursdays February 5 through April 9 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Trained volunteers will complete federal and state income tax returns at no charge for those 60 years old and older. Stop in or call for an appointment.	free
<i>Estate Considerations Workshop</i>	Thursday, February 5 2:00 pm	This 35-minute seminar explores the meaning of legacy and why it's important to think about what you want to pass on to future generations. Presented by Eric Judge of Edward Jones and Attorney Mangan.	free

Exciting Trips in 2015! Call for details and sign up deadlines!

Trip	Date	Cost (pp=per person)
<i>Dirty Rotten Scoundrels at the Warner Theatre, Torrington, CT</i>	Sunday February 15, 2015	\$90 pp
<i>A Day of Irish Celebration at the Fox Theatre, Foxwoods Casino</i>	Thursday March 12, 2015	\$74 pp
<i>Neil Sedaka in the Mohegan Arena at Mohegan Sun Casino</i>	Tuesday April 21, 2015	\$92 pp
<i>Myrtle Beach & Washington, D.C.</i>	Sunday, May 3- Saturday, May 9, 2015	\$989 pp double/triple \$1,249 pp single
<i>Montreal & Canada & New England Cruise</i>	Friday, May 29- Saturday June 6, 2015	Price varies by cabin
<i>Bermuda Cruise aboard the Celebrity Summit</i>	Sunday, August 30- Sunday, Sept. 6, 2015	Price varies by cabin



Diane Lasher-Penti, Youth Services Director
 (860) 870-3130 email: youthservices@ellington-ct.gov website: youth.ellington-ct.gov

Program	Dates	Times	Ages	Fee	Location
Rise Above Celebrates the Arts with "Gallery Night" 	Saturday February 28, 2015 <i>(Snow date - March 7)</i>	6:00 pm-9:00 pm	All ages	No fee	Ellington Senior Center
Ellington artists of all ages will have an opportunity to showcase their work at a community Gallery Night. Join Rise Above for this exciting event including a variety art displays, demonstrations, musical entertainment and refreshments. If you are an artist interested in showcasing your work, contact Megan at EllingtonGallery15@gmail.com for the details.					
3rd Annual Small Town Big Talent Community Variety Show 	Saturday March 21, 2015	7:00 pm	All ages	\$8 \$6/seniors and students	Ellington High School Auditorium
Rise Above, in conjunction with the Opening Knight Players, hosts the 3rd Annual Small Town Big Talent Community Variety Show. Proceeds from the show will benefit the Austin P. Tautkus Memorial Scholarship Fund . Open Auditions will be held on Tuesday, February 17 or Wednesday, February 18 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Ellington High School Auditorium. Community members of all ages and all varieties of talents are encouraged to attend the auditions! Questions? Please email Carling at BigTalent2015@gmail.com .					
Ruth Ettenberg Freeman, LCSW returns with her Positive Parenting Workshop Series 	February 19, 26, March 5 and 12 <i>(Snow Date March 19)</i>	6:00 - 8:00 pm	For parents of children ages 2 to 12	No fee	Youth Services 31 Arbor Way
Ruth will discuss discipline and communication methods that increase cooperation and strengthen a child's self-worth. This will help develop a child's emotional intelligence and decrease conflict in the family. Ruth has been teaching parenting skills to parents for 30 years. Visit her website at positiveparentingct.com or find her on Facebook. There is no charge for the workshop and free child care is offered. Please contact Youth Services to register at (860) 870-3130 or email dstauffer@ellington-ct.gov . Space is limited. For more information visit the Youth Services website at youth.ellington-ct.gov .					
Meditation/Relaxation Techniques for Girls and Boys Contact Chantal at characsy@ellington-ct.gov or call (860) 870-3130. Register on Activenet.	January 27; February 3, 10, 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7, 21, 28	6:00 - 8:00 pm	Grades 4, 5 & 6	\$25	Youth Services 31 Arbor Way
There are many paths to relaxation. Come learn how to breathe properly for maximum benefits to your mind and body; along with proper posture to help you feel overall better and more confident, relaxation techniques to help you fall asleep faster, focus your attention where needed, calm nervous/upset stomachs, relieve headaches and muscle aches and more.					
Parent Conversations Connecting our Communities <i>Families, teachers and administrators working together for the success of the child.</i> Please call Diane at Youth Services at 860-870-3130.	February 12 and April 19	6:30 - 8:30 pm	Parents	No fee	Windermere Media Center 2 Abbott Road
The Ellington Board of Education Special Services Department and the Ellington Youth Services Department are co-sponsoring this parent series. February 12: Topic - Developing Charts and Organizational Tools to support your child at home. Learn how to develop your own easy and effective charts and tools specifically designed for your child's need(s). April 9: Topic - Understanding Social Anxiety. Learn how to support your child in crisis and what services are available to help your child and family. Both nights include a roundtable discussion to shares ideas, ask questions and support parents.					

Robert Tedford, Director of Recreation (860) 870-3118 email: rtedford@ellington-ct.gov website: parkrec.ellington-ct.gov		
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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 parkrec.ellington-ct.gov
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AED/ First Aid/ CPR

Register via email:
Ellington.safety@yahoo.com

Instructors: Allison Breen or Kristen Wasielewski

The Recreation Department has two certified AED/First Aid/CPR Instructors on staff. 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.

Monday, January 26 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm
 Saturday, February 28 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Wednesday, March 4 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm
 Saturday, March 14 9:00 am - 2:00 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 and what date you wish to attend and sport you are coaching.

2015 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 (Dick Gunn and Clare Landmann) 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 but competitive nature of the teams involved. **Volunteers** are being sought to help assist with this event. Please call the Recreation Office at (860) 870-3118, if you would like to volunteer.

Basketball Class	ID Code	Dates	Time	Ages	Fee	LOCATION
Men's Informal Basketball	0205.50315 <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 0205.504145	Monday Evenings January through June <i>(Closed Jan 19; Feb 16; April 13, May 25)</i>	5:30-9:00 pm	Under 30 <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> Over 30	\$10	Windermere School
Unified Basketball Program Coordinator: Kim Skewes (860) 875-3707 dkewes@comcast.net	UNIFIED.BBAL	March 31; April 7, 21, 28; May 5, 12, *19, 26	5:30-7:15 pm	Grades K-12	\$25	Middle School *different location
Informal High School Basketball Boys & Girls**	1119.BB912W14 <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 1119.BGS91214	December 13, 2014 to March 7, 2015 <i>(Registration is ongoing)</i>	Varied Time Slots	Grades 9-12	\$60	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. Scrimmages are held in-house and attempts are underway to schedule games with surrounding towns.

8th Grade Boys Travel Basketball Tournament

Location: Ellington Middle School Ellington is hosting and will compete with teams from South Windsor and Manchester. A concession stand will be available.	<div style="background-color: #e0f0e0; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> December 26 5:00 pm Ellington vs. Manchester 1 6:30 pm South Windsor vs. Manchester 2 </div> <div style="background-color: #e0f0e0; padding: 5px;"> December 27 5:00 pm Consolation Game 6:30 pm Championship Game </div>	A program brochure will be provided and anyone interested in placing an advertisement should contact Bob Tedford at (860) 870-3118 no later than December 21, 2014.
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Activity	ID code	Dates	Time	Age/Grade	Fee	Location
Volleyball Co-Ed	2015.CVB1	Wednesdays: January 7 - April 1	7:30-9:00 pm	Ages 18 & up	\$10	Middle School
Youth Volleyball Co-Ed	2015.YCEVB	Wednesdays: March 4, 11, 18, 25 April 1, 8	6:00-7:15 pm	Grades 5-8	\$20	Middle School
Youth Indoor Soccer Co-Ed	2015.CES14	Spring Session Fridays: March 20, 27	5:00-6:00 pm 6:00-7:00 pm 7:15-8:15 pm	Grades 3rd-4th 5th-6th 7th-8th	\$5	Crystal Lake School
Women's Informal Basketball	2015.W18	Wednesday Evenings Dates to be determined	7:30-9:15 pm	Ages 18 & up	\$12	Center School
Jukido	2015.JUK1015	Session 15: Thursdays January 8, 15, 22, 29 February 5, 12, 19, 26	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					
Babysitter Safety Course 101 Min 8/Max 20 per session	BAB.SITF15	February 24, 26	3:30-5:30 pm	Ages 10-15 years old	\$45	Windermere School Cafeteria
	BAB.SITA15	April 28, 30				

Babysitter Safety Course is a new 4-hour program: This is an entry level course intended to teach age appropriate skills necessary to care for children of all ages using team babysitting, mother's helper and individual babysitting concepts. The course focuses on safety with emphasis on the prevention of unsafe situations. Included will be basic first-aid and obstructed airway management for conscious choking adult/child and infant as well as hand-washing, diapering, bottle-feeding, personal safety, interview skills and much more. Bring a snack each day.

Activity	ID Code	Dates	Time	Age/Grade	Fee	Location
After School Mini 6-Week Bowling Program Bus Transportation provided to Spare Time Lanes from Center School, Crystal Lake School and Windermere School	0516.CEN5S Center School	Mondays Spring session	4:00-6:00 pm	Grades K-4	\$65	Vernon Spare Time Bowling 350 Talcottville Road Vernon
	0516.WINK5S Windermere School (K-4)	March 2, 9, 16, 30 April 6, 20 Make-up date April 27				
	0516.WIN56S Windermere Grades 5-6		3:00-5:00 pm	Grades 5-6	All bowling forms are to be returned to the Recreation Department, not your child's school. Thank you!	
	0516.CLS5S Crystal Lake School					

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.

Page 12		The Ellington Connection				Winter 2014-15	
Activity	ID Code	Dates	Time	Ages	Fee	Location	
USTA10 Tennis Max 8	USTA.10S15	Session J: To be announced (TBA)	TBA	Grades K-4	\$35	TBA	
Tiny Tot Indoor Tennis Lessons Max 8	TINY.TTTW15	Mondays March 9, 16, 23, 30	5:30-6:00 pm	3-5 years	\$40	Crystal Lake School	
Pee Wee Indoor Tennis Lessons Max 8	PEE.PWEW15	Mondays March 9, 16, 23, 30	6:15-6:45 pm	5-7 Years	\$40	Crystal Lake School	
Youth Indoor Tennis Lessons Max 8	YOUTH.TNW15	Mondays March 9, 16, 23, 30	6:45-7:45 pm	8-13 years	\$40	Crystal Lake School	
High School Tennis Players Boys & Girls	EHST.TENN15	Tentative: 2nd Week in March	3:00-4:30 pm	Grades 9-12	\$45	TBD	
Players must provide their own racquet, sneakers & transportation to practices							
Tennis Lessons Adult Beginners (Indoor Lessons)	2015.40W14	Wednesdays & Fridays March 4, 6, 11, 13	7:00-8:00 pm	Adult Beginner 14 & up	\$35	Crystal Lake School	
Indoor Golf Lessons (affiliated with Ellington Golf Center)	2015.GOLFO	Session: Wednesdays March 18; April 1, 8, 22 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	2015.WSDG	Fridays April 10, 17	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.						

2015

Applications for seasonal employment will be available January 5, 2015 for those interested in applying for the following positions within the Recreation Department:

Seasonal

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

Employment

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

2015 Ellington Sprint Triathlon

1/4 Mile Swim ~ 12 Mile Bike ~ 3.1 Mile Run
July 12, 2015
Fee: \$70.00 (pre-registration required)



The Ellington Parks & Recreation Department and a few more passionate Tri-athletes will be hosting the **7th Annual Ellington Triathlon** at Crystal Lake. The 6th Annual event in 2014 was a huge success and we look forward to another great triathlon with added improvements.

The course will consist of 1/4-mile swim in Crystal Lake, a rolling 12-mile bike course in the country and a moderately flat 3.1-mile run around the lake. This is a fairly challenging course; however, that is what makes the sport of triathlon so much fun! Each race registrant will receive snacks, beverages, race bag, t-shirt and a water bottle.

Registration will open March 1, 2015 - July 1, 2015
at ellingtontriathlon.com

which will direct you to the Ellington Parks & Recreation registration.

Again this year, the proceeds from the 2015 Ellington Triathlon will support local charities in Ellington.

Any local businesses looking to support the race or match a donation, please contact us at ellingtontriathlon@comcast.net.

Volunteers are needed to provide assistance on the event day.
Contact us at ellingtontriathlon@comcast.net

2015 Ellington Girls Softball League Registration

Register online at ellingtongirlssoftball.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 31	9 am-12 noon	Middle School Cafeteria
Saturday, February 7	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.

Returning Players: Online registration will be open for 2 weeks from **January 31 to February 7, 2015**. A \$10.00 late fee will be added on to registrations submitted after February 14, 2015.

League Age & Fees

League	Age As of 12/31/14	Fee (below) <i>(plus \$25 refundable concession deposit and any optional clinic fees.)</i>
Rookies	6 to 8*	\$60
Minors	9 to 10	\$70
Majors	11 to 12	\$80
Seniors	13 to 16	\$80

**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
- ♦ Opening Day Apparel Sales/and year-end picnic
- ♦ Concession Stand

Volunteers must attend one of the registration sessions if you are a League Volunteer who has regular contact with players. 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 make a copy of your license).

Contact:

Keith Jarvis at jarviskeith67@yahoo.com
 or Jim Lavey at lavey@snet.net

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 ellingtongirlssoftball.org

2015 Ellington Little League Baseball

Players Ages 6 years-16 years (as of April 30, 2015)

Online registration at ellingtonll.org

Online registration open from January 29 - February 28, 2015

Returning players are requested to register online.

Registration Dates for New Players to Little League Baseball

Ages 6 & Up

Dates	Time	Location
Saturday, January 31	9 am-Noon	Middle School Cafeteria
Saturday, February 7	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, 2015.

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.

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.



Ellington Little League Baseball Fees & Contacts

Division	Ages	Fees*	Contact	Phone
T-Ball	6	\$55	Paul Catalano	(860) 841-8084
Instructional	7-8	\$70	Paul Catalano	(860) 841-8084
Farm/Minors	8-11	\$100	Mike Murphy	(860) 916-6906
Majors	10-12	\$100	Chris Sivo	(860) 872-4668
Junior/Senior	13-16	\$105	Jim Laughlan	(860) 558-5334

*\$5 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 2015

Date and location to be posted on the Little League website at Ellingtonll.org (Age as of April 30, 2015)

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; Player must attend one evaluation; two preferred.

Ages 13-15

Evaluations required for placement on Junior league team.

Major League Tryouts to be held in March 2015



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

(Age as of April 30, 2014)

Ages 10-12

All new 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 4/30/2015)

Date: March 21, 2015

Time: 9:00 am-11:30 am

Place: Ellington Middle School



Ellington Little League is not affiliated with the Ellington Recreation Department. The Ellington Little League 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 in Williamsport, including the April 30th age cut-off date.

VACATION CAMPS FOR CHILDREN GRADES K-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.

Camps		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 29, 30, 31	\$54.00 1st child	\$36.00 1st child	Before-Care: \$4.00/day/child	December 15, 2014
		\$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 13, 14, 15, 16, 17	\$90.00 1st child	\$60.00 1st child	Before-Care: \$4.00 per day	April 5, 2015
		\$85.00 2nd & 3rd child (or \$18 a day)	\$55.00 2nd & 3rd child (or \$12 a day)	After-Care: \$7.00 per day	

Day Trips 2015

These trips are being offered in Mansfield, Ashford, Coventry, Ellington, Tolland, Willington and Windham. Please register where you live at your local Recreation Department.

The pick-up/drop-off locations will be the commuter lot off I-84, Exit 68 in Tolland. Return times are approximate. No alcohol or glass items allowed on the bus. Refer to the Town website for more details at ellington-ct.gov.

Trip	Code	Dates	Time	Location	Fee	Notes
Boston for the Day	BSFD.TRIP15	Saturday March 14, 2015	Depart: 7:30 am Return: 6:00 pm	<i>commuter lot off I-84, Exit 68</i>	\$32 per person	Fee includes transportation only
Day in New York City Lower Manhattan	DNYC.TRIP15	Saturday, April 25, 2015	Depart 7:00 am Return: 10:30 pm	<i>commuter lot off I-84, Exit 68</i>	\$50 per person	Fee includes transportation only
Bronx Zoo	BRONX.ZOO15	Saturday, May 16, 2015	Depart: 7:00 am Return: 10:30 pm	<i>commuter lot off I-84, Exit 68</i>	TBD	Fee includes transportation only



Girls & Boys Spring Lacrosse

Outdoor Program
March 14 to June 14, 2015

The Ellington Recreation Department will be offering Spring Travel Teams for 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Registration must be received by January 25, 2015 in order to ensure proper roster size and number of teams needed.

Requests to move up a level must be made in writing to the Recreation Department prior to January 31, 2015.

Travel League Fees: Bantam-\$75; Juniors-\$85; Seniors-\$95
 Families with 3 or more participants will receive a \$10 family discount. Additional fees will be required for both boys and girls uniforms.

Note: Travel is required for Lacrosse within

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

Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Divisional Placement: Requirements for teams are as follows:

Bantam Program Grades 3 & 4

Girls minimum: 15; maximum: 25

Boys minimum: 15; maximum: 25

Juniors Program Grades 5 & 6

Girls minimum: 15; maximum: 25

Boys minimum: 15; maximum: 25

Seniors Program Grades 7 & 8

Girls minimum: 15; maximum: 25

Boys minimum: 15; maximum: 25

The Lacrosse Association is in *need of volunteers* who have an interest in helping out with practices or coaching. If you are interested in coaching, contact

Bob Tedford at rtedford@ellington-ct.gov

Please attend the Coaches Meeting on January 31, 2015 at 10:00 am at the Recreation Office.

Pre-registration is required for all programs and clinics

Boys & Girls Lacrosse Clinics Program

Intro Clinic for Grades K-2

Saturday Program ~ April 25 - May 23, 2015

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, giving them an opportunity to learn fundamentals of the game in a safe, fun and team oriented environment. No previous lacrosse experience is needed. Teams would practice 1-2 days per week, with a few games against other Lightning teams from surrounding towns. Cost: \$45.00 per participant. If interested register through Activenet.

Codes: LIGHT.TEAMB15
 LIGHT.TEAMG15

Travel Lacrosse Guidelines

January 24, 2015 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.

2015 playing time guidelines: The boys and girls Lacrosse programs will be considered "travel" programs during the 2015 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 is a mandatory parents meeting to review season expectations, costs, fundraising and rule changes for 2015.

March 9, 2015 at 6:30 pm at Ellington High School.

2015 Spring Outdoor Youth Soccer ~ Fee: \$30.00 (U18 - U9)

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

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 2014 roster placement is **APRIL 8, 2015**. 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 2015 Season could bring about new age groups and/or placements based on 'actual enrollment' as of April 8, 2015. 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 2014, please make sure that this information is provided on the registration form.

Soccer 2014-2015 Seasonal Year Age Groups Guidelines												
Age Group	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
U-8	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007
U-9	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006
U-10	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005
U-11	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004
U-12	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003
U-13	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002
U-14	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001
U-15	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000



Evaluation Dates:

**Friday, April 10
6:00-7:15 pm**

**Saturday, April 11
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 2015. 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 rtedford@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.SOC4615
Mondays
April 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18
June 1st makeup date

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

Ages 7 & 8
CODE: INHSE.SOC7815
Wednesdays
April 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20
May 27 makeup date

CLASS	ID CODE	DATES	TIME	AGES	FEE	LOCATION
Little Hands Instructor: Jill Maznicki	LITT.HANW15	Session W15: Tuesdays January 6, 13, 20, 27; February 3, 10, 24, March 3 (make-up dates March 10, 17) Adult participation required	9:15-10:00 am	1-3 years old Max: 8	\$65 Resident \$70 Non- Resident	Old Crystal Lake Schoolhouse

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; along with markers, paints, crayons, PlayDoh and 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!

Music & Movement Instructor: Jill Maznicki	MNM.THURW	Session TRJF: Thursdays January 8, 15, 22, 29 February 5, 12, 19, 26 (make-up dates: March 5, 12)	10:15-11:00 am	1-3 years old Max: 10	\$65 Resident \$70 Non- Resident	Hall Memorial Library
	MNM.WEDW	Session WJF15: Wednesdays January 7, 14, 21, 28 February 4, 11, 18, 25 (make-up dates: March 4, 11)	10:15-11:00 am	1-3 years olds Max: 10	\$65 Resident \$70 Non- Resident	Hall Memorial Library

Come sing, dance, play and move to the beat. This program will introduce children to a variety of music and instruments, finger plays, songs, bounces, and developmentally appropriate group activities. Adult participation is required.

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 consist of a maximum of 8 teams within a once a week schedule. The league will use rules and field dimensions constructed by the EWBL, which have been in effect for the past 15 years. At this point in time we are seeking to determine the interest level, and 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. There will be (5) players on the field at one time. Start-up meetings will be established once teams have been finalized.

ImPACT Assessment

The Parks and Recreation Department continues to support and reach out to the athletes, parent-guardians and coaches in an attempt to encourage eligible athletes to register and take part in the Town-sponsored ImPACT (Immediate Post-concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) system *prior* to the child participating in their chosen sport. Coverage is provided to Parks and Recreation program participants, as well as Ellington football, girls softball and boys baseball.

The process includes:

- ◆ Computerized concussion evaluation system.
- ◆ Test process and eligibility.

ImPACT is an invaluable tool in making a safe “return to play” decision, but this only works if the baseline test is taken prior to a child sustaining a concussion. It is highly recommended that parent-guardians and adult participants consider taking advantage of this worthwhile program for your child.

For more information contact
rtedford@ellington-ct.gov



Basketball and Lacrosse Officials Needed for the 2014-2015 Youth Seasons!

Anyone interested in becoming a **youth basketball official** or a certified **youth lacrosse official** please complete and submit an application along with a calendar of your availability to the Parks and Recreation Department, 31 Arbor Way. Applications are available at the Parks and Recreation Department Office or on the website at parkrec.ellington-ct.gov.

Youth Basketball Officials cover games for boys and girls in the following grades: *3 and 4; 5 and 6; 7 and 8; and 9 through 12.*

Youth Lacrosse Officials cover games for boys and girls in the following grades: *3 and 4; 5 and 6; 7 and 8.*

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Tedford, Parks and Recreation Director at (860) 870-3118 or email at rtedford@ellington-ct.gov.

Class	ID Code	Dates	Time	Ages	Fee	Location
ZUMBA® Instructors: Tressa Giordano & Joanne Britton	NO CODE 	Tuesdays and Thursdays Starting: January 6 - June 4, 2015	7:30-8:30 pm	Adults (14+)	\$40 pre-paid punch card worth 8 classes or \$8.00 walk-in fee at the door	Ellington Middle School

Classes will follow the Ellington Public Schools calendar; No classes will be held on vacation or school cancellation days. Zumba® Fitness is a Latin-inspired, easy-to-follow, calorie-burning, dance fitness party. Feel the music and let loose. Bring a water bottle and towel.

ZUMBA KIDS® Instructor: Tressa Giordano 	ZUMBA.KIDY	Tuesdays Session 1: Ages 6-9 January 13, 20, 27; February 3	6:45-7:15 pm	Ages 6-14 Boys and Girls	\$35 per session	To be determined
	ZUMBA.KIDT	Session 2: Ages 10-14 February 24; March 3, 10, 17				

The Zumba® Kids program is the ultimate dance-fitness party for your Zumba® fans ages 6-14, where they can play it loud & rock with friends to their own rules! This program features age-appropriate music and moves that get kids movin' to the beat. It's all about feeling fearless on the dance floor, reinforcing the idea that it's okay to just be yourself and dance like no one's watching! Come in comfortable clothing and sneakers. Bring a water bottle.

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, 2015 Classes will follow the Ellington Public School Calendar. No classes will be held on vacation or school cancellation days.	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
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Are you looking for a supportive exercise group and an instructor who cares about your results? Join us for full-body workouts that are fun, varied, appropriately challenging and effective. All levels are welcome. Bring an exercise mat, water bottle, and a foam roller. Residents and non-residents are welcome.

Ellington Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary Cookbook in celebration of the EVFD's 85th Anniversary
\$10 each



Over 350 recipes from the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) members and their friends and family. These books are great for personal cookbook collections as well as for holiday gift giving.

Contact Kathy Boston, President, EVFD Auxiliary at (860) 871-8798 or Kboston@juice4u.com to purchase a book or for information on becoming an EVFD Auxiliary member.



Winter Market
YMCA, 11 Pinney Street

Saturdays 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

*Dates: January 10, January 24,
February 7, February 21,
March 7 and March 21*

Contact: Dianne Trueb (860) 872-0121
Email: ellingtonfarmersmarket@gmail.com
Visit our website at ellingtonfarmersmarket.com
We're blogging at ellingtonfarmersmarket.wordpress.com

Snow Removal from Sidewalks



Per Town Ordinance, 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. 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 of Ellington 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.



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 one 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.

For winter safety tips, see the message from the **911 Municipal Coordinator** on this page.

Winter Weather Cancellations/Delays

Weather related

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

will be posted on the Town website at Ellington-ct.gov.



Also check WFSB - Channel 3 for cancellations.

John Turner, 911 Municipal Coordinator, (860) 870-3190

As winter closes in on Ellington, 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!

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

The Town Offices will be closed on the following dates:

December 24	Town Hall closes at noon Library closes at 1:00 pm
December 25 & 26	Christmas Holiday*
December 31	Library closes at 1:00 pm Town Hall will be open to 4pm
January 1	New Year's Holiday*
January 19	M.L. King, Jr. Day
February 16	Presidents' Day

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

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

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

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