What’s happening in Washington, CT

Telling Our Story
By Dan Sherr

Washington has a very compelling story to tell. With its five historic villages, parks, preserves and gardens, virtually constant streams of arts and culture events and great shopping and food, Washington rewards its residents and invites guests to experience a vibrant New England town. The Washington Economic Development Committee, chaired by First Selectman, Mark Lyon, asked the question, “how do we keep the residents — full and part time — and those interested in visiting Washington fully informed about all of the Town’s remarkable programs and offerings?”

ExploreWashingtonCT.com is launched

A Town marketing committee of key educational, business and community stakeholders reviewed options and developed a social media plan to tell Washington’s story. Based on the recently completed Community Survey, a website with a full listing of events and offerings, Facebook, Instagram to encourage postings and Mail Chimp to e-broadcast community announcements, were planned as adjuncts to the current municipal website and Town events calendar.

Five social media creative providers were invited to make a proposal. SandorMax, Sandy Hook, CT has been working with the marketing committee over the last six months to implement the Town social media plan. The website and Facebook page – ExploreWashingtonCT.com – launched mid-September. Julia Nable, a SandorMax principal, said, “This has been an amazing project. Washington has an extraordinary array of assets and offerings. Far more than most towns of its size. Clearly an indication of its long history of attracting creative people to the community.”

ExploreWashingtonCT.com tells our story

The webpage abides by the “two-clicks-to-answer” rule, providing the viewer with ready access to all that Washington offers. Four options, Things to Do, Plan Your Visit, Living in Washington and Happening in Washington, delivers a virtual menu of ways to spend your time in Washington.

First and foremost, it tells our story to the full time and part time residents. The Community Survey clearly indicated residents were challenged to stay informed on everything going on in town. The oft heard comment, “Oh, I’m sorry I missed that.” For visitors, Things to Do — Family Fun and Plan Our Visit — Explore by interest — encourages both a day and weekend visit to Washington.

Go to ExploreWashingtonCT.com. We welcome your thoughts, info@explorewashingtonCT.com.

Message from the Selectman’s Office

As summer winds down there’s still lots of activity in Washington. The Bryan Memorial Plaza project is in full swing. Traffic disruptions are to be expected but Iapaluccio Construction is doing their best to keep cars and people moving. Please use extreme caution driving and walking to our local businesses which are open and welcome your patronage. Our Town roadwork is close to completion. Paving roads on the Washington Green and School Street is complete and sidewalks were replaced on Kirby Road and School Street. Extensive drainage improvements were completed before repaving. Aquarion Water Co. is still working on water main replacement on Parsonage Lane, Old North Road and Green Hill Road. This project will continue into the fall and hopefully be completed before winter.

In your tax bill was a request for an email address(s) to help us keep you informed. This information will be used for “email blasts” about upcoming Town events in an effort to keep you up to date and will not be shared or sold. We’ve sent out two messages to date and we have received 43 returns as undeliverable. If you signed up and haven’t received a message yet, please contact the Selectmen’s office at selectmen@washingtonct.org with your name as your address may have been entered incorrectly. If you want to get on the list, forms are available at the Town Clerk’s and Selectmen’s office. Washington’s Alert Now “reverse 911” list will still be used for emergency information by phone and email.

Come to the Washington Fall Festival! October 21 at the River Walk Pavilion, 12:00pm – 5:00pm. Music, food, Mobile Pub, kids activities, scarecrow contest and more
Spotlight on Business: 9 Main
By Dan Sherr

9 Main isn’t only a bakery and a deli, it is a community. A welcoming venue with animated conversation…even among strangers and really good food. Since 2002, 9 Main has been the early and midday stopping point for a varied mixture of locals, tradesmen and visitors. Conversation, including local news, is the staple of this community icon. Seeking a change in management, 9 Main was introduced to California restaurateurs, Whitney and Julie Flood. The Floods have taken 9 Main to a new level. Whitney’s longstanding “feel” of 9 Main was the guiding principle. Their motto: “Quality, local with love.” This is borne out by Whitney and Julie’s curiosity and innovative seasonal menus. This summer, each Friday, Memorial Day to Labor Day, 9 Main introduced the community to made-from-scratch Mexican tacos. Residents and particularly the weekenders applauded the offering with the comment “do it again, do it longer.” The Flood’s response, “you can count on it for next year.” They also commented, “Evening dining is under consideration.”

Pet Rescue

The pet oxygen rescue kits that Luke Cheney raised money for during his Shepaug Student Project got their first test this weekend. Ozzy, an 8 year old male Golden Retriever, collapsed from presumed heat exhaustion in Maricosta Preserve on Sunday. The police and Fire Department with the help of others on the trail tended to Ozzy on the mountain. They all marched a mile and a half up the mountain in uniform/street clothes/turnout gear to bring ice, water, oxygen and helped carry Ozzy all the way down in an improvised sling; hot work! Matt Taylor ran down the mountain to fetch water and ice and then carried it back up — a 60 minute round trip. By the time they got Ozzy to Aspetuck Animal Hospital, his temperature was down to normal as were his other vital signs.

Field Hockey Hall of Fame

Jaye Alex Stuart, longtime teacher and coach at Shepaug Valley School, was recently inducted into the Connecticut Field Hockey Hall of Fame. Founded in 1999 to establish a venue to recognize, honor and perpetuate those who, either through participation, support, service, or achievement, have contributed to the enhancement of field hockey in Connecticut. Over seventy people in the Region #12 community attended the induction ceremony.

Montessori

Washington Montessori School (WMS) celebrated its 53rd opening of school on September 7, 2017. This year is one of celebration and gratitude, as we plan for the June retirement of our longtime head of school, Pat Werner. A search is under way for the new head, but in the meantime we’re looking forward to celebrating Pat’s tenure throughout the year.

This year, WMS will be offering a full slate of parent education talks, some about Montessori education and WMS, and others about general parenting topics. Almost all are free and all are open to the public. We encourage anyone with children to check the list and contact us with any questions. We hope you’ll choose to join us! Full details of each talk are available on our website: http://www.washingtonmontessori.org/parenteducation/

Internet Safety
Thursday, September 28; 9:40 a.m. at WMS

Managing the Stress of Parenting Using Positive Discipline (4-week class)
Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 24 & 31; 9 - 11 a.m. at WMS
(Please sign up. $50 per parent.)

Managing the Stress of Parenting Using Positive Discipline (one hour talk)
Thursday, October 5; 6:30 p.m. at The Gunn Memorial Library

Pet Rescue

Matt Taylor
Washington, CT – September 18, 2017 – Washington Primary School (WPS) continues to be a Ben’s Bells Kindness Campus. Students are learning to practice three key tenets of kindness: Developing a Kind Mind — preparing minds to be calm and focused to allow for acting and thinking with kindness; Kind Self — learning to be aware of self-critical thoughts and to reframe them so that they do not become habitual; and lastly — Social Kindness — finding ways to spread kindness within classrooms, school and community. The school will continue its practice of using kindness coins, notes and flowers to record and celebrate words and actions that express the sentiment.

WPS is especially excited to celebrate kindness through the development of a kindness Mural. The funds were provided by last year’s fifth grade class through parting donations. Students will be making and decorating the mosaic pieces this year and, later in the spring, members of the Ben’s Bells organization will visit to work with the school to put the pieces together to form a Kindness Mural.

Adding to our Kindness initiative this year, WPS will be introducing the concept of gratitude. Emerging research shows that helping students develop an attitude of gratitude supports many positive outcomes, including greater academic and social well-being, improved physical and psychological health, higher levels of positive emotions, more joy, optimism and happiness, ability to form, maintain and strengthen supportive relationships, act with more generosity, empathy and compassion and feel connected to a caring community.

WPS students and staff look forward to a year of practicing kindness and an attitude of gratitude!
form a line to get numbered tickets for the tours, handed out on a first-come, first-serve basis, starting at 6:15 p.m. and continuing through the evening until the tickets run out. Tours of the cemetery depart from the museum in groups of eighteen people every eight minutes between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. and last approximately one hour. While there’s no fee to attend the cemetery tour, donations are greatly appreciated.

Visitors are encouraged to bring a flashlight, dress warmly and wear comfortable walking shoes. Parking is limited, please carpool and use nearby lots and side streets.

The rain date for the Cemetery Tour is Sunday, October 29, 2017 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Contact: Stephen Bartkus
Email: info@gunnhistoricalmuseum.org
Phone: 860-868-7756

November
6 | 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
More Om in Your Home
Location: Valley Spirit Cooperative & Wellness Center
Join us and deepen your understanding — and work with — the profound connection between mind and matter, self and surrounding in your two most important interiors — home and self. Each week we’ll work with one of the seven keys of the Happy Om Maker method to reclaim your personal power, nourishing who you are today and nurturing who you want to become. And, the one-on-one weekly check-ins will support you as you take concrete and tangible actions to design joy and meaning right into the fabric of your life. Expect to awaken to synchronicity, to feel deeply alive and feel right at home.
Instructor: Judy Hamilton
Fee: $280 includes weekly 20-minute one-on-one Skype or Facetime check-in.
Early Bird: $210 for entire series, sign up before September 15.
Phone: 860-619-2788
More Info: https://valleyspiritcoop.com/events/

6 | 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Free Saturday Wine Tastings
Location: County Wine and Spirits
Free, fun, educational! Taste new arrivals and staff selections! We recycle corks: bring your leftover corks!
More Info: www.countywineandspirits.com

What Washington business will celebrate 125 years in 2018?

See if your answer is correct in the next issue, out in December!

Last issue’s answer: Gregory Seeley Bryan left a sum of money in trust as a memorial for his parents, Richard Alexander Bryan and Sarah Elizabeth Seeley Bryan. Bryan Memorial Town Hall has a two-lane duckpin bowling alley.
Upcoming Events at The Gunnery

On Friday, October 13, The Gunnery will be hosting a Conn. Gubernatorial Forum featuring State Rep. Prasad Srinivasan of Glastonbury, former U.S. Comptroller General David Walker of Bridgeport, Micah Welintukonis, former vice chairman of the Town Council in Coventry, and Lee Whitnum of Greenwich, who ran for U.S. Senate in 2010, in Memorial Athletic Center at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. For tickets and more information, please visit www.gunnery.org/forum.

The Gunnery’s annual Parents Weekend and Homecoming will be October 20-21. The community is invited to Homecoming and registration is required. Please register at www.gunnery.org/homecoming. We hope to see you on campus!

ASAP!” Upcoming Events & Workshops

For more information about these programs, please visit asapct.org or call 860-868-0740.

**Special FX Halloween Makeup with Kyle Pasquitti**
Grades 6-12
Washington Montessori School, New Preston
Saturday, Oct 14 | 11:30-1:30 p.m.
1 session: $30

Put your best foot forward, lend an ear and try not to get caught red-handed — especially when you realize that none of those parts are still attached to the body! This two-hour hands-on Special FX class will show you the tips and tricks that the pros use while giving you some pointers you can do right at home to improve your Halloween makeup.

**Hand Drumming & Percussion**
Grades K-5 | John Marshall
Washington Primary School
Mondays, Oct 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13
Grades K-2 | 3:45-4:30 p.m.*
Grades 3-5 | 4:45-5:45 p.m.
5 sessions: $75 • $60 for Region 12 students

Come explore rhythm, pulse and improvisational exercises in traditional rhythms from across the world with internationally recognized master percussionist John Marshall. In this workshop, participants get the opportunity to use a variety of tuned percussion instruments, including frame drums, Egyptian tambourines and dumbeks, congas, djembes, and a drum kit. This workshop culminates in a student performance where your child will get the chance to share their newly acquired musical skills with family and friends.

The Gunnery Drama Society will present Joseph Kesselring’s “Arsenic & Old Lace,” in the Lemcke Theater in the Emerson Performing Arts Center on campus November 9, 10 and 11 at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend and admission is free.

The Gunnery’s Annual Town Holiday Party is on Saturday, November 18 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This year we’ll gather to celebrate the joy of the season and recognize the recipient of The Friend of the Green Award. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Sarah Hauser at hausers@gunnery.org or call 860-350-0101.

The community is always welcome to attend athletic events on campus. To see the most up-to-date schedule, please visit www.gunnery.org/athletics.

**“Take Part in Art”**
Grades 2-5 | Weir Farm
735 Nod Hill Rd, Wilton
Friday, Oct 20 | 12:45-5:30 p.m.
Trip Fee: $15 includes admission, transportation and ice cream.

Spend an early release day at Weir Farm National Historic Site (NHS) and experience Take Part in Art — creating art outside in nature. During our stay, Park Rangers will provide an exploration map that’ll engage your sense of sight, sound, smell and touch. This adventure will uncover the history of the park and artists who lived there. All EXPLORERS will receive a Junior Ranger Badge. Before returning back to school, we’ll stop at our favorite ice cream shop for a delicious treat.

**Creativity: Where It Comes From and Where It Can Go with Michael Moschen**
Makery Coworking, New Milford
Sunday, October 22 | 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Fee: $25

Michael Moschen is a world-renowned visionary performing artist and MacArthur Genius Award recipient. Through performance, Mr. Moschen reveals the essential elements of creativity. Please join us to explore how curiosity, play, self-challenge, little risks, and imagination contribute to our skill of creativity.

“Creating something new is impossible — until you do it.” — Michael Moschen

**7th Annual Celebration of Young Photographers**
The White Barn at South Farms, Morris
Sunday, November 5 | 2:00-4:00 p.m. | Free Exhibit

Join us for a unique exhibit of images by talented young photographers from across our region of Connecticut. A panel of renowned photographers and collectors will jury photographs submitted by students in grades 6-12, each expressing a unique interpretation celebrating this year’s theme, Every picture has a story to tell…What’s YOUR story? Following the exhibit will be a presentation celebrating our selected top young photographers. Have a glass of wine and enjoy delicious local hors d’oeuvres at the historic White Barn at South Farms.

**Cookie Making 101**
Grades 6-12 | Pastry Chef Amanda Glover
Wersebe Hall, Washington
Tuesdays, Nov 14, 21, 28, Dec 5, 12 | 5:00-6:30 p.m.
5 sessions: $75 • $60 for Region 12 students

Participants will experience Chef Amanda Glover’s love for baking as she guides you through five basic types of cookie making — YUM! Each class will be hands on with different recipes, new ingredients and delicious cookies to sample and share. You’ll learn basic baking skills that include: proper temperature, thickness of dough and artful decor you can use for every holiday and special event. Bring your apron, bring your sweet tooth and get baking!
Gunn Memorial Library & Museum

Children’s Fun
Two’s Time - Fridays 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. through November 17.
3 & 4 Year-Olds - Book Buddies: Fridays 2:15 - 3:00 p.m. through November 17.
Kindergarten & 1st grade - Storycraft: Tuesdays 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. through November 14.
2nd & 3rd grade - Storycraft: Thursdays 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. through November 16.

Fall & Winter Saturday Family Programs
Pumpkin Painting - October 21 - Drop in between 10 - 2 p.m.
Annual Halloween Costume Party and Parade – October 28 -1 p.m.
Marble Run – November 4 - 1 p.m.
S.T.E.M. Experiment Lab - November 11 - Drop in between 10-2 p.m.
Fun with Magnets - November 18 - 1 p.m.
Debbie O’Carroll’s Magic Theatre Show – November 25 - 1 p.m.
Gingerbread Houses - December 2 - Drop in between 10 - 2 p.m.
Annual Holiday Sale for Children Only - Dec. 7, 8, 9, Thursday, Dec. 7 - 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 8 - 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.,
Saturday, Dec. 9 -10:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Holiday Craft - December 16 - 1 p.m.
Special Holiday Program Pumpernickel Puppets -Thursday, Dec. 28 - 5 p.m.

New! Tweens & Teens
Wii – Thursdays, September 28 through November 16 - 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - We’re launching a new after school program for 4th & 5th graders. Join us for a little bit of homework time, snacks and a whole lot of friendly competition playing Wii games.

Teen Writer’s Workshop - Tuesdays - 6 - 7:30 p.m. - The Gunn Memorial Library and the Hickory Stick Bookshop are teaming up to host a weekly workshop for young adults ages 12-18. Local writers will make guest appearances to encourage creativity through writing. Once a quarter, participants will have the chance to showcase their creativity by performing their work at open-mic nights at the Hickory Stick Bookshop.

Teen Book Club - First Friday of each month - starts October 6 - 6 - 7:30 p.m. - Teens are welcome to talk books with the Gunn Memorial Library and the Hickory Stick Bookshop. The group will meet on the first Friday of every month to discuss a favorite book of their choice. The first selection will be Pullman’s “The Golden Compass.”

Gunn Technology – One-On-One Assistance
Meet Jessica! She’s here to be your point-of-contact for your technology related questions. If you have a question about using your devices or accessing our digital resources, stop in and ask Jessica. Drop in to see her during the following hours: Monday - 12 - 2 p.m., Tuesday 3 - 5 p.m., and Friday 2 - 4 p.m. or schedule an appointment that works for you by emailing her at jzaccagniniYA@biblio.org

Adult Programs
Conversational Spanish for All with Ruth Jaffe - Mondays October 30, November 6, 13, 20 - 2 p.m. - Back by popular demand, this is the ideal opportunity for those who wish to learn basic conversational Spanish, as well as for those who wish to strengthen their verbal skills in the language.
iCloud Demystified -Thursday, November 2 - 6:30 p.m. - Tech tutor and former Apple store Specialist, Michael Jay, leads a workshop on this powerful feature that enables some of the most valuable aspects of the Apple system.

Renaissance & Baroque Painters of the Fair Sex - Thursday, November 9 - 6:30 p.m. - Art Historian Veronique Dulack, formerly of the Met, discusses what it took for Sofonisba Anguissola (1535 - 1625), Lavinia Fontana (1552 - 1612) and Artemisia Gentileschi (1593 - 1652) to become professional painters.

An Afternoon of 19th Century Romantic Chamber Music - Sunday, November 19 - 2 p.m. - Dr. Vincent de Luise (clarinet), Becky Nesmith (soprano) and Jenny Li (piano), will perform a classical chamber concert featuring works by illustrious romantic era composers, Johannes Brahms, Louis Spohr and Franz Schubert.

Wykeham Consort - Thursday, January 4 - 6:30 p.m. - With the lingering spirit of the holiday season, this ensemble returns for a delightful performance featuring English and Spanish Renaissance music.

Stairwell Gallery
Angela Liptack - “Fabric Meditations on our Island Home” on display through October 28 - Artist Talk and Reception: October 14 - 12 - 2 p.m.
Vincent Giarrano - “Small Paintings” on display December 4 to December 9 - Reception: November 4 - 2-4 p.m.
Raymond Kwiatkoski - “Black & White & Color Photographs” on display December 16, 2017 to January 27, 2018

Festival of Trees
Cocktail Party - Friday, December 1 - 5 - 7 p.m.

Museum
10th Annual Washington Green Cemetery Tour - Friday, October 27, 2017 - 6:30-8:30 p.m. - A community favorite. Take a candlelit tour through the Washington Green Cemetery and hear the tales of those who are buried here. Stories told by local actors dressed in period costume. Tours start at Gunn Historical Museum.

Washington History Club at Night - Tuesday, November 21, 2017 - 6:30 p.m. - Topic: History of The Dramalites. In the Wykeham Room of the Gunn Memorial Library

Washington History Club in the Morning - Monday, December 18, 2017 - 10 a.m. - Topic: TBA - at the Washington Senior Center

New Year’s Tea Party - Saturday, January 6, 2018 - 11 - 1 p.m. in the Wykeham Room of the Gunn Library - Ring in the New Year with an old-fashioned tea hosted by the Gunn Historical Museum and Gunn Memorial Library. A cookie contest will be the highlight of this year’s tea party. Cookies will be the culinary creations submitted by local bakers. Guests are asked to bring their favorite tea cup, we’ll provide tea sandwiches.

Readings from the Archives of the Gunn Historical Museum
Monday, January 8, 2018 - 10 a.m. Topic: TBA. Held at the Washington Senior Center

For more information and a complete listing of programs and events at GML, Inc. visit www.gunnlibrary.org