

Washington, CT

Message from the Selectman's Office

Is spring here? Our Highway Department is certainly hopeful. It has been a long winter for them. Despite the fact there were only two large events, the constant barrage of small 1-2 inch events with rain coming at 32 degrees, as well as a couple of "mud seasons" when we had stretches of record warmth, there has been very little "downtime." They have been kept very busy and it has put a dent in our winter maintenance budget.

Looking ahead, it may be the year that our Bryan Plaza project happens, it has been a long time in planning but appears to be crossing the final hurdles of DOT approvals. There will be bridge work done by the Town on Walker Brook Road and by the State on Blackville road over the summer months which will involve closures and detours, they should be well marked over alternate routes familiar to our residents.

The Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance are working on our Town Budget for presentation at the May 4 Budget Public Hearing. I'm sure you're aware we're dealing with a lot of uncertainty from the State about funding, or the lack thereof, and new expenses that we're being asked to absorb. Copies of the proposed budget will be posted on the Town website and available at Town Hall prior to the Public Hearing. The final budget presented to the Town Meeting will be available by the same methods. The Boards of Selectmen and Finance will be working to bring a budget to the Public Hearing and eventually to the Town Meeting May 18 that maintains town services and the financial stability of Washington. Both the Budget Public Hearing and the Town Meeting are held at 7:30pm, May 4 and May 18 respectively, at Washington Town Hall, I hope to see you there.

New Events for WEC

The **Washington Environmental Council** is excited to announce two new events for 2017. First, in addition to their annual week-long Earth Day Roadside Cleanup (dumpster will be in front of Bryan Town Hall), WEC is joining forces with Steep Rock Association to host an Earth Day 5 K road race. Earth Day is Saturday, April 22. The 9:00 am race will take place at the Steep Rock Preserve on Tunnel Road where participants will run/walk along the beautiful Shepaug River. The first 40 people to register (www.active.com) will receive our famous WEC beanie.

On Saturday, June 24, WEC will be holding a town-wide **Future Now Environmental Expo**. The Expo's mission is to inform the community about today's most pressing environmental issues and present concrete options for addressing these issues. The Expo (11:00 to 3:00) will have something for everyone, i.e., face to face exhibitors, hands on workshops, local foods, speakers, a children's "Endangered Species" carnival/parade sponsored by WAA and live music by Two Dollar Hat. For more information or to sponsor, exhibit, be a vendor or volunteer, please visit www.futurenowexpo.org



Members of the Washington Primary School held a Food Drive. Student Council members delivered what was collected to Bryan Memorial Town Hall by "Wagon Train." All was then transported to the newly established Washington-Warren Food Bank which is open to qualifying families twice a month.

Parks & Recreation

Washington Town Beach 2017 Available to all residents and taxpayers of the Town of Washington. Membership includes use of picnic area and swim area. **The Beach Opens Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday, May 27 for weekends only.** Opens for the season (7 days a week) on Saturday, June 24 through Labor Day, September 4.

Hours: 10:00am – 5:00pm

Fee: \$20.00 *for the season*. Permit available for purchase at the beach.

Director: Jeff Cox

Boat Ramp 2017 Opens for the season – Saturday, April 15

Spring/Fall Hours: Saturdays, Sundays, Wednesdays, Memorial Day and Columbus Day: 6:00am - 11am and 4pm -Sunset

Summer Hours: Saturday June 24 to Labor Day, Monday, September 4, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays & Mondays –6:00am – Sunset.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays – 10:00am - 5:00pm.

\$25.00 annual sticker fee.

All boats will be inspected for invasive aquatic life. Subject to a **\$5.00 per launch inspection fee**. Parking limited on a first come, first served basis. Violators will be towed. **Ramp closes for the season Sunday, October 29 at sunset.** Extra fee for late removal \$75.00.

Watch for **2017 Summer Recreation Information** on our website: www.washingtonct.org.

Also, if you'd like to sign up for our Constant Contact information, please drop us your email at rec@washingtonct.org and remember to follow us on Facebook!

To get occasional emails about events and Washington news, please sign up at: washingtoncteventscalendar.com/newsletter.html

Spotlight on Business: New Preston Kitchen Goods

By Dan Sherr

Entertaining at home; joy for the guests and joy for the host. Marty Rook understands this and created New Preston Kitchen Goods to enrich that joy. Opened Thanksgiving 2002, New Preston Kitchen Goods was born of Marty's lifelong interest in food. His commitment, enhancing the joy of "preparing, cooking and serving the perfect meal for any season."



Marty moved to NYC in the mid-90's, graduated from the Culinary Institute of America in 1999, and gained hands-on experience in the kitchens of nationally recognized restaurants, including The Moors and Chester on Cape Cod, and later at Picholine and La Grenouille in NYC. While visiting The Boulders during the summer of 2002, Marty and his partner, Richard Wallgren, discovered New Preston and committed to transforming the New Preston Pharmacy into New Preston Kitchen Goods.

Whether needing a kitchen utensil or just curious, entering New Preston Kitchen Goods immediately transforms your notions of preparing and serving food. The space is small, the shop is filled, and the table tops are imaginative. Even for those of limited culinary passion, New Preston Kitchen Goods conjures the joy of cooking. All this combines to encourage a customer to visualize entertaining guests at home.

Marty touts the shop as offering "exceptional and useful kitchen utensils and equipment." This has created a cadre of long-term customers. Often customers have nothing in mind other than wandering about and chatting with Marty. Guidance is an unadvertised but important product available at New Preston Kitchen Goods. For many, cooking and serving food is a lifestyle engendering a sense of creativity and personal satisfaction. Marty provides a deeply experienced and trustworthy reference point for home chefs of all skill levels.



New Preston Kitchen Goods is one of a remarkable array of design-focused shops in Marble Dale-New Preston, Washington, CT.

NewPrestonKitchen.com, 11 East Shore Rd, New Preston, CT 06777, 860-868-1264

Gunn Memorial Library & Museum

Children's Fun

Easter Egg Dyeing Workshop – Saturday, April 15 - Drop-in 10am-2pm *Please bring your own white hard boiled eggs.*

Earth Day/Recycling Crafts – Saturday, April 22 - 1:00pm

Adult Programs

Oscar Film Series. See back page for films and dates.

Sing Out! CT – Sunday, April 23 – 2:00pm. For more information, visit www.singoutct.org.

Stairwell Gallery

Rick Schatzberg - "Twenty Two North" - On display April 15 through May 8

Library Luminaries: Gunn Memorial Library's annual spring fundraiser, Library Luminaries, will be held on **Saturday, May 20, 2017**. A cocktail party will be held from 5:30-7:00pm, followed by unique dinners where noteworthy people will be honored as "Luminaries." Reservations are required. Visit www.gunnlibrary.org or call Vanessa at 860-868-7586 for more details.

Gunn Museum

Washington History Club at Night: Tuesday, May 16, at 6:30 pm. This will be the final meeting of the season before our summer break. The topic of discussion will be service stations, garages, gas pumps, car dealers, and mechanics then and now.

History Bites Lecture: Thursday, May 18, 12pm-1pm. Claire Lee, a 2016-17 Gunn Scholar, will give a presentation titled, "The Role of Religion at The Gunnery 1850-2016." Parking is limited, please carpool.

Gunn Scholar Lecture: Monday, May 22 at 6:30pm. "George Krinsky, Class of 1960: The Cold War at The Gunnery and Beyond." Dana Ross, a Gunnery student from Russia will present her research which stretched from Moscow University and the KGB archives to Mr. Krinsky's personal archives.

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

Rumsey Summer!

Summer Recreation Program for Children Ages 3-5, 6-7 and 8-10.

Five Weekly Sessions, June 26 - July 28. Weekly themes explore exciting activities designed to expose campers to new and interesting projects: Pirate Booty June 26 - June 30, Olympics July 3- July 7, Space Chase July 10 - July 14, Mad Scientist July 17 - July 21, The Amazing Race July 24 - July 28.

Trips are planned for 6-10 year-olds to area attractions, including Monster Mini Golf, DolrBill's Bowling, Connecticut Science Center, The Children's Museum Planetarium, Sky Zone Trampoline Park, Lake Compounce Amusement Park, The Adventure Park at the Discovery Museum and Fascia's Chocolate.

Campers swim twice a week at the Shepaug Valley indoor pool. Families are welcome to join Friday lunch.

Register by May 1, 2017 for all five weeks and receive a 10% tuition discount. For more information, please call or email: 860-868-0535, admiss@rumseyhall.org

Shepaug Regional School District 12: Embracing Dirt

Washington, CT – March 31, 2017 –

Students at Washington Primary School (WPS) are getting their hands dirty with the help of Renee Giroux's *Living Classroom Initiative*. This program places farm boxes in classrooms to engage students in planting, tending and harvesting edible plants to promote healthy eating and foster an appreciation of farming and food production. Giroux, a seasoned organic horticulturist and parent from Washington, approached the school with the program and launched it last fall.

Each classroom maintains one farm box, which features a crop such as arugula, kale, chard, spinach, carrots, lettuce and strawberries. The students received initial instructions from Giroux when they planted their boxes and continue to tend to the boxes daily. On harvesting days, students learn to collect and prepare the fruits of



their labor into nutritious snacks. There are lessons in math and science woven throughout this hands-on project, reflecting the Region's STEM initiative.

"This project fits perfectly into our school theme of innovation," says Principal Emily Judd. "Ultimately, we hope to grow enough vegetables to use as part of our annual Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon. This provides the students with an authentic audience to share their harvest."

This opportunity was made possible by the support and sponsorship of the

Washington Garden Club, which provided the funds for the farm box installation and supplies.

The students at WPS are very glad for this wonderful opportunity to get into the dirt and experience how to grow their own healthy snacks!

ASAP!® Upcoming Events & Workshops

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

12th Annual Celebration of Young Writers

Saturday, June 3 | The Gunnery, Washington | 5:00pm
Hosted by Actor Michael Lombardi • In Honor of Jill Faherty Lloyd

Please join us as we celebrate our talented Young Writers of 2017. The event begins at 5:00pm with a festive cocktail reception and silent auction followed by the readings of exceptional poetry and prose at 6:30pm. The night will conclude at 7:30pm when Ellen McCourt presents the Frank McCourt Prize for Excellence in Teaching to an outstanding teacher. This will be a very special evening, a highlight of the season you won't want to miss!

For tickets or more info, please visit:

<http://asapct.org/project/celebration-of-young-writers/>

Signs of Spring with Steep Rock Association & Alex Franjola

Saturday, April 29- 3:00-5:30pm

Macricostas Preserve, New Preston | Ages 3-10 | 1 session: \$35

Celebrate the magic of spring! Awaken your senses! Run through the fields, smell the wildflowers, keep your eyes open for nesting birds, seek treasures on a scavenger hunt, and get your hands dirty by planting flowers for the Judea Garden for Springs to come.

To register, please visit: <http://asapct.org/asap-weekend/>

ASAP! Summer Programs

Summer Theatre

Grades 1-12

June 26-30, July 10-14

Summer Camp

Ages 4.5-13

July 31- August 11

Youth Crew

Ages 13-17

July 31-August 11

To learn more and to register, please visit:

<http://asapct.org/summer-programs/>

Summer at Washington Montessori School

We're excited to offer a variety of summer programs for children ages 3 to 10.

3, 4 and 5 year-olds will enjoy art, science and nature, music and water play, all presented in a traditional Montessori classroom. Full and half-day schedules are available.

Programs for children entering 1st through 4th grade include our three-week "*WMS Summer!*" where children will have the opportunity to experience swimming, outdoor adventures, science and nature, games and art. Additional weeklong camp offerings include soccer and tennis.

Longtime Head of School to Retire

New Preston, Conn – Pat Werner, Head of School at Washington Montessori School, has announced she'll retire from her post at the end of the 2017-18 school year. Ms. Werner has served as the Head of School at WMS since 1979, driving its remarkable transition from a small nursery school located in a church basement to an accomplished co-ed day school for children 18 months to 8th grade located on a sprawling and modern campus of its own.

Events at the Gunnery

Volunteers Needed for Annual Regatta

On Sunday, May 7, The 58th Annual Founders Day Regatta will take place on Lake Waramaug from 8:00am to 5:00pm in the state park area. We're always looking for volunteers to help out! To volunteer, please contact the Regatta Director, Melissa Schomers, at schomersm@gunnery.org.

Middle and High School Summer Camps at The Gunnery!

This summer, The Gunnery will be offering sessions for field hockey, rowing and soccer. All programs, led by highly qualified, dedicated and energetic counselors, provide campers (ages 7 to 16) with a learning environment that encourages growth and enjoyment. To register or to find out more, visit www.gunnery.org/SummerCamps.

What's Going on in Washington, CT

This is just a small sampling from washingtoncteventscalendar.com. Please check the site for more information and for other events.

April

17 | 1:00 – 3:00pm

Oscar Film Series Continues at Gunn Memorial Library

Location: Gunn Memorial Library

The Oscar film series will continue with three of the Academy Award frontrunners and contenders for this year.

Lion – Monday, April 17, 2017 @ 1pm - While visiting Calcutta, a five-year-old boy becomes separated from his family. After quite a bit of wandering, he finds a home with an Australian couple who give him a loving home. As an adult, he decides to undertake an epic quest in order to find the family that he left behind long ago.

Hidden Figures – Monday, April 24 @ 1pm - A period space-race drama is inspired by the real-life tale of a group of African-American female mathematicians, Dorothy Vaughn,

Mary Jackson and Katherine Johnson, who helped put astronaut John Glenn into orbit.

La La Land – Monday, May 1 @ 1pm - Sick of serving coffee to movie stars, Mia is an aspiring actress rushing around Los Angeles to audition for the big break that'll finally let her quit her day job; Sebastian plays jazz piano at dive bars while waiting to be discovered. These two fall head-over-heels in love with each other but when their careers start to take off, their new found success puts their romance to the test.

Contact: Margaret Ferguson
Email: gunnprograms@biblio.org
Phone: 860-868-7586

22 | 2:05 – 4:00pm

Author Signing with David Leite at The Hickory Stick Bookshop

Location: The Hickory Stick Bookshop

David Leite will sign copies of his new book, *Notes on a Banana: A Memoir of Food, Love, and Manic Depression*, at The Hickory Stick Bookshop on Saturday, April 22 at 2pm.

Contact: Fran Keilty
Email: books@hickorystickbookshop.com
Phone: 860-868-0525

29 | 6:00 – 9:00pm

Night Owl - Live Music at Hopkins Vineyard

Location: Hopkins Vineyard

Join us for live music! Featuring The Kings of Karma Band. There's no fee for this event, and we hope to see you there!

Email: hopkinsvineyard@charter.net
Phone: 860-868-7954
More Info: <http://hopkinsvineyard.com>



Washington Trivia

Washington Ambulance Association is celebrating its 75th anniversary!
What model vehicle responded to the first call on February 15, 1942?

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

Last issue's answer: When was daylight saving time instituted and for what reason?
In the United States, "Fast Time" was introduced in 1918 when President Woodrow Wilson signed it into law to support the war effort during World War I. Trivia by Sheila Anson.

**The next Washington Economic Development Workshop is
Thurs, May 11, 5:30 - 7:00PM, Washington Town Hall**

What's Happening in Washington, CT is organized and printed through the Washington Economic Development Committee. Look for our next issue in July.

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