

Washington, CT

Next Generation School Leadership Comes to Washington

By Dan Sherr

Washington enjoys a reputation for remarkable schools, private and public. Two words are frequently heard in conversations with the new leaders of the Montessori and Region 12 Schools – Communications and Community.

Shepaug Region 12 – Megan Bennett – Superintendent

Born, raised and schooled in Rocky Hill, CT, Megan Bennett graduated from Siena College with a degree in psychology. Her internships focused her on emotionally-challenged children



with the goal of transforming their lives. She started her career in education at a Hartford elementary school, improving student reading skills and teaching math. Megan was recruited to the Central office as a

math coordinator, leading 28 coaches chartered to improve math teaching skills in Hartford.

With her husband's business move to Massachusetts, Megan joined the Taunton school system as the Kindergarten-12th grade math coordinator. She was subsequently promoted to Principal of the Bennett Elementary School. Returning to Connecticut in 2011, she joined the Rocky Hill school system as Principal of West Hill Elementary School.

Recruited to the Southington Connecticut School System in 2012, Megan joined as Principal of Reuben E. Thalberg Elementary School. Over her six-year tenure, Megan won a number of major awards. She built a privately funded playground, established a school store run by the students, supported the students love of the arts with drama clubs, introduced students to computer programming through robotics and initiated a personalized learning program that encouraged each student to develop a detailed learning plan for a subject of great personal interest to them.

Megan's educational philosophy, refined with a masters degree from Central Connecticut State University and a master's degree from Sacred

Heart University, is to create changemakers by challenging them to develop their own learning models and encouraging students to make their own choices.

Megan. Welcome to Washington and Region 12.

Washington Montessori School – Carney O'Brien – Head of School

Carney O'Brien's career as an educator started at Mizzentop Day School, an education innovator in Pawling, NY. Schooled at Dutchess Community College and Vassar, with an M.A. from Marist College in Educational Development, she immersed herself in the psychology of learning. Her career has involved a rich mix of teaching and administration with a focus on student social skills and school admissions.

While at Indian Mountain School in Lakeville, CT, 2010 – 2014, as Director of Secondary School Advising and Ninth Grade Dean, Carney honed her skills in the development of individual students and their relationship with their communities. Recruited in 2014 to Chatham Hall in southern Virginia as Director of Enrollment, she advanced the all-girls school with a sharp increase in admissions.

O'Brien's educational philosophy recognizes, "In only a few years, a student has to learn most of what they need to know for life.

And in the first few grades they need to learn how to learn." Carney adds, "It's about students discovering the connections that produce change... change to their knowledge base and producing change to their personal communities."

Year one goals at Montessori: A commitment to listening and learning...listening to the staff, students, parents and the larger community and refreshing the Washington Montessori's private-public partnerships.

Carney O'Brien, welcome to Washington.



TOWN OF WASHINGTON From the Assessor's Office

Delisse Locher

The 2018 Revaluation of all properties in Washington is scheduled to be effective for the upcoming assessment date of October 1, 2018. This 'full physical Revaluation' requires that properties that haven't been visited within the last ten years have property data updates, or have owner verification of site improvements. Often owners are unaware that a site inspection has occurred but are aware that property data has been collected and verified in conjunction with permit inspections for the last five years. Some inspections will be on-going through the fall of 2018.

With correct data, properties can then be re-valued for the next five-year period, based upon what the current fair-market sale prices of comparable properties are. Notices to property owners about new values will be mailed in November. There'll be opportunities for owners or their agents to come to an informal hearing with revaluation supervisors to ask questions or express disagreement about data or values before the final 2018 grand list is signed in January.

The October 1st assessment date is also important because military veterans seeking exemptions for Honorable service on the 2018 grand list and future years, must file their Form DD-214 service record with the Town Clerk by the prior September 30 – if they haven't previously done so. There's more tax benefit information for Totally Disabled, Blind and/or Elderly individuals, as well as other topics of interest at: washingtonct.org/assessor. Questions for the assessor can always be left by voicemail at 860-868-0398, or by email at assessor@washingtonct.org

Spotlight on Business: Pilobolus & Washington: Four Decades of Creative Collaboration

By Dan Sherr

Washington is the center of gravity for Pilobolus. Birthed at Dartmouth College in 1971, it was formally organized as a nonprofit dance company in 1976 in Washington. With a passion for innovation and a creativity centered in physical connection, Pilobolus achieved international acclaim early in its life with tours of Europe, the Middle East, the Virgin Islands and an extended run on Broadway.



As its reputation grew, the company realized rural New Hampshire did not provide ready access to the audiences they served. Pilobolus prides itself on its ethic of collective decisioning, which included not only choreography, but where to live. The dancers agreed none wanted to live in New York but needed convenient access to national and global markets as they evolved as an innovation contributor to the international dance scene. A collective decision brought them to a recognized rural creative community – Washington, CT.

Pilobolus has created 120 dance works, performed in 64 countries around the world before a cumulative audience of six million. Breaking new ground, Pilobolus appeared at the 2007 Oscars as live performers at the 79th Academy Awards. Done in silhouette behind a white translucent screen, they performed various figures including the Oscar statue itself. The introduction to the television audience opened them to marketers who brought their shadows art form into the advertising world.

Pilobolus Dance Theatre has three main branches: a touring company, Pilobolus, that creates new works through the International Collaborators Project; an educational programming arm that teaches the company's group-based creative process; and Pilobolus Creative Services, which offers movement services for film, advertising, publishing, commercial clients and corporate events.

Employing their collective decision process and extraordinary talent pool, this summer, Pilobolus brought the Five Senses Festival to its creative and original wellspring, Washington, Connecticut.

Institute for American Indian Studies Presents... WIGWAM ESCAPE

This October, Washington's Native American Museum, the Institute for American Indian Studies, is opening a new escape room, Wigwam Escape, and invites players to experience how native people lived in these local woodlands for thousands of years before European contact. In this themed puzzle challenge, participants will live for a day in the year 1518, using collective knowledge and teamwork to overcome the challenges necessary to survive.

The full experience is 90 minutes in the museum's Research Center. This includes a pregame orientation, the one-hour puzzle centerpiece, and postgame popcorn and discussion when your team returns to the 21st Century. The game is set for three to seven players and the cost is \$25 per person, or \$20 for our museum members.

For more information, call 860868-0518 or email the Wigwam Escape Program Coordinator, Lauren Bennett, lbennett@iaismuseum.org.

International Archaeology Day

Saturday, October 20, 10:00am - 5:00pm

Dig into the fun with IAIS staff as they uncover what makes archaeology such an interesting subject of study. Archaeology is the study of the objects that people leave behind. It's how people today figure out what life was like in societies and cultures of the past. Participate in games and activities; connect with cultural items and objects. Do you have a question for an archaeologist?

Archaeology Day included in the price of admission: \$10 adults; \$8 seniors; \$6 children; IAIS members free.

13th Annual Native American Archaeology Roundtable Conference: Decolonizing New England Archeology and Museum Studies

Saturday, October 27, 9:00am - 5:00pm

"Decolonization" is a growing movement in academia and museums. It includes removing the biases of the dominant culture from historical interpretations to allow a more accurate presentation of a country's past and present. Additionally, it includes efforts to involve members of marginalized peoples in all aspects of historical study and programming. Please join us for another rousing Native American-Archaeology Round Table with outstanding presentations and panel discussions from a diverse group of researchers and museum studies professionals. This conference will be held at Shepaug Valley High School, 159 South Street, Washington, CT, whom we thank for their support.

Open to the public, pre-registration required, call 860-868-0518 or visit www.iaismuseum.org. \$10 conference fee. Light refreshments will be served.

Veteran's Day, Native American Military Members

Saturday, November 10, 12:00pm

Each year IAIS honors local Native Americans who have served in the United States Military. Join us in honoring and remembering all veterans, native and non-native, who have served our country with courage and pride. Throughout history, Native Americans have served their country with the highest record of service per capita when compared to the general American population and to any other ethnic group. Following a traditional ceremony in our outdoor village, participants and visitors are invited to a light lunch in the museum.

This event is free and open to the public.

From the Selectmen's Office

As summer is turning to fall activities have not slowed down in Washington. Our summer road maintenance and reconstruction has been mostly completed and annual chip sealing has been performed. There are several small projects still to be completed before the Highway Department preps for snow. The Town Beach completed another successful season and the boat launch has switched to its fall hours. The old gate valve at the Lake Waramaug Dam is being replaced and some repairs made to the dam itself will allow the Town to better regulate the flow into the East Aspetuck River. Our three bridge replacements have been completed. Spring Hill Road, Walker Brook

Road, and Romford Road are once again open to thru traffic.

Now that Bryan Plaza and Judy Black Park have been renovated the Board of Selectmen and Building and Property Committee are looking to clean up the cluster of signs at the wall alongside Routes 47 and 109. Currently we're asking people to self-police their sign placement. One sign per event; up no more than two weeks; and no larger than two feet wide and three feet high. The forest of yard signs on the small grass island will be limited to one sign per event as well. When we inquired to the DOT about one larger board to post multiple standard size signs we learned that this whole display is in the State right of way and all but State DOT

highway signs are prohibited per State Statutes Section 13a-124, Section 21-50, Section 21-58, Section 21-60, and Section 21-61. This area is considered informative by some and an eyesore by others. If the placement of signs can be kept neat and orderly between now and Dec. 1 and follow the above policy, the placement of informational signs may continue. If self-policing doesn't work, State Statute empowers us to ban the posting of signs in this area.

Our weekly email blast will continue as we try to keep you informed about town events and may become an alternative to address the above issue. If you're not receiving our emails, there are sign-up cards available at the town clerk's and selectmen's office.

The Washington Art Association & Gallery: A Life in Parts

The Washington Art Association & Gallery is pleased to present *A Life In Parts*, October 13 – November 10, recent work by Kent artist, Lisa Brody.

The series of works presented in this exhibition consists of an electric mix of paintings using screens literally and as metaphors, chandeliers of religious spaces and panoramic folding books.

In composing her paintings, Ms. Brody looks for patterns and designs; how they organize us and keep us interconnected. In her work, she is fascinated with finding systems that provide structure and order out of chaos. The ordinary everyday scene that she sees out her windows captivates her. The common place intrigues her, whether it's a pile of weeds or an ornate, baroque crystal chandelier. In the end, it's all made up of patterns, forms, light, shade, movement, and color.

Ms. Brody's "screen" paintings were composed while looking through her studio windows, either through actual screens, panes of glass, or curtains. She believes there's a screen, or filter, through which we perceive everything we see. She uses the screen as a window that allows her to organize space, flatten it out, and impose a grid upon it.



Lisa Brody, *Wisteria*, ink on Japanese paper, 55 x 56 inches

Other paintings are chandeliers, inspired by Baroque and Rococo architecture she visited in Muslim, Christian and Jewish religious spaces in Egypt and Mexico. She was drawn to chandeliers within these sacred spaces, observing patterns and forms opening and closing, expanding and contracting. Light can always be found, even if it is just a sliver.

The final works in the exhibition are Japanese-style, accordion folded books in which Ms. Brody has documented parks,

gardens, walks, places and things. The small, expanding books (which can open to eight feet) serve as a portable studio for the artist, allowing her to mimic the panorama of movement and architecture. In these drawings, she's free to change scale and perspective, following the overall manner of looking that the normal gaze encompasses—up, down, high, low, close and far. The book captures a day's, week's or year's experience, which can open to expand and then reduce to reveal a private vision. The acts of opening and closing the book, enfolding the pages, will provide the same sense of anticipation of the unknown that one encounters while walking and exploring a new space.

This intriguing series truly engages the viewer and allows us to carefully explore the process and creativity of the artist.

The exhibition opens to the public on October 13 with an artist reception from 4:00-6:00pm.

For more information please call 860-868-2878 or email info@washingtonartassociation.org. Or go to our website: www.washingtonartassociation.org
Gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday 10:00am-5:00pm and Sunday 10:00am-2:00pm.

The Herstory of Washington, Connecticut

On Thursday evening October 25, at 7:00pm, at The Rumsey Hall School Max Auditorium, Louise van Tartwijk, author and former Director of the Gunn Historical Museum, but most importantly a mother, housewife and kitchen-table historian, will present "The Herstory of Washington" an eight-part journey into the lives and times of the many women

who have helped shape the Washington of today. This first part "Herstory: 10,000 BC – 1750 AD. Women of the Woodland, Women from Across the Sea," will explore the stories and experiences of the Native American women who lived along the shores of the Shepaug River; the European women who sailed from England to help found the town of Stratford;

and finally, the original 15 families that left Stratford to settle Pomperaug Plantation which is today's Woodbury, Southbury and Judea/Washington. The presentation is given in conjunction with the Rumsey Hall School and the Washington Community Fund, both important town organizations begun by women.

What's Going on in Washington, CT

October

Spring Hill Vineyards - wine tasting venue open

292 Bee Brook Rd, Rt 47, Washington Depot

Opening Saturdays & Sundays from 11am-5pm weather permitting, beginning 9/15 until the weather turns too cold.

Wine tastings, wine sales, picnic tables, etc.

13 | 11:00am-5:00pm (rain or shine)

Hopkins Vineyard Ninth Annual Wine & Cheese Market

Food Trucks: Chistie Caters Farm to Truck and Tilden Seafood

Live Music: The Ed Canty Duo and Take 2 DJ

This event features local wines, award-winning farmstead and artisan cheeses, and specialty food producers from Connecticut. Guests will have the opportunity to sample

a wide variety of chocolates, jams, baked items, olive oils, honey, dips, and more. Local artisans will feature handmade alpaca products, candles, glassware, jewelry, soaps, carved wood, and more.

Admission is \$25 per person, at the door or online.

Wine tasting, food samples and music are included in the admission. Additional wine is available by the glass or bottle.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit: www.hopkinsvineyard.com

26 | 6:30-8:30pm

11th Annual Washington Cemetery Tour

Gunn Memorial Library and Museum

Take a candlelit tour through the Washington Green Cemetery and meet some of Washington's unforgettable residents from the past! Groups of visitors will be led by tour guides dressed in vintage

attire along a path of 1,000 luminaries through the Washington Cemetery. Citizens from centuries long ago will be brought to life by costumed actors who will tell their true stories; some amusing, some sad and some tragic. This year's tour will feature all new stories!

Contact: Lisa Breese, Museum Operations Manager 860-868-7756, info@gunnhistoricalmuseum.org.

November

2 | 5:00pm-8:00pm

November First Friday in the Depot

Washington Depot

5-7pm Open houses at participating shops and galleries.

6-8pm Swingin' with The Lucky 5 gypsy jazz band & Arthur Murray swing dance instruction @ Valley Spirit.



Washington Trivia by Shelia Anson

How many generations of Averills have been operating the farm?

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

Which Washington Food Market/Liquor Store employee is celebrating their 40th anniversary? Wolf Roller. Thanks for being such a huge part of our community!

Visit ExploreWashingtonCT.com

The official community website for events, things to do, and happenings around town.

What's Happening in Washington, CT is organized and printed through the Washington Economic Development Committee. Look for our next issue in January 2019.

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Harvest Festival

SAVE THE DATE: Harvest Festival, Saturday 10/13/18, 12:00 to 5:00pm

As we celebrate autumn, our WBA has once again joined forces with Washington Parks and Rec to host the second annual "Harvest Festival!" This family and community day was a huge success last year, and this year it's going to be even better.

The big event, of course, is the Best Scarecrow Contest so don't forget to vote. Around October 1st you'll start seeing

scarecrows around town, along the river and on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Last year, we counted over 700 votes and the winner was The Washington Ambulance Association... see photo.

Children's activities will include pumpkin carving, train rides, face painting, a bigger and better hay maze, and more fire-truck rides. And, of course, our Harvest Festival wouldn't be the same without great music



by The Regulators and drinks from the Mobile Pub and food prepared by our awesome Washington Fire Department and our Washington Pizza.

The Fall Dessert Contest is back, and we're hoping to get more submissions this year so get your baking

skills ready. Also, if you'd like to participate by selling goods and/or promoting your services, contact Jeff at Park and Rec (rec@washingtonct.org).

Steep Rock Association Fall 2018 Events Programs, Events and Volunteer Opportunities

www.steeprockassoc.org/programs-and-events
Registration helpful and donations gratefully accepted.

Judea Garden Photography Contest

Submissions Due by Friday, September 28th, 2018

Photos Taken at Judea Garden: Located at Macricostas Preserve (124 Christian Street, New Preston)

Capture the beauty of Judea Garden in a photo! First-place winners will receive gift certificates.

Winners will be announced at a special reception at the historic Camp Farmhouse Saturday, October 13. All photos will be on exhibit thru Saturday, October 27.

For more details, visit: www.steeprockassoc.org/photo-contest

Macroinvertebrate Sampling: A Citizen Science Project

Saturday, September 29, 2018, 10:00-11:30am

Steep Rock Preserve (2 Tunnel Road, Washington)

Calling all citizen science volunteers to help with our annual macroinvertebrate sampling effort. Find out how many bugs remain hidden beneath submerged rocks and their usefulness as indicators of water quality.

Seniors in Steep Rock 2: An Exploration in Nature

Thursday, October 4, 2018, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Macricostas Preserve (124 Christian Street, New Preston)

Senior citizens are invited to join Steep Rock Association (SRA) trustees and staff as they

lead a short and leisurely guided hike around the historically-rich grounds beside Judea Garden. Afterwards, enjoy the company of others and the onset of autumn during a provided picnic lunch.

Tunnel Road Connector Hike: An Exploration in Nature

Saturday, October 6, 2018, 11:00am-1:00pm

Rain Date: Sunday, October 7, 2018

Steep Rock Preserve (124 Christian Street, New Preston)

Join Steep Rock Association and Roxbury Land Trust on a 4 ½ mile hike along Tunnel Road. This town road, which connects protected lands owned by both organizations, offers incredible scenery for a fall outing.

Morning Yoga at Macricostas: An Exploration in Nature

Friday, October 12, 2018, 9:00-10:30am

Macricostas Preserve (124 Christian Street, New Preston, CT)

Connect your mind, body and breath through a peaceful morning yoga practice in our Macricostas Preserve. Caroline Kinsolving will be leading this program with 10 years of experience teaching a range of yoga techniques throughout the world.

Judea Garden 10th Season Reception

Saturday, October 13, 2018, 1:00-4:00pm

Macricostas Preserve (124 Christian Street, New Preston)

Celebrate Judea Garden as our 10th season of growing and giving comes to a close. Enjoy cake and view the entries from the Judea Garden Photography Contest.



Intern Karlie Neuhausser holding baby Kestrels

Judea Garden Fall Clean Up

Saturday, October 20, 2018, 9:00am-Noon &

Sunday, October 21, 2018, 1:00-4:00pm

Macricostas Preserve (124 Christian Street, New Preston)

Help us clean up as we close the garden for the season.

Steep Rock Association Summer Interns

As our summer draws to a close we are so grateful for the three summer interns we were able to hire this summer. Judea Garden welcomed new summer interns, one of them being funded by a donation from the Washington Garden Club. We also hired our first ever Van Sinderen intern who worked on a number of stewardship projects for the organization. The Van Sinderen Internship was made possible by a donation from the Washington Scholarship Fund.

Read about our Van Sinderen intern's experience here: www.steeprockassoc.org/summer-internship

ASAP!® Upcoming Events & Workshops

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

8th Annual Celebration of Young Photographers

2018 | Sunday, November 4, 2:00-4:00pm
Washington Town Hall, Washington Depot
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 judge photographs submitted by students in grades 6-12, each expressing a unique interpretation of this year's theme, Possibilities are Boundless. Following the exhibit will be a presentation celebrating our selected top young photographers. Enjoy a glass of wine and delicious local hors d'oeuvres while appreciating the work of our talented artists.

See <http://asapct.org/project/celebration-of-young-photographers/> for submission guidelines.

Creative Movement with Pilobolus

Ages 3-5 | Pilobolus
Washington Primary School, Gym

Your child will work directly with a member of the internationally renowned Pilobolus Dance Theater to explore movement, experience collaboration and discover the thrill of performance while learning Pilobolus' signature method of creating dances. Parents and friends are invited to enjoy the last class with the students.



2018 | Wednesdays, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7 |
12:45-1:30pm
4 sessions: \$60

Ninjatritition

Grades 3-5 | Alissa Monteleone
Booth Free School, Roxbury
Music/Art Room

Good Food! Good Thoughts! Good Life!
Students practice the art of self-reliance, self-discipline and sound nutrition while having lots of fun and creating great food. Ninjatritition leads students through a progression of mind/body and culinary skills, earning a bracelet toward becoming Nutrition Ninjas.

2018 | Wednesdays, Oct 24, Nov 7, 14, 28 |
3:45-5:15pm
4 sessions: \$48 for Region 12 residents

Voice

Grades 6-8 | Janelle Anne Robinson
Shepaug Valley School

Come reveal the power of your voice through

song. We'll begin each session with a warm up, connecting our bodies to our voices and then learning techniques to build stamina and range. Students have the opportunity to select songs and incorporate ideas throughout the workshop.

2018 | Tuesdays Oct. 23, 30, Nov. 13 | 2:30-4:30pm
3 sessions: \$45
\$36 Region 12 residents

Art in Nature

Grades 3-6 |
Joseph Jude Brien
and Steep Rock
Association
Steep Rock
Association
Campsite - SR2

Come and whittle
your very own
walking stick.
We'll venture
out and select

the perfect sapling and transform it into a rugged wilderness survival tool. During this afternoon in nature we'll cook up a delectable veggie soup for all hungry explorers. Before leaving you'll use your custom-made tool on a hike of the mountains. You'll leave ready and wanting more adventures at Steep Rock!

2018 | Saturday, Oct. 20 | 1:00-4:30pm
1 session: \$35



Washington Montessori School

Washington Montessori School celebrated its 54th opening of school on September 4, 2018. This year we're excited to welcome our new Head of School Carney O'Brien (See cover article by Dan Sherr) and 237 students ages 18 months - 8th grade.

As usual, 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 peruse 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/>

In particular, we're excited to be bringing Steve Pearlman to speak at 8:45am on Thursday, October 11. Steve is the Director of Interdisciplinary Writing and Reasoning at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford. A co-founder of The Critical Thinking Initiative (thecriticalthinkinginitiative.org) and co-host of The Critical Thinking Initiative podcast, Steve spends his days obsessing over research on what really fosters critical thinking, engaged learning and character development. Come join us for an eye-opening discussion of the state of critical thinking in secondary and higher education, where much of the research is pointing to the need to develop some of

the very same learning methods that Maria Montessori discovered years ago.

Finally, are you looking for something to do with your baby or young toddler? Please join us for our parent-child program on Fridays at 10:00am. (More information can be found here: <https://www.washingtonmontessori.org/parentchild/>)

It was a terrific summer in Washington and we thank everyone who played a part in making our town an engaging place to live and visit! We're fortunate to be a part of such a great community! We wish everyone heading back to school a wonderful fall.

Shepaug Regional School District 12

Regional School District 12 is proud to be part of the Washington community. This summer our students were able to experience the fun and culture provided through the community events. The art walk and the festivals not only show us that we're on the right course educationally, but Washington is a growing and thriving town.

Shepaug Valley School is also growing both its building and educational programs. The building project Phase I, the demolition of the science labs, was completed this summer. Temporary labs are in place to allow our students to experience scientific phenomenon. The building committee recently received State approval to move forward with Building Phase II, the construction of the new science labs and the agriscience space. It's with great confidence that the schools and community enter into new educational opportunities for our students.

Ms. Kim Gallo and Ms. Lori Ferreira continue to provide students with well-rounded learning experiences. All Shepaug students continue to take courses that explore Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). The staff is preparing for the legacy program that is the agriscience center.

We're not just building an agriscience center; we're building up Shepaug Valley School. The agriscience education being offered at Shepaug is about creating dynamic learning opportunities for our students. Students will work with drones to collect soil samples to determine crop success, extract DNA from plants to determine medicinal impacts, study bioengineering, learn about the chemical impact on our environment, explore farm-to-table options, identify variables and apply business concepts. This is STEM with an agricultural focus!

Ms. Emily Judd continues to provide strong leadership at Washington Primary. The students continue to explore social curriculum opportunities. Not only does "Kindness Count" but also perseverance and achievement are celebrated.

An additional change for the Region is new leadership. Superintendent Megan Bennett began her role on July 1. Megan is excited to join the three communities in building a world-class education system. On October 4, Megan is speaking at a community engagement event hosted by the Gunn Memorial Library. The conversation will begin at 6:30pm.

Region 12 is proud to introduce its new website to the community. Mr. Colin Sullivan has been working hard to promote the new platform. We invite everyone in the community to visit the website as well as our social media network for the latest information regarding the schools.

A special thank you to the Washington community for their support. As a district, we'll continue to seek resources to improve educational opportunities for our children.

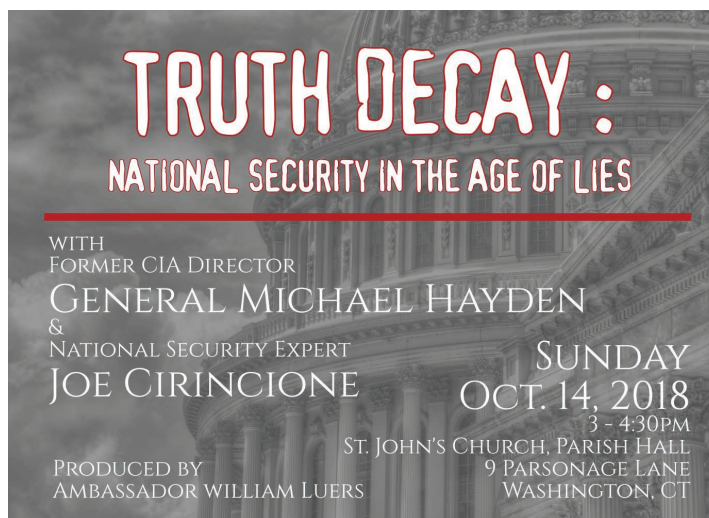
The goal of Region 12 is to make sure our schools reflect our communities. Feedback and communication are always welcomed and considered.

Conversation on the Green

Truth Decay: National Security in the Age of Lies

National Security. It's the President's most basic constitutional duty and his preeminent cudgel, the phrase used to motivate the country and justify almost anything and everything – secrecy, lies, discrimination, authoritarianism.

The event, which will be moderated by Jane Whitney, a former NBC News Correspondent and talk show host, is a benefit for local charities and encourages audiences to participate in an interactive town-hall style format. Tickets, which start at \$45, are available by emailing conversationsonthegreen@gmail.com or online at conversationsonthegreen.com. The event is at 3:00pm, Sunday, October 14, at St. John's Church, Parish Hall, Washington Depot.



Events at The Gunnery

October 13 Homecoming at The Gunnery

Events include: Girls' Varsity Soccer vs. The Master's School at 1:00pm; Varsity Field Hockey vs. Cheshire Academy at 2:30pm; Varsity Cross Country vs. Forman and Westover at 2:30pm; Boys Varsity Soccer vs. Watkinson School at 3:30pm. Alumni and families of current students are welcome to attend. Find more info at Gunnery.org/Homecoming or email bakerj@gunnery.org.

October 12-13 Parents Weekend at The Gunnery

More information at Gunnery.org.

November 8, 9 and 10 "You Can't Take it With You"

A comedy by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. Presented by The Gunnery Drama Society in the Lemcke Theater of the Emerson Performing Arts Center at The Gunnery. Details at Gunnery.org.

November 17 Town Party

The Gunnery celebrates the start of the holiday season by opening its campus to the Washington community for this annual event featuring the presentation of the 2018 Friend of the Green Award. 5:30pm in Solley Dining Hall. For more information, email bakerj@gunnery.org.

Gunn Memorial Library & Museum

BOOKED! *The Next Chapter*

After three decades of hosting the Washington Connecticut Antiques Show, we're turning a page and introducing a new event in its place. BOOKED! will be held at the Bryan Memorial Town Hall on Columbus Day weekend, Saturday, October 6. Join us for this special cocktail party in a transformed space and enjoy cocktails, sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, live music, and a silent auction while supporting an institution that stands at the center of our community.

FESTIVAL OF TREES: Cocktail Party - Friday, December 7 - 5:00-7:00pm.

CHILDREN'S FUN

Two's Time - Fridays, 10:30-11:15am, through November 16.

3 & 4 Year-Olds - Book Buddies: Fridays, 2:15-3:00pm, through November 16.

Kindergarten & 1st grade - Storycraft: Tuesdays, 3:30-4:15pm, through November 13.

2nd & 3rd grade - Storycraft: Thursdays, 3:30-4:15pm through November 15.

4th & 5th grade - After School Gaming Group: Thursdays 3:30-4:15pm, through November 15.

Saturday Family Programs

Fall Crafts: October 6 - Drop in between 10:00am-2:00pm.

Pirate Miniature Golf: October 13 - Drop in between 10:00am-2:00pm.

Pumpkin Painting: October 20 - Drop in between 10:00am-2:00pm.

Annual Halloween Costume Party and Parade: October 27 - 1:00pm.

The Institute for American Studies "Hands on History" program: November 3 - 1:00pm.

Fall Cupcake Decorating: November 10 - 1:00pm.

Thanksgiving Centerpiece Workshop: November 17 - 1:00pm.

The Cure for the Common Show with Bryson Lang: A high-energy show combining technical juggling skills with original comedy. Perfect for a fun family outing! November 24 - 1:00pm.

Gingerbread Houses: December 1 - Drop in between 10:00am-2:00pm.

Holiday Craft: December 8 - Drop in between 10:00am-2:00pm.

Annual Holiday Sale for Children Only - December 13, 14, 15

Thursday, Dec. 13 - 3:30-5:30pm, Friday, Dec. 14 - 3:00-4:30pm, Saturday, Dec. 15 - 10:00am-1:00pm.

Winter Wonderland Magic: A fun way to get in the winter spirit with magical routines that include snowmen, penguins, candy canes, and snowballs. Thursday, Dec. 27 - 5:00pm.

YOUNG ADULTS

Page-to-Screen Comparison Series - Read the book, discuss and watch the movie!

Love, Simon (Book - Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda) - Friday, October 19 - 12:30pm (Region 12 early dismissal)

Ready Player One - Friday, November 16th - 2:30pm.

A Wrinkle in Time - Friday, December 21st - 2:30pm.

Teens can take the bus to the library after school. Popcorn will be provided.

Teen Tech Time:

We're looking for teens who are proficient in using today's technology (iPhones, iPads, Google, etc.) to sign up for one hour one-on-one sessions with our adult patrons to help them navigate their devices. A perfect opportunity to earn community service hours! We'll accommodate busy after school, evening and weekend schedules.

ADULT PROGRAMS

The Soul Ajar - An Emily Dickinson Literature Course with Literary Scholar Mark Scarbrough - Mondays, October 1, 15, 22 & 29 - 10:00am.

New Region 12 Superintendent Megan Bennett Community Conversation - Shaping Shepaug: The Inclusion of Agriculture - Thursday, October 4 - 6:30pm

Geologist Ray Underwood - A Look Back Through Geologic Time (The Real Reason New Preston & Washington Seem Worlds Apart) - Thursday, October 11 - 6:30pm.

Pianist and Composer Timothy Wallace-A Matter of Interpretation - Chopin, Schubert and Ravel Piano Concert - Sunday, October 21 - 2:00pm.

Michelangelo: Love & Death - EXHIBITION ON SCREEN

Documentary - Thursday, November 1 - 6:30pm (co-sponsored with Washington Art Association).

Author James Mustich - 1000 Books to Read Before You Die - Thursday, November 8 - 6:30pm.

Monday Matinees: November 5, 19 and 26 - 1:00pm Screened feature films.

STAIRWELL GALLERY

Nicole Alger - Paintings on display October 6 to November 17

Norma Schlager - Fabric Art on display November 24 to January 5

MUSEUM

11th Annual Washington Green Cemetery Tour - Friday, October 26 - 6:30-8:30pm

A community favorite. Take a candlelit tour through the Washington Green Cemetery and hear the tales of departed community members. This year's theme is "Tales from the Depot's Shopkeepers." Tours start at Gunn Historical Museum.

SAVE THE DATE

New Year's Tea Party - Saturday, January 5, 2019, 11:00am - 1:00pm in the Wykeham Room of the Library. Socialize with friends and ring in the New Year with an old fashioned tea hosted by the Museum and the Library. Bring a tea cup and we'll provide the rest.

Cookie Contest - One of the highlights of the tea party will be the return of the popular cookie contest. Bakers of all ages will have the opportunity to have their culinary creations judged by professionals before being shared with guests.

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

Do you have a question about the WEDC? Want to submit something for the newsletter? Take a look at our page on the Town of Washington website washingtonct.org/economic-development-committee or email us with any questions or comments washingtonctedc@gmail.com.