

# Washington, CT

## Its Washington Election Year 2019

Mark your calendars, Tuesday, November 5, 2019,  
6:00am – 8:00pm, Town Hall

### Democrats



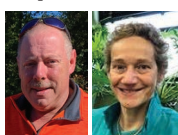
**Candidates:** First  
Selectman –  
Michelle Gorra,  
Selectman –  
Jay Hubelbank

**Campaign Platform:** Michelle and Jay believe coordinating the efforts of the town employees and commissions is vital to making progress for Washington. It's essential that Land Use Boards work together to interpret and develop regulations that maintain our rural character while making modifications to allow for thoughtful and environmentally sound growth. Additionally, attracting families to our wonderful town is a priority in addressing our declining population. We both want to nurture and promote Washington's strengths, including our great educational institutions, our arts and cultural organizations and our involved population to attract people to our community.

**Background and Experience:** Michelle and Jay have educational backgrounds in Public Policy and Administration and years of management experience in both the public and private sectors. Michelle has been the Aspetuck Animal Hospital business manager for the last 14 years, handling everything from payroll to job descriptions. Jay's 25 years as a school business manager gives him extensive experience in budgeting, facilities maintenance and all facets of human resources. Both Michelle and Jay served over 15 years on the Region 12 School Board and have additional years of volunteering on various boards and local organizations. Jay has been a Selectman for the last 6 years. They each have two daughters; all four graduated from Shepaug.

Michelle and Jay's educational and professional experience has given them the tools necessary to carry out their vision for Washington.

### Republicans



**Candidates:** Jim  
Brinton, First  
Selectman, Sarah  
Gager, Board of  
Selectmen

#### Campaign Platform

- Greater support of our businesses/merchants
- Focus on an up-to-date, dedicated senior center
- Continued focus on open space and arts and culture
- Complete technology updates

Jim Brinton was born and raised in Washington and has worked in town his entire adult life. "People love Washington for its character, cultural offerings, dedication to our open space and natural resources as well as our strong sense of community and volunteerism. My goal is to protect those values that are so important to all of us while moving Washington forward."

Sarah Gager grew up in Cheshire and has lived in Washington since 2003. She holds a B.S. in marketing and a MBA in management. Her career has been spent protecting water resources and the last 27 years in the education field. She currently holds the position of Dean of Student affairs at NVCC. One of her top priorities is to utilize her knowledge in secondary and higher education to support the challenges faced with the shifting demographics of K12 enrollment in the Washington community.

## Message from the Selectmen's Office

The summer season is coming to a close, school has started and leaves are starting to litter our lawns. The Highway Department is wrapping up a busy paving season with several roads chip-sealed. There's still work to be done and our highway crew will be working on patching and paving until the asphalt plants close in early December.

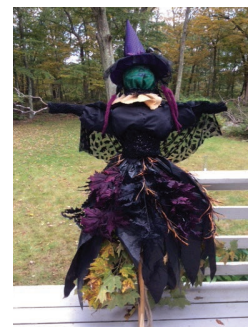
The Shepaug Valley Regional High School has undergone a massive transformation since closing last June. The AgStem program is up and running and the final phases of the project are on schedule to be completed by January 1, 2020. Take a drive up the driveway it is impressive.

Washington had a very busy summer with numerous festivals, art events and weekend activities. Anyone sitting home wondering what to do can check [explorewashingtonct.com](http://explorewashingtonct.com) for lists of daily activities scheduled now through cold weather.

## Harvest Festival

Sunday, October 13, Noon to 5:00pm!

The third annual **Harvest Festival** is coming and looks to be better than ever! Once again, the **Scarecrow Contest** will be full of surprises, and the big question is "*which business scarecrow will end the Washington Ambulance scarecrow winning streak?*" Only you can decide by casting your vote at the festival! Be sure to check out the scarecrows popping up around town starting October 1.



Train and firetruck rides start at noon, along with lots of face painting, pumpkin carving and hay-mazing activities. Of course, live music by *The Regulators*, drinks from the Mobile Pub and food prepared by the Washington Fire Department and Washington Pizza are happening again!

If you'd like to participate as a vendor by selling goods and/or promoting your services, contact Jeff at Park and Rec ([rec@washingtonct.org](mailto:rec@washingtonct.org)) or Liz at [liz@newburyplace.com](mailto:liz@newburyplace.com).

Look for more information and regular updates on Instagram and Facebook using the hashtag #DepotHarvestFest

## Spotlight on Business: Eliot Johnson, West Mountain Builders

By Dan Sherr

Three generations of Johnson passion have created a multi-era tradition in Washington. Eliot Johnson is a third generation Washingtonian, a farmer paying homage to the town's agrarian traditions and a contributor to Washington's commercial success. Eliot operates a 40-acre beef and hay farm on West Mountain Road while also running a family business, West Mountain Builders. He has grown a family in town while propelling West Mountain Builders into a well-known and highly regarded custom home builder.



In 1940, Walter Johnson, Eliot's grandfather, acquired 90 acres on West Mountain Road and established a dairy farm. In 1976, Walter Johnson III, Eliot's father, with only a modest interest in dairy farming, opened a renovation business. Eliot

enthusiastically took over in 2002 and renamed the business West Mountain Builders after the road the family had lived on since the founding of the original farm. A graduate of Canterbury School (New Milford) and Marist College (Poughkeepsie, New York), Eliot has continued both Johnson traditions: family farming and fine New England craftsmanship with West Mountain Builders – thus bridging two eras of Washington commercial endeavor.

West Mountain Builders' passion has created "word of mouth" among the high-end architects of the Northwest Corner and NYC. With a seasoned staff, including Eliot's wife Stephanie, West Mountain Builders brings personalized service and attention to detail to the construction of large scale but intimate homes in Litchfield County.

Eliot and Stephanie have extended this passion into the community. They have deep involvements with the Washington Art Association – both are on the Board, the Steep Rock Association, local schools and the Boy Scouts. Continuing the Johnson's commitment to Washington, the family recently opened their farm to the public with a transfer of 50 acres to the Steep Rock Association.

## Assessor's Office

Delisse Locher

The October 1 assessment date in Connecticut is the 'effective' date for many tax benefit applications or statutorily required filings with the Assessor's Office.

Military veterans seeking exemptions for Honorable service on the 2019 grand list and in 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. Veterans may also apply for a two-year increased exemption based upon income; if they file an application with income proofs by October 1.

Real estate owners may submit new or amended applications for a special tax value for acres already in productive agricultural use on Oct. 1, between Sept. 1 – Oct. 31, 2019.

Any organization already enjoying tax-exempt status must also file a supplemental application for exempt status for any additional property acquired after the prior (2017) quadrennial filing on or before November 1, 2019.

Additionally, owners of business personal property are required to file declarations of assets held on the assessment date, U.S. postmarked no later than Nov. 1, 2019.

There is even more tax benefit information for Totally Disabled, Blind and/or Elderly individuals, as well as other topics of interest at: [washingtonct.org/assessor](http://washingtonct.org/assessor). Questions for the assessor can always be left by voice mail, 860-868-0398, or by email @ [assessor@washingtonct.org](mailto:assessor@washingtonct.org)

## Washington Montessori School

Washington Montessori School is excited to open its 55th school year with 248 students. In our second year with new Head of School, Carney O'Brien, we'll continue to look for ways to collaborate with the Town of Washington. As always, we welcome visitors to our school! Between parent education talks, parent-child classes for babies and toddlers, and evening events for adults, we aim to offer a wide range of activities to suit a variety of needs and interests.

Back by popular demand! *WMS Presents... The Late Afternoon Show*, hosted by local favorite, Michael Lombardi, Saturday, October 5, 5-7:30pm. Sponsored by Active by Altorelli, Allume, The Matthews Group Real Estate and Jessica Travelstead of The Matthews Group, National Iron Bank, and North Stone Landscaping. Following the rousing success of last spring's inaugural event, this fall's show — "Pop of Ages" — will continue to introduce remarkable new talent to our stage and community. Produced by music producer and owner of Roxbury Station recording studio, Marc Wager, get ready for an experience found nowhere else in Litchfield County. "Pop of Ages" is guaranteed to have you on your feet! Yep, we just said that. Don't miss this incredible "late afternoon" of music.

General admission is \$45 and includes an open bar. The event begins at 5pm with the performance to begin promptly at 5:30pm. Tickets will go on sale on September 16 and may be purchased at <https://www.washingtonmontessori.org/poptickets/>

As usual WMS offers a full slate of parent education talks, some about Montessori education, and others about more general topics. Almost all are free and all are open to the public. We encourage everyone 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/>

Finally, are you looking for something to do with your baby or 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/>

When you work in schools, September always feels like the New Year! We look forward to reconnecting, meeting and gathering with the Washington community over the next few months.

# Steep Rock Association Fall 2019 Events

## Programs, Events and Volunteer Opportunities

Please visit <https://steeprockassoc.org/events-programs/> for more information and to register for events.

## Events

### Steep Endurance 10K – Steep Rock

Date: Sept 29, 8:00am  
Location: Steep Rock Preserve (2 Tunnel Rd)  
This is the first of three challenging runs in the Steep Rock Trail Series brought to you by Steep Endurance. These races give runners a chance to push themselves while experiencing sweeping viewpoints, lush forest single track trails and hillsides, babbling brooks and streams, old rail beds, rural landscapes, and of course the ever present New England fall foliage. Next races are November 3 and 17. For more information, visit <https://www.steependurance.com/steep-rock-trail-series-2019.html>

### Tunnel Road Connector Hike: An Exploration into Nature

Date: October 5, 1:00 – 3:30pm  
Rain Date: October 6, 1:00 – 3:30pm  
Location: Steep Rock Preserve (2 Tunnel Rd)  
If you're looking to explore some of western Connecticut's most beautiful country, this hike is for you! Please join Steep Rock Association (SRA) and Roxbury Land Trust (RLT) on a 4½ mile inter-town hike along Tunnel Road for unparalleled views of the Shepaug River along beautiful, wild lands preserved by both organizations. The program will start at SRA's main Steep Rock Preserve parking lot next to the riding ring and finish at RLT's Battle Swamp Preserve. A shuttle bus will then bring all participants back to Washington. Registration is required due to shuttle capacity.

### Little Britches Anniversary Horse Show

Date: October 5, 10:00am – 3:00pm  
Location: Steep Rock Preserve Riding Ring (2 Tunnel Rd)  
Be sure to check out the Little Britches Therapeutic Riding's 40th Anniversary Horse Show at the Steep Rock horse ring. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the Little Britches riders and rich history of giving back to the community. Please show some support to this great organization and join us for this amazing event!

### Monthly Trail Work Party

Date: October 12, 10:00am – 12:30pm  
The work party will always meet between 10:00am and 12:30pm on the second Saturday of every month through October. All tools and equipment are provided, but please wear/bring close-toed shoes, long pants, seasonally appropriate clothing, and a re-usable water bottle. Families with teens and older children are welcome, but an adult must accompany and participate with children under 18. Location and project details are posted on the website two weeks prior to the work party event.

### Carve for Conservation at Harvest Festival

Date: October 13, Noon – 5:00pm  
This Harvest Festival, the Steep Rock Association will have an informational booth with pumpkin carving, to bring some fun to conservation! Be sure to bring the kids by and enjoy some fall fun as a family with the rest of the town of Washington.

### Judea Garden Fall Cleanup

Date: October 26, 9:00am – Noon  
October 27, 1:00 – 4:00pm  
Help put Judea Garden to bed. After growing 3,000 pounds of food for neighbors in need, the Garden deserves a rest. The more work we get done now, the easier spring will be!

### Monthly Trail Work Party

Date: November 9, 10:00am – 12:30pm  
The work party will always meet between 10:00am and 12:30pm on the second Saturday of every month through November. All tools and equipment are provided, but please wear/bring close-toed shoes, long pants, seasonally appropriate clothing, and a re-usable water bottle. Families with teens and older children are welcome, but an adult must accompany and participate with children under 18. Location and project details are posted on the website two weeks prior to the work party event.

### Preserve Monitoring Blitz

Date: November 16, 9:00am – Noon  
For the second year running, Steep Rock Association (SRA) invites you to scramble through the remote corners of Washington and explore the landscape in a truly unique way: SRA must walk their preserve boundaries, monitoring the preserves for ecosystem health, signs of trespass and presence of wildlife. Terrain and hiking difficulty vary widely. Participants will have the option to register for easy, intermediate or difficult routes. Easier routes consist of hikes totaling approximately 45 minutes or less through flatter terrain while more difficult routes demand hiking over two hours through steeper areas. An adult must accompany children under 18. Registration is required. Register on our website.

### Christmas Bird Count

Check the SRA Event page for date and time. Summon the scientist within to help Steep Rock Association (SRA) collect data on birds inhabiting the Litchfield Hills. Your eyes, ears and enthusiasm are requested for a birding excursion in Macricostas Preserve as part of the nation's longest-running community science bird project, Audubon's Christmas Bird Count (CBC).



THE CELEBRATION OF YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

JURIED BY PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

Theme: **CURRENT MOOD**

PHOTO EDITING ALLOWED THIS YEAR

**DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1 GRADES 6-12 FREE**  
Visit [asapct.org/events](https://asapct.org/events) for Submission Guidelines

## ASAP! 9th Annual Celebration of Young Photographers

ASAP! is pleased to announce its **9th Annual Celebration of Young Photographers**. Students in grades 6 – 12 are invited to submit two photographs based on this year's theme: Current Mood. A panel of professional photographers will select 60 photos to be included in a unique exhibition at Bryan Memorial Town Hall in Washington Depot, CT on November 17, 2 – 4pm. The exhibition will then move to Judy Black Park and Gardens for a two-week extended viewing. The top four photographers will be recognized for their outstanding work and will receive the 2019 Dylan's Wings Photography Award and a special prize. **Deadline for submissions is October 1, 2019!** Please see the info below for more information.

Join us on Nov. 17 for this free event and bring your friends and family to celebrate the exceptional work of CT's young photographers. Winners will be announced and delicious refreshments will be served. Selected photos will be available for purchase.





Conversations On the Green, the town hall style speakers series that brings headline makers to our community, will close our 7th season with a knockout panel on October 27 at the Washington Montessori School in New Preston. “Working Without A Net: On Air In the Age of Trump” will be headlined by Stephanie Ruhle of MSNBC, Jeff Mason, a Reuters White House Correspondent and the former head of The White House Correspondents’ Association, and CNN’s Jim Acosta, President Trump’s chief whipping boy in his war against the press. While the event is sold out, we do have a waiting list. Email [conversationsonthegreen@gmail.com](mailto:conversationsonthegreen@gmail.com) to add your name.



Kate Urthy

From August 25, “New Kids on the Hill: Ms. Smith Goes to Washington.” Rep. Elissa Slotkin (MI), Rep. Jahana Hayes (CT), Rep. Donna Shalala (FL), Moderator Jane Whitney, Rep. Abby Finkenauer (IA), Rep. Antonio Delgado (NY)

But there’s more. Seth Meyers, one of the more acerbic of the growing gaggle of late night comedians, is coming for a not-so-late night special edition of Conversation On the Green, “Late Night: The Divine Comedy,” where he’ll discuss how he navigates the nightly conundrum between comedy and tragedy. While the date wasn’t finalized by the deadline for the town newsletter, tickets will go fast. So keep checking our website, [conversationsonthegreen.com](http://conversationsonthegreen.com), where we’ll post the information ASAP.

Proceeds from ticket sales benefit Greenwoods Counseling Referrals, Inc., New Milford Hospital and the Susan B. Anthony Project. For tickets and more information, visit our website [www.conversationsonthegreen.com](http://www.conversationsonthegreen.com).

## Gatherings for All at The Judy Black Memorial Park and Gardens

Good things happened throughout the summer as friends and neighbors gathered at the park in the center of the Depot to celebrate the vision of world-class artists on exhibit, the sportsmanship of their soccer and tennis heroes on screen, the drama of outdoor movies, the passion of live musicians, the voices of young students, the bounty of local farms, the goodwill of giving, and the beauty of our gardens in bloom. As the weather begins to cool and the colors of our gardens change, we prepare the park for the next season and welcome friends and neighbors to enjoy all of the good things happening at the park through the end of the year.

### Farmer’s Market @ the park

Shop for farm-fresh delights at the Farmer’s Market through the last weekend of October. Join us from 10:00am – 1:00pm, every Saturday through October 26.

### Artists @ the park

- Meet artist and New Preston resident Don Florence, as he opens his exhibit “Housework” @ the park on October 5, on view through November 11.
- On November 5 we’ll exhibit photographs by Georganne Mennin through the new year. A date will be announced for an artist’s talk in December.

### Wellness @ the park

Show your strength and join your friends and neighbors in learning healthy ways to build strong bodies in cooler weather months. Presented by Deb Andrews and Laura Werkhoven of Rooted in Health. November 13, 7:00 – 8:30pm.

### Young Photographers @ the park

View the talent of young photographers as 60 photographs chosen by the judges of

ASAP!’s Celebration of Young Photographers are on display in the gallery November 17 to December 1. Presented by ASAP!

### Holiday Crafts and Movies @ the park

Skip the lines on Black Friday and bring your kids to the park for our annual Kids Craft and Movie Night on Friday, November 29 at 2:00pm. Trees and wreaths will be available for purchase from Ox Hollow Farm. In collaboration with ASAP!



### Holiday in the Depot @ the park

Experience the magic of Holiday in the Depot @ the park on December 13. Presented by Averill Farm, Ericson Insurance Advisors, National Iron Bank, and the Mayflower Inn and Spa, with Sharon Ruchman on piano, playing holiday favorites. Come enjoy music, entertainment, s’mores and more.

Check out our website ([www.thejudyblackparkandgardens.org](http://www.thejudyblackparkandgardens.org)), sign up there for our e-blasts, or follow us on Facebook for details of these events and more! Enjoy our mission in action in the coming season: “A gathering place that invites friends and neighbors to relax, learn, play, and share all that our community offers.”

## The Herstory of Washington, Connecticut, continues

Tuesday evening, September 24 at 7:00pm, at The Rumsey Hall School, Maxwell A. Sarofim ’05 Performing Arts Center, 201 Romford Road. Louise van Tartwijk, author and former director of the Gunn Historical Museum, will present: “The Mothers, Daughters & Wives – Patriots and Loyalists – of the American Revolution & Jane Mallory a Victim of America’s First Mass Murder.” This presentation will be part three of “The Herstory of Washington.” In October, the talks will continue with: “To Marry a Cherokee Indian: The Brinsmades, the Golds & the Boudinots.” In November, the topics will be, “The Great Awakening: Women of God, Prophets and Preachers.” Dates for October and November will be announced. The “Herstory” presentations are given in conjunction with the Rumsey Hall School and the Washington Community Fund.

# Gunn Memorial Library & Museum

## BOOKED! The Next Chapter continues...

Our annual fall fundraiser, BOOKED!, will be held on Columbus Day weekend, **Saturday, October 12**. Join us for a special evening at Bryan Memorial Town Hall and enjoy cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, music, and a silent auction – all to support an institution that stands at the center of our community!

## CHILDREN'S FUN

**Two's Time:** Fridays, 10:30 – 11:15am, October 4 – November 15

**3 & 4 Year Olds Book Buddies:** Fridays, 2:15 – 3:00pm, October 4 – November 15

**Kindergarten & 1st grade – Storycraft:** Tuesdays, 3:30 – 4:15pm, October 1 – November 12

**2nd & 3rd grade – Storycraft:** Thursdays, 3:30 – 4:15pm, October 3 – November 14

**4th & 5th grade – After School Gaming Group:** Thursdays, 3:30 – 4:15pm, October 3 – November 14

## Fall Saturday Family Programs

**Halloween Haunted Houses** – October 5, 1:00pm

**Woodland Party** – October 12, 1:00pm

**Pumpkin Painting** – October 19, 10:00am – 2:00pm

**Halloween Party** – October 26, 1:00pm

**Carmel Apple Nacho Bar** – November 2, 1:00pm

**Multicultural Thanksgiving** – November 9, 1:00pm

**Fall Rock Painting** – November 16, 1:00pm

**Fall Luminaries** – November 23, 1:00pm

**Hula Hoop Dance Party** – November 30, 1:00pm

**Gingerbread Houses** – December 7, 10:00am – 2:00pm

## Annual Holiday Sale for Children Only

**Dec. 12, 13, 14:**

Thursday, Dec. 12, 3:30 – 5:30pm; Friday, Dec. 13, 3:00 – 4:30pm; Saturday, Dec. 14, 10:00am – 1:00pm

## Special Family Fun Event

**Ed Popielarczyk's Magic Show** – Friday, December 27, 3:00pm

## ADULT PROGRAMS

**Meet the Candidates: Sponsored by the Washington Democratic Town Committee** – Sunday, October 6, 2:00pm

**Professor Dan Esty, PhD: Climate Change Progress: Global, National, State and Local Perspectives** – Tuesday, October 8, 6:30pm

**Local Author Betty Krasne Book Talk and Signing: *The Good Life?*** – Tuesday, October 15, 6:30pm

**Professional Genealogist, Toni McKeen: Researching Your Family Tree** – Sunday, October 20, 1:00pm

**Decoding U.S. China Trade Relations by Professor, Historian and Author Mark Albertson** – Tuesday, October 22, 6:00pm

**Where the Crawdads Sing: Literature Discussion facilitated by English Professor and Scholar Aimee Pozorski PhD** – Tuesday, October 29, 6:00pm

**Van Gogh and Japan – EXHIBITION ON SCREEN Documentary** – Sunday, November 3, 2:00pm (Co – sponsored with Washington Art Association)

**Moets, Madrigals and Masses: Sounds and Culture in Renaissance Europe** – Musically enhanced lecture by musicologist Gil Harel, PhD – Thursday, November 7, 6:30pm

**Better Angels Conversation (a new way of talking politics) facilitated by Bart McCann, Gunnery History Chair** – Tuesday, November 12, 6:00pm

**Holocaust Documentary: Robbery of the Heart** – Thursday, November 14, 6:00pm

**Yale String Quartet: An Afternoon of Mendelssohn, Mozart and Brahms Chamber Music** – Sunday, November 24, 2:00pm

## STAIRWELL GALLERY

**Jim Aaby:** Paintings on display through October 26  
**Steven Miller:** Oil on Canvas, November 2 through December 14

**Christine Vitarello:** December 21 through January 25

## MUSEUM

**Exhibit Open: *Washington, Connecticut – An American Story*** – Explore this exciting new long-term exhibit about the unique people, places and events that have shaped Washington's rich history. Currently open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm. Admission is free.

**Guided Tours of the Exhibit:** Sunday, September 29, 2019. **Registration required.** (Offered in collaboration with the Housatonic Heritage Area)  
Tour #1: 1:00 – 2:00pm, limited to 15 people  
Tour #2: 3:00 – 4:00 pm, limited to 15 people

**Readings from the Archives: Topic: History of the Holiday House** – Monday, October 7, 10:00am, Washington Senior Center

**12th Annual Cemetery Tour:** Friday, October 25, 6:30 – 8:30pm (Rain Date: Sunday, October 27, 6:30 – 8:30pm)

Take a candlelit tour through the Washington Green Cemetery and meet some of Washington's unforgettable residents from the past! A community favorite. Volunteers needed to lend a hand.

**Washington History Club at Night: Topic: Recreation in Washington** Tuesday, November 19, 6:30pm in the Wykeham Room of the Gunn Library. **Topic: Leisure and entertainment.** Meet at the Museum at 5:30pm to view the new exhibit before the start of the history club meeting.

**Washington History Club in the Morning: Topic: Lost Washington – Places that Once Were** – What buildings and businesses do you miss?  
Monday, December 16, 10:00am, Washington Senior Center.

For more information and a complete listing of programs and events at GML, Inc., visit [www.gunnlibrary.org](http://www.gunnlibrary.org)

# Washington Environmental Council

- **Paris to Pittsburgh:** A *National Geographic* Climate Change Documentary Film screening on September 17, 6:00pm @ Gunn Memorial Library. Co-sponsored with First Congregational Church.
- **Community Book Read:** The first townwide environmental book discussion will be on March 10, 6:30pm @ Gunn Memorial Library. The featured book is "*The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming*" by David Wallace-Wells.
- **Thank you** to everyone who supported banning single-use plastic bags months before the statewide ban. More information on the differences between the two ordinances (town vs. state) will be in the next WEC newsletter.
- WEC will be at the Harvest Festival on October 13, showcasing reusable items and their best-ever SCARECROW!

# Hollister House

## Overwintering Houseplants – Growing Techniques that Work

Saturday October 12, 2019, 10:00 – 11:30am  
Flowering and foliage houseplants thrive outdoors during the summer months and the transition to the indoor home environment for winter can be a challenge. In this illustrated talk, Barbara Pierson will share species – specific growing instructions and simple techniques to ensure that your favorite plants remain happy all year! \$25/pp for HHG members, \$35/pp for non-members  
Register at <https://hollisterhousegarden.org/events/>



# Shepaug Regional School District 12

On September 3, nearly 450 students walked through the doors of the newly renovated Shepaug building. The campus has been transformed with the addition of new science labs and the agriscience program. Forty-seven students proudly began the highly anticipated agriscience program. This exceeded our expectations for the first cohort to join our school. Our agriscience students will focus on environmental sustainability while pushing the limits of agricultural processes and engineering. They'll experience drones with infrared scanners to determine field health, organic farming practices, virtual horse riding, as well as state-of-the-art stables and a riding ring.

We're excited to welcome Mr. Michael Croft who has returned to Shepaug as the assistant principal. Mr. Croft's vision for unifying the community as well as celebrating our school's success align with the direction our district is moving. Mr. Croft joins Principal Kim Gallo in leading Shepaug to bring educational opportunities and rigor to all students.



Under the guidance of Principal Emily Judd, Washington Primary School continues to transform and evolve for our youngest learners. The learning experience and environment serve to promote both mind and body development. Students will encounter colorful and exciting sensory floors to connect the mind and body during hallway travel. Additionally, students will begin their gardening project with some help from both the community and the students at Shepaug.

Superintendent Megan Bennett will continue her community conversations this year. The talks will shift from Shaping Shepaug to

Designing the Shepaug Experience. The goal of the community conversations is to provide a school system that reflects the vision of our communities.

Region 12 is proud to continue its electronic communication platforms. Mr. Ben Allen will continue the Region in Review, website updates and social media updates. We ask all community and family members to follow us on *Twitter* @ShepaugRSD12, *FaceBook* Shepaug Regional School District 12, *Instagram* @region12schools, and our website [www.region-12.org](http://www.region-12.org).

A special thank you to the Washington community for your patience and support of our schools during the construction project and agriscience program startup. It's our hope that the community will now return to see the changes to our beautiful Shepaug campus. Our school district is only successful when we are united. Thank you for your partnership.

## Shakespeare in the Litchfield Hills Will Return in 2020!

Thanks to extraordinary community support and enthusiasm, the First Annual Shakespeare in the Litchfield Hills in August was wildly successful:

- 1,300 people of all ages joined the audience for four FREE outdoor performances of *The Comedy of Errors* at River Walk Pavilion in Washington Depot.
- They called it "incredibly special," "fast paced," "hysterically funny," and "world class."
- 110 Litchfield County households, new to Shakesperience Productions, Inc., donated to the event long before the first performance ever hit the stage.
- An enthusiastic audience also donated generously at all four performances.
- 30 local businesses sponsored and advertised in the program book. Many donated "in kind" services.
- Local residents generously hosted 30 company members in their homes.
- Area stores and restaurants served both company and audience members over the two-week period that Shakesperience was here in town.



The Friends of Shakesperience in the Litchfield Hills are already back to work on the year-long development of this immersive community event which will, with your support, take place once again in Washington Depot, August 5 – 9, 2020. The Bard's most beloved comedy *Twelfth Night* will be performed by a cast of professional and Equity actors, and will again be directed by Shakesperience Productions, Inc. Artistic Director Emily Mattina. BE SURE TO SAVE THE DATE!

You can donate securely online at [www.shakesperience.org/summer](http://www.shakesperience.org/summer) or mail a check to Shakesperience Productions, Inc., 117 Bank Street, Waterbury, CT 06772, with "summer" on the memo line.

## Fall Events at The Gunnery

October 15 – 19

### Parents Weekend at The Gunnery

Parents of current students will be on campus for scheduled events, including home games for The Gunnery's football, soccer and field hockey teams. For more information, or to check out the fall athletics schedule, go to [gunnery.org](http://gunnery.org).

November 7, 8 and 9

### "Backstage"

A comedy by Pat Cook. Presented by The Gunnery Drama Society in the Lemcke Theater of the Emerson Performing Arts Center at The Gunnery. Admission is free. The community is welcome to attend. Details at [gunnery.org](http://gunnery.org).

November 23

### 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 2019 Friend of the Green Award. 5:30pm in Solley Dining Hall. For more information, email [bakerj@gunnery.org](mailto:bakerj@gunnery.org).

## Washington Art Association Rock, Paper, Scissors

This Exhibition features two artists that at first glance appear as polar opposites. Brad Greenwood is a painter and Sam Funk is a sculptor. The light, hovering ephemerality and transient imagery of Greenwood is juxtaposed with the gravity of carved stone. However, in this show the stone reveals an urge to fly while the paintings convert the unendurable lightness of being in our contemporary culture into a playful parade of ever changing images.



Greenwood describes his paintings as scenes in a play with actors coming on and off the stage, drawing upon his personal story but also fed by his deep fondness of art history.

While each character is his own, his figures often mingle with iconic likenesses from paintings by classic painters and modern masters like Alice Neel, David Hockney, Roy Lichtenstein and others. His work utilizes figuration, abstraction, myth, and reality in equal parts and in new ways, creating narratives of personal emotion complicated by a deep and energizing love of paint and the history of art.



Sam Funk's sculptures make the impossibly heavy take flight. Funk says of his work, "transforming stone into an object of flight is antithetical to all we

know, yet there is a world out there, in our universe, where stone flies." Sam Funk, whose background had been in creative writing as well as script writing for television, putting word to paper had often been a frantic process toward fluid dialogue. Having strayed more recently toward the visual arts and stone carving, this sort of distillation is still paramount. His chosen narratives about the airborne and the grounded in conflict, are rendered in the gravity bound material, stone. This intended folly and the artists various poses of form that resemble paper airplanes give his sculptures an elegant figurative quality. Some even try to metamorphose into feathered birds of flight only to be grounded by their material make-up. The results are all at once highly crafted, humorous and poignant.

Rock, Paper, Scissors will be on exhibit through November 16, 2019. The Washington Art Association & Gallery is located at 4 Bryan Memorial Plaza, Washington Depot, CT. The Gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 5pm and Sunday noon – 4pm. For more information please visit our web site [washingtonartassociation.org](http://washingtonartassociation.org) or call 860-868-2878

## Digging into Connecticut's Archaeological Month with The Institute for American Indian Studies

This Museum is recognized for teaching very important and unique lessons related to the Native American connections to this area. Our programs teach history many of us never learned in school, or lessons that are not found in most history books. We're continuously updating our lessons and exhibits. Our innovative escape room, Wigwam Escape, engages players while teaching important lessons about how Native peoples thrived here, and has been recognized by both *Yankee* magazine and *Connecticut* magazine as an immersive and exciting puzzle game experience.

**October** is Connecticut's Archaeological Month and we'll have events throughout the month recognizing the importance of archaeological work to our Museum and community.

**October 13** – 1:00pm, Archaeological Oddities with Dr. Ken Feder

**October 19** – All Day, International Archaeology Day

**October 27** – 1:00pm, Artifact ID Day

**October 5** – We'll host the completion of the Museum's revitalized Replicated

Algonquin Village featuring our Three Sisters Garden grown using heritage seeds. The village has been built by Primitive Technologies from Bethlehem, using only stone tools and other Native building techniques.

Our Archaeological Month programming will conclude with our Annual Roundtable. "*Recent Discoveries in Connecticut Archaeology: New Light on Old Histories*" to be held at Wamogo Regional High School on November 9, 9:00am to 4:30pm.

**November** is Native American Month, with our programming featuring: November 10, Noon, Annual Native Veterans Day November 16, 1:00pm, Annawon Weeden will host a fascinating presentation, *First Light Flashback*. Drawing on his Mashpee Wampanoag, Narragansett and Pequot lineage, Annawon will share his personal experiences and explore the tribal history of the People of the Dawn from before European contact until the present day.

The Institute for American Indian Studies, 38 Curtis Road, Washington. Visit our website for more details on these and other museum activities at [www.iaismuseum.org](http://www.iaismuseum.org).

## Washington's Air Quality Monitor Is Up and Running

Linda Frank, co-chair WCCAA, Susan Payne, David Gewanter

The Western Connecticut Clean Air Action (WCCAA) group was formed in July 2018 as a multi-town alliance of concerned members of Conservation Commissions, environmental organizations, schools and land trust. It was formed in response to the development of the Cricket Valley gas-fired power plant located in Dover Plains, New York, 5 miles to the west of Kent and 12 miles from Lake Waramaug. The plant is scheduled to go online at the end of the year and its three, 282 feet high smokestacks will emit over 3½ metric tons of air pollutants each year.

The mission of WCCAA is to gather baseline air quality data for our region before Cricket Valley goes online. We'll continue the monitoring thereafter to scientifically assess Cricket Valley's impact on air quality in our region. To that end, the towns of Sharon, Cornwall, Kent, Warren, Washington, New Milford, and Sherman have purchased Aeroqual AQY1 monitors to collect the data. These towns form a north to south arc to the east of Dover Plains which will enable us to measure the pollutants that prevailing winds will be bringing to our communities. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has been very supportive and will be of assistance in reading the data. We'll keep you informed when Cricket Valley is up and running.

We're grateful to the participating town governments of Washington, Sharon, Cornwall, Warren, Kent, Sherman, and New Milford. And special thanks to the Kent School, Canterbury School, High Watch Recovery Center, Lake Waramaug Task Force, Lake Waramaug Association, and the Warren Land Trust for sharing in the cost of the monitors. And to the Marvelwood School, the Housatonic River Commission, the Housatonic Valley Association, the Kent Land Trust and the Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust and to individual donors for additional financial support.

We're fortunate to live in such a proactive and supportive community.

# ASAP!® Upcoming Events & Workshops

For more information about these programs, please visit [asapct.org](http://asapct.org) or call 860-868-0740.

## Ninjatritition

Grades 3 – 5, Washington Primary School, Washington, CT  
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. Each week students earn a bracelet toward becoming Nutrition Ninjas. Wednesdays, Oct. 9, 16, 30, Nov. 6, 3:45 – 5:15pm  
4 sessions – \$60, \$48 for Region 12 students, ASAP! provides supervision for students after school until the program begins.

## Day on the Farm

Grades 2 – 5, Waldingfield Farm, Washington, CT  
Join us on an early release day at Waldingfield Farm. Learn how food and farming affect our lives and the world around us. Farmer Patrick will lead you on an adventurous tasting tour of the farm where you'll get your hands dirty

planting and harvesting organic vegetables. He will share the ways in which the farm creates sustainable, healthy communities. Artist Skye Gilkerson will guide a hunt to hand select items



from the farm, which we'll use as mark-making tools to create landscape drawings on watercolor paper with natural pigments. We'll finish our day with delicious, locally made ice cream. Friday, October 25, 12:45 – 5:00pm  
Trip Fee – \$15, includes admission, transportation and ice cream

## Music Studio

Grades 9 – 12, Studio, Washington, CT  
Spend an immersive afternoon in a state-of-the-art professional recording studio with Grammy Award-winning music producers Krystyana and James Czeiner. From learning the basics

of recording technique to the technicalities of music writing and production, everyone will be encouraged to hear the sound of their own creative voice and discover how to accomplish their goals. Participants will take home a short piece of music that they recorded either behind the music boards or in the booth.

Saturday, October 12, 3:00 – 6:00pm  
1 Session – \$35

## Make a Joyful Noise

Ages 3 – 5, Washington Primary School, Washington, CT  
Join master percussionist John Marshall and explore improvisational exercises in traditional rhythms from across the world. Participants will 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 children share their newly acquired musical skills with family and friends. Wednesdays, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4, 12:45 – 1:30pm, 4 Sessions – \$60



## Washington Trivia by Sheila Anson

In 1949 who did Billy Bader beat to be the first car across the new bridge on Route #47 in the Depot by School Street?

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

Last issue's answer: The Washington Lions Club built the River Walk Pavillion pole barn structure in the early 1980s.

**Visit [ExploreWashingtonCT.com](http://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 December 2019.

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSSDDM\*\*\*\*\*

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