#### **April 2016**



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# From the Office of the Selectmen

Winter has treated the Town very well with little snow or ice. Now that spring is here the Town Crew has finished their road sweeping and has moved on to repairs and getting ready for chip sealing.

> We are looking forward to work at the Woods (painting and siding replacement) and the Library – more to follow on that.



Starting July 1<sup>st</sup> Copes will be picking up the trash and recycling. Keep an eye out for a letter from them the end of May or early June.

Remember the Town budget meeting May19<sup>th</sup>. Everything looks like there will be no tax increase even with just over a 3% increase from the school.





If you have spare time and would be willing to serve your town, please contact the Selectmen's office as there are a couple of vacant positions on town boards and commissions.

The Office of the Selectman is open Monday 9-3pm, Tuesday and Wednesday 9-4pm and Thursdays 9-1pm.

The Selectmen meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, usually at 5pm,

but check the Warren Website for agenda and times.

The First Selectman's door is always open.

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# **Public Works/Highway Department**



The Public Works Department has been busy spring cleaning the Town. They just finished sweeping the roads from this winter season and cutting the brush to make the roads safe for our Warren residents.

With Spring cleaning comes the chip sealing of some roads and total reconstruction of others.

This year we will be working on Reed, Cunningham, Partridge, Sunset Lake, Sand Castle and Arrowpoint.

Follow the Warren website for up to date information on when your road will be under maintenance.



FROM THE TOWN CLERK

The Presidential Preference Primary for Republicans and Democrats will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016.

Voting takes place at the Town Hall, 50 Cemetery Rd. from 6am-8pm.

Absentee ballots become available on April 5 and may be obtained upon application with the Town Clerk.

Newly registered and unaffiliated voters may register in a party up until noon of April 25 and still vote in the primary. A License is a...



Lost dog's ticket home.

#### June is Dog License Renewal Month!

Pursuant to Sec. 22-338 of CT General Statutes all dogs over six months of age must be licensed. A certificate showing current rabies vaccination must be provided if not already on file.

Remember, a dog license tag may well be your lost dog's ticket home!



## **Parkinson's Disease Support Group**

This new support group is available to those with Parkinson's as well as those that care for them. For further information, please contact Shirley Howe 860-927-1911.

# **Social Services Department**



## **Renter's Rebate Program**

If you are a senior 65+ or a person with a disability, and pay rent or share rent for an apartment, a cooperative, congregate housing, subsidized housing, or for a rooming house, you may be eligible for the **RENTER'S REBATE PROGRAM.** 

The application period is April 1 to October 1, 2016. The rebate amount you may receive is based on a graduated income scale and the amount of rent and utility payments you made in the PRIOR year (2015).

Who is eligible?

• Individual or spouse must be 65 years of age or older as of December 31, 2015.

• OR Renter must be 50 years of age or older and the surviving spouse of a renter who at the time of death had qualified and was entitled to tax relief, provided the couple was living together at the time of death.

• OR Renter must be 18 years of age or older who is permanently and totally disabled under Social Security Disability guidelines.

• Renters must have resided in the State of Connecticut for at least one year at any given time.

Income Guidelines (no asset restriction) Single person \$35,200.00 Married Couple \$42,900

What documents should you provide?

- 2015 IRS Tax Return (if you filed)
- Proof of Social Security Income
- Proof of any and all other income (pensions, interest, dividends, etc.)
- W-2 form(s) if you worked
- All 2015 rent and utility receipts (or call Eversource and ask for printout for 2015)
- Proof of disability for those under 65 years of age.

For further information contact Warren Social Services 860-868-7881 x114

#### Let's keep Families and Communities Healthy & Safe

CAP provides a six hour training for individuals, community groups, families, coaches, faith based groups and anyone who would like more education on how to recognize, provide support and give assistance to kids and adults struggling with addictions such as alcohol, drugs, gambling, inhalant abuse, as well as many mental health issues facing us today.

CAP is a program of the State of CT Dept. of Mental Health & Addiction Services.



Join us on **Saturday, May 14, 9am-3:00pm,** Kent Town Hall, 41 Kent Green Blvd., Kent. Complimentary lunch will be provided. Seating is limited.

RSVP by May 2 via <u>capconference@aol.com</u>.

Questions contact Kapriel Mouradjian, CAP Advisor, <u>frkapriel@gmail.com</u>.

# PARK AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES

#### Fitness Classes

All classes are held at the Warren Community Center

<u>Monday</u> Core Strength with Shannon 7 - 8 pm <u>Wednesday</u> Beginner Boot Camp with Carla 5:45-6:45 pm new series starting Wednesday April 20

<u>Wednesday</u> mornings at 9 am Butt Blaster & Classic Strength Workout with Shannon

<u>Wednesday</u> - Boot Camp Interval Training with Carla 7:00 - 8:00 pm <u>Saturday</u> - Boot Camp Muscle Conditioning with Carla 7:30 - 8:30 am



For additional information please contact instructors at the following emails: Carla at Carlahangevine@hotmail.com Shannon at <u>sasharv61@sbcglobal.net</u>

#### KARATE Spring Session Begins: Friday May 13th



Warren Parks & Recreation <u>Karate Classes</u> Fridays at Warren School

5:45pm Little Ninjas\* (3-4 year old) & Kid Kicks (5-7 year old) \*little ninja bow out at 6:15 6:30pm Junior/Adult (7 years and above) 7:35pm Weapons &/or Advanced Forms (alternating weekly)

Contact Frannie Caco at 860-868-5031 or email caco06777@yahoo.com



#### Save the Dates

July 16 - Coyote River Band July 30 - Truck Stop Troubadours August 13 - TIMERIDER Sept. 10 - Ticket to Ride (Beatles)

Paddleboard and Kayaking Clinic presented by Sportsmen's of Litchfield



June dates to be determined - please reference Town Website Warren Town Beach

Although there is no fee **you must register** so we know how many kayaks and paddleboards to have at the beach.

Please call Park and Recreation office at 860-868-7881 ext. 113 or email at parkrecdirector@warrenct.org

# PARK AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES



#### Warren Town Beach Swim Lessons

Swim lessons start on Monday July 11th and run for two weeks, ending on Friday July 22th. Lessons are 1 ½ hours in length.

Additional information about the program and to sign up, please call Park and Recreation office at 860-868-7881 ext. 113

#### Warren Town Beach Parking Permits Summer 2016

NOW AVAILABLE at the Park and Recreation Office and the Town Clerk's Office,

Please reference the application on the Town website



## Summer Camp 2016

Acorn Camps summer camp for girls and boys between the ages of 4 and 15 is located in the beautiful Warren Woods. This year, we are offering SIX fun filled one-week sessions The philosophy of this quality program is to provide a safe, challenging and fun camp experience for your children. Summer camp activities provide children with the opportunities and experiences to develop the necessary



skills to face challenges, build character, foster independence and try new things in a fun and safe environment. Our noncompetitive, family environment provides a sense of security where kids can meet personal challenges and receive recognition for their achievements and participation.

More information contact www.acorncamps.com

#### **AARP Driver Safety Course**

It's that time of year again! Time to update your AARP Driver Safety Course certification!



The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation's first and largest course for drivers age 50 and older. The program has helped millions of drivers protect their safety on today's roads. AARP has offered its classroom course since 1979, and the Morris Senior Center will host a class on **Thursday, May 12, 2016, from 8:30am—12:30pm**. (Yes! The class is now offered in a one day, four hour format!!)

In this class, you will have the opportunity to tune up your driving skills and update your knowledge of the rules of the road. Also to learn defensive driving techniques and discover ways to handle left turns, right-of-way, highway traffic and blind spots.

The cost is \$15.00 for AARP members, \$20.00 for non-AARP members. Checks made payable to "AARP" are required upon registration for the class.

Did you know that upon completion of the course, you may qualify for an automobile insurance discount given by your insurance company? Contact your insurance agent for more details.

Please contact Kristen Davila at Morris Senior Center 860-567-7437 to register or call Warren Parks and Recreation for more information at 860-868-7881 ext. 113 or email parkrecdirector@warrenct.org

The Warren Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to announce our 2016 Trip Schedule. We have received a tremendous response from the community regarding trips and as always welcome suggestions for additional trips and programs.

#### West Point Dress Parade Saturday, April 30, 2016

An amazing spectacle of honor and pride. Enjoy the procession of cadets of the United States Military Academy in full dress uniform, complete with pomp and circumstance. A delicious full buffet lunch at Hotel Thayer is also included.



COST <u>\$84.00 per person</u> includes motor coach bus transportation, driver gratuity, West Point Tour, parade ticket, full buffet lunch, snacks, and all gratuities: driver, lunch, and guide.

#### Oldest Rivalry in Baseball History Saturday, May 7, 2016 1:05pm game time



It's a rivalry almost as old as the game itself! New York Yankees vs. Boston Red Sox at <u>Yankee Stadium</u>. What more is there to say? <u>COST: \$90.00 per person</u> includes seating in section 208/209, motor coach transportation, parking, driver gratuity and snacks.





#### 2015 National League Champions Saturday, May 28, 2016 7:15pm game time

Let's go METS! We'll enjoy the reigning National League Champion *New York Mets* take on the *Los Angeles Dodgers* at <u>Citi Field</u> complete with a special pregame ceremony recognizing members of the 1986 New York Mets World Series Championship team.



<u>COST: \$85.00 per person</u> includes seating in left field, sections 134/135; motor coach transportation, bus parking, driver gratuity and snacks.

#### Ellis Island / Liberty Island

Sunday, June 26, 2016

We'll enjoy a ferry ride to both Ellis Island and Liberty Island with free time to explore the <u>Ellis Island Immigration Museum</u> followed by pedestal access at Lady Liberty on Liberty Island. Both play such an important part in our Nation's history.



COST: <u>\$66.00 per person</u> includes ferry rides and admission to Museum and Statue, motor coach transportation, driver gratuity, snacks.

#### The Oldest Ball Park in America



Saturday July 9, 2016 – 4:05 game time

Calling all Boston Red Sox fans! We're headed to <u>Fenway Park</u> in Boston to see the Sox take on the *Tampa Bay Rays*. Be sure to visit Autograph Alley to obtain an autograph from a former player or coach! We'll enjoy free time prior to the game at <u>Faneuil Hall Marketplace</u>.



COST: \$95.00 per person includes seating in Section 4 Rows 1 – 4, motor coach transportation, driver gratuity, bus parking and snacks.

Additional and updated information can be found in the Parks and Recreation Trips section on the Warren Town website at www.warrenct.org For information, please contact the Warren Parks and Recreation office at 860-868-7881 ext. 113 or email: parkrecdirector@warrenct.org

Bronx!

cost: to be determined

#### NYC, Italian Style

#### Saturday, August 13, 2016

A step-on guide will tell us all we need to know about Brooklyn – landmarks, classic neighborhoods, movie sites, celebrity connections and more! We'll enjoy pizza at one of Brooklyn's finest establishments and free time in Little Italy in the



#### National 9/11 Memorial and Museum

Sunday, September 18, 2016

A tribute of remembrance and honor to those lost in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Combined with an option to visit One World Observatory (additional fee) located on the 102<sup>nd</sup> floor of <u>One World Trade Center</u> – the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere – *There are* a million things to do in this City, but this is the one in a million. Brookfield Place is close by with plentiful food options.

COST: \$66.00 per person includes admission to the Museum, motor coach transportation, driver gratuity, snacks.

#### Oktoberfest at Hunter Mountain in the Catskills

Traditional and non-traditional German food vendors galore in addition to live German – American entertainment, wine tastings (nominal additional fee) and a farmer's market – surrounded by the lush fall foliage of the Catskills. A perfect October day!

> COST: \$42.00 includes motor coach transportation, driver gratuity and snacks.

#### Sunday, October 16, 2016





#### The Lion King

Sunday, November 6, 2016 1:00pm performance

To quote the New York Times: "There is simply nothing else like it." We'll enjoy a matinee performance of this the 3<sup>rd</sup> longest running Broadway show in history along with some free time in New York City. Mezzanine seating Tickets: \$160.00 per person includes admission to the performance, motor coach transportation, driver gratuity, snacks

#### Radio City Christmas Spectacular Wednesday December 7, 2016

What better way to get into the Holiday spirit than with The Rockettes! Enjoy some free time in the Greatest City on Earth – holiday shopping, visit to "The Tree", window displays...along with a matinee performance of Christmas Spectacular at Radio City. cost to be determined



## PARK AND RECREATION BUS EXCURSIONS

#### **<u>Connecticut's Old State House</u>**

Tuesday April 19th



Your home state of Connecticut, the Constitution State, is SO full of history! Let's take a trip and soak it all in! We'll begin with a docent led tour of *Connecticut's Old State House*, the very spot where Connecticut's democracy was born—you'll learn about how it was born and who made it happen. And we'll see some quirky things, too, like a two-headed calf, Mark Twain's bicycle and dozens of other pieces of Connecticut's amazing and eccentric history for us to enjoy!

Hartford has so many amazing restaurants to choose from, it was a tough choice, but we'll have a delicious lunch at the popular *City Steam Brewery*. Departure from the Community Center at 9:00 am COST \$10.00 (doesn't include cost of lunch)

#### **Concert at the Bushnell Theater**

Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup>

The Travelers Chorale was founded in 1924 and is the oldest company affiliated , eight part choral singing group in America! They have performed on the prestigious Bushnell Auditorium stage annually since its historic opening in 1930. The insurance professionals who comprise the Travelers Chorale love to sing, and their passion for music has found joyful expression of many memorable holiday and spring concerts during their 91 – year history.

In lieu of performance admission, the Chorale traditionally collects nonperishable food items from the audience for donation to local food banks. Before we enjoy this feast for the ears, we'll enjoy an earlier dinner at Wooden Tap in Farmington.

Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup> 3:30 pm departure from the Community Center COST: \$5:00 PLUS nonperishable food item(s)



Tuesday May 24<sup>th</sup>

#### <u>The Yale Center for British Art</u>

Okay, so we're not really going to "cross the pond", but we will be visiting the next closest thing! <u>The Yale Center for British Art</u>!

The <u>Yale Center for British Art</u> (YCBA), which houses the largest collection of British art outside the United Kingdom, opened its "Edwardian Opulence: British Art at the Dawn of the Twentieth Century".

"Anyone who loves **Downton Abbey** will be familiar with the paintings and fashion and jewelry and decorative art," said Amy McDonald, a spokesman for the museum. "It's a yummy, decadent exhibition."

The exhibit features 170 pieces, including paintings, sculptures, drawings, photo-

graphs, furniture, jewelry, clothing and decorative arts. The artists and designers, both British and international, include William Orpen, John Singer Sargent, William Nicholson and Carl Faberge. One piece featured is an ornate House of Worth, Paris gown worn by Lady Curzon, Vicereine of India, who like Lady Grantham, was an American heiress.

We'll depart on this delightful day from the Warren Community Center at 9:30am on Tuesday May 24, 2016.

Cost is **\$10.00** per person



# PARK AND RECREATION BUS EXCURSIONS



#### <u>Elizabeth Park Rose Garden</u>

Opened to the public in 1897, Elizabeth Park was born of the American Park Movement. Elizabeth Park is the botanical gem of the Hartford park system. It is 101 acres in size, with 82 acres in West Hartford and 19 acres in Hartford. Because of its garden, is has been called the "Flower of New England Parks." The rose garden is the heart and soul of the park and is the first public rose garden in the country, opened in 1904. Elizabeth Park is listed on the National Register of Historical Places.

**Tuesday June 14** 

After our visit we will have lunch at a local restaurant.

Depart Warren Community Center at 9:00 am

Cost \$5.00 for transportation

#### Port Jefferson, NY

#### <u>June 28,2016</u>

The Bridgeport & Port Jefferson Steamboat Company

#### This is set to be one of your favorite trips yet!

Join us as we climb aboard the Port Jeff Ferry to enjoy a beautiful trip across the Long Island Sound and spend the afternoon in the lovely seaside village town of Port Jefferson, New York! This trip will be "**do as you please**" style trip. You will have ample time to enjoy the beautiful shoreline, quaint shops and delightful restaurants all through the main thoroughfare in Port Jefferson. There will be much walking involved.



There are many types of restaurants to choose from for your "lunching" pleasure including Mexican, Italian and of course, seafood restaurants. Shops in the village will tickle almost any fancy that you have, including an art store, whimsical apparel shop, shoes, handmade cigars and even a kite shop! Be sure to leave enough time to simply sit and relax by the water or to "people watch" on the pier! Our mini bus leaves from the Warren Community Center 8:30 am\_. It will be a longer day than usual for us. You might like to pack a water bottle and possibly a snack or two for yourself to enjoy during our journey! (There is a snack bar and a "Steamboat Lounge" available aboard the Bridgeport & Port Jefferson Steamboat Company.)

Payment is absolutely required IN FULL immediately upon sign up for this adventure.

Our space is limited, so please don't delay! **\$20.00 per person** 

#### Cross Sound Ferry Lighthouse Cruises

Tuesday July 19th



Introducing more sights and more lighthouses on Cross Sound Lighthouse Cruises. The route gives you unprecedented views of offshore lighthouses. The cruise is narrated by a local expert who will fill you in on the history and lore of each sight aboard our comfortable, climate-controlled SEA JET. Our Classic Cruise zips you between 9 lighthouses and historical sites along the Thames River, Long Island Sound and Gardiners Bay. The comfortable high-speed SEA JET is a smooth-sailing wavepiercing catamaran capable of cruising at speeds in excess of 30 knots (35 mph). The SeaJet is equipped with modern airline-style seating on two enclosed airconditioned passenger decks with spacious outdoor deck for viewing the scenery as you listen to an expert narrator. Snacks and beverages are available on board. Depart from Warren Community Center at 7:45 am Cost: \$28.00 transportation and sea jet ticket

#### Lifeguards Wanted : Warren Town Beach Summer 2016

#### **Certified Lifeguards and Gate Guards**

now needed for Warren Town Beach Summer 2016. All guards must be certified. If interested the Parks and Recreation Department will explain the process of becoming certified.

Please contact Park and Recreation office at 860-868-7881 ext. 113 or email *parkrecdirector@warrenct.org* 



# From the Office of Land Use

#### Sequence of Events for Construction of Dwellings, Additions, Pools or Accessory Buildings in the Town of Warren



As winter draws to a close, many residents begin to plan for spring building and improvement projects. Please be aware that dwellings, additions, barns, garages, decks, pools, and sheds all require permits. *This includes "COVER-IT" type sheds and Storable Swimming Pools.* The Inland Wetlands Regulations, Zoning Regulations and Town Ordinances are available online at www.warrenct.org. Here is a summary of the various steps involved for obtaining the required approvals:

For a new house, have a soil scientist flag any wetlands on the lot and have an engineer/surveyor develop a site plan that shows the proposed house, driveway, septic system, well location, and any wetlands or watercourses located by the soil scientist. Contact Torrington Area Health District at (860) 489-0436 for a list of soil scientists.

For a new house, obtain approval from the Torrington Area Health District for the proposed septic system and well location. If there is a septic system on your lot, the Health District must approve all additions, decks, and accessory buildings. The Health District has a separate pool application permit that must be obtained for all new swimming pools. Contact Richard Rossi, Sanitarian, at Torrington Area Health District at (860) 489-0436.

Obtain an Inland Wetlands Permit from the Warren Inland Wetlands Commission for any work proposed within 100' of a wetlands or watercourse (the regulated inland wetlands areas.) The Commission regulates construction, filling, and removal of material within the regulated wetlands and watercourse area. Contact Stacey Sefcik, Zoning and Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer on Mondays and Wednesdays between 9:30AM and 12:30PM at 860-868-7881 x 117. The Inland Wetlands Commission currently meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00PM at Warren Town Hall. Applications should be submitted one week prior to a meeting.

Obtain a driveway permit from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the First Selectman for all new driveways and modifications to existing driveways. The Town's driveway regulations are detailed in Section 9 of the Town of Warren Zoning Regulations. Applications are available in the Land Use Office and the First Selectman's Office.

Obtain a Zoning Permit from Stacey Sefcik, Zoning & Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer, for proposed houses, additions, decks, pools, and accessory buildings -- including "cover-it" sheds and storable pools. The required setbacks in all zones throughout the Town of Warren are 30 feet for the front yard and 25 feet for side yards and rear yards. Properties located on or near the shorelines of major water bodies within Town may be required to meet additional Shoreline Setback requirements (see Section 16 of the Zoning Regulations.) Pools, decks and accessory buildings all require Zoning and Building permits and must meet the minimum zoning setback requirements.

Obtain a Building Permit from Joe Manley, Building Official. (860) 868-7881 ext. 111. He is available on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 7:30AM to 8:30AM and Thursday afternoons from 4:30PM to 6:00PM.

Please be aware that while projects such as drainage improvements, patio installation, shoreline stabilization, pond maintenance, and removal of beaver dams may not require zoning or building permits they will likely still require Inland Wetlands approval. If you are in doubt as to whether a permit is needed for your proposed project, please contact Stacey Sefcik prior to commencing any work.

The Land Use & Building Office personnel are available to answer any questions you may have and to help you navigate the permitting process in order to get your project underway as quickly as possible.

Stacey Sefcik

Zoning & Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer

# WARREN SCHOOL



# Save the date!

Multiage Discussion with Warren School staff and International Multiage expert Dr. Sandra Stone

Tuesday, April 12th 6:30 PM Warren School Gymnasium

Do you have questions about the multiage instruction that your child will experience at Warren School next year? If so, this is the event for you. Warren School staff and International Multiage expert Dr. Sandra Stone will share a presentation about this year's multiage program, discuss plans for next year, and answer any questions that you have. We hope to see you there!



# Friday, April 29th

Complete 3 Course Dinner Seatings from 5:30 PM For Reservations Call: 860.868.7295

\$40.00 per adult / \$15.00 per child (under 12)

tax and gratuity included, cash bar, payment by cash or check only

A Portion of Proceeds Will Fund the All-School Field Trip





*Unwind* The Warren Public Library

Presents

Wine Tasting & Vintage Rediscovered Art

**Silent Auction** 

Saturday, April 30, 2016 5:30—8:30 p.m. Hopkins Vineyard New Preston, CT

Tasting—\$25 / person Non-tasting—\$15 / person Hors d'oeuvres and other delectable treats are included! Tickets will be sold at the door or may be purchased at the library in advance

**Proceeds benefit the Warren Public Library** 

www.warrenctlibrary.org

We have gained some new space in the library building! We are expanding and work is underway to redecorate and redo the front room. We will soon have a new space for meetings, movie viewing, research and a space for teens to kick back, read and do homework. Watch for our progress and new events. <u>www.warrenctlibrary.org</u> or on Facebook.

Warren School

Student Art Show at the Warren Public Library

#### **MEXICANA ARTE PRIMAVERAL**

April 1-30 Warren Public Library



Come and view the student's artwork with a Mexican-Spanish Theme.

Global project for Peace – Tissue Paper Dala Horses – Paper Weaving – Tin Foil art – Frida Kahlo Portraits – Mexican Bark painting Reception guitar music performed by Rudolfo Ruiz.

<u>E BOOKs Available at www.Warrenctlibrary.org</u> <u>Cultural passes for spring break available at the library.</u>



#### Warren Veterans Memorial Committee

Spring is here and work has picked up at the memorial site on Cemetery Road. The flag poles and flags were installed last fall, and the old monument was relocated from the green to its new location. The committee is now in the process of running electricity to the new site. Once this is completed our United States Flag will fly high!

The next phase is to build the wall. We have been actively raising funds but are still short of our goal. Toward this end we continue to sell denim aprons and Any-time Wine Tasting coupons for the Hopkins Vineyard, and we will be hosting fundraising dinners. Please consider helping us reach our goal to build this memorial to our fallen heroes.



BBQ season is here and what a great way to start off by purchasing a Veteran's Memorial Apron.
Denim Apron has three pockets and adjustable ties to fit any size. Each apron is only \$20.00 and will benefit the new memorial.



Veteran's Memorial Fund <u>WINE TASTING</u> \$25.00 per person receive your wine tasting that consists of seven award winning wines and a souvenir glass. Hopkins Vineyard 25 Hopkins Road New Preston CT 06777 860-868-7954

Aprons and Any-time Wine Tasting coupons are On sale now at the Town Hall and will also be available at the Memorial Day Parade Sunday, May 29, 2016



Sunday May 29, 2016

Step-off at 11:30am at the Community Center on Sackett Hill Road

Please join us immediately following the ceremonies at the

Warren Fire Company

For their annual HOT DOG reception

All are Welcome



## Warren Land Trust

The Warren Land Trust is an advocacy group dedicated to the preservation of the rural character of Warren. Our mission is to preserve farmland, open space, natural and endangered resources such as wetlands, forests and wildlife habitats, to encourage outright gifting of land for permanent protection and the use of conservation easements to preserve open space.

The Warren Land Trust closed out 2015 with our annual meeting and a new conservation easement. Held just before Thanksgiving at the Academy, the annual meeting included a review of recent activities and a preview of our plans for 2016. We also introduced three new directors: Elizabeth Chandler, Ashley Dietrich, and Waltraud Tammen. We are excited about the financial, educational, and communications expertise – not to mention enthusiasm and love for the great outdoors - that these new board member will bring to the WLT! We were also pleased to discuss volunteering with some interested individuals at the meeting. Finally, the WLT is very grateful for the donation of our latest conservation easement, which will protect land in the Lake Waramaug view shed.

Winter tends to be a quieter time for land trust stewardship and programming. Property inspections are on hiatus after a year-end flurry, and we now have an opportunity to work on organizational and governance matters which we'd put on hold during the busy summer and fall. In addition to reviewing our strategic plan and annual work plan, we hope to debut an improved and more interactive website in the next few months, and will explore new programming ideas in greater depth.

In the coming months, we also look forward to getting better acquainted with our newest fee property – the Strong Preserve. Purchased last fall with the generous participation of a consortium of neighbors, this 53-acre parcel on Above All Road represents one of the highest points in Warren. We plan to work with a local arborist who has generously donated his firm's services to provide public trail access to this scenic wooded parcel, which was long the property of the Strong family.

Looking further ahead, the WLT will again participate in the Parks & Rec-sponsored Town Clean Up in late April (around Earth Day); we will sponsor our customary hike in conjunction with CT Trails weekend; we also hope to collaborate with the Warren Historical Society on a "heritage walk" later in the year. A community picnic celebrating the beauty of Warren's natural surroundings is also in the works. We know that those of you who attended the picnic at Angevine Farm a couple of years ago will be eagerly awaiting details...stay tuned!

The Warren Land Trust is always looking for volunteers, and there are many ways to get involved. No special knowledge is required, and we are happy to find an option that matches your schedule and your talents. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, to be added to our email list, or with general questions, contact Rebecca Neary at <u>info@warrenlandtrust.org</u>.

## Saturday April 23, 2016

Come to the Community Center to get your garbage bags and rubber gloves. You select the stretch of road you would like to clean. A dumpster will be located at the Warren Town Garage for the garbage you collect.





Rain date is Sunday April 24, 2016

### 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Refreshments will be available at the Community Center. This event is co-sponsored by the Warren Land Trust and Warren Parks and Recreation.



## Warren Historical Society

The Warren Historical Society's mission is to discover, celebrate, and preserve Warren's history through its collections, programs, and exhibits.

Having settled into its new home in the Community Center, the WHS was pleased to host its first annual meeting in our new space in late October. An exhibit and panel on the history of the Warren General Store was well attended, with colorful reminisces and spirited discussion. During the business portion of the meeting, we were pleased to welcome new board member Harriet Shapiro. With her knowledge of collections archiving and cataloging, and her thorough and thoughtful approach, Harriet is a welcome addition to our board.

We continue to seek new board members - no special skill sets are required...just an interest in Warren's history and a desire to share it with the community! The WHS also welcomes volunteers. For example, we are very grateful to Heather Blue, who has been doing a fantastic job of cataloging items from our collection. We are also looking for volunteers who might allow us to have open hours for collection viewing and research work. For more information on board membership or volunteering, contact John Favreau at jpfavreau@earthlink.net.

The WHS's theme for 2016 is "Education." You'll see our theme manifested in a number of ways throughout the year. We will reprise our History Day program with the Warren School, our Memorial Day weekend Open House will focus on Education and Schools in Warren's History, and our annual meeting will feature a panel discussion on that topic. We are also excited to announce that we will offer a WHS Scholarship to two students who attended the Warren School. Details forthcoming at Town Hall and on our website (warrencthistory.org) as of February 1<sup>st</sup>. Finally, we welcome donations to our education-related collection: photos and memorabilia from the Warren School, for example (no textbooks, please).

What else is in store for the WHS this year?

- Annual Appeal: We are grateful to our many donors, who have made our annual appeal successful thus far. But we still seek funding for programming and collections management, and would appreciate your support! Please see warrencthistory.org to donate.

- Collections Display: Come see our new installation in the Town Hall display case, coming in early February! We will feature highlights from our 2015 accessions, including a painting by Herb Abrams.

- Programming: In addition to our Memorial Day weekend Open House and July 4<sup>th</sup> bell-ringing, we plan to collaborate with Parks & Rec and the Warren Land Trust on a summer history-themed scavenger hunt and an autumn hike in conjunction with Housatonic Heritage Walks Weekends. Check out our website and Facebook page for programming updates!

## Warren Church Community Childcare and Preschool

Hello all! My name is Sarah Churyk and I am the new director here at WCCC. Exciting changes here at WCCC! We have been working had to build up our preschool program with the help of Barbara DiNicola. The transformation has been amazing so far, the room looks great and the curriculum is coming together! We have openings for infant and toddler programs and a few openings for preschool. Also, stay tuned for information about our summer camp.

Enrollment will begin in May.



We would love for any members of the community who a have a special talent to come in and share/teach to our children (ex. music, art, reading a book to the class, cooking, etc.) Also, come end of April, we will be looking for a part-time toddler/ infant teacher.

If you or anyone you know is interested, please call me at 860-868-2236.

I look forward to working with our community to build our wonderful school!

~Sarah B. Churyk

Town of Warren 50 Cemetery Road Warren CT 06754

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