



## *Ellington Historical Society*

*P.O. Box 73*

*Ellington, Conn. 06029*

### **June 2018 Newsletter**

#### **June Meeting Notice**

The Ellington Historical Society will hold its annual meeting and potluck supper for members on Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room at Hall Memorial Library, 93 Main Street. Those with last names beginning with A-J are asked to bring a salad *or* side dish. Those with last names beginning with K-Z are asked to bring a main dish. Beverages will be provided. Our traditional strawberry shortcake will be served for dessert.

#### **Museum Season**

The Nellie McKnight Museum is open for the season on Thursdays from 1:00 to 4:00 from June through August. Stop by to see Curator Nancy Long's new exhibit about the Warner Family of Ellington. Tours by appointment are also available by contacting us through our website. <http://www.ellingtonhistsoc.org>

#### **News from President Tim Fahy**

A special thank-you to those of you who included donations along with your dues. It is much appreciated. Thanks also to all those folks who now live out of state and continue to support the Ellington Historical Society.

We were notified by Walter Lawn, son of Marguerite Lawn, that his mother had passed away in Florida. A longtime member, she had previously lived in Ellington.

#### **New Tree**

Ellington's first Earth Day celebration was held on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. Mountain Tree Service planted a large maple tree in front of the museum, and flowers beds were edged and mulched.

Old view



View with new tree



### **Connecticut Open House Day, Flea Market, and Bake Sale**

This year's Flea Market on the museum grounds, scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup>, was postponed due to rain and was rescheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup>, the day of Connecticut's Open House Day, the day of the museum open house and bake sale.



The Ellington Farmers Market theme on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> will be "Farming Through the Years" and will feature a selection of vintage items from the kitchen of the Nellie McKnight Museum. They are representative of what would have been in a farmer's wife's kitchen. Try your hand at kitchen chores. We will be at the market at Arbor Park on Main Street from 9:00-12:00.

### **News from Archivist Lynn Fahy**

The Hall Memorial Library has a good supply of *The Supermarket*, a DVD that was written and directed in 2009 by local student Timothy Norman. It is a coming-of-age story set in the Ellington Supermarket, which closed when the Big Y came to town. A synopsis of the film is on IMBD. Many scenes were filmed in

the supermarket, and the film was received enthusiastically in town when it was released. It sells for \$5.00 at the library.

The Hall Memorial Library also has copies of Richard Symonds, Jr.'s latest book in his Lost Mill Sites in Tolland County series, *Location of Water-Powered Mill Sites, Ellington, Connecticut* for \$20. Symonds spoke about his book at our April meeting. Copies are also available at the Nellie McKnight Museum when it is open on Thursday afternoons.

### **An update on Henry Billings Brown**

Steve Luxenberg of the *Washington Post* has finished his book, *Separate: A Story of Race, Resistance, and America's Journey from Slavery to Segregation*, which will be published in February 2019. It is about the people behind the controversial 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson Supreme Court case that permitted "separate but equal" treatment based on race. One of those people is Henry Billings Brown, who lived in Ellington, and who became an associate justice of the United States Supreme Court. I recently learned that the Brown family lived for five years at 8 Frog Hollow Road, which Henry's father bought from the family of Judge John Hall, founder of the Ellington School across the street. Henry returned to Ellington after his graduation from Yale to study law with John Brockway.

To contact the Ellington Historical Society, go to <http://www.ellingtonhistsoc.org>  
Under "Resources," you can email the President, Archivist, Curator, or Genealogist.