



**Locations:**

America Museum  
47 Crescent St, Willimantic

Jillson House Museum  
Jillson Town Green  
627 Main St, Willimantic

CT Eastern Railroad Museum  
55 Bridge St, Willimantic

Mill Museum  
411 Main St, Willimantic

Lebanon Historical Society  
856 Trumbull Highway, Lebanon

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CT Humanities, Windham Recreation, Partnership for Arts, Culture & History,  
Windham Region Chamber of Commerce and its Foundation.**

**October 1-31**

**Anytime, Halloween/Fall Porch Parade:** Self-guided tour of Victorian style home decorated for Halloween. Victorian Home Museum. Free. Download map separately.

**Exhibit: Monday-Friday, 9-5, some Saturdays, Witches of Windham Exhibit:** Witches folklore, history, famous witches, modern day witches, spells and magic. America Museum. Free

**Sunrise-Sunset, Gravestone Scavenger Hunt:** Self-guided gravestone scavenger hunt around the museum grounds. Find all the gravestones and discover a sweet treat for your efforts. Lebanon Historical Society. Free

**Exhibit: Saturdays & Sundays, Noon-4, Mr. William Jillson's Funeral and Wake:** 19th century wake in the parlor of the Jillson Family. History of death and dying, wakes, customs, how the dead were honored and buried. Self-guided tour. Jillson House Museum. Free, donations welcome.

**Pet Costume Contest:** You can submit a photo of your pet in their favorite Halloween contest to [info@WindhamChamber.com](mailto:info@WindhamChamber.com) from Oct 1-22. Win prizes and bragging rights. Reception and awards ceremony Oct 22. America Museum. Free contest, donations welcome.

**Exhibit: Wednesdays-Saturdays, Noon-4, Child's 1880 Hearse Exhibit:** Lebanon Historical Society. Free.

**Saturday October 7-November 13**

**Exhibit: Down Sodom: The 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of When the Industrial Revolution Came to Windham/Willimantic in 1822.** What economic factors led the industrial revolution in Windham to begin in 1822, how did industrialization reshape the environment, why were some residents apprehensive about the influx of new, working-class people, and what is the legacy of Down Sodom in Windham today? Fri-Sun, 10-4, Museum regular admission fee.

**Saturday, October 1**

**11-4, Downtown Country Fair:** music, food, crafts. Jillson Town Green. Free.

**1-3, Walking Tour of Willimantic's Lost Neighborhoods:** Explore 4 lost neighborhoods with Jamie Eves: Sodom, Old State, Jillson Hill and the Parcel. Why are neighborhoods destroyed and what is the impact on the people who live there. Meet at the Mill Museum, parking on Union St. Free, donations welcome.

### **Friday, October 7**

**7, Virtual Tour: Tunnels of the Mill Museum:** There are underground tunnels beneath the Mill Museum in Willimantic, built in the 19th century by the Willimantic Linen Company. Over the years, urban legends have grown up surrounding these tunnels. Using engineering blueprints, a team from the Mill Museum will explore some of these tunnels, creating a video record that will permit the public to accompany us virtually. Discussion on the urban legends. Chelsea Knyff. Mill Museum, \$12 for members, \$15 non-members.

### **Saturday, October 8**

**11-1, Craft: Make A Witch Hat:** Create a one-of-a-kind, spell-tacular hat. If you have something special you would like to add to your hat please bring it. Witch attire is guaranteed to get the creative poisons flowing! Includes a "double, double toil and trouble" beverage. "Best Design" awards! Come anytime but no later than 12:30. America Museum. \$20 per person for materials.

**10-11, Exhibit: Witch Exhibit Gallery Opening Reception:** Join us for the opening of this amazing exhibit. History and stories of local witches and light refreshments. America Museum. Free, donations welcome.

**5-6, Book Signing: The Ghost of Windham CT:** Donna Kent will read passages from her book about the history and story of our own real "live" ghost. Ghoulish Grog and snacks. Books will be available for purchase. America Museum. Free, donations welcome.

**7-9:30, Nightmare on Main-Ghost Town, Shadows of the Past:** 19th century historical events in Ghost Towns. Visitors will discover the old schoolhouse, the saloon and the jail where they will encounter hobos, card sharks, grave diggers, moderately scary, not bloody, ages 10 and up. Refreshments available, tours leave every 20 minutes. CT Eastern Railroad Museum. \$15 per person, cash only.

### **Sunday, October 9**

**4-6, Haunted Topic: Death & Dying Across Cultures & Religions, Panel Discussion:** Learn the traditions, practices and myths about death and dying in different cultures and religions including Jews, Christians, Muslims, African Americans, Native Americans, Asians, and Indians. America Museum. Free but donations welcome.

**7-9:30, Nightmare on Main-Ghost Town, Shadows of the Past:** 19th century historical events in Ghost Towns. Visitors will discover the old schoolhouse, the saloon and the jail where they will encounter hobos, card sharks, grave diggers, moderately scary, not bloody, ages 10 and up. Refreshments available, tours leave every 20 minutes. CT Eastern Railroad Museum. \$15 per person, cash only.

### **Friday, October 14**

**5-6, Book Signing: The Trilogy of New England Horror:** Author Cindy Adams will read from her 3 novels. The historical facts are true, and you may recognize the towns or graveyards, but pray you won't recognize any of the people in these tales of horror. "The Farmhouse on Cemetery Hill Rd.", "The Portal", or "Ah, Grace!" Books will be available for purchase. America Museum. Free but donations welcome.

**7-9:30, Nightmare on Main-Ghost Town, Shadows of the Past:** 19th century historical events in Ghost Towns. Visitors will discover the old schoolhouse, the saloon and the jail where they will encounter hobos, card sharks, grave diggers, moderately scary, not bloody, ages 10 and up. Refreshments available, tours leave every 20 minutes. CT Eastern Railroad Museum. \$15 per person, cash only.

**1-3, Craft: Children craft: Learn About Samhain:** Children will learn historic roots about Samhain while working on an activity to celebrate Halloween or Harvest. Mill Museum. Free.

### **Saturday, October 15**

**2-3, Haunted Topic: History of Embalming:** Ernie Eldridge will discuss "everything you always wanted to know about embalming" and more! Jillson House Museum. Free but donations welcome.

**3-4, Haunted Topic: Death and Dying:** Wakes, Funerals, Burials, Graves, Heaven & Hell, Bev York. Please dress appropriately for a funeral, ladies in black dresses and gentlemen in black pants and white button down. We will provide a mourning veil and hat. Jillson House Museum. Free but donations welcome.

**7-9:30, Nightmare on Main-Ghost Town, Shadows of the Past:** 19th century historical events in Ghost Towns. Visitors will discover the old schoolhouse, the saloon and the jail where they will encounter hobos, card sharks, grave diggers, moderately scary, not bloody, ages 10 and up. Refreshments available, tours leave every 20 minutes. CT Eastern Railroad Museum. \$15 per person, cash only.

### **Saturday, October 22**

**11-3, Grave Tales:** Haunted tours of cemeteries with ghost stories, history and info on the sculptures and architects. Free, donations welcome. Please wear good, safe shoes.

Old Willimantic Cemetery- Columbia Avenue and Main St, Willimantic, 1391 Main Street.

Chaplin Cemetery-130 Chaplin Street, park in the Chaplin Library parking lot.

Nathan Hale Cemetery in Coventry-Parking at Patriot's Park, 124 Lake Street.

Columbia Old Yard Cemetery-332 Route 87, near intersection of Rt. 66 and Rt. 87.

Windham Center Cemetery-219 Windham Center Rd, Windham.

**1-2, Pet Costume Contest Awards & Reception:** Prizes will be awarded to the best pet costumes submitted throughout the month. Please bring your two legged friends in costume for a fun and entertaining "fashion show" and reception. Entries accepted Oct 1-22, see above. Food & beverages for both two and four legged guests. America Museum. \$5 per two legger.

**1-2, Chatterbox Players Halloween Show:** Come to the ECSU radio station lobby for a live show including classic Halloween poetry, a short story about a haunted house and a one act play titled "Haunt Me A House." ECSU Communications Building ground floor. Free.

**3-5, Family Nightmare on Main:** Halloween themed party with a "scaled down" version of the original Ghost Town-Shadows of the Past. For kids and their families. Tour the ghost town while trick-or-treating. Costume contest. CT Eastern Railroad Museum. Free, but donations welcome.

**4-5, Chatterbox Players Halloween Show:** Come to the ECSU radio station lobby for a live show including classic Halloween poetry, a short story about a haunted house and a one act play titled "Haunt Me A House." ECSU Communications Building. Free.

**6-7, Craft: "Round about the coudron go, in the poisons entrails throw":** Making potions and poisons: herbal medicinal, culinary and cosmetic potions and some lessons in adult "poisons" to celebrate the season. America Museum. \$10 per person for materials.

### **Sunday, October 23**

**5-6, Haunted Topic: Witches, Warlocks, Werewolves and Wizards-**Fables, stories, history, spells, potions, hauntings, folklore, and modern-day practices. Bev York and Diane Nadeau. The America Museum. Free, but donations welcome.

**7-9:30, Nightmare on Main-Ghost Town, Shadows of the Past:** 19th century historical events in Ghost Towns. Visitors will discover the old schoolhouse, the saloon and the jail where they will encounter hobos, card sharks, grave diggers, moderately scary, not bloody, ages 10 and up. Refreshments available, tours leave every 20 minutes. CT Eastern Railroad Museum. \$15 per person, cash only.

### **Saturday, October 29**

#### **4-5, Witch Beauty Contest:**

Guests should come as a witch, get your photo taken and be a part of our "beauty contest"! Then stay and attend the Witch Trial and try NOT to get hanged!! Special "potions" available for purchase. America Museum. Free but donations welcome.

**3:30-5, Haunted Topic: Vampires in CT**-Facts and fiction, Vampirism in early 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Bev York. America Museum. Free but donations welcome.

**5-7, CT Witch Trials 1640-1660:** Be a part of the crowd during one of CT's witch trials, determine guilt or innocence, learn about the witch roundups in Europe and right here in CT. Learn how it was different from Europe and from Salem and how it affected communities. Have fun and come dressed in 17th century attire so you can take part in the drama. Witches in costume should testify for the defense. Husbands can accuse their wives! Share in this historically based presentation with a flair for the fun and the flamboyant. Food and beverages for sale. America Museum. Free but donations welcome.

**8-10 PM, Candlelight Tour of Mill Museum:** A guide with a flashlight leads the tour, stopping at several stations where costumed interpreters play the roles of real historical figures: mill workers, mill managers, and community members who lived and worked in Willimantic in the heyday of the Victorian era. Mill Museum, \$12 members, \$15 non-members.

### **Sunday, October 30**

**11 AM-8 PM, Movie Marathon Weekend:** Remember all those Halloween movies we watched in high school-just an excuse to sit close to someone we liked and hold hands? Join us for some fun reliving the memories while watching movies such as... Halloween, Nightmare on Elm Street, Frankenstein, The Blob, Harry Potter and The Wizard of Oz. See separate program on movies and times. Movies are free but popcorn, food and beverages will be available for purchase (at reasonable, non-movie theatre prices!). America Museum. Free, but donations welcome.

### **Monday, October 31**

**5-7, Trick or Treat on Main Street:** Downtown merchants and local groups distribute candy for young Trick or Treaters. Kids should wear costumes. Main Street, Willimantic. Windham Recreation. Free.

**7 PM, Flashlight Egg Hunt:** After Trick or Treating on Main come to Jillson Square with your flashlight to locate candy filled eggs. We provide a bag for your goodies. Jillson Square. Windham Recreation. Free.

