



# Loom and Spindle

THE MILL MUSEUM OF CONNECTICUT / WINDHAM TEXTILE AND HISTORY MUSEUM

## COMING EVENTS:

Exhibit: Inspiration Quilts: Then and Now. May 16–Sep. 7.

Field Trip: Mill of the Month: Jewett City. Join historian Bev York for a guided tour of the Jewett City mill neighborhood in Griswold, CT. Sat., Jun. 28, 4 PM. \$8 (\$6 for seniors, students, and Museum members). Meet at Jewett City. For more information, call Bev at 860-423-1878.

Field Trip: Mill of the Month: South Coventry. Join historian Bev York for a guided tour of the South Coventry mill neighborhood in Coventry, CT. Sat., Jul. 26, 4 PM. \$8 (\$6 for seniors, students, and Museum members). Meet at South Coventry. For more information, call Bev at 860-423-1878.

Program: Museum Lyceum: Building a Picture: A Quilting Demonstration by Kate Themel, fiber artist. Kate will demonstrate her raw edge, layering technique, using freezing paper to trace, cut, and layer pieces of fabric into a fiber art composition. Sat., Aug. 16, 2-3:30 PM. \$10 per person. At the Museum.

Field Trip: Mill of the Month: Danielson. Join historian Bev York for a guided tour of the Danielson mill neighborhood in Killingly CT. Sat., Aug. 23, at 4 PM. \$8 (\$6 seniors, students, and Museum members). Meet in Danielson. For more information, call Bev at 860-423-1878.

Program: Kids Club: Passenger Pigeons. Sat., Sep. 13, from 1-2 PM, at the Museum. Designed for kids 5-12.

Field Trip: Mill of the Month: North Grosvenordale. Join historian Bev York for a guided tour of the North Grosvenordale mill neighborhood in Thompson, CT. Sat., Sep. 27, at 10 AM. \$8 (\$6 seniors, students, and Museum members). Meet in North Grosvenordale.

## “ FLOODGATE AT OLD NO. 3 ON THE WILLIMANTIC ”

Willimantic painter A. N. Wyeth has donated the rights to make and sell prints of his stunning new watercolor, “Floodgate at Old No. 3 on the Willimantic,” to the Mill Museum as a fundraiser. The prints are signed and numbered by the artist, and are 19 by 22 inches with a 1 1/2-inch border. The price for an unframed print is \$50. Wyeth is the nephew and namesake of Andrew Wyeth, and paints in the famous Wyeth style. The old floodgate in the painting recently became visible when the Town of Windham cleared away the brush that had overgrown the site.



## NEW EXHIBIT: INSPIRATION QUILTS: THEN AND NOW

Don't miss the Mill Museum's new temporary exhibit, “Inspiration Quilts: Then and Now,” which will be open through September 7. The exhibit celebrates the Museum's 25th anniversary by featuring 25 special quilts: twelve antique quilts from the Museum's collection, twelve contemporary art quilts created by fiber artists inspired by the antique quilts, plus a superb group quilt composed of 25 blocks by members of the Connecticut chapter of Studio Art Quilt Associates. In addition, members of area quilting guilds and the general public have been invited to submit postcard-sized quilts that are on sale as a fundraiser for the Museum.



## MILL MUSEUM RECOGNIZED FOR REACHING OUT TO LATINO COMMUNITY

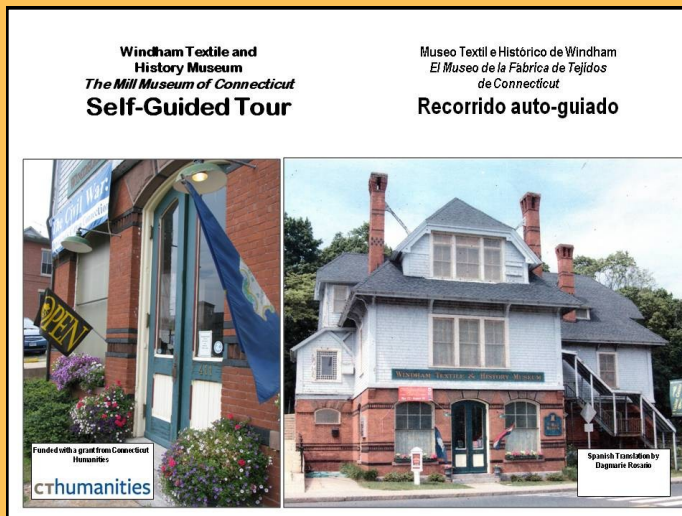
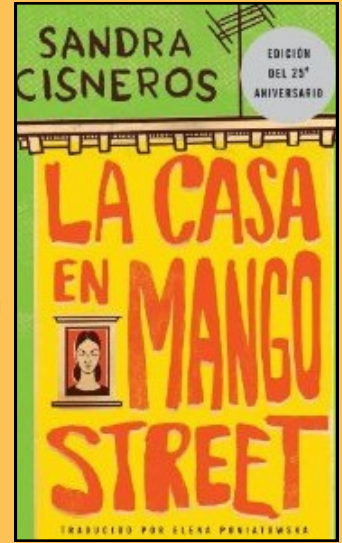
On June 2, the Windham Textile and History Museum's Executive Director, Jamie Eves, was invited to speak at the annual conference of the Connecticut League of History Organizations on the Museum's outreach to Latinos in Willimantic, CT, where the Museum is located. The topic of the conference was museum-community relations, and Eves was invited to speak in recognition of the Mill Museum's successful efforts to build bridges to Willimantic's sizable Latino community.

During the past two years, the Museum has: hosted a year-long bilingual exhibit on Latino migration to Willimantic, hosted speakers on Latino topics, given away Spanish-language copies of *La Casa en Mango Street*, translated a portion of its signage into Spanish, created a bilingual self-guided tour book that Museum visitors can carry with them through the Museum, produced a bilingual three-fold promotional brochure, added a bilingual "virtual tour of the Museum" to its web site, and — as a symbol of inclusiveness — begun flying flags representing many of the 26 different

countries that sent workers to eastern Connecticut's textile mills.

Eves stressed that these successes owe in large part to the Museum's partners: the Eastern Connecticut State University Foundation, which funded most of the exhibit; ECSU President Dr. Elsa Nunez; guest curator Dr. Ricardo Perez, a Professor of Anthropology at ECSU; Connecticut Humanities, which funded printing costs; World Book Night; Dagmarie Rosario, an ECSU student intern who did much of the translating; Dagmarie's Spanish Professor, Dr. Kin Chan; numerous other ECSU faculty and staff; and Willimantic's Latino community, which reached back.

"This initiative is vital," Eves told the CLHO. "Latinos comprise more than a third of the population of Willimantic, and more than half of its public school population. And the Museum is located in a majority Latino neighborhood."



Far Left: As part of its community outreach efforts, the Mill Museum has mounted several flagpoles on the building. Here are the flags of Puerto Rico and Poland, two countries that have sent many migrants to Willimantic. Around the corner fly the flags of Canada and the United States. Other flags will follow, illustrating the diverse ethnic heritage of the city and region.

Left: The Museum's new bilingual self-guided tour book. Along with some Spanish-language signage (and more will follow), the tour books begins the process of making the Museum

### A. N. WYETH PRINTS ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Print(s) ordered:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ American Thread Mills (\$50)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Millgirl at No. Four (\$45)

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Floodgate at Old No. 3 on the Willimantic (\$50)

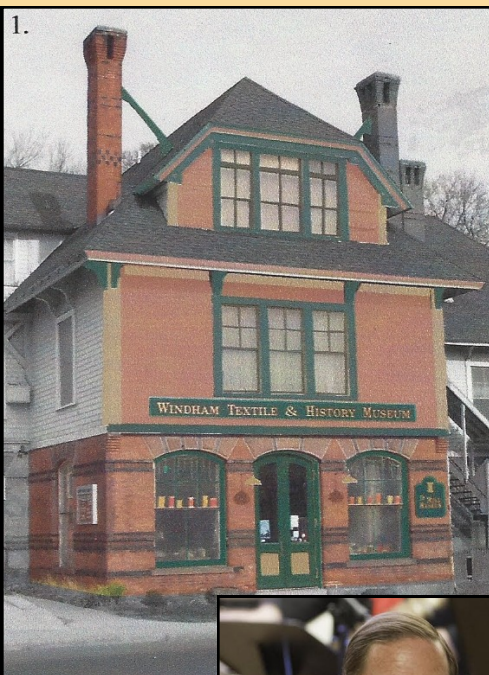


**The Windham Textile and History Museum**  
411 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226  
860-456-2178

Shipping for any number \$10  
(Cash or check only)

Total \_\_\_\_\_

MUSEUM TO BE PAINTED THIS FALL!



The long-awaited painting of the Museum is slated to begin this autumn!!

After ten months of fundraising, the Museum has raised \$15,000 towards painting Dunham Hall, the Museum's main building. An anonymous donor has agreed to match that amount, provided that work begins this year. The Museum's Building Committee has interviewed several painters, and will be going with a bid of approximately \$31,000. The Museum will continue to fundraise, to cover the additional \$1,000, as well as other incidental costs that are bound to occur.

"We are very excited," said Museum President Luzella Roos. "We've been trying to get the Museum painted for years. To finally be able to do the project is wonderful."

"We are very thankful to the anonymous donor who agreed to match the funds we raised," added Executive Director Jamie Eves. "There are some very generous, good people in this community."

Besides the matching gift, the money has come in the form of small donations. The Museum has held several fundraisers, including the Backyard Block Party last September, hosted by Susan Johnson and Dennis O'Brien, and the Snow Ball in January. Special thanks goes to the Willimantic Brewery and Main Street Café, which donated profits from a special beer made for the Museum, held a fundraising event for the Museum on Presidents Day, and hosted two FILL-anthropic events for the project. Thanks also to Virginia Fulton and her husband Murphy Sewall, who hosted a fundraising event this Spring at their home in Windham Center.



Top: Proposed color scheme for repainting the Museum.  
 Below: The Snow Ball raised about \$5,000 towards repainting the Museum. U. S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) aided the effort by auctioning a personal guided tour of the Capitol, which sold for \$500 at the Snow Ball. Blumenthal is pictured here with Museum President Luzella Roos.

**COMING THIS FALL:**

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2014, AT 6PM**  
**LABOR DAY RALLY**  
**JOIN IN A REENACTMENT OF THE 1912 STRIKE**

**"BLUE COLLAR, WHITE COLLAR :  
 WARDROBES FOR WORK" EXHIBIT**  
**OPENS LATE SEPTEMBER**

MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL SUMMER 2014

If you have already renewed your membership, thank you!

- Kids Club, \$10 \_\_\_\_\_
- Wool (Family/Household), \$50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Cotton (Individual), \$25 \_\_\_\_\_
- Silk (Patron), \$100 \_\_\_\_\_
- Institutional, \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_
- Additional Donation \_\_\_\_\_

We are a 501(c)3 organization. Your donations are tax deductible.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to: W. T. H. M. (Or use PayPal on the Museum's web site, <http://www.millmuseum.org/>)

Windham Textile and History Museum, 411 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
WWW.MILLMUSEUM.ORG

**THE MILL  
MUSEUM OF  
CONNECTICUT**  
WINDHAM TEXTILE AND  
HISTORY MUSEUM

411 Main Street  
Willimantic, CT 06226

Phone: (860) 456-2178  
Email: themillmuseum@gmail.com

**DUGAN RESTORATION PROJECT  
NEARLY COMPLETE**

A five-year project to restore the second floor of the Museum's Dugan building is nearly complete. The two-story brick structure located next to the Museum's main building is named for Jonathan Dugan, a real estate developer who donated the building to the Museum when it opened twenty-five years ago.

"When the Museum first opened, it didn't have enough money to restore the second floor of the Dugan building," explained the Museum's Executive Director, Jamie Eves. "For years, the space remained in pretty rough shape, used for storage and occasional meetings."

Five years ago, the Museum applied for and received a \$25,000 grant from the 1772 Foundation, much of which was dedicated to restoring the space.

"When it was built in 1877, it was only one story," explained Eves. "That first floor was a warehouse. But shortly after American Thread purchased the old Willimantic Linen Company in 1898, it added the second floor, and used it as a headquarters for its American Fire Brigade. Then, in the 1920s, the space was reconfigured into a meeting room, kitchen, coatroom, and bathroom."

The Museum is restoring the space to its 1920s form, although — in a bow to the 21st century — the former kitchen has been remodeled into a modern, ADA-compliant restroom.

"That final component was the restroom," said Eves. "Without additional restroom facilities, we couldn't use the old meeting room for its original intended purpose, as

a place for meetings, programs, and gatherings."

The completion of the project is thanks to a grant received by the Town of Windham, which has owned the building since 1995.

"The Town applied for and received a \$25,000 grant to put in an ADA-compliant bathroom," said Eves. "This was great work by Town Engineer Joe Gardner and Town Manager Neal Beets. We are very grateful. This will be a marvelous space for meetings, programs, and events in the Carey Hill / Mill District community where the Museum is located."

"I also want to thank longtime Museum friend Steve Kenton," Eves added. "The vision to restore this space was Steve's, and he wrote the original 1772 Foundation

grant."

The Museum still intends to install access ramps, tighten and repair windows, and replaster the ceiling in the meeting room.

**Refurbished meeting room on the second floor of the Museum's Dugan building. It will soon be open to the public.**

