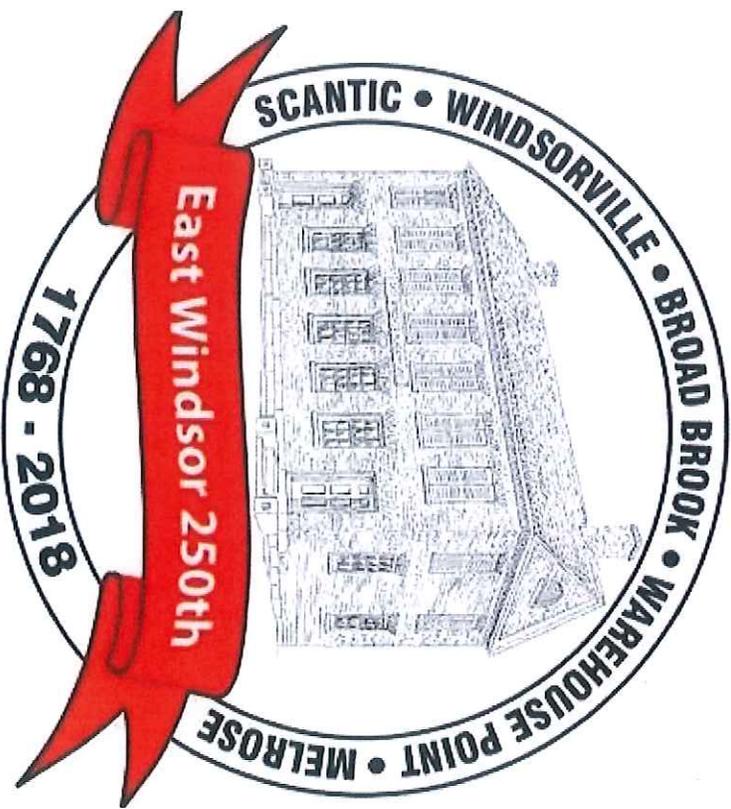


East Windsor Approaching 250th Anniversary



The logo for the upcoming East Windsor 250th anniversary. (Contributed Photo)

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<http://www.courant.com/community/east-windsor/>

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The town's 250th anniversary may be more than a year away, but a 20-member planning committee has been working since summer to bring to residents a variety of events from January to September 2018.

The first event, planned to kick-off the nine-month celebration, is a New Years Eve 2017 masquerade ball scheduled to be held at La Notte featuring a DJ, open bar, and food stations.

Rebecca Talamini, chairperson of the East Windsor 250th Anniversary Committee, said the New Year's Eve masquerade ball will be followed by other a New Year's Day American Heritage River hike and other major celebrations, including the May 2018 unearthing of a time capsule buried May 19, 1968, and the Sept. 22, 2018 town parade and picnic.

A new time capsule with modern-day items will be buried when the existing one is opened.

All town events, she added, such as Memorial Day and July 4 parades and parties, will also be opportunities for townspeople to come together in celebration of East Windsor's 250th anniversary.

"Our plan is to have a presence at all town events," Talamini said.

Members of the planning committee, she noted, will be on hand at all town events, promoting the anniversary and selling mugs, T-shirts, and magnets recognizing East Windsor's place in Connecticut history.

At 23, Talamini, a recent graduate of Westfield State University who holds a bachelor degree in environmental science and regional planning, was asked to join and lead the group in order to infuse the effort with a young perspective, she said.

"One of the members from the historical society that I know from other committees asked me be on the 250th Anniversary Planning Committee, and I thought it was a great idea," she said.

Her involvement in a number of WSU campus committees and organizations, Talamini said, gave her the experience to be an effective chair to the celebration group and will pave the way to a successful year of events that will engage the community.

"I was very involved in clubs and groups at school that I think prepared me well for this," she said.

As successful as plans are proceeding, though, Talamini said there is still a need for more citizen involvement. The 20-member planning committee is comprised of an appointed steering committee of nine voting members with the other members charged with heading sub-committees - such as ones for fundraising, promotion, advertising, web and social media, print advertising, parade/picnic, and the design of the anniversary logo that was just recently approved.

"We are seeking anyone from the public interested in participating either in an informal or formal way," she said. "We're especially looking for anyone with experience in planning and fundraising – even if just for one event. Join us and put in your two cents."

First Selectman Robert Maynard, selectman Jason Bowsza, selectman Richard Pippin, Diane Lajoie, Paul Anderson, Tom Talamini, Bill Thinn, Lynne Tracy Thinn, and Peg Hoffman are members of the committee.

Those interested on serving on the committee or any sub-committee is asked to contact the First Selectman's office at 860-623-8122. The group meets every first and third Thursday of each month outside of the Osborn House at the East Windsor Historical Society, 113 Scantic Road.

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