# the FIVE VILLAGE VOICE





**It is no secret** that small businesses have continued to suffer from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Town of East Windsor understands and appreciates the significant role that our business community plays in the success of our town, and we want to be partners in their recovery and future prosperity.

Because of that commitment to local businesses and nonprofits, the Town of East Windsor dedicated funding awarded through the American Rescue Plan Act to help where we could. The Board of Selectmen decided to apportion \$900,000 of our funding allocation for the implementation of Emergency Relief and Stabilization Effort (ERASE) COVID-19 Grant. Through this grant, we made funding available in amounts up to \$10,000 for qualifying nonprofits and small businesses in East Windsor.

This was a collaborative effort developed by dedicated Town staff and was approved by the Board of Selectmen. The Board also approved the hiring of a grant consultant to help with the administrative work required to effectively implement such a program.

To share news of the funding availability to a wide audience, we held a press event with Senator Blumenthal and Congressman Larson, sent a mailing to more than 350 eligible qualifying entities, went door to door to more than 65 area businesses, had two featured articles in the Journal Inquirer, and circulated the opportunity broadly on Facebook. The end result was nearly 110 applicants from a wide range of sectors requesting funding through the grant program.

Complimenting the efforts of the Board of Selectmen, the East Windsor Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee has established a similar effort focused on social service needs in the community. The committee, funded and advised by the Great Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, was provided \$100,000 for local initiatives to best serve the whole community. Half of that funding will be kept in an endowment, and half is immediately available for use. The committee established a microgrant program similar to the ERASE grant.

Both funding opportunities show the strong commitment of leaders in the Town of East Windsor to working hand-in-hand with businesses and nonprofits in our community to recover from the economic issues imposed by COVID-19.

With local government, businesses, nonprofits and volunteers working together, East Windsor's best days are ahead.

Jason E. Bowza First Selectman

## **East Windsor Parks & Recreation**

#### Office Info & Hours:

25 School Street, East Windsor CT 06088

Monday-Wednesday:	8:30am-4:30pm
Thursday:	8:30am-7:00pm
Friday:	8:30am-1:00pm

Mailing Address: 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Registration Website: www.EastWindsorRec.com Recreation Staff:

Director of Recreation & Community Services: Melissa Maltese, mmaltese@eastwindsorct.com

Recreation Lead: Samantha Charette, *scharette@eastwindsorct.com* Administrative Assistant: Irene Mosher, *imosher@eastwindsorct.com* 

Office/Program Assistant: Debbie Williams, dwilliams@eastwindsorct.com

## General Info

#### Age Requirement:

For programs with age requirements, children must meet the minimum age before the program starts.

#### **Inclement Weather:**

Program cancellations due to inclement weather are announced via email blasts through the Recreation Department's registration system as well as posted on our Facebook page. We also broadcast on Channel 3's Early Warning Announcement system. For programs located within the schools, we follow the school's weather cancellations.

#### **Program Scholarships:**

Those requiring assistance to participate in programs may speak with the Director regarding financial assistance and scholarship opportunities.

## **Registration Info**

#### Mail-In:

Registrations are accepted on a first come-first serve basis. Printable registration forms are available at www.EastWindsorRec.com. Paper copies are also available in the Parks & Recreation Office and Town Hall.

#### Mail your completed form with payment to:

East Windsor Parks & Recreation 11 Rye Street Broad Brook, CT 06016

Consider yourself registered if you do not hear from us.

#### **Drop-Boxes**:

Drop-Boxes are conveniently located at four locations around town in which to place registrations and payments. Drop Boxes are locked and checked frequently by Parks & Recreation Staff. Locations are as follows

Broad Brook School - Outside of Main Office

East Windsor Middle School - Outside of Main Office

Town Hall - Outside Main Entrance

Police Station - Inside Lobby

#### **Online**:

Conveniently register for most programs at **www.EastWindsorRec. com**. Upon registering for the first time, create a family account prior to registering for programs.

After registration, you will immediately receive an email confirmation.

#### Payment:

Payment in full must be accepted before registration is considered valid. We accept cash, checks, and credit cards.

#### **Refund Policy:**

No refunds will be given after a program begins unless extenuating circumstances prevent you from participating in the program. The Director of Recreation and Community Services has final say in all matters concerning refunds.

We encourage early registration because often we are forced to cancel programs if a minimum enrollment number is not reached prior to the start of class.

Keep an eye out for information on our Summer Programs coming soon!

Check our website or Facebook page for updated programming.

## **East Windsor Department of Public Works & Engineering**

During this summer we have seen several storm events that have included high winds and extreme rainfall. This Department responded, as always, with personnel and equipment to clear blocked roads that did not include downed power lines. We placed barricades to close roads with downed wires until Eversource arrived. Once Eversource arrived, we worked with them to get the roads open. There have also been areas of flooding and erosion, or "washouts", that have needed to be managed by Department Staff. These events can be challenging and frequently occur after hours and on weekends. The Department is on call 24/7/365 to respond to such events.

#### See East Windsor DPWE, page 9

As challenging a year as it was for our schools, students, families, teachers, and staff all rose to the occasion. Academic achievements, athletic accomplishments, and art accolades marked a year of triumphs at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. We are hap-

py to share some of these accomplishments here.

## **Broad Brook Elementary** students wrap up school vear with awards while getting ready for 2021-2022

The end of Broad Brook Elementary School's year sixty-six students saw awarded for more than academic achievement - they were recognized for their citizenship both in and out of school, exemplifying the culture Broad Brook School fosters every day. Then, on the last day of school, every student got to meet the students they would share a classroom within the fall. Step Up Dav was also an opportunity for our students to get to know their new teachers.

More than eighty students



participated in summer school during the month of July, helping maintain their skills and prepare them for a positive start to the new school year. Teachers are looking forward to welcoming back all of our students and implementing a new math program that will

**East Windsor Public Schools** 



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further engage students in learning.

## Middle School students find fun and success with inventions. sports, and art

Middle School students Peter Davis and Wil-

lard Davis both participated in the Connecticut Invention Convention. The convention was an incredible experience for them. Peter invented the Patch Match while Willard devel-

Middle School baseball and softball teams took off like rockets this spring. Both teams worked on solidifying fundamentals and team building. Middle School coaches are taking that enthusiasm and running with it while they get ready for boys' and girls'

On June 11th, East Windsor Middle School held their Field Day where students played and participated in many activities including mini-golf, volleyball, frisbee golf, human foosball and more. Students had a fantastic time

## www.theChronicle.com

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#### ATTENTION EAST WINDSOR RESIDENTS



Fall 2021 Yard Waste Collection

#### Monday November 15<sup>th</sup>

Please call the Department of Public Works (860) 292-7073 The week before to schedule pickup, if no answer or after hours, please leave message with your street address



Items (including bagged grass clippings, and bagged leaves) (bundled tree limbs, brush, sticks, and branches) must be left curbside by <u>7:00 a.m. Monday morning</u>

<u>Yard Waste</u> Yard Waste - <u>Grass clippings, and leaves</u> <u>Must be in biodegradable paper bags, (No Plastic Bags)</u> <u>Please Do not place sticks in bags</u> <u>Stick in bags will NOT be picked up</u> <u>Bundled Items Include</u> Brush (tree limbs, branches, small brush) must be

Cut into 4-foot lengths and bundled less than 6" in diameter

Alternative: If you miss this collection, can to bring items to: WeCare Denali located at: 235 Sadds Mill Road, Ellington Please call (860) 871-7442 for their fee Hours of operation: M-F 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sat 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

## East Windsor Mattress Recycling Program

We are pleased to announce our mattress collection site at the Department of Public Works at 6 Woolam Rd. Between the hours of 7:30 am and 3:00 pm | Monday thru Friday only | (860) 292-7073

## This program is for East Windsor Residents Only Residents must stop in DPW Office prior to unloading

*This program is provided by the Mattress Recycling Council of CT at no cost to the Town.* 

We are unable to accept heavily damaged, wet, twisted, frozen or soiled mattresses or any mattresses that have bed bugs in them.

Also, we DO NOT accept the following: Mattress pads or toppers, sleeping bags, pillows, car beds, juvenile products such

as carriages, baskets, bassinets, dressing tables, strollers and playpens or their pads, infant carriers, lounge pads, crib bumpers, water beds or camping air mattresses, fold out sofa beds, futon mattresses or furniture.



## EAST WINDSOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Greater Together Community Fund Seeking Applicants

The Town of East Windsor has a dynamic civic opportunity, one that incorporates grant funds for programs and citizen participation. In 2019, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving established \$100,000 community funds for each of the 29 towns in the Foundation's region, including East Windsor. The purpose of the community funds is to support residents in taking ownership around the needs in their towns and encourage broad and inclusive civic engagement.

An advisory committee of East Windsor residents plays a lead role in deciding how East Windsor's funds will be used. This advisory committee will identify community needs and design a grantmaking process aimed to ensure that the community funds can have the greatest impact for the benefit of town residents. Please consider joining this exciting committee that will help East Windsor.

The Advisory Committee is seeking members that will help us maintain a diverse, inclusive membership reflective of East Windsor's unique demographics. All East Windsor residents are eligible to apply including students or young adults ages 14+.

To apply, please complete the form at www.hfpg.org/eastwind sorcf and email to *ewcommunityfund@gmail.com* or mail to EW Community Fund Advisory Committee, c/o First Selectman's Office, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016.



## **Finance Office**

## **Good News from the Finance Office**

On May 11th, the voters approved an added appropriation \$3.5 million to pay down debt. We wasted no time, completing that payment on June 15, 2021. The payoff of the 2015 Clean Water Loan for the Sewer Expansion on Route 140 will save taxpayers \$750,000 in interest over the next 35 years that now will not be incurred. The leases for the Town Hall HVAC and two DPW Trucks

See FINANCE, page 14

## East Windsor Electronic Waste Program

Public Works Department, 6 Woolam Road, East Windsor | 860.292.7073 | Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## **Computer Items**

Laptops Monitors Peripherals (wires, mice, cables, other computer components) Mainframes Modems/Routers/Switches/Hubs

RECYCLE

## Office

Copiers Scanners Fax Machines Printers Toner & Inkjet Cartridges

Kitchen

Small appliances Refrigerators & Freezers Microwaves Vacuum Cleaners

## Entertainment

DVD & CD Players IPods/Walkmen/PDAS Stereos & Radios Televisions & VCRs Video Games & Consoles

## Other

Telephones Cell Phones Air Conditioners Batteries LED Bulbs Fluorescent Bulbs and Tubes

## **Items NOT Accepted**

Car Batteries Battery operated toys Smoke Detectors Hazardous Liquids (motor oil, oil paint) Propane Tanks Stoves Washer/Dryers Dishwashers

For further information, please visit:

CT DEEP Recycling Information at https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/ Waste-Management-and-Disposal/ What-Do-I-Do-With

## **East Windsor Lions Club**



**East Windsor Lions Club** has been in service to the community since 1953. Lions Clubs International are the largest service orga-

nization in the world. Our motto is 'we serve,' and we have a long history of fulfilling that through our contributions to the first ambulance in Town and a \$10,000 donation to Scout Hall in its early stages. Locally, we support the Scout Troops and the large print section of the Warehouse Point Library as well as funding scholarships for high school seniors. We also give to Fidelco, CT Lions Eye Research Foundation, Low Vision Centers in the State, and other worthwhile charities.

Twenty years ago, the member roster for our local club was over 50 and now we are down

to 15. Soon we will lose 2 members as they move to North Carolina. We ask a modest contribution in annual dues of only \$35 per year, but it is still difficult to get new members. People's lives are different than they were and their time seems to be taken up by activities other than volunteering. Our meetings on the first and third Wednesdays are no longer required for membership and still it is hard to get new members.

Members are only required to participate in our fundraising efforts, like our turkey shoot, Farmers' Breakfast, golf tournament and 20/20 roast beef dinner. We invite anyone who is interested in serving our community to consider becoming a LION. See our Facebook page or email *e\_w\_lionbarbara@sbc-global.net*.

## ATTENTION TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR RESIDENTS

The next (Fall) bulky waste & metal drop off for EAST WINDSOR RESIDENTS ONLY Saturday, September 25, 2021 from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. It will be held at the F&G Transfer Station Location Off of Route 140 at <u>9 Shoham Road</u> (across from W.B. Mason Furniture Store) Please see the attached list for acceptable items.

A <u>valid driver's</u> license with an East Windsor address <u>and a valid</u> <u>registration</u> with an East Windsor Address will be necessary to gain access to the facility. There will also be a sign-in sheet with name, address and vehicle registration that will be turned into the town to show the residents who participated in the drop off program.

For East Windsor **property owners** who **do not** reside in Town, please <u>contact the Public Works Dept. for alternate method of proof.</u>

For more information, call The EW Public Works Department at (860) 292-7073 Or

Visit <u>Town of East Windsor, CT</u> Or visit the Town Hall at 11 Rye Street for flyers.

## **East Windsor Public Schools**

#### SCHOOLS, continued from page 2

and were even able to throw water balloons at the EWMS staff.

At the annual EWMS Art Contest, students could submit artwork in three categories: Nature, Anime and Free Choice. Elizabeth Romel was the winner in the Nature category, Greaneleigh Wilczak won in the Anime category, and in the Free Choice category, the winner was Samika Gauthier.

In addition, several students were

recognized with awards at the end the year. The Brian Chicano Award, given in Brian Chicano's memory, was given to Athalia Decker for displaying courage and tenacity even in times of adversity. And the Holly DeFillipo Award was given to Rosely Nogeurro, a student who has helped one or more individuals during a difficult time.

## East Windsor High School celebrates school year with ceremonies, luncheons, and more

As the school year wrapped up, there was much to be celebrated at East Windsor High School. Every grade hosted virtual awards ceremonies to celebrate the achievements of students. Parents and families attended virtually via livestreamed events while students were given the awards. The ceremony for seniors included the awarding of a variety of scholarships that will help with post-secondary costs.

Honors and High Honors students who reached these goals in at least three quarters of the year were recognized for their academic achievements. They include:

#### Class of 2021

**Combination of Honors/High Honors:** Shanice Alphonse, Allison Bancroft, Angelo DiBattista, Owen Duffy, Ikra Gunduz, Destiny Hall, Yasmine Mohammed, Giovanni Nicoterra, Yumeko Stern, Jenna Swist, and Tahj Wilson.

High Honors: Emily Blachuta, Samantha Cramer, Chandra Delano, Christopher Desrosiers, and Austin St. Cyr.

#### Class of 2022

**Combination of Honors/High Honors:** Devin Allen, Michael Auretta, Careonna



**EWMS Art Contest:** Elizabeth Romel was the winner in the Nature category, Greaneleigh Wilczak won in the Anime category, and in the Free Choice category, the winner was Samika Gauthier.

Bradley, Mia Bulgajewski, Gavin Greer, Nathan Kita, Ryan Lee, Ashlynn McCoy, Vanessa Mitchell, Miguel Molina-Aguilar, Jasmine Moreau, Ryan Santomenno, Nicolas Saponare, Sole Scott, Sara Simpson, Derek Weeda, Alexandra Witzke, and Curt Zyra.

**High Honors:** Katelyn Blume, Samantha Corrado, Jake Martin, Haleigh Thibodeau, Rebecca Syme, Nicholas Canora, and La'Shay Dyer.

#### **Class of 2023**:

**Combination of Honors/High Honors:** Matthew Blachuta, Hunter Bovee, Kizziah Holt, Elizabeth Hunt, Nevaeh Hutchins, Sheona Lawrence, Taylor Ribeiro, and Matthew Whitosky.

**High Honors:** Kaylee Bacchus, Alyssandra Barzola, Julia Clayton, Aric Duncan, Tyler Kreiner, Lorenzo Resto, Shane Ritchie, Melody Vong, and Broderick Wilczak.

#### **Class of 2024**:

**Combination of Honors/High Honors:** Cassandra Charlton, Alyssa Clancy, Briana Corsetti, Elena Ferreira, Alfredo Gomez-Cintron, Brianna Iwan, Nohely Santana, Alora Watkins, and Russell Williams.

**High Honors:** Landen Carlton, Vincent Hernandez, Janisha Morgan, and Ryan Willey.

The High School also hosted its very first Advanced Placement (AP) Luncheon. At the luncheon, students re-

ceived an AP brochure describing all of the AP courses the high school has to offer. AP teachers met with students as well to answer any questions about the class they might have.

In sports, four EWHS students – Nicholas Canora, Ryan Lee, Ryan Willey, and Samantha Corrado – made the NCCC All-Conference for spring sports.

In celebrating their senior year, the Class of 2021 celebrated this milestone with their prom at Merlot on the Water on May 21st. The annual dance was well attended, and every-one had a wonderful time, making memories that will last a lifetime.

In addition, EWHS hosted an outdoor graduation for the Class of 2021 on June 16th, with 54 students attending with their families. Speeches were given by valedictorian Emily Blachuta, salutatorian Yumeko Stern, and senior class president Owen Duffy. Congratulations to all of our graduates!



**Class of 2021 Prom:** The Class of 2021 celebrated their senior year with their prom at Merlot on the Water on May 21st.

## **Agricultural Businesses in East Windsor**

The Agricultural Commission has compiled this list of agricultural businesses in Town. If we missed any business, please let us know.

Some are full-time farmers planting many acres of a product and some are small family

businesses, but all contribute to the agricultural presence in Town and to the economy.

In addition, many acres are planted on rented fields by farmers who live out of town.

We hope you will frequent the ones who are open to the public and we also hope you will appreciate the hard-working farmers who keep our amazing resource in production.



BUSINESS	ADDRESS	PRODUCE
Allard Family Farm	83 Stoughton Rd.	seasonal produce & specializing in pasture raised poultry
Applebrook Farm	216 East Rd.	apple orchard
Baggott Family Farm	236 S. Main St.	garden center
Wesley Bell	Rockville Rd.	rye, pumpkins
Birdsong Farm	340 Rye St.	lambs, hogs, eggs, honey
Broad Brook Beef	47 Broad Brook Rd.	beef, pork
Camelot Stables and Farm	7 Thrall Rd.	equine facility
Cook Family Farm	Scantic Rd.	animals, eggs
Dingess Farm	278 S. Main St.	tobacco
Dzen Farms	87 Barber Hill Rd.	blueberries, strawberries, pumpkins, Christmas trees
Flower Power Farm	126 S. Main St.	garden center
Foster Farm	Rye St.	tobacco
Gilson Farms	57 Wapping Rd.	PYO blueberries
Harrington Stables	221 North Rd.	horse boarding, carriage rides, hay, sawmill
Hazelwood Farm	130 Tromley Rd.	horse boarding
Humming Grove Farm	73 Barber Hill Rd.	Christmas trees, wreaths, honey, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms
Irish Lace Stable	132 Melrose Rd.	horse boarding, silkie chickens
Jenny's Flowers	306 Scantic Rd.	cut flowers
Jim Von Alpen	Harrington Rd.	beef cows
Andre Grosyk	Harrington Rd.	tobacco
Lingering Hills Stable	109 Scantic Rd.	equine facility
Melhurst Farm	128 Melrose Rd.	lambs, wool blankets, eggs
Melrose Place Farm	Pease Rd.	organic vegetables, herbs, fruit
Morell Farms	93 Phelps Rd.	greenhouse
Oak Meadow Farm	309 Scantic Rd.	equine facility
Pagano Farm	285 Scantic Rd.	general crop farm
Park Farm	Broad Brook Rd.	hay
Pell Farm	Rockville Rd.	greenhouse
Peter Draghi Farm	379 Scantic Rd.	PYO fruit, farm stand
Red Hill Tree Farm	37 South Main ST.	Christmas trees
Revay's Garden Center	266 North Rd.	garden center
Reichle Farm - Registered	27 Harrington Rd.	vegetable grower
Second Chance Farm	42 Rice Rd.	horse rescue
Shag Bark Hickory Farm	50 Harrington Rd.	horseback riding
Someday Farm	153 Melrose Rd.	equestrian facility, children's lessons
Stoecker Family Farm	81 Broad Brook Rd.	vegetables, eggs, turkeys, chickens
Sunset Valley Farms	55 Kreyssig Rd.	butcher, meat shop
Syme Family Farm	72 Windsorville Rd.	cut flowers, Christmas trees, eggs
Thrall Farm	240 East Rd.	equestrian center
White Eagle Farms	266 S. Main St.	vegetable, corn, tobacco
Windy Hill Farm	13 Neiderwerfer Rd.	dairy farm, hay, straw, eggs

## **Park Hill**

## Hello Everyone-

We are very excited to announce that with the assistance and support of the Board of Selectmen, we were approved to be the sub recipient for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). This funding will be used to install 50 accessible showers in apartments that currently have bathtubs. The project was scheduled to be completed in 2020, however due to the pandemic it needed to be postponed, so we are now looking at a September 2021 start date. The entire project will take approximately 4-5 months. The residents are thrilled that they will now be able to take a shower without having to step over the edge of the tub or the necessity to have someone assist with their bathing. Most of our residents are elderly and this tub to shower conversion will definitely increase their level of living independently.

Prior to the pandemic we were awarded state funds to purchase three wooden gazebos. The gazebos needed to be assembled and installed on concrete footings. Our maintenance staff did a fabulous job putting together the gazebos and we are now ready to have the footings poured and then erected. Our residents are looking forward to spending sunny days and cool evenings socializing under the gazebos.

I would also like to share that our Tenant Association is now meeting once again after over a year of not being able to be active due to the pandemic. Their ongoing activities include bingo, chair exercise classes, game and card night and Wii bowling. Upcoming gatherings will include potluck suppers and afternoon tea and refreshments. All Park Hill residents are welcome to attend. The staff has recently hosted some resident activities including a summer cookout, an ice cream social and "Color and Sip"; adult coloring books and pencils were provided and iced tea. This event has been proven to be a success and is now a monthly activity.

The residents, staff and commissioners continue to be appreciative of the generosity and support that Park Hill receives from the entire East Windsor community.

Thank you,

Linda Collins

## **Assessor's Office**

## **Exemption Deadlines**

A variety of exemptions are available to reduce property tax assessments for certain qualified taxpayers. Blind persons, veterans, disabled veterans, surviving spouses or widows of qualified veterans and Social Security qualified disabled persons are eligible for exemptions.

Veterans need to file their DD214 (Honorable discharge) with the Town Clerk before October 1. Some veterans who were previously denied exemption benefits due to having an Other Than Honorable discharge MAY now be eligible and should contact the Assessor for more details. Military personnel currently on active duty may supply a copy of their military orders to the Assessor to apply for an exemption and may also fill out an application to receive an exemption to eliminate taxes on one motor vehicle that they own or lease. Blind and totally disabled applications are taken until January 31.

Other than qualified military who need to apply annually for the motor vehicle exemption, anyone who has already applied for these exemptions need not reapply. Vehicles that have been specifically adapted to transport a disabled person or allow a handicapped person to operate them, are eligible to be tax exempt. Application must be made by November 1.

## Additional Exemption Programs

The Assessor of the Town of East Windsor is accepting applications for NEW APPLICANTS for income-based veterans', blind or totally disabled exemption programs. Taxpayers are required to submit proof of their last year's income to the Assessor's office to apply. The maximum income limit for a single person is \$37,600 and for a married couple it is \$45,800. A copy of a current income tax return must be presented at the time of application if one was filed with the IRS, along with statements of any untaxable income such as Social Security or Railroad Retirement payments. If an income tax return is not filed, statements of all income must be presented. These include statements of wages, lottery winnings, taxable pensions, IRA's,

interest, dividends, rental income, Social Security SSA1099, Railroad retirement, veteran's payments, etc. These are twoyear programs with applications being due between February 1 and by October 1 due to COVID. Anyone currently on the programs do not need to reapply this year.

## New Access To Assessor Real Estate Records

Real Estate records will now be available on a new software system, Vision Government Solutions which will be the new host of both our in-office CAMA (Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal) system and our on-line property record card system. Vision is used by many towns throughout the State and many appraisers, real estate agents and other members of the public are familiar with its use. This is a very user-friendly system and can be accessed by going to the Assessor's page of the Town website and clicking on "Property Record Cards". Ownership records will be current to within several days of title transfers.

## **Energy Assistance**

# Success When Needed the Most



East Windsor Recreation and Community Services Division of Social Services (Social Services) partnership with Community Renewal Team (CRT) continues to help those in need heat their homes. This year was no different. While several financial support opportunities were available to help combat the devastating

financial losses due to Covid-19, CRT and Social Services continued to assist with taking applications for the Energy Assistance Program.

This year we were able to take in 313 applications, an increase over the 281 applications received in 2019/2020 season. The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) helps with winter heating costs of Connecticut's lower income households. Eligibility is determined by family size and gross income, and by whether a household is classified as "vulnerable".

In the 06016 side of town, we took in 136 applications with 123 being approved, and in 06088 we accepted in 177 applications of which 162 were approved. The average award to households was \$674.00 for a total town-wide award of \$211,080.50 granted to East Windsor residents to assist with heating costs from September to June.

Social Services helps with applying for several programs to assist our residents in need. Energy assistance is a big part of that work. We will be starting energy season again for those with deliverable fuel sources in September, and non-deliverables in January. Please feel free to call Social Services at 860-623-2430 to book your appointment and obtain a checklist of documents required.

Melissa Maltese

**Director of Recreation and Community Services** 

## American Heritage River Commission

Our mighty group of 14 plus volunteers have been very busy keeping the Scantic River State Park trails open. We have built and rebuilt several of the bridges and mud walks in an effort to make hiking easier for all who use the area. The Braille signs have been redone and are back in place for all to enjoy.

Our cardboard boat race was a huge success bringing some new faces to the event as well as many of our faithful following. Of course, all proceeds went to 5 Corner Cupboard as its needs are year-round, not just during the holiday season.

We asked the Board of Selectmen to allow us to name some of the areas we use for the race, and for entry and out-take for our Scantic River paddles. We wanted the 'filter beds' to be named for the Trolley that once brought townsfolk from Warehouse Point into Broad Brook for a picnic. Many folks shy away from our cardboard boat race because of childhood memories of the

See COMMISSION, page 13

#### East Windsor DPWE, continued from page 3

Along with these events, we have continued to perform our normal summer season tasks which include roadside mowing, grounds maintenance for Town properties, maintenance of the Town's roadways and drainage systems and inspections of ongoing construction projects.

As of this writing, we are completing a full depth construction of approximately 1,200 feet of Tromley Road with new storm drainage and the milling and overlaying of approximately 0.8 miles (or 4,225 feet) of Tromley Road along with First, Second and Fourth Streets.

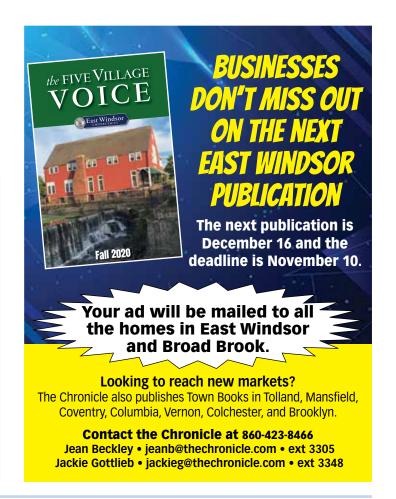
Projects anticipated to be completed prior to winter include the replacement of the outlet structure at the East Windsor Park, replacement of the culvert under Highland Avenue just east of Main Street, and additional drainage work in Wells Road.

Please remember when you come upon a work zone where contractors or DPW Staff are working to obey all traffic patterns and proceed through with caution. We all want to go home safely to our families at the end of the day. "Obey The Orange".

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Q. Norton, P.E.

Director of Public Works/Town Engineer/Tree Warden



## **Rotary Club**

## What the East Windsor Rotary Does

While 2020 and Covid have made for a difficult year for the East Windsor Rotary we continue to go forward with many of our programs. We miss seeing the people we serve at our fund-raising events and activities. The following is a list some of the thing we do and wish to continue.

- Scholarships and Most Improved Student Awards to high school students.
- Home heating aid to a needy household around the holiday season.
- Adopting a family at Christmas to make their holiday easier.
- Shop with a cop program provides a needy family's children help with holiday items.
- Donating food packages and school supplies for student backpack program.
- This year we distributed Covid relief PPE packages to elderly housing, retail stores and nursing homes.
- Assisting EW Parks and Recreation with their Easter projects.
- Providing every EW third grade student with a personalized Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus through our Dictionary Project.
- Assisting with a new storybook trail in town with EW Parks and Recreation.

Things we are looking to do in the future with other groups is a fully accessible play area with the conjunction with Abby's Helping Hand. We would also like to help with other projects in town.

An ongoing and very important item for the future of our club to remain available and assist the town is membership. We are a small but active group in town.

We ask anyone who is interested in improving East Windsor to attend a meeting. We meet at the Nutmeg Restaurant on the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm.



## Come See Why Everyone Loves... Offering simple, low-tech, non-invasive ways of improving your health. Give the Gift 💯 of Pain Relief you are higher Part of ar New Balance, Brooks, Keen, Merrell, Vionic, Red Wing, Hoka, Taos and Oofos. o one el FIND YOUR FIT SIZE 7-20, DIAGNOSTIC TECHNOLOGY WIDTHS B-6E Arch supports Scaetrex. is here to **Ú**Step. Custom Orthotics From Willimonto **RELIEVE YOUR PAIN!** Professional fitting Shoe Repair \* Monday through Friday 9-5 Saturday 9-3 \* 503 Main Street, Willimantic • 860-423-8873 • www.theshoesmith.com

## **Senior Center**

## **Reunited Feels So Good**

**Reunited at last!** After closing our doors on March 17th of 2020, the East Windsor Senior Center welcomed back our seniors with open arms on June 1st, 2021. To say we missed them is an understatement! Seeing our seniors come back so willingly is a testament to the staff and the strong relationship that they have with the seniors.

During the closure we were able to provide craft kits, drive by parades and small "we are thinking of you" opportunities. We started by phasing back some parking lot activities and then we were able to open the doors to indoor activities. Although socially distanced, many of the seniors came back to Wii bowl, coffee hours, trivia with Teresa, art classes and much more.

The best part of opening was the hugs, the smiles and just being able to observe the seniors seeing each other for the first time in a year. These interactions produced tears of joy but also tears of sadness when reminiscing about those we have lost throughout our closure. Some of our longest attending seniors passed this year and while we did not get to mourn them together, we remember them each day in little ways around our center. We will host a Day of Remembrance for them in the fall. The center has proven to be more then just a place to hang out, it's an extended family to many. We look forward to making new memories with our seniors in the months to come.

Melissa Maltese

Director of Recreation and Community Services



## **Building Department**

**In this issue,** I would like to share a bit of Building Code history, The Code of Hammurabi. I do so because of the events that unfolded on the morning of June 24, 2021. Our nation awoke to the sickening news that a twelve-story condominium tower, the Champlain Towers South, had collapsed at approximately 1:25 a.m. The news of this tragedy shook me to my core, as I had full depth of understanding the extent of this unimaginable moment. Though able to comprehend the context and extent of this devastation, the frustration felt by myself, and other members of our profession is still raw. This is the reason we do what we do. Our, codes continue to develop, are fluid, reactive, never still. We contribute to these codes, as each of you can, because of what we see, experience, share, investigate, and ruminate on.

Building regulations are one of the oldest and most enduring of government functions, dating back 5,000 years to pre-biblical times. The concept of building safety — constructing a residence to protect its occupants — goes as far back as ancient Babylon in 2000 B.C. King Hammurabi, founder of the Babylonian Empire, is generally recognized as the first person to "publish" a code to protect people and property. The Code of Hammurabi engraved on a seven-foot-tall black basalt stone monument, states "If a builder should build a house for someone and does not construct it properly, and the house which he built falls in and kills its owner, then that builder shall be put to death."

The regulation of building safety has come a long way since the days of Hammurabi. While building codes continue to change and develop — influenced by new construction techniques, new materials, natural disasters, and catastrophic events — one thing that has not changed is the dedication of the code official. Code officials continue to provide a proactive defense against building disasters, to ensure the safety of the structures in which we all live, work and play. While unnoticed by many, these officials work daily to ensure safe and reliable construction practices to protect the occupants of the buildings in their community.

We, as contributors to this publication, are encouraged to share positive, uplifting experiences and encounters regarding our daily, professional lives. As challenging as some may believe this endeavor to be, it is not. After serving the citizens of this community for 19 years, the positive far outweighs any less than positive experience(s). Throughout my daily travels and travails, I am fortunate to be able to share in so many pleasant experiences and personal triumphs. While in the discharge of my duties I must always seek compliance, to be able to do so in a friendly, professional, yet down to earth, common manner, I am always mindful of the purpose of these duties. Many times, those reminders of the serious nature of plan review and building inspection intersect with the morning news. We are all subject to the fast paced, 24-hour, moment to moment news cycle that, at times, leave us shaking our heads in disbelief, promising ourselves we will never, ever, watch the news again. Such is the nature of our world today and the human condition that we share as inhabitants of this spinning rock called Earth.

Next time I will share that positive, uplifting encounter one of our neighbors shared with me about her experiences with three different departments, all in the same month.

In the meantime, dry out, be kind, stay safe, and remember, we all share that human condition.

Rand D. Stanley, Building Official



#### TOWN CLERK

## **2021 November Election Information**



## **Absentee Ballot Applications**

Applications will not be sent out for this upcoming election. If you would like to vote by absentee ballot, you will need to request an application for an absentee ballot. You obtain an absentee ballot in person at the Town Clerk's office or telephoning the office with your name and address and it can be mailed to you.

Under Connecticut state law, in order to vote by absentee ballot, a voter must be an active, registered voter (more on Connecticut's voter rolls can be found at **myvote. ct.gov/voterrolls**) and have filled out an absentee ballot application. Absentee ballots are available for download online (at **myvote.ct.gov/absentee**) and at the Town Clerk's office.

\*\*\*Pursuant to Senate Bill 1202 of the June Special Session 2021, COVID-19 may be used as a valid reason for requesting a ballot for any Primary, Election or Referendum held before November 3, 2021\*\*\* Voters will need to check the box on their application for COVID-19.

## **Vitals Information**

Since April, there have been 34 births in town and 37 marriages!

A Connecticut birth certificate is available from the Town Clerk's office of the town where the birth occurred and in the town in which the child's mother was living at the time. Birth certificates from 2003-present are available on a statewide database which allows you to go to any town to get a certified copy. If you are living in town and

# **Tax Office**

The Tax Office is excited to report that last year we were able to collect the budgeted revenue we were charged with during the pandemic. We are also excited to be back at a regular collection cycle this year. DMV address changes may now be done online along with other online services at https://portal.ct.gov/DMV/. The staff in the tax office is also continuing our education to maintain our state certification.

October 1, 2021- Absentee Ballots are available November 2, 2021- Municipal Election

need your child's birth certificate but you moved from a different town, we will be able to help you in the office here!

A Connecticut death certificate is available certified from the Town Clerk of the town in which the death occurred and in the town in which the individual resided at the time of death.

A Connecticut marriage certificate is available from the Town Clerk of the town in which the marriage occurred and the in the town in which the individuals resided in at the time of marriage.

All vital records requests must be made in person or by postal mail. The cost of a certified copy is \$20.00. The Town Clerk accepts cash or check.



Fall is in the air and that means Hunting! Please still use social distancing when you are out. Hunting and Fishing Guides are in the office! You can contact DEEP by phone (860) 424-3105 with any additional questions. Any Connecticut Residents 65 years of

age or older are entitled to a free license.

If you have any questions, please call our office 860-292-8255.

Amy R. Lam, Town Clerk Lynn K. Lemieux, Assistant Town Clerk Larisa Hiti, Assistant Town Clerk

#### COMMISSION, continued from page 9

smell at the filter beds, yet they are pleasantly surprised by the current park-like setting. Another spot needing to be named is the parking lot at the end of Cemetery Road which we keep mowed; it benefits the fishermen as well as the paddlers as they egress the river. One of the last pieces of property the Town acquired is on North Road /Route 140 just before Main Street. We thought Heritage Park was an apt name since the Commission worked hard to secure the land to be another area of peaceful recreation.

## **Finance Office**

#### Finance, continued from page 4

were also paid off early. The funds for the 2014 Refunding Bonds and 2019 Middle School Roof Bonds have also been escrowed to pay the future debt payments. This will enable the Town to invest sooner in other necessary projects such as roof replacements.

At the end of the fiscal year, the Board of Finance approved approximately \$500,000 to fund necessary projects that had not been otherwise budgeted, and still returned another approximately \$500,000 in surplus back to the General Fund

Balance. This has allowed the town to fund much needed items while staying within the approved budget with no additional cost to the taxpayers.

The Treasurer's Office is currently busy processing invoices for both FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 along with preparing audit information for the FY 2020-21 Audit that will take place in the Fall of 2021.

Amy O'Yoole Finance Director

# **Creating a Loving Tribute** to Your Loved One

Funerals | Burials | Cremation | Preplanning

## Helping You Plan

Are you looking to add a personal touch to your loved one's funeral service? Would you like to browse through our catalog of viewing merchandise? Maybe you want to learn more about planning your own funeral. We've made all of this information - and more - available for you to explore in the comfort and privacy of your home.

## Helping You Grieve

Our experience has taught us that when losing a loved one, those left behind feel lost and alone. Many do not know where to turn to or how to cope. Our grief support programs in place are dedicated to helping you during your difficult time and making each day a little easier for you when a loved one is lost.



**Bassinger & Dowd Funeral Home 37 Gardner St** East Windsor CT 860.623.4292

**Tolland Memorial Funeral Home** 375 Merrow Rd. **Tolland, CT** 860-875-1415

> **Pietras Funeral Home** 2665 Boston Tpk (Rte 44) **Coventry CT** 860.742.1255



Burke - Fortin Funeral Home 76 Prospect St **Rockville - Vernon CT** 860-875-5490

# East Windsor Park Pavilion

27 Reservoir Ave | Broad Brook, CT 06016

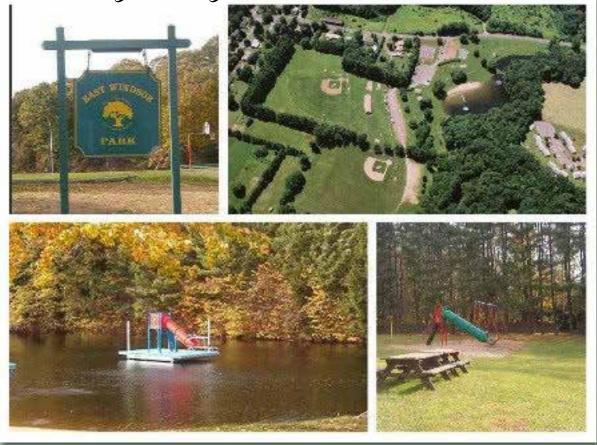
#### Looking for a place to hold a

- 1. Graduation Party
- 2. Family Reunion
- 3. Church Picnic
- 4. Birthday Party
- 5. Employee's picnic

## Facility includes:

Waterfront Pavilions, Snack Bar (seasonal), Shuffleboard, Ballfields (one lighted), Volleyball, Horseshoes, Grills, Tennis and Basketball Courts (lighted)





## **Directions to Park**

From I-91 North or South, Exit 45, from northbound turn right onto Route 140, from Southbound turn left onto Route a140. Continue east on Route 140 for 4 miles. Turn right at light at top of hill onto Route 191. Continue on Route 191 through traffic light to first stop sign. Bear left at stop sign onto Windsorville Road. At next stop sign turn left onto Reservoir Avenue. East Windsor Park is about 1⁄4 mile ahead on the left.

#### For more information:

Contact Irene Mosher at East Windsor Parks and Recreation,860-698-1511,*imosher@eastwindsorct.com*. Registrations can be complete online by going to the East Windsor town web site, Park and Recreation, Sportsman SQL Online Registration Portal Link. Town of East Windsor 11 Rye Street Broad Brook, CT 06016

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## 

## The Library Association of Warehouse Point

107 Main Street, East Windsor, CT 06088

HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10:00-8:00; Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10:00-5:00 Phone: 860-623-5482 | Fax: 860-627-6823 | www.warehousepointlibrary.info

## **ONLINE RESOURCES**

The Library Association of Warehouse Point has many remotely accessible resources online available to the residents of East Windsor through our website: **www.warehousepointlibrary.info**.



# SERVICING THE COMMUNITY

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