

the FIVE VILLAGE VOICE



East Windsor
CONNECTICUT



Winter 2022

2021 Year In Review

Coronavirus Response

As vaccines were granted emergency certification from the federal government, we quickly established local vaccine clinics. In fact, we were one of the first towns in our region to provide that service, working closely with Dr. Rampal and this time with the Town of Vernon. We worked with Vernon to procure vaccine supply, used Dr. Rampal as our medical practitioner, designated staff within the Community Services and Public Works departments to staff the clinics, and scheduled appointments on behalf of constituents so that they did not need to navigate the confusing Vaccine Administration Management System developed by the State. We built a waiting list and kept the community informed and engaged. Ultimately, we were able to provide more than 2,000 doses of vaccine to our community.

During the pandemic, staying connected with the community was a priority. Weekly calls were sent community wide to more than 6,000 homes using the reverse 911 system known as Everbridge. Through these phone calls, we were able to communicate current public health data pertaining to outbreaks or positivity rates in the community, and to offer updates about events or activities that were either cancelled or adjusted. The weekly calls were particularly vital to people who do not use or do not have access to social media platforms.

The Town also partnered with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg), and Southern Auto Auction to offer fresh food box giveaways each month from February through May. The food was made available through USDA, coordinated through DoAg, and administered at a satellite parking lot owned by Southern Auto Auction by Town staff, Auction staff, and community volunteers.

Budget

In November, voters approved the establishment of the Town of East Windsor – Broad Brook Fire Department. Approval of this ordinance, permissible under C.G.S. 7-301, effectively resolved the tax disparity issue between residents in the Warehouse Point Fire District and those outside of it. Now, residents of the town will pay for the costs to provide fire services in their area – and nowhere else. This problem had been left unresolved for five years, and now has been settled.

During the May referendum, voters were asked to approve the budget as presented by the Board of Finance, and to approve an added appropriation in the amount of \$35 million to pay down existing debt. Both questions, as well as the Town of East Windsor – Broad Brook Fire Department's first budget submission, passed overwhelmingly.

The added appropriation of \$35 million accomplished a few things: it paid off existing debt, it freed up between \$6-8 million of future bond capacity without having to increase our debt service, and it saved the Town \$750,000 in interest that we will now never accrue. Saving money and allowing the

See **YEAR IN REVIEW**, page 6

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.

The East Windsor Public Schools

We want to acknowledge all the hard work of our staff put in to get our school year off to a great start. From setting up classrooms to preparing buildings and grounds, food services, and more, they deserve all our thanks!

Broad Brook School Starts Year with a Focus on Community

Broad Brook School started the year focused on building a strong community. Through different family and student events, we are helping students and families connect with each other and the school.

Popsicles with the Principals was held the first week of school. Over 70 families gathered on the BBS playground to enjoy a popsicle, interact with school administration and each other while students played. A few weeks later a similar opportunity occurred with an outside open house. The BBS staff introduced themselves to families and families had the opportunity to meet their child's classmates and families.

In October, we hosted Family Mileage Club Night and students were able to run or walk laps to continue accruing punches on their mileage card. Once students complete a card, they are acknowledged during the school day and receive a small prize. During the school day PK is learning soccer and teamwork through the Soccer Shots program. All three- and four-year old students have the opportunity to participate. This program is funded through a grant from the State Dept of Education.

On October 20th BBS and EWPS celebrated Unity Day. This is a nationally recognized day to promote kindness and acceptance. Students and staff wore orange and shared All About Me posters with each other.

East Windsor Middle School Makes Strides in Positivity and Leadership

EWMS staff continues to make positive office referrals or as EWMS calls them, the PAWSITIVITY Award. Referrals are in the form of an ac-



tual paws with the student's name on it. These paws are displayed in the main foyer bulletin board for all to see. In addition to seeing the awards each week, the students' names, and reasons for being referred are read during the Friday morning announcements.

Middle school coed soccer team is up in running. The team will be finishing off the season on October 30th with a 3-team jamboree @ East Windsor High School.

Twenty-five students are currently participating in the first session of the Empower Leadership program. Empower is an afterschool program that meets once a week to provide fun, productive, and accessible leadership adventures & team building activities for students. The goal is to help students find the leaders within themselves through challenging adventure experiences and team building-activities.

EWMS just held the 2021-2021 student council elections. Willard Davis is president, Elizabeth Romel is vice-president, Mikilana Vong is

secretary and Ella Marschall is treasurer. Each grade level has also selected class representatives. Student are working on a fall pep rally and other activities for EWMS students.

East Windsor High School Introduces New Classes

The new school year at the high school got off to a great start with the introduction of several new courses and a new math curriculum. Two of the new offerings students are taking advantage of are AP Statistics and AP Principles of Computer Science.

The high school had a successful outdoor open house on Tuesday, September 14th, and Grade 9 and 10 students took the iReady assessments so we can see what skills we need to work on. All high school students were given the opportunity to take the PSAT or SAT on SAT School Day.

Safe School Leaders ran an activity with students who transferred to EWPS to make them feel welcomed and to have a student they can go to if they have any questions. In addition, students have been given the opportunity to work on leadership and team building through a program called "Empowered".

Patrick Tudryn, Ed. D., *Superintendent of Schools*



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Curbside Trash & Single Stream Recycling Collection

Trash will be collected on your scheduled pick up day. Please have your barrel out no later than 6:00 a.m. Recycling is every other week.

Recycling Collected on White Week **Holidays Observed - No Collection**

Collection schedule is delayed one day after the holiday for the remainder of the week. The delay does not extend into the week after a holiday.

- Fri, Jan. 1, **New Years Day**
- Mon, May 24, **Memorial Day**
- Sun, July 4, **Independence Day, No delay in collection**
- Mon, Sept. 6, **Labor Day**
- Thurs, Nov. 25, **Thanksgiving**
- Sat, Dec. 25, **Christmas, No delay in collection**
- Sat, Jan. , 2022, **New Years Day, No delay in collection**

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The Town of East Windsor will pick up Christmas Trees on Monday, Jan. 10, Tuesday, Jan. 11 and Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022 on a pre-scheduled basis.



Do not place tree in a bag, remove all ornaments and lights.

Please call the Dept. of Public Works at (860) 292-7073 the week before, with your name and address, to schedule your pickup. If the Office is closed, leave your information on our voicemail and you will be added to the list.

Have your tree curbside no later than 7 a.m.

Note: No artificial trees will be picked up

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.



2021

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

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

Water Pollution Control Facility

The staff of the East Windsor Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) was busy this summer performing flushing and cleaning of sanitary sewer lines in the Warehouse Point area and Route 140. North Main Street, Pleasant Street, and Gardener Street were jet flushed. School Street, Dean Avenue, Spring Street, and part of Main Street were also jet flushed. Sections of North Road were flushed along with Rolocut Road and Wells Road.



The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) approved a manhole raising project to address the issue of manhole structures being lower than the pavement. As roadways get overlaid and repaved the structures become depressed causing issues. We tried to address the more serious one's this year. Manholes were raised on Stoughton Road, Scantic Road, Tromley Road. Plans are to address some each season.

The WPCF and pump stations have over 65 pieces of rotating equipment that must be maintained and kept in optimal operating condition. Even with best maintenance practices in place, eventually equipment does reach the end of its useful life. The staff of the WPCF is replacing the pumps at two of our main sewage pump stations this fiscal year.

The Mill Street and Scantic Road pump stations are receiving new valves, check valves and pumps. We replaced one pump at the Mill Street station recently with the assistance of A.E Koehler and New England Pump and Valve. Most of the work is performed by WPCF staff. Using WPCF staff results in considerable savings.

The WPCF entered into an energy efficiency project with Eversource in July 2021. The total project cost is \$305,389.00 with the WPCF realizing a financial incentive of \$68,641.00. The annual electrical savings are estimated to be 91,522 Kwh. The electrical savings will be paying for the cost of the project so there is not out of pocket costs to the WPCF. This project involves over 200 new and retrofitted LED lights, Heat

pumps, and Variable Frequency Drives (VFD's) on 13 motors. Many of these upgrades were going to have to be done in the future.

The recent replacement of the valves in the Secondary clarifier building was a major undertaking. The original valves had reached the end of their useful life and needed replacement. The WPCA purchased all new improved pinch valves and WPCF staff took on the task of replacing them. Some of these valves weighed in excess of 650 lbs. and required quite a bit of rigging.

The WPCF installed a state-of-the-art deodorizer system that is controlled through the plant computer network allowing the odor counteractant to be released at specific times when there are visitors at the Osborn field athletic area and volunteer park.

The plant computer system was upgraded by Chief Operator Ed Alibozek. Ed oversees Information Technology (IT) for the WPCF. Ed upgraded the four Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA Computers). A sonic firewall and network attached storage was installed along with the administration building having dedicated Cat 6 cable installed. The 10 remote pump stations are also realizing enhanced communications.

The facility operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year. The mission of the staff of the WPCF is to ensure the facility is operated and maintained in a fiscally responsible manner. We take a proactive and predictive approach in operating, maintaining, and managing the facility.

E. Arthur Enderle III, Superintendent WPCF

YEAR IN REVIEW, continued from page 2

community to invest in needed infrastructure projects without increasing the cost to taxpayers are all huge wins.

During the last fiscal year, the Town also converted health-care from a high-deductible health plan to the Connecticut Prevention Partnership 2.0 (CPP). The high-deductible plan had been quoting the town unsustainable premium increases in excess of twenty percent. The CPP locks us in at no more than eight percent per year, and actually came in at 5.5%. This conversion and rate lock agreement saved the Town more than \$400,000 per year prospectively. The Board of Education followed suit and converted over to CPP as well.

There was much talk in the past year about police reform and police accountability, and the state legislature passed the Police Accountability Act in response to the killing of George Floyd in May of 2020. One provision of the Act requires the integration of social workers into local policing. Rather than incorporate outside social workers into local policing, East Windsor developed a better approach to accomplish the mandate (which has now become a model for other communities). Through the leadership of Chief Edward J. DeMarco, Jr., and his team, East Windsor has established a Mental Health Team, which utilizes staff and resources from the East Windsor Youth Services Bureau and East Windsor Public Schools, as well as a police officer who has Masters-level training in social work. This progressive approach to policing is a huge win for our community.

Economic Development

In the past year, there have been so many advances in the community in terms of economic development, with projects both large and small. Gravel Pit Solar, a project that will become one of the top five taxpayers in East Windsor, secured approval from the Siting Council and continues to move forward. Once completed, it will be the largest grid-scale solar development in New England, generating more than 120 Megawatts of power. Similarly, The Silverman Group completed construction of a 150,000 square foot distribution facility along Route 5 that will become home to a company currently located in South Windsor called Park Site.

Projects like these, as well as smaller ones, can be encouraged through the use of tax abatements. Abatements have been used to great effect in surrounding towns for decades, and East Windsor is now able to offer them as well. In most cases, development projects are not initiated because of the availability of abatements, but projects may be finalized because of them.

Not all economic development is new, large-scale construction. A key piece to a sound economic development strategy is economic retention. While initially curtailed during the worst parts of the pandemic, I was able to resume meeting with small businesses in East Windsor. The purpose of these visits is twofold: to get real, firsthand feedback about the business climate in East Windsor, and to build bridges within our business community that show that the Town is committed to helping businesses succeed. Communicating this

message has been crucial as businesses try to recover from the economic effects of COVID-19.

The Town of East Windsor has also established a developable properties database that can be easily found on the Town website. That database is intended to provide a "one stop shop" for commercial realtors or developers looking to locate their business in town. It offers parcel data, zoning information, availability of utilities, ownership information, and more. This will continue to be expanded in the coming year, adding a level of transparency highlighting opportunities that may be available in East Windsor.

Physical Improvements

Over the last year, the Town has made meaningful improvements that have provided enhanced quality of life experiences for our residents. At East Windsor Park, removal of many dead or dying trees added more than half an acre of usable, Town-owned property to the park. Installation of a Splash Pad allowed for fun, safe, refreshing summer fun for people of all ages. And a new handicapped-accessible walkway down to the waterfront, expanded access to people who may have difficulty walking on unlevel ground or who are reliant on walkers or wheelchairs.

The Parks also became home to a new bandshell to host summer concerts (held twice monthly) and other public gatherings. At the first summer concert, more than 300 people enjoyed good music and a sense of community. There is potential to expand the use of the bandshell to include more summer concerts, as well as the possibility of theater camps or outdoor dramatic productions.

For more than ten years, Stiles Bridge has been impassible for local emergency vehicles due to the deteriorating condition of the bridge. It had gone unattended by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) during that period of time. This year, working with both local fire departments as well as State Rep. Jaime Foster and State Senator Saud Anwar, DOT completed emergency repairs that will now make the bridge passable for emergency vehicles responding to a call. DOT has also committed to replacing the bridge entirely in 2023.

Conclusion

Despite the many challenges brought forth this year, the Town of East Windsor saw successes in an array of areas. We continue to make improvements where we can that will make our town and even better place to live, work and raise a family. I want to thank our town staff for their commitment to our community, and the many volunteers who give selflessly of their time to make East Windsor a little bit better each day. Because of all of them, it is clear that what makes East Windsor great is the people who are a part of it. In East Windsor, our best days are still ahead.

Jason E. Bowza, First Selectman

The Warehouse Point Library

The Warehouse Point Library reopened July 20, 2020 and has continued to serve the residents of East Windsor with a full range of print and electronic materials and technology. Our hours are Monday – Wednesday, 10 am to 6 pm; Thursday and Friday 10 am – 5 pm and Saturday 10 am – 3 pm. Curbside service is also available.

Using Everybody Learns grant funds, the Connecticut Education Network installed an outdoor Wi-Fi connector in June 2021 that extends strong Wi-Fi to the entire back parking lot to provide 24/7 Wi-Fi access for the residents of East Windsor. With a grant from the American Rescue Plan Act the library installed an outdoor picnic table and a SolarSynthesis charging unit so that users could charge their devices with solar power even when their power is out.

Our summer reading program, Tails and Tales had 137 participants. Children completed their reading logs each week and together they read 2,452 books. The

library presented 24 outdoor events for 533 children and adults including craft programs; mini golf; visits from the Mystic Aquarium, the Lutz Museum and the Forest Park Zoo; Music on the Library Lawn monthly concerts; book discussion for adults; and even a special visit from a llama!

This fall, we continue to have outdoor programming, weather permitting, including Irish Step Dancing and our monthly book discussion; Zoom Story Times for ages 2-4 and 5-7; craft programs for both adults and children and Zoom adult programming.

The library is grateful to have received the Town of East Windsor's \$10,000 E.R.A.S.E. GRANT. The money will be used to replenish both the adult and children's non-fiction collections with high-quality new titles from all areas of non-fiction.

Spring 2021, the library began subscribing to the Hoopla database that allows East Windsor cardholders to bor-

row movies, music, audiobooks, eBooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on their computer, tablet, TV, or phone. Over 950,000 titles can be streamed immediately or downloaded for offline enjoyment later. Enjoy fascinating video and audiobook classes taught by award-winning experts and professors with the Great Courses series on Hoopla. Other digital databases available with your library card include: Universal Class, with over 500 online courses; JobNow, which offers resume, job interview and career resources; Libby which allows you to borrow, eBooks, audiobooks and emagazines; Freegal, a downloadable music service, the SimplyE app for more e-resources, and TumbleBooks, a collection of animated talking picture books, read-alongs, eBooks, quizzes, lesson plans, and educational games easily accessed online by students, teachers, and parents. The library staff is happy to help you access any of these resources.

Lois Hiller, Library Director

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New England's Largest Manufacturer & Retailer of Orthotics and custom in soles.

Shoe and Leather Repair!

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Men's D - 6 EEEEE
Women's B - 4 EEEE

Senior Center

The Senior Center is an active and proud member of the East Windsor community. We are a place where older adults can access multiple services in one spot. We provide our East Windsor Seniors with vital community services that assist them in staying independent and healthy. Our services include, but are not limited to, meal delivery for the home-bound, transportation to medical appointments and grocery shopping, outreach along with Medicare screening, trips, special events, fitness, and health programs as well as lifelong learning.



Outdoor BINGO



St. Patrick's Day

This year continued to test our creativity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were able to host many outdoor activities for as long as the weather would allow, such as BINGO, Yoga, Balance and Strength, Trivia and Coffee Hour.

We celebrated National Senior Citizen's Day in August and provided our clients with a reusable shopping bag filled with many goodies including custom made cookies by a local business. Other drive-thru events included Octoberfest, Thanksgiving treats, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Saint Patrick's Day. We also collected recipes from all our seniors and made an official EW Senior Center Cookbook.

We also sent out coloring pages of ornaments that were sent back to us so that they could be displayed in our windows during the holiday season to remind everyone



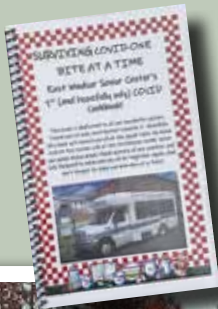
that we are still together in spirit if not in person.

During the winter months, we supported our seniors with food delivery, outreach, and wellness calls. We provided interested individuals with take home crafts and held a blanket drive titled Cuddle a Senior in which the residents of East Windsor and surrounding towns donated over 100 new blankets that we were able to deliver to our clients. Many blankets came with letters and our seniors were able to correspond with new pen pals helping to make the winter months a little less lonely. We also became pen pals with two fourth grade classrooms from Broad Brook Elementary School which was a lot of fun! The generosity and outreach from local businesses and the community has been astounding.

The past year has continued to test our strength as a community. We suffered several heartbreaking losses, but together we managed to stick together, com-



Thanksgiving drive-thru



Outdoor Coffee Hour



Take-home crafts

Senior Center

YOGA at the park



Easter craft



Perfect Scores!!

fort each other and persevere. Our center is a place filled with a lot of love and is like a second family to both staff and seniors. You can follow us on Facebook and/or on the East Windsor town website at <https://www.eastwindsor-ct.gov/senior-services> for the latest up to date programs.

Melissa Maltese, Director of Recreation and Community Services



Blanket Donations



Pumpkin painting

ROOFING!



PUT A Klaus ON YOUR House!



Klaus Larsen,
CO-OWNER
Klaus Larsen Roofing



- ✓ ROOF REPLACEMENT
- ✓ ROOF REPAIR
- ✓ GUTTERS
- ✓ SKYLIGHTS
- ✓ DOWNSPOUTS
- ✓ ATTIC INSULATION

\$500 OFF

A COMPLETE KLAUS ROOFING SYSTEM

Coupon to be presented and redeemed at time of estimate. Not valid for prior work or estimates given. Not valid with other offers. Some exclusions apply. Residential use only. Expiration 12/31/21.

Contact us for a **FREE ESTIMATE**

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EastCTRoofer.com

FINANCING AVAILABLE

HIC-0646137

Community Support for Back-to-School Program



COVID-19 has certainly posed many challenges in the way that East Windsor Social Services has had to conduct programs and provide assistance to our residents. Similarly, many residents, groups and organizations have been impacted as well, making it difficult for some to provide support to our programs as they have in the past. When the request for school supplies and backpack donations was posted at the end of the summer, it was difficult to gauge what kind of response we would receive. The support far exceeded our expectations! We received an abundance of donations and Crossroads Community Church made a very generous contribution (see picture). Even though COVID-19 will con-

tinue to have an impact on our community, we have seen how the East Windsor community can rally despite these impediments and still lend its support to our programs.

Short Term Solution Became Long Term Success Story



During the COVID-19 shutdown, East Windsor Social Services needed a way to provide services to its clients without compromising safety. So, the drop box installed outside the office near the sidewalk was the perfect solution, allowing clients to drop off supporting documentation to apply for the various programs, including Renter's Rebate and Energy Assistance. Many residents were grateful to be able to stay home and still apply for the programs that they rely on each

year. Fast forward to present time and many of the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted. Now residents can come into the office and sit with one of the Social Services staff members if they choose to do so. However, for many, the ability to drop off paperwork in the drop box is still a viable alternative. Social Services still conducts business in person, but now many clients take advantage of the opportunity to drop off paperwork for Five Corner Cupboard, holiday programs, Department of Social Services (DSS), and other programs secure in knowing they can still receive the same support and remain socially distant. Older residents with mobility issues have appreciated this alternative as well especially during the winter months when roads and parking lots are covered in snow. Even though circumstances will continue to change, the Social Services drop box will remain a constant and continue to provide our residents with a secure alternative to meet their needs.

Bridget Joy

Social Services Clerical/Intake Assistant

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Cannabis in Connecticut an Emerging Industry - Planning and Development

On July 1st Connecticut became the 19th state in the nation to legalize the adult recreational use of cannabis (a.k.a. marijuana). The sale of Cannabis for recreational use has not yet been legalized at the Federal level. Therefore, the supply chain and commerce associated with this emerging market must take place solely within the State.

The growing, processing, manufacturing of goods, selling and delivery of cannabis products is highly regulated. State regulations are currently under development.

Public Act 21-1 ("the Act") details a complex set of requirements for obtaining licenses that fall into 9 categories across the supply chain. These include:

Retailer recreational use	Hybrid retailer (med/rec)	Cultivator (15,000 ft ² or more)
Micro cultivator (2,000-10,000 ft ²)	Product manufacturer	Food & Beverage manufacturer
Product packager	Delivery Services	transporter

The Department of Consumer Protection has been named as the licensing authority. The Act also contains specific social justice provisions to ensure cities and towns that have been adversely affected by illegal use of cannabis will benefit from the proceeds of this market.

Of the nine license categories, the Act caps the number of cannabis retailers and micro-cultivators allowed in each town at 1 per every 25,000 residents. This means that East Windsor will be limited to one cannabis

retailer and one micro-cultivator. This cap will be revisited in 2024 after the market has had time to be established.

To obtain a final license from the Department of Consumer Protection, for either a cannabis retailer or micro-cultivator, an applicant must provide proof of local approval via of an affirmative decision by the Planning and Zoning Commission. To that end, the Planning and Zoning Commission is drafting zoning regulations to address requirements for cannabis-related land use. This in turn will better position the Town to attract new businesses in this market.

Retail sales will be taxed similarly to alcohol and cigarettes and will generate funds to the State and the towns where retail establishments are located. Three percent of gross receipts from sales of cannabis by a cannabis retailer, hybrid retailer or micro-cultivator are directed to the towns in which they are located. The bulk of funds will be used for social services to benefit the Town.

As Entrepreneurs have approached the Town seeking opportunities to locate here, Commissioners and Town Staff have been meeting with cannabis cultivation and retail business owners in Massachusetts to learn more about this industry. This has been very enlightening and encouraging. We've learned about the protocols and controls that are in place and are being consistently implemented across the facilities we have visited. Along with their business acumen, these entrepreneurs are passionate and have great pride in their work.

Ruthanne Calabrese

Director of Planning and Community Development

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Ramblings of a Veteran Building Official

Though we, at the Town Hall, discuss the submittals of these articles in meetings with a timeline attached, I am always caught with the "deer in the headlights" moment when it comes to actually providing these articles. Hence, the title of this tome today.

Most of the public is unaware of the training and education that their building inspectors must possess to maintain the license required to perform their professions. Though it statutorily does not require a college degree, the education many times surpasses the years and expense of college to attain these licenses. Many in the profession have been contractors or licensed tradespeople for years before transitioning over to "the dark side". That is a reference to the manner in which many trades professionals relate to building inspectors. That said, offer these same individuals the opportunity to become a licensed inspector, or most people for that matter, and they most often, decline. At times I have experienced individuals so quick to assume our profession as negative or unpleasant. I have, and continue to, experience a great deal of satisfaction on so many levels.

While recently attending UMASS Amherst for an annual educational conference provided by The New England Building Officials Association, I attended a seminar that spoke straight to the heart of most building inspectors I have come acquainted with over the years. The speaker addressed the root reasons of what it takes to bite into this line of work, with some admonishment as to the public perception of

individuals with less than public service in mind. Yes, this is a profession I chose to pursue in order to feed my family and pay my bills, but it has grown into so much more than that.

The speaker continued to speak of the "Public Safety" aspect of our work, the manner of education we bring back to the community at large, and then touched on a specific result of the work we perform. Now, I am not speaking specifically of the building inspector, per se, but more to the team of individuals that is needed to successfully operate a Building Department. Make no mistake, the Building Official and/or Building Inspectors cannot do their jobs without the equally important individuals that make up the "behind the scenes", operational aspect of the Building Department. The presenter then offered a perspective not offered in the 20 or so years I have been attending this conference. They asked if we consider the economic impact of our services, and then opined that all building departments are responsible for the economic stability, on a daily basis, more than any other department in their municipality. I continue to contemplate this perspective. I will leave you all with this. A plan is a plan. An idea. Until a plan comes to fruition, it provides no economic stability to a community. A taxable structure, a building, employing and/or housing people in your community, is economic stability. Be safe.

Rand D. Stanley, Building Official

Creating a Loving Tribute to Your Loved One

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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.



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East Windsor CT
860-623-4292

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

Coventry-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



Vitals Information

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

Land Records

Our Land Records provider, New Visions is now online. Please go to <https://www.eastwindsor-ct.gov/> on the left land side and click on the link "Land Records Online Access".

Hunting and Fishing



We offer hunting and fishing licenses in office. Please still social distance when you are out. 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.

East Windsor Lions Blood Drives



The Red Cross plans blood drives periodically throughout the year to help alleviate shortages, particularly during the COVID pandemic. In East Windsor, they hold the drives at the Town Annex at 25 School Street with a fully self-contained van with everything they need, except chairs. The East Windsor Lions Club helped with an October 21st drive to check in donors and oversee the canteen snacks. Prior to the drive, the Lions endeavored to get the word out to increase the number of donors. Gratefully the Chamber of Commerce assisted by putting the announcement on their website. The Town also added the information on its Facebook page and the Town website. The next blood drives will take place on Monday, December 27, 2021, Thursday, February 24, 2022, and Wednesday, April 27, 2022. Please consider becoming a donor. For information or to make appointments call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Barbara Sherman, Secretary



Lisence Information

Dog licenses are due from June 1st through June 30th for all dogs six months old or older.

Licenses may be obtained in person, or by mail. Per Connecticut General Statutes 22-338(b) and 22-338, you must provide us with a current valid rabies certificate and a spay/neuter certificate (if applicable).

If you want to license your dog through the mail, please mail the following items to: Town Clerk, 11 Rye St., Broad Brook, CT 06016.

1. Check made out to: "Town of East Windsor" for the applicable fee.
2. Late fees included in check (if applicable).
3. Current valid rabies certificate.
4. Spay/Neuter certificate (if applicable).
5. Self-addressed stamped envelope for the return of the dog license, dog tag, rabies certificate and spay/neuter certificate.

The Town Clerk's office hours are Mon.-Wed. 8:30-4:30, Thurs. 8:30-7:00 and Fri. 8:30-1:00. For more information about dog licenses, call the Town Clerk's Office at (860) 292-8255.

Dog License Fees:

Neutered Male or Spayed Female	\$8.00
Male or Female (not spayed or neutered)	\$19.00
Kennel (10 tags)	\$51.00
Guide Dogs	FREE
Lost Tags	\$.50
Transfer from another CT town	\$.50
Transfer of ownership within town (if already licensed)	\$1.00
Late Penalty	\$1.00 per month or fraction thereof- starting in July

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*

Finance Office

Over the last few months, we have completed our Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Financial Audit, participated in the Haunted Highway, and helped spread some holiday cheer through the Adopt-a-Child program. The ERASE grant program funds were distributed to over 110 small businesses and nonprofit organizations in September and October.

Preparations for the FY 22/23 budget are already underway. The Capital Improvement Planning Committee has requested \$1,402,332 in funding for various infrastructure projects next year. Budgets have been received from Department Heads and Committee Chairs. The First Selectman and Finance Director will meet with all Department Heads in early January prior to the Budget presentation to the Board of Selectman in early February. After the Board of Selectman hold there Public Hearing and Budget workshops, the proposed budget will be presented to the Board of Finance at their March 2022 Meeting. The public is invited and encouraged to participate in the annual budget-making process.

Amy O'Toole, Finance Director/Treasurer

After a year of silence at East Windsor Park, we ushered in 2021 with a fresh start and our inaugural Summer Concert Series. For many, 2020 consisted of isolation and too much time spent indoors. On June 10th we bid adieu to our couches and recliners and welcomed 300 of our closest friends to East Windsor Park as local favorite and Country band Steel n Eazy christened the bandshell stage.

We made a toast to where we've been and where we're going and enjoyed a night of family, friends, food, and good music! After a year of emptiness, East Windsor Park was once again bustling with energy, kids running around and people simply enjoying the moment.

Throughout the Summer, we welcomed a variety of musical acts to the bandshell stage. Next up was Big Deal Rock, who brought a variety of 60's, 70's, and 80's to the stage. This was also the opening night of our seasonal snack bar, and many burgers and hotdogs were consumed by all!

In late July we welcomed Jukebox 45 to East Windsor Park



with their shiny sport coats and smooth tunes from the 50's and 60's. By this time, Summer was in full swing, and our brand-new Splash Pad was also open for kids of all ages to enjoy!

As we ushered in August, we welcomed local favorite Just Jeannie to kick off our 4th Annual National Night Out Event. In addition to Jeannie's beautiful voice, the park was bustling with local organizations, businesses and even the Kona Ice Truck, graciously sponsored by the East Windsor PTO.

We finished off the summer with two more concerts, fan favorite Shaded Soul who provided a fun and entertaining night for all ages! They sang everything from Earth, Wind and Fire to Lizzo and we look forward to welcoming them back next year!

Due to the rainy weather of Summer 2021, two concerts had to be rescheduled and one unfortunately canceled. We finished off our inaugural season with Ashly Cruz and her cabaret show honoring the women of rock and roll! Unfortunately, our Leaf Jumpers concert had to be cancelled twice due to weather, but we look forward to welcoming them to East Windsor in Summer 2022.

See *MUSIC*, page 15



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More than 50 degrees and certificates available, including Business, Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare Careers, Human Services, Communications, Early Childhood Education and Criminal Justice.

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East Windsor

Senior Center Transportation

It has been wonderful to be able to transport more and more of our clients since the re-opening of the senior center on June 1, 2021. We had been transporting for medical appointments, grocery shopping and other necessities throughout the pandemic which our clients greatly appreciated. Since the re-opening of the center, we have been transporting clients to all our activities and for our lunch program at the center. The clients have expressed to the staff many times how happy they are to be riding the bus again. They have told us they enjoy their ride on the bus because they have been shut in for so long and it's wonderful being able to watch out the window and see different scenery. They have also expressed how wonderful it is to be back with their friends and with the staff. As staff, we all feel the same about having "life back in the building!" We continue to sanitize our busses, follow the mask mandate, social distance and transport no more than four or five clients at a time. Safety for our clients comes first as it is important that they feel comfortable and secure in a safe environment.

Teresa Hill, Transportation Coordinator

SNOWFALL MAINTENANCE REMINDERS

Parking

Residents are reminded that the Ordinance to Regulate General Parking in the Town of East Windsor prohibits street parking during and after any period of snowfall or icy condition in order that the Department of Public Works will be able to safely and efficiently remove the hazards of snow and ice from the roads.



Caution Icy Sidewalks!



Snow Removal from Sidewalks

The Sidewalk Ordinance Regarding Snow & Ice Removal requires the owner, tenant, occupant, or person having the care, maintenance or rental of the land, building or premises adjoining or fronting upon a sidewalk to remove snow, sleet or ice within 24 hours following the cessation of the fall of snow or sleet. Failure to do so could result in a fine.

Snow Removal from Fire Hydrants

Residents are asked to clear any snow from fire hydrants on your property or nearby. Open a path to the hydrant and clear an area of at least 2 to 3 feet around the hydrant for easy access in case of an emergency.



Your Mailbox

Residents are reminded to make sure their mailboxes are secured and sturdy before the winter begins. Mailboxes that are damaged by the snow load will not be repaired by the Town. Please see Policy Concerning Mailboxes and Mailbox Damage Form. If you have any questions, please call the Department of Public Works at (860) 292-7073 or email Lnorton@eastwindsorct.com.

Sand is available to residents throughout the winter months. The pile is located next to the Town Garage located at 6 Woolam Road, near the Scantic Road intersection.

Tax Office

The Tax Office is encouraged to report that the collection rate in East Windsor is healthy. The taxpayers are coming out strong. The new Broad Brook Fire District has been received with positive feedback from those that it has affected.

The Tax Office has wrapped up collection of facility connection and sewer benefit collections. It has also completed its aircraft registration. We look forward to the second installment of the real estate and personal property bills and motor vehicle supplement bills.

Patricia Kratochvil
Tax Collector

MUSIC, continued from page 14

Each night, the concerts brought both new and familiar faces to the park and the Parks & Recreation Staff enjoyed getting to be a part of it all. From the kiddos who participated in our crafts and activities, to the families who packed a picnic dinner and enjoyed the few hours together, we hope to continue this tradition for the community long into the future.

We will be posting a Google Form to the East Windsor Parks & Recreation's Website to begin collecting information from bands interested in performing for next Summer. If you are interested, please visit www.EastWindsorRec.com and fill out the form on our home page.

Sam Charette, Recreation Lead

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