

the FIVE VILLAGE VOICE



East Windsor
CONNECTICUT



OCTOBER 2023

ATTENTION EAST WINDSOR RESIDENTS



Fall 2023 - Yard Waste Collection Monday November 13th



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 7:00 a.m. Monday morning

Yard Waste

Yard Waste - Grass clippings, and leaves

Must be in biodegradable paper bags, (No Plastic Bags)

Please do not place sticks in bags

Stick in bags will NOT be picked up Bundled Items Include

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, you have the option of bringing debris to:

We Care 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. to 12:00 noon

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.

Check our website or Facebook page for updated programming.

Where and Why Solar is Built (What are the Drivers?)

State goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions drive the bidding process for renewable energy to replace energy sourced from fossil fuels. Developers, who are awarded bids by the industry, build facilities that provide supply to the wholesale renewable energy market.

Grid-scale solar has traditionally been sited on brownfield properties like landfills, abandoned commercial/industrial land, and retired quarries. There is also a renewed sense of urgency due to the timelines of statewide goals (80% reduction in 2001 emissions by 2050) that accompanies the demand. This has widened the search for viable locations to construct grid-scale solar arrays. Preference goes to large open tracks of land located on developable terrain near the electrical grid. The Town does not have a role in these projects, per state law.

Who reviews and approves the siting of these grid-scale solar projects?

The Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) has jurisdiction over the solar facilities with a generating capacity over 1 megawatt (MW). The approval process requires notification of the petition to certain parties and those who request to be notified within 30 days of receiving a petition for a declaratory ruling. The CSC must act within 60 days of receipt of a petition.

Projects seeking a petition for a declaratory ruling must meet the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) Air and Water Quality Standards and a finding that the project will not result in a substantial adverse effect on the environment. Projects over 2 MW on farmland or within core forest would require a finding of no material effect on prime farmland and/or core forest from the respective agencies: Connecticut Department of Agriculture and DEEP.

Don't like what is happening? Want your voice to be heard during the review process?

There have been numerous solar energy projects approved by the CSC over the past 5 years within East Windsor. Citizens, Town Leaders, and Land Use Commissioners have voiced concerns to the CSC regarding the number and intensity of solar development in town.

Public Hearings can be requested and may be granted by the CSC if it finds it necessary. If a public hearing is scheduled for a petition for a declaratory ruling, you can participate as an intervenor if the status is granted by the CSC or you may speak at the public hearing during the public comment period of the hearing. You may also submit your comments in writing. Helpful information can be found on the CSC web site at <https://portal.ct.gov/CSC>

Ruthanne Calabrese

Director of Planning and Community Development/Town Planner

Finance Office

The Town General Fund FY 22-23 Budget ended up with a surplus of \$500,000 that will be returned to the Fund Balance along with \$2.9M in Excess Revenue due mainly to Building Permits relating to the Gravel Pit Solar Project. The Fund Balance was used to fund \$1,310,000 in projects listed below during the fiscal year and is now at 27% which exceeds the cap of 20%.

Use of Fund Balance in FY 22-23 Budget	750,000
EWHS Roof Engineering	200,000
Public Works Vehicle – Loader	300,000
Town Properties – Fuel Tanks & Pumps	260,000
Open Space	150,000
HVAC Engineering – Schools	400,000
FY 22/23 Total Appropriations from Fund Balance	2,060,000



The Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Committee has begun its process for the FY 24-25 project recommendation. The Board of Education hosted Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, Board of Finance and CIP Committee members along with both Town and School staff for tours of the schools.

The Treasurer's Office is currently preparing audit information for the FY 2022-23 Audit that will take place in the Fall of 2023.

The FY 24-25 Budget process will begin in mid-December with Department submissions.

Amy O'Toole, Finance Director

2023

An old wives' tale says that every foggy August day equates to a day of snowfall in the coming winter. According to the National Weather Service we had 16 foggy days in August 2023, that's a lot of snow days! So, whether you believe folklore or not, it is time to start preparing your home for winter. The winter weather here in New England can pose a serious risk to your home if routine maintenance has not been conducted. It is important to take the time to clean, secure, and prep your home for anything winter may bring. Below is a list of just a few of the considerations to make when preparing your home this season:

1. Clean out your gutters and inspect your roof – The additional weight from snow and ice can be strenuous on your roof and gutters, taking the time to clean your gutters and repair your roof if needed could save you thousands in damage down the road.
2. Inspect your pipes – any issues with your pipes being exposed or deteriorated can cause them to freeze and burst.
3. Have your heating systems serviced – Regular cleanings and filter changes help ensure that your system is running smoothly and efficiently.
4. Clean out your fireplace and chimney – Built-up debris in your chimney can cause a fire in your home.
5. Change the batteries and test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors – Winter is the peak season for fires and carbon monoxide poisoning, change the batteries and test them to make sure they are in working order.

So, while we still have a couple of months before we find the white stuff on our doorsteps, the Building Department hopes you take these steps now to protect your home this winter.

Ken Rich, Building Official



88 Bridge St. East Windsor in Geissler's plaza.

Nifty Laundry

OPEN 24 HOURS



- Family run, est. 1974
 - Clean, well lit, safe
- Over 40 machines: 12, 20, 30, 40, 60 & 80 lb washers.
 - Hot dryers
- Coins & credit cards accepted. Loyalty cards available upon request.
 - Lucky 13 : Use same credit or loyalty card every time & get free 13th wash free!
 - Free wifi, TV and bathroom on premises
 - Let us Wash & fold your laundry. • Air Conditioned
 - Pick up & delivery, Text **(860) 944-8146** for inquiries

Storytime at the Splash Pad

For the second year in a row, East Windsor Parks and Recreation provided a weekly “Storytime at the Splash Pad” program during the Summer Season at East Windsor Park. After a successful first year, this year we added themed weeks complete with a take home craft for participants to enjoy! While the unruly weather of Summer 2023 forced us to cancel a few of the dates, the weeks we were able to enjoy Storytime were filled with fun, smiles and laughter!

Some highlights from this summer included a visit from Assistant Principal of Broad Brook School Mr. Ryan, First Selectman Jason Bowsza, and a very special story time with Snickers the Horse and Katie Hunt from Shag Bark Hickory Farm. We would also like to extend a special shoutout to Warehouse Point Library for providing many of the wonderful books we read this Summer!

Have an idea for a guest reader for next summer? Let us know by reaching out to Parks and Recreation.

Swimming Lessons & Water Safety Day



With funding from the East Windsor Greater Together Community Fund, East Windsor Parks and Recreation was able to extend our reach and further promote our message of water safety to the East Windsor Community in Summer 2023. With the removal of cost as a barrier, we welcomed 127 East Windsor children to the program, with a whopping 79% being new participants! It was wonderful to see so many new faces at the park and in our programs. We look forward to building upon the program next year and reaching even more youth.

In addition to our summer of swim lessons, we partnered with East Windsor Public Schools to provide a “Water Safety Day” at Broad Brook School in advance of Water Safety Month. Each grade received a different water safety lesson, complete with water safety coloring books to take home and aid in furthering the water safety conversation with their families (coloring books provided through funding from the Youth Service Bureau). Our hope is to make this a yearly tradition within the East Windsor School system!



Samantha Charette, Recreation Lead

East Windsor Schools

A message to parents on the first days of school:

With summer behind us and the first weeks of school underway, I could not help but think of my own first days of school each year. I can still recall every teacher I had, starting with my first-grade teacher. I recall the feeling of being welcomed, of being loved, and the feeling that my teacher wanted me in her classroom every day.

Those feelings of being welcomed and loved, and the expectation that I would be in school every day had a profound impact on my elementary school experience.

My second-grade teacher had this uncanny ability to get me excited about everything and anything, especially when it came to writing, art, and math.

I recall the feeling of being both challenged and supported by my third-grade teacher. She pushed me to become a better reader by tapping into my competitive spirit. She challenged

me to win a school-wide reading challenge. The challenge was to see who could read the most novels in a set period of time. At the time, I had been what today we would call a “struggling reader”. Her help made all the difference.

In middle school, I appreciated the time that teachers took to get to know me and get to know my family.

In high school, I recall being challenged not just to do better, but to do my best. I recall my school counselor pushing me to take physics and a second world language rather than pile up study halls my senior year.

It was this personal attention I received, the relationships my teachers built with me, that kept me interested in learning.

And I recall how safe I felt in my high school. During my senior year, my father passed away unexpectedly. I was devastated. My high school was the first place I went. It was my safe place.

I share these memories because our goal in the East Windsor Public Schools is to make a positive difference in the lives of every child

that comes through our doors. I have asked our teachers and staff to give our students our best effort. Our mindset is to create a school culture where our students feel safe and secure. We want our schools to be a



place where our students can form positive relationships, and where together, we can push all of our students to find their pathway to success.

Patrick Tudryn, Superintendent of Schools

First Selectman

Each year, the Town compiles an Annual Report for inspection by our residents. The report is comprised of an overview of the Town's finances, as well as reports of Town departments and agencies on their activities. The report follows the Town's fiscal year, which runs July through June. I thought I would include a preview of my annual report submission for the FY22/23 period, as many folks may not be aware that reports such as these are generated annually. Below, you will find a recap of activities and accomplishments for the Town over the last year.

Recognition

Over the last year, the Town said goodbye to a number of public servants who served the Town for many years. After twenty years of service at the East Windsor Senior Center, Teresa Hill retired as of January 6th. After nineteen years of service, Ed DeMarco retired as chief of police at the end of the year. Maryanne Lassman-Fisher served as Judge of Probate for the Greater Windsor Probate district for twelve years.

As we wish them all much good health and happiness in their respective retirements, we also had the good fortune of welcoming their successors into our community family. Karl Von Eisengrein was promoted to the position of Transportation Coordinator at the Senior Center, and does so at an exciting time of transition as we revamp our senior services in the new Community Center complex.

Matt Carl was promoted to the position of Chief of Police, the first in the history of the department to start his career as a rookie and work all the way up to that position. Chief Carl immediately brought new energy and excitement to the department.

Mary Deneen assumed the role of Judge of Probate – at just twenty-eight years old. Judge Deneen has done yeoman's work in her first year in office, ensuring that the services of the court are run more efficiently than ever. We look forward to her service to the community for many years to come.

The Town's new Building Official, Ken Rich, joined our townwide team in July, and within a month had completely caught up on all outstanding building inspections and plan reviews. Ken has brought forward several long-overdue reforms making the department more helpful to residents and businesses in our community.

Over the course of the past year, the Town recognized the contributions of a number of dedicated volunteers to our community. In November, the Town formally renamed the small town park at the bottom of Cemetery Road after longtime American Heritage River Commissioner Dick Sherman. The park was named M/Sgt. Richard U. Sherman Park, commemorating Dick's service in two branches of the military and his more than twenty years as a member of the AHRC.

In April, we held our annual volunteer appreciation lunch at the Senior Center, where we recognized the volunteers who support our Meals on Wheels program. More than two dozen people who tirelessly give of themselves were recognized. One of those volunteers, Kathy Crouch, has been delivering meals weekly since 1981! That's a tremendous amount of service to our community.

Finally, I want to share a really inspiring story. Brian Baude, a local gentleman, is involved with humanitarian assistance work in Ukraine. Prior to his most recent trip over to that war-torn part of the world, he reached out to the East Windsor Ambulance Association, who provided emergency trauma medical supplies for aid efforts. These supplies will go directly where they are most needed to provide emergency medical services to those in the war zone. Thank you to the East Windsor Ambulance for their generosity, and Mr. Baude for your gallantry

and selflessness.

Police

As noted above, in late 2022 Chief DeMarco retired from the East Windsor Police Department after nearly twenty years of service. Because of his lengthy tenure, and to ensure fairness and transparency in the hiring process, the Town elected to engage the services of a professional executive recruitment firm, Strategic Government Resources (SGR), to facilitate the search. The process was expansive, with fourteen applicants being narrowed to four finalists.

Those finalists had to submit written answers to questions pertaining to modern policing, submit pre-recorded video responses to interview questions, meet face-to-face with Town department heads, representatives of the local Police Union, and meet and greet with the general public. Feedback from all parties was aggregated by SGR and provided to the search committee, which consisted of the five members of the Board of Selectmen and two Police Commissioners. Finalists were also tasked with preparing a Year One plan for what they would tackle in their first year as chief, and were further interviewed by the search committee. The four finalists consisted of two external candidates and two internal candidates, with Matthew J. Carl ultimately selected for the position.

Chief Carl was sworn in on June 8th as the sixth chief of police in East Windsor's history. Two days later, the department celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with a banquet that brought together members of the department (past and present – including one of our very first police officers!) and members of other emergency services disciplines. Between the Chief's swearing in and the Department's anniversary, it was a great year to reinvigorate a sense of morale and teamwork into our police department, with many more good things to come in the future.

The Police Department offers an opportunity for citizens to do a ride-along, which is a great way of understanding day-to-day operations of the police department. I was able to participate in a ride-along with East Windsor Police Corporal Byron Smith this year. Over the course of the tour, we did standard patrols around the western half of East Windsor, conducted speed enforcement, assisted another police department in finding a vehicle of interest, responded to a missing persons complaint, and responded to other local calls for service. I came away from the experience even more impressed with our police department and its officers.

Congratulations are also due to the department on its attainment of Tier II accreditation status, thanks to the leadership of Sgts Leab and Gonsalves. Their outstanding work was further recognized by being invited to join the statewide accreditation review committee.

Emergency Management Preparedness

The last year saw increased focus on emergency preparedness. Working with area legislators, representatives of our emergency services and I met several times with the Department of Transportation (DOT) concerning the need to replace Stiles Bridge on Scantic Road. The bridge has been in a state of disrepair for many years, most recently precluding fire apparatus from being able to safely traverse the bridge, greatly delaying response times. Through our collective advocacy, DOT took measures to reinforce the bridge to make it safe for emergency vehicles, and has commenced work to replace the bridge entirely. That replacement work is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2024.

Horrible shootings have become near-daily stories on national news, and it is not lost on Town leadership that tragedy could strike here. To ensure that

our emergency services are prepared, our Emergency Management Team has been working to develop an active shooter response training that would provide training to all of our first responders: Police, Fire, EMS, Public Works, Community Services, and Public School staff. This is planned to first be a tabletop exercise, followed by an active shooter simulation in a public space.

School/Town Partnerships

Last year, the State offered a grant opportunity to school districts around Connecticut for the installation of modernized HVAC systems in public schools. Unfortunately, many towns (including East Windsor) were not eligible to apply because the requisite engineering work was not available. In October, I spoke with Governor Lamont about our regrets at having missed the opportunity, and he shared that another grant round would be offered. To ensure that East Windsor could take advantage of round two of this program, funds were appropriated in January for both the engineering design of HVAC systems on each of our schools, and also for a holistic Master Plan for our school buildings. Once completed, we will have an up-to-date road map for the needs of our public schools, and will be best positioned to capitalize on grant opportunities available for the foreseeable future. Both the Master Plan and the HVAC engineering are expected to be completed by the end of 2023.

Over the last year, thanks to the leadership of now-Police Chief Matthew J. Carl, we have been working to revamp the Youth Services Bureau (YSB) in East Windsor. The program, which receives matching funds from the Department of Children and Families, is intended to provide intervention programming for at-risk youth in the community. The Town passed an ordinance officially establishing the YSB, and Selectman Sarah Muska has been asked to chair the Youth Services Advisory Board. The board and the bureau will bring together representatives from the Police Department, the School District, Social Services agencies providing services to youth in the community, and community members at large to establish and modify programming offerings.

In February, the School District hosted a career day at East Windsor Middle School. More than thirty professionals were invited to discuss their career fields with interested students, and explain the pathways necessary to beginning a career. I, as First Selectman, was honored to give the keynote for the event, highlighting five key elements to achieving success in any career: be flexible; find something you like to do; work hard; be a part of a team; and keep learning.

Veterans

In March, the Town was pleased to host my friend Tim Keeney, First Selectman in the Town of Somers and a retired naval captain and Navy Seal to come to the East Windsor Senior Center to share his experiences as a Seal, and also as the leader of the dive rescue team for the Skylab II mission.

Captain Keeney, also a Vietnam veteran, served in the military with distinction, contributed to the success of the U.S. during the space race, was a staffer in the United States Senate, administrator of NOAA, served as Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, and as a Judge of Probate before becoming first selectman in his hometown. His presentation focused most specifically on his time training for and leading the Skylab II rescue mission.

In May, a Houses for Heroes event was held at the home of a former Vietnam POW in East Windsor. Liberty Bank, working with the Houses for Heroes organization, spent a day doing yard improvements, power washing, and ramp installation projects for our local former POW. The homeowners were

gracious enough to invite me to the event. They were connected to Houses for Heroes by Officer Nicole Devlin.

Community

In October, the Town issued an RFQ for qualified vendors for the installation of lights at the Abbe Road Soccer Field and playground expansion in East Windsor Park. For several years, the Town has been able to capitalize on state and federal funds to make meaningful improvements without burdening local taxpayers. The lights have been a long-sought project to really bring our soccer facility to the next level, and it would not have happened without the support and advocacy of our legislative delegation. Thank you to Senator Anwar, Representative Hall and Representative Foster for your work securing those funds. Between the playground at East Windsor Park and the installation of lights at Abbe Road Soccer Field, we are making good strides in terms of improving recreational opportunities in town.

The relationship between the Town and the Connecticut Trolley Museum continues to be strong. In December, state legislators and the first selectman met with them to discuss their successes in 2022 and plans for 2023. Notably, the Town is helping the museum with the administration of a Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) award that they received in the federal budget (the Town received two others, and is more familiar with the federal bureaucracy and is happy to help the museum navigate what can be a confusing process.) The Town was also pleased to support the museum administratively as they were awarded a \$45,000 grant through the state's Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA). The Town served as their local sponsor.

The Town has continued its popular Summer Concert series, with eleven concerts held over the course of the summer. Routinely between two and three hundred people participate in these free, family-friendly events. Families will bring picnics, coolers, utilize the splash pad, and enjoy good company. Next year will see the addition of a new playground at East Windsor Park as well – another long overdue improvement. As challenging as the COVID-19 pandemic was, the institution of this concert series has clearly been of long-term benefit to the community.

I want to give a special recognition to Southern Auto Auction, who on June 29th celebrated their Seventy-Fifth Anniversary. For three-quarters of a century, Southern Auto has been a major employer in our community, a major economic driver, and an often silent but strong benefactor of local charities. The latter part was on full display last week when they raised \$100,000 for local charities – in less than five minutes. It was simply amazing to see in person, and I was very honored to be a part of it. The charities that will benefit from this amazing example of generosity include the Five Corner Cupboard, Alex's Lemonade Stand, to name a few.

East Windsor also extends its sincere congratulations to Geissler's Supermarket, which celebrated 100 years in business, all of which was in East Windsor. Over their century in business, they have expanded to multiple locations in two states, and have provided both entry level and career jobs to thousands of people in East Windsor. They also maintain a sense of hometown commitment through philanthropic activities in the community.

The Town of East Windsor is very fortunate to have two significant homegrown businesses rooted in our community, and we wish both Southern Auto Auction and Geissler's Supermarket many more years of prosperity here in our town.

Grant Awards

The Town has been the beneficiary of a number of rather large grant

awards from the state and federal governments over the last year. East Windsor received three Congressionally-Directed Spending (CDS) awards (one for the renovation and expansion of a community center, one for the extension of public water into a neighborhood with contaminated wells, and one for the Connecticut Trolley Museum), as well as a Community Investment Fund (CIF) award from the State of Connecticut for the further expansion of city water in Park Hill.

For the last twenty-three years, the Town has had conversations around the need for a community center in East Windsor. The current facility used for senior services (above the Broad Brook Fire Department) presents accessibility issues. There is no congregate space available for programming for youth activities in East Windsor. The Town had considered many options to address the lack of space, including the (now demolished) Middleton Center, Broad Brook Mill, new construction on the Kogut property, acquisition of a nursing home, conveyance of the Solnit North facility from the state, and more. Ultimately the Scout Hall Building Committee approached the Town and suggested renovation and expansion of that facility for the purpose of creating a Community Center.

In December, Congress included an earmark for the project in the amount of \$2.75 million, of a total anticipated project cost of \$4.7 million as determined by a professional estimator. Voters approved the project at a referendum in April. Since then, the Town has worked with the United States Department of Agriculture through their Community Facilities program to access the funds. With that completed, the Community Center project was put out to public competitive bid, with the bid results being reviewed in Mid-November 2023. This is the largest award of federal funding for one specific project that the Town has ever received.

The newly renovated facility will house all three of our Community Services departments in one location (Social Services, Senior Services, and Parks and Recreation.) Currently, they are located in two different facilities on opposite sides of town. The current arrangement creates hardship for constituents who need access to programs like renters' rebate and Medicare, which requires multiple trips to multiple sites. At the Senior Center alone, currently located above the Broad Brook Fire Department, there is not sufficient space for seniors to have confidential tax or medical conversations without program participants overhearing them. The completed project will allow better customer service to people who are in need of social service intervention and will allow for a more expansive utilization of the Scout Hall location.

The new arrangement to use the Scout Hall space for multi-generational programming and service delivery makes sense from both a financial position and an organizational one. By streamlining the departments listed above, we can better position our town services to best address the needs of the community.

In 2022, the State created the Community Improvement Fund grant, designed to make meaningful, transformative improvements in qualifying communities (East Windsor is one). The CIF Board will be awarding \$875 million over the next five years, with two application periods per year. To prepare for one of the past year's funding rounds, Planning staff and I met with Linda Collins from the East Windsor Housing Authority to discuss the potential to run city water into the Park Hill complex, and that idea was expanded to include the School Hill Water Association. The Town was fortunate to receive BOTH CDS and CIF awards for the extension of city water into the Park Hill and School Hill neighborhoods, in a total amount of \$5.2 million. These funds should cover the project costs in their entirety, at no cost to local taxpayers, and extend potable drinking water and fire suppression into the neighborhoods.

Economic Development

Successful economic vitality in any community consists of two pillars – economic retention and economic development. To foster economic development, the Town continues to interact with well-established outside groups and organizations. In July, Town officials met with AdvanceCT, a statewide economic development partner to towns and cities. During the course of the visit, strategies employed by the Town of East Windsor were discussed, as well as a number of specific parcels primed for development that would be in line with the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development (mostly located along Route 5 and Route 140). Conversations like these are beneficial because it keeps the Town of East Windsor front of mind when partners like AdvanceCT are meeting with potential businesses looking to locate in a region of the state.

Economic retention is the other pillar of economic vitality, and in light of pressures from the COVID-19 pandemic and the inflationary climate that has taken place over the last few years, a concerted effort has been placed on retention this year. In October, the Town was pleased to host Congressman John Larson, who met with local business and nonprofit leaders that had been recipients of the Town's ERASE Grant last year. The ERASE Grant was intended to help bolster our local economy against the worst effects of the pandemic. Attendees shared their stories about the hardships they incurred due to COVID, as well as how the funds were used prevent their businesses from closing down.

The Town also launched its first version of a small business passport program. The intention was to encourage people to buy local at area non-chain businesses. In the first year of the program, twenty local businesses participated in the program, which ran from August to November.

Always looking for ways to improve service delivery, the Town continued its practice of working with public administration graduate students from Westfield State University to review practices and programs currently in place. This year, students presented the findings of their field assessment on the Town of East Windsor's economic development strategies and the ways we communicate them. This is the second year that the Town has worked with students from Westfield.

In March, Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz, Senator Saud Anwar and Representative Carol Hall joined me as we visited a pair of very successfully, multi-generational family-owned businesses in East Windsor. The four of us toured Collins Pipe Company and Koma Precision, talked about the history of their businesses, their markets, and what attracted them to East Windsor. Both companies have expanded in their operations here in the last few years.

Each year, municipal leaders from member towns in the North Central Connecticut Chamber of Commerce are invited to an annual economic development breakfast, where ideas, struggles and successes are shared. So much of economic development is out of the control of any municipality, but establishing a business-friendly climate in our community is essential. The Town of East Windsor is far ahead of its neighbors in some ways, and well-positioned to be as competitive in our region as we can be.

Conclusion

In conclusion, FY 2022/2023 has been a challenging yet successful year for the Town. Together, we are making progress in a lot of varied areas, and we continue to reach for our best days. East Windsor has a bright future, and we will have many more successes together.

Jason E. Bowsza
First Selectman



TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

Planning & Development Department
11 RYE STREET, BROAD BROOK, CT 06016
TEL.: (860) 623-6030

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Ruthanne Calabrese, Planning & Development Director
Phone: (860) 623-6030
E-Mail: rcalabrese@eastwindsroct.com



The East Windsor Planning & Zoning Commission has been working for the last several months on preparing new zoning regulations pertaining to the Warehouse Point neighborhood. These regulations have been developed using data from the Warehouse Point Planning Study (WHPS) which was completed in 2022 and feedback from residents and business owners.

The proposal seeks to implement the findings of the study and facilitate the vision for this area of Town as a mixed-use, walkable community with pedestrian-friendly improvements and commercial uses that will encourage development of the area as a traditional village center. The proposed regulations seek to blend the findings of the WHPS with the Commission's intent to simplify the approval process and provide flexibility to encourage the uses and type of development most desired.

Residents and business owners are encouraged to attend the upcoming public hearing on November 14th. To read the full WHPS, the proposed regulations or get more information about the upcoming public hearings, please visit www.eastwindsor-ct.gov/whps or access using the QR code above.



We're from here.

Family owned and operated since 1974, we have always cared about the communities we serve—because we live, work, and play here, just like you. Inspired by future generations, we continue to adapt and innovate—embracing new technologies to meet the ever-evolving recycling landscape.

Our innovations include building the largest state-of-the-art recycling facility in the country, powering our buildings with solar energy, and fueling our trucks with all-American natural gas.

We're committed to our communities and the planet.



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Our communities count on us.



Arts and Culture

Over the summer, two Arts and Culture projects were completed. The first is the One School, One Book (OSOB) mural at Broad Brook School. Painted by the very talented Sharon Aprea of Broad Brook, a member of the Arts and Culture (A+C) Committee, the mural depicts all 10 books the school has chosen for their school wide OSOB event, complete with characters from those stories. The mural was installed on the outside wall of the Broad Brook Elementary School cafeteria, near the main office door.



The second project was a collaboration among A+C, the CT Trolley Museum, and Khamp Phimvongsa of the Broad Brook Center for the Arts. Four young artists were matched with four local businesses to create advertisements for their establishments in a vintage trolley car card style. The pictures were printed and replicated to be displayed in working and static trolleys at the CT Trolley Museum.

Please stop by the Broad Brook Elementary School and the Trolley Museum to view the mural and the car cards and see firsthand what talented artists we have here in East Windsor!

To keep up to date with our projects, please like our FB page: East Windsor Arts and Culture.

If you have a suggestion for an art installation or activity, email us at ewartsandculture@gmail.com

Debbie Williams, Chair, Arts and Culture Committee



Park Hill

Hello everyone -

Our Park Hill community is looking forward to the fall and cooler weather along with all the holidays that are fast approaching. Though this summer was very hot and rainy, our residents still got together and stayed active in our air-conditioned community hall. Some of their favorite activities include, Bingo, Wii bowling and Social Hour. On Friday nights they often have "movie night" and of course popcorn. The residents take turns choosing a movie that is usually a comedy!

During the summer months Carolyn, our Resident Services Coordinator sent to all of our Park Hill residents a survey asking what kind of programs they would like including presentations from other agencies and organizations. Many of the residents are interested in exercise and nutrition programs. The return of a mobile dental van was on top of the list, as well. Our residents expressed an interest in having someone from the banking industry provide a discussion regarding scams related to bank accounts and credit cards. Carolyn is currently working on getting these programs and presentations of interest to the Park Hill community.

The funding awarded by the East Windsor Greater Together Community Fund Program for our Park Hill pantry continues to provide an assortment of food and personal items for our residents who need a temporary solution due to an unforeseen situation such as transportation issues or inclement weather. Many thanks to all who supported this much needed program!

Best wishes to all -

Linda Collins, Executive Director

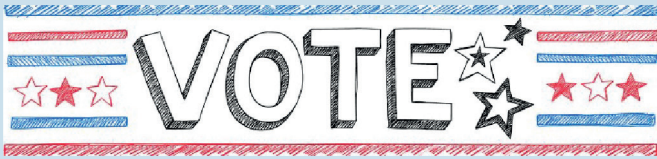
East Windsor Senior Center

The East Windsor Senior Center holds birthday socials on the fourth Thursday of every month. The seniors have lunch followed by an afternoon of entertainment. We celebrated many birthdays this August including a 98th birthday and our favorite 102-year-old was also here to celebrate with us! We were lucky enough to have East Windsor's own Jeannie Murphy (Just Jeannie) perform at the center. She was absolutely wonderful, and the seniors requested her back as soon as possible. She will now be joining us for our December birthday/holiday social on Thursday, December 21st at 12:30. Please feel free to pop in and join us!

Shawna Tustin, Senior Center Lead/Program Coordinator



2023 November Election Information



November 7, 2023 - Municipal Election

Keep a lookout online for the sample ballot!

The polls will be open during the hours between 6AM and 8:00PM. Electors will cast their votes at the following polling places:

District No. 1 Town Hall Annex
25 School Street, East Windsor

District No. 2 Town Hall
11 Rye Street, Broad Brook

Absentee Ballot Applications

If you would like to vote by absentee ballot, you need to request one by either stopping in the Town Clerk's office or calling with your name and address so that it can be mailed to you.

You can also request one by using the online portal. The Online Absentee Ballot Application System has been activated for the general election. Below is the URL to access the application.

Public Portal: <https://oabr-sots.ct.gov/>

Under Connecticut 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/voterolls) 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.

Vitals Information

Since May, there have been 37 births in town and 41 marriages!

A Connecticut birth certificate is available from the Town Clerk of the hospital town and in the town in which the child's mother was living at the time of 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 our 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 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.

HUNTING AND FISHING



Fall is in the air and that means Hunting! 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

Town of East Windsor
11 Rye Street
Broad Brook, CT 06016

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