

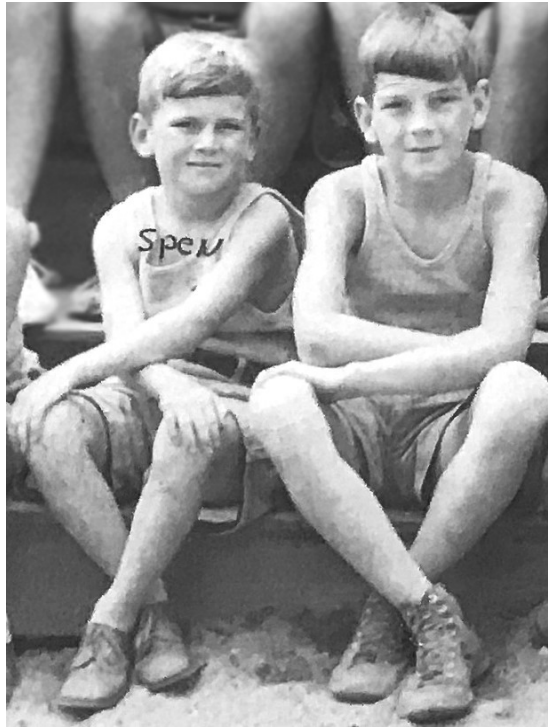
Eastford: One of Connecticut's Best Small Towns

Do you recognize these boys?

Learn more during during Eastford Historical Society's Program about Camp Eastford in the 1930s - ALL INVITED-on June 29 at 7:30pm at Eastford Town Office Building, lower level.

... AND ...

See the CENTERFOLD for the Eastford Historical Quarterly. (Hint: Spencer Bowen is on the left.) EHS hopes folks can help identify other youngsters.



For 38 YEARS, Jane & Loring White have put Eastford on the world-wide birding map (Story p3) (Photos by Adam Minor)



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EES Students learn while building Bluebird Nest Boxes.

EES science teacher Candice Mead and third grade teacher Dawn Bisson with Eastford community volunteers recently helped Grade 8 students to assist 3rd graders with construction of bluebird nest boxes. Eastford's Roger Wolfe, Wildlife Biologist with CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection's Wildlife Division, shared information on bluebird ecology; Mrs. Mead prepared information packets; David Barlow pre-cut lumber and created a box kits for each student. The nestbox construction program is a collaboration with DEEP's Wildlife Div. which has provided lumber to organized groups for 40 years as part of its Bluebird Restoration Program.



David Olsen received the Memorial Day Veterans Honor from fellow veteran Art Brodeur for his decades of quiet assistance to veterans, leadership of American Legion Post 203, and many other services for Eastford veterans.



Mary Ellen Ellsworth & Joanne Warren shared information about saving bees & other pollinators



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ID YOU KNOW? Eastford Historical Society
 Did you know that the first cottage on Crystal Pond was built in 1911?



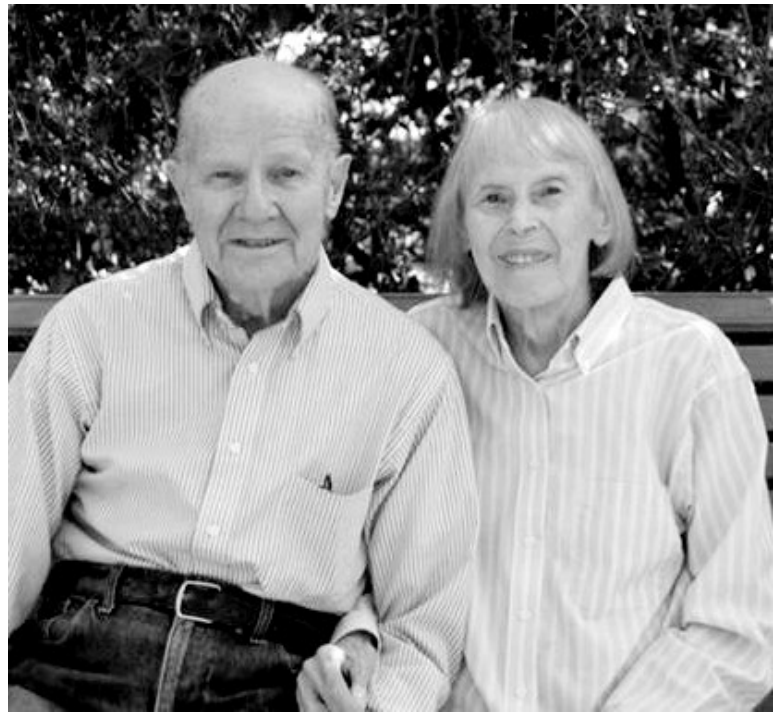
Charles D. Tatem purchased an acre of land on the south shore of Crystal Pond in 1910. One year later his father, John M. Tatem, purchased two adjacent acres from the same landowners Charles and Marie Broomfield. Charles, along with his father and two brothers Carlton and Harry, were the owners of the J.M. Handle Company in Eastford. The company produced wooden handles for tools such as hammers, picks, axes, sledges, rakes, and a textile loom part called a picker stick. At one time they even produced baseball bats. As a salesman for the family business Charles spent many hours away from home traveling to build the mill's customer base. He covered a very large territory that included New England, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, the Canadian Maritime, and Ontario. He built his cottage as a place to relax with his wife Jennie and daughter Catherine after long hours away from home. He named the cottage Miramichi after a lumber port town on the northern shore of New Brunswick. Miramichi is a native American name meaning "Happy Place by the Sea". Sadly, in 1940 Charles, the oldest of the three brothers, passed away very suddenly while on a business trip. He was only 58 years old. The cottage that he built stands today on property belonging to his grandson, Charles French.

Please think of us when cleaning out basements, attics, closets, and drawers. Remember, one man's trash may be the Historical Society's treasure! Your support is crucial to archival work and the publication of the Quarterly and Did You Know? column in the Communicator. Your support by membership and/or donation would be greatly appreciated. Membership forms are available in the Post Office Lobby and on our website ehsar-chives@gmail.com. Mail donations to PO Box350, Eastford 06242.

EASTFORD'S FEB. 2023 BACKYARD BIRD COUNT by JEREMY BARLOW :

Mallard, Ring-Necked Duck, Red-tailed Hawk, Great Horned Owl, Mourning Dove, Turkey Vulture, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, American Crow, Common Raven, Blue Jay, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, European Starling, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Dark-eyed Junco, Song Sparrow, House Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal

JANE & LORING WHITE PUT EASTFORD BIRDS ON WORLD SITE



In 1985, Jane White saw a notice from Cornell University asking people to record all species of birds that they saw at their feeders. "It sounded like fun," says Jane. Since then, every year from November to April, on two consecutive days each week, Jane and Loring have watched throughout the days, filled out tally sheets, and entered their list of species in Cornell's international data base. The rarest birds that they have seen in their yard over these years are Connecticut's endangered Red Headed Woodpecker and a Dickcissel. To prove such sightings, Loring takes photographs. In one February 2023 week, Jane and Loring recorded 18 species at their feeders, noticing that Red-Winged Blackbirds had returned early but that the Carolina Wren was missing. They also list species for the Great Backyard Bird Count. These sweethearts have been married 69 years. Jane was born in 1935 in Marlboro, MA and grew up watching birds at her family's rural home. Loring was born in Sutton, MA in 1934. They met through church activities, and married and settled in Putnam in 1954. In 1962, they moved to Eastford to be close to Eastford Baptist Church. Loring worked at Pratt and Whitney while they raised their family. In 1964, Jane became Eastford Baptist Church's organist. She also played piano for EES concerts, Memorial Day and Heritage Day, taught piano lessons, and held recitals for her students. She retired as church organist in 2021 after 57 years. Jane's music at Eastford Baptist Church will be celebrated on July 11. Jane and Loring have three children, 8 grandchildren, and 6 great-grand children and continue to watch and feed birds in their yard. "When Loring goes out to fill the feeders, the birds swarm around him," says Jane, who writes with pen on a tally sheet, and later goes to the computer to send the results to Cornell.

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EASTFORD GROVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC. .

Message From the Board of Trustees

The Eastford Grove Cemetery Association is committed to helping families with their decisions regarding plot purchase and size of plot as it pertains to burial wishes. It is with this in mind that the Association is offering its assistance to you whether you are making plans for yourself or for a loved one. The decisions you may face are more complex than most people realize and are usually not done easily when people are grieving. Our board can confidentially aid you in considering various plot options for full and cremation burials, memorial (flush) markers and monuments. Feel free to call for an appointment at 860-974-1349. The E.G.C.A. is a non-profit organization. Kindly consider assisting the Eastford Grove Cemetery Association in its pursuit of efficient perpetual care of the Grove Cemetery. We are a non-profit group that does not receive funding from the Town of Eastford. A tax deductible donation from you will help us meet present and future beautification and maintenance requirements. Contribution in any amount will allow us to continue to meet the goal of providing a well-maintained, respectable final resting place for your loved ones. Additionally, you could leave a gift to the Eastford Grove Cemetery Association in your will or living trust, known as a bequest. This allows you to offer future support without giving up assets today. Or, you may also wish to consider making "The Grove Cemetery Association" the recipient of a memorial donation ("in lieu of flowers"). We appreciate your consideration of our appeal and welcome any questions or concerns regarding the cemetery operation. Questions? Call (860) 974-1349. You may also visit our website: <https://sites.google.com/site/eastfordgrovecemetery/>

For information, contact a member of the Board of Trustees:
Linda Torgeson, Rick Torgeson, Lauren Anderson, Ken Grube,
David Barlow, Carolyn Hazard, Scott Huri, Alex Kowalchuk

Donations are appreciated and are tax deductible:
Yes, I would like to help with the beautification of the cemetery.
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greatly appreciates the following donors who have contributed to the beautification of the grounds:

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In memory of Dorothy & Leonard Whitman

Raymond, Ruth, Henry, Nancy Lawton

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TOWN OF EASTFORD**

The Town of Eastford having legally voted to lay a tax rate of 27.50 mills on the Grand List of October 1, 2022 hereby warns those persons liable for taxes to said town that said taxes become due and payable on July 1, 2023. All Motor Vehicle taxes; and all other taxes of One Hundred Dollars or less are payable in one installment, on or before August 1, 2023. August 1, 2023 postmarks are accepted as being on time. All other taxes may be paid in two installments, the second installment becoming due on January 1, 2024.

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday & Wednesday, 10: a.m. to Noon & 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month, Open until 6:30 p.m.

Interest will be charged from due date on any tax or part thereof not paid on or before August 1, 2023 at a rate of 1.5% per month from due date of July 1, 2023. Minimum penalty is \$2.00. All Motor Vehicle taxes not paid by August 1, 2023 will be reported as delinquent to the Department of Motor Vehicles and registrations will be denied.

If you receive a tax bill from a town you did not reside in on October 1, 2022, please contact the assessor. If you do not receive a tax bill for your real estate, motor vehicle or personal property please contact my office at (860) 974-1885 Ext. 6 for a duplicate bill. **Per Connecticut General Statutes, failure to receive a bill does not relieve you of obligation to pay any tax or interest that is due.**

CHRISTINE E. HUSTUS, CCMC, Tax Collector, Eastford

NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS: LICENSES MUST BE OBTAINED DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE

All dog licenses may be obtained through the mail or at the Town Clerk's Office during regular office hours. Please send or bring a copy of your dog's rabies vaccine certificate and proof of spay/neuter from your veterinarian, cash or a check made out to the Eastford Town Clerk and a return stamped envelope if obtaining via mail.

Mail to: 16 Westford Road, Eastford CT 06242

Town Clerk Office hours:

Tuesday and Wednesday 10-12 and 1-4.

Open the 2nd and 4th Tuesday until 6:30 PM

Each owner or keeper of a dog of the age of six months or older, except dogs kept under a kennel, shall cause such dog to be licensed in the Town Clerk's Office in the town where such dog is kept, ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30th ANNUALLY, or at such time as such dog becomes six months old, and annually thereafter, on or before June 30th. Any owner or keeper applying for a license for a dog shall submit to the town clerk a RABIES CERTIFICATE signed by a veterinarian, or a copy thereof, stating that such dog has been vaccinated against rabies, the date of the vaccination and the duration of the immunity provided by the vaccine. No license shall be issued unless the certificate indicates that the immunity provided by the vaccine is effective at the time of licensing.

Proof of spay or neuter is required in the form of a veterinarian's certificate. Kennel licenses also need to be obtained or renewed in the month of June.

FEES:

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ATTENTION: All items for The Eastford Communicator must include submitter's name, address & telephone, for verification. All items submitted are subject to editing. Article contents are those of the submitters, who are responsible for content. The Communicator does not print letters to editor or items it regards as offensive or slanderous. Advertisements are paid by the advertiser, who is responsible for the advertisement's content. The Communicator reserves the right to reject any submissions. Thank you for your support.
Carol Davidge, Editor

Please mail donations to:
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News and Notes from the Superintendent's Office

by Donna Leake

The season of congratulations begins. On June 15 at 7pm, eleven grade 8 students were recognized for their accomplishments at Eastford Elementary School. At its May meeting the Board recognized the accomplishments of three Grade 8 students: Owen Budd, Matthew Johndrow and Ammani Kuljancic. Owen and Ammani received the CABE (Connecticut Association of Boards of Education) 2022-2023 Student Leadership Award and Matthew and Amanni received the CAS (Connecticut Association of Schools) 2022-2023 Scholar-Leader Award. Congratulations are also due to Clayton Singleton, Micah Torcellini, and Isaac Torcellini as recipients of the Ethel Cushing Gardner music scholarship awards. The public announcement of the recipients of the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut scholarships has not yet been made. Once all awards are made, we will be working with the recipients and Adam Minor to create a photo collage of all award recipients for presentation in our front hallway.

In addition to their dedicated efforts as members of the Board of Education as a whole, our individual Board members serve on subcommittees of the Board as well as on Town building committees. Their efforts throughout this school year allowed us maintain policies responsive to current legislation, upgrade curriculum programs that provide students with updated, differentiated, and challenging learning materials, obtain a new roof for our school, provide a safe and secure environment at EES, award scholarships to high school and college students, and keep us updated on news and events from Woodstock Academy, our designated high school and Eastconn, our regional center. For additional information on committee membership and accomplishments please visit the Board of Education section of the Eastford Elementary School website.

On May 23, Steve Bowen presented the Board of Education budget at the Town hearing. At the Town meeting on June 5, the Board budget of \$4,520,069 was unanimously approved by the Town members that were present. The work of the dedicated members of the BOE together with the unwavering and generous support of the entire Eastford Community allows for the continued provision of quality educational programming for all Eastford staff, students, and families. THANK YOU.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me: at

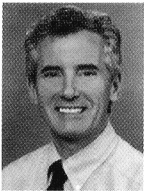
dleake@eastfordct.org

EES' Student Council raised funds & provided a new mobility chair to the Congregational Church, after their mobility chair was lost in the fire. Shown below are (front row) Allie Beausoliel, Marley Hutchings, Abigail Haynes, Leilani Soucy-Brodeur, and (back row): David Budd, Porter Barlow, Owen Budd, Wesley DePercio.



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News You Can Use by Deb Richards, First Selectman/EMD

Eastford's Memorial Day Ceremony was a beautiful day for celebrating America, the land of the free because of the brave. Memorial Day is a very special holiday. It is celebrated to honor and remember all of the courageous men and women who died fighting for our country. Thank you for making our celebration truly memorable. Terry Cote – for organizing our event, the Woodstock Cornet Band, the Eastford Singers, under direction of Sara Howard, and the Eastford Elementary School Students, under direction of Mr. Tomanelli, Barry Fraley for setting up the sound system, Stephen Bowen for the cars for Veterans, Dave Olsen for organizing the Color Guard, Isaac Torcellini for playing Taps, Rick Torgeson for adding the new pavers and the presentation of the wreath, bike decorating by the Recreation Commission, invocations by Pastor Tim Howard and Pastor Mike Moran, and Claire Williams for tending the flowers throughout the year at the Veterans Memorial. Congratulations to Sargeant David Olsen for being awarded the Veteran Honor of the Year presented by former Veteran honoree and former First Selectman Art Brodeur. Our thanks to Cheryl and Mike Radzvilowicz for the donation of the wreath and to the CT Air National Guard for honoring Eastford with a flyover of the C-130 (thanks Captain Pagoni!) What makes this a truly memorable event is the support of the residents of Eastford – it was so nice to see so many people in attendance. The Town's General Budget and the Budget for the Board of Education passed unanimously at the Town's Annual meeting June 6, 2023. Thank you to all who work for the benefit of Eastford.

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EASTFORD INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY #1, INC. by Contributor: Jeannine Spink, Veteran Member
 The month of May and the beginning of June was especially busy. In addition to our regularly scheduled meetings and drills, the Company had a "spruce-up" day of cleaning, painting, and planting the flower bed. Drills were pumping, patient care, vital signs, moving skills and accident reconstruction.

A major drill was a live burn drill at the Fire Training Tower in Dayville. The purpose of the Fire Training Tower drill held with mutual aid companies, on May 7th, was to have live simulations with hands-on fire training, and fire safety. Fire departments, along with their EMS and rehab, can practice the following safety protocols in order to help reduce the number of injuries and deaths of fire fighters and civilians, reduce property damage, increase fire department efficiency, morale and confidence, improve knowledge and skill capabilities.

On May 17th, members of the Eastford, Ashford, Woodstock and Union Volunteer Fire Departments were invited to Station 71, to participate in a lecture and visuals regarding serious injury and/or fatal injury at collision scenes. Detective Gregory Trahan, CSP, Traffic Services Unit, Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Squad, highlighting points that the collision investigators request of our departments prior to and at the time of their arrival. Preparation by the departments will help them to expedite the roadway, create a detailed description of the incident, with clearance of the scene time shortened.

The EIFC responded to 17 calls in May, 2023.

On May 24th, members installed 68 fire department flags at the Grove Cemetery, 3 at the Elm Street Cemetery in Southbridge, and 2 in the St. Philips Cemetery in Ashford. Flags will remain in place until Veterans Day.

May 29th was the town celebration for Memorial Day Parade. Members, along with the EIFC fleet of apparatus participated.

Welcome to William Spink as a probationary member.

The EIFC is entering its 81st year of providing fire and medical emergency service to the town. The mantra of the volunteer fire service has always been "to care for our fellow man and give of ourselves first and not for personal gain or satisfaction. On June 6th, the Company celebrated its annual dinner and election of officers for 2023 – 2025. One commemoration was the annual "Memorial Table" honoring those members who passed the previous year and those before. Without the commitment of our former and deceased members, the EIFC would not be at the level we are today. Service pins were awarded to the following: 5 years – EMS Lieutenant Steve Kitson and member Zac Bertram. 15 years – Fire Captain Nate Fabian and member Matt Yakis. Following the dinner and awards, members proceeded to the meeting room for the election of officers. They are as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Chief: Doug Beaudoin | Deputy Chief & President: James Roy |
| Fire Captain: Nate Fabian | Fire Lieutenant: Dave Jakubowski |
| EMS Lieutenant: Steve Kitson | Vice President: Jeannine Spink |
| Secretary: Marcia Williams | Board of Directors, Members-At-Large: Tony Greer, Zac Bertram, Lincoln Budd |
- JUNE IS CANCER SURVIVOR MONTH & WORLD BLOOD DONOR MONTH – GIVE AND SAVE A LIFE**



Photo above: At the Annual Meeting of the EIFC, volunteer firefighters gathered at the engine tanker for the annual membership picture: Back Row (left to right): Former Chief Gordon Spink, Chief Doug Beaudoin, Deputy Chief & President James Roy, Steve Kitson, Kyle Ravenelle, Dave Jakubowski, Jr., Zac Bertram, Jonathan Lynch, Lincoln Budd, Marvin Neely; Front Row (left to right): Rick Torgeson, Alex Kowalchuk, Former Chief John Paquin, Dennis Desaulnier, Jeannine Spink.



Photo right just before the Eastford Memorial Day Parade are: Lincoln Budd, Deputy Chief James Roy, Jeannine Spink, Marvin Neely, Former Chief Gordon Spink, Former Chief John Paquin

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY CENTAURS ON WINNING THE 2023 NUTMEG CHAMPIONSHIP. IN PHOTO LEFT ARE EASTFORD'S CENTAURS MAX & JACK LARKIN at the Nutmeg Championship where they won over the Eastern Connecticut Eagles by 5-1 on March 4. Max, left, a forward, just graduated, and Jack, defenseman, just finished freshman year. The Centaurs went on to the State tournament, defeating Glastonbury, Westhill-Stamford, & Branford, wins which sent them to the State Championship where they lost to New Haven in overtime, 2-1.

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Please make checks payable to:
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THANK YOU!

The Volunteer Staff of The Communicator