

The Eastford Communicator

Selectman's Snippets:

Budget – In October of 2018, there was an assessment update on all homeowners in Eastford, also referred to as "Reval". During the fiscal year of 2018/19, your mill rate was 26.11. As mentioned in the Budget Hearing, if we had kept the mill rate the same going into the 2019/20 fiscal year, many homeowners would see nearly a 5% increase in their tax bill. The Board of Finance encountered very difficult challenges while preparing this fiscal year's budget. We thank you for passing the Town Budget. The Board of Finance set this year's mill rate to 25.61. You may see a change in your tax bill. To better understand, I would like to provide a description of how the mill rate impacts you as a homeowner. A mill is equal to \$1.00 of tax for each \$1,000 of assessment. To calculate the property tax, multiply the assessment of the property by the mill rate and divide by 1,000. For example, a property with an assessed value of \$100,000 located in a municipality with a mill rate of 25.61 mills would have a property tax bill of \$2,561 per year. In lieu of October's updated assessment, the value of your property may have changed. When the value increases, so will your tax bill. When the value decreases, so will your tax bill. By lowering the mill rate by .50%, you may see nearly a 2.4% increase rather than 5% increase if it was not lowered. The Finance Board continues to face challenges in the budget when drafting we work with estimated revenues. Therefore, we must be very careful with future spending!



Community – Great things happen in our community!

Experience Eastford/Heritage Day- Many of you know that volunteers are the heartbeat of our community. We have lost volunteers who have worked to put this event on the calendar each year, and the outcome is that this year Experience Eastford/Heritage Day will not take place. However, there is a group forming to bring this event back next year. A tentative date of Saturday, May 2, 2020 is scheduled.

Volunteers – It is so clear that volunteers are the heartbeat of our small rural town. We are indeed blessed to have such dedicated volunteers. Our town would not be what it is today without them. Thank you to all members of Boards, Commissions and those who serve our community for your volunteer work! Anyone interested in volunteering in any capacity, perhaps an hour a month or more whatever your time allows please contact the Selectman's Office (860) 974-0133 ext. 3.

Litter – If you are receiving the *Reminder News* or now titled *Courant Community* please be sure these are not scattered around your mailbox. It seems the wind is taking this paper to unwanted places, making the roadsides littered with paper. If you wish to have your paper delivery stopped, please call 860-525-555 or 800-472-7377, or email their Field Operations Manager John Wentworth, jwentwort@courant.com. We all thank you for keeping our community clean!

“There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.” ~ Margret J. Wheatley~
(continued Page 2)

*The Eastford Communicator
needs your donations.*

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Of Special Note:

**THANK YOU TO NEW OFFICERS & ALL VOLUNTEERS OF
THE EASTFORD INDEPENDENT FIRE CO;**

The EIFC urgently needs volunteers (p4)

Hurricane info (p2)

Frog Jump, Band Concert, Cake Walk, Food, July 13, 5-8pm (p5)

Sports Camp for Ages 4-12, July 22-26 (p5)

Hope Haitian Choir Concert (p5)

Summer Reading Program for Youth (p2)

**Looking for Savings on Activities? Eastford Library has discount/
free passes to museums/zoo/science center (p2)**

Property Taxes are Due in July (p7)

Food Pantry needs donations (p10)

Calendar of Town Events (p10)

Museum of Eastford History, open 2nd & 4th Sundays, 2-4pm

Vacation Bible School (p10)

Volunteers needed for 5K benefit for local cancer patient (p3)

Scout Info (p2)

**Political Party Caucuses to nominate candidates for Municipal
Offices, July 23 (p6)**

Crystal Pond Park is YOUR park (10)

Save the Bobolinks (p6)

Selectman's Snippets: (continued from Page 1)

Transfer Station – Thank you for recycling. If you are not sure what can be recycled go to williwaste.com click Recycling, scroll down to the question; Can I recycle it? After you type in an item the instructions are provided. We have a list available on our website as well. Stickers are to be affixed to windshield's lower left-hand corner. Limit: 2 cubic yards per week – roughly one level pickup load. We will be enforcing residents to comply with rules concerning the Transfer Station. Please secure rubbish pails as you travel to Transfer Station.

Transfer Station Stickers– Stickers are available in the Town Clerk's Office during the month of July. They will also be made available for purchase during hours of operation beginning Wednesday, July 10th through Sunday, July 21st. Once again, up to 2 stickers can be given for the cost of \$50.00 per year if both vehicles are registered to the same address. Further information can be obtained at the Clerk's Office.

Police Services – During the month of May, Troop D responded to 68 calls. These calls of service included: Accidents: 1, Criminal Invest: 1, Burglaries: 0, Larcenies: 0, Traffic Citations: 21, Written Warning: 6 and Non-Reportable Matters: 66.

Respectfully yours, Jacqueline Dubois, First Selectman

Library News by Susan Shead

Registration for the summer reading program A Universe of Stories has begun. Our theme this year is A Universe of Stories. This summer we are doing a fun puzzle! The library has some special events planned in conjunction with our summer reading program. There will be a Read to the Dogs night on scheduled for Monday July 15th and a story and craft every Saturday at 10:30 AM throughout the summer. A magic show will take place on Saturday August 3rd at 10:30AM. There will be prizes and give aways during the program all summer.

I am very happy to announce that the downstairs project at the library has been completed and the books are back at the library. Please come down and enjoy the new lower level of the library!

There are discount passes available for Mystic Aquarium, Roger Williams Park Zoo, The New England Air Museum, and free admission passes to the New Britain Museum of American Art, Wadsworth Atheneum and Connecticut's Old State House. We also have 20% off general admission coupons to The Connecticut Science Center.

Please note: The library hours are Monday 3-8pm, Tuesday 10am to 8pm, Thursday 3-8pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm.

**The Eastford Public Library
Summer Reading Program 2019
A Universe of Stories
For children starting Pre-K and up
Registration began on Monday June 17th**

**If you are going into grade 6
Become a Junior Volunteer at the library this Summer!**

**News you can use - Deb Richards, Emergency Management Director
Hurricane Information for Kids**

The word "hurricane" comes from 'Huracan', the god of big winds and evil spirits once worshiped by the Maya people of Central America.

What is a hurricane? A hurricane is an intense tropical storm with powerful winds and heavy rain and can also create tornadoes, high waves and lots of flooding.

Where do hurricanes form? They usually form in tropical parts of the world like the southern Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and in the eastern Pacific Ocean. The Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June to November, with the peak season being from August to late October. The Eastern Pacific hurricane season begins on May 15 and ends November 30.

How do hurricanes form? - The ocean waters must be warm enough at the surface – about 80° Fahrenheit (26° Celsius) or warmer to put enough heat and moisture into the atmosphere.

Atmospheric moisture from sea water evaporation must cool off very quickly and combine the heat and energy to form the powerful engine needed to propel the hurricane.

A wind must be blowing in the same direction and at the same speed to force air upward from the ocean surface. Bands of thunderstorms form, allowing the air to warm even more and rise higher into the atmosphere. Winds flow outward above the storm and the air below rises. If the winds at the higher levels are not that strong, the structure can remain intact and grow stronger and this is the beginning of a hurricane.

The eye of a hurricane is the calmest spot. It is generally 20 (32 kilometers) to 30 miles (48 kilometers) wide. Amazingly the hurricane can be about 400 miles (644 kilometers) wide. The most violent activity takes place in the area immediately around the eye, called the "eyewall". At the top of the eyewall, which is up to 50,000 feet (15,240 meters), most of the air is driven outward, which increases the upward motion of the air. Some of the air, however, moves inward and sinks into the eye. This actually creates a cloud-free area.

Hurricane winds in the northern hemisphere circulate in a counter-clockwise motion around the hurricane's center or "eye," while hurricane winds in the southern hemisphere circulate clockwise.

Storm Surges - Storm surges are usually the most devastating part of a hurricane. As a hurricane's winds spiral around and around the storm, they push water into a mound at the storm's center. This mound of water becomes dangerous when the storm reaches land because it causes flooding along the coast. The water piles up, unable to escape anywhere but on to land as the storm carries it forwards. A hurricane will cause more storm surge in areas where the ocean floor slopes gradually and this will cause major flooding. The amount of surge that a hurricane can cause is measured on machines called SLOSH Models.

Hurricane Hunters - There are brave "hurricane hunters" who work for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Each mission lasts about ten hours, with the crews passing four to six times through the storm. The planes carry radar, sophisticated computers and weather instruments that measure temperature, air pressure, wind speed, and wind direction inside the hurricane. The crews also release instruments that measure temperature, air pressure, and wind at different levels as the devices drop through the hurricane toward the ocean. By mission's end, NOAA can warn everyone in the hurricane's path.

Hurricanes can be tracked by weather satellites and weather radar closer to land. Cyclones, hurricanes and typhoons are just different names for the same thing.

Scout Troop 92 meetings are most Thursday evenings at 7PM during the school year at Knowlton Memorial Hall in Ashford, next to Cumberland Farms store. New members and visitors are welcome.

Events: July 7-12: Summer camp at JN Webster Scout reservation in Ashford.

August: TBD

Oct 4-6 Weekend Campout combined with Pomfret Troop to attempt to climb to the top of Mt Monadnock in New Hampshire
Ast Sct Mstr Nord Yakovleff, Scout Master Cory Blanchette

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*The **EASTFORD GROVE CEMETERY**, located on route 198, is a special place. The grounds are beautifully groomed and peaceful -- a perfect resting place for our late loved ones. If you are an Eastford resident, you may purchase a cemetery plot at Grove. We have redesigned the cemetery to provide more single and double plots, as well as a cremation section. Please contact Lauren Anderson at 860-974-1349 for a confidential conversation about ownership.*

Recreation Commission News by Valerie Katkaveck, Chair—Volunteers needed for 5K on September 14

This year's 5k will be Sept 14. The Rec. Commission needs help planning and conducting this important work to help a local family struggling with cancer. Please come to the next meeting, July 17 at 4:30pm and get involved, or email me at valkat@charter.net and let me know how you can be a part of this great event the town hosts every year. During the June Rec Commission meeting, several important team leader positions were identified, as shown below:

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for

First Selectman

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mdschultz@hughes.net

Paid for by Mike Schultz

I'm going to donate \$10,000 of the first year's Selectman's recent pay increase to the women's and men's Cancer Research at the University of Connecticut. Thank you for your Support & Vote!

- 1. Put up direction signs**, starting at 5 -7am on Sept 14;
- 2. Distribute flyers** around northeastern CT and solicit cases of bottled water, protein bars, candy, snacks, gifts for raffle.
- 3. Sell raffle tickets** on the day of the race (8-11 am) or manage a team to sell raffle tickets. **(4) Fundraiser.**
- 5. 2 Photographers with assistants** to take names of people in the pictures, for media and credit given to photogsphers & assistants.



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EASTFORD INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY #1, INC. Contributed By: Jeannine Spink, Veteran Member
Members in full dress uniforms and apparatus of the fire department participated in the Memorial Day Parade.
Townsppeople extended their appreciation to us by clapping and thanking us for our service to the town.

June 4th was the annual meeting, election of officers and awards celebrating 74 years of incorporation. The event began with a company picture of current and former members gathered in the front of Engine Tanker 171. Following the picture, dinner was served to approximately forty people, followed by speeches and awards.

Veteran Members and guests were introduced by President Roy. The first event of the night was the “Memorial Table”, where members who served and have passed were honored. Of honor were Pat Day, Auxiliary Member, 1st anniversary of Lt. Silas Bunnell, and special tribute to Fire Police Clayton Shead who passed in December, 2018.

Following the Memorial Table, was a history report of the last years’ events and accomplishments. Chief Gordon Spink presented each member with an award and stated that Lt. John Paquin had the highest attendance to calls of the company this last year. Chief presented President Roy with a 15-year service pin. President Roy presented Lt. Paquin with a 30-year service pin. The retirements of Chief Gordon Spink and EMS Captain Jeannine Spink were acknowledged by President Roy, Deputy Chief Beaudoin and Company who presented them with a fire service clock/plaque and gift card along with words of thanks. Rep. Pat Boyd, who was in session, had a citation written from the State of Connecticut for services rendered by each. Chief Spink and EMS Captain Spink expressed their thanks to all.

Guests were thanked for attending by President Roy, with members proceeding to the meeting room to conduct the annual meeting and election of officers for 2019 - 2021. They are:


- Chief: Doug Beaudoin
- Deputy Chief: James Roy
- Captains: Nate Fabian, Matt Yakis, Ryan Yakis
- Lieutenant: John Paquin
- President: James Roy
- Vice President: Nate Fabian
- Board of Directors: Jeannine Spink, David Jakubowski, Steven Kitson

As you travel Rte. 198 and pass the Grove Cemetery, please slow down to appreciate the beauty of the well-groomed grounds and the installation of Veteran and Fire Department flags. Take a moment to reflect on how they served country and town.

Remember, school is out and more of our children will be out walking and riding bikes. Although we teach bicycle safety to our children, it is the responsibility of we adults to be alerted at all times to the potential of danger.

LET’S ALL STRIVE TO HAVE A SAFE EASTFORD DURING THE SUMMER OF 2019.

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Tips for Today-by Liz Ellsworth Happy Summer!
 It’s been an odd year for weather in New England; it’s rained, and rained, and rained this spring. Some say it rained every Friday for 10 weeks in a row from March through May! Due to the wet weather, the 2019 growing season is off to a slow start. The good news here is that there’s still time to plant your garden. What kinds of fruits and vegetables do you like to grow? Basil? Peppers? Tomatoes? Cucumbers? Watermelon? Squash? Cantaloupe? Eggplant? The University of Massachusetts, Amherst has a guide for growing crops, including advice on soil type, etc.: <https://nevegetable.org/crops>. For information on some native plants, visit the University of Connecticut’s website on the New England Native Plant Initiative: <http://nenativeplants.uconn.edu/index.php>



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DID YOU KNOW?

Eastford Historical Society
Did you know that in 1947, Eastford's Centennial year, if you were interested in purchasing a car, there were 2 dealerships in town to choose from? If you wanted a Ford you could head to Bowen's Garage and make a deal with Oliver Bowen. But if it were a Chevrolet you were looking to buy, you would continue down the road to Phoenixville. There, Victoria Szymanski ran the Phoenixville Garage, home of Chevrolet Sales and Service, a business started by her late husband Stanley. The Corner Market is currently located in the south end of the building that was then home to the dealership.

Kindly consider supporting the Historical Society through donation or by becoming a member, and remember to stop in and visit our museum.

Florence Warren Lathem
Museum of Eastford History
65 John Perry Road
Open: Every 2nd & 4th Sunday,
May - October Hours: 2-4 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF EASTFORD

FREE FROG JUMP BAND CONCERT & COOKOUT



SAT. JULY 13th 5 - 8 PM

**8 CHURCH RD. EASTFORD, CT
860-974-0294**

Activities sponsored by the Congregational Church of Eastford

FREE Frog Jump, Band Concert, and Cookout

Congregational Church of Eastford, 8 Church Rd
Saturday, July 13 from 5 - 8 pm
FREE Family Fun!
5:00 - 5:30 Frog registration (catch your own or borrow one!)
5:30 - 6:30 Frog Jump and Cookout (ice cream sundaes for dessert)
6:30 - 7:30 Band Concert (East Woodstock Cornet Band) and Cake Walk

"Beyond the Gold" Sports Camp

Held at Eastford Elementary School, 12 Westford Rd
July 22 - 26 from 8:30 am - 12:15 pm
Ages 4 - 12, \$50/camper for the week
Basketball, Cheerleading, Flag Football, Soccer, Skills Camp for ages 4 and 5
Sign up at cceastford.org/sports-camp/ by **July 5** to guarantee a T-shirt.

FREE Hope Haitian Choir

Congregational Church of Eastford, 8 Church Rd
Friday, August 9 from 6 - 9 pm
(Love offering will be accepted for Hope Haitian Choir)
6 pm ~ Supper
7 pm ~ Hope Haitian Choir performs
8:30 pm ~ Meet and greet



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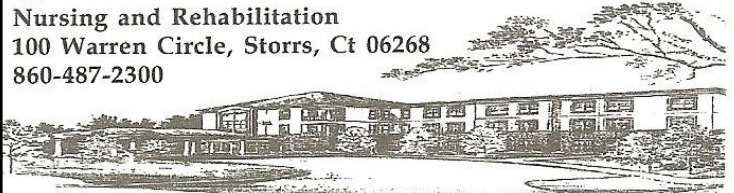
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The Bobolink's Dilemma by Joanne Warren, Master Naturalist, Goodwin State Forest and Conservation Center

I first became aware of Bobolinks after my husband and I had lived in our home for a couple of years in Eastford, Connecticut. We built our home in the middle of farmland. One early summer, I began to hear these beautiful bubbly-like sounds and noticed velvety, black birds with white on their backs and buff color on their napes. I became impassioned with these birds. It was when I began to do my research that I realized that Bobolinks face a devastating dilemma. I learned about the sharp decline in their population. From 1966 to 2015, their populations have declined 65% according to the North American Breeding Bird Survey. Bobolinks winter in South America and travel 5,000-6,000 miles one way to breed and raise their young against great odds. They nest in hayfields at the same time that farmers begin harvesting. Loss of habitat from a variety of factors is the number one reason for their declining populations. I became aware that the odds against this bird are overwhelming; therefore, I set my sights on learning more about them and trying to find a solution that might help them.

Bobolinks migrate further than almost any other songbird traveling 5,000-6,000 miles one way to or from their wintering grounds in South America. That's 11-12,000 miles round trip! They arrive in Connecticut approximately the beginning of May to mate and rear offspring. Bobolinks are one of several grassland birds that breed in North America in hayfields, meadows or pastures. Over the past 25 years, grassland birds have declined in North America more than any other group of birds. The Bobolink population is half of what it was in 1970 and continues to decline. This species is on the 2016 State of North America's Birds' Watch List, which means that without significant conservation action Bobolinks are at risk of extinction. The loss of yet one more species is indicative of the health of our environment. Some reasons for their declining populations include reforestation, agriculture, development, and pesticides. In addition to factors occurring here in North America, there is much we do not know about their wintering grounds in South America that may be impacting their decline.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO SAVE THIS BEAUTIFUL BIRD IN CONNECTICUT?

Whether you're a farmer or a landowner there are some ways you can help to protect these birds. Bobolinks need a large tract of open land generally 10 acres or more that is a meadow, hayfield or pasture. It should consist of annual and perennial grasses and forbs (wildflowers). Once woody plants begin grow, the Bobolinks will no longer use it. Most of our grasslands are privately owned, so owners can have a big impact on maintaining adequate habitat to encourage breeding and safety of the hatchlings and nestlings. Earlier and more frequent mowing or haying, increased technology of agricultural equipment, and finances are factors that contribute to current land management practices that are leading to the further decline of Bobolinks.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Adjust mowing or haying schedules. Bobolinks arrive on their northern breeding grounds the beginning of May. Forming pair bonds, mating and nesting occurs until at least mid-July. In our local area, haying should be delayed until after the nesting season is completed. Delaying mowing or cutting of hay to July 15 (ideally until August 1) would ensure that most of the nestlings have fledged. Young nestlings will remain near the nest for several days and would be unable to escape mowing.

Modify mowing techniques. Bobolinks generally nest in the middle of fields and/or the middle of the side of a hill. Cutting fields in sections and/or mowing around the edges or the bottom of the hill first, would benefit some of the Bobolinks. If haying multiple fields, leaving some fields un-mowed, especially where Bobolinks or other grassland birds have been seen, would be beneficial.

Postpone grazing in paddocks where birds are seen. This practice would help save some of the birds. Limit the number of animals in paddocks.

Avoid fragmentation. Bobolinks require at least a 10-acre open tract of land. Keeping large tracts of land intact (free from hedgerows and tree lines) will encourage nesting and help to deter predators as many species will only nest in large areas of grassland habitat. Fragmentation can be further avoided by locating barns and other building structures at the edges of fields. Coordinate management with neighboring landowners to maintain open tracts of land.

Plant warm and cool season grasses. A large meadow will provide nesting cover for Bobolinks. If woody plants begin to emerge, the Bobolinks will no longer use it. Plant native warm season grasses such as Little blue stem, Big blue stem and Indian grass for optimum habitat. Include Timothy grass, Orchard grass, and red clover for cool season grasses. These grasses are easy to maintain and don't require herbicide or insecticide. Identification and control of invasive plants is also crucial.

Consistency of management. Bobolinks will return to fields where they have had successful breeding. If a field that has been delayed of mowing for several years is returned to early mowing, this practice would be detrimental for the birds. They would have to search out other fields that are in demand by other Bobolinks. Encourage neighbors to delay mowing. Connecting with neighbors will yield larger tracts of land for Bobolinks and other species of grassland birds.

Incentive programs. The National Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) of the United States Department of Agriculture has programs that give financial incentives to landowners who want to help with conservation practices. The Bobolink Project offers financial support for landowners who modify their mowing schedules to benefit the nesting of grassland birds.

References: www.allaboutbirds.org; www.dnr.state.mi.us; www.massaudubon.org; www.vtecostudies.org; Grassland Bird Conference 2015, Connecticut Audubon Society, Pomfret, Connecticut.

Notices of July Nominating Caucuses by Democrats & Republicans to choose candidates for Eastford Town Officials

Legal Notice Town of Eastford Republican Caucus

Notice is hereby given that there will be a caucus of all enrolled members of the Republican Party in Eastford on Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 7:30PM in the Town Office Building basement for the purpose of endorsing candidates for municipal offices for the election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019.

Attest: Daniel Belanger, Chairman, Eastford Republican Town Committee
June 12, 2019

Legal Notice Town of Eastford Democratic Caucus

Notice is hereby given that there will be a caucus of all enrolled Democratic electors of the town of Eastford on Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the Eastford Public Library to endorse Candidates for Municipal Offices for the election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019.

Attest: Megan Calchera, Chairperson, Eastford Democratic Town Committee
June 12, 2019

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF EASTFORD**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL TAXPAYERS of the Town of Eastford, Connecticut that a tax with a **Mill Rate of 25.61** laid on the assessment date of October 1, 2018 is due and payable at the office of the Tax Collector as follows:

FIRST INSTALLMENT DUE: July 1, 2019 LAST DAY TO PAY: August 1, 2019

SECOND INSTALLMENT DUE: Jan. 1, 2020 LAST DAY TO PAY: February 3, 2020

If payments are not received or postmarked by the **LAST DAY TO PAY** listed above, the tax bill shall become delinquent and subject to interest from the initial due date.

INTEREST shall be charged at the rate of one and one-half percent (1 ½%) for each month or fraction thereof. (18% annual percentage rate) **MINIMUM INTEREST SHALL BE NO LESS THAN \$2.00.**

ALL MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES, as well as Real Estate and Personal Property taxes in the amount of \$100 or less, are due **IN FULL on July 1, 2019** and must be paid on or before **August 1, 2019.**

FAILURE TO RECEIVE A TAX BILL DOES NOT RELIEVE OR EXCUSE THE TAXPAYER OF THE OBLIGATION TO PAY THE BILL DUE. (Connecticut Gen. Statutes - Sec. 12-130).

Tax Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Second and Fourth Tuesday evening from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Taxes may also be paid online on the town website at www.townofeastford.com (a convenience fee applies).

DATED AT EASTFORD, CONNECTICUT THIS 11TH DAY OF JUNE, 2019.

Christine E. Hustus
Tax Collector
Town of Eastford

Invitation

Eastford Republican Town Committee
On Tuesday, November 5, 2019 the Town of Eastford will be conducting its municipal election. The Eastford Republican Town Committee is actively seeking individuals willing to run for elective office. Remember this is your town, your local government, and this is your opportunity to serve. If you are interested in serving your community please contact Daniel Belanger, Chairman, ERTC at 860-951-2258 or any committee member.

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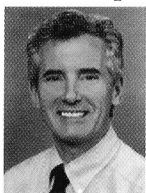
Congratulations 2019 Eastford Scholarship Recipients

Front Row: Madelyn Grube, Ely Driscoll, Jonathan Latham, Daniel Simpson; Back: Dylan Grube, Cameron Grube, Collin Singleton, Robert Johnson, Seth Budd; Absent from photo: Liam Dyer, Alena Klee, Kara Singleton. The Eastford Board of Education, on behalf of the entire community, hosted a celebratory reception for the 2019 Eastford Scholarship recipients on June 13. Attendees included scholarship recipients, their families, representatives of families who have established scholarships, members of the Board of Education, teachers and administrators. The 2019 Eastford Scholarship recipients included graduating Woodstock Academy students and continuing college students: Dennis Barlow Scholarship: **Cameron Grube and Ely Driscoll**; Eleanor K. Lewis Scholarship: **Kara Singleton**; Edith Wheaton Smith Memorial Scholarship: **Seth Budd, Liam Dyer, Cameron Grube, Alena Klee, Collin Singleton, Ely Driscoll and Jonathan Latham**; Esther and Lucie Harmon and Leta SabinTrepal Scholarship: **Alena Klee, Daniel Simpson and Madelyn Grube**; Mary King Sharp Memorial Business Scholarship: **Collin Singleton**; Emil Vaida Scholarship: **Seth Budd**; Harold Carpenter Fund Scholarship: **Robert Johnson**; Ethel Gardner Scholarship: **Dylan Grube**. Photo by James Barlow



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Eastford Scholarships are awarded to Eastford students based on criteria established by the founders of the scholarship funds. The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut manages the majority of the scholarship funds for Eastford. The Hartford Community Foundation manages the Ethel Gardner Music Scholarship. More information about Eastford Scholarships including procedures for applying can be found on the Eastford School website (<http://www.eastfordct.org/scholarships>), the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut website (<http://www.cfect.org/Scholarships>), or by contacting either a high school's guidance office or the Eastford School.

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News and Notes from the Superintendent's Office by Donna P, Leake

Our students and staff continue to go above and beyond in so many ways. This month I would like to congratulate and recognize:
 -Enzo Miglietta and Meadow Bulan as EES Citizens of the Trimester.
 -Ms. Gagnon, the students in our Tuesday morning chorus and our band for earning EXCELLENCE ratings for performance and behavior at the High Notes Music Festival at Lake Compounce.
 -Mrs. O'Hara and our 3rd and 7th grade students for receiving a citation from State Senator Champagne for their display of work at the East Brook Mall. A collage of their work will also be on display at the Capital in Hartford.
 -Mrs. Chretien, our Pupil Services Director, for acquiring a \$6000 State of CT grant targeted for the improvement of the quality of programs in which 3, 4, and 5 year-old students with IEPs are served, as well as a \$6000 grant targeted for improving the outcomes of students with significant cognitive abilities.
 -Mrs. McCombe, for another successful year of leadership that makes EES a great place to work and learn, as well as completing the Readiness grant which makes it possible to offer a quality pre-school program at EES together with all the requirements for NAEYC accreditation of our preschool program.
 -Our great teaching staff for an outstanding year of service to our students.
 -The 2019 graduating class that includes: Braden Ayer, Madison Alyzabeth Bates Souvigny, Cody James Blanchette, Kenneth J. Botting II, Sophia Rose Bulan, Gavin William Driscoll, Nolen Gilbert, Davonte Aammur Green, Abigail Horton -Schwab, Molly Katkaveck, Max Christopher Larkin, Ariana Lengel, Ethan Thomas Marshall, Lucas Anthony Pacheco, Madison R. Perry, Aubrey Marilyn Rumrill, Aiyana Nicole Sarabia, Jakub Sarzynski, Jack Sheridan Tyler, and Onyx X. Villanueva.

Although the students have started their summer vacation, the administration and teachers are already busy preparing for their return in August. This summer Mrs. Lessard, Mrs. Rhyhart, Mrs. Bibeault, Ms. Dill and Mrs. Crocker-Lincoln will begin a review of the language arts curriculum with respect to best teaching practices and the Common Core Standards. Mrs. Mead and Mrs. Bibeault will work together this summer to document, assess and improve, as needed, the alignment of our science program with the Next Generation Science Standards.

I will be meeting with the recently appointed Building Committee members: Rob Ellsworth (BOE), Rob Torcellini (BOS), Mark Sheldon, Paul Torcellini, Thomas DeJohn, and Garry Carabeau, throughout the summer on plans for converting the steam portion of our heating system to hot water.

The school year ended early this month, providing more time for families to enjoy spending time together. Although returning to school may be the last thing students are thinking about right now, the BOE did set times for the school day in 2019-20.

(continued next column)

Superintendent News (continued):

Beginning on August 26th, the school doors will open for students at 8:25AM, the bell signaling the start of instruction will ring at 8:40AM, instruction will officially begin at 8:45AM and student dismissal will take place at 3:20PM.

My best to all for a great summer. My personal goal for the summer is to meet many residents and learn as much as possible about the Eastford Community. If you are interested in helping me attain this goal please send me an email: dleake@eastfordct.org.

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From the Principal's Desk by Carole McCombe

I hope everyone is relaxing and enjoying the long summer days with friends and family! We are busy at school getting everything for the return of students in August.

Before August though, there will be a few opportunities for students to be involved in school related activities. All students have been invited to participate in the **Governor's Summer Reading Challenge** and the **Commissioner's Summer Math Challenge**. Information for participation in both of these was provided in our June Newsletter and our school library-media specialist visited many classrooms and talked to students about it. For more information on summer reading, visit www.ct.gov/sde and type 'summer reading' into the search box. Here you can find reading recording sheets and recommended book lists by grade bands. Additional summer math information can be found by visiting the site, quantiles.com/summer-math. We are encouraging all students to find a little time each day to read for pleasure and practice their math skills. This will help keep students up-to-date with their academic skills over the summer. From July 22-July 26 the school will sponsor a **Summer STEMActivity** for students entering grades 4-8. The activity will run from 1:00 to 3:00, Monday through Friday. It will be held in conjunction with the Summer Sports' Camp sponsored by the local churches. You will need to register separately for each of these activities. Please call the school for more information: 860-974-1130.

Sarah Boyd, school library-media specialist, will **host two summer reading events** for students entering preschool through grade 3. These will be held on July 10 and August 7 from 10:00 to 11:00. Each event will feature a story and a craft. Join us over the summer!

School will begin for students on **August 26, 2019**. The school calendar is posted on our school website under "For Parents" and then "School Calendar." Prior to school resuming, bus routes will be posted on the school doors. In July, you will receive a packet in the mail with forms and information for the upcoming school year. Please contact the school if you need additional information or if you have questions.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer, and I look forward to seeing everyone return in August!

July, 2019 Calendar

- 1 BOS, TOB, 7pm
- 2 Conservation Commission, TOB, 7pm
- 3 Crystal Pond Park Com, Crystal Pond Pk, 6pm
- 6 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- 9 Planning Commission, TOB, 7pm
- 10 Special BOS, TOB, 9am
Registrar of Voters, TOB, 5pm – 7pm
- 13 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- 16 Republican Town Committee, Library, 7pm
- 17 **Communicator Deadline**
Recreation Commission, TOB, 4:30pm
- 20 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- 23 Democratic Caucus, Library, 7pm
Republican Caucus, TOB, 7:30pm
Democratic Caucus, Library, 7pm
- 24 Registrar of Voters, TOB, 5pm – 7pm
- 25 Inland Wetlands Commission, TOB, 7pm
- 27 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm

Eastford Food Pantry

Once again we would like to thank the many residents of Eastford who have helped replenish supplies to our pantry. Many folks think of us around the holidays but hunger is a year-round concern. In fact, for families with children summertime can be the most difficult season. Summertime is also when our shelves are emptiest. So the next time you are at the grocery store please remember your neighbors in need.

"Most Wanted" items include: Canned Goods: chili, ravioli, tuna, jelly, beef stew, hearty soup, pasta sauce, fruit. Drinks: coffee, juices. Packaged Items: macaroni and cheese, oatmeal, cereal, mashed potatoes, rice, stuffing mix, healthy snacks. Personal Products: shampoo, deodorant, toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrushes/toothpaste. Financial donations are also critical and allow us to purchase essential items that are missing from our pantry. Thanks again to the folks at His Oaks for their monthly donations of perishable items, and to the anonymous donors who have brought food and/or checks to the town hall. Just a reminder: please check expiration dates. If it's too old for you to eat, we can't use it either. Eastford residents in need who would like to avail themselves of the food pantry can place a confidential call anytime to Steve or Karen at 974-1618, or contact the First Selectman's Office.

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Notice

Submitted by the Board of Trustees

Flags: American flags and Fire Department Flags were placed at the cemetery for Memorial Day; all flags are removed after Veterans' Day, November 11th.

Plot/Space Purchase: Appointments can be made to view the cemetery grounds and to select a plot for purchase. To make an appointment, call 860-974-1349.

Plot Diagrams Available: Plot owners, or a family member, may obtain a diagram of their plot by writing to: EGCA, INC. P.O. Box 284, Eastford, 06242.

Mowing Season: Between **March 15th** and **Thanksgiving**, **only live flowers** may be planted, or placed in plastic pots, **within 12" of the base of the monument**; all artificial flowers and ornaments are **prohibited during the mowing season and will be removed.**

Donations Appreciated: If you would like to contribute in any amount to the beautification of the cemetery and future projects, please send your tax deductible donation to: *The Eastford Grove Cemetery Association, Inc.*, P.O. Box 284 Eastford, CT 06242 (Note: **Grove Cemetery does not receive funding from the town.**)

For more information, contact a member of the Board of Corporators: Joe Andert, Bill Bibeault, Audrey Carabeau, Carol Day, Jim Ellis, Tom Fabian, Ken Grube, Bev Lindemann, Faye Logee, Jim Vaida, Paul Vaida
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All items for The Eastford Communicator must include submitter's name, address & telephone, for verification. All items submitted are subject to editing. Articles are those of the submitters and not necessarily those of The Communicator. 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

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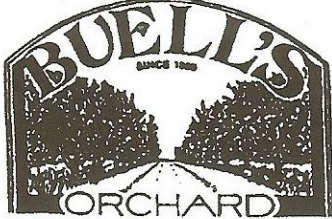
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