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## It's Time for Change – Eastford Needs You!

The Eastford Democratic Town Committee seeks qualified candidates to run in the Town of Eastford's municipal elections this fall. Step up and help out our town!

**First Selectman** – We need someone who puts what is good for the town above party and ideology, so we will consider supporting candidates of any party for this position. Duties: preside over monthly Selectmen meetings, manage town budget, supervise certain municipal employees. Salary: \$45,000/yr. Commitment: whatever it takes to

get the job done. Background in communications, finance, management, or municipal leadership needed. Must have ability to lead with humility, inspire with intelligence, respect our traditions of public inclusion in town governance, honor the integrity and autonomy of town employees, and work honestly, cooperatively, and respectfully with a wide variety of constituencies.

**Board of Education** – Two members needed. Oversee policies of school system; hire and manage superintendent; develop and oversee education budget; provide input into curriculum, scholarships, safety, building maintenance. Serve on other committees. Commitment: 2+ hours/month. Background in finance, education, management, and/or communications a plus.

If you would like to make a positive impact on our beautiful town, let's talk about it. Please contact us by July 25 at [EDTCchair@gmail.com](mailto:EDTCchair@gmail.com) for more details about these positions or if you would like to be a nominee.

Paid for by:

**EASTFORD DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE**  
P.O. Box 63, Eastford, CT 06242 [EDTCchair@gmail.com](mailto:EDTCchair@gmail.com)

### 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 20, 2021 at 7:00PM in the Town Office Building basement for the purpose of endorsing candidates for municipal offices for the election to be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021.

Attest: Daniel Belanger, Chairman  
Eastford Republican Town Committee  
May 18, 2021

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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 27, 2021 at 7 p.m. at 126 Kennerson Road to endorse Candidates for Municipal Offices for the election to be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021.

Attest: Randal Chinnock, Chairperson  
Eastford Democratic Town Committee  
June 24, 2021

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# The Eastford Communicator

JULY, 2021, Vol. 30, No. 7

## Selectman's Snippets

**Budget** – The Board of Selectmen worked very diligently to provide a fiscally responsible budget. After the Board of Finance/Board of Selectmen met many hours for months to draft a Town Budget it was passed on June 8<sup>th</sup>. We also set the mill rate of 26.00. Therefore, a .39% tax increase for the fiscal year of 2021-2022 has been set.

## Community – Great things happen in our community!

**Our Conservation and Historic Preservation Commission** has worked tirelessly with Chris Bowen to propose to you, the people, to use Open Space Funds to purchase a



conservation easement on the estate of Arlene F. Bowen. The vote passed in favor of placing an easement. The outcome of your vote will have a significant impact on the rural character, scenic value, environmental value, and economic value of our lovely Town. On June 16, 2021 the conservation easement for the estate of Arlene F. Bowen was signed and filed with the town for permanent record. (Photo left: First Selectman Jacqueline Dubois with Christopher Bowen of the Arlene & Charles Bowen family.)

**The Recreation Committee** has many upcoming events being planned. Such as Fun Walk/Run/Bike in July, Sports equipment swap in August, and an outdoor movie night. Be sure to check our website for updates.

**Please check our website [www.eastfordct.org/eastford](http://www.eastfordct.org/eastford) for ALL information and updates concerning Eastford.**

**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 Boards, Commissions and those who serve our community. Thank you, Claire

Williams, for the lovely seasonal arrangements you place in front of the Ivy Glenn Memorial on the Veteran Memorial walls.

**Transfer Station** – Thank you for recycling. If you are not sure what can be recycled go to [williwaste.com](http://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**– Again, please visit our website for how to obtain your stickers. Once again, up to 2 stickers can be given for the cost of \$60.00 per year if both vehicles are registered to the same address.

**Police Services** – During the month of May, Troop D responded to 20 calls. These calls of service included Accidents: 3, Criminal Invest: 6, Burglaries: 0, Larcenies: 0, DUI's: 0, Traffic Citations: 0, Written Warning: 2 and Non-Reportable Matters: 11.

**“Life isn't about waiting for the storms to pass - It is about learning how to dance in the rain.” Vivian Green**

Respectfully yours, Jacqueline Dubois, First Selectman

**Of Special Note: Taxes Due July 30 (p4); School News (p5); Emergency Registration for Residents (p8); Conservation & Historic Preservation Comm: Eastford's Pollinator Pathway & Conservation Easement at Bowen property (p7); Veterans (p11); Seniors (p11); Food Pantry (p9); Emergency Preparedness (p6); Grove Cemetery (p9); Eastford Independent Fire Co. (p6); Caucuses to nominate town officers (p2)**

**Please consider donating to Eastford organizations—addresses in Eastford 06242, all Town of Eastford groups new mailing address: 16 Westford Rd. \* Eastford Independent Fire Co. (POB 333); Grove Cemetery Assn. (POB 284); American Legion Post 203 (POB 131); Eastford Historical Society (POB 350)**

**Town of Eastford: Old Cemetery Preservation Committee; Food Pantry; Union Society Building; Crystal Pond Park Commission.**

## THANK YOU DONORS!

*The Communicator needs your donations...now more than ever to continue to provide news to 1,000 families.*

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**Barbara Liszka**

**Carol Davidge in memory of**

**Garry Clifford**

*Please send your donations to: Eastford Communicator,  
P.O. Box 253, Eastford, CT 06242*

Bees need help!  
Bees pollinate our crops!  
Learn more from Eastford's Pollinator Pathway Team (see p.7). Shown here: Bee on Butterfly Weed, a native plant.



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**LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF EASTFORD**

The Town of Eastford having legally voted to lay a tax rate of 26.00 mills on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 hereby warns those persons liable for taxes to said town that said taxes become due and payable on July 1, 2021.

All Motor Vehicle taxes and all other taxes of One Hundred Dollars or less are payable in one installment, on or before August 2, 2021. August 2, 2021 postmarks are accepted as being on time. All other taxes may be paid in two installments, the second installment becoming due on January 1, 2022.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday & Wednesday  
10:00 a.m. to Noon & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2, 2021 at a rate of 1.5% per month from due date of July 1, 2021. Minimum penalty is \$2.00. All Motor Vehicle taxes not paid by August 2, 2021 will be reported as delinquent to the Motor Vehicle Department and registrations will be denied.

If you receive a tax bill from a town you did not reside in on October 1, 2020, 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**  
Tax Collector, Eastford

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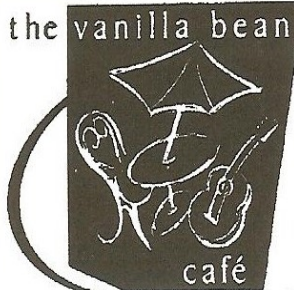
WE BUY STANDING TIMBER!

**DID YOU KNOW?** Eastford Historical Society

Did you know that when the Ninth Special Olympics World Games were held in New Haven on July 1-9, 1995, Eastford hosted the Egyptian athletes? The towns of Eastford, Ashford, and Willington hosted the Egyptian delegation from June 25-29. An Old-Fashioned Tri-Town Picnic was held on June 27 at the St. Phillip Center in Ashford.

Opening and closing ceremonies were held at the Yale Bowl, and more than 7,000 athletes from 143 countries from around the globe participated in the games. The Olympic Torch was lit in Athens, Greece on May 25, and taken by ship to Ellis Island. It was then carried by runners down the main streets and back roads of about 100 Connecticut communities. A large crowd assembled to watch the torch parade as it came down Route 198 and passed through Eastford, then Phoenixville, on its way to New Haven.

Donations of original writings/documents, old photographs, and small historic items are greatly appreciated. Please think of us when cleaning out basements and attics or sorting through the belongings of loved ones. If you have items to donate or loan please call Tom Latham, 860-974-1610 or Linda Torgeson, 860-933-0468.



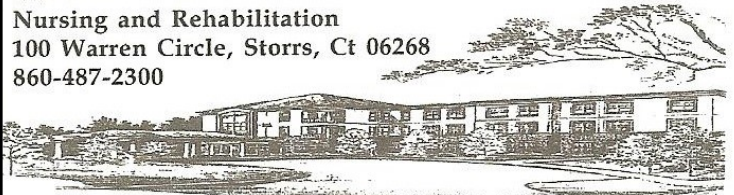
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### From the Principal by Carole McCombe

As we reflect on the 2020-2021 school year, it is hard to believe all that we accomplished while we simultaneously dealt with the impact of a worldwide pandemic! I couldn't be more proud of our students, staff and families for their resilience and flexibility as we navigated this unknown climate and yet we all continued to support our students and each other to provide the best education possible given the circumstances. I know that we are all hoping that this upcoming school year will return to the more typical and familiar routines and practices that we are accustomed to. It is with mixed emotions that we say goodbye to some very dedicated educators - Mrs. Lori Reynolds, Mrs. Melissa Lesard and Mr. David Vaughan - as they have chosen to continue working with children in different ways and/or are fully retiring after years of service. We wish them well in their respective changes! Additionally, Mrs. Michelle Bibeault will be changing roles and continuing her work with EES as a Media Technology Specialist instead of as our Kindergarten teacher and Mrs. Sarah Boyd will continue her work in the school library and she will also work with younger children as a Child Care Associate through our PALS (Playing and Learning Support) program. We say goodbye as well to Ms. Chelsea Samperi who became part of our EES family as a long term Health/PE teacher and we welcome back Mr. Tyler Bridgewater who has been away on military leave. Please also join me in welcoming recent hires, Mrs. Jennifer Barlow as our middle school math teacher, and Mr. Adam Phelps as our middle school language arts teacher. We are looking forward to a productive and positive 2021-2022 school year!

During the month of July we will be offering our typical summer school for extended school year services and also a summer STEM enrichment program that will be held in conjunction with staff at Mystic Aquarium. Additionally, Mr. Vaughan will be offering to work with instrumental students in person - after a year of virtual work - to further develop instrumental skills and to share his love of music with our students. The local church organizations will also be using our facility to hold their annual summer sports' camp for local children. We are fortunate to have such dedicated staff and community members!

I would like to thank Mr. David Jakubowski for his very generous donation of high quality furniture to the school. I am grateful for the help of volunteers, Jonathan and Seth Budd, Hans Wanner, Nick DePercio and DJ Jakubowski for assisting us in transporting the furniture from Hartford to EES. Our school will greatly benefit from this donation and we appreciate everyone's generosity.

Enjoy a safe, healthy, and restful summer!

### News and Notes from the Superintendent's Office

by Donna Leake, PhD.

On June 15 we celebrated the accomplishments of the Class of 2021. We wished them all great success as they move forward on their journey of life-long learning. As 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this group of young people have already experienced the need to make sacrifices and accept increased responsibilities for the good of the community and the world in which they live. I was very fortunate to have shared with this class, as seventh graders, the unique overnight experience on the Conrad in Mystic Seaport. I also had the opportunity to join them on their grade 8 trips on the Connecticut River and to Mystic Seaport. While at the Seaport, they were the first students in 18 months to board the flagship Amistad to continue the discussion that they began in their social studies classrooms about the importance of equality for all people. At all times, I was impressed by their level of maturity and interest in learning more about the world around them.

Our Board of Education was very busy in June. At its regular meeting on June 10 and a special meeting on June 22, they took several actions including:

1. Approved submission the Primary Mental Health Grant application
2. Approved submission the School Safety and Security Grant application
3. Approved extension of the Superintendent's contract
4. Approved a tuition rate \$15,218 for any student outside Eastford that makes application for and is accepted to attend EES
5. Repealed the temporary COVID-19 policies C1 through C5 and C7 through C16 as of June 30, 2021
6. Extended the COVID 19 policy C6 through June 30, 2022
7. Authorized the Superintendent to transfer balances in the FY 2021 budget up to \$28,173.12 for the approved School Security Grant purchases and hold the amount for the kindergarten fence in the grant for possible purchase next school year
8. Authorized the Superintendent to make year-end transfers within the FY 2021 budget to bring all accounts into balance and purchase facilities items totaling \$13,501.18 and technology items totaling \$12,787.19
9. Internally encumber up to \$20,000 of the 2020-2021 budget for the Town of Eastford's Municipal Reserve Fund.
10. Set the salaries of non-affiliated employees according to the recommendations of the Executive Committee

Although it is summer, there is still much activity occurring at EES. Planning and preparation for the 2021-22 school year is already underway. As of June 30, the next phase of the boiler replacement/repair project will be taking place. As a result of making application for and receiving special grant funding, summer school enrichment programming will be held at EES in the month of July. Part of our summer programming is focused on STEM learning and includes an exciting partnership with Mystic Aquarium.

All the best to all of you for a wonderful summer. As always, never hesitate to contact me: [dleake@eastfordct.org](mailto:dleake@eastfordct.org)

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**EASTFORD INDEPENDENT FIRE CO. NO 1 by Jeannine Spink**

**Congratulations to the EIFC – we have entered into our 79<sup>th</sup> year of service and incorporation to the town of Eastford.**

**Welcome to Logan, son born to Steven & Hannah Kitson. Your aunts and uncles at the EIFC look forward to meeting you.**

**On Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, members placed markers and fire department flags at the Grove Cemetery on Rte. 198 to honor those who served in the company.**

**On Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, the annual dinner, business meeting and election of officers was held at the firehouse. The Memorial Table was presented acknowledging all members who have passed away who served as firefighter, emergency medical services, fire police and/or ladies auxiliary. Awards and acknowledgements were presented by Chief Beaudoin and Deputy Chief Roy. Congratulations to Jason Szemrelyo for achieving five years of service.**

**Officers for June, 2021 to June, 2023 were elected as follows:**

<b>Chief: Doug Beaudoin</b>	<b>Deputy Chief: James Roy</b>	
<b>Fire Captain: Matt Yakis</b>	<b>Fire Captain: Nate Fabian</b>	
<b>EMS Lieutenant: Steven Kitson</b>	<b>President: James Roy</b>	
<b>Vice President: Jeannine Spink</b>	<b>Secretary: Marcia Williams</b>	
<b>Board of Directors: David Jakubowski</b>	<b>Zac Bertram</b>	<b>Colton Garrison</b>

**Congratulations to Meadow Bulan, Class of 2021 at the EES, the recipient of the 61<sup>st</sup> Citizenship Award sponsored by the EIFC. The criteria for the award are a student who demonstrates leadership, respect for school and community rules and involvement in school and community affairs. Good luck to Meadow and her continuing education.**

**June 12<sup>th</sup> was a special and poignant day for the EIFC to celebrate and commemorate the lives of Richard (Tricky) and Geri Willich. Members participate in the Memorial Table presentation, eulogy for each and their accomplishments, attendance by members and the fleet of apparatus. HT171 was on full display since he was one of the masters of the truck's operation. Tricky held many offices during his tenure, and Geri was one of the Ladies Auxiliary. RIP. MULCH ALERT!**

**Although mulch and wood chips enhance the beauty of our properties, caution needs to be taken when storing and using.**

**Noticeably, mulch fires have become a topic of conversation and “911” calls. High temperatures, along with hot and dry conditions for an extended period of time, below average rainfall, high winds are a leading factor in their cause. Mulch and wood chips are combustible materials, continuously decompose, generate high temperatures that can lead to spontaneous combustion even without an outside source of ignition.**

**In accordance with NFPA 230, or local codes, to avoid a mulch and/or wood chips fire that can expose houses and vehicles, the following rules are simple:**

**Keep the mulch/chips moist. Piles should be separated from one another, a minimum of 15' in between. If stored, monitor the pile temperature regularly.**

**Spread and pile thinly. Too much piled on top of itself is more likely to combust as the core temperature easily rises. Spread or pile away from structures or vehicles. Piles should not exceed 60' high / 300' wide. Fire extinguishers suitable for Class A fires should be readily available.**

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**In many fires, the smoldering mulch tunnels under the surface, then breaks out into open flames.**

**BE CAUTIOUS!**

## YOU CAN HELP BEES & OTHER POLLINATORS

by Carol Davidge

On June 26, members of Eastford's Pollinator Pathway Committee met residents to encourage us to assist our local world.

Pollinators are responsible for the production of about 75 percent of our food and flowering plants. We are excited to bring the Pollinator Pathway to Eastford. Many people that I spoke with mentioned that they are seeing less bees in their yard. Other pollinators including butterflies, moths, birds and bats are also on the decline," said Joanne Warren, who chairs the ECHP's Pollinator Pathway efforts. Eastford has joined 85 Connecticut and New York towns to create corridors of flowers and trees that help these endangered beauties that are so critical to our everyday lives. "As our pollinators have co-evolved with our native plants, providing natives are the best option to help them thrive. Many people have an interest and we are here to support them with information and resources," said Joanne.

"Sharing Pollinator Pathway information with friends and neighbors in Eastford's Town Center during Pollinator Week was joyful! Many are eager to learn more about native plants. They definitely want to avoid pesticides, and some are ready to reconsider their lawns, too," said Mary Ellen Ellsworth, Co-chair, Eastford Conservation and Historic Preservation Commission. For information about how you can help, visit [Pollinator-Pathway.org](http://Pollinator-Pathway.org). For local information, E-mail: [ProtectCT@gmail.com](mailto:ProtectCT@gmail.com)



## Eastford Conservation and Historic Preservation Commission Report

by Mary Ellen Ellsworth

### CONGRATULATIONS, EASTFORD!

On June 9, 2021, by unanimous vote at a Special Town Meeting, Eastford citizens approved an expenditure of \$80,000 from the Town's Open Space Fund to purchase a conservation easement on 21 acres at 170 Eastford Road. This means that, in perpetuity, the land surrounding the home that belonged to Charles and Arlene (Peg) Bowen will stay as it is, a beautiful swath of green hill above our Bowen Field.

This parcel has a number of valuable environmental assets. The Still River flows there; in addition, it lies over an important stratified drift aquifer. The land includes important and prime farm soils, and at least three species of statewide concern.

The Town's dedicated Open Space Fund exists to help preserve significant parcels, like the Bowen property, that hold particular value as they are. Of particular importance are properties that help maintain the rural and scenic character of the Town, which townspeople have underscored repeatedly in the Town's Plans of Conservation and Development. Connectivity or proximity to other protected fields and/or forests is also an important factor, for the maintenance of wildlife corridors. Fresh water aquifers, prime soils, riparian buffers to our streams and lakes, the existence of endangered species on the property, all are features to be taken into consideration.

It is good to report, too, that repeated studies have shown that Open Space saves tax-payer dollars. Houses and condominiums cost the Town more than they bring in in tax dollars, because they can require Town expenditures for schools, roads, and other services.

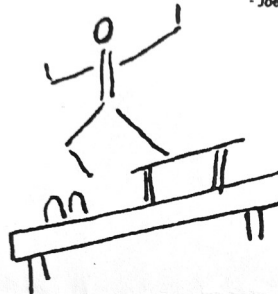
If you are a landowner who is interested in possible Open Space protection for your fields and/or forest land, please contact any member of the Eastford Conservation and Historic Preservation Commission. In the months ahead, we hope to hold a number of informational discussions for citizens who wish to learn more.

### Tips for Today-by Liz Ellsworth Happy Summer!

Celebrate Plastic-Free July! Skip plastic whenever and wherever you can. Picnic with reusable plates and utensils; Remember to bring your own cloth bags to the grocery store; Make celebratory glitter/confetti out of natural tree leaves; Refuse the single-use straw at the restaurant or drive-thru eatery; Encourage friends to bring refillable water bottles to fill at the tap for playdates/parties; Skip the single-serve snacks; Patronize businesses who have made commitments to reduce their plastic use; Purchase metal refillable coffee mugs and water bottles. Some of these choices are harder with Covid-19 safety protocols. Be sure to make choices that fit in with your family's health needs. For more information, visit: [www.plasticfreejuly.org](http://www.plasticfreejuly.org)

Photo above: On June 26, Mary Ellen Ellsworth shared pollinator information with Steve Bell.

"Physical Fitness is the First Requisite of Happiness"  
- Joe Pilates



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**From the Town of Eastford's Emergency Management Director Deb Richards**

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Eastford Emergency Registry - Year 2021

Emergency Management for Town of Eastford has a **registry for residents with disabilities, chronic conditions, and healthcare needs**. Residents are asked to pre-identify themselves in the event they may need special assistance in times of emergency. This is an opportunity for you to provide information that may help emergency responders meet your needs during or after an emergency event. This form should be *updated annually*. **Instructions:** Please fill out one form, sign it, and mail or drop off at the Eastford Selectman's Office, P.O. Box 98, Eastford, CT 06242, **ATT: Emergency Management Director**. If you cannot fill out this form on your own, please have a family member or caregiver complete the form, sign it, and submit it on your behalf. Please call 860) 974-0133 x 110 or email [emd@townofeastford.com](mailto:emd@townofeastford.com) with any questions or concerns.

**General Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Male:\_\_\_ Female:\_\_\_ Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

TFF/TTY: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Can you be reached by text message? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Name and emergency contact information of relative, friend, or neighbor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mobility**

Do you have any physical limitations or impairments? Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**Vision, Hearing, Speech and Other Disabilities**

Do you have any hearing, vision or other disability Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical or Life Support Systems or support agencies? Please explain \_\_\_\_\_

**Transportation assistance**

Should Eastford need to set up a community shelter to aid residents in time of disaster, will you need assistance with transport? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Is there other medical information you would like us to know? \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: by signing this form and submitting it to the Town of Eastford I agree to permit my information to be shared with local and state emergency responders. I understand that while the Town will share this information to better assist me during an emergency, they cannot guarantee my assistance in all cases. I also understand that this is a volunteer program.**

Signature of person filling out form: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**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 with Lauren Anderson, President of the Grove Cemetery Association, at 860-974-1349. The E.G.C.A. is a non-profit organization.

**Notice  
Submitted by the Board of Trustees**

**Mowing Season:** Between **March 15 and Thanksgiving, only live flowers** may be planted, or placed in plastic pots **within 12” of the base of the monument.**

**Annual and perennial flowers and plants that are more than 12” from the monument and/or have not been maintained will be removed.**

Artificial flowers and ornaments are **prohibited during the mowing season and will be removed.**

The Annual Meeting has been postponed until further notice.

**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: ECGA, INC., P.O. Box 284, Eastford, 06242

For more information, contact a member of the Board of Trustees: Linda Torgeson, Rick Torgeson, Lauren Anderson, Herman Barlow, 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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Send to: Eastford Grove Cemetery Assoc., Inc.  
P.O. Box 284, Eastford, CT 06242

**HAVE A GREAT JULY 4  
U.S. INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**Dear Readers:**

We hope you contribute to The Eastford Communicator. Ads do not cover printing & postage costs. The Communicator is Eastford’s main source of news about events, town government, and local organizations. We need donors to support this effort if we are to continue. If you can, please send a donation. Thank you!

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**Please make checks payable to:  
Eastford Communicator. PO Box 253, Eastford, Ct 06242  
THANK YOU! The Volunteer Staff of The Communicator**

ATTENTION: All articles & news for The Communicator must be submitted to E-mail: carol.davidge@gmail.com  
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

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Information: [www.eastfordct.org/townofeastford](http://www.eastfordct.org/townofeastford)  
Facebook: Eastford CT06242  
EastfordCT06242SmallBusiness  
See also article in  
Willimantic Chronicle,  
Jan 23, 2021

## FOOD PANTRY

Someone once said that whatever we possess becomes of double value when we share it with others. The difference your support has made to our Food Pantry is extraordinary, and we have much to be thankful for. If you are in need and would like assistance from the Eastford food pantry, call Steve or Karen at 860-974-1618 or contact the Selectmens Office. We are pleased to report that with our Eastford residents pitching in just a bit more, keeping our shelves stocked is a bit easier. We continue to be humbled by the generosity of so many. Once again, thank you to Adam Minor and his Eastford Baptist Church Youth Group who collected over 400 items plus cash with their recent food drive. Thanks also to Roger & Judith Boisvert; David & Christine Hustus; Michelle & Bill Bibeault; and Elizabeth Grodzicki for their cash donations. And thanks to Lynn Nelson for her regular donations of non-perishables. Financial donations allow us to purchase essential items that are missing from our shelves. Grocery store gift cards are always welcome. Checks can be made out to the Town of Eastford and mailed to the Selectmen's Office, 16 Westford Road, Eastford 06242. Just write Food Pantry on the memo line.

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**Eastford Seniors Report** by Linda SM dos Santos

Seniors 50+ are in for an exciting July. The Quinebaug Valley Regional Senior Center (QV) is making preparations to re-open the second week in July. Also arrangements are being made for the first Eastford Senior Citizen (ESC) TVCCA Luncheon. To register or volunteer for Eastford Senior Citizens, call 860-538-8868. For information about the new QV programs, choice consultants, and more senior services, call 860-774-1243 Monday through Friday 9:30 AM - 12(noon).

Currently, you can renew your CT Driver's License On-Line. Having difficulty? Starting August 4, 2021 9:30 AM -12(Noon) you can call for an appointment at QVRSC for help with your on-line application. Have your Driver License, Social Security Number, Date of Birth & a credit or debit card, call Tammy Harris at 860-774-1243.

The AARP Safe Driving course is available on-line through August 31, 2021 at [www.aarpdriversafety.org](http://www.aarpdriversafety.org) at a 25% discount by using PROMOTION CODE: DRIVING SKILLS. Most insurers will give car insurance discounts for up to two years with proof of taking this course.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Attention Veterans:**

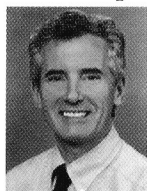
**Veterans Information & Assistance-** American Legion Soldiers' Sailors' & Marines' Fund, 844-454-8900 or <http://www.alctssmf.org/> Includes Energy Assistance -Honorably Discharged Veterans who served during specified periods and their families may be eligible for emergency assistance that may include utility or energy bills.

**Vietnam Veterans** - Congress has directed the Veterans Administration to add three illnesses to the Agent Orange presumptive disease list. If you served in Vietnam and have a diagnosis of bladder cancer, Parkinson-like symptoms, or hypothyroidism, you may be eligible for VA health and disability benefits. There is now automatic renewal for those currently insured.

**Veterans Base Camp - Community Training Center -Assistance & Informaton** (Food Pantry, wellness, education, training, employment support), 108 English Road, Chaplin, CT 06235, phone: 860-786-7163, Website: [info@veteransbasecampinc.org](mailto:info@veteransbasecampinc.org)

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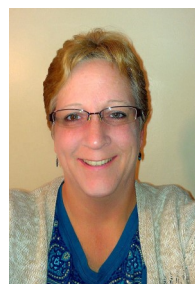
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**Recreation Commission News.** We are so excited to announce that, as we are still following covid guidelines, Eastford Recreation has set upcoming events: **On July 24 at 9am, A Fun Run/Walk/Ride** starting at Eastford School. The course will be 1.5 miles and may extend. Please check our site in the next few weeks to see registration and information. All proceeds will be donated to the Eastford Food Pantry to help those in need during these complicated times. **On August 7-8 there will be a tag sale weekend;** you can register on the Eastford site as we get closer. **On August 14, we will run a sports equipment swap/donation and school supplies giveaway/donation.** We know times are hard right now for some, please email [recofeastfordct@gmail.com](mailto:recofeastfordct@gmail.com) if you are in need and would like more info privately. Please continue to check our site under commission-recreation for event information and updates. (Paid for by Eastford Rec Comm.)

**Congratulations to Pinecar Prix participants at the Congregational Church on May 23, 2021. First place winner was Georgia Barlow (right below). Awards went to (l-r): Best Design - Khloe Curtis; Most Creative - Ella Barlow; 3rd Place - David Budd; 2nd Place - Brianna Burgess; 1st Place - Georgia Barlow. For information about church activities: <https://ceastford.org/>.**



Eastford's Conservation & Historic Preservation Commission members brought Pollinator Pathway information to residents on June 26 & supported the conservation easement on the Arlene Bowen property, which was approved at June 9 Town Meeting (see reports p7). Shown: (photo left): Mary Belden, Tyler Singleton & Pollinator Chair Joanne Warren; (right): Mary Ellen Ellsworth, Ralph Yulo, Joanne Warren & Mary Belden.

