



The Eastford Communicator

June, 2015 Calendar

- 1 Fiddle & Song, EES, 3:30pm – 5:00pm
Fiddle & Song, EES, 6:00pm – 9:00pm
School Readiness Council, EES, 6:00pm
BOS, TOB, 7:00pm
- 2 Conservation & Historic Comm, TOB, 7:00pm
- 3 Heritage Day Committee, TOB, 9:00am
Nahaco Commission, Camp Nahaco, 7:00pm
- 4 Gentle Yoga, TOB, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Readiness Council “Parenting,” EES, 6:00pm
- 5 Yoga, TOB, 8:15am – 9:15am
- 8 Fiddle & Song, EES, 3:30pm – 5:00pm
Fiddle & Song, EES, 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- 9 Planning Commission, TOB, 7:00pm
Democratic Town Committee, Library, 7:30pm
- 10 Recreation Commission, TOB, 2:00pm
Registrars of Voters, TOB, 5:00pm – 7:00pm
- 11 Student Walking Field Trip, EES, 2:30pm
BOE, EES, 7:00pm
- 15 Fiddle & Song, EES, 3:30pm – 5:00pm
Beginners Yoga, TOB, 5:30pm – 6:30pm
Fiddle & Song, EES, 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- 16 Seniors Caravan Trip, TOB, 11:00 am
Republican Town Committee, Library, 7:00pm
- 17 Field Day & Science Genie, EES, 10:00am
Yoga, Camp Nahaco, 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- Communicator Deadline**
- 18 Gentle Yoga, TOB, 11:00am – 12:00pm
8th Grade Graduation, EES, 7:00pm
- 19 Yoga, TOB, 8:15am – 9:15am
- 22 Beginners Yoga, TOB, 5:30pm – 6:30pm
- 23 Summer SingJam, Camp Nahaco, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
- 24 Registrars of Voters, TOB, 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Yoga, Camp Nahaco, 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- 25 Gentle Yoga, TOB, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Grades 6+ Summer Reading, Library, 3:00-8:00pm
Inland Wetlands Commission, TOB, 7:00pm
Library Board, Library, 7:00pm
- 26 Yoga, TOB, 8:15am – 9:15am
- 29 Beginners Yoga, TOB, 5:30pm – 6:30pm
- 30 Dog License Deadline, Town Clerk, TOB
Summer SingJam, Camp Nahaco, 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Of Special Note

**SummerSingJam at Camp Nahaco (see F&S, p.13)
Eastford Food Bank Needs & Offers Nonperishables
Beginners, Gentle & Hatha Yoga Classes
Library has free discount passes to attractions
Picnic, Swim, Hike at Nahaco
Dog License Deadline-June 30**

BRODEURBITS

[Brodeurbits is a regular compilation of writings and ramblings from the First Selectman and others and elsewhere, some profound, others mundane; all hopefully of interest and import, aimed at communicating and informing.]

[This Month: Projects, Permits, and Plans; Markings and Mattresses; Ambulance Rides and Bike Rides]

I state this with a bit of trepidation, but I believe that Spring has finally arrived. And with it, a variety of Public Works projects including the start of the Westford Road-Town Center storm water drainage improvements project. Work will start shortly at the in-

Continued on next page

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tersection of Westford and Old Colony Roads and Route 198 and proceed up to the Westford/John Perry Road intersection. The chip sealing of Old Colony Road from the vicinity of the Harlan Ridge Kennels to the Woodstock line is also on the work schedule. And the project to drill a new well to serve both the School and the Town Office Building has gone beyond the planning and site location phase and actual well-drilling is imminent. There also will be various improvements made to the Town Office Building, including window replacement, signage, painting, and flooring tile cleaning and replacement.

Among the Town Office Building improvements is the installation of new signboards aimed at making more information available to Eastford residents. There is now a large signboard to the left of the walk into the building and two smaller new boards at the building entrance. Meeting agendas and other informational materials will be posted on these boards for your convenient viewing as will the hours of operation of Town offices.

Effective July 1, 2015, a new schedule of Building Inspection Fees will go into effect. The new fee schedule includes an increase in some fees, such as the base fee and the remodeling fee, and the introduction of new fees, such as those for woodstoves, temporary installations, and building relocation. The complete schedule of fees is available from Building Official Joe Pajak. The total construction value of all building permits issued in Eastford by the Building Official during the January 1 to March 31, 2015 reporting period was \$336,000.

The Board of Selectmen, meeting on May 6, 2015, appointed the audit firm of Michaud Accavallo Woodbridge & Cusano, LLC [MAWC, LLC] to conduct the annual audit of Town accounts for the fiscal period from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. Also, at its April 6 meeting, the Board accepted with regret and thanks for service, the resignation of Melissa Vincent from the Camp Nahaco Park Commission. At the same meeting, it appointed Denis Day to the Commission to fill the vacancy caused by the Vincent resignation.

You might have noticed various markings on Town roads, particularly at intersections, in recent days. Written in bright day-glo or white, these are not hieroglyphs or other messages left by prior civilizations. Rather they are markings placed at Stop signs throughout Town by State Department of Transportation [DOT] personnel as part of our participation in the State-funded Stop Sign Replacement Program. Under this program the State will replace Stop signs deemed needy of replacement, install Stop signs where there should be a Stop sign and there isn't one, and install Stop Ahead signs at related locations. As for the code, SA means Stop Ahead, and CBYD means Call Before You Dig.

The State Department of Transportation has upgraded the status of Old Colony Road from Route 44 to Route 198 from "Local" to "Minor Collector" since it carries traffic from one major arterial to another. What this means is that we will be eligible for 100 percent Federal funding for safety improvements on that stretch of road and 80 percent Federal/20 percent State for any resurfacing of the road we undertake.

Wouldn't It Be Nice If:

- Folks didn't find it necessary and/or enjoyable to "lay rubber" on Town roads and in Town intersections such as the rotary "wheelie" someone thought would be good idea to enhance the ap-

Continued on next page

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pearance of the major Town intersection at Route 198 and Old Colony and Westford Roads. Not to mention the presence of such “rubber-laying” throughout Town.

- Some drivers didn’t find it great fun to drive into and destroy the new Stop signs the State has just installed at both ends of School House Road.

The Town has renewed its relationship with the Ashford Volunteer Fire Department for the provision of ambulance services. The new agreement, approved by the Board of Selectmen at its April meeting, is for another three-year term commencing July 1, 2015. The contract amount for the July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 fiscal year is \$39,200. Given the deep uncertainty in Northeast Connecticut with the future of pre-hospital emergency care, the Board felt there were strong reasons to continue having Ashford as our ambulance providers given their “phenomenal response time”, their addition of coverage hours, staff, and capabilities; and their sense of caring about the medical well-being of Eastford residents and their desire to help Seniors and others to deal with the financial exigencies which accompany the provision of ambulance service.

I have been informed by legal counsel for Algonquin Gas Transmission that the scope of the proposed Atlantic Bridge natural gas pipeline improvements has been reduced “due to changes in customer demand.” As a result, Algonquin will not seek permission from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to make pipeline improvements to its existing pipeline in Eastford. [In Eastford, starting just inside the Town line at Kennerson Road, the existing 36-inch pipeline would have been extended for some 3.1 miles crossing Chaplin Road and running through the Natchaug Forest, crossing Kingsbury Road and ending just beyond Fayette Road along the existing right-of-way.] In announcing its decision not to proceed at this time, Algonquin stated that “as you are keenly aware, the energy marketplace is constantly changing. It is always possible that another project could be proposed for the future that could involve making these improvements [running another pipeline parallel to the existing one and adding compressor stations.]”

Eastford has become one of the early participants in the Connecticut Mattress Recycling Program for Municipalities. Our voluntary participation in the program gives Eastford residents access to a free recycling service for mattresses and box springs. In 2013, Connecticut enacted Public Act 13-42 which requires the mattress industry to create a recycling program for mattresses and box springs used and discarded in the State.

On May 1, 2015, retailers and other businesses selling mattresses began collecting a \$9 recycling fee on each mattress and box spring that is sold to a Connecticut consumer. These fees will be remitted to the Mattress Recycling Council and used to recycle mattresses. MRC has provided Eastford at the Transfer Station with a collection container, transportation of mattresses to a contracted recycler, and mattress recycling services. All at no cost. The Town will provide a secure site for the collection container, keep mattresses dry and segregated, pack mattresses efficiently to maximize container capacity, and complete required paperwork to track outgoing shipments. On a related matter, we are in discussion with various agencies regarding the possible introduction of textile recycling to the Transfer Station.

The peloton is coming, the peloton is coming. There it goes. The Annual AngelRide 130-mile bicycle ride across Connecticut to raise money for the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp’s Hospital Outreach Program came through Eastford on Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend [May 24, 2015] leaving the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford and proceeding along Pumpkin Hill and Kennerson Roads to Morey Road and onto Hampton. On Friday, June 26, 2015 some 200 cyclists will travel through Town down Route 198 from Woodstock to a rest stop at the Pepper Tree Campground as part of the Boston-to-Greenwich ALS Tri-State Trek. On August 15, the Steeple Chase Bike Tour will come through Eastford as part of its 100-mile bike trek, specifically down Route 171 to a rest stop at the Baptist Church and then along Centre Pike into Ashford and onto Route 89.

The Town has once again entered into a Cooperation Agreement with the Town of Hampton to participate in the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program of the State Department of Housing to provide decent housing and related conditions to our residents.

The revision of the Eastford Plan of Conservation and Development is being undertaken by the Town Planning Commission, under the chairmanship of Effie Vinal, with the assistance and counsel of John Filchak, executive director of the Northeast Connecticut Council of Governments [NECCOG]. The -mandated plan will cover the period from 2016 to 2026 and will provide Eastford with a comprehensive, understandable, and useable blueprint to guide future Town decision-making. Copies of the work-

Continued on next page

ing draft of the Plan are available from the Planning Commission and input to the Commission can be made through Chairman Vinal.

Grade 3 Celebrates Eastford's History

Respectfully Submitted by: Mrs. Lori Crocker-Lincoln

Students in Mrs. Crocker-Lincoln's third grade class are off and running when it comes to exploring the rich history of their town. Students begin by interacting with a booklet designed around the study of the town's history. It has mini-chapters on the following topics: Native Americans, How Eastford became a Town, Town Government, Church Life, Going to School in Eastford, A Working Community, Climate, Hard Times, A Famous Citizen, and Then and Now. This useful and student friendly document also includes a glossary and a section on maps and how to use them. Infused in this booklet are a plethora of English Language Arts skills such as fact and opinion, visualization, and using textual evidence as well as many others. Technology activities are also creatively infused and third graders hone their research skills while exploring the town website. Media presentations are also created using information gleaned from the unit of study. The much anticipated and educationally rich culminating activity has students taking a guided bus tour of their town. The well-informed and highly knowledgeable Ms. Carol Day is our tour guide. Parent chaperones always comment on how much they learn on this trip and the students are in awe of the many things they never knew to be true about their town. Did you know Eastford used to have six schools? That is just one of the amazing facts we explore and we try to visit the former sites of as many of them as we can each year.

Kudos - Town Wide Tag Sale

By Carol Davidge, Editor

Thank you to Sally, Bill and Valerie Katkaveck for organizing the 2nd Annual Town-Wide Tag Sale for May 16 and 17. More than a dozen Eastford families participated and a great turnout was enjoyed. If you did not participate this year, mark your calendars for next May. Thank you to the Katkavecks and all who participated.



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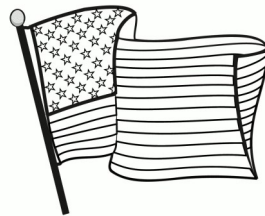
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Board of Education

Linda Loretz

At its May Board of Education meeting, reviewed regulations for Policy 2260, Retention of Electronic Records and Information and Policy 5140, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These regulations will be available on the website.

The Board of Education approved Eastford college scholarships that will be issued by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

The Superintendent and The Board of Education discussed goals for the upcoming school year. The principal and teachers will establish professional goals based on these goals.

Facilities projects were discussed for this summer. There will be finalized plans at the June meeting.

The Eastford Board of Education nominated Christine Hustus, Eastford Board of Education Chair, to the Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees.

News You Can Use

Deb Richards – Emergency Management Director

Much useful and interesting information was obtained at the recent annual Connecticut Emergency Management Symposium. This symposium, attended by municipal leaders, always touches on current and emergent trends in emergency management. This year’s symposium opening remarks were presented by William P. Shea, Deputy Commissioner, DESPP/DEMHS, Dr. Dora Schriro, Commissioner, DESPP, and Dr. Jewel Mullen, Commissioner of CT Public Health.

The keynote topic, “Planning for the Whole Community” addressed Regional Disability Integration” with a presenter from Bristol, CT who is sight impaired and helped Bristol establish a best practice to address functional needs in their community.

Other topics covered were:

Cyber Security – still the largest terrorist threat:

<http://www.dhs.gov/topic/cybersecurity>

Hurricane forecast for 2015,

School Security Planning Updates,

Long Term Care Recovery

Updating of municipal and state emergency Long Range Operations Plans.

If you would like to be on a committee to help plan for assisting functional needs people, or help Eastford in a disaster, assist with the emergency call list or other ideas you may have, please leave your name, number and email address with the Selectmen’s office, 860-974-0133.



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INSIDE PROFILE: Effie Vinal

by Sue Orcutt

The old blacksmith shop on Old Colony Road, now the home of Effie Vinal, was as warm and comfortable as its inhabitant. Effie exuded an ease and peacefulness that made me want to sit in her recliner for longer than the hour I had allowed for the interview. These qualities have been offered and accepted by many persons from many countries. Although most of us know Effie as the local realtor, her legacy will be that she opened her home to strangers who needed a home. It all started when Effie and her husband, Wayne, went to South America on a mission trip through the Evangelical Baptist Camp. They met a boy who wanted to come to the USA. The Vinals made his wish come true, and Dave lived in their home, working on his education and establishing a career. After that initial mission, Wayne traveled to the Ukraine where he met two sisters who needed a new home. Those sisters, Tetyana and Svita, lived with the Vinals for seven years before they left for lives of their own in Pennsylvania. Effie's daughter told her about Bea from Thailand who needed a home while she was attending Woodstock Academy. Effie's son told her about Terry from Pomfret who needed a home after graduating from Woodstock Academy. Of course, Effie and Wayne said yes to these requests. This welcoming of people and families into their home has been going on for over 40 years, resulting in 18 countries being represented, and large family gatherings. Effie says it would seem weird if someone else wasn't living in the house with her.

Effie has lived in Eastford for the last 53 years since 1962. She was born in Denver, Colorado. Wayne was stationed in Denver from 1959-1962. He was actually dating Effie's cousin, but her aunt introduced Wayne to Effie because she liked Wayne and wanted to keep him in the family. Wayne was from Eastford and so they returned at the end of his tour. He went to Ellis Tech and earned his aircraft mechanic certification, while also working at Tatum Mill. He obtained a job in Groton for the Army National

Guard at Trumbull Airport. Originally, they had planned to move back to Denver once Wayne finished his schooling, but an interesting thing happened—Effie decided she liked living in Eastford. She liked the community feeling and she was involved in the town. Effie had seven children, and as the babies arrived, Wayne kept adding rooms. Two of her children stayed local—Chris Hustus, our town tax collector, and Rick Vinal who owns Woodstock Farm with his wife, Amy. Her other children are all over the country and the world. When the kids were young, Effie had held jobs like delivering the Hartford Times, and running the switchboard at Day Kimball. Then she decided to get into real estate because she thought it would be romantic, and she would be a professional. She went to UCONN and took a one semester course, and then passed her state exam. In 1977 Effie found herself managing Pine Knoll Real Estate for Henry Doughty. Since then, Effie has bought the company, and her daughter-in-law, Amy, is an agent for her. Effie teaches an ethics course to new realtors through the Eastern Board of Realtors.

Effie is still involved with the town. She is chairperson of our planning commission, and is an active member of her church. If you ever have some free time, make a date with Effie. She has an assortment of herbal teas (for her girls from the Ukraine), and a collection of childhood stories that will fill you with wonderment. (Her grandfather was the town marshal of Breckinridge, Colorado, and he would ring the fire siren at 8pm announcing that everyone had to be off the streets—quite a different Breckinridge from today.) Best descriptors of Effie?—out-going, vivacious, loving; and to Dave, Tetyana, Svita, Bea, John, and all the others—heroic.



Eastford Readiness Initiative

AKA Eastford's Preschool Program

Jennifer Barlow

www.eastfordct.org

Update

The Readiness Program is currently accepting registration for the 2015-2016 school year waiting list. If you would like a form please contact the school office or find the registration form on the school's website.

The Readiness Program has scheduled a presentation with the Science Genie from the West Hartford Children's Science Museum for Field Day in the afternoon on June 17th. The Readiness Program is also sponsoring a Positive Parenting workshop on June 4th. This is open to the public so please contact the school office to reserve your spot. This is also the night of the orientation for upcoming preschool families. If you have registered you should have received an acceptance packet with all pertinent information. If you did not receive the information please contact the office. In June there is also a joint field trip for the current preschool and Kindergarten class and the upcoming classes to go to Bakerwoods in Ashford.

In April and May the class went on a walking field trip to the public library. They also went on an exciting all day field trip to the Southwick Zoo. The schedule for the remainder of the year is quite busy including a "Books and Baskets" program and a trip to see Curious George the play, but the class is thrilled!

The application for next year's grant has been handed in and we now await the response from the state regarding the program's funding.

For more information on the program please look online at the Readiness Handbook or by contacting the Head Teacher, Christine Kopplin at ckopplin@eastfordct.org or the Readiness Council Liaison, Jen Barlow, at jbarlow@eastfordct.org

Mark your calendar!

June 1: Readiness Council Meeting 6:00 (Eastford Elementary School Teacher's Lounge)

June 4: Positive Parenting with Ruth Freeman at 6:00 pm, call the school to register

June 11: Walking field trip to the Eastford Public Library @ 2:30

June 17: Field Day and Science Genie Presentation

Recreation Commission Report

By Michael Bilica

The Recreation Commission is a group of volunteers dedicated to local activities for all ages. Heritage Day is fast approaching, scheduled for Saturday, July 18th, and we are working with the Heritage Day Commission, planning activities for the day events. We welcome additional help from the community. If you would like to participate or even become a member, please come to our next meeting at 2PM on June 10th. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month in the Town Office Building. We are always looking for fresh ideas and input from the community. Please look in this issue of the Communicator for more information on Yoga, which is organized by Sue Orcutt. Also, Tom French is organizing a summer music program and all are welcome. Please read Tom's article, published elsewhere in this issue.

Eastford Heritage Day

Eastford's Best Dog !

Photo Contest!

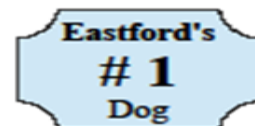
July 18, 2015 at the Eastford Elementary School Gymnasium
Sponsored by the town of Eastford

Bring a 5 x 7 photo depicting your dogs greatness
To the Eastford Town Hall by Thursday July 16 to enter

Event visitors will vote ~ so bring lots of friends and family!

Winner will receive # 1 Eastford dog tag!

~ Dogs must be registered with town of Eastford to enter ~



Eastford Seniors

By Linda SM dos Santos

On Tuesday, June 16, a Senior Car Caravan to Heritage Way Park will leave promptly at 11 AM from the EES parking lot at the Eastford Town Office Building's Lower Level (TOB). Seniors will first travel to the All You-Can-Eat Cheese Pizza and the ESC Meeting at the Thompson House of Pizza in North Grosvenordale. While enjoying salad, pizza & more, there will be a brief meeting of the Eastford Senior Citizens (ESC). Then, on to Heritage Way Park: Seniors can sit & view the beautiful park, walk to the double spillway to see the cascading falls, or hike paths that partially encircle the still water pond. The caravan will then break up into those returning to the TOB or to on-their-own destinations. Members \$4, non-members \$7 (Drinks not included.) Please RSVP by Saturday, June 13, so carpools can be set-up, call Pat 860-928-9177 or Linda 860-538-8868.

To obtain a FREE Charter Oak Pass, which provides access to State Parks & Forests, Quinebaug Valley Hatchery, & to Dinosaur Park: CT residents, 65+, mail a legible photocopy of your current CT driver's license or legal proof of age & residency to: DEP Charter Oak Pass, State Parks Div., 79 Elm St., Hartford, CT 06106, 860-424-3200. CT residents 65+ apply each year, FREE inland marine water fishing licenses at Pomfret, Ashford, Woodstock Town Halls, others: www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/fishing/general_information/townclerkretailagents.pdf

SAVE the DATE: the wildly anticipated ESC Family & Friends Potluck Picnic will be on Sunday, July 12, from 12noon - 3 PM at Nahaco Park's waterfront Main Dining Hall. Nahaco Park is located on Weeks Road in Eastford. Seniors & their families

will gather at 11:45 AM with Potluck food items to share! The eating begins promptly at 12 Noon. The Election of Officers for July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 is at 2 PM.

For details on Senior Bus Trips (3 bus stops offered), call Kay Warren, 860-429-0262, ext. 6 - Mansfield Senior Center or 860-487-3744 cell.

Wed., June 24 - Lucky Lobster at Fisherman Restaurant, Lobster Roll, Native Stonington Sea Scallops, or Grilled NY Strip Steak, Mohegan Sun Casino bonus of \$15 Free bet, + \$15 coupon for 2nd meal \$76/person, and

Tues., July 21st - 2½ hr Gloucester Luncheon Cruise, musical distraction, + Free time in Rockport, \$90/person.



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Eastford Heritage Day

bike decorating!


Contest!

July 18, 2015 @ Eastford Elementary School

make it sparkle~make it shine~come up with your own design

Event visitors will vote
so bring lots of friends and family!
Followed by Bike Parade
See more event details next month . . .

Prizes
Awarded



Is your Dog the #1 Top Dog in Eastford?

Enter the dog photo contest to be held on Heritage Day, July 18.

Event visitors will be the judge. If your dog is voted the greatest...the Town Clerk will switch your license tag for Tag #1 to prove it!!

(Please continue to license by end of June. Contest forms in Town Clerks Office.)

**TOWN OF EASTFORD
NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS**



**LICENSES MUST BE OBTAINED
DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE**

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:

SPAYED FEMALE or NEUTERED MALE.....\$8.00 each

FEMALE OR MALE\$19.00 each

KENNEL LICENSE (10 TAGS).....\$51.00

A \$1.00 per month penalty will be charged for each dog that remains unlicensed.

Melissa Vincent, Town Clerk

Library News

By Susan Shead

“REQUEST,” the state inter-library loan system is being shut down on June 30, 2015. The Eastford Public Library has stopped taking inter-library loan requests as of May 1, 2015. The state is working on a new cost efficient system that they hope to implement in the near future. We will update our patrons as we receive further information.

New fiction at the library include the books: “The Dream Lover” by Elizabeth Berg, “Inside the O’Briens” by Lisa Genova, “Trigger Warning” by Neil Gaiman, “One Mile Under” by Andrew Gross, “Someone is Watching” by Joy Fielding, “The Stranger” by Harlen Coben and “The Liar” by Nora Roberts.

Discount passes are 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, The Wadsworth Atheneum and Connecticut’s Old State House. We also have coupons for 20% off admission to the Connecticut Science Center and the State Parks and Forests Day pass, which can be used to cover the cost of parking at state parks and forests where there is an established parking charge.

Please note:

The library will be closed on Monday May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.

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 2015**

Every Hero has a Story

Registration begins Thursday June 25th

Grades 6+ Become a Junior Volunteer at the library this summer and

Have a children’s book dedicated in your name!

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EASTFORD INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY #1, INC.

By Jeannine Spink, President

The steak supper on April 18th was again a success, largely due in part to the generous donations we received for our raffle. Gift certificates were donated by Buell's Orchards, Bowen's Ford Dealership, Coriander's and Eastford Building Supply. Creations by local artisans: Framed photos by Jill Loomis, painted canvas by Jen Pedersen and pottery designed by Sheryl Spink and Deb Ginter.

Mark your calendars **NOW!** The Chicken BBQ is scheduled for Saturday, August 15th from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. The menu consists of: 1/2 chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, roll, and ice cream. Eat-In or "Drive-Thru" convenience. All dinners are \$10.00 each.

Tickets will be on sale July 1st and available for purchase until Saturday, August 8th at 12:00 noon. Tickets will not be sold at the door. To reserve your dinner(s) before August 8th, contact any member or call John Paquin at 860-974-0256 or Jeannine Spink at 860-974-1678.

The company responded 16 times for emergencies in April. Meetings were the monthly business meeting and Line Officers. Fire drilling included monthly truck check, pumping water from a river and cold water rescue.

On a cold, windy and rainy Wednesday night on Crystal Pond, members wearing cold water rescue suits and tethered by on-shore spotters, trained in a controlled, cold water/ice rescue scenario.

Members walked out onto the ice and experienced the sensation of falling through. This non-emergency drilling in cold water re-enforced the dangers that a first responder may encounter. Drilling of this type of rescue is three-fold, i.e., the safety of the victim - the safety of the rescuer, and the trust and cooperation between rescuer and team-effort of spotters on shore using rescue ropes.

The EIFC owns 4 Mustang Cold Water Rescue Suits and trains annually in swift running and cold water. Use of these immersion suits can significantly improve survival time. There has been an increase in the number of water rescue incidents over the years. Often victims knowingly enter the water or fall through unsafe ice or out of boats and are unable to remove themselves from the dangers due to rapid setting in of hypothermia.

Water rescues are particularly dangerous for first responders. Time is of the essence, the adrenaline is pumping, they are donning cumbersome suits and

even the most fit, tire easily. In addition to the rescuer remaining as calm as reasonably possible, there are concerns and dangers for the rescuer and victim that need to be well-thought-out and quickly addressed.

The patient must remain horizontal to help prevent shock and make it easier for the patient's heart to maintain blood flow to the brain. Handling the patient very gently is critical to avoid cardiac arrest.

Once on shore, the victim is assessed and quickly transported to a medical facility. The rescue doesn't stop there. The first responder's vital signs are checked, rescuer hydrated, and observed for any underlying medical or physical issues as a result of the rescue, allowing for potential transport before clearance from the scene.

The ice is gone, but not the dangers of swift moving water. Wear a life vest whenever on the water.

The EMS drill included training with the Ashford Ambulance stretcher, our stair chair and recently acquired CombiCarrier II. This new piece of equipment is designed to aid in the movement of an injured or ill person with a minimum amount of movement to the patient. It can be used similar to a one-piece back-board device or it can be separated in half and slid underneath the patient and then secured together with less discomfort to the patient.

The Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers for 2015 – 2017 will be June 2nd.

EASTFORD FOOD PANTRY AVAILABLE TO HELP

By Karen Broderick

The number of families using our food pantry continues to grow. The families we help are all so grateful to everyone in this community for their continuing support. If you know anyone in Eastford in need of food, or if you are in need of food, please place a confidential call to Steve or Karen at 974-1618. Food is distributed by appointment on a monthly basis.

The following is a list of items we are in need of: spaghetti sauce, macaroni and cheese, cereal, oatmeal, side dishes (potatoes, rice, stuffing), tuna, canned fruit, juices, peanut butter and jelly. In addition to those items, families always appreciate when we can provide: toiletries, coffee, tea, condiments, sugar and flour. Please consider a monetary donation with checks made out to the Town of Eastford; write "Food Pantry" on the memo line. This will enable us to maintain a supply of most needed items. Please know that we appreciate each and every donation.

Eastford Veteran's Memorial Committee


Honoring Those Who Served

Inscribed Pavers are being offered for those Eastford residents who served in the military. Pavers purchased from now to

April 1, 2016 will be installed for Memorial Day 2016.

The cost is \$50 per veteran paver and proper military documents indicating honorable discharge required. Must demonstrate past or present residency proof for consideration.

Cost includes paver, inscription, and installation at the Eastford Veteran's Memorial. Application form and information available in the Selectmen's Office.



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Eastford Heritage Day

Eastford has Talent !

SHOW!

July 18, 2015 1pm @ the Eastford Elementary School Gymnasium

In partnership with Heritage Day, sponsored by the Rec Commission!

Bring your best and finest talents to the stage.
Accepting all appropriate acts.

Mandatory dress rehearsal, Friday July 17, 2015 @ 6pm.
You must turn in talent form BY JULY 1, 2015.
A \$2.00 registration fee will benefit the Eastford Elementary School Drama club.
download a registration form at eastfordct.org - or pick one up at the Town Hall





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Report of the Union Society Building Committee

By Carol Davidge, Chair

The USBC will hold its Annual Silent Auction during Heritage Day on July 18. We are seeking donations of interesting or unique objects, antiques, gift certificates from area businesses, and items that are new or in nearly new condition. We are not able to accept furniture.

The USBC would like to thank Betsy and Bob DiQuattro for hosting a tag sale during the Town-wide Tag Sale event which raised almost \$500. These funds will help maintain the historic, town-owned 1806 Union Society of Phoenixville Building, located at the junction of Routes 44 and 198, and help repay a loan from the town which augmented a State of Connecticut Historic Building grant to replace the roof. Volunteers for the sale included Janet Bellamy, Karen Butts, Tom DeJohn, Betsy DiQuattro, Mary Ellen Ellsworth, Jean Hixson, Leslie Lavalley and Ed Windecker. A dozen families contributed items for the sale, which was the best one-day sale in our tag sale history. These events require tremendous effort and we appreciate all who helped.

The Union Society is believed to have started in the early 1800s as a tax protest. At the time, the only people who could vote were men who owned land, were members of the Congregational Church, and paid their taxes to the Congregational Church (the church was also the government). Men of other faiths, including Baptists, Methodists, Catholics and other religions wanted to be able to vote. In 1818, a new constitution



decreed that males who paid taxes or served in the militia were deemed eligible to vote as Connecticut separated church from state government. (Women did not get the vote until 1920).

The Union Society of Phoenixville House served as a gathering place for immigrant families, starting in the 1850s. Later, in the mid-1800s, the mission of the Union Society was to teach children to read. In those days, children labored 12-14 hours a day, six and seven days a week so little time was available for education. Most people attended church on Sundays, so the Union Society took the opportunity of teaching children to read during religious gatherings. The building was purchased in 1906 to serve villagers for community gatherings and fundraisers for the fire company and maintenance of the house. The building is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places because of its cultural contributions to the community. It is one of only two Union Society buildings in the state of Connecticut.

Legacy Memorials - For donations of \$100 or more, a memorial plaque will acknowledge the donor and list the names of individuals being honored. The plaque contains names of corporate, foundation and private donors, and is displayed at Heritage Day and other events. All proceeds from fundraisers go to the Town of Eastford for the building. If you would like to make a financial donation, please make your checks payable to: Town of Eastford (write Union Society in the memo line), and mail to Union Society Fund, Town of Eastford, P.O. Box 98, Eastford, CT 06242. For information, call Carol Davidge (860) 974-0756 or E-mail: carol.davidge@snet.net with "Union Society" in the subject line.

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F&S – Nahaco Summer SingJam

Tom French

tomfrench@charter.net



SING! Everyone who enjoys Singing (without or with an instrument)! JAM! Players of all types of acoustic instruments! June 23rd begins the new music series at Camp Nahaco called Summer SingJam! 10 Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:30 through August 25th! Meet at the Pavilion, inside or outside depending on weather and the absence of flying bugs! Bring chairs or blankets and make yourself comfortable! Intended for individuals and families who enjoy singing! A great listening opportunity with a focus on making your own music in a rustic and very beautiful setting!

SingJam is our word to describe what is often called a “Songswap” among singers and a “Jam” among instrumental players. Singers are likely to use instruments in songswaps and instrumentalists are very likely to do some singing during a jam. Common to both is that participants introduce what they like to play or sing. Everyone is encouraged to offer a tune or song, and all others enthusiastically add their abilities to the performance. Among singers, songs with choruses may provide a solo opportunity on verses

and everyone singing together on a quickly learned chorus. Among players an individual may strike up a tune and other players will add chords and counter-tunes. Some people may be shy, but others are there to help lead your song or tune choice whenever you wish.

In ten weeks, with your choices and later repeat requests, we expect to find our own group’s common songs and style. We expect those who enjoy performing to find the friendliest audience available. We expect a lot of musical shyness to disappear within the circle of musical friends that will form. Come when and as often as you can. Contact me to join our email list for sharing music. We need you to help our SingJam and our JamSing!

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Eastford Heritage Day
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Saturday, July 18, 2015

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Yoga

Sponsor: Eastford Recreation Commission
by Sue Orcutt

YOGA offers a chance to relax, release stress, and become aware of the mind/body connection. Try a summer class, you just might like it. ALL sessions-\$5/class.

Mondays @ 5:30pm, FOR 3 WEEKS ONLY, June 15, 22, & 29, TOB—If you’ve ever thought about taking a yoga class, but were afraid that you wouldn’t know what to do, come to **Beginner’s Yoga**.

Wednesdays @ 6:00pm FOR 10 WEEKS, June 17-August 26, CAMP NAHACO (in the dining hall)—**Hatha Yoga** for all levels.

Thursdays @ 11:00am, TOB—Think about joining the **Gentle Yoga** group. It is for people who want to continue to have flexibility and strength and get a good workout. The poses are done from the chair or in a standing position—there is no work done sitting or lying on the mat.

Fridays @ 8:15am, TOB—This is an on-going class for **Hatha Yoga**, concentrating on breathing, stretching, and strengthening. Whether you’re a beginner or an intermediate, you will enjoy it.

From the Principal’s Desk

Heather Tamsin

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Eastford Elementary School, I would like to thank the community for supporting the school in so many ways during the 2014-2015 school year. We appreciate all of the contributions and good will offered on behalf of Eastford students. As I reflect on my first year here as principal, I am impressed with the sense of community that is evident through the actions and offerings of community members. It is a privilege to work in a community that is so committed to supporting the quality education of Eastford children.

The School’s Annual Field Day will begin at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, June 17, rain or shine. Please contact Mrs. Tedisky if you are interested in volunteering.

The eighth grade graduation will be held on Thursday, June 18 at 7:00 PM. The last day for students this school year will be Friday, June 19.

School will resume for students on Wednesday, August 26, 2015. The 2015-16 school calendar is available on the school’s website <http://www.eastfordct.org/files/filesystem/2015-2016%20ees%20school%20calendar.pdf>

Eastford Heritage Day

Eastford Recycles!

Contest!

July 18, 2015 @ the Eastford Elementary School Gym

Sponsored by the Rec Commission and the transfer station Committee

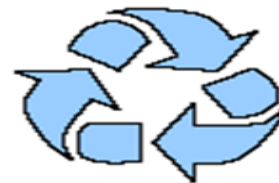
Bring your creative displays of Recycling to the EES Gym Friday July 17 between 4-8 pm

Accepting all appropriate creations!

Event visitors will vote ~ so bring lots of friends and family!

~ Must be Eastford Resident to enter ~

Winner will receive Eastford transfer station permit!



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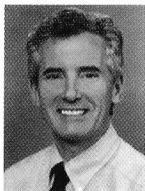
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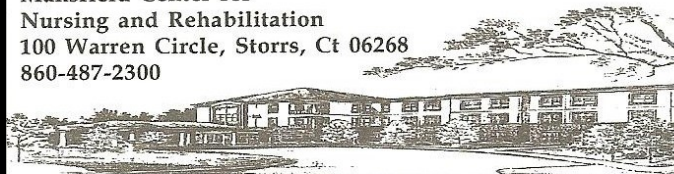
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Tips for Today

by Liz Ellsworth

Enjoy our local waterways this season by fishing in the rivers, swimming in the lakes, or boating on the ponds. Bring along your nature guide and learn some facts about the creatures that inhabit these environments. What flowers or trees do you notice? What insects buzz by your head? Which reptiles and amphibians do you see? Are there lily pads? Sand or mud or rocky soil? Happy eco-learning!

ATTENTION

All articles & news for The Communicator must be submitted to Deb Yazo:

E-mail: eastford.communicator@gmail.com

Deadline: 2nd Wednesday of each Month

Eastford Communicator Volunteers

Executive Editor	Carol Davidge
Composition/Layout	Deb Yazo
News Collection	Deb Yazo
Volunteers	Ruth Yulo
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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. The Communicator reserves the right to reject any submissions. Opinions expressed are those of the submitters and not necessarily those of The Communicator. The Communicator will not print items it regards as offensive or slanderous.

Dear Readers:

We hope you will contribute to The Eastford Communicator.

Advertising revenues do not cover printing and postage costs. The Communicator is Eastford's main source of news about local events, town government, committees, 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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The Volunteer Staff of The Communicator


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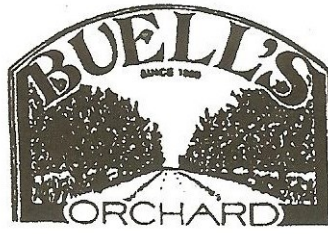
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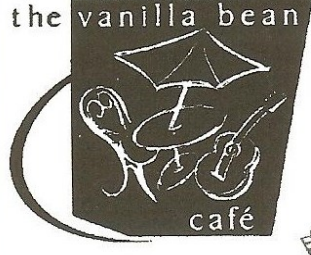


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