



The Eastford Communicator

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: Highlights and Lowlights, Sweeping and Marking, Old Dog, New Tricks]

The Town Meeting at which the Town and Board of Education budgets for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 will be acted upon will be held Monday, June 5, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Eastford Elementary School. The budget was developed within the context of extreme volatility and indetermination of funding at the State level. It was necessary to develop a local budget without any firm or final figures from the State. The Eastford budget is predicated on the only budget for which figures on State aid for municipalities have been forthcoming and that is the Governor's initially released budget. In this budget Eastford suffers a \$554,683 [40.8 percent] cut in State revenue, most significantly a 52.9 percent reduction, from \$1,091,881 to \$513,753, in Educational Cost Sharing funds. Further, among other pluses and minuses, the Governor's budget requires the Town to pay one-third of the cost of Teacher Retirement contributions which for Eastford total some

continued on next page

Annual Town Meeting
Budget Vote
Monday, June 5, 7 pm
Eastford Elementary School

DID YOU KNOW?

By the Eastford Historical Society

Did you know that from 1933 to 1941, the population of Eastford jumped dramatically when 200 men moved into the Natchaug Forest? These men, known as "Roosevelt's Tree Army," carried pick axes and shovels instead of guns. **Read the EHS Quarterly (inside centerfold)** to learn more about the men of Camp Fernow. Meet the author of the book about Connecticut's CCC Camps and share any documents or memories you may have during the EHS Annual Meeting on June 12 at 7pm at TOB.

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June, 2017 Calendar

- 3 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- 5 School Readiness Council, EES, 6pm
Town Budget Meeting, EES, 7pm
- 6 Conservation Commission, TOB, 7pm
- 7 BOS, TOB, 9am
Yoga, Nahaco, 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Nahaco Commission, Nahaco, 7pm
Democratic Town Committee, Library, 7pm
Recreation Commission, TOB, 7pm
- 8 BOE, EES, 7pm
- 9 Yoga, TOB, 8:15 - 9:15am
- 10 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- 12 Historical Society, TOB, 7pm
Speaker on Camps in CT, TOB, 7:30pm
(Sponsored by the Historical Society)
- 13 Planning Commission, TOB, 7pm
- 14 **Communicator Deadline**
Registrar of Voters, TOB, 5pm - 7pm
Yoga, Nahaco, 5:30pm - 6:30pm
- 15 Agriculture Committee, TOB, 7pm
- 16 Yoga, TOB, 8:15 - 9:15am
- 17 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- 19 Yoga, TOB, 5:30 - 6:30pm
Clean Energy, TOB, 7pm
Graduation, EES, 7pm
- 20 Republican Town Committee, Library, 7pm
- 21 Yoga, Nahaco, 5:30pm - 6:30pm
- 22 Inland Wetlands Commission, TOB, 7pm
Library Board, Library, 7pm
- 23 Yoga, TOB, 8:15 - 9:15am
- 24 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- 26 Yoga, TOB, 5:30 - 6:30pm
American Legion, TOB, 7:30pm
- 28 Registrar of Voters, TOB, 5pm - 7pm
Yoga, Nahaco, 5:30pm - 6:30pm
- 30 Yoga, TOB, 8:15 - 9:15am

\$183,000. Currently in Hartford there are some three or four versions of proposed State budgets being negotiated. It is difficult to predict when a final version will be adopted by the State Legislature. Some ameliorate the severity of the municipal aid cuts; some, like the Governor's revised version, cut municipal aid still further.

In this fiscal maelstrom, the Board of Selectmen's approach [as the Town's Finance Committee] was to ask the Board of Education to absorb the Teacher Pension payment of \$183,000 in its budget, to build an increase in taxes—specifically one mill—into the overall budget, and to transfer funds from the Unassigned Fund Balance to finance a portion of the General Fund Operating Budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The School Budget coming before Town Meeting is \$3,818,151; the Town Government Budget is \$1, 574, 075. The School budget is level, no increase. The Town budget goes down by \$141, 296 or 8.2 percent. The proposed tax increase of one mill from the current rate of 25.11 to 26.11 accommodates the decrease in State revenue and the increase in capital projects to be undertaken by the Town.

To summarize the good and the bad, the highs and the lows, of the proposed budget, one must necessarily look at both Revenues and Expenditures. On the Revenue side, there is an anticipated significant reduction in State Aid, an increase in the Grand List of \$661,562 [.46 percent], strong tax collection [98 percent], an increase in the mill rate by one mill to 26.11, an increase in the Transfer Station sticker fee to \$50, and a transfer of \$499,460 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. As to Expenditures, there are increased health care costs, increased Liability and Workers Compensation insurance costs, an increase in Land Use Agent costs, an increase in the Eastford Independent Fire Company operational budget, an increase in capital projects, a decrease in Town building maintenance, and a decrease in Information Technology costs.

If, in the final determination, the approved State Budget includes more funding for cities and towns, a contingency line has been built into the Board of Education budget which would

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enable restoration of line items in a prioritization established by the Board of Education. On the Town side, if State funding is restored the Unassigned Fund Balance will be replenished.

Other matters to come before Town Meeting on June 5 include authorization to expend \$145,000 from the Municipal Reserve Fund for the School Energy Project, specifically Gymnasium Roof Replacement at the Eastford Elementary School; and authorization, as requested by the Fire Company, to effectuate the lease/purchase of a fire truck for a total not to exceed \$500,000 in equipment and interest and to expend a sum not to exceed \$50,000 from the Municipal Reserve Fund for the 2017-2018 fiscal year portion of such lease/purchase agreement.

Wouldn't It Be Nice If:

Folks didn't litter the area around the beaver pond bench at the Westford/Church Road intersection across from the cemetery and diminish the tranquility and scenic beauty with trash and garbage.

You might have noticed white markings on various roads in Town. These are State Department of Transportation [DOT] hieroglyphics as part of a so-called "horizontal curve" sign project in which Eastford is participating. The intent is to more clearly mark significant curves on Town roads to increase road safety. And while I'm on the road, the annual Spring/Summer road sweeping is underway and nearly complete. The Mill Bridge Road Bridge project is finished, with the semi-final State DOT inspection having been held, the road opened, and Mill Bridge Road paving imminent.

The Board of Selectmen, at its regular May meeting, appointed the firm of Michaud, Accavallo, Woodbridge & Cusano, LLC to once again serve as Town Auditor for the July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 Fiscal Year. The Board also authorized the First Selectmen to enter into an agreement with the Northeast Connecticut Council of Governments [NECCOG] regarding paramedic intercept services.

I have informed both Town political committee chairs that I will not seek re-election to another term as Eastford's First Selectmen in November. I have made this decision for a multiplicity of reasons, running from A [Age and Aging] to Z [Zany Zealots]. I have been privileged to have served as your First Selectman for six years; my hope is that you will consider them to have been constructive and productive years.

SUMMER FUN

Experience Eastford - On July 8, Experience Eastford offers **FREE** family and fun activities at EES and the center of town, a car show at Bowens, the Grand Opening of the Florence Walker Latham Museum of Eastford History, and collection of nonperishables for the Eastford Food Pantry and Pet Food Pantry! Bring a donation!

Year-round: Nahaco Park is your Park. Located on Westford Road in Eastford, you'll find Crystal Pond, a beach, picnic area, and trails. You can reserve the Park for a special event, and a dining hall is available.

Seniors - Free State Park Pass - The Charter Oak Pass (Life Use) to State Parks is **FREE** to Connecticut residents age 65 or older and allows **FREE** access for the entering vehicle *and* all passengers. The pass holder does not have to be the vehicle driver. Information on DEEP's website page on recreation: http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2716&q=325090&deepNav_GID=1650

**Report of the Union Society Building Committee
Thank You for a Major Legacy Donation
by Hester Green's Family
Donations Requested for Auction**

By Carol Davidge, Chair

The USBC will hold a Silent Auction & Tag Sale Fundraiser on July 8 during Experience Eastford (10 am - 12:30 pm when winners will be announced). Donations are requested. Of special benefit for the auction are unusual, new or like-new items, antiques or art. Auction items have been donated by Heather Parker, Susan Burns & Bob Williams, Louise Rickard, the Asa Davis family, Rebecca Gurland, Bruce Lippincott, Leslie Lavalley, G.N. Williams, Deb Lee, Georgianne Copley and others. Items in the auction are a like-new home security system, a signed Boston Red Sox ball and goodies, a giant Crabtree & Evelyn tin, Cabbage Patch dolls, jewelry, art, antiques and many gift certificates from local companies. If you're spring cleaning, please think of donating to our cause rather than tossing things out. State grants are providing a significant, permanent financial basis for future rehabilitation, and funds received from these events help match foundation and state grants, so it is a great time to help out. Eastford's 1806 Union Society Building, at the junction of Routes 198 and 44, is a nationally-recognized place. For 200 years tax protests, voting rights, family games, holiday parties, social and spiritual gatherings happened and everyone was welcome regardless of ethnic origin, spiritual belief, gender or age. It was a place that brought together families from many countries including Finland, Poland, France, Germany. Canada and other places.

Donations and Legacy Memorials are needed to move the project forward. A major Legacy Donation has been made by the family of Hester Lee (Carpenter) Green, who grew up in Eastford, attended the Union Society Sunday School and played croquet and participated in other activities there. Hester turns 91 in June. Happy Birthday, Hester! For donations of \$100 or more, a legacy memorial plaque acknowledges the donors and individuals being honored.

All proceeds from fundraisers and donations go to the Town of Eastford, which owns the historic 1806 building. To make a donation, please make 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, E-mail: carol.davidge@snet.net. Your donations are matching grants from other places, doubling what you donate. Thank you.

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Library News

By: Susan Shead

The Mother's Day Story time and Craft was a huge success! The children decorated cupcakes for their moms. A big thank you to Rachel Budd for your generosity and creativity once again!

The Eastford Public Library book discussion will meet on Monday June 19th at 7:00PM to discuss Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee. Please join us!

The Library Board will hold a small book sale at the school for Experience Eastford Day on Sat. July 8th. However, no donations from the public are needed at this time.

Come down to the library and check out some of the magazines available. Did you know that you can check out current issues of the library's magazine collection? Here are some of the choices you have: Better Homes and Gardens, Birdwatching, Connecticut, Consumer Reports, Cooking Light, Country Living, Family Circle, Good Housekeeping, Health, National Geographic, the New Yorker, People, Saturday Evening Post, Time, Yankee, Fine Gardening, Mary Jane's Farm, Interweave Knits, Weight Watchers and This Old House. This is just a few of the magazines available at the library. There are many more available that I haven't listed here.

There are discount passes at the library 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 coupons for 20% off general admission for 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 2017
Build a Better World

Registration begins Thursday June 22

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

Have a children's book dedicated in your name!

News You Can Use I - Hurricane Season

By Deb Richards, Emergency Management Director

Hurricane season begins **June 1** and ends November 30. Now is the time to prepare. Make a family emergency communication plan. Don't forget to include your pets in your emergency preparedness planning. Identify an out of town emergency contact to coordinate information with family and friends. Keep an emergency kit where you spend time -- home, car, work. Download the FEMA app and set up local alerts for you or your loved ones. Practice your preparedness plans with a drill or exercise. Visit www.ready.gov/hurricanes for more information about hurricane preparedness.



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From Board of Education

Linda O. Loretz

The Board of Education provided a wonderful breakfast for Eastford Elementary School staff members on Staff Appreciation Day. Staff members provided written thanks and appreciation to the Board for such great recognition.

At the time of the *Communicator's* publication, not all scholarship awards had been finalized. The community is welcome, however, to join the Board of Education in honoring and congratulating 2017 recipients at the reception to be held Thursday, June 8, 2017 from 6:00 to 6:45 PM at in the gymnasium at the Eastford Elementary School. Light refreshments will be served.

At its May meeting, the Eastford Board of Education approved the hiring of an architect to develop plans for replacing the school gymnasium's roof. The average life expectancy of a built-up roofing system is between 15 and 18 years. The roof on the gymnasium was installed in 1992 and is 25 years old; it has met and exceeded its life expectancy. Funding for the actual project will be discussed by the Board of Selectmen at the upcoming budget hearing and Town Meeting.

The Board of Education updated its Wellness Policy. The Wellness Policy is #6142.101 and it can be found on the school's website along with all other Board of Education policies (<https://www.eastfordct.org/domain/85>).

School will be in session until June 19 and will reopen for students on August 28. The Board of Education's next meeting is June 8 and there is no meeting in July.

Eastford Readiness Initiative

AKA Eastford's Preschool Program

Jennifer Barlow

www.eastfordct.org

Update

The Readiness Program is currently accepting registration for the 2017-2018 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.

Over the past month the Preschool class has had a few visits to the public library. Parent/Teacher conferences were held in April and Mrs. Kopplin met with each of the families. There have been a few school assemblies including the Science of Sound and the Maypole Demonstration. The class was also excited to have participated in their first music concert on the 16th. The students had a joint Nature Walk with the Kindergarten class. Moving forward there are several more transition activities including combined recess and story time planned with the Kindergarten class and teacher. In June there is a field trip to Bakerwoods in Ashford for the current preschool class and any students attending the program in the fall. The current class will also be going to Southwick Zoo. Be looking for our presence in the Memorial Day parade this year.

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 on-line 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 5: Readiness Council Meeting 6:00 (Eastford Elementary School Teacher's Lounge)

June 19: Last day of School



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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 a variety of ways during the 2016-2017 school year. We appreciate all of the contributions and good will offered on behalf of Eastford students. As I reflect on the year, the connection between the community and the school continues to flourish. It is a privilege to work in a community that is so committed to supporting the quality education of Eastford children. The talents and passions shared by community members have been astounding and provided amazing opportunities for our students!

The School's Annual Field Day will be on Friday, June 16, rain or shine. If "rain" the activities will begin at 11:00AM and if "shine", the start time will be 10:00AM. Please contact Mrs. Tedisky if you are interested in volunteering.

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

School will resume for students on Monday, August 28, 2017.

The 2017-18 school calendar is available on the school's website: <http://www.eastfordct.org/2017SchoolCalendar>.

News You Can Use II

By Deb Richards, Emergency Management Director

Residents of rural New England principally rely on ground water extracted from fractured crystalline and sedimentary bedrock for their domestic well water. Despite the importance and reliance on this critical resource, little is known about the water supply or background water quality conditions.

Dr. Meredith Metcalf, from Eastern Connecticut State University, is working on a study that will demonstrate the use of integrating well completion reports, historic water quality reports, and current water quality analyses to understand groundwater flow patterns for Eastford and Pomfret.

The techniques and knowledge gained from this approach benefit many and provides a unique means to understand the dynamic and complex fractured bedrock groundwater system. In cooperation with the Connecticut DEEP, Geological Survey, and DPH, Dr. Metcalf is seeking volunteers for water quality sampling at no cost to the home owner. This information will provide the most current background levels in water quality. She is hoping for 80 volunteers from our region. If you would like to participate and have your well water tested, please contact Dr. Metcalf directly at metcalfm@easternct.edu.

Remember, it's your water and you're already drinking it!

Community comes together for the benefit of Nahaco Park

By Chris Mayhew, Nahaco Park Chairman.

On April 22, more than fifty volunteers from several different local groups worked through the cold and wet weather to improve the Nahaco Park property. Community members from the Eastford Baptist Church along with members from the Eastford Congregational church teamed up to re-create and open pavilion for future park goers to enjoy. The first stage of this project was to remove the siding on the building along with the shingles and old fire place. Once the project is complete, the end result will be an open pavilion with picnic tables and an outdoor grill area for local citizens to enjoy. Not to be out done, a group of hard working 8th grade students from Eastford Elementary School and Woodstock Middle school worked under the guidance of Art and Lennox Brodeur of Eastford clearing debris around the dining hall and other areas along the beach. One of the most difficult challenges of the day was installing split rail fencing near our expanded parking area. This task was completed by a local senior from Killingly High School, along with a member of the commission and a representative from the Putnam Lodge #46 Freemasons Lodge. As work continued on the outside, three students from UConn did a wonderful job cleaning the kitchen and dining hall area in preparation for our rental season. These three students, along with Karen Mayhew, went through many paper towels and cleaning supplies to create a safe and clean environment for future kitchen use. Other tasks that were completed during our volunteer day included cleaning the pump house, dismantling old fire pit areas where a future outdoor volleyball court will be and the installation of new plumbing fixtures. Many Nahaco Park Commission members oversaw the challenges that faced the volunteers. Our very own Dave Mullen spent a few hours preparing our newly approved 18 hole Frisbee Disc golf course. One of the most important tasks of the day was preparing the food for the volunteers. Many thanks to Lisa and Silas Bunnell and Mike Bernardi who put together a great lunch for all to enjoy following their labors. As I moved around the property witnessing all the work the was being accomplished, I truly was amazed at the ability of our community to come together on this special earth day occasion. From the many church members, to the eager 8th grade students, a true sense of unity was felt throughout the day. With that in mind I would like to once again thank everyone who was involved in our very successful Nahaco Park Volunteer day. I would like to encourage all citizens in the towns of Eastford and Woodstock to visit Nahaco park located at 305 Crystal Pond Road, and take advantage of true beauty and elegance that the park has to offer.

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In the Music Classroom Ms. Bethany Croxton

The Eastford Elementary School music program has had a busy year!

We were proud to have our community represented by two students: Amanda Hair (grade 8) and Anna Kellermann (grade 7) at the highly competitive, audition-based, Connecticut Music Educator's Association (CMEA) Eastern Region Middle School Music Festival. Likewise, two 8th grade students: Clayton Singleton and Emily Hull, participated in the Woodstock Academy mini music festival.

Students across all grade levels have reaped the rewards of their hard work in the form of two successful spring concerts. The first concert, which took place on May 16th, was nature-themed and featured students in grades preschool through 4. This concert also included the 3rd grade recorder players, who have been practicing diligently, not only to get ready for the concert, but also to improve their individual musical skills and earn recorder karate belts! 3rd grade students were also featured along with their 2nd grade peers at the annual Memorial Day program on May 29th.

The second concert took place on May 23rd, featuring all students in the greatly expanded instrumental program, as well as the full 5th and 6th grade classes, and the extracurricular Tuesday Morning Chorus. This chorus will also be travelling with the experienced instrumentalists who make up the band on June 1st to Lake Compounce to participate in the High Note Music Festival. We are very excited to return to this festival after receiving an "Excellent" rating for both groups last year.

**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

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**Eastford Community Celebrates Scholarship Recipients
Thursday, June 8, 2017**

The Eastford Board of Education, on behalf of the entire community, will host a celebratory reception for the 2017 Eastford Scholarship recipients on Thursday, June 8 from 6:00 to 6:45 PM. Attendees include scholarship recipients, their families, representatives of families who have established scholarships, members of the Board of Education, teachers and administrators, members of the Eastford Scholarship Committee and a representative of the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

The 2017 Eastford Scholarship recipients included graduating Woodstock Academy students and continuing college students:

- Dennis Barlow Scholarship—Emily Hughes
- Eleanor K. Lewis Scholarship—Cody Goodwin
- Edith Wheaton Smith Memorial Scholarship—
Collin Singleton, Kara Singleton, and Abigail Willis
- Esther and Lucie Harmon and Leta Sabin Trepal
Scholarship—Cameron Grube, Kiana Percy and
Liam Dyer
- Mary King Sharpe Memorial Business Scholarship—
Abigail Willis
- Emil Vaida Scholarship—Kiana Percy
- Harold Carpenter Fund Scholarship—Robert Johnson
- Ethel Gardner Scholarship—Dylan Grube and
Emma Kellermann

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 Elementary 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 Elementary School.

Donations to the scholarship funds are always welcome and can be made through the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut's web page (<http://www.cfect.org/donate>). Please type 'Eastford' in the search box of the online form for the list of Eastford Scholarships. You can also download a hard copy donation form to mail in from the Eastford web site (<http://www.eastfordct.org/DonationFormforScholarships>) or by contacting Eastford Elementary School for assistance.

**Eastford School Alumni Valedictorian and Salutatorian of
The Woodstock Academy**

Headmaster Christopher Sandford is pleased to announce the Valedictorian and Salutatorian of The Woodstock Academy class of 2017. Jake Owens was named Valedictorian and Emily Hughes was named Salutatorian. Jake Owens, although currently residing in Woodstock, is a graduate of Eastford School. Emily Hughes is also from Eastford and a graduate of Eastford School. Both Emily and Jake were high-powered and motivated students during their time at Eastford School and have continued to be top-performers at The Academy. Jake plans to study neuroscience at the University of California Berkley. Emily plans to study biomedical engineering at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Thanks from the Republican Town Committee

The Eastford Republican Town Committee wishes to thank everyone who supported our Mother's Day Rose Sale. Each year the Eastford Republican Town Committee supports several community endeavors by sponsoring camper scholarships at Camp Nahaco, contributing to the Eastford Food Pantry, and providing funding for the eighth grade Washington D.C. trip. Thank you again.

Jen Page, Chairman, Eastford RTC

EASTFORD FOOD PANTRY

By Karen and Steve Broderick

As coordinators of the Eastford Food Pantry, we would like to thank the many residents of Eastford who have helped replenish supplies to our pantry. We especially want to thank Adam Minor and the Eastford Baptist Church Olympians Youth Group who recently collected 200 items for the pantry. Financial donations are critical and allow us purchase essential items that are missing from our pantry. Thank you to Mary & Robert Parker, Robert Williams and Susan Burns for their recent cash donations. We also want to thank the several anonymous donors who have brought food and/or checks to the town hall. It is very much appreciated. Part of the definition of a real community is that we are willingly help one another out in times of need. Eastford continues to prove that we are a close knit community of caring, generous people. Many, many thanks to you all. 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 860-974-1618, or contact the First Selectman's Office.



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Report from Eastford Seniors

On National Law Day, Senior Judge of the Superior Court Angelo L. dos Santos joined the Eastford Senior Citizens and guests at the Eastford Town Office Building to discuss the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The Amendment declared that all citizens (including former slaves) were citizens of the United States and of the state where they resided. Further, it required "due process" for all actions taken by our government. Law Day is celebrated every year on May 1 since 1958 when President Eisenhower declared that one day each year should be set aside to celebrate the unique laws of our country. In 1961, the United States congress confirmed the action of the president. Judge dos Santos began with the history of the 14th amendment from Lincoln to present day, with attention paid to citizenship rights and legal rights to all people, including requirements for due process and the importance of habeas corpus. The judicial branch of our state encourages judges to speak on the yearly topic to all citizens in Connecticut. This year's topic was the many protections afforded by the 14th Amendment to the United States constitution, which passed after our nation's civil war, during the "Reconstruction Era." A lively question and answer period followed. Vice President Chris Chvirko, stated, "I was surprised at Angelo's wide extent of knowledge" and asked that he "return to speak again." Honorary Member, William "Bill" S. Hopkins, enthusiastically agreed. Judge Angelo dos Santos, a judge for 16 years, was recently appointed for another 8-year term. He enjoys sharing his knowledge with groups in our community. He has presided over cases involving criminal law, housing, family law and juvenile law in Bristol Superior Court, Hartford Housing Session, Rockville Superior Court, & Windham Superior Courts. dos Santos has such distinctions as The Americo S. Ventura Lifetime Achievement Award, Official Citations from The State of Connecticut Senate & The General Assembly, and an Office of Secretary of State Certificate.


The discussion was part a luncheon organized by the Eastford Senior Citizens. The support of the Town of Eastford, ClearCaptions, LLC, Coriander Country Store & Café, Woodstock's So-leil & Sons, & Ashford's KSK Food Market, made this program possible.

SAVE THE DATES: Thurs., JUNE 8 - Eastford Seniors Canterbury Car Caravan - Boarding cars begins at 10:45 AM, with departure from the Lower Level of Eastford Town Office Building at 11 AM. Caravan includes a FREE Tour of The Prudence Crandall Museum. (Lunch, at your own expense.) Register, before 12(Noon) Mon., June 5, 860-538-8868. **Sat., JULY 15** - Combined Senior Picnic 12 (Noon) - 2 PM Grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, & more, prepared by volunteers from Both Eastford Senior Citizens & Ashford Senior Center. Seniors are encouraged to bring guests. Location is Ashford Senior Center, 25 Tremko Lane, Ashford, CT. Members \$3, Non-Members \$6, & children (under 7) \$3. To Reserve a Meal, sign up at Ashford Senior Center by 12(Noon) Monday, July 9, 2017.

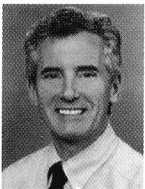
Recreation Commission News

By Valerie Katkaveck, Chair

We have changed the monthly meetings for June, July and August to the first Wednesdays at 7 pm. Anyone who is interested is welcome to join the meetings. Sue Orcutt's Yoga returns to beautiful Nahaco Park Wednesday nights at 5:30 Starting June 7 ~ Indoors or out, depending on weather. Yoga will be continuing at the Town hall Monday nights on June 19 and 26 at 5:30 pm and Friday mornings at 8:15 am. This years Experience Eastford/Heritage Day plans include a Climbing Wall, "Birds of Prey" Exhibit, Climbing Wall, Balloons and face painting. All activities will be free. Come and Experience Eastford.

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Attach a 5 x 7 photo depicting your dogs greatness
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~ Sponsored by the Recreation Commission ~

**EASTFORD GROVE CEMETERY
REQUEST FOR DONATIONS**

Kindly consider assisting the Eastford Grove Cemetery Association in its pursuit of efficient perpetual care of the Grove Cemetery. We are a non-profit group that does not receive funding from the Town of Eastford. A tax deductible donation from you will help us meet present and future beautification and maintenance requirements. Contribution in any amount will allow us to continue to meet the goal of providing a well-maintained, respectable final resting place for your loved ones.

Additionally, you could leave a gift to the Eastford Grove Cemetery Association in your will or living trust, known as a bequest. This allows you to offer future support without giving up assets today. Or, you may also wish to consider making "The Grove Cemetery Association" the recipient of a memorial donation ("in lieu of flowers").

We appreciate your consideration of our appeal and welcome any questions or concerns regarding the cemetery operation. Questions? Call (860) 974-1349. You may also visit our website at: <https://sites.google.com/site/eastfordgrovecemetery/>

Yes, I would like to help. Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

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Gift in memory of _____

Send to: Eastford Grove Cemetery Assoc., Inc. P.O. Box 284, Eastford, CT 06242

IN APPRECIATION

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Donations are tax-deductible and can be mailed to: EGCA, Inc. P.O. Box 284, Eastford, CT 06242



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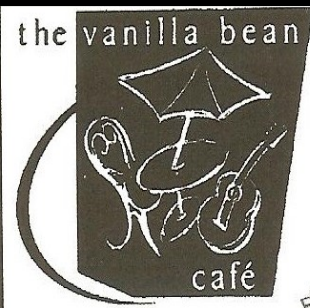
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Interested in Agriculture:

The Eastford Agriculture Committee is looking for new members. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to our next meeting on Thursday, June 15th at 7 p.m. downstairs at the Town Office Building. Or email: select-men@townofeastford.com.



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 Carl & Evelyn Pfalzgraf

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
	Tom French
	Megan Calchera

All items for The Eastford Communicator must include sub-
 mitter'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 Com-
 municator. The Communicator will not print items it regards as
 offensive or slanderous.

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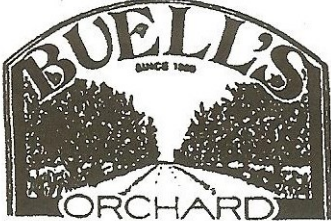
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