

New Lawn Planters for Eastford Elementary School??

No...this is the steam boiler that was decommissioned by Mark Sheldon, Jim Trowbridge, Hans Wanner, and Paul Torcellini. Eastford prides itself on being a community of volunteers. True to that spirit, Mark Sheldon organized this team of volunteers to decommission and remove the old steam boiler



from the basement of EES, saving the Town up to \$10,000, the amount it could cost to pay to have it removed. Thanks to Ray Bergeron, owner of Eastford Building Supply, and forklift operator Derek Montigny, the boiler parts were safely removed from the grounds of the school and brought to the transfer station by Mark Sheldon. The \$500 received for the value of the scrap metal was donated to the Student Activity account of Eastford Elementary School. Thank you Mark, Jim, Hans, Paul, Derek, and Eastford Building Supply. Your spirit of volunteerism is a wonderful example of community members coming together and "taking action" to get the job done!

Donna P. Leake, PhD, Superintendent,
Stephen Bowen, Chair
Eastford Board of Education
(Ed Note: See also Selectman's Snippets, p3)

THRU THE YEARS AT BOWEN FIELD—You can help!

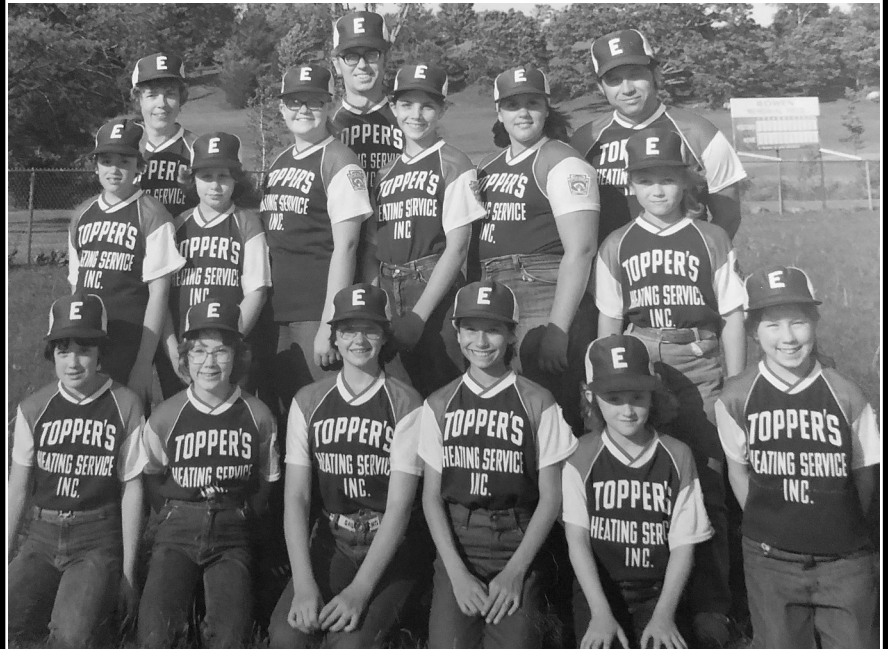


Photo above: 1981 Girls Little League Division Champions

Front row: Karen Grube, Laurie Slye, Jen Kasper, Michele Kozey, Tracy Whitley and Faith Vinal; Second row: Vicki Scranton, Nancy Fabian, LuAnn Hilton, Julie Urban, Marsha Willich, and Marcy Matthews. Back row: Manager Marian Slye, Coaches Jim Slye & Greg Kozey (Story p7)

**MEMORIAL DAY
MAY 31, 2021
REMEMBER
THOSE WHO GAVE ALL**



EBC
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS BACK!



For kids going into grades Pre-K to 6!

Eastford Baptist Church
Aug. 2-6, 5:45-8:15 p.m.

Bible lessons, games, snacks and more!

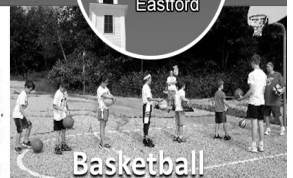
COVID SAFE!

Register online at www.eastfordbaptist.com!

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UW Sports Ministry and
3 community churches!

Sports Camp (Ages 4 – 12)
cceastford.org/sports-camp/

Congregational
Church
of
Eastford



Held at Eastford Elementary School (\$50/camper)



Cheerleading



Flag Football



Soccer

EBC
eastford baptist church

July 19 – 23, 2021 (8:30 am - 12:15 pm)

LIVING PROOF CHURCH
www.livingproofchurch.com

Eastford Old Cemetery Report



Restoration is in progress at Eastford's Old Cemetery.

The Sally Clapp Sumner stone is to be repaired/leveled reset (photo of the month).

Your donation will help.

I wish to contribute to the Old Cemetery Restoration Project.

My check in the amount of \$ _____, payable to Town of Eastford, is enclosed, with 'Old Cemetery' noted on the memo line.

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to: Eastford Selectmen's Office
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MONDAY, MAY 31, 2021

REMEMBER THOSE WHO GAVE ALL

History of Memorial Day:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial_Day



Dana P. Woods, MD William J. Kaufold, MD
Jennifer L. Capstick, OD Timothy J. Brangan, LO

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Selectman's Snippets

Budget- In hopes to continue the practice of in person meetings the Board of Selectmen has agreed to reschedule both the Town Budget Hearing for May 24 at 7pm and that the Town Meeting will be held the week of June 7th at 7pm at EES. Unfortunately, we do not have a confirmed date.

However, we must take necessary actions to follow the Executive Orders from our Governor. Therefore, we will keep you informed on how we may need to approach the process via teleconference/hybrid if in person is not permissible. As in past practice we will have the Proposed Budget copies available in the Post Office and at the Town Office Building prior to meetings.



I strongly encourage you to visit the Town website for all updates that apply to the Town of Eastford's events & operations:

www.eastfordct.org/eastford

Community – Great things happen in our community!

* Thank you to all that contribute to the Food Pantry. Your donations and continuous efforts reach the tables of our neighbors.
* On April 20, 2021 a group of volunteers came together to remove the old boiler from the Eastford Elementary School. Their efforts saved the Town \$10,000, and the value of the scrap from the boiler will be given as funding to the Elementary School to aid in the education of our students. The spirit of volunteerism and citizen involvement are vitally important to a small, rural community; and are humbling to witness in action. I would like to express my gratitude to those who assisted in the removal of the boiler, for their hard work, and for showing us by example how we can all make a difference in bettering our Town and community.

* Thank you to the residents who voluntarily clean up our roadsides to aid in the beautification of our lovely Town.

* Thank you to the Recreation Committee! The Scavenger Hunt was a great success.

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

Road Safety – Please drive the speed limit! Distractions while driving can be dangerous. Be mindful of children/adults walking or riding bikes to school or for recreation.

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

Police Services – During the month of March, Troop D responded to 28 calls. These calls of service included Accidents: 0, Criminal Invest: 2, Burglaries: 0, Larcenies: 0, Traffic Citations: 0, Written Warning: 3, and Non-Reportable Matters: 26.

Respectfully yours, Jacqueline Dubois, First Selectman

Of Special Note: MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 31-REMEMBER THOSE WHO GAVE ALL; ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING May 24 (back cover): The Historical Society needs your help with school photos (see EHS *Did You Know-May Baskets*—back cover & p8); Scouts (p7); School News (pp4-5); Conservation & Historic Preservation (p8); Veterans (p11); Seniors (p11); Food Pantry (p10); Emergency Preparedness (p6); Grove Cemetery (p9); Old Cemetery Restoration (p2); Eastford Independent Fire Co. (p6); Bowen Field (front/back cover, p7).

Please consider donating to Eastford organizations—addresses in Eastford 06242:

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's*: Old Cemetery Preservation Committee (POB 98); Food Pantry (POB 98); Union Society Building (POB 98); Crystal Pond Park Commission (POB 98).



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Linda Whiteley

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

Photo (right) is of The Eastford Grove Cemetery on Rt. 198, showing flags displayed from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. (See p9 for information)



School Readiness by Maribeth Stearns, Readiness Liaison

Eastford's School Readiness Preschool Program has continued to provide exemplary programming throughout this difficult year. Initially, preschoolers were able to attend four days per week this school year, and then in mid-October transitioned to 4 ½ days along with the rest of the school. Families were able to choose complete remote learning, if so desired, or to delay enrollment until next year, and we allowed more children to attend just a half-day program than is typically allowed through our Readiness Grant funding. Children and staff adapted to the new rules of mask wearing, distancing, and **not** sharing materials and yet have still been able to learn, laugh and enjoy school!

Connecticut's School Readiness Program was developed to enable all children to access quality preschool education and therefore asks programs that receive grant funding to maintain a level of enrollment dedicated to families whose income is at or below 75% of the State Median Income (SMI). Eastford's Readiness program allows for 17 children, due to the size of the room and licensing requirements. The State grant finances this program for 13 full day slots and 4 part day (half-day) slots. Eastford's Program has typically been able to meet these standards and provide a preschool experience for most families wishing to enroll their children. For the fall of 2021, however, there are currently 25 children seeking to attend. Anticipating this several years ago, the Eastford Readiness Council devised a Flow Chart to help prioritize enrollment and align with the considerations provided for in the School Readiness Program grant. Below is a summary of this chart:

- Child must be age 3 or 4 by December 31 of enrollment year.
 - Priority is given to children in the program the previous year.
 - Priority is given to children whose family income falls at or below 75% of SMI. If program does not meet State standard of 60% of families under 75% of SMI, registration is opened to non-resident families in that category.
- Then, remaining slots will be filled based on date of fully completed registration (a fully completed registration includes **all** required documents, including a current family income statement)

This year, families who have submitted a completed registration will be notified by June 30 as to whether or not they will be enrolled for the fall of 2021. Please call or email the school for further information about the registration and enrollment process for the School Readiness Program at Eastford Elementary School.

Congratulations!

THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY Q3 HONOR ROLL 2020-2021

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Lily Patenaude**

GRADE 11:

**Jordan Chiles, Henry Driscoll,
Anna Kellermann**

GRADE 10:

Tessa Brown, Aubrey Rumrill, Jack Tyler

GRADE 9:

Kerry Blais, Zoe Ender, Hunter Larson

HONORS

GRADE 12:

Emme Miglietta

GRADE 11:

Kamila Wysocki

GRADE 10:

Gavin Driscoll, Jakub Sarzynski

GRADE 9:

Elizabeth Bishop-Klee, Hunter Haynes

RECOGNITION

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Clayton Singleton

GRADE 11:

Riley Driscoll, Tavian Santos

GRADE 10:

Madison Bates, Max Larkin

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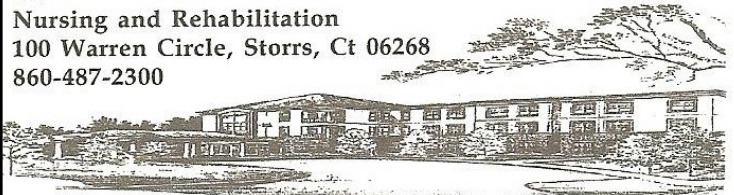
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From the Principal by Carole McCombe

With the flowers blooming and the weather warming up, we plan to take full advantage of the last few weeks we have with our students before the summer break. Throughout the months of May and early June, many activities and year-end culminating experiences will take place. We are doing our best to work around Covid-imposed restrictions to celebrate student learning in a year that has been very challenging for everyone. Carefully check for newsletters and notices home, as well as information posted on our school website: www.eastfordct.org, so you don't miss anything!

Before we get to that point though, students in grades 3-8 will complete their Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAC) in ELA and Math and students in grades 5 and 8 will also take the Next Generation Science Standards Assessment (NGSS). These assessments are un-timed and completed solely on computers. Students are encouraged to come to school well rested and prepared to do their best work. Classroom teachers will provide more specific information to families regarding testing days and special schedules. Any questions regarding the assessments or testing schedule should be directed to classroom teachers.

Our Preschool and Kindergarten programs are both planning transition activities for current students and incoming students for next school year. Please check our school website for updated information regarding these events. If you have children eligible to attend either Preschool or Kindergarten and have not yet registered, please contact the school office as soon as possible so we can get necessary information out to you. The school office phone number is 860-974-1130 and our website is: www.eastfordct.org.

We are proud to say that we have made it though this pandemic year with students primarily learning in-person all school year. This is a huge testament to the dedication of our staff and families who tirelessly headed guidance from our nurse, Mrs. Roto, and diligently followed ever-changing protocols to remain as healthy as possible. I am proud of the entire school community for their achievements this school year!



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From the Superintendent's Office by Donna Leake, PhD

When I wrote the Communicator article last May, we were about 45 days into a school closure that we were still hopeful would end before June. It didn't. On August 31, however, with much preparation by our school staff, ongoing input from the Eastford Reopening Committee and Zoom meetings with families, while many schools remained remote or at best hybrid, we were among the fortunate few that opened our doors to in-person learning.

As vaccinations increase and the rates of positive cases have stabilized or decreased, there has been new information released by the Governor's office, the State Department of Public Health and the National Center for Disease Control regarding changes in travel and public space restrictions. School administration and health personnel have been advised to continue our mitigation strategies as we move through this time of decreased restrictions. With continued adherence to all safe-school recommendations, we have been very fortunate at EES to have been in open session this school year through April with very few disruptions. With the continued diligence, cooperation and support of all members of the Eastford Learning Community, I remain hopeful that we will have a strong finish to the 2020-21 school year. For your convenience, we have posted the most updated Finish Strong document on the school webpage.

At the April meeting, the BOE took the following actions:

- * Accepted, with regret, the resignations of Melissa Lessard, our 5-8 English/Language Arts teacher, and Lori Reynolds, our 5-8 Mathematics teacher, after years of dedicated service to the students of EES. They will definitely be missed by all members of our learning community. We all thank them for their years of service and support them in their decision to accept positions in another district that provides them with new professional opportunities.

- * Reduced the 2021-22 budget request to 5.50% in response to preliminary savings in the area of special education programming. This represents a \$220,764 increase over the 2020-21 budget. Thank you to Mrs. Chretien, our Pupil Services Director, for her continued diligence to be fiscally responsible while remaining consistently responsive to the needs of all our students with special needs.

- * Approved a series of transfers: \$7,500 from Salary, Para, SE to Substitutes, Custodial and Other; \$8,000 from Stipend, Extra Duty to Tuition, SE, Public; and \$6548 from Sports Stipends - \$3,624.13 to Tuition, SE, Public; \$2,419.84 to Tuition, Secondary, EastConn and \$504.03 to SE Services.

- * Accepted the Scholarship Committee's nomination of Micah Torcellini as the recipient of the Ethel Cushing Gardner Scholarship. Micah is currently a first-year student at Patrick Henry College. Miss Gardner, a long time resident and music teacher in Eastford, bequeathed a generous scholarship program that provides support to Eastford students interested in the area of music. Congratulations Micah!

In closing, with the onset of warmer temperatures, the colorful bursts of spring flowers and the sound of birds returning to their summer homes, I am hopeful that we said goodbye, in April, to our last brush with winter weather. I would be remiss, however, as the plows are finally being removed from the trucks, not to thank the members of Eastford Public Works Department, Ben Schmidt and James Roy, for their continued dedicated service to the Town of Eastford. Their many late night and very early morning efforts allowed EES to open safely on many a wintry morning. Thanks also to school custodians Dale Lundy and Chris Pittman for their ongoing efforts to keep our pathways clear of ice and snow for safe transit at arrival and dismissal times.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns dleake@eastfordct.org.

EASTFORD INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY #1, INC by: Jeannine Spink

WELCOME ENGINE TANKER 271

On Saturday, March 27, 2021, members welcomed the arrival of our newest addition to the fleet of the Eastford Independent Fire Company, #1, Inc.

THANK YOU EASTFORD TAXPAYERS FOR SAYING "YES"



ET, "Engine Tanker" is designed for fire suppression and carries a wide variety of equipment for fires and motor vehicle accidents. ET271 has a 6-man, custom built cab to adequately and safely carry personnel. ET271 carries 1,000 gallons of water and has multiple pre-connected hose lines to get water quickly. ET271 will respond to all fire and motor vehicle related calls within Eastford and occasionally assist our mutual aid companies in larger scale incidents.

Stop by any Wednesday night around 7:00 p.m. to get a guided tour of this state-of-the art piece of equipment.

Thank you to all who regularly and generously contribute to our operating budget. If you wish to participate in the financial support of the EIFC, your tax deferred donation can be sent to: EIFC, PO Box 333, Eastford, CT 06242.

News You Can Use by Deb Richards - Emergency Management Director Public Health Needs You! Especially Now!



The Northeast District Department of Health is always in need of *medical and non-medical* volunteers to assist with public health response and emergencies...and as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, you are needed more than ever. We are building our ranks to be ready for activation when needed. The situation is very fluid, so your patience and flexibility are most appreciated.

Bring us your skills and we will provide training and guidance for the roles in which you are needed.

For more information about the Northeast Connecticut Medical Reserve Corps:

contact NDDH at
860-774-7350

<https://www.nddh.org/services/emergency-preparedness/medical-reserve-corps/>

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Scout Troop 92 Report

Scouts enjoyed a hike at the historic New Church Farm Trail on the Ashford Mansfield line. Six Scouts and four adults hiked the 2.5 mile loop with mixed elevation changes. For information about upcoming events including summer camp and crossover for Webelos into Scouts, contact Nord at: nordy177@gmail.com. Troop 92 BSA Ashford/Eastford/Pomfret

Nord Yakovleff Ast Sct Mstr
Cory Blanchette Scout Master
Chris Murphy Ast Sct Mstr



Photo: Eastford Scouts hike the New Church Farm trail loop (l-r): Enzo Miglietta, Cody Blanchette, Jacob Murphy

Bowen Field Memories & How to Help (continued from p1 & back cover):

by Barbara Urban with Marian & Jim Slye

Spring ... brings back lots of memories of days and evenings spent at the little league field in Eastford several decades ago. Having three kids on three different teams meant spending five evenings a week at games. Having spent literally thousands of hours over the course of many seasons, it is a privilege to donate to the refurbishment of the field so other kids can experience what my kids enjoyed on that field. All children who wanted to play were accepted on a team. Teddy Kozey and I coached the Farm Team (ages 7-9). Our youngest daughters were players. It was quite an experience teaching most of the girls the fundamentals of softball, some of whom had never played before. I still remember girls out in the infield swatting bugs with their gloves, or picking dandelions, and throwing them up in the air, because the ball was rarely hit to them out there and they got bored!

Marian Slye was the Manager of the girls Little League team (ages 9-12), with her husband Jim and Greg Kozey as coaches. Back then, the manager had to be female for a girls team. Fathers were often pulled off the stadium to umpire the bases, and Chris Bowen, Matt Nowakowski, or Ernie Nowakowski were often seen behind home plate as umpires. Nancy Fabian or Vicki Scranton were the catchers most of the time, and Jennifer Kasper was an outstanding pitcher, with Karen Grube, Tracey Whitley, and Laurie Slye as relief pitchers. Some other players I can pull from memory are LuAnn Hilton, Michele Kozey, Julie Urban, Marsha Willich, and Faith Vinal. The 1981 Little League girls were Divisional Champions. After winning the division, they went into the State competition. When Madison brought their girls team to Eastford for the first state championship game, they asked where the batting cage was so they could warm up. We had to tell them Eastford had no batting cages. (Next month: Boys in Little League).

You Can Help Bowen Field for 1,000 Little Leaguers by Randy Esposito, Director, District 12 Little League

You can help with donations of time or money. District 12 Little League is a community-based, 501c(3) nonprofit organization that brings baseball and softball to some 1,000 children from Willington to Thompson, and also operates the Challenger program, an adaptive baseball program for children with physical and intellectual disabilities. Thank you Volunteers from Eastford and other towns who showed up in April to offer help repairing the field. **If you would like to discuss any potential donations of time, money or labor please feel free to contact me at:** (860) 377-5500 or randy@ctdistrict12.org **To donate, mail your checks to:** CT District Little League District 12, 770 Route 198, Woodstock Valley, CT 06282.

Thank you Donors:

- * Industrial Pallet
- * Carol Davidge
- * Sherry Urban Sheehan
- * Barbara Urban

THE EASTFORD CONSERVATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

OPEN SPACE FUNDING

by Mary Ellen Ellsworth, co-chair, for the ECHPC

Over the years, Eastford citizens have affirmed their wish to retain our Town's rural character.

In 2002, at a Special Town Meeting, citizens voted unanimously to establish an Open Space Fund. Additions to that Fund were made every year through 2014. For the first four years, \$25,000 per year was added. Between 2007 and 2015, \$3,000 to \$19,000+ per year were added. Interest accrued to the Open Space Fund through 2007-2008.

The Open Space Fund allows the Town to work with landowners to preserve and protect properties significant to the environmental interests of the Town. Numerous aspects enter into such determinations, including soil quality, the presence of fresh water aquifers, wildlife corridors, and scenic outlooks. The ECHPC has created Natural Inventory Maps that can be used as lenses to examine the resources of any given property.

The Eastford Open Space Fund currently is just under \$177,000. It has been used several times, including to assist in the protection of the Brumbach Memorial Forest. Contributions have also been made toward legal fees, and toward matches to other agencies working to protect Eastford properties. Opportunities to protect sensitive properties sometimes come up quickly, and having a solid balance to operate from is essential when it comes time to move on high-priority parcels.

A conservation easement is chosen voluntarily by a property owner. It restricts the development of the land, and preserves forever the natural and historic characteristics of the given property. The family farm or orchard will remain a family farm or orchard. An historic home and its grazing fields will remain as they have been, into the future.

Open Space Preservation is also an effective budgeting tool in challenging economic periods. A home or condominium that might be built in Eastford will cost taxpayers more than it will bring in. One has to add in costs for the education of children who might reside in these places, potential maintenance and road improvements, and fire and property protection. Many studies affirm that Open Space brings in more money to the Town than it costs; the Town "makes money." A home or condominium costs the Town more than it brings in, thereby "losing money" for the Town.

The purchase of the Development Rights for significant Eastford properties helps to maintain our rural and small-town community.

DID YOU KNOW? Eastford Historical Society

by Linda Torgeson

Did you know that May Baskets were once a tradition at Eastford Elementary School?

Through the 19th and 20th centuries, May Basket Day celebrations once took place all across the nation on the first day of May. A basket, generally made of paper in the shape of a cone, was hung on someone's door. It could contain almost anything, but usually held small presents and/or flowers. It might also include a note expressing best wishes or intentions of love.

I graduated from Eastford Elementary School in 1962 and remember my class surprising our teacher each year with a May Basket. We would make the "basket" by taking a cardboard box, covering it in crepe paper and then decorating it. We would fill it with flowers, candies, and homemade goodies, all contributed by the students (and their mothers). There was also a handmade card signed by all of us. After lunch on the first day in May, our teacher returned to the classroom to discover the May Basket on their desk. But where were the students? We were all in hiding – mostly outdoors – and now the teacher had to find us. I must confess my memories of May Day celebrations is a little fuzzy, so I contacted a few school friends to test their memories. Most of us remembered May Baskets only in grades 5-8, but Bev Lindemann recalls hiding in 2nd grade. She remembers her brother, David (8th grade), rolling her in poster paper and hiding her in a closet. In 5th grade Scott Bunnell remembers Otto King, an 8th grade student, helping him find the perfect hiding spot. They hid together under a canvas that covered a piece of equipment next door at Alfred Warren's Garage (presently Eastford Fire, & Rescue). The spot was so good they finally drew tired of hiding and came out to join their class. In either 7th or 8th grade I recall that our teacher, Mr. Ellsworth, found all of us but 2 boys who had been hiding in the attic! The tradition sadly came to an end in the mid 60's when it was discovered that two boys had ventured off school grounds into the center of town.

Donations of original writings, old photographs, and small historical items are greatly appreciated. If you have items to donate or loan, please call Tom Latham, 860-074-1610 or Linda Torgeson, 860-933-0468. Kindly consider making a donation to the Society. Your support would be greatly appreciated. P.O. Box 350, Eastford, CT 06242.

The Historical Society is seeking your help with identifying individuals in historic school photos that may be viewed at: <https://eastfordct.org/domain/1137> and adding class or activity photos from before 1965 by emailing the images with names to: ehsarchives@gmail.com or call Tom at 860-974-1610. Thank you for your support.

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EASTFORD GROVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC

Notice

Submitted by the Board of Trustees

The Annual Meeting has been postponed until further notice.

- * **Flags:** American flags and Fire Department Flags will be placed at the cemetery on Friday, May 28th @ 5:00 p.m. The Memorial Day weekend is May 29-31, 2021; all flags are removed after Veterans' Day, November 11th.
- * **Flag Holder:** If you are interested in ordering a flag holder for your veteran's flag, contact Lauren Anderson at 860-974-1349 by **Friday, May 7th**.
- * **Plot/Space Purchase:** Appointments can be made to view the cemetery grounds and to select a plot for purchase. To make an appointment, call 860-974-1349.
- * **Plot Diagrams Available:** Plot owners, or a family member, may obtain a diagram of their plot by writing to: EGCA, INC. P.O. Box 284, Eastford, 06242.
- * **Mowing Season:** Between **March 15th and Thanksgiving, only live flowers** may be planted, or placed in plastic pots, **within 12" of the base of the monument**; all artificial flowers and ornaments are **prohibited during the mowing season and will be removed.**

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.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

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Information:
www.eastfordct.org/
townofeastford and Facebook:
Eastford CT06242
See also article in
Willimantic Chronicle,
Jan 23, 2021

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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: eastford.communicator@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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FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry would like to thank the many residents of Eastford who have helped replenish supplies to our pantry. Demand for our services remains high and thanks to our residents, we have been able to meet that demand. A very special thank you to Phil Finch, Will Halpin, Jeff Conrad and Jeff Sulloway for their donations of non-perishables. We would also like to thank Roger & Judith Boisvert, Brian & Lisa Kellerman, and Sherrie Barrett for their cash donations to our pantry. Thank you to Lynn Nelson for donations of birthday boxes. 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 with Food Pantry on the memo line and mailed to the Selectmen's Office, PO Box 98, Eastford 06242.

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 Selectmen's office.

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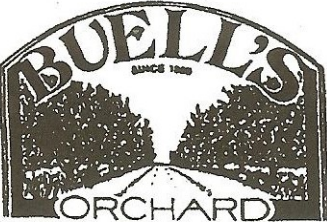
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The American Legion Post 203: In Honor of SSgt Joseph Phaneuf, II (KIA, December 15, 2006 in Afghanistan).

Donations are requested for the bench in Memory of Eastford's Gold Star Veteran. A stone bench with memorial plaque has been installed in Eastford's Veterans Memorial. Joe served with the Connecticut Army National Guard from 1987-1997 and 2001-2006 in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was killed in Action December 15, 2006 while serving with the 1st Battalion 102nd Infantry Unit. To make a donation to this memorial, send your check payable to: American Legion Post 203, and mailed to Post Office Box 131, Eastford, CT 06242. Thank you to those who have donated.

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.

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

Eastford Seniors by Linda SM dos Santos

May is Older American month. recognizing their contributions to this nation. After raising families & building careers, they have given back to their communities, neighborhoods, and nation by volunteering in many ways, such as reading to the blind, serving at soup kitchens, sharing their knowledge in a classroom, & much more. May also is a time to protect our older population from abuse & neglect.

Visit the Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut's Virtual 9th Annual Art Exhibition from 12 noon on May 3-May 27 and enjoy the painting and photography of artists 60+: www.aoascc.org/artofaging.

Living Well with Chronic Conditions & Living Well with Diabetes are two six-week courses that include a FREE Active Living Everyday Tool Kit, FREE Living a Healthy Life Book, and Free Exercise & Relaxation CD. Contact Lori Rygielski at lrygielski@seniorresourcesec.org or call 860-887-3561, ext 127.

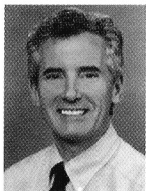
May is an exciting month for The Last Green Valley. Call 860-774-3300 for information regarding local events, or visit thelastgreenvalley.org

There are a variety of offerings at AARP.org/CTevents to register for FREE virtual workshops, such as, "Road to Livability" on May 11 at 6:30pm.

The TVCCA is now offering five tasty & nutritious frozen Grab-N-Go meals plus 1 quart of 1% milk & fruit cups (for a suggested donation of \$3/meal) on Mondays from 11:30 AM- 12:30pm. Please call the Quinebaug Valley Senior Center, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn, CT at 860-774-1243 to register by the Wednesday before.

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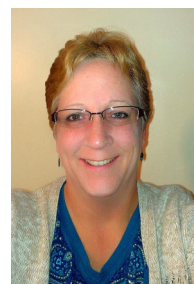
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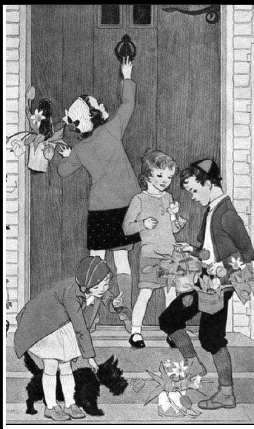
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DID YOU KNOW?
Eastford Historical Society by Linda Torgeson
Did you know that May Baskets were once a tradition at Eastford Elementary School? Through the 19th and 20th centuries, May Basket Day celebrations once took place all across the nation on the first day of May. A basket, generally made of paper in the shape of a... (see p8)

**TOWN OF EASTFORD ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING
FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022
Monday, May 24, 2021 7:00 pm**

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT
EASTFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYMNASIUM**

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Eastford Elementary School Gymnasium for the Town Government and Board of Education budgets for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

Copies of the budgets will be available in the afternoon of May 19, 2021 at the Town Office Building, Eastford Elementary School, and the Library. They will also be available at the hearing.
Board of Selectmen, Town of Eastford

BOWEN FIELD MEMORIES & HOW TO HELP (p7)



1979 Girls Farm Team. Front row (l-r) Karen Grube, Sharon Kozey, Julie Basto, Andrea Goodwin, Marcie Matthews, Trida Minor, Debbie Bowers, Beth Minor. Back row: Coach Barb Urban, Laurie Slye, Nancy Fabian, Marsha Willich, Jill Opper, Michele Kozey, Faith Vinal, (need i.d.), Coach Teddi Kozey.

Please note that during the COVID pandemic the Town Hall is closed to the public. All dog licenses can only be obtained through the mail. Please send a copy of rabies vaccine certificate from your veterinarian, a check made out to the Eastford Town Clerk and a return stamped envelope. Mail to: P.O. Box 98, Eastford CT 06242

**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 V.....\$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

**NEW
FIRE
TRUCK**
(See
EIFC
report
p6)



**MEMORIAL DAY MAY 31, 2021
REMEMBER THOSE WHO GAVE ALL**

Eastford Town Calendar & Notices of Meetings and Events:

www.eastfordct.org/eastford

