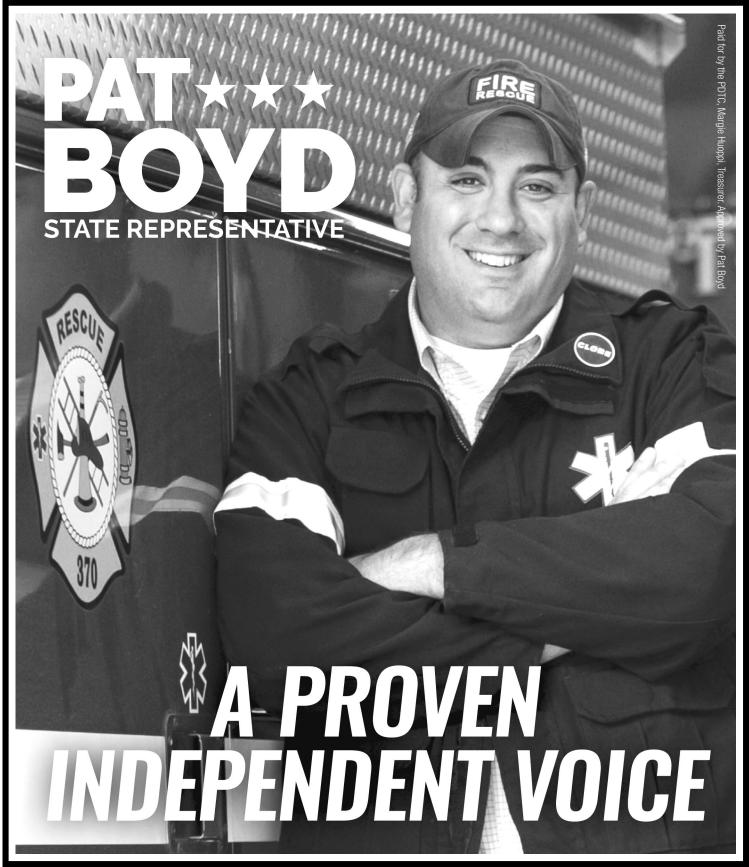
# The Eastford Communicator



#### EASTFORD INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY #1, INC by Jeannine Spink. Secretary

The October Steak Supper was a success, as usual. Thank you to those who purchased tickets. Our next supper is scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in April, 2019. On October 19th, students, faculty and staff participated in the Annual Fire Prevention event. At 9:30 a.m., a "simulated" fire alarm was activated, firefighters responded to the school to seek out the source of the alarm. During that time all were evacuated safely to the rear of the school for headcount. Upon completion of the drill 166 students proceeded to the gym for the fire prevention / fire safety program. Based on the drill, and visits, parents of children at the school can be assured that their children are safe. On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 52 Pre K/K students walked to the firehouse from the school to visit, climb on the trucks and have their pictures taken. It is always a treat to host these "budding members" annually. Being a member of the EIFC is not always hard work for us.Annual testing of ladders, hose, pumps and members who wear SCBA's (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) took place during September. All DOT inspections on all trucks were completed.

#### **HOW TO SURVIVE A FIRE IN YOUR HOME!**

The best way to protect everyone in your home from death or injury in a fire is to know what to do when you hear the sound of your smoke alarms.

**PLAN YOUR ESCAPE:** Sit down with everyone and talk about the best ways to get out quickly. Draw a floor plan of your home that shows 2 ways out of each room. Post your plan where all can see it. Agree on a meeting place away from the building. **PRACTICE YOUR ESCAPE:** Most fatal home fires happen at night. Close off some exits and pretend they're blocked. Practice escape plans every six months.

**BE PREPARED:** Make sure everyone can hear and recognize the sound of your alarms. Practice calling "911". Make sure all exits (windows, doors, stairways) are not blocked by debris and clutter. Make sure those with specific needs or the elderly can escape and someone is in charge of making that happen.

# IN A REAL FIRE, YOU MUST MOVE QUICKLY, CAREFULLY, AND CALMLY. WHEN THE SMOKE ALARM SOUNDS, GET OUT AND STAY OUT!

With winter storms, chimney fires, carbon monoxide poisonings and generator mis-use, emergencies are always higher. One of the most frequent fire emergencies is the disposal of ashes from fireplaces and woodstoves. Ashes must be disposed of in a metal pail. Do not use boxes or plastic containers. Once filled, place outdoors far away from structures or leaves that can ignite. Ashes can smolder for days.

Carbon monoxide poisoning, the "Silent Killer", can kill you. Improper heating is often the source. CO2 is odorless, colorless and tasteless. Symptoms are similar to flu: headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. Should symptoms start to present for members of the family and pets, evacuate the residence and call "911". The EIFC has special equipment to find the source of the alarm. Smoke detectors should be placed close to the ceiling. CO2 detectors need to be installed about 12 inches from the floor.

Follow manufacturer's instructions when installing and using a generator. Allow generator to cool before refueling. Store gasoline outside the living area. Ensure fumes do not enter living area. Keep children away from generators. Parts are hot and can result in burns. Generators should not be used inside a garage area.

\*

#### THE EIFC WISHES ALL A SAFE CLOSE TO 2018.

News You Can Use by Deb Richards, Director, Emergency Management United Way 2-1-1

United Way 2-1-1 is a free health and human service information and referral helpline. Calls are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 2-1-1 is certified by the American Association of Suicidology for crisis intervention and accredited by the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems. 2-1-1 began as Infoline in 1976 as a public/private partnership of United Way and the State of Connecticut. By the mid-eighties, Infoline gained national recognition as a model system. In 1999, 2-1-1 replaced Infoline's 800 number and became the first state to use 2-1-1 statewide. Dial 2-1-1 from anywhere in Connecticut and you will reach a highly-trained contact specialist who will assess your needs and provide referrals to the resources in your community. Every day, contact specialists help callers find assistance for complex issues such as financial problems or substance abuse and suicide prevention. Multilingual assistance and TDD access is also available.

#### BENEFITS TO THE USER

2-1-1 is a free, confidential service.

No more wrong numbers or wasted time trying to find the right resource.

One call connects you with the appropriate resources you need in your community.

Your call is answered by a trained professional.

It is always there for you—24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Translation services available in many languages.

TTY 800-671-0737

#### Sample Calls

A single mother who is worried about the gas shutoff notice she just received.

A person looking for fuel assistance.

A caller who is depressed, considering suicide and wants help.

A young woman with a disability inquires about available transportation.

A caller seeking information about eligibility for Food Stamps.

A caller looking for shelters open during a weather event.

Open position for Emergency Management Deputy Director. If you are interested in helping your community with mitigation, response and recovery, please contact EMD@townofeastford.org

# The Eastford Communicator

#### **Selectman's Snippets:**

Eastford Elementary School - Linda Loretz, Superintendent of Eastford's school system is leaving for retirement. She has been a treasure to our small community. Mrs. Loretz has always held high standards of herself, students, faculty, and staff. The wisdom of financial responsibility in our small rural town can be very challenging. Mrs. Loretz embraced this challenge and proved her financial wisdom while taking into consideration all the taxpayers of Eastford. I am thankful for having the opportunity to work with and witness the dedication and professionalism she delivered. Thank you for bringing your best to Eastford. May you enjoy retirement!

Thankful – This time of year we embrace the many things we are grateful for, especially the men and women who serve America. Also, the many volunteers that give their time and so



much more to keep our community strong. Let us all be grateful for family, community and country. Sharing your blessings and looking out for each other can bring us unity, and together we build a stronger community. I am thankful to serve you as First Selectman. I am thankful for the chance to do my part, as together we make a brighter future. From both Town Government and my family to yours, we'd like to wish you a happy Thanksgiving!

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

Registrar of Voters – It does not matter what your political party is; Deputies are wanted! This is an hourly paid part time position. Interested candidates would shadow their Registrar of Voters party and work to be appointed into a position. We encourage interested candidates to call 860-974-0133 ext. 3. You will need to leave your name and telephone number to set up a meet & greet to learn from the best! (continued p 4)

Of Special Note: CALENDAR (p5)

#### VOTE ON NOV. 6 Eastford Town Office Building, Lower Level 6am-8pm (16 Westford Rd.)

Not registered? Eastford citizens can register & vote on Election Day—Nov. 6—at TOB, 6am-8pm (October 30 was the last day to register online, at the DMV, by mail postmarked, or in person at Registrar of Voter offices).

After Oct. 30: newly eligible voters can register on Nov. 5 in person at the Registrars of Voters office at Eastford TOB (9am-5pm)

at Eastford TOB (9am-spm)
(newly eligible folks are those who became citizens after
Oct. 30, became 18 between Oct. 30 & Nov. 6,
or who are new to town since Oct. 30)
Citizens who are 18 by or on Nov. 6 can vote on Nov. 6
PLEASE THANK OUR REGISTRARS &
ELECTION-DAY POLL WORKERS
SAMPLE BALLOT (p11)

Nov. 17, 5pm—EES Auction (trip to Washington DC, p5) Thank you to Linda Loretz, Eastford's Retiring Superintendent of Schools (p6) Welcome Donna Leake, Eastford's New Superintendent of Schools (p4)

Holiday Events Congregational Church of Eastford (p5)

Nov. 7, 5:30 Seniors Harvest Potluck Dinner reservations required (p8)

Discounts to Museums, Destinations, Library (p8)

Computer Sale (p9)

#### THANK YOU DONORS!

In this time of Thanksgiving, please consider donating to local organizations, including: Town of Eastford: Food Pantry (POB 98, p8) YES-There is hunger in our small town.

Eastford Independent Fire Co. (POB 333, p6) Volunteers provide our emergency services.

Eastford Historical Society (POB 350, p5)
Town of Eastford: Union Society (POB 98, p7)
Grove Cemetery Assn. (POB 284, p10)
The Communicator also needs your donations!!
Many communities no longer receive town news
as printing & postage costs rise.

Donors & businesses who advertise make it possible for us to provide local news & information <u>FREE</u> every month to more than 900 Eastford households.

Please continue to support YOUR town paper.

Please Buy Local!

Our advertisers offer catering, take-out, fruit, gifts,

products, gift cards &

personalized service.

#### THANK YOU RECENT DONORS:

Anonymous
David & Frances Buchholz
Ken & Peggy Bernier
Thank you!

You are keeping The Eastford Communicator alive!

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

#### **Selectman's Snippets**

(continued)

Transfer Station – Thank you for keeping plastic bags, small items, and oil jugs out of the comingle-recycle bin. The contamination rate has dropped dramatically over the last few weeks. Please remember that small items are any articles under 5 inches, regardless of material. You can find more information about recycling through the town website. 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.

<u>Police Services</u> – During the month of September, Troop D responded to 34 calls. These calls of service included: Accidents: 0, Criminal Invest: 0, Burglaries: 0, Larcenies: 0, DUI'S: 0, Traffic Citations: 8, Written Warning: 3, and Non-Reportable Matters: 34.

Respectfully yours, Jacqueline Dubois, First Selectman

From State Sen. Tony Guglielmo and State Rep. Pat Boyd: Text 9-1-1: New Service Provides Ability to Send a Text Message in an Emergency When Absolutely Necessary, Including for Those with Disabilities and in Situations When a Voice Call is Not Safe. Text-to-911 provides residents with the ability to send a text message to 9-1-1 from a handheld device in emergency situations when it is either unsafe or they are unable to place a voice call. To use Text-to-911, enter the numbers "911" in the "to" or "recipient" field on a mobile phone or other handheld device. Text the location of the emergency & services needed (police, fire, ambulance). Answer questions and follow-up instructions will come from the 9-1-1 call center.

#### Merlo's Home Improvement

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>Bathroom Vanities

>Entertainment Centers

>Hutches

>Interior Finish Work

>Exterior Finish Work

>Additions

>Remodeling

>Garages >Ro
Lauren Merlo

>Roofing

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**Kevin Tedford** 

Owner



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#### **New School Superintendent Announcement:**

At its October meeting, the Eastford Board of Education elected a new superintendent to begin December 1, 2018. Subsequent to the meeting, Board Chair Christine Hustus released the following statement:

At their meeting on Thursday, October 11th, The Eastford Board of Education unanimously appointed Dr. Donna P. Leake as the district's new superintendent effective December 1, 2018. Dr. Leake emerged as the top candidate from a strong field of applicants. She will assume duties as Mrs. Linda Loretz retires from the district after more than 16 years of devoted service. Mrs. Loretz came to Eastford as our principal in August 2002. She served as principal and superintendent for 4 years, and has served solely as superintendent for the past 4+ years. Eastford Board of Education Chair Christine Hustus said, "Though we are sorry to see Linda leave, we are delighted to be welcoming Donna Leake to Eastford. Of all the candidates, she was the best fit and clear choice to join us and support our growth."

Dr. Leake is a dynamic educator who has served for the past three years as Director of Campus Life at the University of New Haven's Lyme Academy College. She spent three years prior to that as the Coordinator of Internships at University of New Haven. Donna has served as Superintendent of Schools in two small, PreK-8 districts: Sprague and Salem. She also served for 16 years as an administrator in Cheshire, including ten as principal of an elementary school. She brings to Eastford a love of children, passion for effective leadership and nurturing of staff, expertise in curriculum and instruction, and a spirit of curiosity. She has a history of improving student learning and engaging community members in the education of children. Donna said, "I feel privileged and thrilled to provide the collaborative leadership and support necessary to move forward the excellent educational initiatives that this warm and caring community of teachers, staff, parents, guardians, and community members aspires to provide to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of all its children."

Mrs. Hustus noted, "Donna is passionate about education, children, and school leadership and is excited to become our superintendent. She brings all the qualities, characteristics, and skills we identified through our focus groups and surveys as most important to the success of our next leader."

Donna received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from the University of Connecticut, a Master of Arts in Education from Fairfield University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut.





The Annual Eastford Goods & Services Auction Saturday, Nov 17—Doors Open at 5pm Silent Auction 5pm Live Auction Begins at 7pm **Bake Sale All Night** 

Dinner will be sold by local BBQ experts Sugar & Smoke from Putnam, CT Pulled pork, cornbread, & other specialties will be available for purchase!

Please help support students in 5-8 grades as they raise money for the annual trip to Washington DC! Like us on Facebook for Updates:

Eastford Elementary School Auction

FREE EVENTS - Congregational Church of Eastford 8 Church Road 860-974-0294

office@cceastford.com www.cceastford.org

- 1. "Surviving the Holidays" Seminar on Wednesday, November  $14^{th}$  from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. For those who are grieving the loss of loved ones. RSVP appreciated so we have materials
- 2. "Smart Money Live Stream" with Dave Ramsey on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> from 7:45 – 10:45 pm. Are your finances out of control? Is the paycheck-to-paycheck life leaving you feeling panicked and insecure? Is debt keeping you from achieving your financial dreams? Learn to take control of your money. Sign up at https://fpu.com/1076344.
- 3. "Pie Night" on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm. We will give thanks for all that we have received and then share some pie and celebrate together!
- 4. "Community Christmas Dinner" on Tuesday, December 4th at noon. Woodstock Academy Hill Singers will perform with free dinner to follow. RSVP needed by Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup> as seating is limited!

#### **Eastford School Readiness Council**

Maribeth Stearns, Liaison, 860-974-1130

November finds the preschoolers in Eastford's School Readiness Program exploring various aspects of fall. They have inspected fall leaves, both outdoors and indoors, looking at a variety of the leaves through magnifying glasses, doing crayon rubbings and comparing size, shape and color. They have also been able to pick apples at Buell's Orchard and enjoy eating them back at school! Our young group continues to settle in to the preschool and learn the daily routines. Our Preschool Team has been working on the re-accreditation of our program through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). This involves an intense review of all of our policies and practices, the updating of portfolios that will be submitted to the organization and a chance to really look at our program and plan for the future. We will be updating as we go through this process

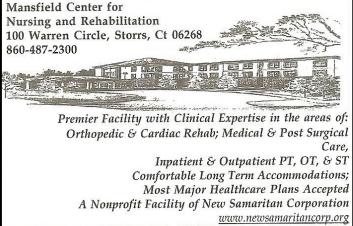
#### November, 2018 Calendar

- Yoga, TOB, 10:30am 11:30am
- AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- Registrar of Voters, TOB, 9am 5pm
- Election Day, TOB, 6am 8pm School Readiness Council, EES, 5:30pm Democratic Town Committee, Library, 7pm
- Crystal Pond Park Commission, TOB, 6pm
- BOE, EES, 7pm 8
- Yoga, TOB, 8:15 9:15am
- AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm 10
- Yoga, TOB, 5:30 6:30pm
- Planning Commission, TOB, 7pm Conservation Commission, Library, 7pm
- **Communicator Deadline** Registrar of Voters, TOB, 5pm – 7pm "Surviving Holidays," Cong. Church, 6:30pm BOS, TOB, 7pm
- 15 Inland Wetlands Commission, TOB, 7pm
- 16 Yoga, TOB, 8:15 9:15am
- AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- Clean Energy, TOB, 7pm
- 20 Republican Town Committee, Library, 7pm
- Recreation Commission, TOB, 4:30pm "Pie Night," Cong. Church, 7pm (free)
- 24 AA Meeting, TOB, 7:30pm
- 26 American Legion, TOB, 7:30pm
- 27 Transfer Station Committee, TOB, 1pm
- 28 Registrar of Voters, TOB, 5pm 7pm
- Deadline-Register for free Holiday Dinner, Congregational Church (Save Date: Dec 4, 12N)

#### **DID YOU KNOW?** Eastford Historical Society

Did you know that at one time there were 4 general stores operating in Eastford center? Issac Bowen operated in what is now David Olsen's wood-working shop; A.M Bowen's store stood by the bridge where Bowen's Garage is today, and Dwight Lyon ran his business out of a house that once stood behind the Ivy Glenn Memorial. The fourth general store was owned by Foster Dean and was located on the site of the EIFC Fire House. The building was dismantled, moved to Putnam, and rebuilt on Bridge Street. At the same time a house located on the A.M. Bowen property was also moved to Putnam and rebuilt on Grove Streets. The Historical Society seeks community support to continue its mission of collecting, preserving, and sharing documents and artifacts that help tell the story of Eastford's unique history. Kindly consider supporting our mission by becoming a member or renewing you membership. Both volunteer and financial support is greatly appreciated. (Editor Note: Mail Donations to: Eastford Historical Society, POB 350, Eastford 06242.





#### **Board of Education Report by Linda Loretz**

At its October Board of Education meeting, in addition to electing a new superintendent, the Board set the meeting dates for 2019. The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month in the school library. The public is always invited. Additionally, the Board updated polices related to Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children and Confidentiality and Access to Education Records. All Board policies can be found on the website under the Board of Education tab (www.eastfordct.org). The Board of Education voted to adjust the start and end times of the student day. Students at Eastford Elementary School will now be considered on time if they arrive by 8:50 AM. They may begin arriving at 8:25 AM. The school day now ends at 3:25 PM. This is my last official submission to the Eastford Communicator since I am retiring and my last day in the office will be November 29. I will miss all of the amazing people I have met in this great small town of Eastford. I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to have worked in Eastford. My life has been enriched by Eastford experiences and it is impossible to describe how rewarding it has been to serve the Eastford community. I will always be proud of the Eastford School District and the passionate commitment of staff, parents and elected officials working together to provide the best education for all of Eastford's children.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# Editor's Note: Please consider the EIFC when making your annual donations to charities.

The Eastford Independent Fire Co. No. 1, as 100% volunteer, rely on the generous annual monetary support received from the town. BUT, finances are tight in order to keep our doors open and serve you best. Often vehicle emergencies, replenishment of supplies and equipment fall outside the budgeted yearly allotment. Donations help the EIFC make a difference in OUR community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can send your tax-deductible donation to: EIFC, PO Box 333, Eastford, CT. 06242. You will receive by return mail a thank you showing the amount and date check was written for tax purposes.



Open 7 Days M-F 6:30am-6pm Sat 9am-5pm Sun 9am-4pm

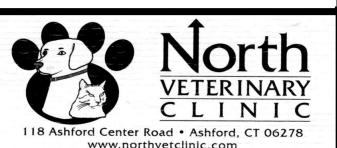
Mountain Dairy Milk
Hershey's Ice Cream
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Del's Lemonade Schooner's Iced Tea
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Eastford Elementary School Report by Carole McCombe, Principal

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Eastford Volunteer Fire Department for once again providing fire safety instruction and materials to students during our Fire Prevention Week activities. The students were very excited to explore the fire trucks and learn about the firefighters' gear and equipment!

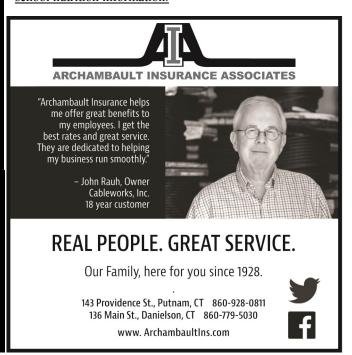
Eastford Elementary School posts a monthly newsletter on the school website. Each newsletter provides curricular highlights and detailed descriptions of school events. You can find the newsletter at: <a href="www.eastfordct.org">www.eastfordct.org</a>. Go to the tab 'For Parents' and click on Newsletters. I also communicate news and reminders via email so it is important that you let the school know if you are not receiving emails from me, or if your email address changes, so we can continue to provide you with necessary information. We attempt to keep the website calendar up-to-date. This is a good place to find information about school events, sports games and field trips.

If you haven't already heard, we have shifted our school hours by five minutes. Students can begin arriving to school at 8:25 am and classes will officially begin at 8:50 am. We begin dismissal at 3:25 each afternoon.

I would also like to remind families that while we do not have a hot lunch program, we do provide microwave ovens for students in grades 4-8 to use during their lunch period. The microwaves should only be used to heat items that take fewer than 2 minutes each, not to heat frozen microwave dinners! We also do not provide plastic forks, spoons or straws. Students need to bring their own from home if they are eating items that require utensils or straws.

I hope to see many community members on **Saturday**, **November 17** for the Middle School's Annual **Goods and Services Auction**. The students, parents and staff appreciate the support of the entire Eastford community. Doors open at 5:00 pm. There will be a food available from Sugar and Smoke Barbeque in Putnam, a silent auction and live auction as well as a bake sale. All proceeds go toward the grade 8 students' annual trip to Washington, D.C.

Information regarding income guidelines and qualifications for submitting the Special Milk Program application renewal for free milk can be found on our school website - <a href="https://www.eastfordct.org">www.eastfordct.org</a>. Navigate to the 'For Parents' tab, click on forms, click on free milk program information, click on CT school nutrition information.



### Report of the Union Society Building Committee

By Carol Davidge, Chair

The Last Green Valley has awarded \$4,000 to the Town of Eastford to supplement a CT Department of Economic and Community Development Historic Preservation Grant to rehabilitate the east wall of the 1806 Union Society Building. This modest white house, located at the junction of Routes 198 and 44, is a place where tax protests, voting rights activities, and social and spiritual gatherings happened over 200 years. Everyone was welcome regardless of ethnic origin, spiritual belief, gender or age. The building is on National Register of Historic Places and is one of only two Union Society Buildings still standing in Connecticut. Union Societies formed to gain the right to vote for people of all faiths in Connecticut and to teach children to read. Donations are needed. For donations of \$100 or more, a plaque acknowledges the donor and individuals being honored. All proceeds from fundraisers go to the Town of Eastford for rehabilitation of the building. To make a donation in any amount, 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, please e-mail: carol.davidge@snet.net.







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#### From the Agent for the Elderly Michele's Senior Moments

Summer is gone and we're all settling in for the upcoming winter, packing away summer clothes and furniture, unpacking the sweatshirts, coats and snow shovels. I shudder at the thought! It is however, a good time of year to review your situation and see that certain things are in order. One of those things is your estate plan and your general financial readiness should something happen to you or your spouse/significant other. Take a look at your Will if you have one and make sure it still applies to your current situation. Make sure you are aware of your financial information especially if one person is usually in charge of the finances. It's good to know where things are kept in case they need to be referred to if the main person handling the finances is not available. A good way to do this is to keep a list of your bills, your banks or investments, where you have life insurance if applicable, and what credit cards you have, if applicable, and PASS-WORDS! Make sure these are somewhere that can be accessed by a loved one in an emergency, but also keep them safe from peering eyes and thieves. It's a delicate balance. If you do not have a Will, think about making one. Many people are unaware that in Connecticut, if you die without a Will, your assets do not necessarily go to your spouse. It depends on your family situation. For example, if your spouse has children from a prior marriage, your spouse's estate will be split between you and those children from a prior marriage if you do not have a will. If you are unmarried but living together – a Will is essential because your unmarried partner gets nothing without a Will. Unfortunately, I have seen a rash of this lately! People who have lived together for decades, one partner dies with no Will, the home is only in the name of the deceased person – the living partner gets nothing and many times is ousted from the home by the decedent's family. The Eastford Municipal Agent for the Elderly is a volunteer position, appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Every Connecticut city and town has a Municipal Agent for the Elderly who assists town residents ages 60+ by providing information and referrals to local, state, and federal services and benefit programs. Municipal Agents are familiar with programs and benefits such as Medicare, Medicaid, SNAP (Food Stamps), Social Security, protective services, legal services, adult day care, housing, transportation, and local senior and community groups. Many also help seniors fill out application forms for benefits. I am a local lawyer practicing in the areas of elder law and other areas, and hope to provide helpful information to the seniors of Eastford. If there is something you'd like me to write about, please feel free to call me at 860-481-6655 (google voice number) or 860-928-9928 (office number) or email me at

michele@attorneypalulis.com. Michele Ann Palulis, Esq.

Eastford Municipal Agent for the Aged



Betsy DiQuattro Realtor Cell 860-455-8565 Office 860-923-3377 bdiquattro3@gmail.com JOHNSTON

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#### Eastford Food Pantry—Holiday Needs

For our neighbors at risk of hunger, the feeling of not having enough can be felt even more acutely during the holidays. Can you help us make sure all of our neighbors have enough food this holiday season? As many of us begin our holiday preparations, there are some in our town who are not as fortunate. A reminder, the need to donate is year round and especially critical during the holidays. Because of your generosity, we were able to supply 115 food packages so far this year to local families. We are so thankful for all donations, from the one small bag that appears in the TOB to the food drives by local organizations, clubs, churches, businesses, and the annual Eastford School food drive coordinated by Mrs. Lessard. Thank you! Our "Most Wanted" food list includes low sugar cereals, oatmeal, rice, tuna, soup, canned fruits and juices, peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, macaroni and cheese, bisquick or baking mix, crackers, granola bars, snacks, flour, sugar, coffee, tea, toiletries. Cash donations enable us to purchase holiday meals for families and to purchase items missing from our shelves. 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. Eastford residents in need who would like to avail themselves of the food pantry can place a confidential call anytime to Steve or Karen at 974-1618.

Eastford Seniors Report by Edward Desmond, Secretary THE EAT GOES ON! Everybody likes pizza right? We hit the road for TEEG, (wait for it), this month and made a pit stop at Thompson House of Pizza in North Grosvenordale for some of that melted oney gooey cheesy deliciousness in our travels this month. You know, the kind where you get the stretchy cheesy thingy going on? Yeah, that's the idea here. They're not just about pizza though, Their vast menu runs the gamut for burgers, chili, grinders, and full Italian themed dinners as well, available for dine-in, carryout, and delivery. Give them a call at 860-923-3018. Stomach grumblin' yet? Good The Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group (TEEG) is a local Human Services organization in our Quiet Corner, providing Community Aid, support, and activities to those in our area who may need help. Check out their site at teegonline.org or call 860-923-3458. We were granted an on-site tour of their new facility, next door to Thompson Schools. Thanks to all the staff at TEEG for the welcome and informative walkthrough. **Don't forget** our upcoming Harvest Potluck Dinner, 5:30, Wednesday, November 7th, at the Congregational Church of Eastford, highlighted with the Acoustical sounds of "Second Helping" by Michael Gallison and Bill Blanchard. OOO...Door Prizes too!! Please give us a shout or text at 860-538-8868 and let us know how you can help with an original signature dish. Really wouldn't want to end up with a bunch of green bean casseroles, right? Guaranteed to be Good Eats and Good Times y'all. Mark your calendars now. Be sure to check for emails from ESC06242@aol.com, always keeping you informed of more good stuff to come! Take care, be well, and Rake Your Leaves! See you in November, and may the Warmth Be With You...

#### Library News by Susan Shead

On behalf of the Library Board I would like to thank all the patrons who came to the library during the week of Oct.25 and participated in our Adopt a Book fundraiser. Remember you can still adopt a book as a gift to the library and recognize someone special at the same time. As you may know the lower level of the library has had some serious water issues. Much of our downstairs collection is being housed elsewhere temporarily while this problem is being addressed. We apologize for the inconvenience this has caused our library patrons and we hope to have it resolved soon. Thank you for your patience in this matter.

There are discount passes available for Mystic Aquarium, Roger Williams Park Zoo, The New England Air Museum, and free admission passes to the New Britain Museum of American Art, Wadsworth Atheneum and Connecticut's Old State House. We also have 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 library will be closed on Monday November 12<sup>th</sup> in honor of Veteran's Day and Thursday November 22 for Thanksgiving.



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EES Report by Beth Harrington, Eastford School Counselor Have you heard about a popular video game called Fortnite? Many parents may be wondering about it because their children are talking about it. Children will say that "everyone is playing" or "all of their friends are playing it," and they would be left out if they didn't get to play. Most likely, you are probably concerned about the video game and want to know more about it. Here is some information I have found through my research that may help you decide if Fortnite is right for you and your family. First, why are so many children interested in this game? Children want to play a game that their friends are playing because they can play online together. The game is targeted for preteens beginning at age twelve and advises that children under twelve should not play the game, but several articles mentioned children under twelve are playing the game. The graphics look like a cartoon and are appealing. It's up to you to decide if the game is okay for children under the age of twelve.

As a parent, you can monitor the settings under the parental controls if you do not want your child to play online.

It's fun for kids to play online with their friends but also exposes children to values that may not align with your family values.

The most popular part of the game is "Fortnight: Battle Royale" that kids play online with up to one hundred other players, to "battle to the death". The kids lose often but feel like they are gaining ground, so they continue to play in the hopes of winning. The problem is when they can't stop playing and won't do their chores, eat dinner, or do their homework because they continue to play the game. The game becomes addictive. It's also a social magnet and appeals to kids because they can play together.

What can you do as a parent to help your child realize that the game is not the real world?

The best way is to set limits. Children need to see friends in real life and they can do that by participating in school sports or other activities. Children still need sleepovers and play dates with friends that do not include screen time. Children need to be able to get their homework done every night and turn their assignments in on time at school. Children also need to get plenty of sleep every night. Playing video games late into the night isn't helpful the next day during class when they are sleepy and cannot pay attention. Good sleep habits help build a child or teen's stamina for more difficult work that will come their way in high school. So set clear limits about when your child can play Fortnite or other video games, and be consistent about enforcing your rules. Here are a couple of resources to check out:

https://childmind.org/article/parents-guide-dealing-fortnite/ By Rachel Ehmke

https://www.tomsguide.com/us/fortnite-parents-guide,review-5552.html By Daniel Mackrell

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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 does not print letters to editor, or items it regards as offensive or slanderous. Carol Davidge, Editor

#### Tips for Today-by Liz Ellsworth

Be Thankful for nature! Create your own Thankful Tree. Fashion the tree trunk and branches out of newspaper, art supplies, recyclables, or whatever other re-purposed item from your home. Or use a tree branch from your yard! Encourage family members to craft their own "style" of leaves out of art supplies. Then each day, throughout the month of November, each person can write down something they are grateful for on a self-designed leaf and hang it on the Thankful Tree. At the end of the month you'll have an excellent reminder of all the things people are thankful for. For some other ideas on creating a kid-friendly Thankful Tree, go to the PBS website: <a href="www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-for-kids/thankful-tree/">www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-for-kids/thankful-tree/</a> or for other more elaborate ideas, visit the HGTV website: <a href="https://www.hgtv.com/design/make-and-celebrate/handmade/new-thanksgiving-tradition-create-a-thankful-tree">https://www.hgtv.com/design/make-and-celebrate/handmade/new-thanksgiving-tradition-create-a-thankful-tree</a> Happy Thanksgiving! And thanks for all you do!



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31	31	36	3F Michelle Louise Bicking	Oaniel Reale	30	3C Joe Courtney	3B Danny Postemski Jr	Joe Courtney	3 Representative in Congress Vote for One
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81	8H	86	8F Edward G Heflin	Paul Passarelli	Kurt Miller	8C Kevin Lembo	8B Kurt Miller	8A Kevin Lembo	8 Comptroller Vote for One
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Sheet 1 of 1 - Pagina 1 de 1 Paginas

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he Department of Agriculture or the uch property is under the custody or control of ell, transfer or dispose of any real property or nterest in real property that is under the embership of each house of the rotection, that such enactment of legislation epartment of Energy and Environmental ustody or control of the agency, and (2) if eneral Assembly to require a state agency to iterests in real property in order for the late-owned or state-controlled real property or atter to the transfer, sale or disposition of ne enactment of legislation limited in subject mended to require (1) a public hearing and passed by a two-thirds vote of the total Shall the Constitution of the State be The Eastford Communicator PO Box 253 Eastford CT 06242-0253

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