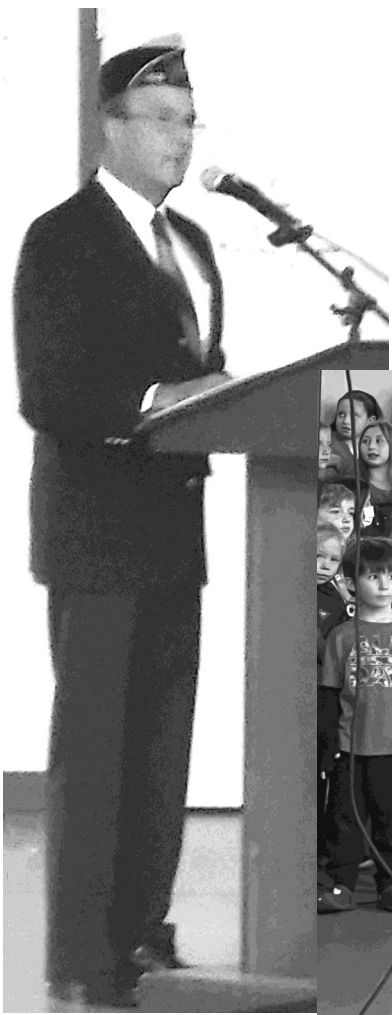


HOLIDAY EVENTS(p3), RECYCLING (p5), EES NEWS (pp2,3) ELECTION RESULTS (p6)



**VETERANS DAY NOV. 11, 2022
AT EASTFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
Leading the ceremonies were veterans & service members: 5th grade teacher Charles Kernan (right), Pastor Mike Moran (left) & EES music teacher Mr. Tomanelli. Veterans stood to be honored. Story p3 by Carole McCombe. Photos by Deb Richards & Carole McCombe. Veterans Day is celebrated every Nov. 11 to honor the service of U.S. veterans. History Link: <https://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.asp>



News and Notes from the Superintendent...Donna P. Leake



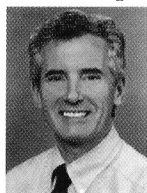
As your Superintendent, much of my time is spent managing the daily operation of the district. This includes attending to ongoing facility issues, overseeing personnel matters, managing the budget, and guiding the implementation of policies to provide a safe and secure educational environment for Eastford staff, students, and their families. The primary reason I am an educator is because I care about the well-being of young people. So, in addition to providing an optimum environment for them to learn, my greatest joy is spending time with them. On November 4, I took advantage of the opportunity to join grade 5 and 6 students during their team-building field trip to Mystic Seaport (photo left). It was amazing to watch the positive ways they interacted with each other to accomplish group tasks. Our Board has been busy this fall. The

Facilities Committee has been overseeing the successful completion of the roof and insulation project; the Curriculum Committee reviewed and recommended the addition of two new novels to the BOE student book list; and the Policy Committee diligently continues its task of updating the 5000 series policies while attending to new policies required by the recent changes in legislation. Included among the actions of the whole BOE are: Approval of Title I, Title II, and Title IV Grant submissions; approval of the School Safety & Security Plan for submission to the State; approval of the 2022-23 Flexibilities option for teacher evaluation; accepting the Annual Report for School Year 2021-2022; establishing their Leadership Goals for 2022-2023; setting the 2023 Board of Education Meeting Dates (posted on the BOE website: www.eastfordct.org). With budget season fast approaching, the BOE also approved the Finance Committee meeting dates. On December 8 at 5:30PM, members of the Eastford Community are welcomed and encouraged to share their thoughts and opinions regarding the 2023-2024 BOE budget. Administrative recommendations and public input provide important guidance for the Board as they begin their formal deliberations at their budget workshops scheduled for January 12, January 19, and February 2 at 6:00PM. The BOE anticipates approval of its 2023-2024 BOE budget at its February 9 regular meeting. In closing, in this season of thanksgiving, I would like to thank the residents of Eastford for their incredible support of the education of all Eastford students and for providing me the wonderful opportunity to serve the students, families and the staff of the Eastford School District. As always, I value and encourage you to share your thoughts and ideas: dleake@eastfordct.org.



Photo left: EES PTO proudly announces the winners of the "Choose Kindness" Sign Contest. All entries were fantastic and depicted versions of kindness as seen through the eyes of our children. 1st Place: **Kyleigh Murphy, Grade 6**; 2nd Place: **Hayleigh Wooding, Grade 1**; 3rd Place: **Aaron Minor, Grade 5**. The PTO will host an unveiling of a new sign by Kyleigh Murphy and 6th Graders.

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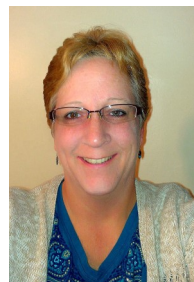
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HOLIDAY EVENTS: Eastford Light Fest Contest sponsored by Eastford Recreation Comm.: Light your property, register online by Dec 14 at www.eastfordct.org/domain/1154. DEC 10, 5pm: EES Goods & Services Auction/Dinner/Bake Sale. CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 8 Church Rd: DEC 4, 5pm-Hospice Tree of Life Ceremony; DEC 8, 11:30am-2pm—Community Christmas Dinner for Seniors 60+ and caregivers; DEC 10, 1-3pm - COOKIES & COCOA WITH SANTA (Snow date: Dec 17) Crafts, Treats, Cocoa, & Family-Fun! (cosponsor Eastford Recreation Comm); DEC 24, 7pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. EASTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH, 133 Union Rd: DEC 24, 4:30pm -Christmas Eve Candlelight Service; DEC 25, 10:30am-Christmas Service.

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

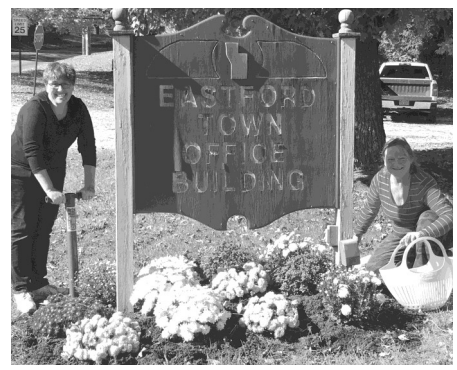


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Selectman's Synopsis by Deb Richards – First Selectman/EMD
During this season of gratitude and thanks giving, I look around and see the remarkable people in our Town. The way people reach out to help each other in times of need, lift each other up when sadness strikes, and try in their own unique ways to make life in Eastford better for all.
"In ordinary life, we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we gave, and it is only through gratitude that life becomes rich" D. Bonhoeffer.

Thanks to:
Quiet Corner Gardners, Cheryl and Mike Radvilowicz and Lisa DeJesse for planting more bulbs at the Town Office Building.
Recreation Commission for a successful Trunk or Treat.
Jeannine Spink for teaching TOB staff and committee members CPR – FREE of charge!
Trooper 1st Class James White Connecticut Statewide DARE Coordinator for his educational presentation to the Town.
Lincoln Budd for initiating and carrying through with a Turkey collection and distribution to residents of Eastford!
For each and every employee and commission/committee member of the Town of Eastford, who every day continue to work to improve the lives of everyone in town.
May this be the beginning of daily moments of thankfulness and giving, may a desire be stirred in your heart to serve others with gratitude every day, and **may the season bring you friendship, laughter, and light.**

Photo below: Cheryl Radvilowicz and Lisa DeJesse planting spring bulbs at TOB.



From the Principal by Carole McCombe
On November 10, Eastford Elementary School students offered a special musical performance to honor local veterans. Nearly 100 residents and veterans were in the audience. Mr. Tomanelli and Mrs. Farrell-Denke planned a variety of patriotic songs for students to sing and to play on their instruments. The music accompanied readings delivered by students and staff and a slide show showing images from recent Memorial Day parades in town. Kudos to the EES music teachers and to our students for such an inspiring performance to honor and remember our veterans! Thanks also to EES Student Council for purchasing apple cider donuts and apples for refreshment from Buell's Orchard. This was a true community event!

From the PTO:
The Annual Eastford Goods & Services Auction , Sat, Dec 10, 5pm, Shop for the holidays! Dinner available from a food truck! The Auction supports EES students as they raise money for the annual trip to Washington, D.C.! Like us on Facebook for Updates: Eastford School Auction: www.facebook.com/Eastford-School-Auction-109417801363589

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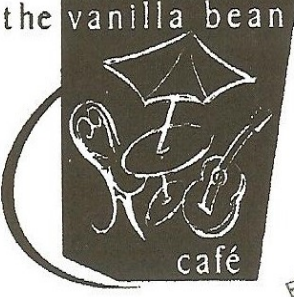
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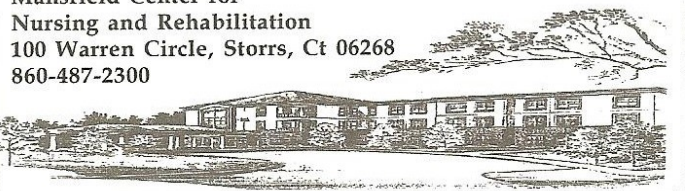
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EASTFORD FOOD PANTRY by **Audrey Carabeau**. The Eastford Food Pantry is located at the Eastford Baptist Church, 133 Union Road. The pantry is available to any resident of Eastford who is in need of food assistance. Delivery is available to those who are homebound. All calls and referrals are confidential. Referrals can be made by calling the Selectman's Office at 860-974-0133x3 or Audrey Carabeau at 860-933-7685, acarabeau@yahoo.com. The Food Pantry is open the first Monday of each month from 8-11 a.m. by appointment. Thank you Bosquet's Appliances for donating a side by side refrigerator, Denise Hill for your donation of groceries and Judith and Roger Boisvert for your continued financial support. Thanks to the employees of Whitcraft for donating turkeys and Buell's Orchard and Woodstock Farms for your donations to the Thanksgiving boxes. All donations to the pantry can be dropped off at the Town Office Building during regular business hours. Please make check donations payable to Town of Eastford with food pantry on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your support.

DID YOU KNOW? Eastford Historical Society Did you know that an Eastford sea captain named his children in fine seafaring style? Captain Lorenzo "Jack" Bullard Latham was born in Phoenixville on July 28, 1830. He spent most of his life as a ship captain and named all his five children with a nod to his sea faring life. His first child, a daughter, was named Cora for his ship, the Cora. Captain Jack's four sons were each named for ports he had visited: Roy (Port Royal, Jamaica), Caro (Cairo, Egypt), Tunis (Tunis, Africa), and Sidney (Sidney, Australia). Captain Latham's life story will be told in a future Quarterly. Donations of original writings, old photographs, and small historic items are always welcome, and monetary donations are greatly appreciated (PO Box 350, Eastford, CT 06242). If you wish to volunteer your services or have any questions, please call 860-974-3311 (Linda) or 860-974-1610 (Tom). Remember us when cleaning out basements, attics, closets, and drawers. One person's trash may be the Historical Society's treasure!

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Dan Merlo is a contractor who found wood turning to be very interesting. In 2013 he decided to purchase a lathe and try to figure it out. It was a challenge but he found it very exciting to turn a piece of wood from a log and have it transform into a beautiful bowl. He was also excited to find out

what beauty was hidden within the piece of wood. Every piece is unique. Dan started to include his bowls to his display of cutting boards at craft fairs. As he improved over the years, bowls became the primary items that he would make. In 2019 he added salt and peppermills, and bottle stoppers.

Dan invites you to his Artist Open Studio at his shop at 198 Ashford Rd, Eastford on November 25, 26, 27 and December 3 and 4th. He will also do demos at Open Studio.

Eastford Recycling: First in a Series by David M. Jakubowski, Sr., Chair, Eastford Transfer Station Commission & Eastford Conservation & Historic Preservation Commission

Working together, the residents of Eastford can control or reduce the trash hauling costs for the Town and, at the same time, help conserve the environment.

We may not be aware that if we put the wrong materials in the wrong collection container at the Eastford Transfer Station, the entire load of recyclables could become contaminated/unusable and result in the Town having to pay additional fees to the trash hauling company.

Paper/Cardboard Recycling

The Town of Eastford has a dedicated compactor for paper and cardboard.

The Town pays a fee to haul the Paper/Cardboard compactor to the regional recycling center each time it gets full **BUT** Eastford is **not** charged for disposal of the paper and cardboard in that compactor.

This is in contrast to the Household Waste compactor where the Town pays a haul charge **PLUS** an additional fee for every pound of waste in the compactor.

Thus, there is economic incentive to put paper and cardboard waste into the recycling compactor instead of the Household Waste compactor.

What can go into the Paper/Cardboard compactor?

The following items **CAN** go into the Paper/Cardboard compactor: Cardboard (please break down boxes), paper, newspaper, magazines, junk mail, egg cartons, paper towel rolls, manilla folders, clean empty food boxes, clean pizza boxes.

The follow items **CAN NOT** go into the Paper/Cardboard compactor: no Tyvek shipping envelopes, no plastic mailing envelopes, no packing peanuts, no Styrofoam, no plastic bags, no shredded paper (it clogs the sorting equipment that sorts the recyclable materials), no tissue paper.

There is an app called "RecycleCt Wizard" that you can download for your phone that helps understand what items may be recyclable here in Connecticut, or information is available at:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Waste-Management-and-Disposal/What-Do-I-Do-With>

Together we can make a difference.

From First Selectman Deb Richards: Thanks to the quick thinking of our Public Works crew – Ben and James - along with Animal Control Officer Denis Day, who were able to capture this injured Red-Tailed Hawk who appeared to have a broken wing. The hawk was then brought to a local raptor rehabber.




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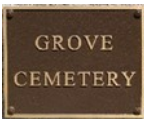
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EASTFORD GROVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOTICE

EASTFORD GROVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION Board of Trustees

Seasonal Decorations: Artificial decorations will be allowed from **Thanksgiving, November 24, 2022, to March 15, 2023.** After March 15th, the seasonal decorations will be removed, and only **live plants** will be permitted.

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.

Board of Trustees: Alex Kowalchuk, Carolyn Hazard, David Barlow, Ken Grube, Scott Huri, Lauren Anderson, Linda Torgeson, Rick Torgeson

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:

<https://sites.google.com/site/eastfordgrovecemetery/>

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ATTENTION: All articles & news for The Communicator must be submitted to E-mail: ckdavidge@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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You are helping the paper reach 1000 homes during these challenging times!

Donations may be made payable to: Eastford Communicator, P.O. Box 253, Eastford, CT 06242

Tips for Today by Liz Ellsworth Happy Holidays! It is important to have plants in your yard that encourage local bird populations, and other pollinators, like bees, bats, and butterflies. You'll bring more birds and pollinators to your yard with native plants, and ensure thriving populations. Pollinators pollinate crops like apples, peaches, coffee, blueberries, almonds, melon, strawberries, bananas, potatoes, and chocolate. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, "native plants are considered the best choice because of their abundance of nectar and pollen in addition to being low maintenance, generally pest free, drought tolerant, and ability to control erosion. They are good sources of food and shelter for wildlife, and naturally beautiful." Give some native plants to family and friends this holiday season. To find the right kind for those out-of-state, you can search via zip code. For birds, explore the National Audubon Society's website: www.audubon.org/native-plants. For bees, butterflies, and moths, investigate the resources found on the Xerces Society's website: <https://xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/pollinator-friendly-plant-lists>. You can always give a gift certificate to a favorite local florist or garden store. Or create a raincheck coupon gift, and offer to help with planting in the spring. Happy Holidays!

*USDA: www.usda.gov/peoples-garden/pollinators

Eastford Election results Nov 8, 2022

Total Eastford Registered Voters: 1,289

Total voting: 842

US Senate: Richard Blumenthal (D)(WP): 360, Leora Levy (R): 463

US House-Dist. 2: Joe Courtney (D): 413, Mike France (R): 397,

William Hall (Lib): 8, Kevin Blacker (Grn): 6

CT Governor: Ned Lamont (D)(CT Party)(WF): 366,

Robert Stefanowski (R): 461, Robert Hotaling (I): 7

Secretary of the State: Stephanie Thomas (D)(WF): 360,

Dominic Rapini (R): 437, Cynthia Jennings (I): 14

Attorney General: William Tong (D)(WF): 374, Jessica Kordas (R): 435,

A.P. Pascarella (I): 7, Ken Kraveska (Grn): 1

Treasurer: Erick Russell (D)(WF): 332, Harry Arora (R): 449,

Jennifer Baldwin (I): 16, JoAnna Laiscell (Lib): 12

Comptroller: Sean Scanlon (D)(I)(WF): 341, Mary Fay (R): 465

State Senate District 35: Lisa Thomas (D)(I)(WF): 344, Jeff Gordon (R): 478

State Representative Dist 50: Pat Boyd (D): 405, Aaron Soucy (R): 415

Judge of Probate: Leah Schad (D): 392, Gabrielle Labonte: 426

Eastford Registrars of Voters: Toni Doubleday (R): 542,

Kathleen Healey (D)(Write-in): 23

State Amendment 1: Allow Early Voting: Yes: 357, No: 375

Thank you to poll workers, Registrars of Voters, &

Town Clerk Johanna Wolfe for this report

October was another busy month for the EIFC. There were 17 "911" calls in September. 17 calls in October.

Welcome to Anthony Volpe as a probation member. Anthony comes to us with credentials and will be participating on the firefighter and EMT levels.

Congratulations to Chief Doug Beaudoin and member Tony Greer for successfully completing 40 hours of mandatory classroom and skills to renew their EMT certifications, which is required every two years.

October was Fire Prevention Month. On 10/8, members brought trucks down to the Library for "Touch a Truck".

10/14, members participated in a mandatory "drill" that included evacuation of the Eastford School when the alarm was sounded. Members found the source of the alarm and disengaged it. Outside, students gathered with their classes behind the school for accountability. The school was totally evacuated in 3 minutes at the September drill and a little over 2 minutes during the October drill. OUTSTANDING! Following the outside evacuation, the lower grades congregated in the gym to watch a video - "Sparky and the Runaway Robot". Members wore their turn-out gear, crawled on the floor for kids to touch and learned about what the special gear does for the firefighter. Then the students went outside to view and climb in and out of the trucks. "Goodies" were given to the kids.

10/18 - Deputy Chief Roy and member Bertram returned to the school to speak to grades 4 through 8 about fire safety, evacuation, and designating a place to congregate.

10/21 - Captain Nate Fabian and members Zac Bertram and Jeannine Spink welcomed the kindergarten grades to the station to view the trucks, talk about fire safety and give goodies.

10/30 - Buell's Orchard for "Trunk or Treat" was without question, the best event ever. Over 400 children, with parents, grandparents, and 3 dogs were dressed in costume to get candy. The EIFC contributed by displaying the Engine Tanker 271, letting the kids see the compartments and of course, more candy.

10/31 - "Trunk or Treat" - We brought ET171 and ET271 to the school parking lot for a town-wide event. Thank you to Eastford for supporting our efforts to give our children a fun and SAFE event.

Drills for October included ladders and spinal immobilization/backboards, in addition to the monthly business meeting, truck checks and Line Officers meeting. Thanks for the generous donations received in memory of Richard Cooley.

The Company received a DEEP Matching Grant to purchase a Ready Rack Gear System.


Our clocks have been changed back one hour. Time to check and replace the batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.


TEAMWORK DIVIDES THE TASK AND MULTIPLIES THE SUCCESS


Editor's Note:

Please consider making a tax-deductible charities donation to EIFC. The EIFC, a 100% volunteer organization, relies on generous donations from you to keep the fire company functioning. Please send your donation to: EIFC, PO Box 333, Eastford, CT 06242. You will receive, by return mail a thank you for tax purposes.




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Eastford's Trunk or Treats at TOB & Buell's Orchard drew hundreds of children. Below left: Ghost Jean Hixson represented the Union Society Cmte & center: Buell's.



Recycling saves Town funds. Young Hannah, daughter of Liz Ellsworth, shows how you can help. Learn more in Transfer Station report (p5)



Eastford's Grove Cemetery Volunteers remove flags to allow for Holiday decorations.

(Photo left, l-r): David Barlow, Ralph Yulo, Audrey Carabeau, Jeannine Spink, Tom Fabian, Erin Gaudreau, Rick Torgeson, Linda Torgeson, Scott Huri, Sherry Huri, Lauren Anderson. Photo by: Carolyn Hazard

See Grove Cemetery Report (p6)