

The Eastford Communicator September 2020, Vol. 29, No.9

Selectman's Snippets:

Community – Great things happen in our community!

Fundraiser – Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bowen are offering sunflowers. All donations will go to St Jude's Children Hospital, Old Sturbridge Village and Make A Wish Foundation in memory of their son Jacob. Come visit their Wagon at the Ivy Glen parking lot.

Eastford Scarecrow Fest- Residence and Businesses are asked to participate in displaying a scarecrow visible for the community to enjoy during the month of October.

Storm Isaias - Thank you to all who helped your neighbors during the aftermath of this hurricane. The Town Office tried to reach out to our seniors and check in. We strive to help with your needs during this pandemic/weather related events. Please feel free to contact us at 860-974-0133.

You are not alone! We are all in this together.

Special thanks to Deb Richards, our Emergency Management Director, for working diligently at the Emergency Operation Center to keep continuous communication of needs and progress.

Town Office Building - The Town Office building will open with restrictions. Please call for an appointment in the department you wish to do business with. Instructions will be provided upon arrival. Mask must be worn.

Please visit our website for all updates www.eastfordct.org.

Volunteers - It is so clear that volunteers are the heartbeat of our small rural town. We are indeed blessed to have such dedicated volunteers. Without them our town would not be what it is today. We encourage you to "Get Involved" in your community.

Board of Selectmen- Anticipate acting on a Fire Fighting Water Supply Ordinance. Details can be found on our website.

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

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 July, Troop D responded to 21 calls. These calls of service included Accidents: 0, Criminal Invest: 4, Burglaries: 0, Larcenies: 0, DUI'S: 1, Traffic Citations: 4, Written Warning: 3, and Non-Reportable Matters: 17. Respectfully yours, Jacqueline Dubois, First Selectman



Of Special Note:

Eastford Historical Quarterly-centerfold

Did You Know—Women's Suffrage (p7)

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Good Neighbors -

Local Organizations (p11)

Walktober—(Sept 16-Nov 1

Hundreds of Hikes, Paddles, Tales (p9)

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THANK YOU DONORS!

The Communicator needs your donations..

... now more than ever.

The current emergency is challenging all of our advertisers. The Communicator needs your help now to continue to provide news to 1,000 families.

Thank you recent donors:

Suzanne & Kenny Andersen

Mary Bloom

Diana & Stephen Bowen

You are helping The Communicator to survive!

Please send your donations to:

Eastford Communicator, P.O. Box 253,
Eastford, CT 06242

Voting by Absentee Ballot in the Nov. 3 Election by Carol Davidge From The Secretary of the State & Eastford Town Clerk

Between Sept. 8 and 11, 2020, each **registered voter** in Connecticut will be mailed an **absentee ballot APPLICATION by the Secretary of the State.**

Watch for your application in your mail. THEN (in order to receive your absentee BALLOT), first it is necessary to fill out the **absentee ballot application** and place in its envelopes, carefully following all instructions, and place it into the secure drop box at Eastford's Town Hall, by the lower level door, or mail to your town clerk. This year, all **voters may check the COVID-19 item on the application**, according to Secretary of the State Denise Merrill. The Secretary of State recommends placing your application in the secure ballot drop box rather than in the mail, although mailing the application is an option. **The Town Clerk will mail out ballots beginning October 2. Please return your application early to be sure the Town Clerk receives your application in time to mail your ballot to you. After October 2, once the Town Clerk has received your application, a ballot will be mailed to you.** Once you receive your ballot, you can fill it out, again carefully following instructions, and place the ballot in its envelopes and in the secure ballot drop box. If you mail it, the Secretary of State recommends mailing it as early as possible. **All absentee ballots must be received by the Town Clerk by Nov. 3 at 8pm. In person voting will be Nov. 3 from 6am to 8pm. Information can be found at myvote.ct.gov.**

Voters can check their registration status at myvote.ct.gov/lookup. Although absentee ballot applications will be mailed to every eligible voter, they are also available online in English and Spanish at myvote.ct.gov/absentee. **To register to vote: you can go online to: <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do>.** Or in person, Eastford's Registrars of Voters will be available at the lower level of Town Office Building on September 9 and 23 from 5 to 7pm.

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<https://www.facebook.com/MidwayRestaurantAndPizza/>

Grocery items for curbside pickup! Please call 1 hour in advance and we will have your order ready for you. If there is something you don't see but know we have, just ask!!

Fresh ground beef - \$3.49/lb (2lb min)

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Fresh chicken wings (7-9 count)- \$2.99/lb (2lb min)

Fresh chicken tenders - \$2.99/lb (2lb min)

Shredded mozzarella - \$4.99/lb

Margarine- \$1.99 lb (one pound sticks)

Sliced ham - \$5.99/lb

Sliced turkey - \$5.99/lb

Sliced Provolone - \$5.99/lb

Iceberg lettuce - \$2.99/head

Cucumber - \$.99 each

Large green pepper - \$.99 each

Tomatoes - \$1.99/lb

Pint grape tomatoes - \$2.49

Jumbo onions - \$1.89/lb

Carrots - \$1.99/lb (2lb min)

5 pounds potatoes - \$3.99

16" Italian bread - \$1.49

6 pack jumbo hamburger rolls - \$2.99

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

The 2020-21 school year opened for students on August 31. We were excited to have our students and staff return to Eastford Elementary School for the 2020-21 school year. At its August meeting, the BOE reviewed the Reopening Plan for EES. The BOE also passed a series of policies specifically related to the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no perfect plan for the return to school during the pandemic. We believe that the plan for EES, developed with the support of the EES Reopening Committee, solidly addresses both the educational and health and safety guidelines associated with the pandemic. It allows us to provide for those students who choose to return to school and those who choose to temporarily remain at home. It is also designed to prepare students for a sudden return to complete remote, if health conditions warrant this return. Of course, it needs to be emphasized that all plans are fluid and subject to change as we move through this pandemic. I would like to extend a very special thank you to our school nurse, Mrs. Catherine Roto, for her dedicated efforts throughout the summer to keep us all informed with the latest health recommendations regarding COVID-19. As many of you already know, our school transportation is now being provided by EastConn, who has also been adhering to all health and safety protocols. All information related to the reopening plan, together with any new updates, is located on the school website. In other news, the extensive heating system repair project was completed this summer. When the heating season begins we will be using a full hot water system throughout the building, thanks to the generosity of the Eastford community.

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DUE TO COVID19, MANY TOWN EVENTS ARE CANCELLED—FOR UPDATES, GO TO:

<https://www.eastfordct.org/townofeastford>
From Emergency Director Deb Richards: For up-to-date news on Covid19 pandemic, please visit the following websites:

Town of Eastford: <https://www.eastfordct.org/townofeastford>

Northeast District Department of Health: www.ndh.org

State of CT: <https://portal.ct.gov/coronavirus>

Centers for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov

Sign up for CT Alerts "WE CAN'T ALERT YOU IF YOU DON'T SIGN UP":

<https://www.ctalert.gov/ctalert/site/default.asp>



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Union Society Building Committee Report
by Carol Davidge, Chair

The Union Society Building repairs to the east wall have been completed. Thank you to The Last Green Valley and The State of Connecticut's Department of Economic & Community Development and to individuals who donated through the years to help save this historic treasure. For 200 years, the Union Society Building was a gathering place where all were welcome. Thank you to Tony Casserella and his team of painters, who donated their services as volunteers to paint the west and south walls. TLGV's grant paid for painting the east wall. Mansfield Supply repaired windows. Eastford Building Supply and Benjamin Moore donated paint supplies. Much remains to be done but this is a good start to restoring the building for a meeting place for Eastfordites. To donate, please make check payable to Town of Eastford and write Union Society in the memo line; mail to Town of Eastford, P.O. Box 98, Eastford CT 06242. Shown below are Tony Casserella (center) and team on August 18, 2020.



YOU CAN CELEBRATE AG VIRTUALLY
ALL MONTH IN SEPTEMBER!

Family fun, virtual events, sharing videos, recipes, testimonials.

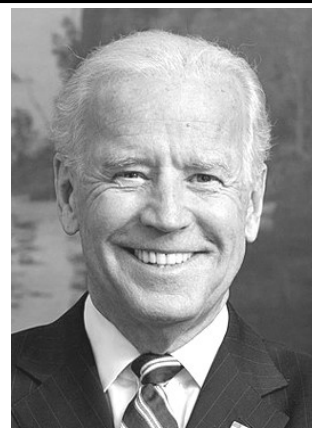


Celebrating Agriculture 2020 will be a month-long opportunity for all of us around Connecticut to participate virtually rather than at the Woodstock Fairgrounds. "Celebrating Agriculture will help us learn about our food, where it comes from, what farming means to our heritage, how it is a part of the Connecticut lifeline," said Governor Ned Lamont. Each of us can share our ag experiences by submitting a video or photo or testimonial about a farm, farm animals, a career, crops, recipes, equipment, chores, technology, ag services, soil, nutrition, fiber, processes and procedures, retail shops and sales, history, innovations, ag education, showmanship, harvesting, companion gardening, pollinators, beneficial insects, harmful pests and invasive species, our favorite experiences at our farmers markets, our farm pets. In addition, virtual *events* are planned. Try to send your submissions by September 11. To learn more, visit <http://www.celebratingagriculture.org> (or at Celebrating Ag on Facebook or Celebrating Ag on YouTube). "Agriculture is the food we eat and the clothes we wear. Everyone is touched by agriculture. I invite and challenge you to look at your habits in your home and business to see how you are supporting local agriculture. Seek out new places for agritourism and farm stands to purchase fresh food. Attend your town's agricultural meetings to see what people are talking about, and find ways to support 4-H clubs and FFA students because they are the future of agriculture," said Rebecca Desjardins, who is leading the Celebrating Agriculture virtual outreach. Photo: September 1 kickoff for Celebrating Ag in Sterling (l-r) CT Agriculture Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, Governor Ned Lamont, Celebrating Ag Chair Lynn Weaver, Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz, Celebrating Ag organizer Rebecca Desjardins. Photo by Betti Kuszaj



THIS ELECTION MATTERS. MORE THAN EVER BEFORE.
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Supporting Families . Universal Health Care . Economic Revival
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Watch Democratic Convention Roll call of all 50 States:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=03avUj0z6c4>
Watch Joe at Democratic Convention:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnmQr0WfSvo>
Paid for by the Eastford Democratic Town Committee, Robert Williams, Treasurer
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/eastfordctdemocrats>



News You Can Use by Deb Richards Emergency Management Director

Prepare now for emergencies. The last tropical storm was a good example of why we should all be prepared. Prepare now - before the next emergency!

Basic Disaster Supplies Kit

To assemble your kit store items in airtight plastic bags and put your entire disaster supplies kit in one or two easy-to-carry containers such as plastic bins or a duffel bag.

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

Water (one gallon per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation)

Food (at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food)

Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert

Flashlight

First aid kit

Extra batteries

Whistle (to signal for help)

Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place)

Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation)

Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)

Manual can opener (for food)

Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery

Latex gloves

Keep your gas tanks full in your car and have back up fuel for generators

Know where your important documents are, VIN numbers, medical records, copy of social security card, birth and/or marriage certificates.

Cloth face coverings

Soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes to disinfect surfaces

Prescription medications

Non-prescription medications such as pain relievers, anti-diarrhea medication, antacids or laxatives

Prescription eyeglasses and contact lens solution

Infant formula, bottles, diapers, wipes and diaper rash cream

Pet food and extra water for your pet

Cash or traveler's checks

Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records saved electronically or in a waterproof, portable container

Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person

Complete change of clothing appropriate for your climate and sturdy shoes

Fire extinguisher

Matches in a waterproof container

Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items

Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils

Paper and pencil

Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Create a kit for home, work (24 hours) and your car.

We support Lisa Thomas for State Senator. She will work for ALL of us in Eastford AND ALL 13 towns of the 35th District.

Lisa is a Leader. Chair, Coventry Town Council, unites differing views.

Chair, Finance: Understands town budgets, keeps taxes down.

Lisa is a Teacher. 2020 Teacher of the Year, Clover Street School, Windsor.

Understands challenges of COVID19 for schools & special needs children.

Lisa is an Advocate.

Attorney specializing in Environmental & Labor Law.

Lisa lives here. For 30plus years she & husband Eric Thomas have raised their family in The Quiet Corner & shared the joys of The Last Green Valley

Your vote matters. The Election is Nov. 3, 2020



Vote for Lisa Thomas to make life better for all of us in the 35th District

*Paid for by the Eastford Democratic Town Committee, Robert Williams, Treasurer
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/eastfordctdemocrats>*

In Memory of and to Honor Joseph Phaneuf, II. Donations are requested for a bench in Memory of Staff Sergeant Joseph E. Phaneuf, II, KIA, December 15, 2006 in Afghanistan.

A stone bench with memorial plaque will be 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, donations may be made by sending 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.

Start planning now for your Scarecrow to be in the Eastford Scarecrow-fest during October.



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From State Representative Pat Boyd

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS EXTENDED - Update, August 25, 2020

Connecticut was approved for a grant under the FEMA Lost Wages Assistance program to provide an additional \$300 per week to those who became unemployed due to COVID-19, on top of their regular unemployment benefit. The \$300 additional benefit will be retroactive to the claim week beginning July 26. People who are eligible must self-certify that they are unemployed or partially unemployed due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligibility includes:

Recipients of at least \$100 per week of any of the following benefits for the week they are seeking unemployment benefits; Claimants receiving unemployment compensation including state and federal workers and former service members as well as those receiving Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, Extended Benefits, or High Extended Benefits; Anyone who qualified for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation; Claimants receiving Short-Time Compensation; Workers with a Trade Readjustment Allowance. More information will be released from Department of Labor to let claimants know if anything needs to be done on their part, or if it is an automatic enrollment, as well as when the payments will begin. Information: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOLUI/FPUC>



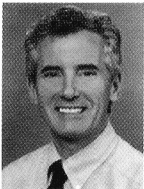
EVERSOURCE CHALLENGE—ADVOCATING FOR EASTFORD: Friday, August 7, 2020

I wanted to give you an update on my efforts today. I don't have much to report on other developments. I talked on the phone with each of the 5 First Selectman in the towns that I Serve, including Brooklyn, Pomfret, Eastford, Union & Woodstock, and got an idea of the situation in each town. At 1PM, I was on a conference call for Legislators with the Statewide Unified Command at the Hartford Armory, which included [Eversource CT](#) and the [Office of Governor Ned Lamont](#). When It was my turn to speak, I made a big push for attention to Rural areas, in particular, the Town of Eastford, as well as improved communication with local leaders on the ETR. When First Selectman, Fire Chiefs, and EMDs hear nothing, they assume nothing is happening. Out of all the towns that I serve, Eastford has had about 97% outage since the storm began, and the other town's percentages have slowly been going down. I have been trying to support the work of local leaders by helping them cut through red tape and get the answers they need. As I've said before, this will all need to be investigated, and a thorough review will need to be done once power is restored. Lastly, I took a moment and texted my friends who are Lineman to thank them for their work. If you see crews out there, don't hold them responsible for their corporate managers. Many of the local Lineman are our neighbors and doing the best they can.

If I can be of assistance, please email me at pat.boyd@cga.ct.gov

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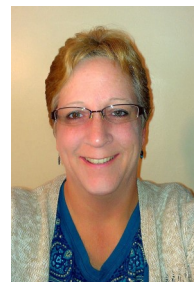
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Food Pantry

Once again, we would like to thank the many residents of Eastford who have helped replenish supplies to our pantry. Many folks think of us around the holidays, but hunger is a year-round concern. So, the next time you are at the grocery store please remember your neighbors in need. We are pleased to report that with our Eastford residents pitching in just a bit more, keeping our shelves stocked is a bit easier. We continue to be humbled by the generosity of so many. Thank you to John Studley and Lynn Nelson for their donations of non-perishables. We also want to thank the following for their cash donations - Frank Castagna, Kevin & Jennifer Basto, and Roger & Judith Boisvert. 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 and mailed to the Selectmen's Office, PO Box 98, Eastford 06242. Just write Food Pantry on the memo line. 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.

LIBRARY NEWS by Susan Shead Curbside pickup at the Eastford Public Library

Curbside pickup continues at the library.

Patrons call the library at 860-974-0125 between the hours listed below to request material. We will give you a pickup time over the phone. Items will be retrieved after the phone call is completed.

Bags will be labeled with your name and placed on the front steps of the library.

For your safety all items returned to the library via the book drop (**now open**) are quarantined for 3 days.

There is no inter-library loan service at this time and we are not taking any reserves on material at this time.

This service is being offered to Eastford residents only.

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DID YOU KNOW? by Eastford Historical Society

August 18, 2020 marked the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. Did you know that an amendment giving women the right to vote was first introduced in 1878?

The national movement for women's right to vote began in New York in 1848 at the Seneca Falls Convention. Known as the "Women's Rights" Convention, it fought for the social, civil, and religious rights of women. After the convention, the right to vote took center stage. Woman organized, petitioned, and picketed and began a long battle to win the right to vote, but by 1912 only 9 western states had adopted legislation. When New York (the only Eastern state) adopted Women's Suffrage in 1917, and President Wilson changed his position to support the amendment in 1918, the political balance began to shift.

The 19th Amendment was finally passed by Congress on June 4, 1919, but ratification by 36 states (3/4th majority) was needed. In May of 1920 Connecticut supporters held a Special Emergency Week demonstration, hoping to call a special session of the Legislature to act on the amendment and become the 36th state to ratify. The Governor did not take action and the opportunity was lost. On August 18, 1920 Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the amendment and on August 26, 1920 the ratification was certified by Congress. Women had won the right to vote! On September 14, 1920 Connecticut became the 37th state to ratify the amendment. At a meeting of the Board for Admission of Electors, held in Eastford on September 18, 1920, 36 women registered to vote. The first to register was Susan M. Bowen. The youngest was Edith C. Buell, age 21, and the oldest at age 67, was Catherine E. Bicknell. On October 19th 12 more women would register to vote.

"Lots of people were scared Saturday noon
when all the fire bells were Ringing.

Upon inquiry, found that it was on account of
women suffrage Passed. Some said there ought
to be crepe on the billboard."

A.M. Bowen, August 1920
Windham County Observer

The September 22nd Annual Meeting of the Eastford Historical Society has been cancelled due to COVID 19 restrictions. The History Museum remains closed but is open for private tours by appointment only. To schedule a tour call Tom (860-974-1616) or Linda (860-933-0468). Donations in support of our efforts are always greatly appreciated. PO Box 350, Eastford, CT 06242

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Condolences to the family of Richard “Tricky” Willich who passed away on August 7, 2020. Tricky was a character to say the least, but his commitment and tenacity to the EIFC was strong. He joined the department in 1983, served as fire lieutenant from 1987 through 1990, moved up in rank to Captain from 1991 through 1993, and served as Vice President from 1994 through 1996. He, along with a select few joined forces to form the first Rescue Squad in the 80’s, through the American Red Cross. training them to provide basic first aid. A fixture at all the fund raisers, he had a laugh that was very contagious. His wife Geri was also a member of the Ladies Auxiliary. Thanks Tricky and Geri for your service.

Congratulations to Zachary Bertram, who graduated from Woodstock Academy. Zac’s plans are to earn his EMT, and work toward becoming a professional firefighter.

Welcome back Nick Ahnberg to Eastford and the EIFC. Nick left us for a short period of time to train with the Marines. Nick is an EMS technician and firefighter.

The Company responded to 23 emergency responses during the month of July.

Although the world is still in crisis due to the COVID-19 outbreak, protests and the latest “tropical” storm, the EIFC consistently demonstrates its commitment and responsibilities to the town by ongoing monthly meetings, weekly drills, continuing education and responding to emergencies.

COVID-19 is far from over, to be followed by the flu season. To keep you safe, as well as your fire department members, please follow minimal restrictions: Wear a mask when away from home, practice 6 feet social distancing, wash hands often, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, cover coughs and sneezes, practice food safety and know the signs and symptoms of the virus. Unfortunately, both the COVID and flu are very similar in how they present. It is imperative that should you need to call “911”, you are open and honest with what you are reporting, experiencing and why you need help. That will help us to prepare with the proper personal protective equipment. At the appropriate time, protect yourself and us by getting your flu and pneumonia shots.

BE PREPARED – KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!

HEAT EMERGENCIES:

In recent years, excessive heat has caused more deaths than other weather events. Heat waves, of which we have experienced over the last few months is a prolonged period of excessive heat, combined with high humidity. Generally, temperatures are 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region during summer months and lasts for a long period of time.

What happens to the body as a result of exposure to extreme heat? The body’s temperature control system is overloaded. The body cools itself by sweating. Very high body temperatures may damage the brain and/ or other vital organs.

For your personal enrichment in staying safe, research the following: What is heat stroke? What are the warning signs of heat stroke? What is heat exhaustion? What are the warning signs of heat exhaustion? What are heat cramps? What are the warning signs of heat cramps? ABOVE ALL – HYDRATE, HYDRATE, HYDRATE We have an excellent EMD in town – read her Communicator articles on what you need to know.

We are very fortunate to live in New England with the four seasonal changes. A good example is our recent “tropical” storm where we lost our power for days. How many of us were just not prepared? What are most critical that we need to be equipped for? Smoke detectors, generators and carbon monoxide poisoning.

Fire safety begins at home: Install a smoke alarm on each level of your home or apartment and in every sleeping area. Smoke inhalation is responsible for 3 out of 4 fire deaths. Keep smoke alarms dust free, and test all alarms once a month. Rule of thumb:

Change your clocks – Change your batteries!

In the world of state-of-the-art technology, nothing can surpass the use of a home generator to provide electricity during outages. BUT, along with their use, come certain dangers. It is not simply to go to WALMART, bring it home, plug it in and you have electricity. Don’t settle for cheap, strive for quality. Follow the rules for proper installation and maintenance according to the manufacturer’s recommendations. Have your generator installed by a certified electrician who knows proper connection. House and run your generator away from the living and closed areas to avoid fumes. Do not leave the running generator unattended for long periods of time. Don’t let it “sit” - it needs regular testing and maintenance. Last, but certainly not least is “The Silent Killer – Carbon Monoxide” poisoning. Carbon monoxide is odorless, colorless, tasteless and presents as the flu. Pay attention to carbon monoxide producing vehicles, i.e. recreational vehicles, snow blowers, toxic fumes from a vehicle that is not being properly ventilated to the outside.

Stay safe, learn what you need to do, and BE PREPARED.

Tips for Today by Liz Ellsworth

As the seasons shift, observe how the fields, trees, flowers, crops, and waterways change. What creatures do you see more often? What sounds do you hear? Note all of these observations in a nature journal. It's a neat way to keep a pulse on what you're grateful for in nature and why it's important to protect the rural character of the Quiet Corner.

ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

GO TO THE LAST GREEN VALLEY WEBSITE
Calendar of Events, Maps of the 35 towns in our National Heritage Corridor, trails, destinations. Find Explore booklets at restaurants & town halls.
<https://thelastgreenvalley.org/>

From the CT Post: Fall foliage colors will start turning early in The Last Green Valley around September 21.

The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor:
Join us for the 30th Annual WALKTOBER.
Saturday, September 19—Sunday, November 1, 2020
Hundreds of events in the 35 towns in eastern CT & MA that make up TLGV. Walks, hikes, historic tales, paddles, bike rides, farm visits. Information:
<https://thelastgreenvalley.org/explore-the-last-green-valley/walktober/>
ALSO, Tastes of the Valley, try farm-to-table menus at 4 different local restaurants. Info: TLGV.org

Eastford Seniors by Linda SM dos Santos

On February 2008, my Mom, husband and I, arrived in Eastford. We were the "New Neighbors". That first day, Mom (age 82) and I went to the Eastford Post Office, where Barbara & Dory greeted us. One invited us to her home and the other to the Eastford Senior Citizens (ESC) luncheon. Another neighbor met me at our driveway with a handful of recipes, and said, "Don't be afraid to come over for a cup of sugar, or an egg or two." That was my introduction to the Friendliest Town in Connecticut, Eastford. Years later, Fire Chief Spinks protectively locked my home, as 250-pound-me was carried hand over hand (on a gurney) from neighbor to volunteer neighbor over a weedy grass slope 75 feet to an awaiting ambulance. These are our neighbors and ESC members, that we laughed, cried, worked together with on Heritage Day, Eastford Elementary Event days, and Pizza Garden construction; we enjoyed concerts, luncheons, picnics at Crystal Pond Park, and more together. The ESC members and the public are looking forward to our next gathering. Because of Covid-19, presently we are going to have to communicate by media, text, phone, or Facebook, 860-538-8868. Need food? Call the Eastford Food Pantry, 860-974-1618 or Senior Resources Emergency Food Delivery Program, 860-887-3561. The Medicare Equitable Relief Period is extended to Sept. 30, 2020, details call 1-800-MEDICARE. Although the Town Office Building & QVSCC are Covid-19 closed at this writing, they are available to help w/local services at 860-974-0133 & 860-774-1243 (also w/Medicare Savings program), respectively.

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Please consider donating to local organizations, including:
Eastford Independent Fire Co. (POB 333, p5) Donations are needed. Volunteers are also urgently needed to sustain service; who are you going to call?
Town of Food Pantry (POB 98)
Eastford Historical Society (POB 350)
Crystal Pond Park Commission (POB 98)
Town of Eastford: Union Society (POB 98)
Grove Cemetery Assn. (POB 284)
Eastford Communicator (POB 254)

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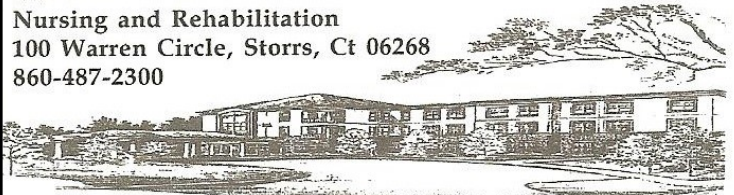
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EASTFORD GROVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Message From the Board of Trustees

The Eastford Grove Cemetery Association is committed to helping families with their decisions regarding plot purchase and size of plot as it pertains to burial wishes. It is with this in mind that the Association is offering its assistance to you whether you are making plans for yourself or for a loved one. The decisions you may face are more complex than most people realize and are usually not done easily when people are grieving. Our board can confidentially aid you in considering various plot options for full and cremation burials, memorial (flush) markers and monuments. Feel free to call for an appointment with Lauren Anderson, President of the Grove Cemetery Association, at 860-974-1349. The E.G.C.A. is a non-profit organization.

Mowing Season is between March 15 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.

Donations Appreciated: If you would like to contribute in any amount to the beautification of the cemetery and future projects, please use the form below for your tax deductible donation. (Note: **Grove Cemetery does not receive funding from the town.**) For more information, contact a member of the Board of Corporators: Joe Andert, Audrey Carabeau, Carol Day, Jim Ellis, Tom Fabian, Ken Grube, Bev Lindemann, Faye Logee
Board of Trustees: Lauren Anderson, Herman Barlow, David Barlow, Carolyn Hazard, Scott Huri, Alex Kowalchuk, Linda Torgeson, Rick Torgeson

Yes, I would like to help.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

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Send to: Eastford Grove Cemetery Assoc., Inc.
P.O. Box 284, Eastford, CT 06242 :
You can visit online at

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

The EASTFORD GROVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

greatly appreciates the following donors
who have given to the perpetual care fund:

Faye Logee

In memory of **James Logee & Robert Buell**

Jim & Marian Slye

In memory of **Bill & Helena Nieminen**

Carol & Bill Anderson

In memory of **Lucille & Bill Anderson**

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

Dear Readers:

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!

Name: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Amount: _____

**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. Articles 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. 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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Connecticut Magazine's cover story in March 1993 showed Eastford with Bowens Garage, the Ivy Glenn, Dave Olsen's carpentry shop, cows, trees, farms, and people walking around the village.

Rankings were based on quality of life, affordability, good schools, low crime rate, leisure and other measures.

Those qualities remain today.

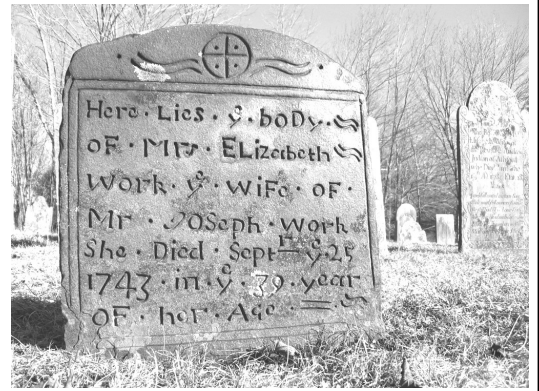
Information Sources:
www.eastfordct.org/townofeastford

On Facebook:
Eastford CT06242

&
Eastford CT 06242 Small Businesses

Great Neighbors: During the power outages, our Eastford Independent Fire Co (our volunteer fire company), Emergency Director Deb Richards, Town Staff and the entire village of Eastford pitched in to help each other. Bottled water was brought by newcomer Bill Indorf and provided by the Town. Please consider donating to our local organizations which make life better here:

- Eastford Independent Fire Co. (POB 333, p5) Donations are needed.
- Volunteers are also urgently needed to sustain service; who are you going to call?
- Old Cemetery Preservation (check to Town of Eastford, Old Cemetery in memo, POB 98)
- Town of Food Pantry (POB 98), Eastford Historical Society (POB 350)
- Crystal Pond Park Commission (POB 98)
- Town of Eastford: Union Society (POB 98)
- Grove Cemetery Assn. (POB 284)
- Eastford Communicator (POB 254)



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ALL OF US CAN PARTICIPATE IN CELEBRATE AGRICULTURE FOR THE ENTIRE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER—VIRTUALLY! POST YOUR VIDEOS, PHOTOS, TESTIMONIALS .. See p. 3.

THE EASTFORD RECREATION COMMISSION PRESENTS:



SCARECROW FEST



- OCTOBER 2020 -

The Eastford Rec Commission would like to announce “Scarecrow Fest” which will take place during the month of October, allowing the public to participate while still maintaining safe Covid-19 practices.

Residents may decorate their own scarecrow and place it on their lawn. We also have room on the lawn of the town hall or in the center of town for you to display your scarecrow.

There will be a competition for “People’s Choice” for those who have a more competitive side. Simply fill out an on-line registration form from the town website to be included in the competition (no need to register if not entering the competition). Please note: if entering the competition your address will be posted, without names, on a map that will be available to the public. The public can tour the scarecrows and fill out an online survey to determine a winner.



There will be a prize for the winner

The deadline for having the scarecrows up will be **OCTOBER 9TH**, we hope you keep your scarecrows up for the month of October! We can't wait to see your ideas!