

# IN HONOR COLLEAGUE & FRIEND

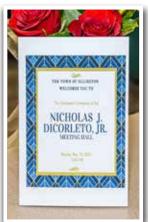
# NICHOLAS J. DICORLETO, JR. MEETING HALL

To honor his passion and in gratitude for his years of countless contributions of not only financial knowledge and service, but his charisma, kindness and generosity, the Town of Ellington has dedicated the Town Hall Meeting Hall to our respected former colleague, friend and mentor. The room will now be officially known as the Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr. Meeting Hall.

For 37 years, Nick always put the Town first and always proved to the Town of Ellington that fiscally responsible controls were of utmost importance. Through his numerous accomplishments including but not limited to bond rating increases he assisted in upgrading, the development of accounting procedures for the Tax Office, sewer use and assessment collections, assisting with the school lunch program, setting purchasing procedures and innumerable other tasks and improvements, Nick's number one goal was to always protect the Town's assets so it could continue to grow and flourish.

Nick had an incomparable spirit and never ceased to make the day better for those around him. Through this dedication, that spirit of compassion, selflessness and service will live on in the Town of Ellington for years to come.











### MARY A. MILLER

First Selectman 1979-1989

#### Innumerable Contributions and Immeasurable Devotion to Ellington

Mary and her husband Leo spent 47 years in Ellington, quickly becoming valued members of the community. Mary blazed her own trail as a public servant, becoming the First Selectman of the Town in 1979, a position she held for a decade. During her time as First Selectman, Mary was responsible for numerous updates to the Town, including the computerization of certain Town offices, the hiring of the first Town Planner, the renovation of the annex building for Town use and improvements to emergency agencies in Ellington. Prior to her tenure as First Selectman, Mary volunteered with the Town's Community Development Action Plan and served as a member of the Board of Finance. First Selectman Lori Spielman said, "She had excellent long term vision and worked tirelessly to see her ideas to fruition."

A formal induction ceremony was held on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at the site of the Wall of Honor, located in Arbor Park.



### STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND INCORPORATED 1786

### TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187 ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187 www.ellington-ct.gov

MICHAEL J. PURCARO Vice Chairman

**BOARD OF FINANCE** 

KEITH R. DURAO DAVID J. OLENDER BARRY C. PINTO JOSEPH E. WEHR

#### Dear Fellow Ellington Residents:

Before we dive into the financial highlights of the Town, I would like to thank all of the Town's employees and the residents who volunteer their time. This past year has been like no other, and our town would not be a great place to live without all of your hard work and dedication.

The past year has been without a doubt a difficult year. Despite the havor the pandemic has caused, our Town is in a good position. The Town went through a re-evaluation this past year, resulting in a grand list that increased 5.27% over the previous year's grand list. The budget that was passed for the coming fiscal year resulted in a mill rate decrease of 1 mill, along with the elimination of the trash collection fee, while still providing for the services that makes Ellington one of the best towns in the State.

This past year, the Town adopted a new fund balance policy, which strives for the Town to keep 10% of the current year's expenditures in the undesignated fund balance, which is the Town's rainy-day fund. This policy is designed to maintain, and may potentially help to increase the Town's bond rating in the future, as well as protects the Town in the event of future economic downturns. As a result of this new policy, along with the hard work of the Finance Department, the Town's Bond Rating was increased in June by one notch to AA2 with a Stable Outlook. This increase will allow the Town to receive better interest rates on any future bonds that are issued, including the debt that the Town has just finished refinancing.

During the past year, the Town preserved additional farmland. At a Town Meeting in January, voters approved issuing bonds for the purchase of the developmental rights of approximately 167.85 acres of farmland. This purchase will help the Town maintain its small-town charm.

The Board of Finance will continue to work hard to ensure that taxpayers are receiving the "best bang for the buck."

Douglas B.Harding, Chairman

Douglas B. Harding

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Front cover photo by Erik Koeher Cover design and page layout by Carl White Photography by Fred Bird Photography and other sources Printing by the Ellington Printery, Inc.

# JENERAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**



Board of Selectmen

Back Row (L-R) Melinda M. Ferry, Sarah D. Cook, John W. Turner, Ronald F. Stomberg Front Row (L-R) James M. Prichard, Lori L. Spielman, First Selectman; David E. Stavens

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

The Board of Selectmen is collectively responsible for the administration of the Town offices, the maintenance of the Town highways and parks, the public safety of its citizens, the keeping of financial accounts and the appointment of administrative officers, boards and commissions.

The Board of Selectmen met at least once each month. There were a total of thirteen (13) regular meetings plus four (4) special meetings. Three (3) public hearings were held. The Board of Selectmen called six (6) Town Meetings; the following are some of the primary items addressed by the Board of Selectmen during fiscal year 2020-2021:

#### **AGREEMENTS**

• Entered into a five-year lease agreement for the purchase of EVFD replacement Pumper in the amount of \$624,423.71 with Sutphen Corporation of Dublin, OH

#### **CONTRACTS**

- Waived the formal bidding process and awarded the contract for Hall Memorial Library's circulation system including the database, reserve system and online card catalogue to Bibliomation, Inc. of Waterbury, CT
- Awarded the contract for the Snow Plowing Services to All Source of New England of Ellington, CT for three years effective November 10, 2021, with two additional one year term options
- Awarded the contract for the roof replacement of EVFD Station 43 to Greenwood Industries, Inc. of Worcester, MA
- Authorized the First Selectman to sign and execute the contract with Community Opportunities Group of Boston, MA to provide on-call services as needed for the Housing Rehabilitation Program
- Renewed the contract for the service and maintenance of the Town's Computer System with The Computer Company of Cromwell, CT through April 30, 2022
- Awarded the contract for the Crystal Lake Fire Department Diesel Exhaust Removal System to Air Vacuum Corporation of Dover, NH
- Awarded the contract for Electrical Services to the Ellington Electrical Contractor, LLC Ellington, CT through June 30, 2024

#### **EQUIPMENT**

- Authorized the Director of Public Works to dispose of surplus equipment
- Authorized the Ellington Volunteer Fire Chief to dispose of equipment
- Entered into a 5 year lease agreement with Leasing 2, Inc. to finance the purchase of HS-6582 DEMO 471 Replacement Pumper in the amount of \$ 624,423.71 purchased from Sutphen Corporation

#### **FINANCES**

- Set Trash Collection Fee at \$125
- Approved the transfer of \$21,398 for FY 2020-2021 from Account 1065 Salary Adjustment to various Town Departments' Accounts to cover Salary Increases
- Transferred \$100,000 from FY 2019-20 1045-GASB-OPEB to the reserve for OPEB
- Authorized spending from 377-250 Preemption Service Town wide not to exceed \$4,000
- Approved, pursuant to Executive Order 7JJ, the Coronavirus Relief Fund Reimbursement Request through the State of CT Office of Policy and Management for the period of March 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 in the amount not to exceed \$14.468
- Adopted a resolution regarding the issuance of bonds and the rescinding of prior refunding bond authorizations
- Appropriated \$110,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase of and storage of body worn recording equipment as part of the required policy accountability gear
- Appropriated \$223,000 from the Town of Ellington Unassigned Fund Balance Account to the Board of Education Medical Self Insurance Fund
- Implemented a fee schedule regarding additional household waste tipper barrel(s) to be processed directly through the contractor, All American Waste
- Increased the exempt salary classification minimum and maximum ranges for fiscal year 2021-2022 by 3%
- Authorized an increase of up to 2.5% for the exempt, nonrepresented employee that is above the maximum range for fiscal year 2021-2022
- Appropriated no more than \$45,000 from the Capital Reserve fund for the Ambulance Building Roof Replacement
- Granted an abatement of taxes to Earthlight Technologies for a period of seven years

#### **GRANTS**

- Grant for costs related to the Veteran's Memorial Park
- Adopted a resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute and deliver any and all documents to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, the Emergency Management Performance Grant and the Homeland Security Grant Program
- 2021 CT Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Proposal-Hall Memorial Library Handler Project

#### **ORDINANCES**

- Recommended the approval of revisions to Chapter 74, Article II – Open Burning
- Recommended the adoption of proposed Board of Education Medical Self Insurance Fund Ordinance

#### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Adopted the FMLA Leave Expansion and Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy
- Adopted the Temporary Telecommuting Policy
- Adopted the Proclamation of April as Fair Housing Month in Ellington and adopted the Town of Ellington Fair Housing Policy Statement
- Amended the Economic Development Tax Abatement Policy
- Approved the Draft Fund Balance Policy
- Adopted the Community Calendar Policy for the Town Website
- Adopted the Procedure for Selling Town Property
- Adopted the Procedure for Acquiring Real Estate
- Adopted the Social Media Management Policy

#### **PROPERTY**

- Appropriated \$126,500 for the purchase and acquisition of permanent agricultural easements for certain Oakridge Dairy Farm properties
- Accepted Roadway and Public Infrastructure for Crestwood Estates Phase V Subdivision (Ellsworth Lane and Brook Crossing Extension)
- Authorized the First Selectman to initiate the sale of Town Property of 26 Green Street, 24 Green Street and Reds Road Private Way as a package deal
- Adopted a resolution appropriating no more than \$230,000 for costs related to the acquisition of 80 Maple Street
- Executed two quit claim deeds releasing the Town's maintenance and drainage rights over 21 and 41 Courtney Drive
- Executed a quit claim deed releasing the Town's drainage rights over 74 and 76 Wappingwood Road

#### STAFF

- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of James Muratori, Maintainer I, Department of Public Works
- Revised and Reclassified the Youth Services Program Coordinator Part-time Position
- Hired Benjamin Pare, Maintainer I, Department of Public Works
- Hired Chelsea McNally, EMT/Ambulance Driver Per Diem
- Acknowledged the resignation of Devan Dove, EMT/ Ambulance Driver Per Diem
- Acknowledged the resignation of Robert DaBica, Deputy Fire Marshal, Per Diem
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Tracy Cycenas, Assessment Aide
- Revised and replaced the Administrative Secretary I position at the Senior Center with the Administrative Secretary II, position
- Hired Victoria Brooks, Custodian, Department of Public Works
- Hired Colton DuBois, Maintainer I, Department of Public Works
- Acknowledged the resignation of Aaron Gelber, Fire Inspector
- Acknowledged the resignation of Chelsea McNally, EMT/ Ambulance Driver Per Diem
- Promoted Patrick Roy from Maintainer I to Maintainer II, Department of Public Works
- Reclassified Kayla Condron from Program Coordinator to Prevention Coordinator, Youth Services
- Reclassified the position of Finance Office Administrative Assistant to Accounting Assistant
- Hired Noah Welti, EMT/Ambulance Driver, Per Diem, EVAC
- Hired Aaron Virkler, EMT/Ambulance Driver, Per Diem, EVAC
- Hired Bruce Berin, EMT/Ambulance Driver, Per Diem, EVAC
- Hired Lisa Ouellette, Temporary Clerk, Town Clerk's Office

- Promoted Jessica Maitland from Seasonal Program Coordinator to Program Coordinator
- Hired Suzanne Davis, Temporary Clerk, Town Clerk/Registrar Offices
- Hired Linda Suhr, Temporary Clerk, Town Clerk/Registrar Offices
- Promoted Patricia Choiniere from Administrative Secretary to Accounting Assistant, Finance Office
- Acknowledged the retirement of Erin Graziani, Senior Center Director
- Acknowledged the resignation of Suzanne Davis, Temporary Town Clerk/Registrar Offices
- Acknowledged the resignation of Linda Suhr, Temporary Town Clerk/Registrar Offices
- Acknowledged the resignation of Bruce Berin, EMT/Ambulance Driver, Per Diem, EVAC
- Acknowledged the resignation of Hunter Foisy, EMT/ Ambulance Driver
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Tiffany Pignataro, Finance Officer/Treasurer
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Benjamin Pare, Maintainer I, Public Works
- Hired Donovan Rodrigues, Hall Memorial Library, Page
- Acknowledged the resignation of Tracy Cycenas, Assessment Aide
- Acknowledged the resignation of Carl Badeau, Brush Drop-off Attendant, Department of Public Works
- Promoted Ashley Dabbondanza to serve as Interim Reference Librarian/Program Coordinator
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Victoria Brooks, Custodian, Department of Public Works
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Colton Dubois, Maintainer I, Department of Public Works
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Jessica Maitland, Program Coordinator, Youth Services
- Transferred Joann Bolles from Administrative Clerk, Town Clerk's Office to Tax Clerk, Tax and Revenue Office
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Noah Welti, EMT/Ambulance Driver, Per Diem, EVAC
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Aaron Virkler, EMT/Ambulance Driver, Per Diem, EVAC
- Acknowledged the retirement of Rebecca O'Brien, Crew Chief, Department of Public Works
- Acknowledged the retirement of Tonya Glomboske, Full-time EMT/Ambulance Driver, EVAC
- Acknowledged the resignation of Christine Post, Recording Secretary, part time, Planning Department
- Acknowledged the retirement of Gail Moran, Accounting/ Payroll Specialist, Full-time
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Ashley Dabbondanza, Reference Librarian/Program Coordinator (Interim)
- Hired Sheila Grady, Senior Center Director, Full-time
- Hired Michael Messier, Brush Drop-off Facility Attendant, Seasonal
- Hired Jennifer Surette, Accounting and Payroll Specialist, Finance Department
- Hired Chad Adams, EMT/Ambulance Driver, Per Diem
- Promoted Phillip Kidney, WPCA Crew Chief (formerly WPCA Technician/Maintainer II), Department of Public Works
- Approved the revisions to the job description of the Senior Center Administrative Secretary II position
- Approved the job description for the new position of Program Assistant at the Senior Center
- Hired Holly Swiney, Full-time EMT/ambulance Driver
- Acknowledged the resignation of Anna Wasielewski, Hall Memorial Library, Library Assistant
- Acknowledged the resignation of Alisha Goss, Administrative

- Secretary II, Senior Center
- Promoted Colton DuBois, from Maintainer I to WPCA Tech/ Maintainer II, Department of Public Works
- Hired Suzanne Litwin, Seasonal/Temporary Assistant Town
  Clark
- Acknowledged the Regular Employee Status of Erica Botti, Senior Center Bookkeeper
- Approved the job description for the Recycling/Refuse Monitor

#### **OTHER ACTIONS**

- Acknowledged the passing of Ellington's first female First Selectman, Mary A. Miller
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Committee for the Preservation of the Pinney House
- Selected Robert Tedford, Former Recreation Department Director, as the Wall of Honor Recipient for 2020, honored at an induction ceremony on September 12, 2020
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture
- Established the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Drug-Free Graduation Party Committee
- Increased the Ad Hoc Ellington Beautification Committee from eight (8) to ten (10) members
- Approved the installation of a viewing platform and Wildflower/Pollinator field at the Batz Property
- Approved the installation of the Batz Property Amphitheater Project to be funded by the Trails Committee
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee
- Approved the renaming of the Town Hall Meeting Hall in memory of Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr. Former Finance Officer/ Treasurer
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Emergency Services Committee
- Approved the combination of the Ellington Hockanum River Committee and the Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Beautification Committee
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee
- Endorsed a formal Statement Against Racism in collaboration with the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Crystal Lake Milfoil Committee
- Recommended to the State of CT Airport Authority that the license to permit parachute jumping at Ellington Airport be renewed for one year
- Held a dedication and renaming ceremony of the Town Hall Meeting Hall in memory of Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr.
- Granted Special Event License: Tobacco Educational Event by Drew Estate, August 13-15 2021
- Granted the request of the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department to use Robert Tedford Memorial Park for the annual EVFD Carnival
- Acknowledged the receipt of the Ad Hoc Government Study Final Report
- Accepted the resignation of Michael Purcaro from the Board of Education
- Appointed Angela Moser to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education
- Accepted the resignation of John Rachek from the Board of Finance
- Appointed Michael Purcaro to fill the vacancy on the Board of
- Accepted the resignation of Peg Busse from the Board of Finance
- Appointed Keith Durao to fill the vacancy on the Board of
- Accepted the resignation of Mort Heidari from the Zoning Board of Appeals
- Appointed Katherine Heminway to fill the vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals

#### **BOARD OF FINANCE**



Board of Finance (as of July 1, 2021) Back Row (L-R) Michael J. Purcaro, Keith R. Durao, David Olender Front Row (L-R) Barry Pinto, Douglas Harding, Chairman; Joseph Wehr

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Board of Finance is the Financial Authority of the town. The Board of Finance represents the taxpayer on all matters concerning the receipt or expenditure of taxpayer funds. The Board also represents taxpayer interests in other policy or operational matters which would affect the tax base or impact the future receipt of taxpayer funds. While the Board of Finance's principal responsibility is in the preparation of the annual budget, the Board works closely with the Finance Director to establish and enforce fiscal policy, and implement the recommendations of the town auditors. The Board also directs fiscal policy such as the establishment of Reserve Funds, and the allocation of funds among sectors such as departmental budgets, capital expenditures and debt service.

The Board of Finance meets monthly, except during the period of January through April, when it meets weekly toward assembling the annual budget.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Hold public hearings from January through March on submitted departmental budgets.
- Hold the Annual Budget Hearing in April.
- Deliberate and approve a completed budget for taxpayer approval.
- Upon budget approval by taxpayers, the Board sets the mill rate.
- Authorize/deny expenditures in excess of budgeted amounts.
- Authorize/deny the issuance of Municipal Bonds.
- Monitor town revenues and expenditures on monthly basis.
- Interview and engage the outside auditing firm.
- Prepare the Annual Town Report.
- Provide fiscal expertise to other town boards and agencies.
- Observe and consult in labor contract negotiations.
- Represent the town's financial position in contract arbitration hearings.

#### TOWN ASSESSOR

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The primary responsibility of the Assessor's Office is to annually compile the Grand List, which is the record of all taxable and tax-exempt real property, business personal property, and motor vehicles. This is accomplished by identifying and valuing all of the property located in the Town of Ellington as of October 1st of each year. Property is assessed equitably in accordance with applicable law so that every property owner bears the appropriate share of the total property tax burden. Accomplishment of this requires uniform assessments within each category of property.

Real Estate assessments are 70% of the fair market value as established by the October 1, 2020 revaluation. Motor Vehicle assessments are 70% of retail market value as of October 1 of each year. Business Personal Property assessments are based on 70% of original cost less depreciation for equipment and machinery filed annually.

The Assessor's Office is also responsible for administering various exemptions and tax relief programs. These programs are directed to benefit active military servicemen and veterans, the totally disabled, the blind, senior citizens, manufacturers, charitable organizations, farmers and owners of land classified as farm, forest and open space.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Implement and complete the October 1, 2020 Grand List
- Enhance and update the GIS parcel base layer and property maps annually
- Successfully implemented and completed the 2020 Full Inspection Revaluation of all taxable and exempt real property in the Town of Ellington assisted by eQuality Valuation Services, LLC

#### TAX BASE

<b>Grand List Totals</b>	10/1/18	10/1/19	10/1/20
Real Estate	1,214,508,158	1,218,733,276	1,275,800,850
Personal Property	56,879,762	63,622,708	72,469,270
Motor Vehicle	142,923,980	148,746,155	158,278,180

#### LAND RECORDS INSPECTOR

In accordance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut (Inspection Sec. 7-14) "an inspection of the Land Records of each municipality in this state must be done annually." The Land Records Inspector is appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a term of one year, which commences in January. The Land Record documents prepared by the Town Clerk's Office have been in-spected for the period from January 2020 through December 2020 the corrections and certification has been completed and sent to the Public Records Administrator.

#### **TOWN ENGINEER**

DANA STEELE, P.E.

J.R. RUSSO & ASSOCIATES, LLC

The Town engineer is appointed by the Board of Selectman to provide engineering consultation services to Town officers, departments, boards and commissions. During the past year as Town Engineer, J.R. Russo & Associates, LLC has provided the following services:

- Met with Town officers and prospective developers to discuss and provide guidance for preliminary development plans.
- Reviewed site design plans, traffic reports and drainage calculations submitted to the Planning Department, Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency in regard to Town requirements and sound engineering practice and provided written comments for consideration in the approval process.
- Prepared bond estimates and recommendation for reduction of bond amounts for erosion control on private projects and public improvements such as new subdivision roads.
- Reviewed as-built surveys for completed projects to verify conformance with the approved plans and recommend acceptance of completed public improvements.
- Assisted the Planning Department and Public Works in preparing plans for town infrastructure improvements:
  - Replace sidewalks along Main Street (construction completed)
  - Expand parking lot for Memorial Hall Library (design progressing)
  - Veterans' memorial on town green (under construction)
  - Install sidewalks along West Street (design progressing)
  - Improve drainage and repave Schoolhouse Road, Newell Rd & Ludwig Rd (under construction)
  - Parking for frisbee golf site on Stein Road (under construction)
  - High School drainage improvements (construction completed)
  - Culvert replacement at Burbank Rd & Webster Rd (preliminary design)
  - Center School sidewalk extension (design progressing)
  - Transfer facility (DEEP permitting progressing)
  - Somers Rd sidewalks from Main Street to Maple St (preliminary design, seeking funding)
  - Windermere Ave reconstruction & sidewalks (preliminary design, seeking funding)

#### FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Finance Officer is responsible for the accounting and reporting of all financial transactions for the Town of Ellington. Other duties include the investment of Town funds, preparation of financial statements, submission of annual budget to the Board of Finance, preparation of bid documents, purchasing agent, and serving as financial advisor to all boards and agencies. The Finance Officer oversees operations in Tax Collector and Tax Assessor's offices.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

The Finance Office accomplished or assisted in the following projects:

- Increased Moody's Aa3 to S & P AA credit rating
- Implemented new audit procedures in order to complete annual audit in compliance with State Statute
- Implemented new budget preparation procedure which enabled Finance to deliver a flat Mill Rate to Board of Finance
- Included Trash expenditures in the General Fund Budget, provided additional savings to residents
- 2021 General Obligation Bond for remaining Crystal Lake School Renovation Project and Farmland Preservation
- General Obligation Bond for the Refunding of outstanding bonds to save \$451,000 over the life of the bonds
- Created Fund Balance Policy
- Oversees Information Technology service and maintenance
- Safety and Health Committee Requirements
- Assisted in administration of Capital Projects
- Affordable Care Act reporting requirements
- Assisted in the voluntary CIRMA and OSHA review of Town
- Assisted Board of Education with Special Revenue Fund Accounting
- Closed out Capital projects to the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance
- CIRMA rates remained flat due to Town proactive risk control enhancements
- Assisted in the Security Awareness Training and Testing
- CIRMA Worker's Compensation Assessment
- Medicare Part D Creditable/Non-Creditable Notices
- CIRMA Policy Renewal
- LOSAP Administration
- Assisted with 2020 Neighborhood Assistance Grant for EVFD 29 Main Street Roof
- 2020 EVFD Fire Truck Leasing
- Assisted with STEAP Grant for Veteran's Memorial Park
- Assisted with the Board of Education Medical Self Insurance Fund Ordinance
- Coronavirus Relief Fund Reimbursement Submission
- · Assisted with Snow Plow contract
- Assisted with the Board of Education Unexpended Funds Account
- Assisted with Computer and Maintenance Service Contract
- Assisted with 2021 CT Neighborhood Assistance Act Program for HML Air Handlers
- Assisted with additional appropriation for EVAC-Roof Replacement
- Coordinated Budget Executions for all Town Departments
- Assisted with the additional appropriation and purchase of 80 Maple Street
- Discovered and assisted with Police Accountability Grant
- Assisted with Additional Appropriation for Police Accountability Bill

The Finance Office requested and/or awarded bids on the following projects:

- Snow Plow Services
- Roof Replacement-EVFD Station 43
- Diesel Exhaust Removal System

- Veteran's Memorial Park
- Electrical Services
- Main Street Sidewalks

The Finance Office assisted the Board of Finance in the following areas:

- Budget preparation (tables and books) and capital improvement books
- Standardization of all budget documents
- Provided historical statistics for maintaining reserve and contingency funds
- Interim budget expenditures/revenue projections

#### TAX AND REVENUE COLLECTOR

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Tax Collector is responsible for the billing and collection of the real estate, motor vehicle, personal property taxes, water assessments, trash collection fees, sewer use and assessments. These responsibilities are governed by Connecticut State Statutes, Town Charter, and Town Ordinances.

A consistently high rate of collection is the key to fiscal stability for the town and remains the number one priority of the Tax Collector. Balancing the need to maintain a high rate of collection with the sensitivity necessary to deal with the individual taxpayer issues is an integral part of the tax collection function.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

The 2019 Grand List was comprised of the following accounts:

	T O
6,059	Real Estate
1,011	Personal Property
16,441	Motor Vehicle
2,318	Supplemental Motor Vehicle

Totaling \$47,221,346

COMPARISON	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Current Collections	\$44,059,690	\$46,043,904	\$46,789,173
Back Collections	147,995	128,747	300,864
Interest, Liens & Fees	178,027	182,989	227,153
Collection Rate	99.4%	99.2%	99.2%

There are several statutory methods used to collect past due taxes. Liens are placed on all past due real estate accounts, demand letters are prepared and mailed and non-responsive accounts are referred to the Town Attorney for Tax Sales or foreclosure. UCC liens are filed with the Secretary of State on all past due personal property accounts. All past due motor vehicle accounts are reported to the State Department of Motor Vehicles, which prevents residents from renewing their registration.

The Tax Office provides ongoing technical information and assistance to taxpayers, attorneys, bankers, appraisers, and leasing companies. We deal electronically with escrow services and banks which make it more critical for the customer to ask questions if there is a discrepancy.

PAYMENT DUE CALENDAR			
JULY	<ul> <li>Real Estate 1st installment</li> <li>Personal Property 1st installment</li> <li>Motor Vehicle <i>single</i> payment</li> </ul>		
OCTOBER	Sewer Usage Fee		
NOVEMBER	Trash Collection Fee		
JANUARY	<ul> <li>Real Estate 2nd installment</li> <li>Personal Property 2nd installment</li> <li>Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax only if applicable</li> </ul>		
APRIL	Sewer Usage Fee		
JUNE	<ul><li>Sewer Benefit Assessment Fee</li><li>Dog License Fee</li></ul>		

#### **TOWN CLERK**

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The duties and responsibilities of the Town Clerk's Office consist of the following, most of which are governed by State Statute, others by Town Charter and the Board of Selectmen. The State Statutes govern the duties and responsibilities of the Registrar of Vital Records.

- Recording documents related to real estate transactions
- Collection of conveyance taxes
- Filing and maintaining maps, trade names, liquor permits, military discharges, and Notary Public Certificates
- Posting notices of meetings and for filing minutes and notices received from various Boards and Commissions, as required by the Freedom of Information Laws
- Preparation of absentee ballot election material for all elections, primaries, referenda.
- Registration of voters and accepts applications for voters wishing to change their party affiliation
- Issuance of marriage licenses, burial, cremation and transit permits and certifies copies of birth, death, and marriage certificates.
- Annual registration of dogs
- Sale of Sportsman Licenses
- Aircraft Registration Official
- Records and prepares minutes of Town Meetings
- Issues and maintains all Raffle & Bazaar Permits

All Town Meeting Minutes are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

The Town Clerk also serves as accepting agent for civil actions brought against the Town and is responsible for processing claims and lawsuits and submitting them to the Town Attorney, Selectmen, insurance carrier, and the department involved.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Online dog registration is available through the Town website.
- Awarded Historic Document Preservation Grant in 2020 for \$5,500.
- Land record indexes are available on the internet at no cost to public.
- Land record images are available at a nominal charge.
- Recorded survey and subdivision maps are available electronically for public retrieval in the Town Clerk's office and on the Town Website under land records.

Summary	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Births	138	127	138
Marriages	87	79	64
Deaths	102	117	108
Land Records Filed	1,882	1892	2253
Maps Filed	27	45	25
Trade Names	35	36	31
Dog Licenses	2,386	2124	2174
Kennel Licenses	8	9	9
Sports Licenses	582	497	259
Liquor Permits	20	13	10
Veteran Discharges Filed	39	32	19
Cemetery Deeds Filed	37	25	44
Aircraft Registrations	14	14	12

#### PLANNING DEPARTMENT

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Ellington Planning Department assists citizens, the general public, businesses, government officials, design professionals, and developers with general land use inquiries, permitting requirements, and compliance activities associated with zoning, subdivision, and wetlands regulations. Staff provides technical and administrative support to six permanent land use commissions: the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Inland Wetlands Agency, the Economic Development Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Conservation Commission, and the Design Review Board. In addition to carrying out planning, permitting and enforcement duties, the Planning Department helps to direct long-range planning and local GIS (Geographic Information Systems). Department staff consists of a full-time Town Planner, a full-time Assistant Town Planner Wetland and Zoning Officer, full-time Land Use Assistant, and a part-time Recording Secretary.

#### **TOWN ATTORNEY**

DORIAN R. FAMIGLIETTI KAHAN, KERENSKY & CAPOSSELA, LLP

The Town Attorney is appointed by the Board of Selectmen to be the legal advisor to the Board, the First Selectman and all Town officers, departments, boards and commissions in all matters affecting the Town. This past year has seen a continuation of challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and I have worked closely with the Board of Selectmen and Finance Department to see that that town operations and services were maintained as effectively and efficiently as possible. The Town has successfully navigated the world of virtual and hybrid meetings and we are slowly but surely transitioning back to in person meetings where possible.

In addition, during the past year as Town Attorney, I have worked with the First Selectman and Board of Selectmen on the following: adoption of a number of new ordinances creating specially designated revenue funds; review and updates to a number of general Board policies; contracting relative to the provision of various services for the Town and improvements to Town properties; and acquisition of properties to expand the Town Hall campus. I have provided counsel to the Planning Department and land use commissions on a number of new development proposals and in the review of various conveyances to the Town in connection with approved developments. Additionally, I have worked with the Tax Collector to collect on various delinquent accounts and with the Assessor on a handful of tax appeals stemming from the 2020 Revaluation.

# BOARDS, AGENCIES AND COMMISSIONS

# PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION (PZC)

The PZC is responsible for maintaining and updating the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD/Plan) for the town. The POCD is a policy document that guides land use, development patterns, preservation strategies, and capital investments for certain infrastructure and community facilities for the next decade. The last comprehensive update to Ellington's POCD concluded last annual report period and became effective November 30, 2019.

The subdivision and zoning regulations are the main tools the PZC uses to implement development practices. These regulations are living documents and amended from time to time in accordance with the goals and objectives of the POCD. Approvals over the past fiscal year include:

- Four (4) zoning regulation amendments:
  - New Section 6.5 Sidewalks & Fee-in-Lieu-of Sidewalks, effective 11-01-2020.
  - New Section 7.14.3(D) Farm Brewery, Cidery, Distillery and Winery, effective 12-1-2020-2020.
  - New Section 6.6 Access Management, effective 4-1-2021.
  - Modification to Section 2.1.10 Highway Clearance Setback (update street listing), effective date 5-1-2021.

The PZC is also responsible for processing subdivision, site plan, special permit, and other development applications. These applications are processed in accordance with regulations such as the zoning and subdivision regulations. Through its staff, the PZC ensures that developments comply with applicable regulations and approved plans. This is accomplished through plan review, site inspections, issuance of zoning permits and certificates of zoning compliance, and enforcement actions. The PZC also provides recommendations to the Board of Selectmen regarding improvements to public infrastructure and land transfers for consistency with long-term land use goals and objectives. Approvals for the past fiscal year include:

- Three (3) subdivision applications resulting in seventeen (17) new building lots.
- Twenty-three (23) other zoning applications involving site plans and modifications, special permits and modifications, zone changes, and referrals to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) regarding municipal improvements and land transfers.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Seven (7) separate applications for more than 15,000 square feet of new detached accessory residential structures;
- Conversion of vacant/underutilized commercial space for a new restaurant within the Crystal Lake neighborhood business area;
- Anaerobic digester for conversion of manure into renewable natural gas;
- 9,600 square foot addition to an existing business within an industrial zone;
- Outdoor amphitheater on town-owned property;
- 25,000 +/- square foot new commercial building for an energy efficiency business.
- One hundred and fifty (150) Zoning Permit applications processed.

- Assisted with annual compliance to Ellington's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).
- Prepared 2020 Small Town Economic Assistance (STEAP) grant application for Ellington Veterans Memorial Park & Pedestrian Improvements project. Grant awarded fourth quarter 2020 (\$116,765).
- Coordinated consultant services and notification requirements for mandated archaeological reconnaissance investigation for the 2020 STEAP Grant.
- Participated in S&P Global Rating presentation and prepared local economy data for official statement.
- Coordinated remote and hybrid meetings for six permanent land use boards pursuant to COVD-19 Executive Orders.
- Suspended temporary sign restrictions limiting the number of temporary signs per property and number of days temporary signs may be posted to assist Ellington businesses advertise alternative practices and special offerings resulting from Executive Orders for COVID-19.

#### **INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY (IWA)**

The IWA is responsible by state law to protect inland wetlands and watercourses. The wetlands and watercourses are an interrelated web of nature essential to an adequate supply of surface and underground water; to hydrological stability and control of flooding and erosion; to the recharging and purification of groundwater; and to the existence of many forms of animal, aquatic and plant life. Wetlands are defined by state law, and include certain soils that are poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial (found along a watercourse or water body), and floodplain soils. The IWA regulates activity within the wetlands and watercourses as well as areas either one-hundred (100) feet or two-hundred and fifty (250) feet away from the resource. The IWA does this by way of approving permits in accordance with the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, and enforcing the regulations through field inspections, permit suspensions or revocations, notices of violation, cease and desist orders, and if necessary, by fines. The regulations also permit some operations and uses as of right or as nonregulated however the IWA must be notified to make this determination prior to the commencement of the activity.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Eight (8) agency permit applications approved / approved with modifications or conditions.
- Three (3) modifications or extensions approved for existing agency permits.
- Two (2) wetland map amendments approved.
- Three (3) positive referrals to the Planning and Zoning Commission pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §8-26(e) for subdivision or resubdivision.
- Six (6) requests accepted for uses permitted as of right and non-regulated uses.
- Seven (7) administrative agent applications approved/ approved with modifications or conditions.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)

The EDC is committed to fostering a pro-business environment which encourages a growing, sustainable and diverse tax base. The EDC continuously looks to facilitate communication between businesses and town officials. The EDC adopts policies consistent with the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) and strives to improve the quality of life in Ellington.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Referred new regulations to the Planning and Zoning Commission to enable farm winery, cidery, brewery and distillery businesses - POCD initiative.
- Drafted amendments to the Tax Abatement Program policy to add certain definitions, recapture clause and abatement schedules.
- Processed application for tax abatement for construction of a new 22,250 square foot two-story building and site improvements, hiring of 10-15 new employees, and purchasing new machinery, equipment and motor vehicles, for corporate headquarters for sales and installation of energy efficiency equipment and solar PV systems.
- Organized Shop Ellington 2020, a shop-local campaign promoting local businesses, held in conjunction with Small Business Saturday.
- Members of the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce with representation on the Chamber's Economic Development Committee, Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

#### CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CC)

The CC focuses on conservation planning. This includes planning for open space, farmland preservation and other conservation areas. The commission is advisory and does not issue permits for development, rather its members make recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Board of Selectmen and others regarding planned open spaces, acquisition of farmland development rights and other conservation strategies.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Continued to support farmland preservation and recommended two farmland preservation applications to the Board of Selectmen to protect 167 acres of farmland generally located on Meadow Brook, Hoffman and Jobs Hill Roads - approved at Town Meeting November 2020.
- Supported the Ellington Hockanum River Committee and efforts to create and maintain trails around the Hockanum River.
- Recommended to the BOS partnership with the Northern Connecticut Land Trust to fund a portion of acquisition costs to preserve 114 acres on the west side of Webster Road adjacent to the Shenipsit State Forest - land successfully transferred to Northern Connecticut Land Trust June 2020.
- Closed out 2017 Farm Viability Grant for Cost of Community Services Study.
- Adopted Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory report effective March 2021.
- Collaborated with Connecticut Water Company to provide water conservation education via town website and newsletter.

#### **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA)**

The ZBA is essentially a court consisting of local volunteers who judge applicant's claims that they cannot comply with the zoning regulations because the regulations affect their land in some unique way. This land-based hardship can be the basis for the granting of a variance to the zoning regulations. If a variance is granted, the applicant does not have to comply with a specific provision of the zoning regulations. In addition, the ZBA hears appeals from people who feel that department staff made an error in interpreting and applying a provision of the zoning regulations. The ZBA also currently approves locations for an applicant who desires to obtain a license for dealing in or repairing motor vehicles from the Department of Motor Vehicles.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Thirteen (13) variance applications approved (five (5) with conditions).
- Two (2) variance applications denied.
- One (1) Cease & Desist Order from the Zoning Officer affirmed (upheld).
- One (1) location approved for dealing in and/or repairing motor vehicles.

#### **DESIGN REVIEW BOARD (DRB)**

The DRB is advisory to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) and provides recommendations for exterior design elements for commercial, industrial, mixed-use, multifamily, and special use permits in residential zones.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Review of design elements during the past fiscal year include:

- Restaurant and associated signage at 292 Sandy Beach Road.
- Construction of four full-size soccer fields, parking and access roads, concession and restroom buildings, and associated site improvements east side of Windermere Avenue.
- Construction of a commercial building, parking, loading area, outdoor storage yard, common driveway and utilities, ground mounted solar array, and associated site improvements at 124 West Road.
- Construction of a 9,600 sf building with wash bay at 77 Meadow Brook Road.
- Construction of a 5,000 + sf building and outdoor patio for a restaurant and a four bay car wash as related site improvements at 140 West Road.

### WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

The Water Pollution Control Authority is a five member board with the responsibility for the administration and maintenance of the two sewer systems in the Town, the Hockanum Sewer System that collects residential and commercial sewage for treatment at the Vernon Sewer Plant and the Crystal Lake Sewer System that collects residential sewage for treatment at the Stafford Sewer Treatment Plant. All town sewer maintenance is handled by the Public Works Department by agreement with the Water Pollution Control Authority.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Continue to update AppGeo Sewer Layer for Ellington GIS MapGeo.
- Set Sewer User Fees for Hockanum and Crystal Lake systems. Based on Ellington's portion of the Vernon Plant Upgrade, the WPCA increased the Hockanum System user fees.
- Continued to monitor H2S levels at Pump Stations.
- Reviewed future capital improvements projects.
- Approved the 2021-22 Budget which is funded by user fees and included in the Town's budget reporting process.
- Fuss & O'Neill projects-Flow Allocations, Vernon Pump Station wet well investigation, Extension of the Sewer to Jobs Hill/Tomoka, I&I for southeast portion of Hockanum Sewer Service Area.

## PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE (PBC)

The Permanent Building Committee has eleven members who are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The duties of this board are to investigate sites for future public building and to make recommendations as requested by the Town Meeting for acquisition and construction of all building projects and/or work with construction costs of over \$20,000. The Committee may investigate sites and make recommendations of acquisition and construction of building projects and/or work with construction costs of less than \$20,000 if requested to do so by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee undertakes such functions as: surveying sites, recommending acquisition, preparation and disposition of sites and buildings, engaging architects and engineers through quality base selection, approving plans, procuring bids and entering into contracts for construction, supervising construction and accepting work as authorized and delegated by the Town Meeting.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

There were no town building projects taking place during FY 2020-21; therefore, the Permanent Building Committee did not meet.

#### **REGISTRARS OF VOTERS**

The registrars are responsible for organizing and conducting elections, primaries and referenda. They are also accountable for registering and maintaining accurate voter records for the town. These activities include annually canvassing town residents who are on the voter rolls but have not exercised their right to vote in several past consecutive elections with the objective of updating active voter files. They also hold voter registration drives at the high school, farmers' market and other locations.

The Republican Registrar, Wanda DeLand, has served the town in this capacity for 16 years and Democratic Registrar, Lois Timms-Ferrara, has held the position since April 2018. Both Registrars have fulfilled all educational and training requirements and are state-certified by Connecticut's Secretary of the State. They are active in the Tolland County Registrars organization and have assumed committee positions in the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut (ROVAC) to an effort to advance the field.

This year the office was actively engaged in holding two Presidential Primaries and a Presidential Election during an outbreak of the deadly coronavirus. New voters registered in record numbers. The town experienced a 6.95% increase in active voters over the last year with 11,059 voters currently (as of this writing), compared with 10,342 last year. This kind of increase is not unusual during a Presidential Election year. What certainly was unusual was the conduct of a primaries and elections amidst a pandemic. This office and that of the Town Clerk were challenged in ways never before experienced. With the support of the state and federal government, the polling stations were set up to do all possible to avoid potential spreading of the virus. Use of hand sanitizers, cleaning of markers for the ballots, use of gloves, masks and plastic shields were all part of the protocol as an extraordinary group of local poll workers risked their own health in order to see to it that registered town residents could vote safely and confidently.

Ellington experienced another strong turnout for the Presidential Election in 2020, when 85.76% of town voters cast their ballots. Due to the COVID 19 virus, Connecticut voters were permitted to vote using Absentee Ballots, and some 3,400 voters in Ellington did so. In the end, Joe Biden led by a close 272 votes over incumbent President Donald Trump.

In Ellington, District 1 typically holds elections and primaries at the Ellington High School and District 2 votes at Crystal Lake School. This table reflects the number of registered voters by political affiliation compared to the last three years at this time in each of our districts:

DISTRICT ONE	2021	%	2020	%	2019	%
Democrats	2141	24.9%	2,029	25.2%	1,939	24.6%
Republicans	2266	26.4%	2,110	26.2%	2,094	26.6%
Unaffiliated	4016	46.8%	3,767	46.8%	3,716	47.2%
Other	170	2%	146	1.8%	130	1.6%
DISTRICT TWO	2021	%	2020	%	2019	%
DISTRICT TWO Democrats	<b>2021</b> 610	% 24.8%	<b>2020</b> 568	% 24.8%	<b>2019</b> 558	% 24.8%
		, -		, -		, -
Democrats	610	24.8%	568	24.8%	558	24.8%

The Registrars will continue to provide safe and efficient election venues and encourage everyone to participate in the political process.

If you are interested in registering to vote or wish to update your name, address or political party affiliation on your voter registration file, you may do so online at www.sots.ct.gov or drop by town hall at 55 Main Street to complete a registration card. There are also registration cards available at Hall Memorial Library that may be dropped off or mailed to the Registrar's Office.

## AD HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE

#### **SUCTION HARVESTING**

New England Aquatic Services (NEAS) spent six (6) days beginning on August 10, 2020 using one crew for the first three days and two crews for the remaining three days, providing 120.82 hours of Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting. They were removing Variable-Leaf Milfoil (Myriophyllum hererophyllum) and Red-Leaf Pondweed from various areas in the lake. Four and one half hours were spent on day one performing the Annual Maintenance by surveying the lake for previously undetected invasive plants and removing a patch of pondweed on the western side of the lake. The remainder of day one and the entire day two was spent removing pondweed from the Northeast Cove Area (77 bags). Day three was spent removing milfoil from the Dam Area. On day four a second boat was brought to the lake in order to run four crews and expedite the project. Boat one spent day four in the Dam Area while boat two spent day four removing milfoil from the Town Beach Area. Day five was spent with both boats and four crews removing milfoil from the Town Beach Area where very thick growth was found. The final day of the project, day six, was spent with both boats removing milfoil from the Town Beach Area and resweeping the area that boat one had worked earlier in the week. Over the course of the six day project, 337 bags of milfoil and pondweed were removed from the lake (Dam Area - 77 bags, Town Beach Area - 183 bags) and approximately 2.61 acres were cleared.

#### IN LAKE WATER QUALITY MONITORING

**Water Clarity:** Water Quality monitoring was performed by the Crystal Lake Association (CLA) and evaluated by Northeast Aquatic Research (NEAR) from April to November in 2020 in the open water areas of the lake. Parameters being tested are water clarity, phosphorous, dissolved oxygen and temperature. Water clarity in the lake was good to very good in 2020, with Secchi disk readings remaining mostly above 4.5 meters for the duration of the season. Clarity was best in May, June and November, when the Secchi disk depth was 5.3 meters or greater. Clarity was worst in April and mid- to late-summer, with depths ranging from 4.4 to 4.9 meters. The July, August, September and October Secchi disk depths were not as good as the long-term averages. The April, May, June and November Secchi disk depths were better than the long term averages.

Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature: In April, the water column was fully mixed, with just a slight decline in oxygen saturation below 12 meters. By May, the water at the very bottom of the deep spot had lost oxygen becoming anoxic. The anoxic water at the lake bottom slowly increased in area, rising in the water column over the summer months. The location in the water column at which the anoxic water ends and oxygenated begins is known as the anoxic boundary. The anoxic boundary reached a maximum height of 8.8 meters in mid-September (as measured down from the surface). The boundary dropped slightly in October but was gone by November when dissolved oxygen had fully returned to the bottom.

Nutrients: Total Phosphorous (TP) remained below 20ppb in the top and middle depths of the lake, with concentrations ranging from 7ppb to 17ppb. The bottom water concentrations were somewhat elevated during the summer months due to internal nutrient release during periods of anoxia at the lake bottom. The lake water was tested for Total Nitrogen (TN) and Nitrate Nitrogen (NOx) on alternating months. TN concentrations were highest at the bottom of the lake during July and October. Nitrogen oxides (NOx) was typically below the detection limit of 3ppb, with the exception of 10m samples where nitrite was accumulating due to the modest redox potential in the upper boundary of the anoxia.

Inlet Nutrients - Aborn Brook: Inlet total phosphorous (TP) levels showed progression from low, excellent, values of <10ppb in April to very elevated concentrations late in the season. One extremely high value of 323 ppb was collected on August 12. Phosphorous of that level requires further investigation to ascertain its source. Overall, TP concentrations collected from the inlet were higher than the in-lake TP concentrations. Ammonia (NH3) was tested and detected in June and October. These samples indicate contributions from upstream sources, as there should be little or no ammonia in the inlet waters. Total nitrogen (TN) remained between 200-300 ppb, which is within the normal range. The August 12 sample had an exceedingly high NOx concentration, at 413 ppb. All other samples had NOx concentrations below 250 ppb. A field survey was conducted by NEAR in June 2021 of the Aborn Brook area to try to determine the source of these high values but the results were not available for this report.

In-Lake and Route 140 Pond Aquatic Plant Survey: Northeast Aquatic Research (NEAR) performed an aquatic plant survey of the lake and the Route 140 Pond on August 24, 2020. They documented 18 plant species. Two invasive plant species were found, Mudmat (Glossostigma cleistanthum) and Variable-leaf milfoil (Myriophyllum heterophyllum). The three areas where New England Aquatic Services (NEAS) performed suction harvesting were investigated to locate milfoil. Although milfoil was present in these areas, the beds contained medium plant density (except two dense patches near the dam) indicating that the milfoil has not spread to other areas of the lake and the suction harvesting program is effective. The invasive species Mudmat was found at two locations along the western shore. Mudmat is a very small plant that grows in shallow, sandy areas near the shore. Because of its growth form, it is not considered a nuisance. The other 16 aquatic plant species found in the lake are native to Connecticut. Ribbon-leaf pondweed (Potamogeton epihydrus) was the only dominant species, meaning it was present in greater than 20% frequency. Quill-leafed arrowhead (Sagittaria teres) was also found in many locations. All remaining species were present at a low frequency. Ten aquatic plant species were found in the pond. Milfoil (the only invasive) was not abundant with only three small patches. Floating-leaf pondweed (Potamogenton natans) was the most abundant species in the pond. Much of the pond contained menial growth.

Stormwater Sampling Analysis: A stormwater sampling analysis program has been added this year to determine if nutrients from stormwater runoff are adversely impacting the water quality in Crystal Lake. NEAR conducted a field investigation of the stormwater entering the lake during the rain event on September 29, 2020. Twenty one possible inlet sources were identified. Twelve samples were able to be collected and evaluated for Total Nitrogen (TN) and Total Phosphorous (TP). It was recommended that eight of the locations have additional samples collected by volunteers from the Crystal Lake Association (CLA) during the beginning of major rainfall events for laboratory analysis by NEAR for nitrogen and phosphorous. Samples were collected for one rain event in June 2021.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2021 – 2022

- Continue water sampling of the lake waters from April through November.
- Determine the results of the Aborn Brook investigation and if possible, implement recommendations to minimize and/or mitigate the source of the upstream pollutants.
- If the Secchi disc depth reading falls to 3 m or less, the phytoplankton in the lake water should be examined to determine if cyanobacteria are present.
- Continue the annual maintenance in the main body of the lake.
- Continue milfoil removal from the Dam Area at the north end of the lake.
- Continue milfoil removal in the Town Beach Area

- Continue milfoil and pondweed removal off of the Northeast Cove.
- Remove pondweed at various locations in the lake.
- No work is required at this time for milfoil in the 1 acre Route 140 Pond across from the Town Beach.
- Continue the bottom barrier placement performed by the Crystal Lake Association to control milfoil in Aborn Cove near the mouth of Aborn Brook and in the Dam Area, as required.
- Perform a comprehensive lake wide aquatic plant survey in the

fall of 2021.

- CLA volunteers to continue collecting stormwater samples during major storms for analysis.
- NEAR to conduct an additional stormwater evaluation and testing during a rainfall event.
- NEAR to coordinate Stormwater sampling and results with Town DPW for their MS4

Suction harvesting is anticipated to begin in August, 2021.

## AD HOC ELLINGTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

Despite the challenges of COVID-19 the Ellington Trails Committee had a very successful year with the help of our dedicated trail members, the Ellington High School Opening Knight Players, Boy Scout Troop 96, Eagle Scout Aidan Stratoudakis and the Girl Scouts.

Batz Property, 97 Shenipsit Street again received the most attention this past year. The Sensory Garden was finished in July of 2020 with plants to stimulate the senses and a living plant tunnel. The Sensory Path was also finished at this time which has children (an adults) being able to go barefoot and experience different textures. The ribbon cutting for these improvements was held in September.

Another huge undertaking was the building and installation of a viewing platform at the frog pond. The great weather of the fall allowed Trail member Valerie Amsel with help from Linda Anderson and Bruce Dinnie to make this platform handicapped accessible and provide a spot for environmental education. The platform has been a favorite spot for children looking for frogs, art students sketching the pond, dogs getting wet and even giving access to ice skaters.

In the Spring of 2021 the trails were raked and cleared of debris, and blazing was redone on spots where it was needed. Also, No Hunting, No Motorized Vehicles and Boundary Line markers were placed where necessary.

April of 2021 was a busy month. Construction on an Amphitheater in the back field of Batz was started. The Opening Knight Players of Ellington High School volunteered their time to build the stage. The Town of Ellington should be very proud of these young adults who were skilled and dedicated workers (working one day in 38F degree weather with snow flurries). They also helped committee member Linda Anderson weed and mulch the Sensory Garden, small orchard and garden around the Batz sign.

Eagle Scout Aidan Stratoudakis has raised funds and is building 18 benches for the amphitheater, with installation expected in August 2021.

Public Works also improved the gravel road leading to the Amphitheater and installed a new gate.



At the end of April Boy Scout Troop 96 fixed the Batz camping field outhouse and cut down the invasive Multiflora Rose along the gravel road with the help of committee members.

In May 2021, the Daisies, Brownies, Girl Scout Cadets, Seniors and Ambassadors from Troops 10367, 10725, 10742, 10744 and 10747 helped to refurbish the fire circle in the camping field.

In the spring, Metcalf Trail at Cedarwood Drive was cleared of any downed trees, raked and re-blazed by committee members.

Kimball Trail on Hopkins Rd. was raked, cleaned and re-blazed in the spring by committee members. The trail was also extended and now enables hikers access to the Shenipsit Trail that connects to a range of longer paths leading to Soapstone Mountain.

In the Spring of 2021 the Committee has started to look at the Town's Crystal Lake property for a future site for hiking trails. Committee members hiked the property with Rachel Dearborn to examine existing trails and get an idea of the parcel's boundaries. Approval to move forward and work on this property will start in the Fall of 2021.

In July of 2020 the Committee, in partnership with Hall Memorial Library, hosted a socially distanced outdoor program with raptors led by Horizon Wings of Ashford, CT.



In August of 2020, the Committee had a table at the Ellington Farmers Market. We had lots of people stop by and ran out of our Batz and Kimball Forest Trail Maps. We were pleased to provide information on where people could go in Ellington to spend time outdoors during the pandemic.

On June 5th of 2021 the Ellington Trails Committee participated in the CT Trails Day, sponsored by the CT Forest Association at the Batz Property.



Keep Ellington Moooooving!





#### RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS

The Ellington Resident State Troopers Office serves as the primary Law Enforcement contingency for the Town of Ellington. The State Police team consists of Resident State Trooper Supervisor Sergeant Brian Santa #165, TFC

Tyler Burnell #1091, TFC Patrick O'Brien #804, Trooper Justine Monahan #619 and Trooper Daniel Hill #1278. The Ellington Town Police Officer team consists of fourteen sworn Police Officers. Officer Joseph Decker CC25 serves additionally as the Police Support Specialist. The Resident State Troopers Office also provides Marine Patrol support on Crystal Lake through the use of three certified Marine Patrol Officers. The Resident State Troopers Office is supported by Troop C in Tolland for all daily operations. The team is backed up by the entire State Police Department and its specialists which include: Major Crime Squad, Detective Division, Forensic Laboratory, Fire Marshals Division, Emergency Services Division, Narcotics Division, Canine Corps, Bomb Squad, Traffic and Truck Squads.

#### **JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD**

The Ellington RTO serves as host and lead agency for the Tri-Town (Ellington, Stafford and Somers) Juvenile Review Board (JRB). The JRB consists of TFC O'Brien (Ellington RTO), sworn member of Somers RTO, sworn member of Stafford RTO, member of Youth Services and a member of State DCF. The JRB is intended to divert from Juvenile Court children who have committed minor delinquent acts or whose behavior at home or school indicates they are at risk of delinquency. The board meets the first Thursday of each month at the Ellington Resident Troopers Office.

#### PRESCRIPTION DRUG COLLECTION

Prescription medications are collected from the Prescription Drug Collection Box and transported to the State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) for destruction. Approximately 933.4 lbs of prescription drugs have been collected for destruction.

#### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM

The Resident State Troopers Office continues to staff the Ellington Public School system with School Resource Officers. For the 2020/2021 School year Officer James Keeney and Officer John Barth will fill the SRO positions.

#### **DARE PROGRAM**

The Resident State Troopers Office continues to provide two DARE Officers for the 2021/2022 School Year. TFC O'Brien #804 and Trooper Monahan have been selected to teach the DARE curriculum.

#### MAJOR ACTIVITY (January 2020 - January 2021)

Totals Calls	14,357
Accidents	156
DUIs	14
Burglaries	15
Alarms	330
Larceny	38
Traffic Stops	832

#### **BUILDING OFFICIAL**

The Building Official is responsible for public safety, health, and welfare as it relates to the use and occupancy of all town buildings and structures.

The Building Official's office is located in the Town Hall Annex. Building inspections are generally completed within one or two days of an inspection request.

#### **ACTIVITY REPORT**

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
New Single Family Homes	25	19	15
New Commercial Buildings	0	5	2
New Multi-Family Buildings	0	0	0
Residential Alterations & Addition	ns 46	29	44
Repairs/Replacements to Existing	g 243	202	407
Mechanical/Electrical	692	539	773
Other	74	202	229
Totals	1080	1095	1470
Field Inspections	1315	1079	1322
Estimated Construction Value	\$20,017,731	\$19,028,112	\$22,457,444
Permit Fees Collected	\$288,192	\$308,357	\$397,026



#### FIRE MARSHAL

The Department of Town Fire Marshal performs both investigative and code enforcement roles within our community. Direct responsibility for the investigation of all fires, explosions and hazardous materials incidents and code compliance inspections of

most properties (single and two-family residential properties are exempt) are mandated by Connecticut General Statutes. Applications for administrative and criminal search warrants and for arrest warrants are filed with the court system when determined by investigation to be appropriate.

Annual code compliance inspections are conducted of all special events and all permanent or temporary buildings, occupancies, facilities, whether new, existing or under construction or renovation. The number of mandatory annual inspections approaches 2,850.

In cooperation with the appropriate state agencies, permits are processed for all liquor establishments, day care centers, group day care homes, explosives operations and open burning. Construction plans for buildings and occupancies regulated by the Connecticut Fire Safety Code are examined for approval prior to the issuance of building permits and certificates of occupancy are approved following completion of that construction.

Comparison statistics are provided below as an aid in determining the effects of the past twenty years of town growth and the Town's ability to meet its lawful obligations to fire investigation and code enforcement functions.



Although fire destroyed this barn, quick action by all involved prevented the loss of life and injury for both humans and animals. Fires can happen anywhere, anytime. Help reduce loss in your neighborhood by calling 911 if you see or smell smoke or fire.

Photo Credit: Squad Fire Photos

SUMMARY OF SERVICES			
	2000-2001	2010-2011	2020-2021
Investigations	68	54	73
Criminal (Felony and Misdemeanor1)	17	15	0
Non-Criminal	50	37	45
Undetermined	1	2	28
Fire Casualties: Fatal	1	0	0
Non-Fatal	0	2	1
Building Fires	17	13	6
Motor Vehicle Fires	13	4	3
All Other Fires	17	23	21
Hazardous Materials Incidents	8	8	6
Fire Losses, Total (X \$1000)	\$294.1	\$2,525	\$1133.7
Criminal	\$6.1	\$70	0
Non-criminal	\$288	\$346	\$35
Undetermined	0	\$2109	\$1097.7
Value of All Properties			
Exposed to Loss (X \$1000)	\$1655	\$1810.18	\$30230
Enforcement Inspections	86	1034	17053
Commercial	4	152	172
Public Assembly	15	47	101
Educational	15	12	6
Residential (Multi-family)	31	809	1320
Hazardous Materials	16	8	2
Other	5	6	12
Drills	2	2	56
Enforcement Citations Issued (Misdeme	anor) 176	206	73
State Licenses and Permits Approved	35	23	25
Open Burning Permits Processed / Approx	ved 47	12	27
Arrests or Referrals	4	4	10

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Misdemeanor violations cited as a result of code enforcement inspections are not included here; they are shown at Enforcement Inspections.

<sup>2</sup> Not administered or recorded by this department at that time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Number of inspections significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic shut-down.



Thomas Adams

Josh Carroll

Cameron Cheney

# ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

Kaila Morrow

Liam Kent

George Magnuson

CHIEF: Jack A. Rich II
ASSISTANT CHIEF: Brendan Burke
DEPUTY CHIEFS: Robert Smith, Karl S. Neubecker
CAPTAINS: Peter Hany, Jr., Kimberly Gambacorta
LIEUTENANTS: Jared Fongemie, Cole Prato\*
SECRETARY: Michael D. Varney
TREASURER: Elizabeth Feldmann

### **MEMBERS**Richard Daugherty

Valerie Adams	Gary T. Feldman, Sr.	Daniel Parisi
Timothy Bahler	Gary Feldman, Jr.**	Keith Ruff
Frederick Bird	Michael Gallagher	Noah St. Germain
Bryan Blotniski	Vince Gambacorta	Randy Smith
Steven Breault, Sr	Katherine Hany	Regan Toomey
Joseph Carilli	Nicole Hazzard	John W. Turner
Jordan Chamberlain	Greg Larensen	Dennis Varney
Dominick Cristelli	Erich Martin	Aaron Virkler
Adam D'Agostino	Jake Miceli	Frederica Weeks
	LIFE MEMBERS	
Jonathan Allen	Leonard Descheneaux, Sr.	Jack Rich
Arthur Caldwell	Kevin Gambacorta	Robert Sandberg, Sr.
Daniel Connors	Allan Lawrence, Jr.	Allen Smith
	Robert Levandoski	

### Chris Hoover HONORARY MEMBERS

**CADET MEMBERS** 

Kieran Foster

Norman Hannah

Stephan Chase Ted Graziani



EVFD at Fireman's Fair Parade, September 7, 2019

Photo credit: B. Feldman

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. was organized in 1928. We are proud to recognize 93 years of providing the Town of Ellington and its citizens with the finest possible volunteer emergency fire and rescue services.

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department's mission is the protection and preservation of life and property during fire and other emergencies in the Town of Ellington; to honor all emergency calls, and to support fire prevention education activities. Currently the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department is rated by the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) as a class 5/8B. During the past several years, the types of incidents, their added frequency and growth within the town, has demanded increased levels of training, equipment and expertise in new technologies by our volunteers.

The greatest care and concern are given to those who become sick or injured. The most up to date rescue tools and techniques are used to extricate those who have become injured as the result of a motor vehicle or industrial accidents. Our rescue personnel work with the Ellington Ambulance to provide the best possible care for the sick and injured. For those patients in need of advanced life support or trauma team services, the Rockville General Hospital Paramedic Unit, frequently supported by the Life Star Helicopter transport team, are requested.

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. formally signed a multi-year agreement in 2009 to provide services to the Town of Ellington as outlined in the Town of Ellington Charter as revised.

During these last few years there has been a greater need for additional volunteers. Every volunteer fire department across the state is experiencing shortages of manpower. It is not easy with today's employment and family commitments to be a volunteer firefighter. Many hours of training are required to be a part of our emergency service delivery team.

For information about how you can become a volunteer or if you wish to learn more about your local emergency services you can pick up information at the Town Hall, the Ellington Center Fire House on Main St., visit our award winning website at: www. ellingtonfire.org, our Facebook page at: facebook.com/ellingtonfd or leave us a message at 860-870-3190.

#### INCIDENT REPORT SUMMARY

Below is a summary of emergency response statistics for the time period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. During this period, the department responded to 920 emergency calls totaling 600 hours, which equated to more than 4276 donated man-hours for emergency services.

Significant incident activity for the year included COVID-19 responses, multi-family structure fires and several large mutual aid fires

The following outlines the emergency activity and related services provided by the department to the Town of Ellington:

Hazardous Condition, Standby	. 82
Hazardous Condition, other	
Flammable / Combustible liquid Spill	3
Natural gas or LPG leak	6
Carbon monoxide incident	4
Electrical Equipment Problem / Overheated Motor .	7
Power line down	. 51
Arching, shorted electrical equipment	3
Aircraft Standby	1
Vehicle accident no extrication	5
Service Call	
Service Call , Other	4
Person in Distress	2
Lock Out	6
Water or steam problem / water evacuation, other	3
Smoke, odor removal	
Animal Rescue	1
Police or other govt. agency assist	. 12
Public service assistance / Assist invalid	
Unauthorized burning	1
Cover assignment, standby, move up	
Good Intent Call	
Good Intent Call, Other	. 11
Cancelled enroute, wrong location	. 79
Authorized controlled burning, prescribed fire	
Odor of smoke, steam or vapor	
EMS Call, party transported prior to arrival	
False Call	
False Alarm, false call, other	6
Bomb scare - no bomb	
Malicious Alarm	0
Alarm system malfunction	. 15
Unintentional alarm	
Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	
Other	
Severe weather / flood assessment	. 20
Total:	920

To report an emergency, enhanced 911 telephone services are available throughout our community. Persons reporting emergencies are able to communicate directly with our regional emergency dispatch center.

#### **MEMBERSHIP TRAINING & ACTIVITIES**

During the year, Ellington firefighters spent over 3700 hours in departmental training activities. Several officer drills were conducted in the area of planning, management skills, interoperable communications, incident command and regional response plans. Training sessions were also conducted throughout the year with surrounding mutual aid fire and rescue departments in topics such as: National Incident Management System (NIMS), Rural Water Supply and Live Fire Training. The Ellington Fire Department also hosted and sponsored several courses this past year including; Emergency Medical Technician Refresher, Fire Officer IV, Firefighting and Rescue, Hazardous Materials and OSHA reviews.

Attendance at regionally sponsored training programs included classes in the following skills; firefighting, hazardous materials, emergency medical training, incident command, live burn exercises, decontamination, management and planning, water rescue, and several areas of technical rescue. The Connecticut Fire Academy, Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, Office of Emergency Medical Services, National Fire Academy, or other recognized organization/agency, accredited all courses attended.

Members of our department also attended specialty courses held at the Symposium in the Sun, sponsored by Volunteer Combination Officers Section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs in Clearwater Beach Florida.

Live burn exercises were conducted regionally by EVFD personnel for area departments utilizing the departments live burn trailer, which was funded by a federal grant.

We are extremely proud of our high levels of training and certifications held by our members in Ellington. Several of our members are adjunct faculty for many of the area regional fire schools as well as the State Fire and Emergency Medical Training programs.

### Current Levels of members' certifications include: (only the highest level is listed)

Fire Fighter I	7
Fire Fighter II	36
Fire Service Instructor I	18
Fire Service Instructor II	$\dots\dots.4$
Fire Service Instructor III	2
Fire Officer I	7
Fire Officer II	3
Fire Officer III	3
Fire Officer IV	2
Pump Operator	6
Aerial Operator	14
Health and Safety Officer	2
Hazardous Materials Technicians	27
Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)	11
Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)	17
Emergency Medical Services Instructor (F	EMSI)2
•	

#### **EQUIPMENT**

All safety inspections for apparatus and equipment were conducted as required by DOT, DMV, OSHA and NFPA. It should be noted that extensive efforts were necessary to meet these regulations due to the age of the front line apparatus. Examples of specific annual tests include: annual apparatus safety inspections, ladder, hose, pump, SCBA, SCBA cylinders, and all fire extinguishers.

This year we continued a program with the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps to consolidate the purchase of our respective agencies' emergency medical service equipment and supplies. This promotes standardization of equipment and the leverage of bulk purchases.

Also new this year Ellington Volunteer Fire Department purchased new self-contained breathing apparatus for our firefighters which replaced our old and outdated ones. Our current SCBA meets the new NFPA standard 1981, 2018 edition.

#### **FACILITY**

The center fire house located at 29 Main Street houses 8 vehicles, several trailers and most department offices, equipment and records. Department meetings and trainings are also conducted at this facility. During this year we continued with our regular maintenance and safety inspections. This facility has had, and continues to receive, renovations to address upgrades and storage issues.

The departments south end station located at 6 Nutmeg Drive houses 5 department vehicles including the departments aerial, an engine, a service vehicle with the Hazard Materials trailer, and UTV.

#### **SPECIALTY TEAMS**

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department members are active participants in several regional and statewide teams supporting regional emergency service activities. Members actively participate on The Capital Regional Hazardous Materials

Response and Incident Management Teams in addition to the Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service Dive Team and Search and Rescue Team. The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department also actively participates on several State Fire Rescue Disaster Plan; Strike Teams and Task Forces. Responses of our members of these teams included several incident management team activations around the state, hazardous materials incidents in the capitol region, dive team responses throughout the Tolland County area as well as Strike Team and Task Force deployments in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

#### **CADET FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM**

The Cadet Program is open to youths between the ages of fourteen and nineteen. Cadets have the opportunity to participate in the same programs and training as the regular membership in addition to their own dedicated training and activities. Their participation at emergency incidents is restricted to assure they are not exposed to hazardous activities. The insights and support they bring to the fire department represents a valuable part of our organization. As they grow in experience and age they are brought into the organization where there training continues.

#### FIRE PREVENTION & PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION

The Fire Prevention and Public Education Team had another busy year. Over 20 public education programs were conducted including presentations at Kindergarten through Grade 2 elementary schools, Pre-K programs in addition to other area nursery schools. The presentations were designed for younger children with the emphasis on attempting to build a comprehensive understanding about fire and awareness of safety. During the year we also provided several tours to groups at our firehouse and spoke to other organizations on fire and safety related issues. Please contact us if you would like to set up an appointment for us to host or speak to your organization.

#### **INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

It is essential that we continue to support the volunteer character of the emergency services that protect our community. To aid in this effort the Town of Ellington's emergency services instituted a program to provide funds to run a volunteer incentive program in an attempt to attract new volunteers as well as increase the activity of the current members. Members are paid a monetary stipend based on their activity levels. Since the inception of the program, we believe the program has benefited the town by attracting more members and increasing the activity of the existing staff.

#### **FUTURE PLANNING**

The town continues to experience an increased growth rate and we have continued planning to meet the needs of our community in the years to come. The need for improved and additional facilities to adequately provide protection to the community, apparatus replacement and relocation, are areas of immediate concern. The town has appointed an emergency services committee and had previously hired a consultant to review the services provided to the town by the emergency service agencies to address these areas which need improvement.

Thank you for your continued support, respect and help in making this, the 88th year of our service to the community, a safe and successful year for everyone.

For more information on our department's activities and programs please visit us on the internet at www.ellingtonfire.org or www.facebook.com/ellingtonfd.

#### **E911 MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR**

This office has several key functions that help to deliver efficient emergency services to the citizens of Ellington. Since the start of the statewide E911 emergency network your local coordinator has maintained a Master Street Address Guide, MSAG, for the telephone computer database. This ensures that all streets and all street numbers assigned to properties on those streets are within the parameters of the E911 database guide. New streets are added to the database at time of construction. Existing streets are adjusted for extensions or additional lots. Several times during a year conflicts will arise and need to be reviewed by this office. I also consult with the Planning Department and Building Official concerning street names and house numbering.

In cooperation with the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Crystal Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the Connecticut State Police Resident Troopers Office, this office insures the efficient handling of all 911 calls for assistance. As a member of a regional dispatch center that serves as our Primary Service Answering Point, PSAP, the Town of Ellington can provide a professional answering and dispatch service at a very economical rate.

Legislated financial support for regional dispatch centers and 911 PSAP's distributes funds for the continued operation of these vital communication centers. Funds collected from telephone user fees are distributed to all eligible dispatch centers across the State of Connecticut. The funding formula for distribution of these revenues' supplements operating expenses, capital improvements and dispatcher training.

The member towns of the regional centers will continue to supplement the operational expenses for the dispatching services. Through the period of the COVID pandemic, FY 20-21 and FY 21-22, the Board of Directors of the regional center held the member towns supplemental assessment at a constant level. As we move forward, I expect the municipal assessments to increase. A subcommittee of the Board of Directors is currently reviewing the municipal assessment formula.

It should be noted that thru the entire period of the COVID Pandemic, the Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service, Inc. regional center stayed in full operation, without any interruption in service to the municipalities.

Increase usage of the system, communications coverage and inter-operability between jurisdictions and agencies continues to be a priority and a challenge for the county planning committee as they move forward to implement the long-range plan. Dispatch software upgrades, base radio replacements, communication links across the region and working thru the sunsetting of the low band communications network are challenges that are being addressed.

A Mobile Command unit has been outfitted for field service assignment for large and lengthy duration events.



CHIEF: Timothy Seitz
ASSISTANT CHIEF: Brian Pippin
DEPUTY CHIEF: Chad Adams
FIRE CAPTAIN: Robert Edwards
EMS CAPTAIN: James Adkins
1ST LIEUTENANT: Fred Sharpe Jr.
2ND LIEUTENANT: Annmarie Seitz
3RD LIEUTENANT: Charles Pippin
4TH LIEUTENANT: Bryan Harvell
SECRETARY: Annmarie Seitz
TREASURER: Bryan Harvell

#### **MEMBERS**

Chad Adams
Domonique Adkins
James Adkins
Krystina Adkins
Michael Allen
Michael D'Averso
Rileigh Dunn
Britney Edwards
Michael Edward

Robert Edwards
Kimberly Gallicchio
Harley Garcia
Doug Gebhardt Jr.
Douglas Gebhardt Sr.
Bryan Harvell
Richard Mead
Brian Pippin
Chuck Pippin
Alberto Rivera

Cindy Rivera
Douglas Rogala
Annmarie Seitz
Timothy Seitz
Dakota Sharpe
Fred Sharpe Jr.
Scott Small
John Streiber
Anna Tuttle

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Jessica Harvell

Cindy Bregoli

David Bregoli

#### LIFE MEMBERS

William Morrison

Paul McDonald

#### BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS CHAIRMEN: Mike Bialozynski CO-CHAIRMEN: Mike Discenza

-CHAIRMEN: Mike Discenza CLERK: Annmarie Seitz

BOARD: Annmarie Seitz, Bonnie Brush, Brittany Edwards

The Crystal Lake Fire Department (CLFD) continues to serve the Crystal Lake Community with superior fire and emergency medical services while also providing assistance to surrounding communities. The department members have proudly volunteered to serve their community for the last 87 years. The primary mission of CLFD will always be the protection and preservation of life and property during each fire, medical, or rescue related emergency. The department is staffed by trained volunteers who are state and nationally certified Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Emergency Medical Responders. All members operate out of "Station 42", which is located at 316 Sandy Beach Road, and is home to all of the department's apparatus and equipment. Annually the members volunteer thousands of hours of their personal time, which is time away from their homes and families, to keep their neighbors and community safe. We are proud of the dedication and commitment of the membership which makes the success of the department possible.

The Crystal Lake Fire Department responded to a total of 241 calls for service, totaling 2,485 hours volunteered to fulfill the emergency needs of the community. CLFD is fully prepared to respond to and mitigate numerous types of emergencies, including structure fires, vehicle fires, hazardous materials emergencies, motor vehicle accidents, emergency medical incidents, water emergencies, and technical rescues.

In order to effectively operate at various emergency scenes each member has to maintain, often exceeding, the strict skills and certifications required by the State of CT and the department. This is done through in-house training drills/classes and by attending courses offered by the Connecticut Fire Academy, Hartford County Regional Fire School, Eastern Connecticut Regional Fire School, Department of Environmental Protection, and the Office of Emergency Medical Services. Our members participated in a total of 2,508 hours of training during the course of the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Some of the courses that our members typically complete include: Fire Officer, Fire Service Instructor, Firefighting, Hazardous Materials, Emergency Medical Services, Incident Command, Incident Safety Officer, Live Burn Exercises, Rapid Intervention Team, Extrication, Search and Rescue, Scuba Diving, and Technical Rescue.

This past year several members of the department, along with other agencies in the Town of Ellington, continued their training in tactical emergency casualty care. This training is part of the new active shooter hostile event response (ASHER) protocol recently adopted by the town. The purpose of this training is to make sure all town wide emergency responders are prepared to respond and work cooperatively at active shooter scenarios to provide patient care in hopes for the best possible outcome during an extremely difficult situation. We had three more people become certified TECC providers this year and other members did numerous drills to keep their skills current.

Unfortunately COVID kept us from making our normal stop this year at Crystal Lake Elementary School for fire prevention but we are hoping to see all the kids next school year. It really was a disappointment for the members. The department has gone for decades to visit the kids every October during national fire prevention week to educate the students on the importance of fire prevention and fire safety.

Medical emergencies make up the largest portion of our call volume in district. Crystal Lake residents have become accustomed to receiving a quick response from a trained professional providing the best care possible whenever a 911 call has to be made. This is what we always strive to provide at every call, every time. Our highly trained medical personnel, consisting of Emergency Medical Technicians and Emergency Medical Responders, work seamlessly with multiple agencies, including Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, to ensure the best prehospital medical care possible. If a patient should require a more advanced level of care, members will work closely with an Advanced Life Support provider, known as a Paramedic, usually provided by American Medical Response (AMR) or Ambulance Service of Manchester (ASM). At times, CLFD will request a Life Star Helicopter should a patient sustain an injury or illness requiring rapid transport to a far-away facility that provides a higher level of care. Our main concern is always making sure our patients receive the best pre hospital care possible in a timely manner.







Station 42 continues to be dispatched by Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service, where they handle all of its emergency communications. The department also continues to participate in the county wide emergency task force through our mutual aid agreements providing manpower, equipment, and water to our surrounding communities should the need arise. The dedicated Fire Officers of the Crystal Lake Fire Department have completed 7,743 hours of administrative and support work including completing all incident reports, equipment testing, and town required paperwork. The Officers serve the department in a supervisory role at all emergency calls in and out of district and are in charge of running meetings and routine operations at the station. The Officers are also responsible for making sure there are always members available to provide proper coverage of the Crystal Lake district ensuring the residents receive immediate service when they are in need.

The Crystal Lake Fire Department currently has 28 members and is always looking to expand its membership with new residents who take an active interest in the fire or medical services. Training is provided by the department for new dedicated volunteers! If you would like to receive more information about volunteering please stop into the fire station Mondays at 7pm and speak with a member, visit www. crystallakefire.org, or call (860)870-3174. CLFD offer a junior membership program to the youth of the community. Junior members are able to join at sixteen years of age and have the opportunity to train with adult members and operate on the scene of emergencies while under the supervision of an advisor to learn about fire and medical services.

#### SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS

Fires and Explosions Total26
Structure Fires
Cooking Fires1
Vehicle Fire
Rubbish, Trash, or Waste Fire1
Natural Vegetation or Brush Fires6
Fire, Other
Rescue Call Total146
Emergency Medical Incident or Assist97
Emergency Medical Service Incident, Other30
Motor Vehicle Accident/ Vehicle Extrication
Search for Person on Land
Search for Person in Water1
Extrication of Victim from Machinery
Hazardous Condition Total24
Gasoline or Other Flammable Liquid Spill
Carbon Monoxide Incident
Power Line Down
Arcing, Shorted Electrical Equipment
Service Call Total
Smoke or Odor Removal
Public Service Assistance
Assist Police or Other Governmental Agency
Cover Assignment, Standby
Good Intent Call Total
Good Intent Call, Other
Dispatched and Cancelled Enroute
False Alarm Call Total
False Alarm or False Call, Other8
Smoke Detector Activation
CO Detector Activation6
Alarm System Malfunction



## ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS

PRESIDENT: Peter Hany, Sr.
VICE PRESIDENT: Bruce Hoffman
TRAINING: Edward Landsberg
SECRETARY: Melissa McCann
TREASURER: Joshua Rosenfeld
SCHEDULER: Alisa Smith
SUPPLY: Nicole Caron
MAINTENANCE: Peter Hany, Sr.
PUBLIC RELATIONS: Rebekah Gerber

#### **ACTIVE MEMBERS**

Ryan Anderson Nicole Caron Dorota Gdula Rebekah Gerber Peter Hany, Sr. Amanda Kolesinski Ed Landsberg Melissa McCann Nicole Nguyen James O'Donnell Bailey Roberto

Joshua Rosenfeld Danielle Solito John Streiber Jake Sylvester Greg York

#### PAID STAFF

Chad Adams Caitlin Connelly Kim Courville David Dodge Mike Girard Deborah Landry-Schiessl Erich Martin Rachel Oakes Kelly Phillips Kerri Pliszka Holly Swiney Aaron Virkler Noah Welti

#### LIFE MEMBERS

Ray Close Doreen Connor Jean-Marie Currier Renee Cyr

#### Dan Flanagan Joe Glomboske Bruce Hoffman Steve Kratzke

Denise Rioux

Angela Sandberg Krista Schulz Alisa Smith John Watts

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS

The Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps (EVAC) has been providing emergency medical services to the Town of Ellington and its surrounding communities for the past 59 years. All crews and equipment meet or exceed the State of Connecticut requirements and remain fully licensed through examination and inspection.

An active first response system allows EVAC and both fire departments to render immediate lifesaving care when it is needed most. All EVAC members that live in Ellington are provided with first responder medical supplies and are encouraged to respond whenever possible.

In this past fiscal year alone, EVAC responded to 1,401 calls in our town. We strive to provide the best possible care, and are always training for the next call.

EVAC continues its commitment to continuing medical education with online training assignments and monthly training drills. There are many opportunities for additional training and courses with local hospitals and our partners in the region.

EVAC has CPR and First Aid qualified instructors on staff to offer training to various organizations and individuals in our community.

As a responsible municipal member of the Town of Ellington, EVAC is working in conjunction with other departments to streamline services and reduce costs to taxpayers whenever possible. EVAC is the central purchasing point for all EMS supplies for the town-wide fire and rescue services. Additionally, money generated by ambulance billing funds EMS supply purchases, resulting in a reduction of the town budget.

Over the past few years, EVAC, along with Ellington Volunteer Fire Department and Crystal Lake Fire Department, Ellington CERT, Connecticut State Police, and Ellington Police completed training for active shooter events and have activated a Rescue Task Force in case of one of these incidents. Members across all three Ellington Departments are part of this Task Force and train in the TECC (Tactical Emergency Casualty Care) program, which is a civilian version of the U.S. military program. This program is meant to teach participants how to respond to active shooter events as medical providers. Our Rescue Task Force has been outfitted with ballistic helmets and body armor.

EVAC also participates in the national awareness campaign called Stop The Bleed, which trains bystanders the basics of bleeding control. Classes have been completed for all of our members, and are available to the community as needed.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our families, friends, neighbors, and the Town of Ellington for your continued support throughout the year and especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many businesses, individuals, churches, and other organizations have been very generous in providing equipment to keep us and our families safe, as well as monetary donations, meals, and many words of encouragement. We have been extremely blessed and lucky to have such a generous community and can not thank each of you enough. Your support is so important to us as we strive to make our community a safer place to live.

Like any active organization, EVAC is always looking for motivated members. Prospective members must be committed to providing high quality emergency care at any hour of the day or night. EVAC provides uniforms, continuing education, and equipment to all members at no cost.

For additional information, please call us at 860-870-3170 or visit our website at www.ellingtonambulance.org. Check out our Instagram @ellingtonambulance or Facebook @ellingtonamb to learn more about us and all of the exciting things that we do!

#### **ELLINGTON ANIMAL CONTROL**

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS

Ellington Animal Control is responsible for the enforcement of the Connecticut State Laws pertaining to domestic animals. This department responds to complaints of violations of Animal Control Laws by telephone through our voice mail. The officers also investigate complaints of vicious, diseased or neglected and abused animals as well as impounding stray and roaming dogs. Impounded animals are cared for at the animal control facility by the officers. Unclaimed animals are carefully evaluated before being placed for adoption.

Following the month of June, when all dog owners must renew their dog licenses for the year, a search for unlicensed dogs on the delinquent dog license list begins. There is a penalty for failure to license under CT. Statue 22-349 which is a \$75 fine. The penalty for failure to vaccinate for rabies is \$136.00 under the CT. Statue 22-339b\*.

The Officers do assist the police and the public with animal emergencies. The Animal Control Department makes every effort to ensure that all functions of this department and the operation of the shelter are carried out in the most economical manner with cost savings in mind, while providing the highest degree of professional service to the townspeople.

The Animal Control Department consists of Animal Control Officer, Barbara Murdach, Assistant Animal Control Officer, Kathy DiBacco as well as three per diem Assistant ACO's, Kim Gambacorta, Eric Boucher and Nicole Usher. The shelter is open to the public seven days a week but since we do work part-time we require appointments to see the animals for adoption or to redeem your dog. To reach Animal Control, please call (860) 870-3155. The Animal Control Facility, which is located on Main St. behind the Fire Station, is the holding quarters for stray, roaming and relinquished dogs and also quarantined dogs and cats.

Nuisance wildlife calls are handled through the State of CT D.E.E.P. Wildlife Department at (860) 424-3011. Our department does respond to sick or injured wildlife and any wildlife that exhibits signs of rabies. We also advise the public of ways to resolve issues with wildlife living in their neighborhood.

Ellington Animal Control provides assistance to the community so that pets and people can co-exist safely. An important role of this department is to work closely with the public to educate about laws, solve problems and offer advice on the care and concerns of pet ownership.

Ellington Animal Control has a Facebook page with animal care information, lost & found animals and pets available for adoption.

We are very grateful for the support and help we get through our network of friends. Keeping the community involved and up to date on current events and news is extremely important for our department. We do ask that you please contact our office directly by telephone for complaints and reports of lost & found animals, so we can attend to them properly.

The State of CT Animal Population Control Program, offers a Low-Income Pet Sterilization voucher when funds are available. This program helps CT low-income residents by providing vaccination/sterilization vouchers for their pets. An application must be completed and submitted to the CT State Animal Control Division. Applications are available at our office or online. To qualify, the applicant must already qualify for one of the low-income state assistance programs listed on the application. For more information, please call the State Animal Population Control Program Unit at: (860) 713-2507.

On June 12, 2021 a Rabies Clinic was hosted by the Ellington Center Animal Clinic with assistance from Ellington Animal Control. The doctors and staff from Ellington Center Animal Clinic administered Rabies vaccines and implanted Microchips. Ellington Center Animal Clinic donated the proceeds from this clinic to be used for the medical needs of the animals at the Ellington Animal Control Facility. Thank you to the Ellington Center Animal Clinic for donating their time and resources and for coordinating such a great fundraiser for the animals at the Ellington Animal Control Facility. The support from the community attending the Rabies & Microchip clinic was fantastic!

Ellington Animal Control has a web page to view adoptable shelter pets on Petfinder.com. This website has greatly increased our ability to find our homeless pets new homes, as well as posting found animals in search of their owners. The adoptable animals are spending less time in the shelter waiting to be adopted. The internet has offered us greater exposure for advertising these homeless pets. Dogs and cats are adopted out under the Connecticut Animal Population Control Program. This program is for unaltered pets adopted from a Connecticut municipal shelter and provides two vaccinations and assists with the costs of sterilization. The Animal Population Control Program intends to reduce the overpopulation of unwanted dogs and cats and to also reduce the cost and burden to the towns coping with pet overpopulation. The fee for adopting a pet under this program is \$50 which includes the voucher.

#### **RECENT UPDATES**

The Town of Ellington has passed a new Policy regarding Nuisance Barking. This policy gives the Animal Control Department specific steps to follow for the enforcement of the barking dog part of the Connecticut Statue 22-363 which covers nuisance dogs. It is our hope in the future that a town policy will be passed for vicious or dangerous dogs which also comes under CT. Statue 22-363.

Also new are changes made by the State of Connecticut regarding Quarantine orders for animals that bite or attack humans or any domestic animals. There are changes to the duration and location of quarantine. These changes became effective on July 1, 2019. The quarantine period for a dog, cat or ferret that has bitten or attacked a person or another animal is shortened from 14 days to 10 days. If the animal has a current rabies vaccination, a biting or attacking dog, cat or ferret may be quarantined on the premises of the animal's owner if the ACO determines the premises are adequate for quarantine purposes. However, if the animal does not have a current rabies vaccination, a biting or attacking dog, cat or ferret must be quarantined in a public dog pound, veterinary hospital or commercial kennel approved by the state veterinarian and must receive a rabies vaccination on the 10th day of quarantine. It is very important to keep your pets Rabies vaccinations up to date.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

This year our department has been challenged by many issues related to Covid-19. We maintained our regular schedule with masks, social distancing and extra sanitation. We were informed of the concerns of animals contracting or carrying Covid-19 and we took special precautions, being mindful of sanitation and extensive disinfection of the kennel areas as well as our small shared office area.

We are considered essential workers and every attempt to ensure the health and welfare of the animals we care for is of utmost importance.

Due to the Covid-19 virus the Town of Ellington has issued a no cash policy. If you must make payment to Ellington Animal Control for redeeming your dog, adoptions, quarantine fees or any other matter, we can only take checks or Postal money orders.

On a final note, Ellington Animal Control is very grateful to all the local town people, girl scouts, school groups and the local businesses that have made donations to the Ellington Animal Control Facility. These donations help make the animals that come through our facility a little more comfortable and well fed. It is wonderful to work for a community that cares so much for animals.

Man, unlike animals, has never learned that the sole purpose in life is to enjoy it. Samuel Butler

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

It is the duty of the Department of Public Works to maintain, repair, clean, and remove snow from all public streets and ways; maintain and operate storm sewers and other drains; care for and maintain all town buildings other than those under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education; prepare or supervise the preparation of plans and specifications for the construction or reconstruction of streets, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm sewers, drains, public buildings and other structures and construct or supervise the construction of the same; to care for parks, grassed areas in streets and public grounds, including athletic fields under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education and the Parks and Recreation Commission; to plant and care for trees within the street line; to enforce ordinances imposing on owners of property obligations to construct and maintain sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm sewers and drains; contract with the Water Pollution Control Authority for the maintenance of the facilities and grounds which come under the jurisdiction of the Water Pollution Control Authority.

#### HIGHLIGHTS ROAD WORK

- Roads Overlayed-Elderberry, Cranberry, Fairway, Eagle, Lookout Landing and Overlook Pass.
- Reclaimed Dirt portions of Abbott and Ladd Roads.
- Streets Rubber Chip Sealed-Crystal Ridge, Burbank, Mountain St, Windermere Ave and Tripp Rd.
- Full reclamation and repaying of parking lot at Middle School.
- Catch basin repairs on Elderberry, Cranberry, Fairway, Eagle Dr, Jonathan, Carolyn and Shepard Way.
- Schoolhouse Rd improvements continuing.
- Began the parking pull off area on Stein Rd.
- Sidewalk repairs Majus Circle, rear walk to Resident Troopers Office, Cranberry, Elderberry, Fairway and Maple St.



#### **BUILDING PROJECTS**

- 99 Main Street & 72 Maple Street houses demolished. 80 Maple made ready for demolition.
- Main Street sidewalk project completed.
- Worked with First Selectman and Emergency Management to coordinate COVID-19 response and subsequent reopening.
- Initial Engineering work completed for Route 83 Sidewalk Project.
- New Carpet installation in Town Clerk's office.
- Front doors replaced at Human Services/Recreation and Police Dept.
- Windows replaced in old portion of Town Garage

#### **EQUIPMENT PURCHASES**

• Chipper, Fire Marshal Vehicle, zero turn mower and several small equipment items.

#### **SNOW/DEBRIS REMOVAL**

- 12 Call Outs for 34" of snow
- Purchased 1,195 tons of Treated Salt, 207 tons of road salt.

#### GARBAGE AND RECYCLING

- 2010-21: Ellington residents recycled 1,229 tons
- The DPW shed is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 am 3:30 pm and on the MidNEROC schedule which is the first and third Saturday of the month from 9:00 am -12:00 noon.
- Electronics Recycled 31.53 tons
- Textiles recycled 7.98 tons. Textiles are either donated or recycled depending on the condition. Also included are linens, footwear, belts, hats and purses as well as stuffed animals. Items must be bagged.
- Working on Brush drop off recertification.
- Offered compost bins and rain barrels for sale to residents
- Worked with All American for additional garbage container policy

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Collected expenses and submitted to FEMA for July-December for COVID-19.
- Submitted FEMA paperwork for Tropical Storm Isaias and approved.
- Cleaned up storm debris from Tropical Storm and hauled chips to WeCare Denali

#### WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

- Continuing to monitor the H2S4 levels at the Vernon Pump Station
- Continuing grinder pump inspections and maintenance at Crystal
- Completed sewer installation on Stein and High Ridge Rd.
- The Fats Oil and Grease (FOG) program is continuing to be monitored
- Inspected Fairview Ave sewer extension.
- Rebuilt Muffin Monster at Vernon Pump Station
- Sewer camera truck used in conjunction with Stafford and Vernon, did Florence Ave.
- I&I Information collected with Fuss & O'Neill in Longview Area of town
- Pumped down 38 grinder pumps as Tropical Storm due to power outages.
- Setting up October invoice reductions for residents with irrigation systems.

#### **RECREATION**

- Over seeding and aerating fields
- Beach maintenance
- Mow and line ballfields per schedules
- Monitor irrigation systems
- Yearly inspection of bleachers, grandstands and playscapes
- Responded to Trails Committee requests
- Tennis Court Cleaning



Cows at Oakridge Dairy



Ice Fishing on Crystal Lake



Garden Time at Nellie McKnight Museum







Patriotic Pup

# Ellington Congregational Church BOUT



Crystal Lake

Farmers Market



# OMMUNITY ATWORK





Exploring the Sensory Garden

### BATZ PROPERTY



Frog Platform



Maintaining the Sensory Garden



Stage built by the Opening Knight Players



Camping field outhouse repaired by the Boy Scouts



Fire pit improved by the Girl Scouts



Opening Knight Players building the stage

# TOWN OF 2022TRASH&RECYCLING Ellington COLLECTION CALENDAR



Recyclables are collected every other week. Shaded Weeks = Pickup Weeks

#### JANUARY

#### M 28 29 30 31 1 10 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 22 17 20 21 24 25 26 27 28 23 30 31

#### FEBRUARY

S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	1	2	3	4	5

#### MARCH

S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

#### APRIL

S	Μ	T	W	Т	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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#### MAY

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	D	D	1	2	3	4

#### JUNE

S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
29	30	31	D	D	D	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

### JULY

S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	D	D	D	D	D	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

#### AUGUST

S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

#### SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	D	D	D	D	D	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

#### OCTOBER

S	Μ	T	W	Т	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

#### NOVEMBER

S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	D	D	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

#### DECEMBER

S	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

D = one-day delay in pickup

(New Years Day\*, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day\*) \*When a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, there is no delay in collection.

All items must be placed outside by 6:00 am on pick-up day for curbside collection.

## OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) consists of; the Emergency Management Director, two Deputy Directors and the Ellington CERT Team under the direction of a Deputy Director. The Unit's mission is to prepare the Town to respond to all emergency incidents; weather related, hazmat issues, and human initiated mass casualty events. The primary goals of the OEM Office are; the preservation of life, recovery from emergency incidents and the education of the Town residents, schools and businesses in preparing for an emergency incident.

#### **PURPOSE**

The OEM develops, maintains and updates Emergency Operation Plans. The plans enable the Town to respond to all emergency incidents in an expeditious and coordinated manner. Preparation for emergency incidents entails; training drills, testing equipment, response time, coordination with fire, police, ambulance and hospitals in the Tolland County area. During an actual Emergency Incident, the First Selectman is the Director of the emergency response. It is OEM's responsibility to have current data concerning the Town's; businesses, schools and population areas. This information provides the scope of an Emergency Incident. The OEM manages Town resources during a disaster. The OEM is the conduit between the Town, and the State and Federal Government, when assistance is needed during disasters.

#### PREPARATION, TRAINING, ACTIVITIES

Due to various State and Federal protocols and restrictions, put in place because of the Corona Virus Pandemic, a large scale exercise involving the Town's Emergency Service Units was not conducted. Plans are in place to conduct a large scale exercise involving all Town Emergency Service Units in October '21.

The Office of Emergency Management worked with the Board of Education, Police and Fire Departments in conducting monthly Lock-Down and Fire Drills at the Ellington School Facilities. Drills were conducted following COVID protocols.

During large scale Emergency Incidents, Ellington High School and Crystal Lake School are the primary Town Emergency Shelters. The Middle School is the back-up Emergency Shelter. Each shelter has an emergency generator providing full power to each facility. Each facility is able to provide; heat, food, showers and overnight stays for residents in need, during an Emergency Incident. The Emergency Shelters are able to provide care for a resident's household pet. The Ellington CERT team operates the shelters during activation. An Ellington Ambulance member and a Police Officer are assigned to the shelter when it is open.

The Office of Emergency Management applied for and was approved for the following grants;

Emergency Management Performance Grant and Homeland Security Grant. The money from these grants will be applied to the Town Budget.

#### **Coronavirus Pandemic**

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Ellington Office of Emergency Management, worked with; the First Selectman's Office, Vernon Emergency Management Office, North Central District Health Department and the Urgent Care Center in Ellington, in providing vaccine clinics for Ellington Residents and other individuals who wanted to be vaccinated.

Clinics were conducted at the following Ellington locations; Ellington Senior Center, Ellington High School, Apostolic Church, and the Ellington Al-Noor Islamic Center.

#### Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.)

The Ellington CERT team is composed of volunteers from Ellington and surrounding Towns. The CERT Team has thirty-four members. The Team is supported by Federal and State funds. CERT members receive training in; fire safety, basic first aid, Ham Radio and traffic management. Members provide traffic and crowd

control at; parades, fireworks displays, Fairs and other activities in Ellington, and Towns in the Tolland county area. Additionally, CERT provides assistance to first responders and assists in non-hazardous search and rescue incidents. The Ellington CERT program has a Ham Radio Team that has the capability to provide communications during Town Emergency Incidents. The Ham Radio Team provides communication assistance to other Towns in the Region during emergency incidents.

During the last Holiday Season, the CERT Team worked with the Human Services Dept. and adopted needy seniors and a needy family. The CERT Team provided; gift cards to both groups.

In appreciation for all the work the Town Fire and Ambulance First Responders did handling COVID related issues in the past year, the CERT Team collected over \$575 in gift cards and donated them to ambulance and fire department members.

The CERT Team provided furnishings for a "COVID Apartment" for Ellington First Responders. The apartment was acquired, at no cost to the Town, in the event, it was needed to isolate First Responders from their families because of COVID.

Due to the COVID Pandemic, Ellington CERT members provided over 274.5 hours of volunteer time during '20-'21 dealing with COVID related issues. Volunteer time was spent in providing administrative assistance at vaccine clinics. Several CERT members were qualified to administer vaccine shots. They provided vaccinations at the clinics.

CERT members also attended training sessions and monthly meetings.

The Ellington CERT members are to be congratulated for their outstanding service to Ellington and surrounding Towns. If you want information to become a member of this outstanding group; email Deputy Emergency Management Director John Streiber at: jstreiber@ellington-ct.gov. You must be 18 years of age, pass a criminal background check and successfully complete the 24-hour CERT Basic Training Course to become a CERT member.

## ELLINGTON AD HOC PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE

We are an all-volunteer, non-partisan, non-political-affiliated organization of local citizens with the goal of promoting PARTROTISM in various forms among the residents of Ellington.

The committee is actively involved in many town events and observances to promote patriotism and remember the sacrifices of our military personnel

- Veteran's Day activities at the High and Middle Schools
- Memorial Day observances at the High School, Town Green, and Cemeteries
- Memorial day parades
- Placing of Flags on Veterans Graves (Approximately 700 in 2021)
- Crosses placed at the Town Green to honor the 17 Ellington residents lost in our wars
- Placing bronze Grave Markers on all Veterans graves (100 placed this year)
- Flag Retirement Ceremony in cooperation with the Ellington Fire Dept. and the Boy Scouts
- Wreaths Across America sponsorship and Ceremony (500 wreaths in 2020)
- Events coordinated in conjunction with various organizations
  - American Legion
  - Veterans of Foreign Wars
  - Boy Scouts
  - Fire Department
  - Crystal Lake Association
  - Ellington Veteran's Services Office

Our committee consists of ten dedicated members with two student advisors. We currently have several openings, if interested in joining us please contact the First Selectman's Office.

### **PARKS & FACILITIES GUIDE**

#### CRYSTAL LAKE SCHOOL HOUSE

The Crystal Lake School House (across from Sandy Beach) continues to serve the Parks and Recreation Department for regular use, including summer hours at the schoolhouse, offering middle school and pre-school programming.

#### ARBOR PARK

Arbor Park is located on Main Street in the heart of town. Arbor Park offers a nice area to walk. This park is not managed by the Recreation Department. Reservation inquiries should be made at the office of the First Selectman.

#### **BATZ PROPERTY**

Located at 97 Shenipsit Street, Batz Property is 44.86 acres of mixed forest-wild flowers and a grassy parking lot. This is the location of the community garden plots.



#### ROBERT TEDFORD MEMORIAL PARK

Robert Tedford Memorial Park (formerly Brookside Park) is located on Route 140, approximately two miles from the center of Town. This facility has baseball, softball, soccer & football fields. There are also tennis courts, a safe structured playground, a volleyball court and a covered pavilion. The Pavilion can be rented for small gatherings.

#### **ELLINGTON SCHOOL FACILITIES**

The Recreation Department utilizes the Ellington Public Schools as often as possible for many programs. The schools offer use of gym space for such activities as basketball, volleyball, and other indoor programs. The schools also allow usage of softball and baseball fields during the season.

#### **SANDY BEACH**

Sandy Beach is located on Crystal Lake on Route 140 in the northern end of Town. Our beach offers recreational swimming, certified swim lessons and sunbathing opportunities on hot summer days.

#### **SCHWARTZ PARK**

Schwartz Park is located at Ellington High School at 37 Maple Street, and houses 4 full sized tennis courts and a covered gazebo.

For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 860-870-3118.



# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Parks and Recreation Commission and recreation staff continue to make a concentrated effort to provide a cross section of quality programming on a year-round basis. An earnest effort has been made to create and offer programs, both on a passive and non-passive basis, for all age groups within the community. Additional special events and "creative" programming continue to be of interest to the residents of the community, providing department staff with the opportunity to plan and implement family oriented activities too.

The Parks & Recreation Department is located at 31 Arbor Way (located next to Arbor Park and the Ellington Center Fire Department). The office phone number is 860-870-3118, and the fax number is 860-870-3198.

Normal business hours are Monday 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Our general email address is: recreationstaff@ellington-ct. gov. Comments and suggestions are always welcome, either via a phone call to a staff member, fax, email or written form. Visit our website at: parkrec.ellington-ct.gov and like us on Facebook.

#### **STAFFING**

The department is staffed by two full-time recreation professionals, one of which also serves as the director of the waterfront. Included in the FY 2021-2022 budget was an additional full time staff member to assist with the increased demands of our growing population. In addition, the parks and recreation and human services departments have aligned their front office format to include one, shared, full-time staff member. A part-time administrative secretary still supports parks and recreation. Part-time positions (generated by revenue) include athletic officials, special skills instructors, water safety instructors/lifeguards, day camp counselors, and program supervisors. Town of Ellington applications are available at the recreation office during normal business hours; applications are also available on the Parks & Recreation website.

#### **VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE**

Volunteer assistance continues to be a benchmark within the community, regardless of the activity. Serving as a volunteer is a rewarding activity, and more importantly, is vital to sustaining a viable community.

Recruiting, securing and approving of the over 300 individuals that volunteer on an annual basis within the town programs is an enjoyable yet time-consuming task. A person wishing to volunteer must complete a volunteer disclosure form. The department has formulated a non-certified coaching seminar that stresses the current aspects of coaching today's youth. The department also provides technical assistance to all sports coaches as well as access to the certification process for becoming a legally registered official in softball, basketball, soccer, and lacrosse. All coaches/volunteers must complete a background check form and receive clearance before becoming a participant in the department's programs.

#### **PROGRAMS**

Traditional athletic programs continue to enjoy increased enrollment, and department staff continues to make a concentrated effort to get the "pulse" of the community when arranging special events and passive-oriented programs. The department is always on the lookout for skilled artisans and/or individuals with special talents. Please feel free to contact the office with your suggestions.

The department provides indoor and outdoor activities on a year-round basis, using the following locations: Robert Tedford Memorial Park (Route 140), Sandy Beach (Crystal Lake), Pinney Street Fields, and both interior and exterior facilities located at the public schools.

Classes and programs include but are not limited to youth and adult athletic team sports, special skills classes, fitness classes and special events.

Pre-school programming has continued to be a very successful component of the department's year-round offerings, specifically for ages 2 through 5.

#### ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

The recreation department offers a three tier format: travel teams, recreational teams, and instructional leagues. The approach of the Recreation Commission is that everyone should be encouraged to compete in the athletic arena regardless of age or ability. The Recreation Commission is proud of the fact that coaches, players and spectators, in general, are well versed in their roles regarding their sport, along with promoting good sportsmanship.

#### **SHARED SERVICES**

The recreation department continues to interact, on a daily basis, year-round, with the Board of Education's business office/school staff, and in particular the Board of Education's custodial staff, whose dedication and assistance is greatly appreciated.

The continued support of services offered by the Department of Public Works should be acknowledged. The magnitude of park and beach maintenance-repairs generated by DPW is outstanding.

The support and in-kind services that are provided by both agencies are greatly appreciated, as the continual behind the scenes support helps identify Ellington as a quality community.

Additional gratitude should be extended to the Hall Memorial Library for allowing the department to hold various preschool events on site.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

The 2020-2021 calendar year was one of the more challenging periods of time in our department's history. COVID-19 forced our department to modify, restrict and at times cancel all in person programming, however, despite the many restrictions, our department was able to offer programming at all times throughout the year in a variety of ways. Below are some of the more significant highlights of the past year.

On November 23, 2020 the state of Connecticut mandated that most in person activities during the late fall/early winter be



put on pause. This resulted in the wide-spread cancellation of entire seasons for Connecticut youth, and many towns cancelled activities for the entire year. Ellington however, adjusted to the many varied requirements and continued programming where ever it was possible.



As soon as the moratorium on team sports expired on February 8, 2021 our department became one of the few in the state to offer a traditional youth basketball league. To ensure both compliance and safety, masks were mandated to be worn at all times

including during active play by players and coaches. Additionally, no spectators were permitted inside of the facility at any point. To compensate all games were live streamed.

The arrival of spring and warmer weather permitted the re-opening of many of our outdoor programs. Spring Youth Lacrosse, Soccer, and Baseball were all forced to be cancelled in the Spring of 2020, and all were able to make strong returns in the



Spring of 2021. The Ellington Senior Boys Lacrosse team finished their first season post-covid with an undefeated record and capped the season off with a championship title.



Area Eagle Scouts remained undeterred in their quest to improve our town. Scouts completed several projects though out town to benefit the community. Eagle Scout Sai Utkarsh Kapu refurbished and erected picnic tables at the Brookside Pavilion.

Eagle Scout Max Sadlak designed and constructed new park signage, and Eagle Scout Alexander Kiessling installed filament collectors and signage at Crystal Lake.

In spite of the well documented widespread staff shortages in the Spring and Summer of 2021 the Ellington Town Beach opened on time once again. This was due in no small part to the hard work and dedication of the recreation department's excellent waterfront staff.



Additionally the Department of Public Works made significant improvements to the beach, activity areas and restroom facilities.



Thanks to the momentum generated by operating day camp last year, our 2021 day camp season was one of our best yet. Our department was one of only a few municipalities statewide to be awarded a grant to expand services and as a result all Ellington Summer Day Camp

participants received both free breakfast and lunch daily in addition to an expanded slate of exceptional activities though out the season.

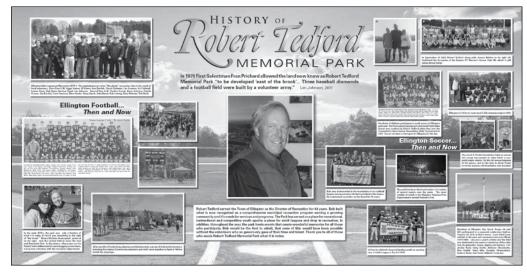


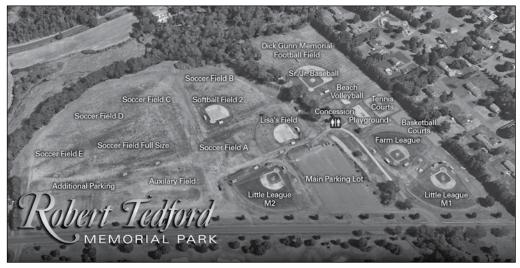














Lifeguard with Boy Scouts at Sandy Beach





## HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Hall Memorial Library is a welcoming community resource for all residents seeking reading materials in various formats, research materials for school projects and life-long learning, items for leisure and entertainment, access to computers and the internet, and great programming for all ages. The friendly staff provides personalized services to aid in research, assist with computer skills or find that just-right book. But there is so much more that happens here!

The Library has long served as the community center for Ellington. Residents come to the library for more than just the items on the shelves or even the programs offered here. Community groups hold their meetings here, tutors teach their students here, students of all ages work on their group projects here, and friends and neighbors meet and catch up here. They enjoy and use the library as a space to collaborate, interact and connect.

No matter how you choose to use your library we hope you visit often and leave with a smile on your face!

#### **SERVICES**

The Hall Memorial Library, as the principal public library for the Town of Ellington, provides all residents with materials and opportunities for education and entertainment. The collection consists of items in many formats, including books, periodicals, newspapers, eBooks and eaudiobooks, digital magazines and digital audiobooks, music and audiobooks on CDs, DVDs, puzzles, puppets, online databases and reference materials, and specialty items such as cake pans and lawn games. These materials are categorized into the adult circulating collection, young adult circulating collection, juvenile circulating collection, and Reference non-circulating collection. For materials not found in these collections there is an interlibrary loan service that facilitates loans from libraries around the state or the country, including multiple copies of titles for book discussion groups and materials for genealogy research. Also available are computers for word processing and Internet access, black and white and color photocopiers and printers, digital scanners, fax machine, digital microfilm reader/printer, computer lab, notary service, passport acceptance service, exam proctoring, and meeting spaces for formal and informal gatherings. The friendly, well-trained staff is available to help find information, answer questions, recommend reading materials, and assist with usage of computers.

The Library provides a variety of programs for residents of all ages. Story time sessions are offered for children from 9 months to 5 years old. Activities for children include the annual summer reading program, movies, craft workshops, and various entertaining and educational speakers and performers. Young adults may participate in book discussions, contests, creative projects and their own summer reading program. For adults, there are book discussion series, reading programs, cultural programs, crafts and hands-on learning experiences, concerts, movies, and speakers on a range of topics, both informative and entertaining.

For those patrons who are unable to come to the Library, outreach services are provided. At Snipsic Village, the senior

housing complex, a rotating collection of library books is made available on a monthly basis. There is also a delivery service to homebound patrons.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

The FY20-21 began with the reopening of the Library building to the public after the 16- week closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Plans for staff and patron safety were made and carefully carried out, including shield guards at the service desks, spacing of public computers, keyboard covers, removal of some furniture and spacing of what remained, frequent disinfecting of surfaces, and of course social distancing, hand sanitizer and maskwearing for all. Eager patrons returned steadily to choose materials, use computers, participate in the summer activities and catch up with others. Curbside pickup of materials and outdoor assistance with other services continued for those who chose not to come into the building. The building was closed again from mid-December until early February as virus concerns once again increased. Staff quickly pivoted back to curbside services and also provided computer access by appointment in a temporary computer lab in the McKnight Community Room. Upon reopening, evening hours were shortened for a while, but then restored.

Summer programming at the Library is always a highlight of the year and the building hums with activity. This year's theme of "Imagine Your Story" was reimagined to offer activities and adventures for all ages to be done away from the building. Children and their families explored their stories through the fun reading program booklet featuring opportunities to learn of family history and traditions, try their hand at creative writing and of course do lots of reading. The Great Ellington Book Hunt, a combination scavenger hunt and letterboxing adventure had families following the clues and searching the town for the giant book covers designed by art students from Ellington High school. Grab & Go craft kits for all ages were a big hit, replacing the traditional in-house craft programs. While meeting rooms remained closed, programs moved outside. A Dungeons and Dragons teen group met on the picnic table. Benway Automotive presented several sessions of "Auto 101", featuring basic info about automobile function and maintenance aimed primarily at new drivers. Two programs were offered in conjunction with Ellington Equality on the lawn. Identifying Ellington was an educational lecture and Q&A program about what it means to be antiracist and how to overcome concerns about equality in our community. The voter education evening included a speaker about the voting process and an opportunity to meet the candidates for State representatives. In collaboration with the Ellington Trails Committee a visit from the raptors from Horizon Wings Raptor Rescue was held at the Batz property.

Programming throughout the rest of the year went virtual, on Zoom or Facebook Live. For families, there were monthly cook-along programs with Chef Rob, presentations from the State DEEP about various animals in Connecticut, and a fun "pets caught reading" photo share on FaceBook. For adults there were a variety of informational and entertaining programs including several health-oriented topics presented by Connecticut Natural Medicine here in Ellington, introduction to home-schooling presented by the Connecticut Homeschooling Coalition, retirement planning for women, a Money-Smart Month program about ecological moneysaving living, the tiny home movement, the art of Andy Warhol, and paranormal phenomena around us. And one of our favorite Coffee House bands, The Jolly Beggars recorded a concert of Irish tunes just for us to stream for St. Patrick's Day. For Teens and Tweens, there were monthly trivia nights, a "resume for your first job" workshop, and Crafting Together and Keep Calm and Color on, aimed at keeping people connected and having fun.



The Mysteries and More Book Discussion group continued to enjoy an eclectic range of titles while meeting via Zoom and then in person when appropriate. Copies of titles in both print and digital formats were provided for the community book discussion groups that continued to meet

throughout the year. The Knit and Natter group transitioned to virtual meetings, welcoming some out-of-town handcrafters. The Ellington Chess Mates joined us for the spring while the Senior Center was closed.

For children, there was a virtual puppet show of The Emperor's New Clothes, pizza making with Food Explorers, and more of Ms. Pat's Anytime Story Times on Facebook. For Take Your Child to the Library Day there was the amazing StoryFaces storytelling program. Grab & Go Crafts continued all year.

Making the most of their stay-at-home time, many families finished the "1,000 Books before Kindergarten" program, with several more close behind. The "1,000 Books" is an incentive program for parents and children to develop a reading habit and have fun and together time while doing it.

Thanks to a generous donation from the UConn Extension/ Ocean State Job Lot Seed Distribution Program the Library hosted a garden seed swap in the spring. Patrons were invited to take what they need from the array of flower, herb and veggie seeds and leave their extras to share with others.

Library staff continued to work with the school media specialists to provide both physical and digital materials for students and teachers. Ellington High School staff participated in a "one book" reading project and HML provided the ebook and eaudiobook copies.

In the Reference Room the Librarians assisted patrons with scheduling for Covid vaccines, managing the varying changes to the unemployment and benefits system, job searching in the pandemic environment, mastering Zoom and ebooks, completing the Census questionnaire and navigating the always challenging income tax filing season. An area for patrons to conduct job interviews via Zoom was set up in the meeting room.

Long-time weekend Reference Librarian Susan Slaga-Metivier retired. Ashley Dabbondanza joined us as the Teen/Reference Librarian and Luci Pantuosco as a Library Assistant I. Reference Librarian/Program Coordinator Francie Berger took a leave of absence and Ashley stepped in for the interim.

In addition to the public activities, the collection reorganization project in the adult section was finished, resulting in better labeling and spacing of materials to enhance access.

The Library routinely serves as the community cooling or warming center during times of extreme weather. When Hurricane Isaias left many households without power in August, the Library welcomed residents and served as a work place, electronics charging place, cooling center and even fresh water source.

The Library was part of the launch of the new Town website in the fall, creating a fresh new online presence. In the continued effort to communicate with residents a new email newsletter system was set up. Digital newsletters are sent out monthly, with extra notifications for additional events or news. The print edition of the event calendar was also reinstated.

The next building maintenance project, upgrading the air handler units, was begun in September, with several units that service the main floor being replaced efficiently by Action Air. The Public Works painting crew returned over the winter to paint soffits and ceilings in the Reference Room. And Earthlight completed an energy-saving lighting retrofit project.

The Friends of the Library continued to be an integral part of the library operation, funding the summer reading programs and subscriptions for passes to area cultural attractions, maintaining the armillary planter, and providing seed money for new and exciting projects. This year funds were raised through book fair tables placed on the main floor of the Library as well as carefully scheduled and monitored hours in the Book Cellar.

The Library is the very grateful recipient of a generous bequest from former Town Finance Officer Nicholas DiCorleto. A ceremony was held in May with Nick's family members presenting the check to Library officials. Nick was a strong library supporter, believing that



the Library is the center of the community and that the residents of Ellington deserve the best facility and services possible.

In this year that was like no other we have seen, the library was busy, inside and out, providing services to our patrons during the ongoing pandemic, maintaining a sense of community and the familiar, and serving as an important community resource during a difficult time.

#### **STATISTICS 2020-2021**

#### **CIRCULATION**

Adult Books and Periodicals	27,023
Young Adult Books and Periodicals	2,294
Children's Books and Periodicals	33,454
Audiovisual and Miscellaneous Materials	13,593
Digital (ebooks, eaudio, etc.)	17,045
Museum Passes	125
TOTAL	93,534

#### **COLLECTION**

Adult Books and Periodicals	29,942
Young Adult Books and Periodicals	2,898
Children's Books and Periodicals	
Audiovisual and Miscellaneous Materials	9,441
Databases	22
TOTAL	64,812

#### REGISTERED BORROWERS

Adults	5,545
Young Adults	379
Children	
TOTAL	





Thanks to Ellington High School art students for illustrating our giant book covers for the Great Ellington Book Hunt. And thanks to Public Works for helping to assemble and install them.

Our Cat in the Hat scarecrow enjoyed his time in Ellington, hanging out with the other scarecrows in the contest, greeting visitors and reminding everyone about the adventures they can find with a library card.



#### **HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**

#### **DIVISION OF SERVICES**

The department is divided into three divisions: Human Services, Senior Center and Youth Services. Each division has its own budget and offers programs and services unique to its division. Cumulatively, the departments are responsible for the administration and oversight of programs addressing the health, financial, emotional, social, educational and recreational needs for residents of all ages. Residents are provided direct service or referred to community-based programs.

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

Human Services is the Town's principal agency for providing social service needs to the community. This includes help with heating and food assistance, back to school and holiday programs, advocacy, referrals, and assistance with state and federal benefits. Human Services consists of a full time Director, a full time Elderly Outreach/Social Worker, a part time Food Bank Coordinator and a full time Administrative Assistant (shared with Recreation).

#### DIRECT SERVICES

Direct services provided by the department include active, hands-on involvement with processing information or determining eligibility for programs. Programs include Energy Assistance, Renters Rebate, Food Bank, SNAP (food stamps), Fuel Bank (fuel delivery or shut off assistance), Benefits Counseling (Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid), Back to School Assistance, Holiday Assistance, Camperships, Salvation Army and other discretionary programs. Most programs require income and residency information. Some also require proof of assets.

#### **COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES**

Quality community services, not offered directly by Human Service staff, are available to residents. These additional services are positive supports and some offer 24-hour availability, while others are by appointment or referral. Services include advocacy, domestic violence prevention, legal counseling, case management, transportation, health assessment and education, and sheltering. Services are: Hockanum Valley Community Council (Transportation, Counseling & Food Pantry), Interval House (Domestic Violence Shelter), Big Brother Big Sister, YWCA/Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Cornerstone Foundation (Homeless Shelter), Amplify, Inc. (formerly the North Central Regional Mental Health Board), Kidsafe and Connecticut Legal Services.

#### MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

The Human Services Director is the Municipal Agent for the Elderly. This statutorily required position's charge is to disseminate information to elderly persons, assists such persons in learning about community resources and publicize such resources and benefits. Additionally, they are to assist with applying for federal and other benefits, as well as, report to the chief elected official or chief executive officer of the municipality,

and the CT State Department of Aging and Disability Services, any needs and problems of the elderly and any recommendations for action to improve services to the elderly.

#### LITTLE FOOD PANTRY (Grandma's Pantry)

Grandma's Pantry is just shy of celebrating its two year anniversary. This Little Food Pantry is open 24/7/365 for the community's use with emergency food needs. It has been and continues to be a very valuable, needed resource. Estelle Williamson, whom the pantry is dedicated to, wanted no person to go to bed hungry. Daily this pantry is continuing Estelle's wish. Human Services is extremely very grateful to the many people who stock the pantry with nonperishable foods. We so appreciative of your generosity and kindness.

#### **HUMAN SERVICE COMMISSION**

Per the Town Charter, the Human Services Commission acts as an advocate of the physical and mental health needs as well as the social service needs of the community. They investigate such needs and assist both the public and private agencies in procuring health and social services for the town residents, provided that such assistance is requested. The Human Services Commission is also charged with reviewing funding requests from various service providers in an attempt to deliver quality service in the interest of meeting resident needs.

### AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion had its first meeting in October of 2020 and continues to meet monthly. Their mission is to promote a community that ensures welcoming attitudes, inclusion, equity, affirmation and respect of diversity in Ellington.

#### **STATISTICS 2020-2021**

- 25 families/individuals utilized Food Bank monthly (average).
- 97 families/individuals received grocery gift cards for Thanksgiving.
- 94 children and 53 senior/disabled persons received gift cards to department stores and 97 families/individuals received grocery gift cards for the Holidays.
- 172 Energy Assistance applications processed.
- 76 Renters Rebate applications processed.
- 573 Information/Referrals.
- 516 persons assisted with other needs (advocacy, case management, benefit enrollment, etc.)

#### **ELLINGTON SENIOR CENTER**

Due to COVID 19, the Senior Center was closed to the public from March 2020 until May 2021. During this time, we offered on-line, virtual and several "Drive Thru" events. In addition, the Senior Center was the site of 6 vaccination clinics. Since reopening the Senior Center has introduced new and past programs and services in phases.

This report reflects programs and services provided during COVID-19, as well as, services and programs that are currently offered.

#### PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

The Ellington Senior Center welcomes individuals to join us at 40 Maple Street who are age 55 years and older. Our mission is to help participants maintain their independence, dignity, self-respect, and productivity through participation in recreational, social, nutritional, educational and informational programs that promote healthy aging.

#### **CONTACT US**

The Senior Center can be reached at (860) 870-3133 or seniorcenter@ellington-ct.gov for further information. We are open Monday 8:30am-6:00pm, Tuesday-Thursday 8:30am-4:00pm, and Friday 8:30am-1:30pm.

The monthly newsletter and calendar, Maple Street Monthly, is available on the town's website http://seniorcenter.ellingtonct. Residents who do not have access to the internet can call us to receive a copy by mail. Copies are also available at the Senior Center during business hours. You may also find us on Facebook and YouTube.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Two grants were awarded from North Central Area Agency on Aging, Inc., for EMATS, The Ellington Medical Transportation Appointments Services and The Maple Street Café, meals program under The Nutritional Partnership Project.

The Senior Center hired a new Director due to retirement of Erin Graziani. The new Director, Sheila Grady, started on April 5, 2021

In partnership with the USDA, over 100 food boxes were disseminated during COVID-19.

#### **STAFFING**

The Senior Center is staffed by a full-time Director, Assistant Director and an Administrative Secretary. Part-time staff includes Transportation Drivers, Program Assistant and a Kitchen Manager. Several volunteers also perform a variety of duties to support the center.

#### TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Transportation services are available to residents who are 60 years old and over, or between the ages of 18-59 who receive Social Security Disability benefits. Transportation services include rides for medical, grocery shopping, banking, post office and other non-emergency needs. We also provide transportation to the Senior Center for participants to participate in our programing. Please call us for more information and to sign up. Transportation services are curb to curb. Riders can bring a home health aide or caretaker with them.

#### **HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS**

**Nutrition:** The Maple Street Café is open three days a week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from mid-September through June. Meals are cooked in house by staff and volunteers. All meals are cooked to order and are a \$4.00 suggested donation. Please see our newsletter for our hours and menu as it changes daily.

Le Petit Café is a standalone self-service venue that allows individuals to purchase items at a low cost fee. Such items are snacks, drinks, baked goods etc.

Wellness Programs: The Senior Center hosts Red Cross sponsored Blood Drives and Pedi-Care, LLC a monthly podiatry clinic (by appointment). Fall Prevention Classes are held quarterly. A Flu Shot Clinic is held in the fall sponsored by The North Central District Health Department. Other specific wellness programs are available throughout the year and are posted in our newsletter.

Fitness Programs: Simple Circuit, Cross Sculpting, Walking, Hiking, Meditation, Yoga, Chair Yoga, Chair Exercises, Stretch and Strengthen Exercise, and Tai Chi are offered. (Yoga, Simple Circuit, Meditation, and Yoga were offered via Zoom and Facebook live up until the Center was re-opened to the public).

Social and Recreational Programs: The Ellington Singers (Spring Musical and Winterfest Performances), Carving Club, Knitting, Crafts, Creative Writing, Bridge, Setback, Billiards, Shuffleboard, Chess, Horseshoes, Ladder ball, Corn Hole, Board Games, Movies, Voice and Piano Lessons, Acrylics on Canvas, WII Bowling, and Adult Coloring are offered on a regular basis. Additionally, trips are offered for day outings and overnight excursions including travel to Europe, Caribbean cruises, etc. Concerts and Cookouts held during the summer.

### EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMS

State Legislative Informational Updates, Elderly Social Worker Informational Sessions, AAPP Smart Driver Education Classes, AAPP Income Tax Preparation, History for Fun and TED (Technology, Education, and Design) Talks, Lending Library, Ask the Realtor, Medicare Seminars, Will and Estate Seminars, IPAD Lending Program, One-on-One Technology assistance, Pen Pal Program with the local Girl Scouts are offered monthly as well as periodically throughout the year.

#### **VOLUNTEERS PROGRAM**

The Senior Center staff is grateful for the twenty-two active volunteers who do a variety of tasks and programs. If you would like to become a volunteer please contact us.

#### STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Arts and Crafts	79
Cards and Games	386
Fitness, Health and Wellness	1,297
Language Arts	32
Nutrition	
Outdoor Activities	58
Recreation	58
Social	1,112
Special Event	453
Technology Assistance	
Trips	96
Total Event Sign-Ins	
Total Hours	10,984

#### SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS STATISTICS

- Facebook: 275 likes and reached 86,395 people with posts
- You Tube: 792 views
- Zoom: 145 attendees
- Website: 6.895 visits



### YOUTH SERVICES PRINCIPAL FUNCTION

As a department of Ellington Human Services, Youth Services mission is to provide programs and services, while building relationships which bond youth

in a positive way to their families, schools, peers and community. The staff of Youth Services is here to support and assist children from birth to young adults through their life transitions. Youth Services provides programs that strengthen and develop life skills needed to succeed in the many challenges facing the youth of today. The staff of youth services consists of a full-time

youth of today. The staff of youth services consists of a full-time director, a full-time youth Assistant Director, part-time prevention coordinator, program coordinator, program instructors, rise above advisor and volunteers.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Youth Services provides a wide range of programs in areas of community services activities, after-school programs, mental health services (individual, family and group), and volunteerism. For the 2020-2021 year, Youth Services and The Council for Developing a Positive Youth Culture (DPYC) had a total of approximately 14,000 children and their families participate in the following programs in school presentations, afterschool programs, outreach and other events.

Counseling: A family therapist is employed by the town to provide sliding fee scale counseling services to the youth (under the age of 18) and their families. Referrals and advocacy are also provided to families. All services are confidential and evening hours are available by appointment. Throughout the year, approximately 61 children and families were provided this service.

**Programs:** We provided 73 programs for 20-21 year with about 467 participants. These programs were either virtual and in person included various Crafty Classes, Kindness Clubs, Mindful Movements, My Feelings, Happy Moments Play Group, Safe Sitter, safe at Home, 123 Learning about Me, Hot Chocolate Chat, Science Fun, Pokémon Night, Healthy Relationships, Stem and Search and Build.

**In-school Services:** SOS Program: Suicide Prevention Program was presented to in person students in 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades about 900 students. Gizmo program which is mental health awareness program was presented to all 3rd grade students in the Ellington School District which is about 250 students.

Outreach to the Community is a very strong component of Youth Services. This past year we provided 900 free masks for families, created and distributed Emotional Tool Kits for families all ages, Mental Health Booklet was mailed to every resident of Ellington which is about 7000 copies were distributed, Be Kind to your Mind booklet about self-care was created, You in Action which is about the importance of Exercise/movement in your mental health, Anxiety Movie, tables at Farmer Markets and Pride Event to distribute resources, Pride Bridge in Arbor Park, You are Not Alone Mural and positive messages lawn signs for Mental Health Awareness Month, School Refusal Presentation and resources for parents (in partnership in Ellington School District) and Anxiety Talk Series, Diversity Murals (in partnership with National Art Society, Social Media Campaigns.

**Juvenile Review Board and Truancy Board:** Youth Services staff is member of Juvenile Review and truancy boards. These boards meet once a month to help members of the Ellington Community in assessment, case management and referrals.

**Presentations:** This year Youth Services added to the list of topics for presentations we have created. We presented on 5 principals of Psychology First Aid to all teaching staff in the School District, Creating Hope, Grounding and Self-care. Presented to total of approximately 700 people throughout the school year.

**Trainings:** One of our goals at Youth Services to keep up with new trainings and programs to better help the youth in Ellington. Here is some of the trainings staff at Youth Services attended: Mindfit, SEL strategies, emotional regulation conference, CREC Equity Council, Homeless for young adults, tobacco treatment specialist, SBIRT, SOS, Anxiety, Smart Recovery, working with military families, Little Flower Certificate Program, and Mental Health First Aid.

Ellington Unified believes that everyone should have sense of belonging and a part within our community. By connecting families, schools, and community through activities, advocacy, and support. Our hope is to strengthen the Ellington Community for youth with a disability and their family. This year's goal was to work on community awareness through social media and creating an educational awareness video for community residents.

### The Ellington Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture (DPYC):

The Ellington Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture (DPYC) is a long standing group that has been coordinating prevention services for the youth of Ellington for over 20 years. The group's mission is to create and sustain a positive youth culture for Ellington's youth through collaboration among the community, schools and town agencies. Membership includes key stakeholders in the community, including Ellington Youth Services, Ellington Human Services, Ellington Public Schools, Ellington Recreation Department, Resident State Troopers, faith and business community leaders and student and parent representatives. This year we sponsored medication disposal post card (7000 mailed out to every household in Ellington), Close to Home magazine, Deterra Bags, Narcan/OPR training which partnership with a grant from DHMAS. We also created Take the Time, Parent Discussion Guide. The council sponsored United Week at the High School, Community Theatre program, Hope Garden at Crystal Lake, You are Not Alone Banner. This year we also partnered with The Village in a prevention grant for underage drinking and other substance use, and in June we received notice of being awarded this grant from DHMAS.

Rise Above: A group of high school students in Ellington with a mission of offering high school students the opportunity to learn and apply leadership skills along with being role models to their peers and youth continued in its 11th year. A Core Group of 13 members served as the executive board for the group. Due to the challenges of COVID restrictions, the group was able to create Drive-thru Halloween Event for the families of Ellington. 150 Fun Bags were given out that night. Hope Alliance was able to create self-care campaign at the high school, creating their own positive message posters which were hung in the high school.

# BOARD OF EDUCATION



Although it is nearly impossible to adequately capture the extraordinary efforts of all of our staff, a comprehensive review of key measures and evidence/artifacts from the district improvement plan action steps/strategies highlights from the 2020-2021 school year are below:

#### **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)**

- Continued to develop and strengthen our Culture of Feedback throughout all schools and departments using Panorama surveys (with special attention and focus on our Silver full distance learners)
- Promoted and educated students and staff on the Seeds of Civility and how to integrate into teaching and learning and classroom management
- Prioritized stress management and wellness for all students and staff (including early release Wednesdays and RULER pilot training at WES)
- Prioritized connectedness for Silver families (including 7-12 Silver Support position and dedicated Silver teachers at the elementary level)
- Implemented the BCBA/SEL Specialist model across elementary schools

#### HIGH QUALITY TEACHING

- Increased alignment across elementary schools in Math, Science, and ELA (e.g. Padlets)
- Implemented K-6 Reading Consultant Model which had immediate impact on increasing equity of resources, pacing/scope and sequence, and reading intervention across elementary schools
- Created consistent SRBI criteria and processes for Math and Reading across all elementary schools
- Developed an integrated LMS/TG/STEM Enrichment/ Technology Integration model to be implemented in the 21-22 school year
- Ongoing tracking, analysis, and strategy development regarding learning loss dynamics associated with various learning models (Infinite Campus proved critical to monitor and make adjustments)
- Implementation of revised Distance Learning expectations and differentiated technology integration PD for faculty
- Added multiple early release Wednesday Professional Development to the 21-22 School Calendar

#### EFFICIENT OPERATIONS

- Implemented District & School reopening plans with alignment to District Reopening Committee (e.g. Half the school hybrid model, full distance learning, and full in-person plans)
- Went live with Infinite Campus
- Regular and consistent family communications across all schools with Friday communications
- Increased teacher and staff voice during budget development process
- Budget neutral staffing shifts to support both in-person and Silver learning
- Created flexible options for families to change learning models

#### High Priorities for the 2021-2022 School Year:

In addition to the general unknowns about health and safety guidelines for 21-22 school reopening and the clearly identified need for teachers to have increased collaboration and planning time, the following initiatives will have high priority for next year:

- SEL develop multi-year process to integrate Yale RULER program across all schools to assist with stress management and provide consistent behavior management strategies and expectations
- HQT Continue to develop data visualization options that allow teachers to better understand the individual needs of students as well as performance trends of whole classes in order to improve student outcomes
- **Efficient Operations -** Effective implementation of HR Coordinator position



## **EPS VISION**

Ellington Public Schools grows exceptional learners and leaders who are courageous, reflective, and contributing citizens of the world

## **EPS MISSION**

Ellington Public Schools creates a culture of learning that challenges and inspires all students on their personalized educational journeys.

## **EPS CORE VALUES AND BELIEFS**

- We empower students and staff with the skills to discover and pursue their own passions and to embrace opportunities to be courageous, reflective, and contributing citizens of the world.
- We create an equitable, inclusive and supportive culture where people are safe, accepted, and valued.
- We value learning as an enlightening, lifelong process that happens in multiple ways.
- We believe that positive relationships among all stakeholders create synergy and are the foundation for our learning community.
- We celebrate innovation, collaboration, creativity and multiple forms of success.
- We ensure that our learning environments are flexible spaces that encourage interaction, co-creation and independence.
- We have an unrelenting commitment to the belief that everyone can continually learn and grow.

## **ELLINGTON VISION OF THE GRADUATE**

Ellington Public Schools' Graduates will develop the skills that will allow them to be exceptional learners and leaders who are courageous, reflective, and contributing citizens of the world

Ellington Public Schools develop students who are:

## Self-directed and Reflective Learners

- Pursues learning in areas of personal interest
- Sets goals to advance learning based on reflection and feedback
- Demonstrates perseverance and flexibility in pursuing goals

## **Involved Citizens**

- Participates and contributes to the enhancement of community life
- Pursues opportunities to learn about other cultures and different points of view
- Demonstrates awareness of the impact of personal actions on others and the world

## **Co-creators and Collaborators**

- Works synergistically and equitably to achieve a common goal
- Recognizes their own and other perspectives to enrich their learning

## **Problem Solvers and Innovators**

- Engages in inquiry around real-world problems
- Translates ideas into actionable solutions
- Takes intellectual risks
- Thinks divergently

## **Effective Communicators**

- Communicates ideas in compelling, impactful ways
- Demonstrates an awareness of audience and adjusts style and tone accordingly

## THE CLASS OF 2021

Ellington High School Class of 2021 graduated on Friday, June 11, 2021. Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools, presented diplomas to 196 seniors. The statistics for the Class of 2021 are as follows: 106 graduates plan to attend four-year colleges, 46 plan to attend two-year colleges, 10 plan to attend technical school, 4 plan to join the military, 25 graduates plan to enter the workforce, and 5 will pursue other opportunities or are undecided. The following class scholars represent the highest five percent of the Class of 2021: Tyler Bennett, Jonathan Bruno, Ayushman Choudhury, Nicholas DeBaise, Rachel Gerlach, Miguel Gomba, Sreesai Katiki, Lauren Lagasse, Kaitlyn Mead, Jordan Terry and Mitchell Whelan.

## TED GRAZIANI ELECTED TO CONNECTICUT VETERANS HALL OF FAME



First Selectman Lori Spielman with Ted Graziani

U.S. Army veteran Ted Graziani of Ellington, who served in Vietnam during the Tet Offensive and later advocated for the rights of veterans and their families in more than a decade in the Connecticut General Assembly, is one of 12 new electees into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame.

The recent announcement of the latest group of inductees by Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz and state Department of Veteran Affairs Commissioner Thomas J. Saadi cited a dozen men and women "who have made significant contributions to their communities after leaving military service."

"For more than 15 years, the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame has recognized our veterans, who sacrificed everything as they served their country and continue to give back to their local communities," Bysiewicz said. "While each of these brave men and women come from different backgrounds, they all share the same characteristics – courage, strength, pride and selflessness."

Retired Maj. Gen. Thaddeus Martin, state adjutant general from 2005 to 2018, said, "What stands out here is Ted's well-documented record of service as a leader in his local community, as a state legislator and as the long-serving Veterans Committee chair. Taken in total, this body of service provided to community, state, nation and veterans across our state make him an ideal candidate for election to the Hall this year."

Graziani concluded, "I consider myself fortunate, and my journey wasn't by myself. My journey was filled with a bunch of people standing side by side with me, not behind me."

Tim Jensen, Patch Staff March 22, 2021

# CLLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES 2021



## **CLASS OFFICERS**

Nathan Mayne, President Miguel Gomba, Vice President Holly Warner, Secretary Sara Guerette, Social Chair

Layla Abushaqra Tobias F. Adams Ashley-Hope Trinity Agnew Kimani Allen Amanda May Ameral Jehu Angelo H. Armonio Emmanuel A. Asirifi Emma G. Aubin Alexander N. Audet Emma Audet Essar Azam Kaylee JoAnn Bahler Joshua J. Bairos Riley D. Bauman **Emily Marie Bava** Olivia Pauline Bechard Kali Fevlin Beeloo Tyler J. Bennett+ Eesham Bhattacharyya Ethan Patrick Biggs Hannah Jane Bilbie Justin L. Blake Angel Rose Bouchard Emily R. Bowman Mareena Nicole Brown Jonathan Matthew Bruno+ **Julia Lynn Buceivicius** Dominic James Burnham Nicholas James Busky Jordin Kam Byrd Daniel J. Cain Joshua D. Carroll Olivia Grace Catlett Natalie J. Chamberlin Steven L. Chapman Avushman Choudhury+ Nathan Cirelli Cameron M. Cole Madison Coles Claire E. Collin Nicholas Neil Colon Julia Elizabeth Condel Joseph Wyatt Cote Piper A. Couture Brendan V. Couzens Cassidy Mary Covino

Sean Andre Crawford

Nicholas Joseph DeBaise+

Julia Elizabeth DeNardis

Jacob David Crocker

Matthew Cusano

Caleb W. Delgado

Sydney E. Dietz Mitchell Discenza Patrick M. Dobrowolski Samuel L. Dombek Cameron J. Emonds Jake Ewald Seth Fackrell Nicholas James Forst Alexandra J. Fox Vivian L. Frechette Alyssa M. Frenette Halei Juliana Frey Sydney Rose Gale Alejandra M. Garcia Thomas J. Garrow Rachel Marie Gerlach+ Caden David Gesualdi Nikolaos G. Giotsas Allison Carly Godek Miguel Gomba+ Emily Elizabeth Gorman Andrew M. Gregory Sara Viviane Guerette Nathan Gunnoud Collin J. Hall Ella W. Halpin Connor Liam Hany Ethan Michael Hany Nora Caitlin Hany Jack O'Gorman Harnois Carter J. Hebert Ariadne Hilary Hernandez Rivera Victoria M. Hintze Lois M. Hoffman **Emaleigh Christine Holmes** Gavin L. Houghtaling Colton J. Hurlburt Alyssa C. Inghilleri Ashley Elizabeth Jones Sanjana Kantheti Sreesai Katiki+ Griffin Kaufman Liam T. Kent Yaseen Khan Baylen C. Kidd Alexander J. Kiessling Abel J. Kloter Emma Charlotte Kloter

Ian M. Kos

Jackson W. Kupferschmid

Lindsey Celine Laughlan

Lauren S. Lagasse+

Jason James Leslie Elizabeth Nicole Lewis Benjamin L. Lipman Kaylee Rose Lucey McKayla T. Lucey Janelle D. Lussier Noah L. Madore George J. Magnuson Rachel Lynn Mangold Logan Duncan Marshall Greyson Martin Tiana Terrill Martin Anthony Joseph Massaro Matthew Christopher Mateya Nathan Michael Mayne Emma Z. McMahon Isabelle M. McMahon Claire Brigid McMenamin Kaitlyn Marie Mead+ Chikwendu D. Mgbechi Caroline Marie Milanovich Tyler James Millen Caroline Jeannette Minich Mary Anne Monck Kayla D. Morin Samantha K. Morrow Logan T. Mosher Isabel Olga Mund Collin Munroe Delaney Grace Munter Noah E. Murphy Zoha Murtaza Rudraksh H. Nathan Gyuvonni Neal Angelice Nieves Tarun S. Nori Hannah LeeAnn Norman Christopher Joshua Onfri Nicole E. Orlowski Sean Patrick Pagsanhan Claire Isabella Palmer Derek Len Pasini Kush A. Patel Taylor Ann Paton Isabella Francesca Piazza Emily J. Pincince Olivia Paige Pitney Dylan Prescher Nidhisha Rachakonda Natylee Eryla Ramos Cole L. Rellis Nolan T. Reutter

Austin Leonard Rich Alexander W. Rideout Brianna R. Rivera Xavier S. Rodrigues Tyler L. Ross Joshua Henry Roy Tyler A. Sakos Rebecca Caroline Samson Mia Anne Sawka Rhonda Jane Schneider Kasey K. Schultz Edon Selimaj Edona Selimaj Ethan Sgarlata Braedan Tadhg Shea Kiaelon Tyshawn Sheets Alexander Shepard Luke H. Sirois Josie G. Skidgel Rayquon Smith Raghav Srivastava Hanna E. Stavnitski Gavin Robert Steel Alyssa N. Stetson Aidan Joseph Stimac Savannah Lynn Stone Mohammedeesa Tai Jordan Mather Terry+ Joshua James Thibodeau Aiden M. Tolisano Penelope MacKenzie Torres Christopher Uzupes Madison Elizabeth Vale Tyler Valenti Tobias Olson Wan Holly Elizabeth Warner Jason Raphael Rosario Webber Lydia Jane Welti Mitchell T. Whelan+ Damien James Wilson Olivia G. Wright Christopher Wrona\* John M. Wrynn Jr. Austin Zahner Brandon C. Zahner Jeremy Zahner Morgan Ashley Zalcman Sarah Elizabeth Zander

Aidan Zurawek

† Class Scholar

Attained honor roll status each quarter during his/her high school career wore Silver Honor Cords Members of the Robert W. Murphy Chapter of the National Honor Society wore Gold Honor Cords Members of Troupe 5226 of the International Thespian Society wore Black/White Honor Cords

Members of the National Art Honor Society wore Rainbow Honor Cords

.Honor History Day students wore Black/Yellow/Red Cord

Senior Class Officers wore Black Honor Cords

\*Congratulations to Christopher Wrona for Enlistment, Basic Training

Members of the Tri-M Music Honor Society wore Pink Honor Cords

Capstone Project students wore Lavender Cords

Link Crew members wore Navy Honor Cords

\*Congratulations to Christopher Wrona for Enlistment, Basic Training



## TOWN DEPARTMENTS

**ADMINISTRATION** 

First Selectman: Lori L. Spielman

**Executive Assistant/Website & Social Media Coordinator:** 

Julia Connor

**Human Resources Coordinator/Executive Assistant:** 

LouAnn Cannella

Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary:

Rebecca Einsiedel

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Officer: Barbara Murdach

Assistant Animal Control Officer: Kathy Kane-DiBacco
Assistant Animal Control Officer: Kim Gambacorta
Assistant Animal Control Officer: Eric Boucher
Assistant Animal Control Officer: Nicole Usher

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

**Assessor:** Kim Bechard

**Deputy Assessor:** Laura Plona **Assessment Aide:** *Vacant* 

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT** 

**Building Official:** Raymond F. Martin III **Administrative Secretary II:** Ginger MacHattie

ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORP

**Emergency Medical Technicians:** 

Deborah Landry-Schiessl, Holly Swiney, Kerri Pliszka, Erich Martin, Kelly Phillips, Chad Adams, Caitlyn Connelly, Kimberly Courville, David Dodge, Michael Girard,

Rachel Oakes, Noah Welti, Aaron Virkler

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** 

**Director:** Joseph Palombizio **Deputy Director:** John Streiber **Deputy Director:** Frederica Weeks

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Finance Officer/Treasurer: Tiffany Pignataro

Assistant Finance Officer/Deputy Treasurer: Felicia LaPlante

Accounting/Payroll Specialist: Gail Moran

Finance Office Administrative Assistant: Patricia Choiniere

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

Fire Marshal: James York

**Deputy Fire Marshals:** Sydney Kern and Carl W. Dojan **Burning Officials:** James York, Carl Dojan and Sydney Kern

**HUMAN SERVICES** 

**Director of Human Services:** Joy Hollister **Elderly Outreach Social Worker:** Rebecca Stack **Administrative Secretary II:** Stephanie Danio

Food Pantry Aide: Mary DiBenedetto

LIBRARY (Hall Memorial Library)

**Director:** Susan Phillips

Children's Librarian: Patricia Grundman

Reference Librarian/Program Coordinator (interim):

Ashley Dabbondanza

Library Assistant II: Lisa Kuraska Library Assistant II: Lisa Giaquinto Library Assistant II: Debra Cormier

**Library Assistant II:** Cheryl Chamberlin **Library Assistant I:** Kathy Boop

Library Assistant I: Gay Szumyk
Library Assistant I: Laurie Wormstedt
Library Assistant I: Lindsay McKeegan
Library Assistant I: Tara Clynch
Library Assistant I: Luci Pantuosco

Reference Librarian: Linda Callahan Reference Librarian: Michelle Farella

**Teen/Reference Librarian:** Ashley Dabbondanza **Bookkeeper/Recording Secretary:** Rhonda Villanova

Page: Emma Lipman Page: Madelyn Roy Page: Taylor Paton

**MUNICIPAL AGENT:** Joy Hollister

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Director of Health: Patrice Sulik, MPH, RS

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Director of Recreation:** Dustin Huguenin **Assistant Director of Recreation:** Mary Bartley

Recreation Coordinator: Kevin Barrett

**Administrative Secretary II:** Stephanie Danio **Administrative Secretary I:** Tina Modzelewski

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

Town Planner: Lisa M. Houlihan

Assistant Town Planner and Zoning and

Wetlands Enforcement Officer: John D. Colonese

Land Use Assistant: Barbra Galovich Recording Secretary: Christine Post Recording Secretary: Samantha Getchell

POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Resident State Troopers:** 

Sgt. Brian Santa, Resident State Troopers' Office Supervisor

Tpr. Daniel Hill Tpr. Justine Monahan TFC. Tyler Burnell

Tpr. Patrick (PJ) O'Brien

**Town Police Officers:** 

Bart Alexander, Michael Bard, John Barth, SRO, Aaron Blank, Donald Bridge, Arthur Carlson, III, Edward "Joe" Decker,

Stephen Estes, Kevin Furbush, Joseph Grayeb,

James Keeney, SRO, Sebastian Magnano, Patrick Sweeney School Resource Officers: John Barth and James Keeney Marine Police Officers: Allen Bump, Michael Hesnan

and Iack Sauve

Police Support Administrator: Edward "Joe" Decker

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

**Director of Public Works:** Timothy Webb **Administrative Assistant II:** Lori Smith

Foreman: Thomas Modzelewski

**Assistant Foreman:** Kevin Gambacorta **Crew Chief/Grounds:** Bob Ouellette

Lead Mechanic: Taylor Olson Mechanic II: Perry Dikeman	ELECTED OFFICIALS (as of	of June 30, 2021)
Maintainer II: Patrick Roy	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	TERM EXPIRES
Maintainer II: Ronald Moser	Lori L. Spielman, First Selectman	December 2021
Maintainer I: Shawn Bull		December 2021
Maintainer I: Richard Daugherty	James M. Prichard, Deputy First Selectman	
Maintainer I: Colton DuBois	Sarah D. Cook	December 2021
Maintainer I: Denis Giroux	Melinda M. Ferry	December 2021
Maintainer I: Spencer Hutchinson	David E. Stavens	December 2021
Maintainer I: Keith Jarvis	Ronald F. Stomberg	December 2021
Maintainer I: James Muratori	John W. Turner	December 2021
Maintainer I: Benjamin Pare		
Maintainer I: Jason Suchecki	BOARD OF FINANCE	
Maintainer I: Daniel Whitman	Douglas Harding, Chairman	December 2021
Lead Custodian: Kim Gallicchio	Keith Durao	December 2021
Custodian: Dana DiNallo		
Custodian: Gary Berube	David J. Olender	December 2023
Custodian: Victoria Brooks	Barry C. Pinto	December 2021
Brush Drop-off Facility Attendant: Michael Messier	Michael Purcaro	December 2023
•	Joseph Wehr	December 2023
SENIOR CENTER		
Senior Center Director: Sheila Grady	BOARD OF EDUCATION	
Senior Center Assistant Director: Samantha Baer	Jennifer Dzen, Chairman	November 2021
Senior Center Administrative Secretary II: Erica Botti	Gary Blanchette	November 2021
Senior Center Program Assistant: Kelly Hearn	Angela Moser	November 2021
Senior Center Cook:	Elizabeth Nord	November 2023
Senior Center Lead Van Driver: Kenneth McCarthy		
Senior Center Van Driver: Jeanne Magurany, Mark Balkan	Marcia Kupferschmid	November 2021
, o ,,	Jennifer Mullin	November 2023
TAX DEPARTMENT	Kristen Picard-Wambolt	November 2021
Tax and Revenue Collector: Ann Marie Conti	Kerry Socha	November 2023
Deputy Tax and Revenue Collector: Diane Varholak	Michael Young	November 2023
Tax Clerk: Joann Bolles	Miriam Underwood	November 2023
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE	REGISTRARS OF VOTERS	
Town Clerk/Registrar of Vital Statistics: Diane H. McKeegan	Wanda Deland (Republican)	January 2023
Asst. Town Clerk/Registrar of Vital Statistics: Donna Hosey	Lois Timms-Ferrara ( <i>Democrat</i> )	January 2023
Assistant Town Clerk (Per Diem): Suzanne Litwin	Bois Infinto Ferrara (Bemberua)	january 2020
	LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	
TOWN COUNSEL: Dorian Reiser Famiglietti, Esq.,		December 2023
Kahan Kerensky & Capossela LLP	Mary E. Blanchette, Chairman	
	Mary Cone, Secretary	December 2023
SPECIAL COUNSEL:	John Halloran, Jr.	December 2023
Day Pitney LLC (Bond Counsel)	Gabbi Mendelson	December 2021
Shipman & Goodman (Special Ed Counsel for	Judy Stomberg	December 2021
Board of Education)	Janet Wieliczka, Treasurer	December 2021
Kainen, Escalera & McHale (Negotiations Counsel for		
General Government and Board of Education)	PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION	V
	Arlo Hoffman, Chairman	December 2021
TOWN ENGINEER: J. R. Russo Surveyors ● Engineers	William R. Hogan, Vice Chairman	December 2021
	Michael Swanson	December 2023
TREE WARDEN: Timothy Webb		December 2023
	Sean Kelly	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY (WPCA)	Ricci Hirth	December 2021
Administrator: Timothy Webb	F. Michael Francis	December 2021
Crew Chief/WPCA: Phillip Kidney	Robert C. Sandberg, Jr.	December 2023
WPCA Technician/Maintainer II: Colton DuBois		
	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	
YOUTH SERVICES	Arthur G. Aube, Chairman	December 2023
Youth Services Director: Diane Lasher-Penti	Kenneth M. Braga, Vice Chairman	December 2021
Assistant Youth Services Director: Kristen Harp	Katherine Heminway	December 2021
Prevention Coordinator: Kayla Condron	Subhra Roy	December 2021
Program Coordinator: Jessica Maitland		
·	Sulakshana N. Thanvanthri	December 2023

## APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (as of June 30, 2021)

## AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

(1 year to September 2021)

Trudie Luck Roberts, Chairman Uma Sekar Lindsay Castonguay Hany Paulette Barnes

Brian Cocuzzo Ramona Puchalski-Piretti Amy Mondschein Bharani Shakamuri Rajendran **Iamelle Elliott** Gothami Ramachandran

Lenora Williams Anthea Grotton Abby Varney Francie Berger

Scott Raiola Ayushman Choudhury

## AD HOC COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPING

**POSITIVE YOUTH CULTURE** (1 year to August 2021)

Mary Bartley Joy Hollister Kevin Hayes Lisa Kelly Kathleen Larew Diane Lasher-Penti Amy Darling Michael Nash Beth Tautkus TFC Tyler Burnell Sgt. Brian Santa Melissa Abbruzzese Ainsley Armstrong, Student Rep. Easha Patel, Student Rep.

Gillian Paseka, Student Rep.

## AD HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE

(1 year to May 2022) David Arzt, Chairman J. Albert Breton, Jr. Jean Burns Rodger Hosig Victor Laptik

## AD HOC ELLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

(1 year to April 2022)

Katherine Heminway, Chairman Kay Luginbuhl Maureen Eckels Carole Gerber Joseph Palombizio Alyce Mayer Maggie Stabinski Jacob Nadeau Karen Hunt Jennifer Wells

## AD HOC ELLINGTON TRAILS COMMITTEE

(1 year to April 2022)

Valerie Amsel Ann McLaughlin

Cynthia van Zelm

Pam McCormick

Linda Anderson

Iudi Manfre

Ken Radziwon

Deanne Wambolt-Gulick

## AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

(1 year to December 2021\* / February 2022)

John Turner, Chairman, Board of Selectmen Representative\*

Joseph Wehr, Board of Finance Representative\*

Robert Edwards, Crystal Lake Fire Department Representative Gary Feldman, Sr., Ellington Volunteer Fire Dept. Representative Jack Rich II, Ellington Volunteer Fire Department Representative

Sarah Cook, Board of Selectmen Representative\* Douglas Harding, Board of Finance Representative\*

Timothy Seitz, Crystal Lake Fire Department Representative Bruce Hoffman, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Representative

Joseph Palombizio, Emergency Management Director

Peter Hany, Sr., Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Representative

## AD HOC GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE

(1 year to May 31, 2021)

James Prichard, Chairman Sanford Cohen Mary Percoski F. Michael Frances

Betsi Feldman

## AD HOC LONG TERM RECOVERY COMMITTEE

(1 year to September 2021)

Joseph Palombizio, Chairman Dustin Huguenin Timothy Webb Diane Lasher-Penti Lisa Houlihan Iulia Connor Sharon McLaughlin Sheila Grady Rebecca Stack Brian Greenleaf Lori Spielman Frederica Weeks James York Susan Phillips

Max Carroll

## **AD HOC PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE** (1 year to December 2021)

John Takach, Vice Chairman Christian Sauer, Chairman Ted C. Graziani Bruce N. Warkentin Sara K. Landon **James Sydoriak** Cheryl Samborski Jonathan Cohen Rhonda Villanova, Secretary Joseph Boucher

Steven Villanova, Student Representative

## AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION **OF PINNEY HOUSE** (1 year to July 2021)

Gerry Gillung, Chairman

Dale Roberson Marcia Kupferschmid Debby Wallace Iacob Nadeau

Stephen Flickenschild

## TERM EXPIRES

## **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS** (3 years)

Karen Neal January 2024 Kurt Sullivan January 2022 Sherri Czyz January 2023

**Alternates** (2 years)

Joseph Malone January 2022 Norman Perkins January 2023

**BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS** (5 years)

Donald Gobeille, Jr. April 2022 Dennis Milanovich April 2026 Howard D. Reckert April 2023 April 2024 Frank Engel

## **CENTRAL REGIONAL TOURISM DISTRICT** (3 years)

Jacob Nadeau June 2023

## COMMUNITY VOICE CHANNEL ADVISORY COUNCIL

(2 years)

Marc Diwinsky June 2022

## CT WATER COMPANY CUSTOMER ADVISORY COUNCIL

(1 year)

George Shaw August 2021 Lois Timms-Ferrara (Alternate) August 2021

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION** (4 years)

Rebecca A. Quarno, Chairman March 2023 David H. Bidwell, Vice Chairman March 2025 Sean Dwyer March 2022 James Gage March 2023 George Nickerson March 2025 Robert E. Zielfelder, Jr. March 2022 Laurie Burstein March 2024 **Alternates** (2 years)

Ann Harford March 2023 Jessica Fay March 2022

	TERM EXPIRES		TERM EXPIRES
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD		PARKS & RECREATION COMM	•
Robert M. Dawson III, Chairman	June 2025	Gordon Oliver, Chairman	January 2024
Michele Beaulieu-Dzen	June 2025	Thomas Boscarino	January 2024
Gary Chaplin	June 2025	Cynthia Costanzo	January 2024
Ronald F. Stomberg Kevin Zahner	June 2024	Shay Drake	January 2022
Kevin Zanner	June 2024	Kevin Hayes Cheri Murphy	January 2022
DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF VOTERS (4 years)		Tara Kozik	January 2024 January 2022
Lois Goodin (Republican)	January 2023	Sherryl Kraus	January 2022
Elizabeth Nord (Democrat)	January 2023	Christopher Weitz	January 2022 January 2022
	,	-	•
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION		PERMANENT BUILDING COMN	
Sean Kelly, Chairman	July 2024	Peter W. Welti, Chairman	February 2022
Donna Resutek, Vice Chairman	July 2021	Gary Magnuson, Vice Chairman	February 2024
Christopher Todd	July 2023	Thomas Adams Gary T. Feldman, Sr.	February 2022
David Hurley	July 2022	Dale Gerber	February 2022
James Fay	July 2022		February 2020
<b>Alternates</b> (2 years)		Katherine Heminway	February 2022
Amos Smith	January 2023	Jeff Olender	February 2024 (ve) December 2021
Bryan Platt	January 2023	Ronald Stomberg (BOS Representation Gary Blanchette (BOE Representation)	
ETHICS COMMISSION (4 years)		David Olender (BOF Representative) Sean Kelly (P&Z Representative)	e) December 2021 December 2021
Charles McCleary, Chairman	January 2025	Timothy Webb, <i>Public Works Directo</i>	
Derek Reed, Vice Chairman	January 2023	Timothy Webb, Public Works Directi	or (Ex-officio)
Deb Lynch	January 2024	PLANNING AND ZONING COM	IMISSION ALTERNATES
Brett Palmer	January 2024	(2 years)	
Wilfred Duchesneau	January 2022	Ken Radziwon	September 2021
		Jonathan D. Moser	September 2021
HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 years)			•
Dennis Varney, Chairman	June 2026	VERNON AREA CABLE TV ADV	· ·
Robert C. Sandberg, Jr., Vice Chairman	June 2023	Vacant	June 2022
Robert Lech	June 2024	Vacant	June 2021
Michael Swanson	June 2022	WATER POLLUTION CONTROL	AUTHORITY (A mage)
Atherton "Joe" Ryan	June 2025	Daniel J. Parisi, Chairman	April 2021
		Leonard Descheneaux	April 2023
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION (4 years)		Paul F. Gilbert	April 2023 April 2022
Susan Stack, Chairman	January 2024	Shawn Koehler	April 2024
Susan Hannigan, Vice Chairman	January 2024	Aaron Foster	April 2022
Hocine Baouche	January 2022	ration roster	71pm 2022
Yale Cantor	January 2022	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	ALTERNATES (2 years)
Jessica Fay	January 2024	Ronald Brown	August 2021
Deanna Wambolt-Gulick Lenora Williams	January 2024	Rodger Hosig	August 2022
Lenora Williams	January 2022	Ronald F. Stomberg	August 2022
INLAND/WETLANDS AGENCY (4 years)			
Kenneth Braga, Chairman	January 2023		
Ron Brown, Vice Chairman	January 2025	<b>JUSTICES OF THE</b>	PF A CF
Arthur G. Aube	January 2023	JOSTICES OF THE	ILACL
Hocine Baouche	January 2025	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN
Jean Burns	January 2025		
Steven J. Hoffman	January 2023	Hocine Baouche	Nicole S. Albano
Katherine Heminway	January 2023	Cynthia Costanzo	Maurice W. Blanchette
Alternates (2 years)	•	Keith Durao	Peter J. Charter
Francis Hann	January 2022	Rachel Durao	Christopher C. Davis
	•	John M. Giordano	Ann L. Harford
INSURANCE ADVISORY BOARD (4 years)		John M. Halloran, Jr.	Sean C. Kelly
Audrey Kubas, Chairman	April 2023	Lois Timms-Ferrara	Daniel C. Keune
Mark Boone	April 2023		Laurie Lemek
Wilson D. Flynn	April 2023	UNAFFILIATED	Sharon J. McLaughlin
		James Darby	Lori L. Spielman
MENITAL HEALTH COUNCIL #15 (2 mg/mg)		IZ :1 C 3 Z:11	Liavid Stavene

Keil S. Miller

Sylvie Nadeau

Vivian E. Sovinsky

Elizabeth C. Waters

Christina Marie Morin

Bettie Jean Rivard-Darby

January 2022

June 2022

June 2022

David Stavens

Ronald F. Stomberg

Rhonda Villanova

John H. Lally

Dianne Trueb

Fred Journalist

MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL #15 (3 years)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** (3 years)

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT



## **STATE**

## **GOVERNOR**

#### **Ned Lamont**

State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 566-4840 • (800) 406-1527
Fax (860) 524-7395
portal.ct.gov/office-of-the-governor

#### LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## Susan Bysiewicz

State Capitol 210 Capitol Avenue, Room 304 Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 524-7384 Fax (860) 524-7304 ct.gov/office-of-the-lt-governor

## SECRETARY OF THE STATE

## Denise W. Merrill

30 Trinity Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 509-6200 Fax (860) 509-6209 ct.gov/sots

## STATE TREASURER

## Shawn T. Wooden

55 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860)-702-3010 Fax (860) 702-3043 www.ott.ct.gov

## ATTORNEY GENERAL

## William Tong

55 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 808-5318 Fax (860) 808-5387 ct.gov/AG

## REPRESENTATIVE (57th DISTRICT)

## **Jaime Foster**

Legislative Office Building Room 4200 Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 240-8585 • (800) 842-1423 www.housedems.ct.gov/Foster

## **SENATOR (3rd DISTRICT)**

## Saud Anwar

Legislative Office Building Room 3300 Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 240-8600 • (800) 842-1420 www.senatedems.ct.gov/anwar

## **SENATOR (35th DISTRICT)**

## Dan Champagne

300 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106 (800) 842-1421 (860) 240-8800 ctsenaterepublicans.com/home-champagne

## **FEDERAL**

## **SENATOR**

#### Richard Blumenthal

90 State House Square, 10th Floor Hartford, CT 06103 (860) 258-6940 Fax (860) 258-6958

706 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-2823 Fax (202) 224-9673 www.blumenthal.senate.gov

## **SENATOR**

## **Chris Murphy**

Colt Gateway 120 Huyshope, Suite 401 Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 549-8463 Fax (860) 524-5091

136 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-4041 Fax (202) 224-9750 www.murphy.senate.gov

## **CONGRESSMAN**

## **Joe Courtney**

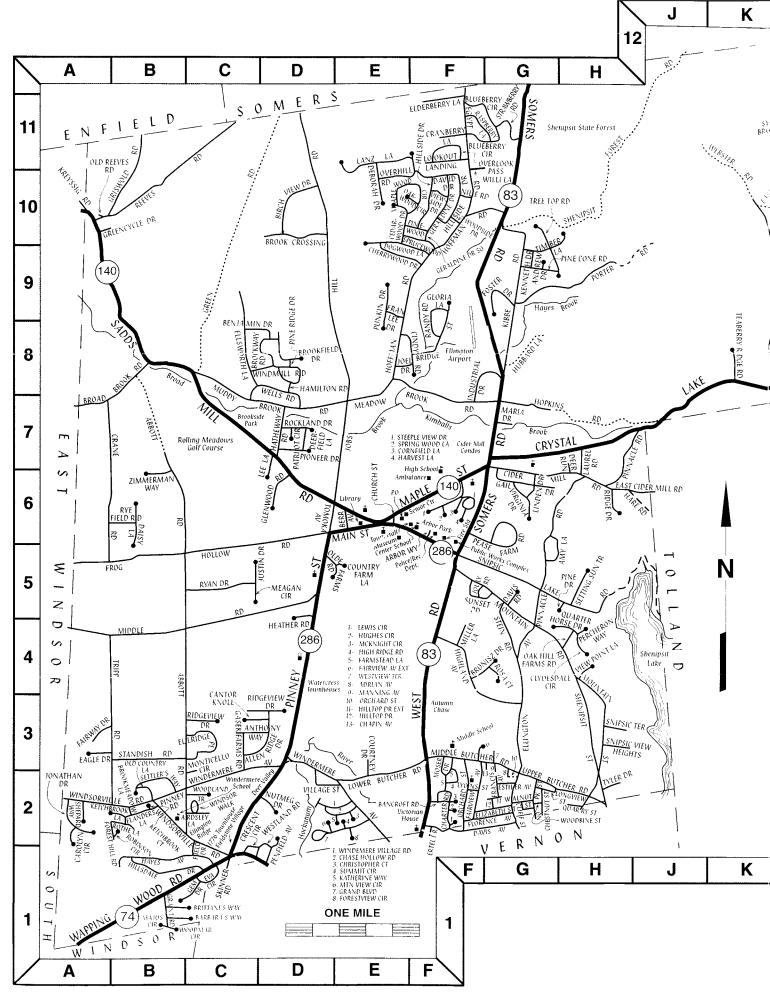
77 Hazard Avenue, Unit J Enfield, CT 06082 (860) 741-6011

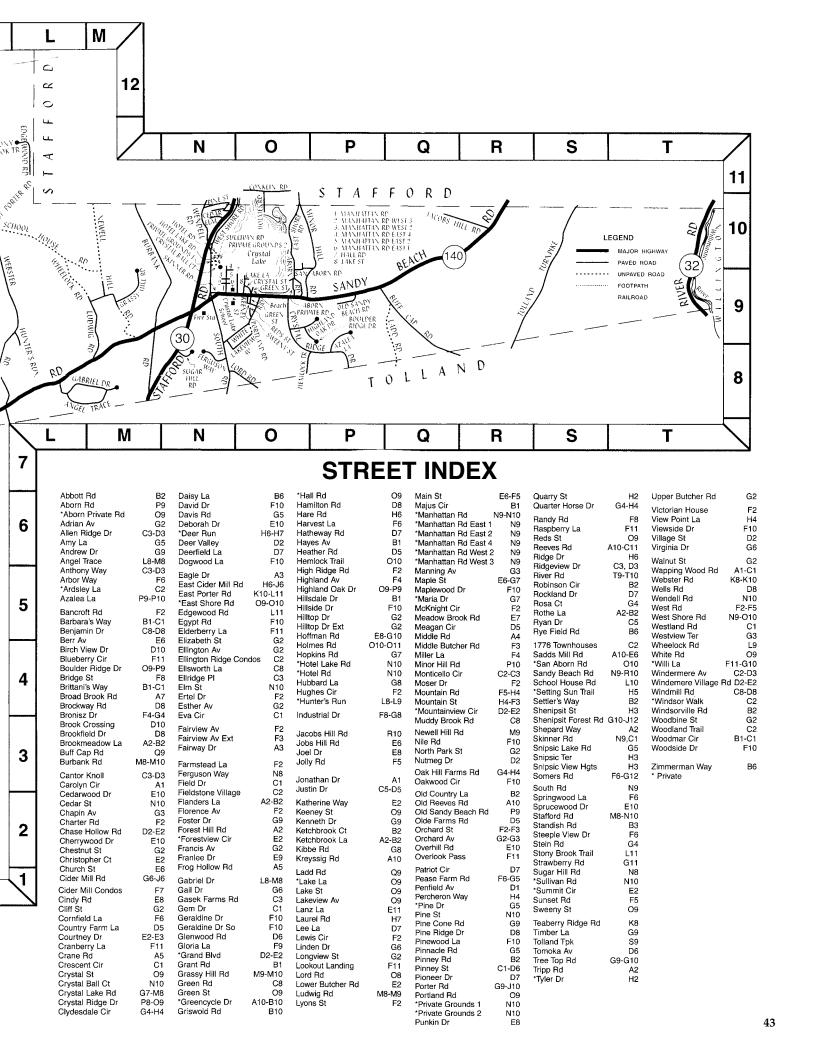
2332 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515 www.courtney.house.gov

## **PRESIDENT**

## Joseph Biden

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500 (202) 456-1414 president@whitehouse.gov







## **AREA**

Ellington is located 16 miles, northeast of Hartford with 34.8 square miles of area.

## **ALTITUDE**

The altitude ranges from 200 feet to 950 feet above sea level. Most of the town is approximately 450 feet above sea level.

## **CLIMATE**

The average temperatures in the town are 74 degrees during the summer months and 25 degrees during the winter months. Wind directions are south to southwest in the summer, and north to west in the winter.

## **POPULATION**

The population of the town has remained moderately stable over the past ten years. As of 2020, the population was approximately 16,426.

## **GOVERNMENT**

The Town has a Selectman form of government, which operates under a charter adopted in 1975. The Town Meeting serves as the legislative arm of the government. The Board of Finance recommends the annual budget to the Town Meeting for approval and sets the tax rate.

## **STREETS**

The Town has 94 miles of municipally maintained roads. The State of Connecticut maintains 24.62 miles of state roads which intersect the town. These are Routes 140, 286, 83, 30, 32 and 74.

#### **TAXES**

The Town currently has a tax rate of 32.6 mills applied to the 2019 Grand List at 70% of Fair Market Value of property. A townwide revaluation of real estate is currently being done.

## **SEWERS**

The Ellington Water Pollution Control Authority manages three major sewer systems: Longview, Hockanum River and Crystal Lake. Approximately 90% of the commercially zoned land has direct access to the sewer system. Windermere Industrial Park has either direct or reasonable access to the sewer system.

## WATER

The Town is serviced by CT Water Co. which have the capacity of accommodating approximately 70% of the commercial and industrial zoned land. Shenipsit Lake is the largest local water source which spans the borders of two adjoining towns. Crystal Lake is located in Ellington and stretches over an area of 175 acres. The Hockanum River runs north-south and is located in the southern part of town.

## **SCHOOLS**

The Ellington school system includes five schools which provide public education for grade levels kindergarten through 12th grade inclusive. Total enrollment as of 2019-20 is 2,661 students. Within a 20-mile radius the Town has access to the University of Connecticut, Manchester Community Technical College, Eastern Connecticut State University, Trinity College and Asnuntuck Community Technical College.

## **INCOME**

The Median income per household was \$91,510 as of the 2019 Census.

## **HOUSING**

As of the 2015 Census, the Town of Ellington had 6,505 housing units, including 462 condominiums. There are 11 apartment complexes, one of which provides subsidized housing.

#### **AIRPORT**

The Town has a privately-owned airport that is centrally located to provide air carrier service to both New York and Boston. The airport can accommodate both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters.

## RECREATION

The Town provides beach facilities at Crystal Lake during the summer months. The State of Connecticut maintains a public boat launch at Crystal Lake. The Town maintains sports facilities at each school, Robert Tedford Memorial Park and the High School Athletic Field, providing manicured playing fields. In 2004, a new playscape was constructed for elementary children at Center School. The Pavilion at Robert Tedford Memorial Park was completed in 1991. The building, equipped with restrooms and a concession stand, is available to local groups by obtaining a permit from the Parks and Recreation Office. Arbor Park, located on Main Street, contains a walking course and 2 gazebos, picnic tables, and Sunday evening concerts sponsored by the Recreation Department. In 2012, four new tennis courts were completed at Schwartz Field next to Ellington High School. The Pinney Street fields, which include lacrosse and soccer fields, were constructed and completed in 2015.

#### LOCAL BUSINESS

The Ellington business community is currently a blend of agriculture and small commercial and industrial enterprises. The dairy industry has long been the major producer of goods, but Ellington also provides products in the fields of packaging, pharmaceuticals, sporting goods, automotives, industrial designs and printing. The Farmers Market runs Saturdays from May - October; 9am -12:00pm in Arbor Park.

## SENIOR CENTER

The Ellington Senior Center is located at 40 Maple Street. The hours are Monday 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



## **ELLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS District School Calendar**

First Day: September 2, 2021 181<sup>st</sup> Day: June 10, 2022

2021 - 2022

AUG	JST 2021							(0)		(18)							FEBRUARY 2	022
		S	M	Т	W	TH	F	S		S	М	Т	W	TH	F	S		
30-31	Prof. Development	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5	President's Day	21
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Prof. Development	22
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
		29	30	31						27	28							
SEPT	EMBER 2021							(20)	П	(23)							MARCH 2	.022
		S	M	T	W	TH	F	S		S	М	Т	W	TH	F	S		
1	Prof. Development				1	(2)	3	4				1	2	3	4	5	Half Day – PD	23
2	First Day of School	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
6	Labor Day	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		13	14	15	16 🗞	17♦	18�	19		
		10	20	24	22	22	24	25		20	24	22	22.4	24	25	26		
		19 26	20 27	21 28	22	23 30	24	25	-	20	21 28	22	23 <b>★</b>	24 31	25	26		
		20	27		29	30				27		29	30	21				
ОСТО	DBER 2021							(20)		(16)							APRIL 2	.022
		S	M	Т	W	TH	F	S		S	М	Т	W	TH	F	S		
6	Half Day – PD						1	2							1	2	' °	L1-14
11	Columbus Day	3	4	5	6★	7	8	9		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Good Friday	15
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16		10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23		17	18	19 🛭	20 🛭	21 🛭	22	23		
		24/31	25 ≈	26 ≈	27 ±	28	29	30		24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
NOV	EMBER 2021							(19)	г	(21)							MAY 2	022
		S	М	Т	W	TH	F	S		S	M	Т	W	TH	F	S		
2	Prof. Development		1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4 ★	5	6	7	Half Day - PD	4
25-26	Thanksgiving Break	7	8	9	10	11 •	12 <b>µ</b>	13		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Memorial Day	30
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	·	
		21	22	23	24★	25	26	27		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
		28	29	30						29	30	31						
DECE	MBER 2021							(17)		(8)							JUNE 2	022
DECE	WIDER 2021	S	М	Т	W	TH	F	S		S	M	Т	W	TH	F	S	JOINE 2	.022
24 (	Christmas (observed)				1 🕸	2 🕸	3 🕸	4					1	2	3	4	Projected Last Day*	10
27-32		5	6	7	8	9	10	11		5	6	7	8	9	10★	11	EHS Graduation*	10
31 Ne	w Year's Day (observed)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
		19	20	21	22	23★	24	25		19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
		26	27	28	29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30				
IANI	ARY 2022							(19)	_								JULY 2	022
JANC	AIRT ZUZZ	S	М	Т	W	TH	F	S		S	М	Т	w	TH	F	S	JULY 2	022
1	New Year's Day		<del></del>	<u> </u>	<del></del>		<u> </u>	1	1			Ė	<del></del>		1	2	Ind. Day Observance	e 4-5
13	Half Day – PD	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
14	Prof. Development	9	10	11	12	13★	14	15	1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	1	
17	Martin Luther King	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	1	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	1	
	0		24/31	25	26	27	28	29	1	24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	
					•							•	-				•	

- Schools Closed
- Schools/District Closed
- Professional Development Days/Schools Closed
- ♦ Early Dismissal Day Elementary
- Early Dismissal EHS
- ≈ Early Dismissal EMS
- ± Late Opening EMS
- μ Late Opening EHS
- ★ Early Dismissal Day All District

SEE REVERSE FOR A LIST OF SCHEDULED EARLY DISMISSAL/LATE ARRIVAL DAYS, INCLUDING A LIST OF 2021-2022 HOLIDAYS AND CULTURAL OBSERVANCES

\*EHS Graduation will take place on June 10, 2022. This graduation date will remain June 10, 2022 in the event school closings push back the 180<sup>th</sup> day. \*The last day for students will be on June 10, 2022 \*In the event of excessive snow days, a decision regarding April vacation will be made as early in March as possible. The first three snow days will be traditional snow days, after that they will be remote learning days (subject to change per the Connecticut State Department of Education).

## TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

(Area Code 860)

		(Area Code	800)					
	Non-Emergency Calls		Visit the website at ellington-ct.gov					
Ambulance	Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps	870-3170	Town Hall					
	41 Maple Street, P.O. Box 71		Address: 55 Main Street, Ellington, CT 0	6029				
Fire	Crystal Lake Volunteer Fire Department	870-3174	Mailing Address: P.O. Box 187, Ellington, CT 06029					
	316 Sandy Beach Road		TTD/TTY Phone for Hearing Impaired 870	-3196				
	Ellington Volunteer Fire Department	870-3190		-3190				
D. P.	29 Main Street, P.O. Box 911	075 4522	Town Hall Hours					
Police	Resident State Troopers' Office	875-1522		to 6:00 pm				
	33 Arbor Way, P.O. Box 187 State Police Troop C	906 3300	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30 am	to 4:00 pm				
	1320 Tolland Stage Road, Tolland CT	896-3200	Friday 8:30 am	to 1:30 pm				
ADMINISTRAT	TION, 55 Main Street, P.O. Box 187	870-3100	SCHOOLS website: ellingtonschools.org					
	First Selectman	870-3100 (Fax)	Scott Nicol, Ed.D., Superintendent, 47 Main Street	896-2300				
		870-3102 (FdX)		-				
	lla, HR Coordinator/Executive Assistant		Jennifer Brown, Administrative Assistant	896-2312 (Fax)				
	executive Asst/Website & Social Media Coord		Taylor Rose, Human Resources Coordinator					
	edel, Administrative Assistant		Special Education Services	896-2300				
	ROL, 21 Main Street	870-3155	Center School (Michael Verderame, Principal)	896-2315				
	ach, Animal Control Officer	870-3554 (Fax)	Crystal Lake School (Dario Soto, Principal)	896-2322				
	Main Street, P.O. Box 199	870-3109	Ellington High School (John Guidry, Principal)	896-2352				
Kim Bechard, A		870-3197 (Fax)	High School Guidance Office	896-2357				
Laura Piona, D	eputy Assessor		Ellington Middle School  (Michael Murray and Michael Nach Principals)	896-2339				
DITH DIMC DED	ADTMENT E7 Main Street	870-3124	(Michele Murray and Michael Nash, Principals)  Windermere School (Jennifer Hill, Principal)	896-2329				
	PARTMENT, 57 Main Street tin, Building Official	870-3124 870-3122 (Fax)		870-3133				
	ttie, Administrative Secretary	670-3122 (FdX)	SENIOR CENTER, 40 Maple Street Sheila Grady, Director	870-3136 (Fax)				
	MITS, 57 Main Street	870-3126	Samantha Baer, Assistant Director	670-3130 (FdX)				
	Rachel Dearborn	875-8204	Erica Botti, Administrative Secretary					
CEIVIETERIES, F	Address Dearbotts	873-8204	Kelly Hearn, Program Assistant					
D F F D CONSI	ERVATION OFFICER, Laura Pettus	424-3333	Transportation	870-3137				
	REACH, 31 Arbor Way	870-3131	SEWER ADMINISTRATION & MAINTENANCE	870-3137 870-3140				
	, Elderly Outreach/Social Worker	870-3131	Timothy Webb, Director & WPCA Administrator	870-3140				
	MANAGEMENT	870-3182	Emergency Sewer Maintenance Number	870-3145				
EIVIERGENOT II		870-3103 (Fax)	STATE ROADS	0,0 3113				
FINANCE, 55 M	Nain Street	870-3115	East Windsor DOT Garage	623-4473				
	aro, Finance Officer/Treasurer	870-3158 (Fax)	Vernon DOT Garage	875-4993				
	e, Assistant Finance Officer/Deputy Treasurer		TAX DEPARTMENT, 55 Main Street, P.O. Box 158	870-3113				
Patricia Choiniere, Administrative Assistant			Ann Marie Conti, Tax and Revenue Collector	870-3704 (Fax)				
	L, 57 Main Street		Diane Varholak, Deputy Tax and Revenue Collector					
James York, Fir	re Marshal	870-3126	Joann Bolles, Tax Clerk					
	Central District Health Department	870-3122 (Fax)	TOWN CLERK/REGISTRAR VITAL STATISTICS	870-3105				
Patricia (Patric	e) Sulik, M.P.H., R.S. Director of Health	745-0383	Diane McKeegan, Town Clerk, 55 Main Street	870-3721 (Fax)				
	HORITY, 20 Main Street, PO Box 416		Donna G. Hosey, Assistant Town Clerk					
	ABILITATION, 55 Main Street	872-6923	TOWN PLANNER, 57 Main Street					
HUMAN SERVI	ICES, 31 Arbor Way	870-3132	Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner	870-3120				
Joy Hollister, D	Pirector and Municipal Agent	870-3128	John Colonese, Assistant Town Planner	870-3122 (Fax)				
Rebecca Stack,	, Elderly Outreach/Social Worker	870-3198 (Fax)	Barbra Galovich, Land Use Assistant					
LIBRARY, HALL	L MEMORIAL 93 Main St, PO Box 280		TREE WARDEN, 21 Main Street					
Susan Phillips,		870-3160	Timothy Webb, Tree Warden	870-3140				
	GENT, 31 Arbor Way	870-3163 (Fax)	VETERANS' REPRESENTATIVE					
POLICE, 33 Arl	bor Way	870-3131		870-3182				
Sgt. Brian Sant	a, Resident State Troopers' Office	875-1522	VISITING NURSE & HEALTH SERVICES	870-3103 (Fax)				
POST OFFICE,	6 Church Street	870-3152 (Fax)	VOTING, 55 Main Street	872-9163				
PROBATE COU	JRT, 14 Park Place, Vernon	875-6391	Lois Timms-Ferrara, Democrat, Registrar of Voters	870-3107				
PUBLIC WORK	S DEPARTMENT, 21 Main Street	872-0519	Wanda DeLand, Republican, Registrar of Voters	870-3108 (Fax)				
	o, Director & WPCA Administrator	870-3140	YOUTH SERVICES, 31 Arbor Way					
Tom Modzelev	vski, Foreman	870-3147 (Fax)	Diane Lasher-Penti, Director	870-3130				
Lori Smith, Adr	ministrative Assistant		Kristen Harp, Assistant Youth Services Director	870-3198 (Fax)				
RECREATION,	31 Arbor Way		Kayla Condron, Prevention Coordinator					
Dustin Huguen	·	870-3118	ZONING/WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT, 57 Main St.					
	Assistant Director	871-3198 (Fax)	John Colonese, Zoning/Wetlands Enforcement Off.	870-3120				
	Recreation Coordinator			870-3122 (Fax)				
	vski, Administrative Secretary							
RECYCLING/RE	EFUSE COORDINATOR	870-3140	Bulky Waste Pickup call All American Waste (					
Timothy Webl	b, Director, Public Works Department		Household Hazardous Waste call MidNeroc (	360) 684-3163				







