

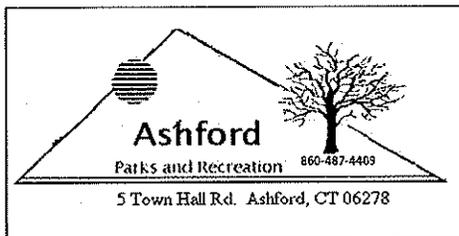
Volume 51

Issue 6

June 1, 2020

*"The purpose of the Ashford Citizen is to keep Ashford citizens informed on what is going on in town." (August 1952)*

ASHFORD CITIZEN 5 TOWN HALL ROAD ASHFORD CT 06278



## "It's a Miracle!"

Over the past 2 months, I think we've all asked ourselves dozens of times, **What can we do during the pandemic?**

Well, where there is a will, there is a way. Ashford Parks and Recreation is delighted to present our new "Miracle" playscape for 5-12 year old's at Ashford Memorial Park!

The project was approved and supported by our Capital Improvements Committee and the Town a year ago. The equipment was purchased in January and delivered in April with a "Community Build" planned for May. That meant we would provide 20 volunteer laborers on two weekends to construct the structure. Obviously, that could not happen in these times.

Thanks to the tremendous generosity of John Hollerbach, (President of Creative Recreation and Sales Rep. for Miracle Playgrounds) and the hard working expertise of Mike Comfort and Sean Torre, partnering with Casey McCue and Jordan Lamar from our Public Works Dept., **it got built!** Due to the rocky sub surface, it was a difficult dig for placing the poles. Each day of the 10 day build, progress was made and another piece of the structure was added.

I just have 2 things to say:

- 1) Its Bigger, Better and more Beautiful than we had imagined!
- 2) Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, to the four amazing construction workers, and to John Hollerbach, Joe Kalinowski, Ralph Fletcher, Chuck Funk, & the Rec. Commission for making it happen!

Now we just need to be able to open the Parks and add the best component; the Children! Watch for details and plans on when and how we will safely do this! Congratulations Ashford!



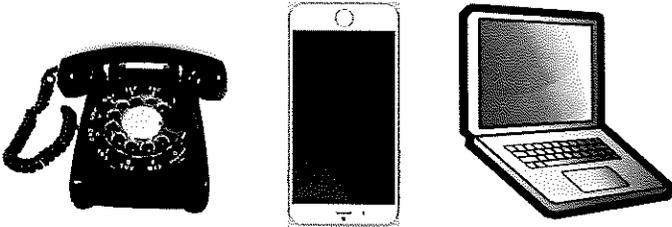
Sherry York, Parks & Rec. Director

(See pages 4-5 for more pictures.)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Ashford  
Town Office Building is  
**CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**  
until further notice.

You may reach us by:



### Town Offices Directory

<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	<b>860-487-4400</b>
<b>Assessor</b>	<b>860-487-4403</b>
<b>Building Dept.</b>	<b>860-487-4404</b>
<b>Emergency Management</b>	<b>860-428-0870</b>
<b>Finance Dept.</b>	<b>860-487-4405</b>
<b>Fire Marshal</b>	<b>860-429-6222</b>
<b>Housing Authority</b>	<b>860-429-8556</b>
<b>Public Works</b>	<b>860-429-6812</b>
<b>Registrar of Voters</b>	<b>860-487-4410</b>
<b>Selectmen's Office</b>	<b>860-487-4400</b>
<b>Sexton</b>	<b>860-487-4400</b>
<b>Social/Youth Services</b>	<b>860-487-4417</b>
<b>Tax Collector</b>	<b>860-487-4411</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b>	<b>860-487-4401</b>
<b>Zoning Enforcement</b>	<b>860-487-4415</b>

## RM Bar & Grill

**362 Ashford Center  
Road  
860-477-0723**



### TAKE-OUT ONLY!

**Open Monday-Sunday 3:00 PM  
Open Friday 11:30 AM**

- **Thur.-Sat. Fresh Fish & Chips**
- **Friday Prime Rib**
- **Daily Specials**

**Visit us on FaceBook  
for more details  
or give us a call.**

### *The Ashford Citizen*

**5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, CT 06278**

- \*The *Citizen* will be delivered by the 1st of each month (monthly).
- \*The *Citizen* is made possible by town taxes & advertising, and the production efforts of the Town Clerk's Office.
- \*Residents and Ashford tax-payers will receive the *Citizen* at no charge (every mailbox and p.o. box). Non-profit groups and tax-payers who live out of town should contact the *Citizen* to be put on the "no charge" mailing list. All other parties may receive the *Citizen* for a \$18 per year donation (as of 1/1/2020).
- \*All items for the *Ashford Citizen* must include submitter's name, address, and telephone number for verification. Items written on behalf of an organization require the signature of an authorized spokesperson. No letters or advertising will be accepted concerning political issues or candidates. All items submitted are subject to editing, and the *Citizen* reserves the right to reject any submissions. Readers should be aware that opinions or articles by individual writers or organizations are not necessarily those of the *Citizen*. The *Citizen* will not print items it regards as offensive or slanderous.
- \*All submissions must be received by the 20th of each month.
- \*Ads must be **pre-paid**; cash, or check written to **Town of Ashford**.
- \*The Ashford Town Clerk's Office will take payments, and article and advertisement submissions. Call for details.

**Your Contacts:**

Sherri Mutch, Editor      860-487-4401    [smutch@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:smutch@ashfordtownhall.org)  
 Karen Zulick, Ads/Subscript. 860-487-4401    [kzulick@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:kzulick@ashfordtownhall.org)  
 Beverly Ference, Gen. Info. 860-487-4404    [bference@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:bference@ashfordtownhall.org)

# Board of Finance

## Town of Ashford, Connecticut

May 29, 2020

To my fellow Ashford citizens:

As much as we would have liked to follow traditional budget adoption practices, acting in accordance with Executive Order 7I (13) issued by Governor Lamont on March 21, 2020, the Board of Selectmen authorized the Ashford Board of Finance to adopt a budget and set a mill rate for the July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021, fiscal year without holding votes or conforming with in-person budget adoption requirements.

While we are uncertain about what to expect as far as town and state generated revenues (e.g., tax collection, Education Cost Sharing and Town Aid Road grants) are concerned, both the Ashford School and the Town were asked to adjust their initial budget requests to reflect a 0% increase in spending over the current year. The Board of Finance understood that this would be a very difficult process for both entities to tackle considering increases to union-negotiated wages and health care, the effect of Ashford's share of the already adopted Regional School District #19 budget, and the cancellation of the Ashford Volunteer Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services agreement with the Town of Eastford.

Over a series of virtually presented meetings and hearings, those in attendance, as well as letters received by the Board of Finance, expressed concern regarding the impact that a 0% increase would have on education, public safety, and the operation of the municipal government. The Board of Finance took these concerns into consideration when, on May 6, 2020, they voted to increase the school budget by \$90,000 over the proposed 0%, increase the general government budget by \$30,000 over the proposed 0%, and increase the appropriation to the Ashford Volunteer Fire Department by \$71,536.

On Thursday, May 28, 2020, with a fervent sense of responsibility for public welfare, the six voting members of the Board of Finance complied with the Governor's Executive Orders and voted to adopt the following 2020-2021 budget and mill rate:

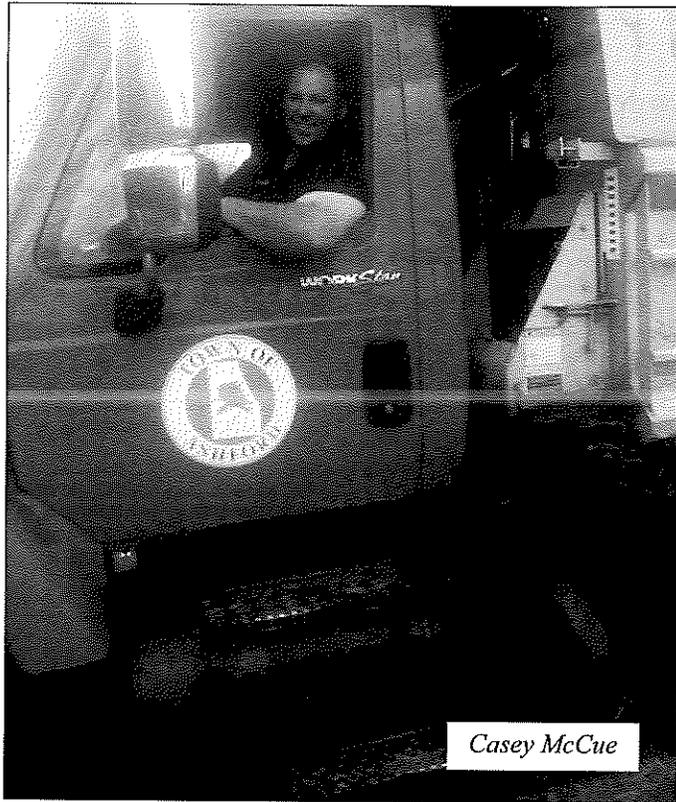
- FY20-21 General Government Budget, \$3,436,582
- FY20-21 Ashford Board of Education Budget, \$7,768,893
- FY20-21 Regional School District #19, \$3,901,532  
(Ashford's share of \$22,003,790 total region budget)
- FY20-21 Capital Improvement Budget, \$514,250
- Mill rate of 36.836, with a mill valued at \$299,482

On behalf of the members of the Ashford Board of Finance, I would like to thank you for your willingness to participate in this year's exceedingly difficult budget process. Please contact me at [bofashford@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:bofashford@ashfordtownhall.org) if you have any questions or comments.

Lastly, to my fellow Board of Finance members, thank you!

Respectfully yours,

Charles E. Funk, IV  
Chairman, Ashford Board of Finance



Casey McCue

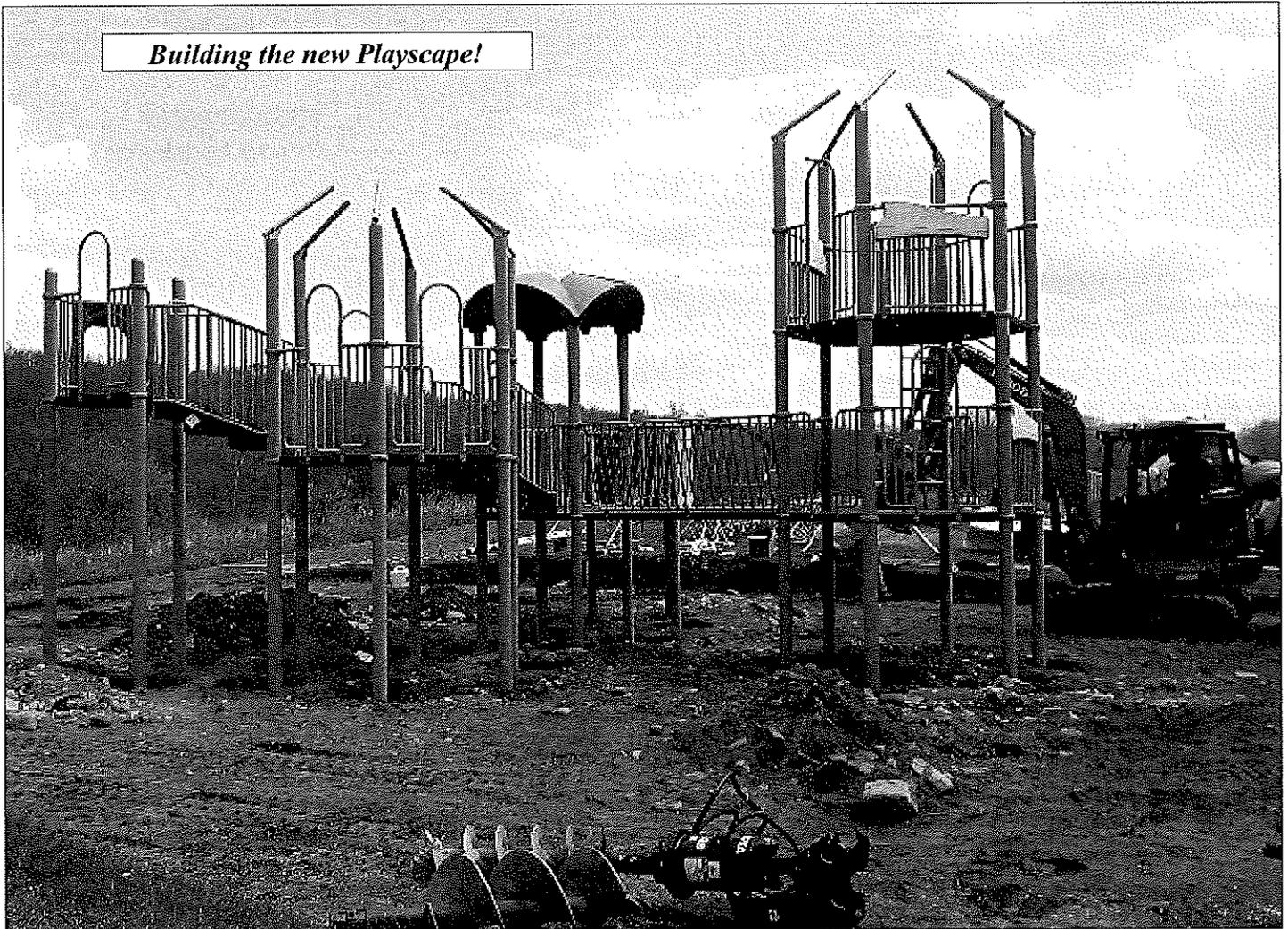


Jordan Lamar





*Building the new Playscape!*



## FROM THE SELECTMAN'S OFFICE

Though we were unable to hold a Memorial Day parade and gather in Pompey Hollow Park for the post-parade ceremony, the ways that we traditionally remember our deceased veterans were performed by the various groups responsible for placing flags at veteran's gravesites in cemeteries located within the Town of Ashford, branch of service flags have been raised at the Ashford Veteran's Memorial and a wreath has been placed at the Memorial on Tremko Lane.

We take this opportunity to acknowledge the passing of the following veterans over the past year:

Andrew Gabriel Horila, United States Army  
Robert E. Tamsin, United States Marine Corps  
Charles E. Burr  
Robert V. Ferguson, United States Army  
Oscar R. Guilbault, United States Air Force  
Appleton A. Barrows, United States Navy  
Mark Lawrence Rivard, United States Marine Corps  
Paul David Dreher, United States Navy  
Thomas H. Wilson, United States Navy  
John Trehey



## TRIVIA Q?

1. What is the largest humanitarian network in the world?
2. What is the longest river in the U.S.?
3. Who led the army that conquered Afghanistan in 330 BC?
4. What eastern island city-state has a name meaning Lion Town?
5. How many non-retractable claws does a bear have on each paw?
6. What very final sounding name is given to a chess game which white must win to take the match but which black only has to draw?
7. How many times is the sumo wrestling woven loincloth, the "mawashi," wound around the waist by male wrestlers?
8. Who is pictured with her eyes wide open on the posters for Kubrick's final movie, *Eyes Wide Shut*?
9. Which is the largest of the Caribbean islands?
10. What is the main export crop of the Canary Islands?



### Assistance to Ashford Veterans

#### **IN-PERSON OFFICE HOURS ARE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED.**

The VA has been responsible for some interesting medical innovations in the past. They currently are testing a treatment for male veterans infected by the covid-19 virus. If you are interested, find the story here <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5452>

The American Legion offers financial assistance to veterans through the Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines Fund (SSMF). Veterans Representative Garry Brown will hold office hours at the Ashford Town Office Building on the first Wednesday of each month from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the upstairs conference room. No appointment is necessary, as walk-ins are welcome, but call 860-928-2309 if you wish to schedule a more convenient time. All information is free and completely confidential. If you have any questions regarding the SSMF, or your veterans benefits or disability, contact Garry at [garry.brown71@aim.com](mailto:garry.brown71@aim.com).

## **COVID-19 Property Tax Relief Program**

On April 1, 2020 Governor Lamont signed Executive Order 7-S, as amended by Executive Order 7-W, which established two programs aimed at providing temporary tax relief to taxpayers. Municipalities are required to adopt a program.

On April 20th, 2020 the Ashford Board of Selectmen unanimously adopted a resolution to offer the Tax Deferment Program to its taxpayers.

### **Tax Deferment Program**

The effect of this program is the equivalent of an extended grace period. The due date of the tax bill is still July 1, 2020. Instead of the last day to pay being August 3, 2020, the last day to pay will be extended to October 1, 2020. **All taxpayers must make payment no later than October 1st, or interest will be charged at the statutory rate of 1.5% per month retroactive to July 1, 2020 (6%), or a minimum of \$2.00, whichever is greater.**

### **Landlord Eligibility Under the Deferment Program:**

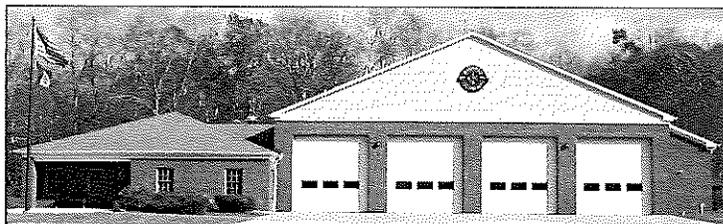
In order for landlords **WHO DO NOT ESCROW THEIR TAXES**, (or any taxpayer that rents or leases property to tenants or lessees) to be eligible for the Deferment Program, they must provide the Tax Collector with documentation that either the parcel has or will suffer significant income decline, or that commensurate forbearance has been offered to their tenants or lessees.

Commensurate forbearance means (1) a deferral of 25% of rent for ninety (90) days after its due date; (2) a deferral of one month's rent to be paid over the ninety (90) day period; or (3) forbearance substantially similar to (1) or (2) as determined by the Tax Collector. The landlord must provide documentation evidencing proof that the tenants or lessees have received forbearance or that the landlord has actively offered forbearance to the tenants or lessees.

### **Escrow Payments**

Escrow agents are still expected to remit tax payments on behalf of their customers according to the regular timetable, that is, by August 3rd.

### **Go to Tax Collector's Page for Deferral Form**



## Ashford Volunteer Fire Department

Due to the unpredictability of the re-opening of the state, it was decided with deep regret at the AVFD May Monthly Meeting to not hold our annual Father's Day Chicken BBQ this year. We see it as just another long standing regional tradition, like the agricultural fairs, that will have to be suspended this year. We always provided a clean and healthy food service environment to cook and serve our chicken dinners, licensed and inspected by the Eastern Highlands Health District. But between the slow reopening of the state, unknown possible new restrictions, the constant sanitizing of every surface touched by anyone, physical distancing, etc. the membership felt it would be next to impossible to hold an event like everyone has come to expect. The hope is by next Father's Day we will be back to normal.

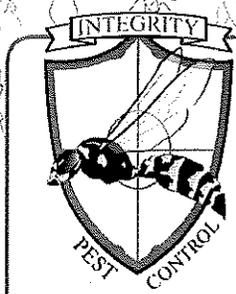
Today is May 20<sup>th</sup>, Phase I of the re-opening of certain designated "non-essential" businesses as well as outdoor seating at restaurants. We encourage residents to continue to follow the guidelines for PPE and physical distancing. Infections remain low here in Ashford, while hospitalization and fatalities remain the lowest in Windham County compared to the other seven counties in CT.

The AVFD is still responding to all emergency calls as normal, and the station is still manned from 06:00 AM to midnight. Our meetings are back to being held in person utilizing physical distancing, however in-house training remains suspended. There is no Memorial Day Parade this year. Hopefully things will be back to normal in time for Fire Prevention in October.

**The call count for April 2020 was 28 Fire/Rescue and 19 EMS. Our fiscal year total is 483.**

If you have any non-emergency questions or concerns, you may contact Station 20 at (860) 429-9862 6 AM to midnight every day, or the Tolland County Fire Mutual Aid Fire Service at (860) 875-2543 24 hours a day, and they will contact an AVFD duty officer for you.

Dave LaPorte  
Captain, AVFD Station 20



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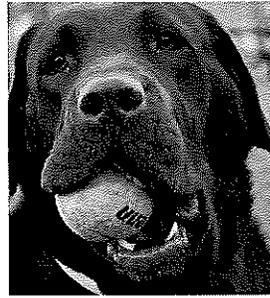
## BLOOD DRIVES 2020

June

1	1:00-6:00	Elk's Club	198 Pleasant St	Willimantic
3	1:30-6:30	Bolton Vol Fire Dept	168 Bolton Center Rd	Bolton
8	8:30-6:00	Ellington Senior Center	40 Maple St	Ellington
9	1:00-6:00	ST PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH 64 POMPEY HOLLOW RD (RT 44) ASHFORD		
10	9:00-6:00	Putnam Elk's Club	64 Edmond St	Putnam
16	11:00-4:00	Eastern Ct State University – Student Union 83 Windham St		Willimantic
22	1:00-6:00	Tolland Congregational Church 45 Tolland Green		Tolland
26	10:00-3:00	Mansfield Community Center 10 South Eagleville Rd		Mansfield
30	1:00-6:00	Bolton High School	72 Brandy St	Bolton

Register on line  
at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)  
Or call 1-800-733-2767

Blood supply is low, please consider a donation today.



## June is Dog Licensing Month!

Due to COVID-19, this year we will be conducting dog licensing strictly by mail. You may mail your materials beginning mid May. We will start depositing checks and mailing tags and licenses on June 1st, in the order materials were received.

Owners of **LICENSED** dogs in Ashford will be sent reminder letters in mid May. Please mail to us:

- **personal check or money order**  
(note dog's name in the memo section)
- **updated rabies certificate if necessary**
- **SASE**

Owners of **UNLICENSED** dogs may go to the Town Clerk's page at [www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org) for an application form. Please mail to us:

- **application**
- **personal check or money order**
- **SASE**
- **copy of rabies certificate**
- **copy of spay/neutering certificate**

### CT Dog Licensing Facts:

- Dog license year runs from July 1st—June 30th.
- **Fee: neutered male/spayed female-\$8.00**  
**male or female - \$19.00**
- All dogs must be vaccinated against Rabies and owners submit a certificate to the Town Clerk when licensing their dog, per CGS Sec. 22-338.
- All dogs 6 months or over must be licensed & wear collar & tag at all times.
- A dog without a tag is presumed to be unlicensed and is not protected by law.
- A tag must not be used on any other dog than the dog described in the license with that number.
- You are liable for damage done by your dog, including damage to shrubs, flowers or trees.
- Owners of roaming dogs are liable to prosecution.
- When a spayed or neutered dog is licensed for the first time, a certificate from a licensed veterinarian must be presented.

**Ashford Town Clerk**  
**5 Town Hall Road**  
**Ashford, CT 06278**



# Stylist Wanted

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*Clients are awaiting your arrival.*

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## How to PAY Your Taxes Online

1. Go to <http://www.ashfordtownhall.org/> and click this button on the right side of the page,



2. In the search bar enter your last name, space, and first initial.

Ex. Name: John Smith

Enter the search criteria below:

Smith J | Search

3. If there is a shopping cart under the pay section then there is an outstanding balance.



Click that button to add as many bills to your cart as you want



4. Find which bill you want to pay

Ex.

2002-01-37	<b>Bill #</b>
■ 2002 is the Grand List	→ 2002-01-0000037
	00004200-LIEN
2002-01-37	(REAL ESTATE)
■ 01 is Real Estate	2003-01-0000038
○ 02 is Personal Property	00004200-LIEN
○ 03 is Motor Vehicle	(REAL ESTATE)
○ 04 is Motor Vehicle Supplement	2004-01-0000040
2002-01-37	00004200-LIEN
■ 37 is the bill number	
■ You MUST pay the OLDEST bills FIRST	
○ Oldest Grand List	

5. When all of the bills are in your shopping cart

Click 0 BILL(S) - \$0.00 and Check Out

6. Read the Terms and Conditions before you press **Pay Now**

- Especially if You Have Past Due Taxes

7. Make sure the next cart is the same as the previous one and choose how you would like to pay. Then press

- Treat All Debit Cards As Credit Cards **Continue to Payment Information**

8. Enter Payment information, Review, and Submit.

- There is a 2.95% fee for Credit and Debit Cards
- There is a \$.95 fee for Checking Account (Reduced from \$1.95)



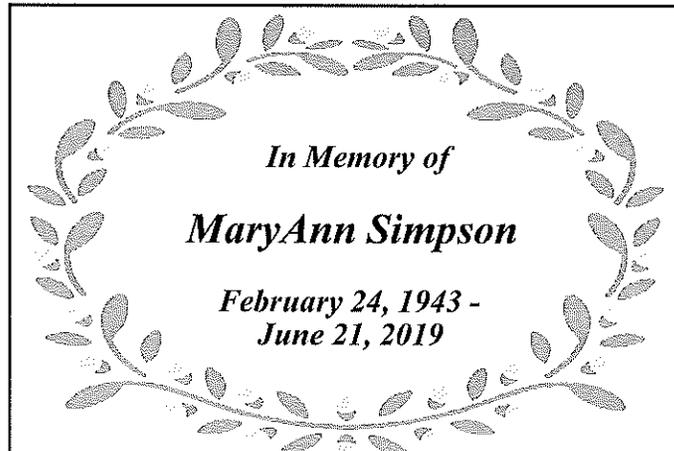
## Go Green: Pay your bills online

2<sup>nd</sup> installments of real estate and personal property tax were due Jan. 1, 2020, as well as Supplemental Motor Vehicle Tax bills for vehicles registered between Oct. 2, 2018 and July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. The Tax Office is closed to the public. Please consider using the online system for payment.

There is a service fee to pay online. An e-check costs \$.95, and the credit card fee is 2.95%. If you use a debit card, you must treat it as a credit card, and the 2.95% fee applies.

You can use the system 24/7. You do not need to register, but you need to give an email address in order to obtain a receipt.

Go to: [www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org) to view and/or pay bills online. The button to enter the portal looks like this:



**Town of Ashford Tax Collector**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

All persons liable to pay taxes in the Town of Ashford are hereby notified that taxes will come due on the Grand List of Oct. 1, 2019 on real estate, personal property, and motor vehicles. The tax will be due and payable on July 1, 2020 and will be payable without interest through Oct. 1, 2020, **unless** your account is escrowed thru the bank, or you are a landlord. Escrowed accounts must be paid by Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Landlord properties must be paid by Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> if the account is escrowed, or unless a deferral is obtained by application by **July 1. Form is available online.** (After Aug. 3, 2020, interest will accrue at 1½% per month from the due date of July 1, or a minimum interest charge of \$2.00. Hence, during August, the interest is calculated at 3%, or the minimum of \$2.00, whichever is greater. For the other accounts, the grace period is deferred thru Oct. 1, 2020. After October 1, 2020 interest will accrue at 1 ½% per month from the due date of July 1, 2020, hence 6% during October, or a minimum of \$2.00, whichever is greater.

**Payment may be postmarked or paid online.**

Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or interest penalty (CGS 12-130).

For the purpose of collecting said tax, I shall be at the Ashford Town Offices as follows:

Mon., Tues., Wed., 8:30 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

**The Office is staffed but closed to the public until further notice.**

**CLOSED EVERY THURSDAY.**

**CLOSED FRIDAYS.**

**PLEASE** have checks made out to the Ashford Tax Collector. Enclose one copy of the bill when paying thru the mail. If a receipt is requested, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with payment..

Payments may be:

**1. Mailed to:**

**Ashford Tax Collector**

**P.O. Box 173**

**Ashford, CT. 06278**

**2. Paid online @[www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org)**

E-check cost is \$.95. Credit cards are 2.95%. Debit cards must be treated as credit cards.

Tax questions: Call 860-487-4411, or email [taxcollector@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:taxcollector@ashfordtownhall.org)

Assessment questions, call 860-487-4403, or email [assessor@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:assessor@ashfordtownhall.org)

View bills online at: [www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org)



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Catherine North, D.V.M.



Ashford  
Energy  
Task Force

June 2020

No price is set on the lavish summer;  
June may be had by the poorest comer.  
-- James Russel Lowell

Covid-19 has moved into sharp relief keeping our surroundings (and ourselves) clean. So, this month, our task is to put some energy into cleaning. And that includes practical means to reduce the risk of contracting and spreading illness. That's important any time, but especially now.

According to the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention), transmission of the virus occurs most frequently among contacts within about 6 feet through droplets. Social distancing (staying 6 ft apart), and face masks are a must in public. At home, cleaning of visibly dirty surfaces followed by disinfection is a best practice for prevention of viral respiratory illnesses. While out, wear a mask, and don't crowd up at the Transfer Station ... or anywhere else.

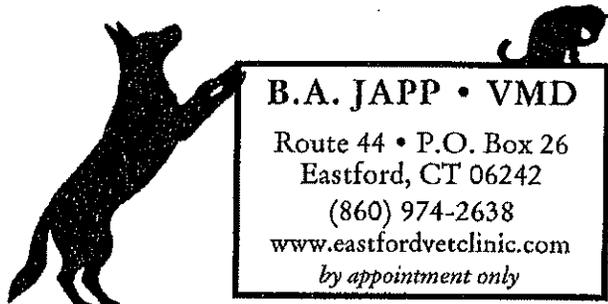
For household use, Consumer Reports notes that just the friction of *scrubbing* with any kind of soap and water can break the protective envelope of the coronavirus. Let the solution sit for at least 10 minutes before wiping it off. The idea is to scrub as if to remove sticky stuff on the surface – so the emphasis is on “scrub.” If using bleach (1/3 cup bleach per one gallon of water, or 4 tsp. bleach per quart of water) be certain to clean with water and detergent, and to dry the surface first. **Also**, avoid getting the corrosive solution on faucets and stainless-steel products. Isopropyl alcohol also works against coronavirus on hard surfaces. Spray undiluted, and let it sit for at least 30 seconds. Note: alcohol can discolor some plastics. Household hydrogen peroxide (3%) undiluted in a spray bottle is effective, if let sit on the surface for at least 1 minute to disinfect. It's OK on metal surfaces, but similar to bleach, it can discolor fabrics.

Some also-rans you may see on the web include vodka, distilled white vinegar, and tea tree oil. If you note that using vinegar on marble counter tops can etch them, this may discourage use. The research is not out on whether tea tree oil is effective on coronaviruses. And the CDC does not cite its use with the virus. Vodka? Per the CDC, hand sanitizer needs to contain at least 60% alcohol.

So, be safe and keep your distance. And wash up often with soap and water.

*The ACETF thanks you for your interest in our work and welcome your input. And we would welcome your participation by joining us as a member. If you have concerns or comments, or to join us, please contact Cindy Moeckel at 860-487-3827 or [clmoeckel@gmail.com](mailto:clmoeckel@gmail.com).*

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Fax: (860) 429-9378

# Renters Rebate



Are you over 65?  
Are you Disabled?  
Are you a Renter?

Did you earn less than \$45,100 if married or \$37,000 if single?

Then you may qualify for a Renters Rebate from OPM.

Ashford Social Services is not making in person appointments at this time.

If you would like to apply please mail copies of your documentation to

5 Town Hall Rd, Ashford, CT 06278

or scan and email to [mmcdonough@ashfordct.org](mailto:mmcdonough@ashfordct.org)

If you have questions please call (860)487-4417.

## **Required Documentation: (all for calendar year 2019):**

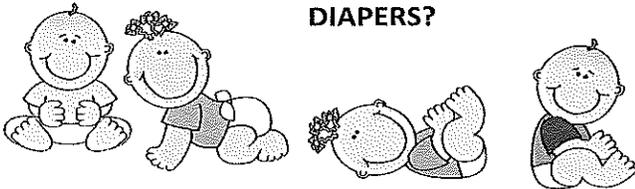
### **Proof of Income Including:**

- Social Security income (form SSA 1099) & SSI if applicable
- Copy of 2019 Federal Income Tax Return, if filed
- 1099 forms for pension, dividends, interest, stocks & bonds, etc.
- W-2's from employment
- Veterans Disability or Railroad Retirement

### **Proof of Expenses Including:**

- Rent receipts for 2019 (all 12 months)
- Utility bills paid in 2019 (heat, gas, electric only)

## **NEED HELP WITH DIAPERS?**



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ONE-PAGE APPLICATION TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY  
ONE PACKAGE OF DIAPERS AND WIPES PER MONTH FOR  
EACH CHILD IN DIAPERS

CONTACT

Melissa McDonough, Director of Social Services,  
Town of Ashford

PHONE: 860-487-4417

Email: [mmcdonough@ashfordct.org](mailto:mmcdonough@ashfordct.org)

Diaper pick up available in Ashford

Anyone receiving WIC, SNAP or Husky qualifies

IHSP-DIAPER BANK OF NECT, 51 GROVE ST., Putnam, CT 06260

MAIN OFFICE: (860)928-0169 FAX: (860)963-7602

EMAIL: [ihsp.diaperbanknect@gmail.com](mailto:ihsp.diaperbanknect@gmail.com)

## **Social Services**



**Do you need help?**

**Are you struggling during  
these difficult times?**

**Reach out to Ashford Social Services  
for assistance!**

**We are closed to the public but can  
still provide many services to you:**

**Food Assistance  
Household cleaning products, soaps  
Heating Assistance  
Renters Rebate  
Diaper Bank**

**Summer Camp scholarships  
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**# (860) 487-4417 or  
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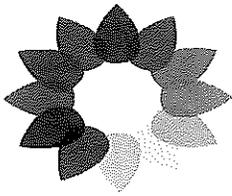
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# Important information from the Ashford Registrars of Voters

Lauren Olson / Democratic

Colleen DePercio / Republican

**The Presidential Preference Primaries have been moved to August 11, 2020 from 6:00am-8:00pm. This is the same date as possible State Primaries.**

**July 21, 2020:** Absentee ballots will be available for the primaries.

**July 28, 2020:** The Registrars of Voters in the Town of Ashford will be holding a registration session from 1PM-3PM for registration or enrollment of electors entitled to vote in the Democratic or Republican Primaries.

**August 6, 2020:** This is the deadline for registering or enrolling for voting in the presidential preference primaries unless you register in person with the Town Clerk (8:30-3:00PM) or with the Registrars of Voters. Any mail-in application of a new voter must be received by this date or a mail-in application must be postmarked by this date and received by August 10, 2020 at 12:00 noon.

**August 10, 2020:** The Registrars of Voters in the Town of Ashford will be holding a limited registration session from 9am-12pm to admit those seeking to vote in the August 11, 2020 Presidential/State Primary, whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence was attained since the August 6, 2020 deadline. **In addition, any unaffiliated voter may file an application for enrollment in a party and vote in that parties primary. The deadline to join a party from unaffiliated is on this date, by 12:00 noon.**

**August 11, 2020:** The polls will be open from 6:00am- 8pm for the Democratic and Republican Presidential Primaries. Any elector in line by 8:00pm will be permitted to vote.

**To check your voter registration, please visit:**

**<https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/lookup.aspx>**

**To register to vote or change your party affiliation, please visit:**

**<https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do>**

## ASHFORD FOOD PROGRAM

The Ashford Food Program provides a nutritional supplement to lower income families within the Town of Ashford. Once a month, boxes of different types of food such as canned meat, canned and dried vegetables, cereal, soups, canned fruits, pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, tuna, jelly, etc., are distributed to residents who have been accepted into the Program. Each order contains enough food items to make ten meals.

In order to be eligible for the Program you must submit a completed application along with applicable income documentation, and your household's gross annual income cannot exceed the following:

<u>Number in Family</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
Household Income	35950	41050	46200	51300	55450	59550	63650

If you would like to request an application or if you have any questions please call 860-456-0782 or email [communityconsulting92@charter.net](mailto:communityconsulting92@charter.net).

## ABSENTEE BALLOT PROCEDURE

### Presidential Preference Primary and State, District & Municipal Primary Tuesday, August 11, 2020

On May 20th, 2020, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont issued Executive Order No. 7QQ for the Protection of Public Health and Safety During COVID-19 Pandemic and Response:

#### SAFE VOTING DURING STATEWIDE PRIMARY

Absentee Voting Eligibility During COVID-19 Pandemic. Section 9-135 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide that, in addition to the enumerated eligibility criteria set forth in subsection (a) of that statute, **an eligible elector may vote by absentee ballot for the August 11, 2020 primary election if he or she is unable to appear at his or her polling place during the hours of voting because of the sickness of COVID-19.** For purposes of this modification, a person shall be permitted to lawfully state he or she is unable to appear at a polling place because of COVID-19 if, at the time he or she applies for or casts an absentee ballot for the August 11, 2020 primary election, there is no federally approved and widely available vaccine for prevention of COVID-19. It shall not constitute a misrepresentation under subsection (b) of Section 9-135 of the General Statutes for any person to communicate the provisions of this modification to any elector or prospective absentee ballot applicant.

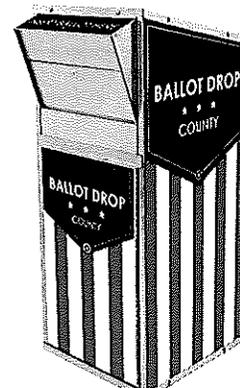
Voters will see the changes in the following ways:

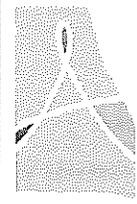
1. Absentee Ballot applications and Absentee Ballot voting sets will be mailed out by a third party mailing vendor that has been approved and selected by Secretary of the State.
2. Voting materials (notices, statements on applications, ballots and envelopes) will be modified in order to provide accurate information to voters regarding absentee voter eligibility and related requirements of this order.
3. Absentee Ballots shall be returned by mail or in person: the term "mailed" shall include the act of depositing an absentee ballot for the August 11, 2020 primary in a secure drop box designated by the town clerk for that purpose.

Applications will shortly be sent out to every eligible voter. If you do not receive one, and you believe that you are registered with either the Democratic or Republican party, you can verify your registration status at the CT Secretary of State's: <https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/lookup.aspx>  
Applications may be mailed back to the Town Clerk's office at any time.

There will be a large metal drop box installed under the portico at the front door of the Town Office Building. You may either mail your Absentee Ballot back to the Town Clerk, deposit it in the drop box, or return it in person. Please do not wait until the last minute, as this year we anticipate a large number of Absentee Ballots and need time to process them.

Please call the Town Clerk's office for more information, (860) 487-4401.





**ASHFORD  
ARTS COUNCIL**

# The AAC Corner

June 2020

## The AAC Votes to Donate Funds Towards Ashford School Arts Enrichment

*Written by Debra Gag*

After a discussion and vote to donate and lend support to the students of Ashford School's arts programming, the AAC reached out to both the K-8 art teacher, Danielle Brodoff, and the PTO Cultural Arts Program representative,Carolynn Trotta, to find out how a donation from us might help during these challenging times of social distancing.

Both were so happy to hear from us and had great ideas on how they would use the funding. Carolyn Trotta, was enthusiastic in her response as the Cultural Arts Program had been discussing how to remotely support the students. A letter was sent out to the Ashford School student body asking if any families needed art supplies. The caring enthusiastic art teacher, Danielle Brodoff, ordered supplied from Amazon and went on a pilgrimage to deliver them all over town (*See pictures below*).

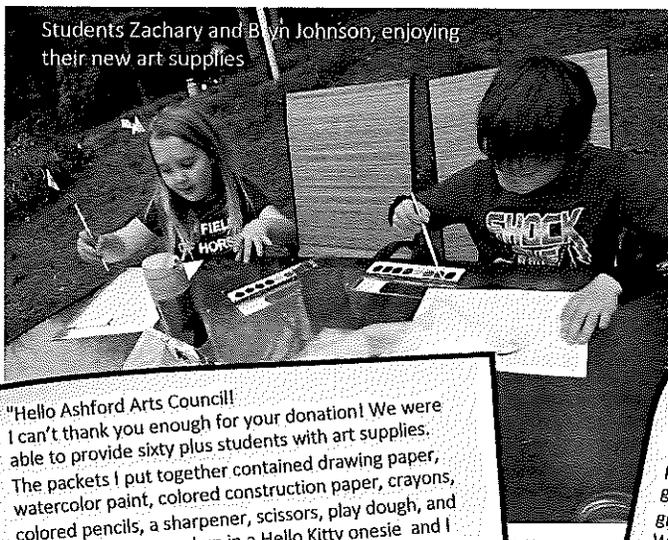
A total of \$550 was sent to support the students of Ashford School in arts programming.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

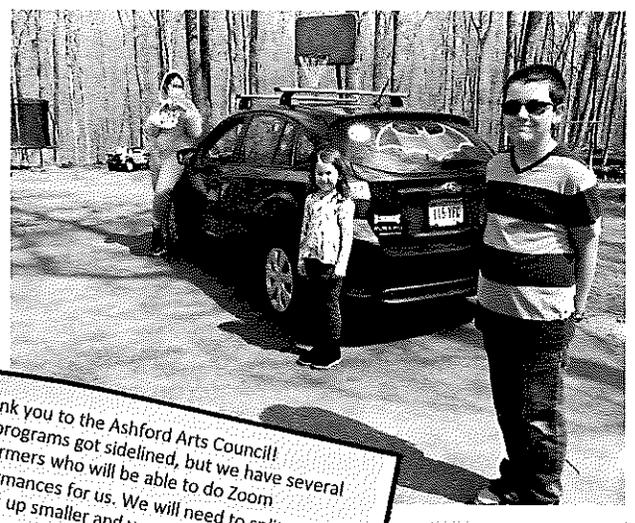
#### Council Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of  
the Month  
*Virtual meetings via  
Zoom until further  
notice*

**All AAC workshops,  
fundraisers, and other  
events are cancelled  
until further notice.**



Students Zachary and Blyn Johnson, enjoying their new art supplies



Students Jack and Samantha Cantrell, receiving art supplies from Art Teacher, Danielle Brodoff

"Hello Ashford Arts Council!  
I can't thank you enough for your donation! We were able to provide sixty plus students with art supplies. The packets I put together contained drawing paper, watercolor paint, colored construction paper, crayons, colored pencils, a sharpener, scissors, play dough, and a glue stick. I dressed up in a Hello Kitty onesie and I decorated my car with paint markers and drove all over Ashford. It's taken me a solid 4 days to reach all the families and a total of about 60 students. The smiles and excitement I saw was worth all the hard work! None of this would have been possible without your donation!

I know that you would agree that it's important for students to have a creative outlet during stressful times. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!  
Sincerely, Danielle Brodoff"

"Thank you to the Ashford Arts Council!  
Our programs got sidelined, but we have several performers who will be able to do Zoom performances for us. We will need to split the groups up smaller and your donation would be greatly appreciated.  
We are having our first virtual Cultural Arts assembly on Thursday April 30th with one of the Science Communications artists Billy B.  
We will continue to reschedule our performances. The in-person performances that were planned in March/April/May have been rescheduled for the Fall. Thank you again for your generous support of the Arts at Ashford School!"

### New Grants Available For Artists!!

Beginning in June, both the Artist Fellowship Program and the Writers Emergency Fund Grants are available. Please check our website for links and more information.

Unemployment is now available to artists and all self-employed people. You must first apply through the CT unemployment using the BLUE button, wait for a rejection letter, then you may apply using the RED PUA button. You need to submit your past four quarters of earnings and your 2019 taxes.

Visit [www.AshfordArts.org](http://www.AshfordArts.org) and see our new tab for Artists. All visual and performing artists are encouraged to submit their info. Each artist is listed on the grand list and is given a page for their bio and contact information.

## LEGAL NOTICE

A certified list of Democratic party-endorsed candidates for the Town of Ashford for election as Registrar of Voters will be on file with the Office of the Secretary of the State, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, and copies thereof will be available for public distribution.

A Primary will be held August 11, 2020 if the required primary petition(s) for opposition candidate(s) is filed, pursuant to Sections 9-382 to 9-450 of the Connecticut General Statutes, not later than 4:00 p.m. on June 11, 2020. Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing of opposing candidacies, including schedules, may be obtained from: Lauren Olson, Democratic Registrar of Voters, 5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, CT, 06278.

Sherri L. Mutch, MCTC, CMC  
Ashford Town Clerk

## LEGAL NOTICE

A certified list of Republican party-endorsed candidates for the Town of Ashford for election as Registrar of Voters will be on file with the Office of the Secretary of the State, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, and copies thereof will be available for public distribution.

A Primary will be held August 11, 2020 if the required primary petition(s) for opposition candidate(s) is filed, pursuant to Sections 9-382 to 9-450 of the Connecticut General Statutes, not later than 4:00 p.m. on June 11, 2020. Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing of opposing candidacies, including schedules, may be obtained from: Colleen Depercio, Republican Registrar of Voters, 5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, CT, 06278.

Sherri L. Mutch, MCTC, CMC  
Ashford Town Clerk

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## TRANSFER REPORT

4-15-2020 – 5-15-2020

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Tracy Sorrentino 394 Turnpike Rd Ashford CT 06278	Tracy Sorrentino & Jason Rosa 394 Turnpike Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$ .00	Turnpike Rd
Secretary of Veterans Affairs 710 Vermont Ave NW Washington DC 20420	Kenneth & Donna Bouchard 17 Hnath Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$ .00	Hnath Rd
Tamar Dor 20950 North East 30 <sup>th</sup> Place Miami FL 33180	Amanda & Matthew Miville 192 Ference Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$255,500.	Ference Rd
Samantha & Seth St Jean 190 Madock Rd Pomfret CT 06259	Kenton Graley & Jennifer Lynne West 31 Sand Hill Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$224,900.	Sand Hill Rd
Theresa & Stephen Ullman 50 Murlyn Rd Hamden CT 06518	Erika Brauch Simmons & Robert J Simmons 222 Wormwood Hill Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$225,000.	Wormwood Hill Rd
NJV LLC 57 Westford Hill Rd Ashford CT 06278	Brian E Specyalski Revocable Trust Agreement 57 Westford Hill Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$ .00	Westford Hill Rd
Cumberland Farms Inc 165 Flanders Rd Westborough MA 01581	CFI Propco 2 LLC 165 Flanders Rd Westborough MA 01581	\$ .00	Pompey Hollow Rd
Samuel & Betty Rozario 203 Blue Ridge Drive Vernon CT 06066	Jay Paul Medeiros 4 Kidder Brook Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$245,000.	Kidder Brook Rd
RCN Ashford LLC 75 Gerber Road East South Windsor CT 06074	Christopher & Brittany Carr 64 Lake Woods Lane Ashford CT 06278	\$315,000.	Lake Woods Lane
Jonathan & Sandra Clark 64 Mansfield Rd Ashford CT 06278	Sandra Clark 64 Mansfield Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$ .00	Mansfield Rd
Daniel Sheridan 64 Thames Height Lane Groton CT 06340	Mitchell Williamson 73 Lake Woods Lane Ashford CT 06278	\$325,000.	Lake Woods Lane
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp 5000 Plano Parkway Carrollton TX 75010	Stephanie West 136 Ference Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$ .00	Ference Rd
Daryl & Elizabeth Vanover 13 Saddlegate Lane Unit 13 Vernon CT 06066	Damon Russell & Nyaunu Stevens 97 Floeting Rd Ashford CT 06278	\$303,500.	Floeting Rd

## TRIVIA ANSWERS **A!**

1. **The International Red Cross (and Red Crescent)** are the largest humanitarian networks in the world.
2. **Missouri River** is the longest river in the US.
3. **Alexander the Great** led the army that conquered Afghanistan in 330BC.
4. **Singapore** is the eastern island city-state which name means Lion Town
5. A bear has **five** non-retractable claws on each paw.
6. **Armageddon** is the very final sounding name given to a chess game which white must win to take the match but which black only has to draw.
7. The sumo wrestling woven loincloth, the "mawashi," is wound around the waist by male wrestlers **five** times.
8. **Nicole Kidman** is pictured with her eyes wide open on the posters for Kubrick's final movie, *Eyes Wide Shut*.
9. **Cuba** is the largest of the Caribbean islands.
10. **Bananas** are the main export crop of the Canary Islands.

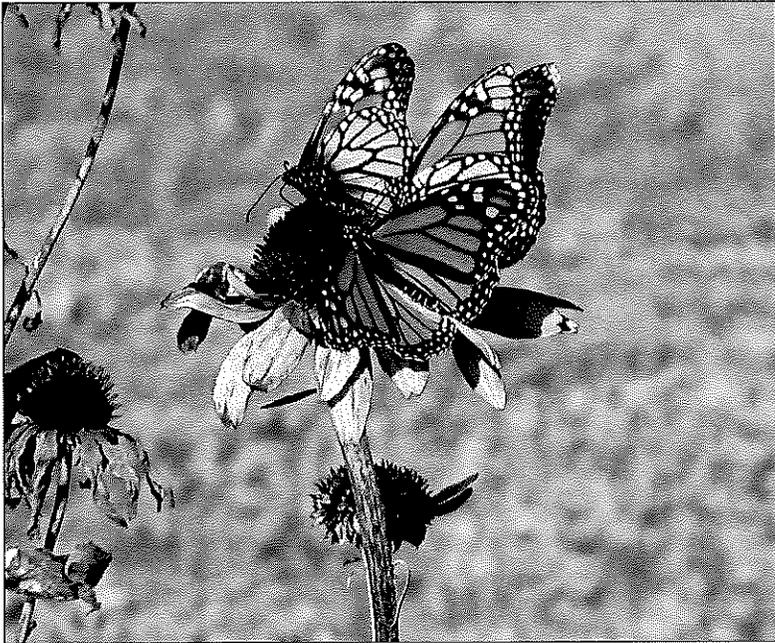
## VITAL STATISTICS



### Deaths:

<i>Brett Gessay</i>	<i>March 28, 2020</i>
<i>Beverly M. Krukoff</i>	<i>April 20, 2020</i>
<i>Edward A. Mathieson</i>	<i>April 22, 2020</i>
<i>Vera I. Shepetunko</i>	<i>April 28, 2020</i>
<i>Evelyn F. Quirk</i>	<i>May 9, 2020</i>
<i>Luverne Wood</i>	<i>May 2, 2020</i>
<i>Dorothy Hamerstrom</i>	<i>May 14, 2020</i>
<i>Henry T. Walker</i>	<i>May 14, 2020</i>

## Josias Byle's Sanctuary in Ashford Meadows Cleared for Wildlife



Meadows are disappearing as a habitat here in Connecticut. Wildlife that depend on meadows are struggling to survive. We have witnessed the disappearance of Ruffed Grouse here in the last 25 years.

At Josias Byle's Sanctuary in Ashford there are two meadows. One meadow is 8-10 acres in size; the other is smaller, 2-3 acres. The meadows are surrounded by a bio diverse climax forest characterized by a tall leaf canopy. As trail stewards, we initiated a program to keep these meadows open. Keeping the meadows open allows suitable habitat for certain wildlife.

The Milkweed that thrives in the meadow is food for Monarch butterflies. The Monarchs know about this location, and feed to fuel up for their fall migration to Mexico. It's hard to believe that these fragile looking creatures can accomplish this. On our fishing trips we see them flying across breezy L.I. Sound heading towards N.Y, N.J and south. The meadows are also suitable for many mammal and avian species that will locate nowhere else. Bird watchers have reported seeing rare Warblers nesting there. The best time to see the Monarchs is probably in July after the Milkweed is up, through September on warm sunny days.

The meadows are scheduled to be cleared by brush hog every two years. This prevents the forest from taking over. On the advice of retired State of Connecticut ecologist Ken Metzler, the earth was also scarified. This "scratching" will give the Milkweed a better chance to take root and hopefully displace the Barberry and Multiflora Rose.

These meadows were cleared in a timely manner in late winter by contractors Don Bunce and Greg Peck. They did a terrific job, and were done before nesting season had started.

Josias Byle's Sanctuary is located in Ashford, across from the North Vet clinic on Rt 44. There are three marked hiking trails as well as the meadows for the public to enjoy.

Nord Yakovleff  
Peggy Rux  
Marian Matthews  
Trail Stewards  
Josias Byle's Sanctuary  
Joshua's Trust



## Looking Up Payments for IRS Reporting Purposes

Go to the Town's Website at:

[www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org)

On the right hand side of the page, go to the purple button View & Pay tax bills & click on the icon.



When the box comes up to search by name,

SEARCH BY  Enter the search criteria below:

Name   Search

See Example  Enter Last Name then space then 1<sup>st</sup> Initial (example SMITH J) or Business Name (No comma, & or -)

All  Due Now  Balance Due  IRS Payment Records for Year 2016

Type in last name, a space, and then the first letter of the first name. Also, check off the bubble that says IRS Payment Records for the year 2019, and hit search. When the page comes up, there will be a box on the right side of the page in the second blue bar that says IRS. Check it, and a View IRS button will appear.

BILL #	NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/VEHICLE	PAID	OUTSTANDING	ACTIONS	PAY IRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--------	--------------	---------------	------	-------------	---------	---

Click on it, *your information should be there.*

*This site is available 24/7.*



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## From Your Municipal Agent , Kit Eves

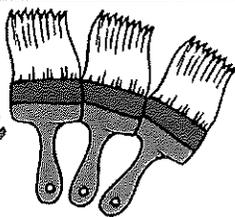
June 18th is an important date in the history of Ashford. It isn't a day that will live in infamy or the day the Berlin Wall came down. It may not be the day the Center reopens but it still is a day of hope. It is the day that the citizens of Ashford heard the cry of the lonely senior citizen. They heard the need for a place to have well balanced and nutritional meals for some of their own. They understood that card games, parties and crafts bring people together. They understood that people need to be able make friends and grow the bonds of existing friendships. The citizens of Ashford dedicated and opened their town's Senior Center on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1994.



This hope that the citizens of Ashford created for their elders endures today. We may not be able to meet right now, but we still have each other. We have the hope and promise that the Center will reopen, and we will be able to interact in person again. It may at a distance, but it will happen. We have that hope in every frozen meal that leaves our Center each Wednesday to feed our senior citizens. We have that hope in the cookies that are made by local citizens to be handed out with the meals for something extra, so the seniors know that others are thinking of them. We have that hope in the cards, letters and pictures that students from ECSU, the Ashford School system, and individual children are making to go with the meal deliveries so that the seniors will know that they are thought about and appreciated. We have that hope in everyone who contributed bias tape, fabric and elastic for the cloth masks we hand out. These are monumental indications of hope, just like on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1994.

We have the hope in ourselves that things will be alright. We thought this because we have seen adversity throughout our lives. Things happen that we have no control over, yet we have survived and grow from our challenges. COVID-19 is just one of many challenges that our generation has faced. We will all get through this together and to that end I have an opportunity for us to help each other. Today, after you read the *Citizen*, I want you to call three friends. Make sure they are all ok. If they need something and you can't help them with it, call me at the Center. I may have the resource to help them. If they are feeling down tell them a joke. Reader's Digest has clean jokes, you can get jokes from the internet. I have joke books at the Center and can give you several over the phone. Then the next day call three different friends. The third day call three more friends, etc. When you have called all your friends near or far, start again. Emails do count toward your contacts, but we all know hearing someone's voice and having a conversation is so much more rewarding. Be there for each other until we can be there for each other in person, albeit socially distancing, again.

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## June 2020 Conservation Commission News

The Ashford Farmers Market opened Mother's Day (May 10) and we want to thank all of our customers for social distancing, wearing masks and observing the new parking restrictions to allow for less congestion. The vendors were all our wearing masks and gloves according to guidelines issued by the Governor's office. The market will run every Sunday from 10AM-1PM. Julie and Todd Barton are back as our competent market masters and we have begun our 14<sup>th</sup> year! Thank you for continuing to support our local market.

We are coordinating with Joshua's Trust to develop a regional pollinator pathway. Marian Matthews has worked on a small pollinators garden at Knowlton Hall. We are investigating other venues for pollinator gardens. If you are interested in helping with this project or want to create a pollinator garden of your own, you can contact Marian ([matthewsmariank@gmail.com](mailto:matthewsmariank@gmail.com)) 860-420-8544 or Loretta ([birdeye123@charter.net](mailto:birdeye123@charter.net)) 860-429-2629.

The Willington Conservation Commission worked on a farm and garden resources list for the area, so I have included that info sheet with this article (see following page). Please share with others.

In our area we have plenty of trails so I urge you to get out in the spring weather and enjoy the natural world. We are extremely fortunate to have several options available to us in this time of limited social interaction. Stay healthy, wear a mask when you are unable to practice social distancing. Thank you.

Loretta Wrobel, chair

## Assessment News

### To receive a July 2020 pro-rated tax bill for a Motor Vehicle:

If you have disposed of a vehicle since 10/1/2019 and want your July 2020 tax bill to reflect a credit, you must provide proof of disposal to the Assessor no later than June 15, 2020. Since the Town Hall is staffed but closed to the public, the best way to provide the proof is by:

- **Email:** [assessor@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:assessor@ashfordtownhall.org)
- **Fax:** 860-487-4432
- **Mail:** Assessor, Town Hall, 5 Town Hall Rd., Ashford, CT 06278.

To receive a credit, you must provide 1) proof of what happened to the vehicle and 2) a returned plate receipt from the CT DMV. A PLATE RECEIPT ALONE IS INSUFFICIENT. Plates can be cancelled using the DMV Online Services at <https://portal.ct.gov/DMV/Online-Services/Online-Services>.

Proof of disposal depends on what happened to the vehicle. All documents should include the vehicle's VIN & a date.

- i. Registered in another state: proof is a copy of the registration in that state showing the initial date of registration.
- ii. Sold: proof is a bill of sale
- iii. Total loss: proof includes a letter from the insurance company indicating the date of loss or a receipt from person hauling the vehicle away for the insurance company.
- iv. Repossession: proof is a letter attesting to that fact from the repossessioning company.
- v. Junked: proof is a receipt from the hauler or junk yard.
- vi. Traded-in: proof is the bill of sale or invoice for the new vehicle showing the car being valued in trade.
- vii. Stolen: proof is a copy of the police report.

**THE DEADLINE TO RECEIVE A CREDIT FOR A VEHICLE ON THE 2018 GRAND LIST IS 12/31/2020.**

**THE DEADLINE TO RECEIVE A CREDIT FOR A VEHICLE ON THE 2019 GRAND LIST IS 12/31/2021.**

**Any questions? Call 860-487-4403.**

## Supporting Local Agriculture and Growing Food Locally is in Everyone's Interest

The Willington Conservation Commission encourages residents to support local farms and also consider growing some of your own food this year to increase food security and conserve environmental resources. There are also local volunteer opportunities to grow food to share with others.

Here is some information and website links that may be helpful:

### Local Farmers Markets:

1. **Ashford Farmers Market** Opens on Mother's Day, May 10<sup>th</sup>, with some social distancing procedures in place. Will run through October every Sunday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. It has 10 full time vendors and a large variety of guest vendors each week. Contact information for some local farms is also available on this site and these farms may have produce available for purchase outside market times.  
For more info see their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ashfordfarmersmarketct/>
2. **Storrs Farmer Market** is held every Saturday on the front lawn of the Mansfield Town Hall. May hours are 3 - 5 pm, then from June - October hours are 3 - 6 pm. Social distancing protocols are currently in effect. For more info see <https://www.storrsfarmersmarket.org/>

**Community Garden Space:** if you don't have a yard or room for your own garden or containers.

1. **Mansfield Community Garden** 1546 Storrs Road, Storrs, CT. Contact Mansfield Park and Recreation Dept for more information: [ParksRec@mansfieldct.org](mailto:ParksRec@mansfieldct.org) or call their office at: 860-429-3015
2. **Windham Area Interfaith Ministry (WAIM) Community Garden Plot at Lauter Park off Rte. 195 in Willimantic.** Contact Neenah at WAIM to reserve a garden plot at Lauter Park: (860) 456-7270.  
For more info: <http://www.growwindham.org/waim-community-garden/>

### Gardening Resources:

1. Free seeds, seedlings and compost from The Windham Community Food Network: <http://www.windhamfood.org/gardening/> . For more info contact: Sydney Clements: [sydneygrowwindham@gmail.com](mailto:sydneygrowwindham@gmail.com)
2. Learn more about growing your own garden with links available on this site: [Gardening Resources - Windham Community Food Network](#)
3. UConn Home and Garden Education Center has gardening info and resources <http://www.ladybug.uconn.edu/index.php>

**Opportunities to Grow Food or Flowers for Others:** (Food is shared with local food banks)

1. "Adopt-A-Bed" at WAIM Community Garden Plot at Lauter Park in Willimantic. Volunteers are needed to weed, put down black plastic and help raise vegetables.  
<http://www.windhamfood.org/gardening/> or contact Coordinator Jessica Duers: [duersjessica@gmail.com](mailto:duersjessica@gmail.com)
2. "Plant an Extra Row" in your own garden and share food with friends, neighbors and local food banks.
3. The Willington Garden Club maintains several public flower gardens in Willington and is always looking to welcome new members. <http://willingtongardenclub.org/> or Jen Kruger [jenny-aaron@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jenny-aaron@sbcglobal.net)

# Babcock News

**Babcock Library**  
25 Pompey Hollow Road  
Ashford, CT 06278  
*Your Center for Life-Long Learning*



June 2020

www.babcocklibrary.org  
t. 860.487.4420  
f. 860.487.4438

**Hours:**  
Closed until further  
notice, Normal  
hours are below

Monday - 10-6  
Tuesday - 10-6  
Wednesday - 10-8  
Thursday - Closed  
Friday - 10-6  
Saturday - 9-2  
Sunday - Closed

**Carolann Mac Master,  
MLIS**

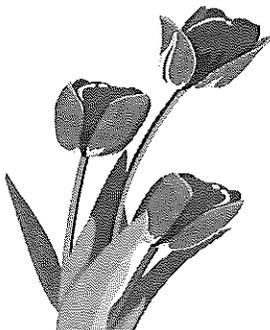
Library Director  
cmmacmaster@babcocklibrary.org

## **Staff**

Susan Chris  
Jessica Stacey  
Terese Sara  
Diane Zoe

## **We have a notary here!!**

If you need something  
Notarized please contact  
the library and we will  
schedule a time for you to  
meet with our Notary.  
A \$5.00 donation to the  
library is requested.



## **From the Director's Desk**

It is now May 11<sup>th</sup> as I write to you. The library is quiet, too quiet for even a library. We are uncertain when we will begin to open the library. At this point in time we are working to install safety measures inside the library.

At this point in time I will be in the library on Tuesdays from 10AM to 2PM to renew library cards and create library cards for New users. Please call the library at (860) 487-4420. These cards will be valid during the pandemic only; once the pandemic is over and the library resumes business you must come into the library with proper identification and pick up the actual card. We will not fill holds or requests at this time.

I am fully aware that the Overdrive system has long waiting lists for the materials you wish to read or listen to. Please take advantage of the offer from the New York Public Library and from the Boston Public Library.

For those of you who have a Babcock Library card you may access e-books and audio books through our website. On the main page under catalog, click on Overdrive, and follow the directions on that page. If your card is more than 6 months old, your username is your library card number (no spaces) and the password is the last 4 numbers of the phone number you gave to us when you registered for your card. If your card is less than 6 months old, your username is still the library card number, however the password is what was set-up at the library. If you have a library card from another town, please go to their website for directions to access their online resources. The New York Public Library will allow anyone in the United States with a valid library card to use their online collection. Boston Public Library has also opened their online collection to the general public; please go to their websites and follow directions on there. (We thank both library systems for their generosity)

At this time, we are once again asking all of our patrons to keep their library materials that they have out, no fines will occur. Also, please understand that Holds are not possible during this crisis. Library materials will be due back to the library one week after we open back up.

Until we see you again, please follow the guidelines set forth by our health and public officials. If we all do our part, we will be able to reopen soon and welcome you back to the Babcock Library.

Respectfully,  
Carolann Mac Master, MLIS  
Library Director

**Overdrive Training**

The Library now has a subscription to Overdrive for Babcock Library card holders! Overdrive offers e-books and audiobooks that you can access on your mobile devices. Bring your phone, iPad, tablet, Kindle, or NOOK to the library and we will teach you how to get started.

**Help Us. For Free.**

At no cost to you, shopping at Amazon.com can help our library. We receive back a percentage of your purchase price whenever you begin your Amazon shopping at: [wowbrary.org/babcock](http://wowbrary.org/babcock)

We benefit from Amazon not only when you buy books, but also movies, CDs, electronics, appliances, printer supplies, gifts, and more. Thank you.

**Museum Passes**

- State Parks and Museums*-Sponsored by Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protections No Child Left Inside initiative
- Florence Griswold Museum*-Sponsored by the Friends of Babcock Library
- New Britain Museum of American Art*-Sponsored by the Friends of Babcock Library
- Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art*-Sponsored by the Wadsworth Atheneum
- Mystic Aquarium*-Sponsored by the Mystic Aquarium
- The Bushnell Park Carousel & Museum*-Sponsored by the Friends of Babcock Library
- Connecticut Science Center* Discount coupons

"In times of stress, the best thing we can do for each other is to listen with our ears and our hearts and to be assured that our questions are just as important as our answers."

~~~~~Fred Rogers

If you are in the area, peek at the library's beautiful flower gardens coming to life. Thank you to the Ashford Garden Club for maintaining the gardens so well. Along the wrought iron fence you will find our spring bulbs that were planted in the fall. Soon our sunflower garden will be in. Happy Gardening!

From the Babcock Library Friend's President

I hope that all of you are doing well, as we begin to adjust to new uncertain times. It is with a heavy heart that I announce the cancelation of our annual Wine Tasting Day. A great deal of planning goes into this event and not knowing what tomorrow will hold we are canceling the event.

At this point in time, we have not made a decision on the Book Sale, however we will keep you informed as we move closer to that date.

Respectfully,  
Elaine Wilmes-Pandolfo

**COVID-19 Resources**

If you are looking for accurate, reliable information about the novel coronavirus, visit:

- <https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus>
- Connecticut Department of Public Health: <https://portal.ct.gov/dph>
- Connecticut's Official State Website: <https://portal.ct.gov/>
- Center of Disease Control & Prevention page specifically focused on Covid-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> for how to protect yourself; a self-checker; what to do if you are sick; and much more.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Library Card Renewals and New Cards**

Tuesdays, from 10AM to 2PM, call the library at (860) 487-4420, to renew your library card or obtain a new library card.

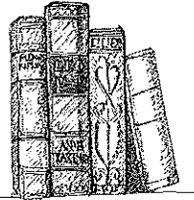
\*\*\*\*\*SAVE THE DATE!!\*\*\*\*\*

We are on the Connecticut Library Author Trail!  
Wednesday, July 22nd at 6:30PM

"Galaxy of Sea Stars" Book Signing. Refreshments will be served, 12 years and up, by Ashford's own Jeanne Zulick Ferruolo

\*\*\*\*\*

Washington Post ~Fred Rogers: "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping. To this day, especially in times of 'disaster,' I remember my mother's words, and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers -- so many caring people in this world."



**Become a Friend of the Library**  
Our Friends group is always looking for new members willing to assist the library with activities. Book Sale, Wine Tasting and other fun activities await you.

Book donations are always welcome in the bins downstairs from the library.

**The Ashford Citizen**  
**5 Town Hall Road**  
**Ashford, CT 06278**

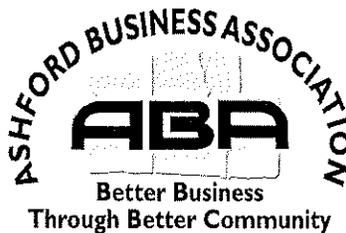
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Cool-Grind Technologies, LLC  
Count it All Joy Studio  
County Line Septic  
Eastford Building Supply  
Franc Motors Inc.  
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Gary Stevens Remax Destination  
GM Thompson & Sons Inc.  
Green Valley Tees  
Greg Peck Landscaping  
Hall Davis Marketing Strategies  
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Rivers Edge Sugar House  
Rogerson Masonry Inc.  
Sean Patrick Plants LLC  
Shooters Services  
State Farm Anthony Raggi  
Stoney Maple Carpentry  
Terry's Transmissions  
The Last Green Valley  
The Mobile Animal Clinic  
Tolland County Foundation Restoration  
Veterans Base Camp  
Westford Hill Distillers  
Willington Pizza  
Willow Valley Farm



[www.ashfordbusiness.org](http://www.ashfordbusiness.org)

### **Our Mission**

- To promote and provide support to all businesses within the Towns of Ashford, Willington, and Eastford**
- To act as a collective resource of business information and education**
- To create awareness of Ashford, Willington, and Eastford business within the community**
- To address common business issues within Town governments**

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