

Volume 52

Issue 2

February 1, 2021

"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

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ASHFORD
Special Municipal Election**

The legal electors of the Town of Ashford, State of Connecticut, are hereby warned and notified to meet at Knowlton Memorial Hall, 25 Pompey Hollow Road, (Route 44), in said Town of Ashford on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. to cast their votes in said town to elect the following officers:

First Selectman (Vote for One)

The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Electronic voting machines will be used for the special municipal election.

The Town Office Building continues to remain closed to the public. *Applications* for absentee ballots may be downloaded from the Town Clerk's page at www.ashfordtownhall.org. Absentee ballots will be mailed to the applicant following receipt of the application by the Town Clerk. Applications and absentee ballots may be either mailed to the Town Clerk's Office at: Ashford Town Clerk, 5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, CT 06278, or put in the new Town Offices Drop Box located at the front door of the Town Office Building.

Dated at Ashford, Connecticut this 10th day of February, 2021.

Attest,
Sherri L. Mutch, MCTC, CMC

State of Connecticut
Official Ballot

Ashford, Connecticut

Special Municipal
Election

February 23, 2021

Voting District 1

Be sure to read the instructions on the reverse side of this ballot, it will help you in voting.

OFFICE	1
First Selectman Vote for One	
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	<input type="radio"/> 1A Cathryn E. Silver-Smith
REPUBLICAN PARTY	<input type="radio"/> 1B William A. Falletti
WRITE-IN VOTES	<input type="radio"/> 1C

SAMPLE BALLOT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Offices are staffed Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri.
8:30am—3:00pm.

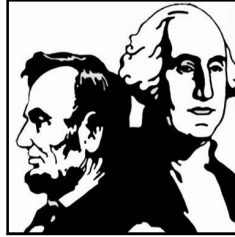
You may reach us by: telephone



email
mail
fax



HOLIDAY HOURS



**Ashford Town Offices
will be closed on
Monday, February 15th
for Presidents' Day.**

Friends of Babcock Library News

Happy New Year to all of you!

Thanks for all the wonderful book donations over the years. As colder weather has arrived, perhaps some of you have been busy sorting through your books. If so, you may contact me at: babcockfriendspresident@gmail.com

We can arrange a date/time for you to deliver your book donations directly into our shed. It is on the side of Knowlton Memorial Hall facing the Town Office Building.

Friendly Reminder: We do not accept textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines or VCR tapes.

Elaine Wilmes-Pandolfo, FOBL President



Town Offices Directory

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

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

Karen Zulick, Ads/Subscriptions # 860-487-4401

kzulick@ashfordtownhall.org

FROM THE ASHFORD TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

1. Clarification as to use of "Non-COVID Excuse" Absentee Ballot Application Form

2. Clarification as to Voter Qualifications for use of Absentee Ballot

A Memorandum of Opinion, dated January 11, 2021, from the Secretary of the State's Office to CT Town Clerks and Registrars of Voters was received by this office. The introductory email stated:

Attached please find our opinion regarding the use of Absentee Ballots for any upcoming election or primary held before June 20, 2021. Please note that this opinion does NOT allow for COVID as an excuse for the use of Absentee Ballots. Rather it defines, consistent with the CDC, what underlying illnesses could make a person more at risk for serious health issues should such person contract COVID. Because this opinion does not use COVID as an excuse, you should use your old supplies for Absentee Balloting and should NOT use the supplies with COVID as a reason (the 2020 supplies).

Therefore, Ashford voters should be using the "Non-COVID Excuse" Absentee Ballot Application Form. (We **will** accept the COVID form, however, as the Office of the Secretary of the State has not removed it from their website as of January 24th, 2021.)

The opinion is too long to include in its entirety, but the relevant passages are quoted below:

We are writing this opinion to ensure that voters are able to participate in any special election, general election or primary as of the date of this opinion until June 30, 2021 in the safest manner possible. More specifically, we are clarifying the definition of "Illness" for Absentee Balloting at a time when the State of Connecticut continues to face the COVID-19 pandemic.

The opinion continues with the reasons stated in the CT General Statutes that a voter may receive an absentee ballot:

(1) His or her active service with the armed forces of the United States; (2) his or her absence from the town of his or her voting residence during all of the hours of voting; **(3) his or her illness**; (4) his or her physical disability; (5) the tenets of his or her religion forbid secular activity on the day of the primary, election or referendum; or (6) the required performance of his or her duties as a primary, election or referendum official, including as a town clerk or registrar of voters or as staff of the clerk or registrar, at a polling place other than his or her own during all of the hours of voting at such primary, election or referendum.

This opinion then focuses on the definition and scope of the term "illness."

Webster's dictionary defines "illness" as "an unhealthy condition of body or mind or sickness." It is clear that this definition.....does not limit the term illness to an individual who has limited mobile function or is hospitalized or confined to a bed.

In fact, the Centers for Disease Control have identified numerous **underlying medical conditions** that put certain individuals at increased risk when exposed to the COVID-19 virus. These include, but are not limited to: (1) People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including: People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, People who have serious heart conditions, People who are immunocompromised (Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids or other immune weakening medications); People with diabetes; (4) People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; and (5) People with liver disease.

Given the reasoning set forth above and the guidance provided by the Centers of Disease Control, the Office of the Secretary of the State has determined that any registered voter who has an **underlying medical condition** may vote by absentee ballot if they believe that their illness would prevent them from appearing at their designed polling place safely because of the COVID 19 virus.

The Town Clerk's Office shares this information so that voters may understand and interpret the intentions and words of the CT Secretary of the State's Office for themselves. We will issue absentee ballots in response to applications completed and delivered before February 23, 2021.

Sherri L. Mutch, MCTC, CMC
Ashford Town Clerk



From the Municipal Agent for the Elderly

This is what I have learned about vaccine distribution. Please note that this information dates to January 22nd. That is the day I had to turn in my article for publication. Things may have changed. You can always call me for updates.

Those of you who are 75 and older can make appointments for your shots **now** as the Phase 1B shots become available. The Vaccine Appointment Assist line is at 1-877-918-2224, M-F 8-4:30. This option is for those who have an email address. Spouses must have their own email account.

You can also access appointments thru Hartford HealthCare. Their dedicated line for vaccine appointments is 1-855-442-4373. This number is for those who have a MYCHARTPLUS account and have email. Appointments are being scheduled in our area at the Brooklyn Senior Center, Windham Hospital and the Mansfield Community Center. This number is available for those who do not have email 1-833-943-5721. This is a toll-free number. There is a high volume of callers for each of these numbers. Please be patient and keep trying.

The rollout for 1B should begin in February. **Who is eligible:** The criteria are sequential. For instance, you can make appointments for 75 and older now but cannot make appointments until the state notifies us for ages 65 to 74 etc.

Right Now: Individuals 75 years of age and older.

Next: Individuals between the ages of 65 and 74

Next: Individuals between the ages of 16 and 64 with comorbidities

Next: Individuals and staff in congregate settings

Next: Front line essential workers:

- Healthcare personnel not included in Phase 1A
- First responders
- Agricultural workers, including farmworkers
- Food service and restaurants
- U.S. Postal Service workers
- Manufacturing workers
- Grocery store & pharmacy workers
- Food banks and meal delivery services for the elderly
- Education and child-care workers
- Solid waste and wastewater workers
- Inspectors working on site in the above locations
- Frontline public and social services

Additional information will be posted on the town's web site as it becomes available.

The state says updated information about Phase 1C will be coming soon. According to state officials, the vaccine is not expected to be widely available to the general public until late summer or the fall of 2021.

Please note that if you need a ride to an appointment, I usually can find someone to drive you. Call me as soon as you have that appointment scheduled. This will give me time to organize your ride. 860-487-5122 M-F 9-3 or seniorcenter@ashfordtownhall.org

Kit Eves



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 54 Middle Turnpike
 Mansfield Depot, CT 06251

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*Full line of pet and farm supplies
 for all your animal needs.*

www.gmthompson.net

Phone: (860) 429-9377
 Fax: (860) 429-9378

The CDC continues to recommend:

***Wear a Mask!
 Social Distancing!
 Wash your Hands!***



COVID-19

Active Duty Military Vehicle Tax Exemption




If you are a Connecticut resident that is a member of the armed forces of the United States, and own or lease a registered motor vehicle in the state, you or your spouse may be eligible for an exemption from motor vehicle tax under CT General Statute Sec. 12-81(53).

For this exemption, reserve components of the military (Army, Naval, Marine Corp, Air Force and Coast Guard) and the CT National Guard (Army and Air) are considered to be members of the US armed forces.

The application is available under the Documents – Assessors tab of the town’s website. Active duty status is confirmed by showing the Assessor the veteran’s military ID, a Leave Earnings Statement (LES), or the signature of a commanding officer on the application. If the veteran is unable to appear in person due to on-going service, he or she may file a Still in Service affidavit. Contact the Assessor for more information at assessor@ashfordtownhall.org or 860-487-4403.

OPEN HOUSE @ Lunging Tiger

February 15th, 2021

February 15th is our next open house class for enrollment: If you are interested up must sign- up before 2/15/2021..... Open house class  Tiny Tiger 3 yrs. old - 8 yrs. old: 3:30pm  Saber 9 yrs. old - 13 yrs. old: 4pm  Teen/Adult 14 yrs. old - Adult 4:45pm To sign-up Email: ltkoffice@lungingtigerkarate.com Before class:

- ✓ Fill our guest form & email back to office
- ✓ Take temperature
- ✓ Come five minutes before class time to wash hands. Class:
- ✓ Wear workout clothes
- ✓ Bring water bottle
- ✓ Wear a mask
- ✓ Wear wrestling shoes or be barefoot in class. (No outside sneakers are to be worn on dojo floor)
- ✓ fever and sickness free

Lungingtigerkarate.com

Each child that signs up on 2/15/2021 will get a gift from Sensei.

***Drouin's
 Multi Brush***

(860) 429-8546



- Airless Spraying
 - Painting
 - Power Washing
 - Textured Ceilings
- Victor R. Drouin**
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 Ashford, CT 06278
 License #575037 and Insured



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 ISO:9000

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LYNNE C. ALLEVO
 Office Manager
 (860) 429-8268

P.O. Box 64
 Ashford, CT 06278
 Fax: (860) 429-2187

Email: businessoffice@americanscaleco.net

Looking Up Payments for IRS Reporting Purposes

Go to the Town's Website at: 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
Name
[See Example](#)

Enter the search criteria below:
 ?

Enter Last Name then space then 1st 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 2020, 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	PROPERTY/VEHICLE	PAID	OUTSTANDING	OPTIONS	PAY IRS
						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

This site is available 24/7.

COLUMBIA

SEALCOAT CO.

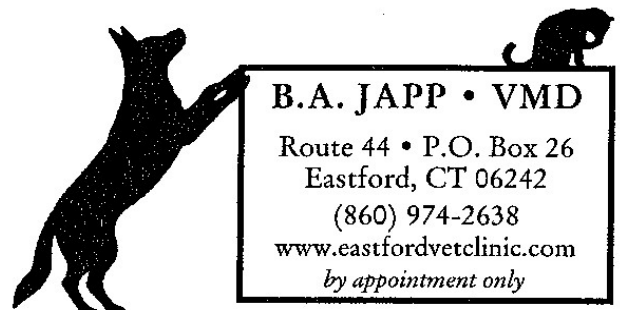
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Tom Grano
Columbia, CT

EASTFORD VETERINARY CLINIC



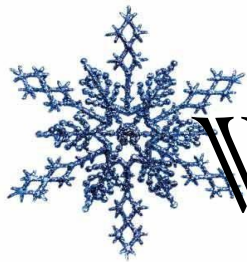
B.A. JAPP • VMD

Route 44 • P.O. Box 26
Eastford, CT 06242

(860) 974-2638

www.eastfordvetclinic.com

by appointment only



The 1st Annual

Winterfest 2021



February 6, 2021

28 Happy Hill Lane, Ashford, Ct.



9:00am – 6:00pm

Tickets: \$15 pp \$9 per child 5u FREE

Lodge:

9am-11am: All you can eat Pancake Breakfast (Reserve seating or to-go box)

9am-12pm: Lodge Tours (pre-registration; please reserve)

12pm-3pm: Fairyhouse workshop, materials provided (pre-register; 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 15 spots)

Stark Pavilion: Indoor & outdoor

10am: Magic Show for kid 10-14 (pre-registration)

11:15am: Mentalist Show for Adults (pre-registration)

3pm: Local favorite Bruce Johns

4:15pm: Ashford local guitarist Desiree' Bassett

5pm: Scamps Comedy Show (Clean, adult show)



Outdoors:

Campfires burning all day; marshmallows provided

11-3pm Snowman contest outdoor materials provided

1pm-4pm: Family Challenge Game

Feel good Music playing all day

All Day: Skating (BYO skates)

All day: Sledding behind the lodge (BYO sled or we have supply cardboard)

11am-4pm: Hayrides throughout Connri Trail (trailer w/glass divider)

3pm-6pm Large Bonfire

All day: Painting the snow! All Ages!!!

Outdoor photo booths



Snack Shack: Good eats!! \$\$ By Happy Acres Pond

12pm-5pm: Ashford Recreation Commission Burgers & dogs, cold drinks

12pm-5pm: Connri Lodge Pizza, hot chocolate hot, coffee & tea

Contact Diane at Diane.Wheeler@use.salvationarmy.org for tickets.

Please, don't forget to **WEAR YOUR MASKS!!!** If you or a loved one are feeling ill, please stay home. Your temperature will be taken at the gate upon arrival. Remember ~ 6' social-distancing.

A HUGE THANKS to the WF2021 Sponsors for helping lift the community's spirits!
AVALANCHE \$1000+ FR ARCHITECT
ABDOMINIBLE SNOWMAN \$299+ EMI INDUSTRIES ~ MATTERN CONSTRUCTION
SNOWMAN \$199+ MANSFIELD BUILDING SUPPLY ~ MIDWAY RESTAURANT ~
SIGNAL REAL ESTATE~ RUSTIC SHEATHES HOME DÉCOR DESIGNS



More Leadership Lessons Learned

By Dr. James P. Longo

Last month I began a series of articles to discuss some of the leadership lessons that twelve years of work in Ashford taught me. These are important behaviors every leader should seek to master. I understand that there are hundreds of other skills one should strive to achieve to become an exemplary leader, but these are some of the ones that I found to be most helpful and am still striving to master. I am highlighting them as a service to those who are considering ways to improve their ability to lead or succeed in their chosen field. I am certainly not claiming that I have mastered them, but that I have recognized how important striving to master them can be for anyone. I learned a long time ago that excellence is a lifelong pursuit, and none of us can claim to have reached it much sooner. I started my discussion by asking you to think about listening, teamwork, caring, empathy, and change. This month I will discuss another list of what I believe to be important aspects of leadership; creativity, joy, teambuilding, mission, vision and goals. I write about this because I truly believe that these lessons can be valuable to everyone, and that sharing them might be useful to the reader.

I started my career in education as an art teacher. In that capacity I spent years trying to create a classroom environment that freed the creative spirit, imagination, and joy of those in the class. A leader needs to do the same. That is, a successful leader is one who creates an environment that frees the creative spirit and stimulates the joy in learning and doing. After all, no matter what path a person chooses, success is more likely if it is pursued creatively and joyously.

One might ask, how do you do that? It begins with the learning environment. If the environment is bright, clean and open, it is more likely to foster creativity and joy. I always believed that when a student enters a school, that they should be entering a special place. A place that is clearly valued and safe. A place where important things happen. That is why I devoted so much energy towards making our school a brighter more welcoming environment. I think that it worked. Ashford School undoubtedly has a positive climate and a culture that is safe and welcoming. It is a place designed for students to thrive.

Once the climate is focused on the joy of learning, the next aspect of the leadership that is important is the clarity of the mission, and the goals that must be pursued and accomplished to achieve it. I have always believed that a successful education is one that develops the talents of the individual and the strength of the group or community. That is another aspect of the artistic nature of an education. One that encourages the learner to seek to discover their individual talents, desires, and sources of joy, and seeks a career, or better yet, a life, that fosters those characteristics. After all, isn't the pursuit of happiness an integral component of the American dream.

I have learned that the most successful team is one that integrated the arts, sciences and humanities. One made up of an artist who values creativity, imagination, and the joy of learning, a scientist who values discovery and the benefits of its applications, and a humanist who values the individual, and his or her inherent value. I put that very team together in Ashford, and the results were the emergence of the capacity for dynamic action, and a school built for the success of our students. One of the most important leadership lessons that I learned was that there are many teams in any organization. The leadership team must be comprised of individuals who complement each other rather than think the same way about identifying problems and finding solutions. This ideally formed school leadership team would work together to define the school's goals, and how they could be best achieved. The best leader is one who encourages dissent and discussion of options. An effective team is not designed to affix credit to any member, but to share the pride and credit with teammates and the community at large.

So, over the past two articles I focused upon the value of listening, teamwork, caring, empathy, change, creativity, joy, mission, vision and goals. A lot to squeeze into two pages. I hope that this dialogue is causing you to think about the value of leadership in your life, and how you can integrate these leadership qualities into it. I plan to continue this series next month with another set of qualities for you to consider.

Ashford School News and Happenings

From snowflakes to snowmen, we are really enjoying winter here at Ashford School!



Up-Coming School Events

Date	Event	Time
Wednesday, Feb. 3 rd	Lifetouch Picture Retake Day	TBD
Friday, Feb. 12 th	Professional Development Day – No School for Students	
Monday, Feb. 15 th – Tuesday, Feb. 16 th	Mid-Winter Recess – No School	



Assistance to Ashford Veterans

IN-PERSON OFFICE HOURS ARE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED.

Although office visits are currently restricted at the town hall, I encourage you to contact me about any veteran issues and questions you may have.

Although it is not ideal, we are able to accomplish a lot by phone and even email. Please do not hesitate if you need help with your veteran issues: garry.brown71@aim.com and 860-928-2309.

Always no cost ever for veterans and always confidential.

Veteran Notes:

The Congress has directed the VA to add 3 more items to the Agent Orange presumptive disease list. If you served in Vietnam and have a diagnosis of bladder cancer, Parkinson-like symptoms, or hypothyroidism, you may be eligible for VA health and disability benefits. Call me for more info on what to do: 860-928-2309.

Do you have questions about solar?

Please join our monthly zoom Q & A community conversation with:

Zen Solar

2/09/21 at 7:00 pm

Ready to make a change in 2021?

More than 300 of our area neighbors have already gone solar.

Fun Fact: Solar costs less than the utility.

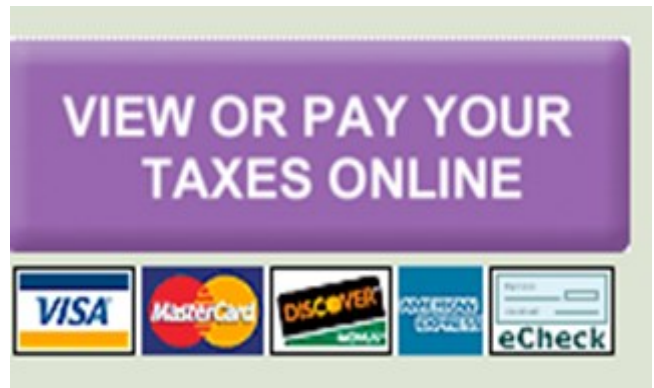
For zoom link access, please email, text or call.

John Boiano 860-798-5692
john@zensolar.net www.zensolar.net



Go Green: Pay your bills online

Jan. 2021 tax bills on 2nd installment of real estate and personal property bills, and supplemental motor vehicle bills for vehicles registered between Oct. 2nd, 2019 and July 31st, 2020 are due Jan 1, 2021. TOWN OFFICES CONTINUE TO BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. All bills are listed on the website and are available for payment if there is a shopping cart next to it. The supplemental file was uploaded in the middle of December. There is a service fee to pay online. An e-check costs \$.95, 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. To enter, the portal looks like this:



**For the most accurate information
on the Town of Ashford,
please visit the official town website
www.ashfordtownhall.org
and read the *Ashford Citizen*.**

♥ *Happy Valentines Day* ♥

Because You Came to Me

*Because you came to me with sweet compassion
and kissed my furrowed brow and smoothed my hair,
I do not love you after any fashion,
but wildly, in despair.*

*Because you came to me in my black torment
and kissed me fiercely, blazing like the sun
upon parched desert dunes, till in dawn's foment
they melt, I am undone.*

*Because I am undone, you have remade me
as suns bring life, as brilliant rains endow
the earth below with leaves, where you now shade me
and bower me, somehow.*

by Michael R. Burch



Westford Congregational Church

368 Westford Hill Road, Ashford CT
Rev. Steve Anderson, Pastor
860-428-4080

www.WestfordCongregationalChurch.org
and on Facebook

Sunday service 10:30 a.m.

**Beginning December 6, 2020 and until
further notice, Sunday services will be
live streamed on our Facebook page,
Westford Congregational Church.
Please join us.**

**Galatians 6:2
"Bear one another's burdens,
and so fulfil the law of Christ."**

**Conservative Congregational
Christian Conference**

\$20

off

If sign -up by

2/28/2021

Karate Camp

June 21st -25th

9am – 11:30am

Age: 5 yrs. old – 17 yrs. old

Location:

Lunging Tiger Karate

211 Nott Hwy Ashford, CT

Cost: \$125

Contact:

ltkoffice@lungingtigerkarate.com

Monday:

Yoga, karate,
games

Tuesday:

Yoga, karate,
games

Wednesday:
yoga, water
karate, fastest
ninja

Thursday:

yoga, karate,
games

Friday: Kid fun
day with
bounce
house, games
and more.

**We are looking for local residents and
small businesses who need snow
removal and lawn maintenance
in the areas of Ashford, Eastford,
Willington and Mansfield.**

**We are a fully insured business with new
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Call for a free quote.

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Lawn care, Snow Removal, Clean outs, Dump runs. Spring
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maintenance as needed

John Henderson, Proprietor

87 Floeting Road
Ashford, CT 06278

hhhpropmntllc@gmail.com
860-487-1054
860-918-0890

Legal Notice

Ashford Tax Collector's Office
taxcollector@ashfordtownhall.org
860-487-4411

Notice is given to Ashford taxpayers that the second installment of Real Estate & Personal Property taxes, and the Motor Vehicle Supplemental taxes on the Grand List of Oct. 1, 2019 becomes due and payable on January 1, 2021 and is payable without interest penalty through April 1, 2021 **unless** your account is **escrowed thru the bank**, or you are a landlord. Escrowed accounts & landlord accounts without application (form is available online) are due by Feb. 1, 2021.

After Feb. 1, 2021, interest will accrue at 1 ½% per month from the due date of Jan. 1, or a minimum interest charge of \$2.00. Hence, during Feb., 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 April 1, 2021**. After April 1, 2021 interest will accrue at 1 ½% per month from the due date of Jan. 1, 2021, **hence 6%** during April, or a minimum of \$2.00, whichever is greater. Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or interest penalty (CGS 12-130).

Payments may be:

Mailed to:

Ashford Tax Collector
P.O. Box 173
Ashford, CT 06278

If a receipt is required, a self-addressed, stamped envelope must accompany your payment. Only Copy B is suggested to accompany payment.

Checks should be made out to **Ashford Tax Collector**.

Payments that are postmarked by the appropriate date are considered on time.

Paid online: www.ashfordtownhall.org

E-check cost is \$.95. Credit cards are 2.95%. Debit cards must be treated as credit cards. Instructions on how to pay are published in the *Citizen* and online on the Tax Collector Page on the website.

Staffed Office Hours are as follows:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., 8:30 A.M. to 3 P.M.
Closed for Legal Holiday: Monday, Feb. 15th, 2021 for Presidents' Day.

Linda G. Gagne CCMC
Ashford Tax Collector

3rd Notice, dated January 15, 2021 for February *Citizen*

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:

Search input field containing "Smith J" and a "Search" button.

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

- 2002 is the **Grand List**

2002-01-37

- 01 is Real Estate
 - 02 Is Personal Property
 - 03 is Motor Vehicle
 - 04 is Motor Vehicle Supplement

2002-01-37

- 37 is the bill number

- You **MUST** pay the **OLDEST** bills **FIRST**
 - Oldest **Grand List**

BILL #
2002-01-0000037 00004200-LIEN (REAL ESTATE)
2003-01-0000038 00004200-LIEN (REAL ESTATE)
2004-01-0000040 00004200-LIEN

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**)



**ASHFORD
ARTS COUNCIL**

The AAC Corner

February 2021

**The AAC is alive and well and as an agent for the arts,
we are making plans for the community!**

Art & Music Scholarships

Ashford Poet Laureate award

Holiday Artist Market

Theater Outreach

Promoting local Artists of the
month

Call to new membership and
participation

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of
the Month
*Virtual meetings via
Zoom until further
notice*

Ashford Art Nights

February 16, 2021
7:00-7:30pm
ZOOM

Holiday Artist Market

November 19-20, 2021
Knowlton Memorial Hall

Ashford Art Nights

If you paint or make crafts and you're tired of feeling alone while you work, come and join us for a night of fun and conversation! We will meet on Zoom and chat while we work. This is NOT a group project, just work on whatever you have going on at the moment – you can share it with others or just be there to socialize. First Meeting will be February 16th 7-7:30pm.

Contact Anna at
c.anna1@yahoo.com
for the Zoom link.

Prometheus Theatre of the Air announces its tenth production: a live streaming audio adaption of Henrik Ibsen's classic drama, "A Doll's House"!

The play will stream live over ShowTix4U.com as a fundraiser for The Windham Theatre Guild. Streaming in two parts:
January 30th and February 6th, 2021 at 7:00pm both dates.
Part One: <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/44672>
Part Two: <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/44686>
Or find us on Facebook at **Prometheus Theatre of the Air**

The AAC HOLIDAY ARTIST MARKET returns this fall for a TWO-DAY SHOPPING EVENT

If you are a serious artist, Contact Debra Gag to participate:
debragag@hotmail.com

FREE to the public
Knowlton Memorial Hall
November 19-20, 2021

Live Music
Variety of local artisans
Gifts at all price ranges
Credit Card, Cash or Check Accepted
Sanitizer Stations
Social distancing set-up
AAC Ambassador greeters

*Holiday
Artist Market*



Artist of the Month – Kathy Lepak

AAC Member Kathy Lepak has been creating beautiful artwork that combines her iconic art illustrations with her mastery of Calligraphy for many years. We are proud that she participates in our Holiday Artists Markets because she sells her beautiful notecards, and her illustrated books. She is also an accomplished writer and you can see her delightful and heartfelt stories in several issues of Neighbors from 2020. These can be seen online on the Neighbors website. For over 40 years, her work has included logo design and corporate identity programs, book illustration, calligraphic commissions, wedding calligraphy, graphic design and illustrated, inspirational verses. Kathy also creates personalized accordion books and handcrafted greeting cards for clients. She has volunteered her design and calligraphy services to The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford for over 30 years.

Look for her artwork on the AAC Facebook Page and her website:

www.kathleenlepak.com

VISIT US ONLINE & ON FACEBOOK

WWW.ASHFORDARTS.ORG

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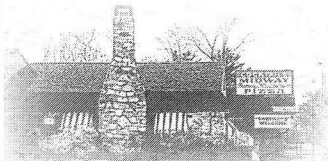
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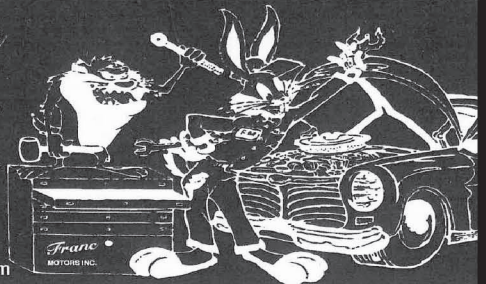
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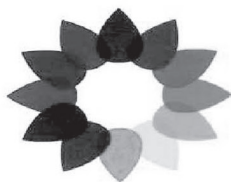
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Babcock News

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February 2021

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Or 959-210-8556
f. 860.540.1742

Hours:

Monday - 9:30-4
Tuesday - 9:30-4
Wednesday- 9:30-7
Thursday - Closed
Friday - 9:30-3
Saturday - 10-2
Sunday - Closed
Closed Feb 15

**Carolann Mac Master,
MLIS**

Library Director
cmacmaster@babcocklibrary.org

Staff

Susan Chris
Jessica Terese Sara

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

In February the library will remain closed to the public with the exception of book drop pick-up and computer appointments. We will be adding more hours for these services. We are hopeful to reopen to the public during the month.

The copier and fax machine are available by appointment only. At this time there are no in-person programs. During this time, some of our collection may not be available for circulation.

If you have an appointment in the library, the following rules must be followed:

Proper face covering is required to enter the building; there will be no exceptions to this rule.

- ◆ All library material **MUST** be returned to the outside book drop.
- ◆ Restrooms are not available at this time.
- ◆ Seating isn't available at this time, except when using the computer that you have reserved.
- ◆ No food or drinks are allowed in the library.
- ◆ We have the right to restrict the number of patrons in the building at any given time.
- ◆ Please follow the directions given to you when you enter the library, both verbal and directional instructions.
- ◆ The children's computers will remain unavailable at this time.
- ◆ Most important: if you are sick, or believe you may have been exposed to Covid-19, please stay home.
- ◆ Please remember not to approach library staff outside the building without a mask on.

Until we see you again, please follow the guidelines set forth by our health and public officials.

Respectfully,
Carolann Mac Master, MLIS
Library Director

CALENDAR

Have a favorite Author?
No waiting on the hold list, be the first to read it!
Sponsor the Author
~~~~~

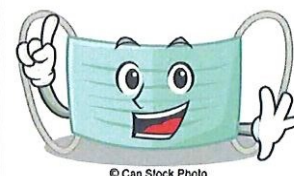
*Our new Storywalk is currently under-construction*  
~~~~~

Please check out our non-fiction collection for your child's educational needs.
~~~~~

**FRIENDS OF  
BABCOCK  
LIBRARY**  
Check website  
~~~~~

**BOARD OF
TRUSTEES**
Check website
~~~~~

***Please contact the library starting February 16 for more information on our seed distribution program sponsored by the University of Rhode Island Extension Service***



© Can Stock Photo



### 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.

### **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**

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

Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*

You are welcome to call the library and request these passes if they are open!

**The following Museum Passes are available, and as of this printing, the museums are open to the public. However they may have limited hours, please contact them.**

*Florence Griswold Museum-Sponsored by the Friends of Babcock Library*

*The Bushnell Park Carousel & Museum-Sponsored by the Friends of Babcock Library*



### **Storytime Take Home Kits**

Please call the library to reserve your Storytime Take Home Kit, each kit comes with books, poems and / or finger plays, and an art project based on that weeks theme.

### **Take Home Craft Projects**

Please call the library to reserve your kit. After the kit is completed, please take a picture of your project and send it to the library through our email [babcocklib@gmail.com](mailto:babcocklib@gmail.com), and we will post it on our website and Facebook!

Reserve your child's kit by calling the library on Mondays in February. Your child's kit will be ready for pick up on Wednesday. Kits are limited and must be reserved, and are age appropriate for 5 and up.

### **Recovering from COVID-19 or ending home isolation**

It can be stressful to be separated from others if you have or were exposed to COVID-19. Each person ending a period of home isolation may feel differently about it.

Emotional reactions may include:

- ◆ Mixed emotions, including relief.
- ◆ Fear and worry about your own health and the health of your loved ones.
- ◆ Stress from the experience of having COVID-19 and monitoring yourself, or being monitored by others.
- ◆ Sadness, anger, or frustration because friends or loved ones have fears of getting the disease from you, even though you are cleared to be around others.
- ◆ Guilt about not being able to perform normal work or parenting duties while you had COVID-19.
- ◆ Worry about getting re-infected or sick again even though you've already had COVID-19.

Other emotional or mental health changes. Children may also have strong emotions if they, or someone they know, has COVID-19, even if they are now better and able to be around others again.

Disaster Distress 1-800-985-5990  
National Suicide Prevention 1-800-273-8255  
National Domestic Violence 1-800-799-7233  
National Child Abuse 1-800-4AChild  
National Sexual Assault : 1-800-656-4673  
The Eldercare 1-800-677-1116  
Veteran's Crisis 1-800-273-8255



**If you have books to donate to the Friends of the Babcock Library, please let us know ahead of time so we can contact our FOBL President, Elaine Wilmes-Pandolfo.**


## DROUGHT NO LONGER PRESENT IN CONNECTICUT

After months in moderate drought conditions, the state is now out of the drought altogether, according to the Connecticut Interagency Drought Workgroup, which voted last week to eliminate the remaining drought designations for all counties. At the peak of the drought in early fall, four counties had reached Stage 3 of the Connecticut Drought Preparedness and Response Plan, a level not seen since 2016. With the arrival of heavy rains and snow in the later months of autumn, the drought quickly subsided, and as of December only New London county remained at Stage 2, while the rest of the state improved to Stage 1. "The wetter than normal December eliminated our remaining concerns about ground water and reservoir levels heading into winter," said Interagency Drought Workgroup Chair Martin Heft. "Although we are fortunate to once again have an abundant supply of water, it should never be wasted and businesses and residents are encouraged to continue following best practices for water conservation and wise water use."




A big thank-you to everyone who provided up-to-date information about their dug wells. In general, Ashford is fairly resilient to drought conditions. Our fire department keeps reserves of water in tankers in order to be fully response-prepared. Connecticut Water, who is responsible for supplying two large areas in town, is on top of all drought-related issues.

Cheryl Chase, Volunteer Municipal Water Coordinator




Since 1979, Camp Connri (CT. & RI.) has been hosting private groups for a variety of retreats, meetings, seasoned adult camps, family reunions, social events, school & corporate team building & conferences. Camp Connri's 8 camp cabins alone can sleep up to 24!

We offer kayaking, fishing, volleyball, whiffle ball & more!!

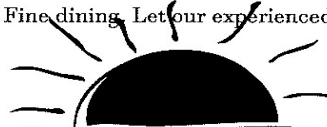


Relax in an Adirondack chair sitting next to a warm crackling fire while watching the most incredible sunsets here at Camp Connri...





**The Lodge:** Has 30 private guest rooms, floor to ceiling fireplace, 34' X 34', a Post & beam ceiling dining room & solarium. All with scenic views of Happy Acres Pond. Meeting rooms are available & outdoor seating.

**The Food:** We offer *affordable* Family style, Casual & Fine dining. Let our experienced staff take care of your dining needs.



~Call Diane Wheeler to set up a meeting to see what Camp Connri has to offer ~

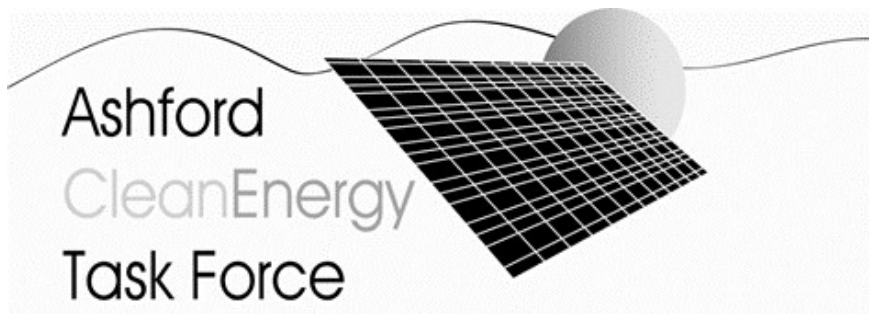
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To see an aerial view of Camp Connri, check us out on  We're also on  under connrilodge

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February 2021

Do you need help with your energy bills? Check out some of these local programs.

**Infoline** - Infoline maintains information on energy and conservation assistance, and programs and protections for utility customers on their website. To find resources that may help your family and information on how to apply for assistance, call Infoline at 2-1-1.

**Connecticut Energy Assistance Plan Programs** - Help paying a primary heat bill may be available during the heating season for low income households. Help may also be available if heat is included in the rent payment. Information about who is eligible, benefits available, and where to apply can be obtained from the Department of Social Services (DSS), or call 2-1-1 or the DSS Office of Community Services at 1-800-842-1132.

**Fuel Banks** - Connecticut has a network of fuel banks that may be able to help with utility and energy bills for low income households. Each fuel bank has its own eligibility and benefits rules. Operation Fuel raises funds and designs programs for local fuel banks. To find information on available assistance go to Infoline's website. Call 2-1-1 for information on where to apply for assistance.

**Utility Matching Payment Programs** - Eversource, YG, UI, SCG, and CNG have special payment programs for their heat customers who receive assistance from Connecticut Energy Assistance Plan Programs (above). The utility matches customer payments and energy assistance based on a year-round customer payment plan. Making all required payments in the payment plan protects the household from utility shut-offs, in addition to getting the utility's payment match. Sign up begins November 1 each year. Eversource and UI also have programs for their non-heat customers.

**Citizen's Energy** - During the heating season, free fuel deliveries may be available to needy households. For more information go to Citizens Oil Corporation or call 1-877-JOE-4-OIL.

**Soldiers', Sailors' and Marines' Fund** - Honorably discharged veterans who served during specified periods, and their families, may be eligible for emergency assistance that may include utility or energy bills. For more information go to Soldiers', Sailors', and Marines' Fund or call 844-454-8900.

Source: <https://www.energizect.com/events-resources/energy-basics/energy-assistance>

*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).*



## Assessment News

**BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS** – Property owners and lessees have the right under Connecticut General Statutes §12-111 and 12-504d to appeal the assessment of motor vehicles, personal property and real estate. CGS Section §12-112 requires written appeals to be received by the Board of Assessment Appeals no later than 3:00 p.m., Friday, February 19, 2021. The statutory deadline is February 20, 2021, but the Ashford Town Offices are closed on 2/20/2021, so the deadline is February 19, 2021. Appellants will be notified of the date, time and place in March 2021 when the BAA will hear their appeal. The appellant or its agent must appear personally, or, due to Covid-19 restrictions, virtually, in order for the BAA to hear their appeal.

The appeal form must contain all of the following information:

- the property owner's name,
- name and position of the signer,
- description of the property which is the subject of the appeal,
- name and mailing address of the party to be sent all correspondence by the BAA,
- reason for the appeal,
- appellant's estimate of value and
- dated signature of the property owner or duly authorized agent of the property owner.

If any of these items are not provided, the Board can decide not to hear an appeal.

Appeal forms are available on the Board of Assessment Appeals page of the Town of Ashford's website, <https://ashfordtownhall.org/document-category/board-of-assessment-appeals/>. They can be mailed, scanned in and emailed to [assessor@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:assessor@ashfordtownhall.org) or placed in the drop box on the front porch of the Town Office Building.

**ELDERLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED TAX RELIEF PROGRAM** - The following information applies to applications being *filed* for the 2020 Grand List. Connecticut law provides for tax relief for certain homeowners. Credits (reductions in taxes) are determined as a percentage of taxes and range from \$150 - \$1,250. The affected payments are the real estate taxes payable in July 2021 and January 2022. To be eligible for the abatement on the 2020 Grand List:

- 1) You, or your spouse, must have been at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2020; or you must be permanently and totally disabled (per Social Security or VA).
- 2) You must reside as the owner, or have life use, of the property as of October 1, 2020, and you must have lived in Connecticut for at least one year.
- 3) Your 2020 income cannot exceed \$45,800 if you are married or \$37,6000 if you are unmarried. Qualifying income is defined as taxable income for IRS purposes AND non-taxable income, with limited exemptions. The economic stimulus payments made due to Covid-19 are **not** included in taxable income.
- 4) You must file an application between February 1 and May 15 at least biennially and provide the assessor with a copy of your Federal Income Tax Return, if you file one, or *Proof of all 2020 income*.

(Continued on next page.)



(Continued from previous page.)

Applications are filed with the Assessor February 1st - May 15th. Persons already enrolled in the program who need to refile will receive an application package in the mail the first week of February. New and existing applicants can download an application from the Assessor's page of the town's website at <https://ashfordtownhall.org/document-category/assessors-office/> after February 1, 2021. You can also request an application package by leaving a message with the Assessor at 860-487-4403 or emailing her at [assessor@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:assessor@ashfordtownhall.org).

**REMINDER - TO RECEIVE A CREDIT ON A MOTOR VEHICLE TAX BILL** - You must provide the assessor with two documents:

- 1) Proof of Disposal, e.g., if sold, the bill of sale; if totaled, a letter from the insurance company; if repossessed, a letter stating such; if junked, a receipt from the junk yard; if traded in, the bill of sale for the new car showing the car being valued in trade.
- 2) Returned Plate Receipt from the CT DMV. **REGARDLESS OF WHAT ANYONE TELLS YOU, A RETURNED PLATE RECEIPT IS NOT SUFFICIENT PROOF OF DISPOSAL.** You must provide Proof of Disposal.

The documents can be mailed, scanned in and emailed to [assessor@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:assessor@ashfordtownhall.org) or placed in the drop box on the front porch of the Town Office Building.

Only vehicles on the 2019 and 2020 Grand Lists are eligible for credit. If you provide the documents by Monday, June 1, 2021, the credit will be reflected on the tax bill mailed to you for July 2021 payment.

## Introducing the NEW Ashford Town Office Building Drop Box!



Located to the left of the doors on the front porch.

### Drop Box Policies

- Do not deposit cash in drop box.
- Do not deposit any pistol permit materials.
- Access is strictly limited to Town Clerk's Office staff. Contents will be delivered to other offices promptly.
- The drop box is for ANY town business. It will be checked at 12:00 pm every day that offices are open. During town elections and referenda, it will be checked 3 times a day that offices are open (8:30 am, 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm).
- **Taxes:** The last day to pay January installment for *escrow payments and landlord accounts* is February 1<sup>st</sup>. The drop box will be emptied on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> at 3 pm. Any payments received from that point forward will have accrued interest. Visit the Tax Collector's page on the Town website or call the office for updated interest.



## Scout Troop 92 February Newsletter

**Ongoing activities:** The Troop enjoyed a 4 hour hike around Mansfield Hollow Dam reservoir. They were joined with Pomfret's Scout Troop 26.

As Pomfret Troop 26 disbands, we welcome their scouts and leaders in joining Ashford's Troop 92 on a permanent basis. We now have 15 Scouts in Troop 92.

January meetings were in David Gratton's workshop in Pomfret. The Scouts inventoried, organized and combined the two troops' equipment. This merger is an exciting turn of events for us. In the past, we have had many combined activities with Troop 26.

**In February:** Troop 92 plans to hold a Court of Honor to recognize achievement and award promotions to the Scouts that earned it.

Scout meetings are twice a month on weekends. All future meetings will be outdoors until further notice. Meeting topics will be scoutcraft, advancement, and hikes. Social distancing and masks are used to protect from COVID-19 threats. Visitors and new members are welcome. Please wear a mask.

February: Groundhog Day and Valentine's Day. Don't forget. Think Spring!

Nord Yakovleff, Assistant Scout Master  
Cory Blanchette, Scout Master  
Chris Murphy, Assistant Scout Master  
Troop 92 BSA  
Ashford/Eastford/ Pomfret

### VITAL STATISTICS

#### Marriages:

Daniel James Wilday                      December 7, 2020  
Hailey Kristine Bibbo

Timothy Richard Yousaf                  December 16, 2020  
Liana Datlof Paris



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## Men's Big Book Meeting

J.N. Webster  
Ranger  
Station

Sunday  
mornings  
at 9 a.m.



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## Ashford Volunteer Fire Department

Thanks to a generous grant from The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, the AVFD was able to replace our tired 30 year old rescue boat. The old boat was not holding air very well any more, and was deemed unrepairable at a marine service facility. The new boat is a military grade inflatable built for a long life of heavy service. The sides are reinforced on the top to allow divers to roll in and out without wearing out the side chambers. The floor is aluminum panels and able to handle heavy loads. With two lake communities, three camps containing lakes, and participation in The Tolland County Dive Team, having a rescue boat is an essential tool to have. Only the boat was replaced, since the 20 HP motor only requires a tune-up and fluid change. The existing trailer was reconfigured slightly to accommodate the new boat hull and motor location. It made its shake-down cruise on Lake Mashapaug in Bigelow Hollow State Park in Union on Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup>. The boat was purchased and set up by Dinghy-Pro out of Essex, CT and specified/ordered by Dive Team Commander Rob Chernuk to duplicate what we had (plus modern improvements) as closely as possible.



The AVFD's brand new INMAR 12'6" 380-SR



FF Sam Mercier and Asst. Chief Sweetland

Over the years, The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp has been very generous to the AVFD. They actually provided the funding for the original boat, for training and operations, as well as equipment like the large diameter hose manifolds and replacement AEDs (automatic external defibrillators). It has been a two-way street of support, as the AVFD has assisted with large events at the camp like their fundraiser bicycle rides, fun run through the camp, Heroes Journey (EMS/Rescue training exercise), and finally the end of season fireworks in August.

**The call count for December 2020 was 20 Fire/Rescue and 18 EMS. Our fiscal year total is 260.**

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



## A Message from the Selectman's Office

Fellow Ashford Citizens,

This is a particularly difficult time for many in our community. The following information is being provided by **Ashford Social Services**, the **Ashford Senior Center**, **Ashford Senior Housing**, **Ashford's Veterans' Affairs Advocate** and the **Veterans Base Camp in Chaplin** in the hope that these programs/services may help ease some of the strain on you and your family.

### Ashford Youth and Social Services

Contact: Melissa McDonough, 860.487.4417, [mmcdonough@ashfordct.org](mailto:mmcdonough@ashfordct.org)

Website: <https://ashfordtownhall.org/directory/youth-and-social-services/>

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, 9:00-3:00 pm or by appointment

| Program                                                | Eligibility Requirements                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| State Fuel Assistance                                  | Annual Income:<br>Family of 1: \$37,645<br>Family of 2: \$48,228<br>Family of 3: \$60,811<br>Family of 4: \$72,394<br>Family of 5: \$83,977 |
| Eversource Winter Protection Plan and Matching Payment | Same as above                                                                                                                               |
| State SNAP Benefits                                    | Monthly Income:<br>Group of 1: \$1,872<br>Group of 2: \$2,538<br>Group of 3: \$3,204<br>Group of 4: \$3,870<br>Group of 5: \$4,536          |
| Medicaid for Elderly & Disabled                        | Monthly Income:<br>Single person: \$528.38<br>Couple: \$696.41                                                                              |
| HUSKY Health Care (adults, children)                   | Many different income levels                                                                                                                |
| Free counseling for children                           | None                                                                                                                                        |

### Ashford Senior Center & Agent for the Elderly

Contact: Kit Eves, 860.487.5122, [seniorcenter@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:seniorcenter@ashfordtownhall.org)

Website: <https://ashfordtownhall.org/directory/senior-center/>

Location: Earl W. Smith Building, 25 Tremko Lane, Ashford

Hours: Monday-Friday., 9:00-3:00 pm – The Center is open by appointment to 1-2 people at a time

| Program                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Eligibility Requirements                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Congregate Meal Program (3 frozen meals a week, includes milk, bread, fruit)                                                                                                                                  | At least 60 years of age, or the spouse of a person at least 60 years of age. |
| Information about Medicare, Medicaid, nutrition, health screenings, protective services, legal services, long-term care insurance, home care, adult day care, transportation, local senior and grief support. | 60 years or older                                                             |
| Online Tai Chi Classes                                                                                                                                                                                        | None                                                                          |
| Books and Jigsaw Puzzles Lending Program                                                                                                                                                                      | None                                                                          |

### **Ashford Housing Authority**

Contact: Jessica Miller, 860.429.8556, [jmiller@ashfordhousingauthority.org](mailto:jmiller@ashfordhousingauthority.org),

Website: [www.ashfordhousingauthority.org](http://www.ashfordhousingauthority.org)

Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 9:00-12:00 pm

| <b>Program</b>                                                                      | <b>Eligibility Requirements</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pompey Hollow Senior Housing<br>(32-apartment building offering affordable housing) | 62 years of age or older and/ or anyone who is Social Security Disabled.<br><br>Annual Income Limits:<br>1 person: \$54,950<br>2 people: \$62,800<br>Tenants must pay the base rent of \$540 per month or 30% of adjusted monthly income; whichever is greater. |

### **Ashford Veterans' Affairs Advocate**

Contact: Garry Brown, 860.928.2309 (leave a message), [garry.brown71@AIM.com](mailto:garry.brown71@AIM.com)

| <b>Program</b>                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Eligibility Requirements</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Soldiers, Sailors and Marine Fund<br>(financial assistance)                                                                                                                          | ID showing veteran's status     |
| Other Assistance<br>(VA Health care, burial and survivors' benefits, pension and Aid and Assistance (SMC-s), obtaining service records and past awards and decorations/medals, etc.) | Same as above                   |

### **Veterans Base Camp - Community Training Center**

Contact: Camp Office, 860.786.7163

Russ Johndrow (Food Pantry Director), [vittles4vets@veteransbasecampinc.org](mailto:vittles4vets@veteransbasecampinc.org)

Website: [info@veteransbasecampinc.org](mailto:info@veteransbasecampinc.org)

Location: 108 England Rd, Chaplin, CT 06235

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00-4:00 pm or by appointment

Food Pantry Hours: Wednesdays 1:00-5:00 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month 11:00-2:00 pm

| <b>Program</b>                                            | <b>Eligibility Requirements</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Vittles 4 Vets Food Pantry                                | ID showing veteran's status     |
| Veteran wellness, education, training, employment support | Same as above                   |

If you have questions about any of these programs, please reach out to the contacts noted. Phone messages and emails are checked regularly!

Wishing you and yours a warm and healthy winter season,

Cathryn E. Silver-Smith, First Selectman

# HEALTHY HEART CHALLENGE!

Bring the whole family to the park to Walk, Jog or Run on the trails. Challenge-by-choice activities will include Hopping, Jumping and Skipping, Climbing, and Geocaching. It's guaranteed to get you moving and warm your heart! Dogs on leash welcome!



This Drop-in, Free, Family, Fun, Fitness Event is for all ages! We will have a campfire and hot cocoa to keep you going. Your family can make a Valentine to share with someone you LOVE! Masks required and social distancing guidelines followed.

Saturday Feb.13th 10am -12pm  
at Ashford Memorial Park



*Ashford Park & Rec.* has a 26 year tradition of providing **Free Ice Skating** each winter for our community! This year we are challenged since UConn's Ice Arena is not open, and the ponds are not frozen but our budget is! We are hopeful to keep the tradition alive! Watch for notices on social media as we seek to find a creative way to have Ashford residents continue enjoying gliding across the ice! Call 860-487-4409 for info.

*Ashford Park & Rec.* will be grilling and selling hamburgers and hotdogs on Sat. Feb. 6th from 12-5pm during **Camp Connri's 1st Annual WINTERFEST!**



Come join us and checkout all the winter fun, entertainment and activities.



See details at [Facebook.com Salvation Army Camp Connri Lodge](https://www.facebook.com/SalvationArmyCampConnriLodge)  
(Health Dept. protocols will be followed)



# Ashford Transfers

December 15, 2020 - January 15, 2021

| Grantor                                                                                                          | Grantee                                                                                                  | Conveyance Tax<br>Selling Price | Remarks<br>(Not Warranted) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| PATRICK N SCOTT<br>56 WEST HILL DRIVE<br>WEST HARTFORD, CT 06119                                                 | PAULINE E & LOUIS J ATTARDO<br>30 WESTVIEW DRIVE<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                    | \$12.50<br>\$5,000.00           | WESTVIEW DRIVE             |
| JASON P DUVAL<br>189 UPTON ROAD<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                                             | JASON P & DENISE E DUVAL<br>189 UPTON ROAD<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                          | \$0.00<br>\$0.00                | UPTON ROAD                 |
| MONICA MCGUINESS<br>157 ROCKY MOUNT ROAD<br>SKIPWITH, VA 23960                                                   | JENNIFER ELWOOD<br>28 FARM DRIVE<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                                    | \$687.50<br>\$275,000.00        | FARM DRIVE                 |
| HOLLY A BISACCIA<br>72 NAVRATIL ROAD<br>WILLINGTON, CT 06279                                                     | LYNN SALVAS<br>69 WESTFORD DRIVE<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                                    | \$400.00<br>\$160,000.00        | WESTFORD DRIVE             |
| RAYMOND W GREEN<br>PO BOX 297<br>EASTFORD, CT 06242                                                              | MICHAEL R LASHUA<br>40 LAKESIDE DRIVE<br>EASTFORD, CT 06242                                              | \$0.00<br>\$0.00                | LAKESIDE DRIVE             |
| ESTATE OF MARILYN J WOHLHUETER<br>C/O GLENN S WOHLHUETER<br>72 SOUTH MAIN STREET<br>MOOSUP, CT 06354             | HUGH M MACKENZIE JR<br>80 SQUAW HOLLOW ROAD<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                         | \$675.00<br>\$270,000.00        | SQUAW HOLLOW ROAD          |
| LAURA L RATHBUN<br>PO BOX 1086<br>SHARPES, FL 32959                                                              | LINDA & RAYMOND ROY<br>15 SHORE FRONT DRIVE<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                         | \$912.25<br>\$364,900.00        | SHORE FRONT DRIVE          |
| GARY A & JANET D GOOD<br>1336 US HIGHWAY 27 NORTH<br>AVON PARK, FL 33825                                         | DELORES & CRAIG PASSMORE<br>249-33 147TH ROAD<br>ROSEDALE, NY 11422                                      | \$2,170.00<br>\$868,000.00      | POMPEY ROAD                |
| RCN ASHFORD LLC<br>75 GERBERR ROAD EAST<br>SOUTH WINDSOR, CT 06074                                               | THOMAS C BELL & BRANDY MONTIGNY<br>103 LAKE WOODS LANE<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                              | \$0.00<br>\$0.00                | LAKE WOODS LANE            |
| GERALD A PETERSON<br>PO BOX 207<br>MIDDLE HADDAM, CT 06456                                                       | R & M HOLDINGS LLC<br>21 LAKESIDE DRIVE<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                             | \$160.00<br>\$64,000.00         | LAKESIDE DRIVE             |
| SILVA'S FINE PAINTING LLC<br>289 SENEXET ROAD<br>WOODSTOCK, CT 06281                                             | DARRIN T GRANT<br>437 NORTH ROAD<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                                    | \$612.50<br>\$245,000.00        | NORTH ROAD                 |
| ESTATE OF CHARLES WOYTIK<br>C/O ATTORNEY PAULIS<br>PO BOX 616<br>PUTNAM, CT 06260                                | SUNRISE SUNSET REMODELING LLC<br>923 ROUTE 198<br>WOODSTOCK, CT 06281                                    | \$203.50<br>\$81,399.00         | WATERFALL ROAD             |
| NEW REZ LLC<br>D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING<br>55 BEATTIE PLACE, SUITE 110 MS#001<br>GREENVILLE, SC 29601 | FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORP<br>5000 PLANO PARKWAY<br>CARROLLTON, TX 75010                            | \$0.00<br>\$0.00                | BEBBINGTON ROAD            |
| ESTATE OF CHERESE MATTHEWS<br>C/O ANDREW W EWALT<br>16 SOUTH MAIN STREET<br>PUTNAM, CT 06260                     | NEWREZ LLC<br>D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING<br>55 BEATTIE PLACE, SUITE 110<br>GREENVILLE, SC 29601 | \$0.00<br>\$0.00                | BEBBINGTON ROAD            |
| JOHN R MAIN<br>69 VALLEY ROAD<br>DAYVILLE, CT 06241                                                              | DAVID WALTER<br>387 ASHFORD CENTER ROAD<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                             | \$617.50<br>\$247,000.00        | ASHFORD CENTER ROAD        |
| ALFRED R & KARRIE L DEMERS DUFRESNE<br>174 SECKAR ROAD<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                      | GERARD TREEN TAYLOR<br>174 SECKAR ROAD<br>ASHFORD, CT 06278                                              | \$975.00<br>\$390,000.00        | SECKAR ROAD                |

**The Ashford Citizen  
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Greg Peck Landscaping  
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Hanks Lawnmower Repair and Service  
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Integrity Pest Control  
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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  
Wilmington Pizza  
Willow Valley Farm



### **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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