

**Volume 53**

**Issue 2**

**February 1, 2022**

*“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**

### **Ashford Volunteer Fire Department BIG NEWS!!**

After over a year of planning and production time, AVFD took delivery of our new fire truck on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2022. This new Engine Tank (ET, as we call it) will replace our current ET-220 housed at Station 20 (Westford Rd) after 30 years of service. Some improvements on the new truck include a hydraulic generator, LED lighting inside and out and a more modern pump control panel.

Once we’ve had the opportunity to switch over all the equipment, we expect to put the new truck into service on or about January 26, 2022. The old ET will be turned back to the town where plans for her retirement are still to be determined.

*By Tracey Stancil*



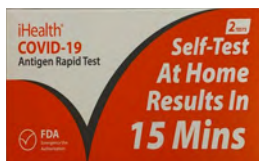
Old ET-220



New ET-220

**For the most current information on the availability of COVID-19 TEST KITS and MASKS**

**please contact the Selectmen’s Office at # 860-487-4400 or [firstselectman@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:firstselectman@ashfordtownhall.org).**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Town Offices Directory

Animal Control Officer	860-234-4093
Assessor	860-487-4403
Building Dept.	860-487-4404
Emergency Management	860-428-0870
Finance Dept.	860-487-4405
Fire Marshal	860-208-0113
Housing Authority	860-429-8556
Parks & Recreation	860-487-4409
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

Town of Ashford website:  
[www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org)

### Ashford Town Offices Public Hours:

Assessor, Selectmen's Office, Tax Collector,  
Town Clerk:

Mon., Tues., Fri. 8:30 am - 3:00 pm  
Wed. 10 am - 6 pm

Land Use Dept.:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., 8:30 am-3:00 pm or by appt.

Social Services: Mon. & Tues. 9 am - 3 pm or by appt.

Transfer Station: Wed. 2-8 pm, Sat. 8 am-4 pm,  
Sun. 10 am - 4 pm

For other depts. not listed, please call for hours.

The Ashford Town Office  
Building is open to the public.

Masks are required.

The Town Drop Box is always available.



### HOLIDAY HOURS



Ashford Town Offices  
will be closed on  
Monday, February 21st  
for Presidents' Day.



G.M. Thompson & Sons, Inc.

54 Middle Turnpike  
Mansfield Depot, CT 06251

"We Deliver"

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

[www.gmthompson.net](http://www.gmthompson.net)

Phone: (860) 429-9377

Fax: (860) 429-9378

### 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/Subscriptions # 860-487-4401  
[kzulick@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:kzulick@ashfordtownhall.org)

### Join us at our Monthly Meetings

Our February 9th meeting will be  
**7:00pm - 9:00pm on ZOOM**  
contact [Debragag@gmail.com](mailto:Debragag@gmail.com)  
for Zoom link.

### Ashford Arts Council Receives a CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grant

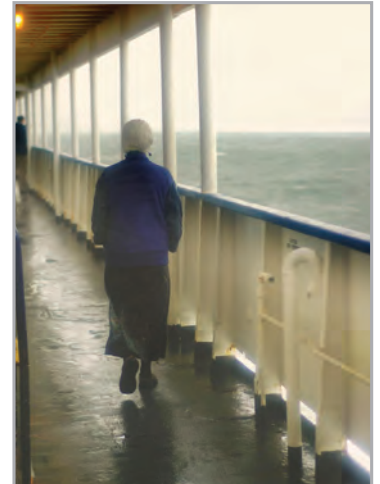
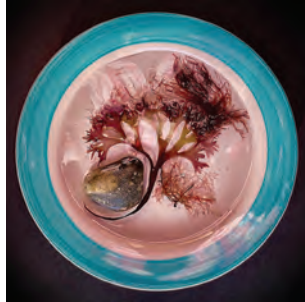
Ashford Arts Council (AAC) is pleased to announce that they are to receive a CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grant for the physical year 2022. The purpose of this grant is to assist organizations as they recover from the pandemic and to help them maintain and grow their ability to serve their community and the public. In the pandemic one major way to help arts organizations is to help them improve their information technology and digital infrastructure. Using their allotted \$5,000 funds, the AAC is in the process of fulfilling this infrastructure need by improving their ability to present events to their membership and the community and further their participation with artists in supporting their work. Ashford Arts Council is one of 624 non-profit museums and cultural, humanities, and arts organizations to receive a total of \$16M in CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grants (CTCFOG). The CTCFOG are part of \$30.7M of support allocated to CTH over the next two years by the CT General Assembly and approved by Governor Ned Lamont.

Visit us @ [www.AshfordArts.org](http://www.AshfordArts.org)  
& on [Facebook.com/AshfordArts](https://www.facebook.com/AshfordArts)

### ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:

Christine Acebo

Congratulations to the talented AAC member Christine Acebo whose photographs are exhibited at the prestigious Salmagundi Club in NYC, and the juried photography show at Arts Center East in Vernon, CT where she earned an Honorable Mention. At left: *Captured Seaweed*  
At right: *Voyage*



### Tea & Calligraphy: The Italic Hand

**Workshop: Saturday, February 19th**  
Join AAC member Kathleen Lepak in Manchester on February 19th for an afternoon workshop in the Italic hand. Lettering, art, tea, and scones - what could be better?

Go to: [cheneyhomesteadarts.org](http://cheneyhomesteadarts.org)  
click on Workshops for details and the registration form. Registration deadline is February 8th.



AAC Co-Chair Deb Gag has a display of her New England paintings for the months of January and February in the two showcases at the entrance of the Mansfield Community Center.

The Ashford Arts Council is in partnership with Windham Arts

### WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

You do not have to be an artist or live in Ashford. Join our fun dynamic group!

Membership: \$20 Donation  
October 1st – September 31st

For more information contact our Membership Director, Darcie Boiano at [Boiano.Darcie@gmail.com](mailto:Boiano.Darcie@gmail.com) or (860) 798-1738

Your Name: .....

Email Address: .....

Business Name & Website: .....

Mailing Address: .....

Phone Number: .....

**Darcie Boiano**  
AAC Membership Director  
196 Oakes Road  
Ashford, CT 06278

Check Payable To:  
**WINDHAM ARTS ORGANIZATION**  
MEMO Line: AAC MEMBERSHIP

# FINANCIAL & TAX SERVICES

FOR SMALL BUSINESSES & INDIVIDUALS

## DANIEL S. LEVINE, C.P.A.

Certified Public Accountant

Cell: 860-729-6036

[dansethlev@cox.net](mailto:dansethlev@cox.net)

100 Cheshire Drive, South Windsor CT 06074

**"DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK"**

Call TODAY for a  
FREE Quote on an  
Automatic Stand-by  
GENERATOR!

We also do hookups  
for portable generators  
certified by  
**GENERAC**

DEALER \* INSTALLER \* TECHNICIAN

**WOODSTOCK VALLEY  
ELECTRIC<sub>LLC</sub>**

License #  
185790

Discounts  
for Veterans

*For All Your Electrical Needs*

860-974-3601 \* 860-428-3196

[www.woodstockvalleyelectric.com](http://www.woodstockvalleyelectric.com)



### Westford Congregational Church

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

[www.WestfordCongregationalChurch.org](http://www.WestfordCongregationalChurch.org)  
and on Facebook

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 a.m.  
(Summer hours July 4<sup>th</sup> through September 5<sup>th</sup>:  
Sunday Service at 9:30 and no Sunday School)

Services have resumed in person.

Please join us.

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

Conservative Congregational  
Christian Conference

## Ashford Volunteer Fire Department

**See our BIG NEWS on the front page!**

As we move into the heart of winter, it's that time of year to remind you of ice safety. As our ponds and lakes begin to freeze over, be sure the ice is safe enough for you to venture on. On average, it takes up to 4 days of consistent, below freezing temperatures to make ice safe enough to walk on.

Factor in an occasional warmer day or two above 32 degrees and now the ice begins to thin. Always check the ice before walking on it for the first time and always keep a close eye on pets as they walk along the edges. These areas thaw first and pose a danger to both pets and humans if you're not careful.

**The call count for December 2021 was 15 Fire/Rescue and 30 EMS. Our fiscal year total is 290.**

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

Tracey Stancil  
Firefighter/EMT  
AVFD Station 20



## Municipal Agent for the Elderly

**Kit Eves 860-487-5122**

The Omicron variant is ramping up and seems to be mostly hitting people who have not been vaccinated or boosted. These are the people in the hospital and struggling to stay alive. Those of us who have been fully vaccinated may catch the Omicron variant but don't have nearly the severe symptoms those who are not vaccinated do. **GET YOUR SHOTS.**

Citizens of the United States can receive free tests kits thru the United States Postal Service. This is the website address: **Special.usps.com**. If you have difficulty with computers or don't own one, call me and I will assist you in getting your test kits delivered.

### **How to place your order for free At-Home COVID-19 Tests:**

Residential households in the U.S. can order one set of 4 free at-home tests from USPS.com. Here's what you need to know about your order:

- Limit of one order per residential address
- One order includes 4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests
- Orders will ship free starting in late January

There are some new things here at the Senior Center. Jane Kalinowski has been calling Dime Bingo on Thursdays at 12:00, and Elaine Wilmes-Pandolfo has been designing and installing our monthly bulletin boards to fit the season and show off the birthdays of the membership. And of course, Chris Rae continues to drive the van to all kinds of great destinations. These volunteer efforts are so very much appreciated. For years Marsha Peters has mailed out the birthday greetings, and get well and sympathy cards for the membership. She has decided to give this activity up. Marsha should be proud of her many years of service with this effort. The Center will be sending out these greeting cards now and will take this opportunity to change up the process. The cards will be on a table in the main room for ALL to sign and write a brief message if desired. I hope that you will all come into the Center and sign the cards.

Also, let me know your birthday month and day so we can send you cards and put your name up on the monthly birthday bulletin board. I also need your help in letting me know when someone has passed or needs a get well card. Call and tell me.

## VITAL STATISTICS



### Deaths:

Mark Wagenbrenner January 6, 2022  
Cynthia Shaffer January 9, 2022  
Sue A. Cowen January 15, 2022



## Assistance to Ashford Veterans

### IN-PERSON OFFICE HOURS ARE BACK

We have re-started the Veteran's Hour again at the Town Office Building after many months. If you are in need of advice for Veteran benefits, questions on assistance such as health care, burials, disability compensation, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund, or pension, please visit on the first Wednesday of the month with the new hours of 5:00-6:00 pm. Appointments are preferred, especially if Wednesdays are a conflict, but walk-ins are welcome. Call Garry at 860-928-2309 and leave a message. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need help with your veteran issues: [garry.brown71@aim.com](mailto:garry.brown71@aim.com) and 860-928-2309. Always no cost ever for veterans and always confidential.

### VETERAN NOTES

If you receive a 0% non-compensable disability rating, your benefits include eligibility for VA Health Care, eligibility for life insurance, and reimbursement for travel to VA approved health care visits. Questions? Call me at 860-928-2309.



Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust

### Exploring Lichens at Dunham Woods Saturday, February 12th, 1 p.m.

Ever wonder what those leafy-looking green and gray growths are on trees as you hike by? Come explore lichens with Zach Muscavitch, who studies them. We'll bring hand lenses for even closer observation. This is a great activity for kids as well. Park on Rt. 275 (South Eagleville Rd.) Sign up at [activities@joshuustrust.org](mailto:activities@joshuustrust.org)

## 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

0 BILL(S) - \$0.00

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 #
2002-01-000037 00004200-LIEN (REAL ESTATE)
2003-01-000038 00004200-LIEN (REAL ESTATE)
2004-01-000040 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 **Continue to Payment Information**

- Treat All Debit Cards As Credit Cards

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**)

## 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  
Name   
[See Example](#)

Enter the search criteria below:  
 Search 

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

All  Due Now  Balance Due  IRS Payment Records for Year 2021

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 2021, 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:



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

***This site is available 24/7.***

### Weaving Craft: Make Your Own Basket



Craft Supplies Provided  
February 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 Snow date February 15th  
Ashford Senior Center  
25 Tremko Lane  
Please sign up!  
Call 860-487-5122

### CASINO TRIP



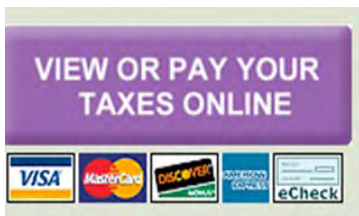
Monday, February 14th  
LEAVE AT 9:30 AM  
from the Senior Center, 25 Tremko Lane  
for MOHEGAN SUN



## Go Green: Pay your bills online

All Tax Bills are posted online. TOWN OFFICES CONTINUE TO BE STAFFED. There are times when staff must attend virtual meetings. Bills that are payable are listed on the website with a shopping cart next to it. 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. The July 2021 Tax Bills are now delinquent. The January Installment of the Real Estate and Personal Property Bills are available now. The Motor Vehicle Supplemental Bills are uploaded online and available. You have until Feb. 1, 2022 to pay that bill as well as second installment real estate and 2<sup>nd</sup> installment personal property. Please contact the office if you are trying to make a partial payment and are having difficulty. Also those real estate accounts with no payments and arrearages are now under review for tax sale. You will be notified.

Go to: [www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org).  
To enter, the portal looks like this:



### Legal Notice

Ashford Tax Collector's Office  
P.O. Box 173  
Ashford, CT 06278  
[taxcollector@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto: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, 2020 becomes due and payable on January 1, 2022 and is payable without interest penalty through February 1, 2022. After Feb.1, 2022, 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.

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

Payments may be:

1. **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.
2. **Put in the black drop box, checks only.**
3. **Mailed to: Ashford Tax Collector**  
**P.O. Box 173**  
**Ashford, CT. 06278**

**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.

For the purpose of collecting said tax, I shall be at the Ashford Town Offices as follows:  
Mon., Tues., Fri., 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.;  
Wed., 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

**CLOSED EVERY THURSDAY and Mon. Feb. 21st.**  
**Please do not use drop box for on time payments**  
**After 3 P.M. on Tues. Feb. 1st. Last pick up is at 3 P.M.**

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)  
Dated at Ashford, this 21st day of Jan. 2022.

Linda G. Gagne CCMC  
Ashford Tax Collector

3rd Notice, dated Jan. 21, 2022 for February 2022 Citizen





# Scout Troop 92 February Newsletter

## Activities:

Troop 92 participated in the winter Klondike Derby held this year at the Patchaug State Forest in Voluntown. They faced competition in challenges along the sled trail, with a sled race at the end of the trail.

The Troop was outdoors in winter weather for almost 36 hours. It is a fun event. You have to be properly prepared for it. The ideal weather would be below freezing, sunny, snow on the ground and low wind. If not, you get bragging rights!

## Cub Scout Pack 92:

As part of learning about citizenship, the Scouts tested their geography skills, learned about local history, the pledge of allegiance and the American flag and how it is folded and stored.

The Cub Scouts will be having a Munson's Chocolate fundraiser in February and March. We hope that you will support this worthwhile cause.

Troop 92 meetings are on alternate Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM. If indoors, wear a mask. New members welcome.

Troop 92 Ashford/Eastford/Pomfret

Nord Yakovleff, Assistant Scout Master  
Cory Blanchette, Scout Master  
Chris Murphy, Assistant Scout Master  
Kurt van Heiningen, Cub Master



*Cub Scouts from Pack 92 learning how to properly handle the American flag.*



QS:9000 Service  
ISO:9000

### AMERICAN SCALE COMPANY, INC.

Electronic • Mechanical • Analytical  
Service • Sales • Rentals • Systems • Test Weights • Balances

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

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

Email: [businessoffice@americanscaleco.net](mailto:businessoffice@americanscaleco.net)

## House Clean Outs

Evictions and Rental Ready Services Available

You Call We Haul

No Job Too Small

We Also Do Dump Runs

Free Estimates and Senior Citizen Discounts

Call (860) 465-7262



ASHFORD SCHOOL HONOR ROLL 2021-2022 Trimester One	
Grade 8	Grade 7
Crane, Mollie	McDonough, Sophia
Garrison, Kamden	Smith, Cameron
Kerr, Mackenzie	
Torres, Russell, Elena	
Zulick, John	

ASHFORD SCHOOL HIGH HONORS 2021-2022 Trimester One	
Grade 8	Grade 7
Bowersett, Esther	Buch, Benjamin
Burnham, Anna	Byers, Joseph
Busse, Kierra	Caisse, Ayva
Byers, Elizabeth	Cantrell, Jack
Chaloult, Noah	Caye, Nicholas
Cooper, Aerian	Champagne, Louise
Damble, Katelynn	Denizard, Nathan
Draczynski, Ava	Dingler, Addison
Giubardo, Bella	Kopec, Alexander
Johnson, Caolan	Matos, Jonathan
Johnson, Merryn	Nemeth, Cameron
Knowlton, Malerye	Ritch, Aiden
Kouatly, Kailee	Ritch, Connor
Lappen, Corbin	Viel, Isabella
Leszczynski, Emily	
Margelony, Addison	
Marsh, Brian	
Medeiros, Lorelei	
Megas, Phoenix	
Paterno, Anna	
Peppin, Joseph	
Trotta, Lauren	
Urban, Campbell	

Exceptional Effort 2021-2022 Trimester 1	
(received four exceptional effort marks (1) in at least four classes)	
8th Grade	7th Grade
Burnham, Anna	Buch, Benjamin
Busse, Kierra	Byers, Joseph
Byers, Elizabeth	Caisse, Ayva
Chaloult, Noah	Caye, Nicholas
Damble, Katelynn	Champagne, Louise
Flynn, Einin	Dingler, Addison
Giubardo, Bella	Kopec, Alexander
Johnson, Caolan	Matos, Jonathan
Johnson, Merryn	Nemeth, Cameron
Kouatly, Kailee	Ritch, Aiden
Lappen, Corbin	
Leszczynski, Emily	
Marsh, Brian	
Medeiros, Lorelei	
Megas, Phoenix	
Paterno, Anna	
Trotta, Lauren	
Urban, Campbell	

## ASHFORD SMALL ENGINE REPAIR, LLC

Snow Blowers, Chain Saws,  
Push Mowers, Lawn Tractors, Weed  
Whackers, Spring Tune-ups, plus more.

Excellent Prices

Call 959-929-5795

Pick-up and delivery available

I have no special talent. I am  
only passionately curious.

Albert Einstein

# Ashford School News and Happenings

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



## Up-Coming School Events

Date	Event
Monday, Feb. 21st – Friday, Feb. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-Winter Recess – No School

# Babcock News

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



February 2022

www.babcocklibrary.org  
t. 860.487.4420  
f. 860.744.5531

## Hours:

Monday - 9-5  
Tuesday - 9-5  
Wednesday - 9 - 6  
Thursday - Closed  
Friday - 9-5  
Saturday - 9-1  
Sunday - Closed  
Closed Monday, 2/21

## Carolann Mac Master, MLIS

Library Director  
cmacmaster@babcocklibrary.org

## Staff

Susan Chris Chonte  
Sara Stacey Diane  
Meghan

## 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

- ◆ **Proper face covering is required to enter the building;** there will be no exceptions to this rule. Anyone 2 and over must wear a face covering that covers their mouth and nose. If you are unable to wear a face covering please call the library and we will bring your items out to you.
- ◆ All library material **MUST** be returned to the outside book drop. Do not bring your returned items into the library.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Most important: if you are sick, or believe you may have been exposed to Covid-19, please stay home.
- ◆ Book drop pick up is still available for anyone.
- ◆ Please keep in mind masks are required for all library programs.
- ◆ The children's computers are not available.
- ◆ During this time, some of our collection may not be available for browsing or circulation.

Respectfully,  
Carolann Mac Master, MLIS  
Library Director

## Adult Mystery Book Club

This is a new book club that will meet once a month on the last Monday of the month at 1pm, this months book will be **Friends, Lovers, Chocolate** by *Alexander McCall Smith*

## Needlepoint and Embroidery Club

The program is for beginners to advanced participants. If you are a beginner just bring yourself and a willingness to learn. We will supply the materials. This program will be held the 2nd Monday of every month at 1pm. (this was moved from the third Monday because of all the holidays.) Please let us know if you plan to attend.

## Curious George Storytime

Come to the library and listen to the Adventures of Curious George, and make a craft project based on the story. For ages 4-6.  
February 15th at 4:00pm

## CALENDAR

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

*Our Knitters are back!  
Wednesdays 1 to 3 pm  
All are welcome!*

~~~~~  
*We have resources for parents who will begin homeschooling their children this fall, as well as connections with various homeschooling groups. We are always here to provide you with any information you may need in regards to education in these challenging times.*  
~~~~~

FRIENDS OF  
BABCOCK  
LIBRARY  
Check website  
~~~~~

BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES  
22nd at 10am  
~~~~~



**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.

**Storytime**

Come join us for stories and a craft, for children ages 2-5 and their adult companions. This program lasts about 45 minutes and registration is required. Tuesdays at 10:30am!

**Ukulele**

This program will be offered the first Wednesday of every month. Please call the library to schedule your time.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**Museum Passes**

*New Britain Museum of American Art*  
Sponsored by the Friends of Babcock Library

*Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art*-Free and open to the public until end of June

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**Story Theme Bags**

Please check the library website or Facebook page for a list of bags available.

**Sammy the Library Turtle**

Stop by and meet Sammy our turtle. Sammy is always happy to meet new friends and he enjoys answering questions. Come to the library and write your question down on our form, place it in the box and Sammy's scribe will write back!



**Pokémon Go Club**

We will meet in the library and spin and visit the Gym, trade with our Pokémon Friends. You must have your own cell phone. Children under 10 must have an adult caregiver remain with them.

Fridays, in February at 3:30pm

**Drop in and Pick up a Craft Project**

Come to the library any time on Mondays with your child and pick up a craft project to do at home. Child must be with you to pick up the craft.

**National Home Made Soup Month!**

Come pick up the staffs' favorite recipes!  
Any day of the month!

**National Make a Friend Day!**

Come join us at the library and make a new friend, while keeping our social distance.

Friday, the 11th from 11 -1

**Come Build a Snowman!**

Come build a snowman on our front lawn. We will supply the hats, faces and buttons!

Friday, February 25 from 11 to 3pm Weather permitting!

All the above events have limited supplies.

Sammy the Babcock Library mascot has a new letterbox! [Sammy Babcock Letterbox]. Please visit [www.letterboxing.org](http://www.letterboxing.org) to access the clue sheet.

The Friends group will have a jigsaw puzzle sale starting February 1st and will be up until the puzzles are gone.

**Join the Friends of Babcock Library!**

Membership drive is underway. Pick up a brochure at the circulation desk, or call the library to have one sent to your home.

Help out at the Book Sale and Wine Tasting which support the library. Book donations are always welcome;

email [ewilmespandolfo@gmail.com](mailto:ewilmespandolfo@gmail.com) .

Please do not leave them outside Knowlton Memorial Hall or in the library book drop.





**Better Business  
Through Better Community**  
www.ashfordbusiness.org



Automatics • Standard • Foreign • American  
Transfer Cases • Rear Ends • New Clutches • Transmission Tune Up

860-429-6571

Fax - 429-0246

M-Fri 8 AM-5:30 PM

Rt. 44 • Ashford, CT

**WE KEEP YOUR REAR IN GEAR!**



Residential & light commercial roofing & repairs  
Asphalt, cedar, metal, EPDM, slate, skylights, custom gutters & flashings

Daniel McClintock, owner  
860-423-7620 (office)  
860-428-3015 (cell)  
danielmclintock@sbcglobal.net

1142 Windham Road  
South Windham, CT 06266  
CT HIC #603600  
www.mcclintockroofing.com

## Willow Valley Farm



**Fresh, Local Produce  
NO Pesticides or GMOs  
Located in Willington**

Find us at the Ashford Farmers Market  
Farm Stand Open Seasonally on Weekends  
wvfcsa@gmail.com | wvfcsa.wordpress.com

## FUNK AND LITTLE, INC.

*Building and Renovation*

*Quality workmanship takes craft.  
Quality style takes art. Quality living takes both.*

**Chuck Funk**

381 Browns Road Phone: 860-729-2321  
Mansfield, CT 06268 Reg.# HIC.0541185  
www.funkandlittle.com • chuck@funkandlittle.com



**Charles D. Bizilj, MD**  
Medical Director/Principal

39 Nott Highway, Unit 7  
Ashford, CT 06278  
Phone 860-477-1267(9)  
Cell 860-335-0588  
Fax 860-477-1268  
Email anterocb@gmail.com

**Treatment of  
Tick Borne Diseases**



**ANYTHING  
PRINTED**

860.429.1244

11 Phelps Way

Willington, CT 06279

www.anythingprinted.org  
orders@anythingprinted.org

## County Line Septic LLC

INSPECTIONS • INSTALLATIONS • REPAIRS • PUMPING

7 RIVER ROAD  
WILLINGTON, CT 06279  
860-331-0444  
860-477-0880 FAX  
MNORCROSS@COUNTYLINSEPTIC.COM



**OPEN 7 DAYS**

174 Ashford Center, Rt. 44  
Ashford, CT 06278

Dinner Area: 860-429-1932  
Lounge Area: 860-487-0827



## Franc MOTORS INC.

RT 32  
WILLINGTON CT

(860) 429-2614

www.francmotorsinc.com



Integrity Pest Control LLC  
CT Lic. B-3424

**Adam Costa**  
Owner & Service Specialist

74 Kidder Brook Rd  
Ashford, CT 06278  
860-800-9911

Adam@integrity-pestcontrol.com

## Henrietta House Bed & Breakfast

Modern Living in a Historic Setting

Marian Matthews  
Proprietor

125 Ashford Center Rd  
Ashford, CT, 06278

(860) 477-0318

henriettahousebnb@gmail.com

historichenriettahousebnbct.weebly.com





**Count It All Joy Studio**

Frietha Lawrence  
Certified Zentangle Teacher

38 Pumpkin Hill Road  
Ashford, CT 06278  
frietha@alljoystudio.com

860-429-4134

www.alljoystudio.com

## MANSFIELD TREE SERVICE

Fully Insured



Free Estimates

TREES-IT'S WHAT WE DO!

John Balogh

860-429-4696

## North East Builders Roofing Co.

FULLY INSURED

LIC #0631506

Roofing Specialist

Scott Perry  
860-377-7656



NORTHEASTBUILDERSROOFING.COM

SERVING

EASTERN AND CENTRAL CT.



## Stoney Maple Carpentry

127 Krapf Road

Ashford, CT 06278

Home Improvements • Additions • Garages  
Snow Plowing/Sanding (Residential & Commercial)

Douglas Krapf

Owner

dougk127@gmail.com

860.429.5599

860.428.2522

HIC Reg# 567024

H.O.D  
1233



Heating & Air Conditioning  
Plus Affordable Oil Delivery!  
Service & Installation  
New & Existing Construction  
Residential & Commercial  
Ductwork Fabrication  
Mini Split Systems  
Heat Pumps, Wood Boilers  
Visit Our Website At [www.cnmhcapllc.com](http://www.cnmhcapllc.com)

Fully Licensed & Insured  
24 Hr Emergency Service

Oil Delivery: (860) 933-5955

Cody: (860) 933-2085

Mark: (860) 933-9679

29 Old Schoolhouse Rd.  
Storrs, CT 06268  
cnm.hcp@gmail.com



MOBILE WELDING INDUSTRIES

Bringing Professional Welding Services to you!

Eric Parent

Ashford, CT 06278

(860)803-6266

Licensed and Insured  
CT Lic. #HTG0389569-G8

[mobileweldingindustries.com](http://mobileweldingindustries.com)  
[mobileweldingindustries@gmail.com](mailto:mobileweldingindustries@gmail.com)

## Residential Foresters LLC.

Professional tree services  
Tree health Inspection and treatment

Pest Control

[www.residentialforesters.com](http://www.residentialforesters.com)

77 Willwood Rd Storrs CT 06268

(860) 874-1070

## JORDAN LAMARRE

Owner

### JCL LAWN CARE LLC

Pavers, Retaining Walls, Mowing, Gravel Driveways  
860-558-0320

39 Busse Rd Willington CT 06279 | [LawnCare1203@gmail.com](mailto:LawnCare1203@gmail.com)



DIANA WHEELER  
Director

## THE SALVATION ARMY

Camp Connri Lodge

28 HAPPY HILL LANE • ASHFORD, CT. 06278  
PHONE (860) 429-6840 • CELL (603) 918-8198  
[Diane.Wheeler@use.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Diane.Wheeler@use.salvationarmy.org)

## Lawrence Real Estate Associates Inc.

"WE CARE"

Gary H. Lawrence, Broker

Assisting Buyers and Sellers Since 1975

"I will share my knowledge & expertise with you freely!"

ANTIQUE HOMES • FARMS • LAND DEVELOPMENT

NEW CONSTRUCTION • FINANCIAL COUNSELING

860-429-7240 • [gary@lawrencecells.com](mailto:gary@lawrencecells.com)

126 Storrs Road, Mansfield Center, CT 06250

"Quality Customer Service Isn't Expensive. It's Priceless"



BEARING STAR  
INSURANCE

Dan Storer

Insurance Consultant  
[dan.storer@bearingstar.com](mailto:dan.storer@bearingstar.com)

6B Ledgebrook Dr., Mansfield Center, CT 06250  
phone (860) 450-8806 cell (860) 502-9267  
fax (774) 488-3157  
[www.bearingstar.com](http://www.bearingstar.com)



## FOUNDATION SOLUTIONS OF NE, LLC

Crumbling Foundation Replacement

154 Westford Hill Road  
Ashford, CT 06278

[foundationsolutionsofne@gmail.com](mailto:foundationsolutionsofne@gmail.com)  
[www.foundationsolutionsofne.com](http://www.foundationsolutionsofne.com)

Jeff Loye  
Owner

(860) 463-3735

HIC 0659051

FFSIC Accredited Contractor

## Assessment News

**ELDERLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED TAX RELIEF PROGRAM** - 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. To be eligible for the abatement on the 2021 Grand List:

- 1) You, or your spouse, must have been at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2021; 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, 2021, and you must have lived in Connecticut for at least one year.
- 3) Your 2021 income cannot exceed \$46,400 if you are married or \$38,100 if you are unmarried. Qualifying income is defined as taxable income for IRS purposes AND non-taxable income, with limited exceptions.
- 4) You must provide the assessor with a copy of your SSA 1099 and your 2021 federal income tax return if you file one. If you do not file a tax return, proof of all 2021 income must be provided.

Applications are filed with the Assessor biennially from February 1st - May 15th. **Persons already enrolled in the program were mailed an application at the end of January 2022.** New applicants can download an application from the Assessor's page of the town's website at [www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org). You can also request an application package by emailing [assessor@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:assessor@ashfordtownhall.org) or calling 860-487-4403.

### LEGAL NOTICE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS TOWN OF ASHFORD

Property owners and lessees have the right under Connecticut General Statutes, Sections 12-110, 12-111 and 12-504d to appeal the assessment of motor vehicles, personal property and real estate on the 2021 Grand List. CGS §12-117 requires written appeals to be received by the Board of Assessment Appeals at Town Hall on or before 3 pm, Friday, February 18, 2022. Appellants will be notified by certified mail of the time and date in March 2022 when the BAA will hear their appeal.

The appeal form must contain all of the following information:

1. the property owner's name,
2. name and position of the signer,
3. description of the property which is the subject of the appeal,
4. name and mailing address of the party to be sent all correspondence by the BAA,
5. reason for the appeal,
6. appellant's estimate of value and
7. 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 in the Assessor's Office at Ashford Town Hall. They are also available on the Board of Assessment Appeals page of the Town of Ashford's website, [www.ashfordtownhall.org](http://www.ashfordtownhall.org).

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS  
Joseph F. Peters, Chairman  
Thomas C. Martin  
Elizabeth Little



## FAQS ABOUT REVALUATION

### 1. What is revaluation?

Municipalities in Connecticut are required by state statute to revalue all real property in town every 5 years. "Revaluation or revalue means to establish the present true and actual value of all real property in a town as of a specific assessment date" (CT General Statute Section 12-62). This means that every five years, there is a revaluation of all real property in Ashford. The last revaluation was for the October 1, 2016 Grand List. The current revaluation is for the October 1, 2021 Grand List and will be effective through the 2025 Grand List.

### 2. How does revaluation affect property taxes?

Each town has an annual budget approval process where the level of expenditure for town services and education is set for the next fiscal year. The town raises funds to pay for the budget from three general sources: fees and charges, state funding and property taxes. The amount of property taxes to be raised is the amount of the town's budget expenses that are not paid for by fees and charges and state funding.

### 3. How does revaluation affect my property taxes?

There are two moving parts in property taxes: the value of the property being taxed and the tax rate. The formula is:

Amount of property taxes to be raised = value of taxable property X tax rate.

In CT, the value of taxable property is 70% of the true and actual value as of October 1st. The 70% value is referred to as the assessment. Given a dollar amount of taxes to be raised, the two variables are the assessment and the tax rate. If one variable increases, all other things being held constant, the other variable would decrease.

A hypothetical example:

The town needs to raise \$1,000,000 for the Fiscal Year 7/1/2020-6/30/2021.

The assessed value of all taxable property as of October 1, 2019 is 150,000,000.

Your property is assessed at 120,000.

Amount to be raised by taxes = assessed value X tax rate:

$1,000,000 = 150,000,000 \times \text{tax rate}$

$1,000,000 / 150,000,000 = 0.0067$  per 1 of assessed value or 6.7 per 1,000 of assessed value, for a mill rate of \$6.7 per 1,000 assessment.

Taxes on your property would be:

$6.7 \times (120,000/1000) = 6.7 \times 120 = \$804.00$ .

As you can see, if the total taxable assessed value increases, the mill rate would decrease. If the amount to be raised by taxes increases and the assessments do not, the mill rate will increase.

### 4. How do I know if I am being assessed fairly?

There are ratio standards that must be met before a revaluation can be approved by the Assessor.

A revaluation is a mass appraisal, meaning multiple properties are valued at the same time. It differs from a single property appraisal you get for financing, probate, estate planning, etcetera.

Unlike a single property appraisal, there are not separate comparable sales used to value each property. Instead, sales in the one year period prior to the revaluation date that meet certain conditions are used to develop a valuation model that is then used to revalue all properties. A list of the sales considered for the revaluation is attached to this document. The property cards for these sales are on the Assessor's page of the town website: <https://ashfordtownhall.org/directory/assessors-office/>.

*(Continued on next page)*

(Continued from previous page)

There are state standards for uniformity, meaning classes of properties (residential, commercial, vacant land, public utility, apartments, use assessment) are valued with similar dispersions around the mean, and standards for the level of assessment, meaning that lower valued properties are not valued at a higher percentage than high valued properties. The revaluation process and performance standards are overseen by the CT Office of Policy and Management.

**5. What if I disagree with the value put on a (fill in the blank), e.g. garage, shed, barn, finished basement?**

The breakdown of values on the property card is done to allocate the true and actual value to the different characteristics of the property. The 100% value is representative of the market value of the entire property on 10/1/2021. The property is a package, individual buyers and sellers may place greater weight on one attribute over another. One person's must-have swimming pool, for instance, is another person's must-have air conditioning.

**6. I disagree with the value on my property. My concerns were not addressed by the informal hearing.**

You may file an appeal with the Ashford Board of Assessment Appeals. Appeal applications are available on the Board's page of the town website, <https://ashfordtownhall.org/document-category/board-of-assessment-appeals/>, and in the Assessor's Office. Keep in mind that all appeals have an October 1, 2021 date of value.

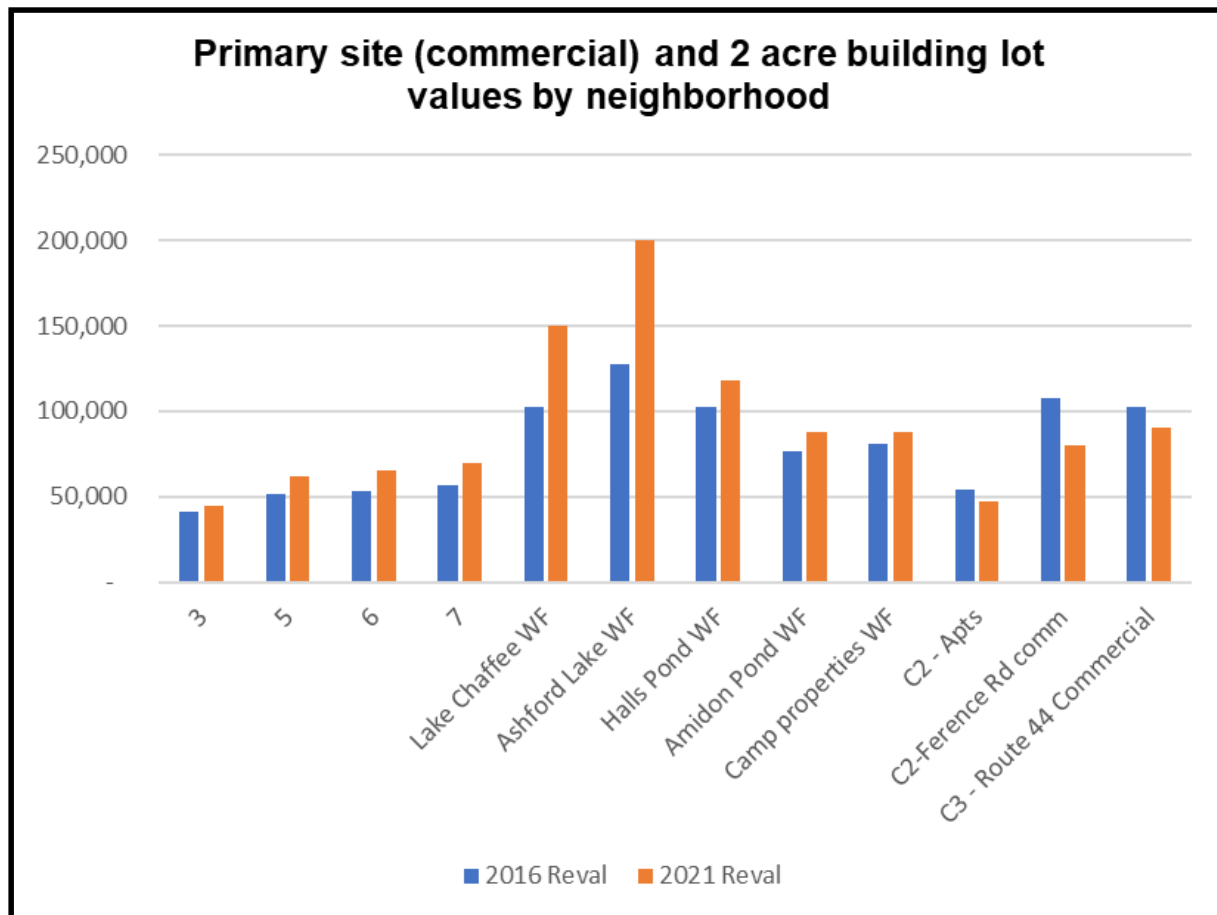
Preliminary Revaluation results, prior to meeting of the Board of Assessment Appeal:

**2021 Revaluation Increases from the 2016 Revaluation**

|                                                                              |                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>All Residential</b>                                                       | 21%                                          |
| Capes                                                                        | 24%                                          |
| Contemporaries                                                               | 16%                                          |
| Cottages                                                                     | 32%                                          |
| Ranches                                                                      | 20%                                          |
| Colonials                                                                    | 13%                                          |
| Duplexes                                                                     | 11%                                          |
| Raised Ranches                                                               | 29%                                          |
| Condominiums                                                                 | 16%                                          |
| Mobile Homes                                                                 | 17%                                          |
| Split Levels                                                                 | 1.22                                         |
|                                                                              |                                              |
| Waterfront Lake Chaffee                                                      | 29%                                          |
| Waterfront Ashford Lake                                                      | 24%                                          |
|                                                                              |                                              |
| <b>All Commercial</b>                                                        | 28%                                          |
| Apartments                                                                   | 46%                                          |
| Cell Tower properties                                                        | 37%                                          |
| Other commercial properties                                                  | 16                                           |
|                                                                              |                                              |
| <b>Properties affected by defective concrete</b>                             |                                              |
| Properties with over a 74% negative adjustment for foundation condition      | Ranges from 26 - 47%, with an average of 24% |
| Properties with less than a 74% negative adjustment for foundation condition | Ranges from 9-40% with an average of 13%     |

**Changes in Base Site Value (commercial) and Two Acre Building Lot Value (residential)  
of Improved Properties**

| <b>Changes in Base Site Value (commercial) and Two Acre Building Lot Value (residential)<br/>of improved properties</b> |                         |                         |               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Neighborhood</b>                                                                                                     | <b>Revaluation 2016</b> | <b>Revaluation 2021</b> | <b>Change</b> |
| 3                                                                                                                       | 40,900                  | 45,000                  | 10%           |
| 5                                                                                                                       | 51,100                  | 62,000                  | 21%           |
| 6                                                                                                                       | 53,650                  | 65,000                  | 21%           |
| 7                                                                                                                       | 56,700                  | 70,000                  | 23%           |
| Lake Chaffee WF                                                                                                         | 102,200                 | 150,000                 | 47%           |
| Ashford Lake WF                                                                                                         | 127,750                 | 200,000                 | 57%           |
| Halls Pond WF                                                                                                           | 102,200                 | 118,000                 | 15%           |
| Amidon Pond WF                                                                                                          | 76,650                  | 88,000                  | 15%           |
| Camp properties WF                                                                                                      | 80,700                  | 88,000                  | 9%            |
| C2 - Apts                                                                                                               | 53,800                  | 46,806                  | -13%          |
| C2-Ference Rd comm                                                                                                      | 107,600                 | 80,000                  | -26%          |
| C3 - Route 44 Commercial                                                                                                | 102,220                 | 90,000                  | -12%          |



Vacant land in residential neighborhoods is valued at a 20% discount from the improved land in the same neighborhood. The above values do not contain adjustments for site conditions, access, et cetera.

**Status of Properties with Foundations Affected by Defective Concrete**

| GL Year | No. properties receiving reduced assessments | Assessment loss | Mill rate | Tax loss (\$) |
|---------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| 2021    | 25                                           | 2,459,280       | -         | -             |
| 2020    | 24                                           | 2,127,590       | 36.369    | 77,378        |
| 2019    | 31                                           | 2,435,895       | 36.836    | 89,729        |
| 2018    | 21                                           | 2,049,695       | 35.461    | 72,684        |
| 2017    | 15                                           | 1,353,200       | 34.767    | 47,047        |
| 2016    | 13                                           | 1,107,400       | 34.368    | 38,059        |

Since 2015, the:

|                                                                  |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| No. Foundations Replaced with captive insurance co funds (CSFIC) | 14 |
| No. Foundations fixed through other means                        | 4  |
| No. Properties where no assessment reduction has been requested  | 2  |

**Preliminary Assessment of Taxable Real Estate by Property Class**

| <u>Property Class</u>                  | <u>2020</u>      | <u>2021</u>       |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>100 - Residential improved</b>      | 228,327,781      | 271,979,130       |
| <b>200 - Commercial</b>                | 12,167,800       | 15,529,580        |
| <b>300 - Industrial</b>                | 1,512,290        | 1,693,800         |
| <b>400 - Public utility</b>            | 30,200           | 46,340            |
| <b>500 - Vacant land</b>               | 7,538,616        | 7,226,680         |
| <b>600 - Farm, forest + open space</b> | 3,651,720        | 4,151,300         |
| <b>700 - 10 mill land</b>              | 9,710            | 26,460            |
| <b>800- apartments</b>                 | <u>8,173,480</u> | <u>10,902,080</u> |
| <b>Total</b>                           | 261,411,597      | 311,555,370       |
| <b>Preliminary change</b>              |                  | 50,143,773        |

YOUR AUTHORIZED FORD DEALER SINCE 1930

# BOWEN'S GARAGE

---

**EASTFORD, CT**

**(860) 974-0363**

**www.bowensgarage.com**





**Amy McCarthy, CIC**  
Agency Owner

Office | 959.888.5688  
Cell | 959.888.5501  
amy.mccarthy@goosehead.com

44 Hyde Avenue  
Vernon, CT 06066  
[goosehead.com/amy-mccarthy](http://goosehead.com/amy-mccarthy)



## NORTHEAST PROBATE COURT

# Community Outreach Event

### Court staff will be available to...

- Assist with court matters
- Help find and fill out forms
- Provide information on local resources
- Answer questions about the Probate system in CT

With Northeast Probate Judge Leah Schad



And Chief Clerk Mary Ann Champney



## What does the Probate Court do?

- Helps families who have lost a loved one settle their estate
- Appoints conservators when a family member is no longer capable of caring for themselves
- Appoints guardians to protect the intellectually disabled
- Handles matters involving children in need

### WHEN

10:00 AM- 12:00 PM  
Wednesday, February 16th

### WHERE

Ashford Senior Center  
25 Tremko Lane  
Ashford, CT 06278

**HAPPY  
GROUNDHOG DAY**



**♥ HAPPY  
Valentine's  
DAY ♥**

**LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF ASHFORD**

A certified list of 33 Democratic party-endorsed candidates for the town of Ashford for election as Members of the Town Committee At-Large is on file in my office at 5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, Connecticut and copies are available for public distribution. The number of Town Committee Members to be elected, under party rules, is 40. A primary will be held March 1, 2022, if 10 candidacies (which is at least 25% of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party in the municipality) are filed in accordance with SS9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes, by persons other than party-endorsed candidates, not later than 4:00 p.m. of January 26, 2022, provided the number of such candidacies plus the number of endorsed candidates, exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than 25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies may be obtained from Lauren Olson, Democratic Registrar of Voters, 5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, CT 06278.

Dated at Ashford, Connecticut  
this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

Attest, Sherri L. Mutch, MCTC, CMC  
Ashford Town Clerk

**LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF ASHFORD**

A certified list of 30 Republican party-endorsed candidates for the town of Ashford for election as Members of the Town Committee At-Large is on file in my office at 5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, Connecticut and copies are available for public distribution. The number of Town Committee Members to be elected, under party rules, is 30. A primary will be held March 1, 2022, if 8 candidacies (which is at least 25% of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party in the municipality) are filed in accordance with SS9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes, by persons other than party-endorsed candidates, not later than 4:00 p.m. of January 26, 2022, provided the number of such candidacies plus the number of endorsed candidates, exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than 25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies may be obtained from Colleen Depercio, Republican Registrar of Voters, 5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, CT 06278.

Dated at Ashford, Connecticut  
this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

Attest, Sherri L. Mutch, MCTC, CMC  
Ashford Town Clerk

***Keep it simple, keep it local***

**Zen Solar**

***Helping homeowners transition to solar since 2014***

*Check out our monthly column "local solar" in Neighbors newspaper*

John Boiano - 860.798.5692 - john@zensolar.net

**THOMPSON'S CLEANING SERVICE**



**RESIDENTIAL ★ SMALL BUSINESS  
FREE ESTIMATES ★ BONDED & INSURED  
90 ASHFORD ROAD ASHFORD, CT 06278**

**DEBRA M. THOMPSON  
Owner  
(860) 428-9874**



February, 2022

“To know the dark, go dark.” Wendell Berry

In these dark times, this dark time of year, have you truly considered the dark? I recently read and discussed the book, *The End of Night*, by Paul Bogard, with my book club. Though I had always loved the night, this book opened my eyes to the importance of dark skies and how they are vanishing around the world. The beautiful area around Ashford is supposed to be one of the last dark areas on the northeast coast. But how dark is Ashford and does it matter?

According to “Woodlands” magazine article, “Preserving Dark Skies,” light pollution has increased 50% over the last 25 years and nearly 99% of Americans can no longer experience natural night skies. You might answer, so what?

Have you been outside on a really dark night and experienced the wonder of the stars? Were you able not only to see the Milky Way in all its glory but also actually experience it in a sky so dark that it actually cast diffuse shadows on the ground? (A Bortle Class 1 dark sky.) If so, you could answer the so what. Perhaps you were able to see the double star, Mizar’s faint twin, Alcor, the second star from the end of the Big Dipper. Maybe you discerned Saturn’s rings. When you experience the wonder, then you know the importance of dark skies.

So, how dark is Ashford? I took a drive around town to see from where any light pollution might be coming. I was pleased to see that we have fully shielded lights (those which have a solid barrier covering the fixture where the light bulb is located) around most of our town buildings, including the senior housing area. Though the gas stations are the most lighted areas of town, their lights face downward and are shielded by their overhangs, which does not negate the amount of light that still leaks out to the sky.

The most light pollution in town seems to emanate from four main areas: the school, a local restaurant, floodlights, and some garage fixtures. You might ask, don’t we need these for safety? No. These lights create glare, which can cause accidents, and shadows in which bad guys can hide. In addition, these lights interfere with both our circadian rhythms and those of other animals, including interrupting the feeding cycles and flight patterns of night-flying insects, birds, and other animals. So what can we do?

1. Go on a night sky walk, such as one led by The Last Green Valley, during their Walktober events.
2. Turn off outside lights at night.
3. When you must have them on, check to make sure that your outside lights are fully shielded.
4. Become involved in an effort to certify our area in Connecticut to become an International Dark Sky Place.

Find us at <https://www.perryhillpublishing.com/ACETF/#>

*The ACETF thanks you for your interest in our work and welcomes your input. We would welcome your participation by joining us as a member. If you have concerns or comments, or to join us, please contact Susan Eastwood at 860-487-5903 or [sceastwood@yahoo.com](mailto:sceastwood@yahoo.com).*

## Ashford Transfer Report

### 12/15/2021 - 1/15/2022

| INSTRUMENT NUMBER | BOOK | PAGE | RECORDED DATE | PRICE<br>LOCAL CONV     | GRANTOR/SELLER                                                                                                         | GRANTEE/BUYER                                                                                        | DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION<br>DESCRIPTION                |
|-------------------|------|------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 2021-307          | 205  | 149  | 12/17/2021    | \$0<br>\$0.00           | LEPORE DONALD                                                                                                          | LEPORE DONALD TRUSTEE<br>STEARNS MARIBETH TRUSTEE<br>DONALD LEPORE LIVING TRUST DATED<br>JUNE 2 2021 | WARRANTY DEED<br>31 HOWEY ROAD                     |
| 2021-308          | 205  | 152  | 12/17/2021    | \$0<br>\$0.00           | FLETCHER THERESA J                                                                                                     | FLETCHER THERESA J<br>FLETCHER WAYNE C                                                               | DEED<br>64 MOON ROAD                               |
| 2021-315          | 205  | 184  | 12/21/2021    | \$102,500<br>\$256.25   | DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST<br>COMPANY TRUSTEE<br>ABFC 2005-AQ1 TRUST<br>ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES<br>SERIES 2005-AQ1 | FGP RENOVATION INC                                                                                   | WAR<br>275 FERENGE ROAD                            |
| 2021-318          | 205  | 191  | 12/21/2021    | \$205,000<br>\$512.50   | US BANK TRUST TRUSTEE<br>LSF9 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST                                                               | DANCOSSE COURTNEY LYNN<br>BANFIELD STEVEN WILLIAM                                                    | WARRANTY DEED<br>582 BEBBINGTON ROAD               |
| 2021-320          | 205  | 211  | 12/22/2021    | \$60,000<br>\$150.00    | LARSON ANNE M                                                                                                          | GOODALE RYAN<br>GOODALE AMBERLY JEAN                                                                 | WARRANTY DEED<br>HNATH ROAD & WATERFALL ROAD       |
| 2021-329          | 205  | 241  | 12/29/2021    | \$72,800<br>\$182.00    | WALESZCZYK TAMBRIA A                                                                                                   | TAYLOR BEVERLY F<br>TAYLOR MARK G                                                                    | WARRANTY DEED<br>WESTFORD ROAD - VACANT LAND 2.5A  |
| 2021-331          | 205  | 244  | 12/29/2021    | \$230,000<br>\$575.00   | HORILA FRANCES M                                                                                                       | PAVLISCSAK EDWARD III                                                                                | WARRANTY DEED<br>81 SLADE ROAD                     |
| 2022-8            | 205  | 277  | 01/10/2022    | \$410,000<br>\$1,025.00 | FRADETTE ALAIN J                                                                                                       | LIGHT JOAN                                                                                           | WARRANTY DEED<br>40 LAKE WOODS LANE LOT 6 ON MAP " |
| 2022-14           | 205  | 313  | 01/11/2022    | \$245,000<br>\$612.50   | GRATTON BLAKE                                                                                                          | BANNING JENNIFER J                                                                                   | WARRANTY DEED<br>458 ASHFORD CENTER ROAD           |
| 2022-17           | 205  | 331  | 01/11/2022    | \$260,000<br>\$650.00   | POLLINGUE CYNTHIA C<br>REID MICHAEL R                                                                                  | CONOVER DONNA                                                                                        | WARRANTY DEED<br>116 PUMPKIN HILL RD               |
| 2022-22           | 205  | 375  | 01/12/2022    | \$245,000<br>\$612.50   | MATHER SANDRA L<br>CICCARIELLO PETER                                                                                   | BAILEY JESSICA-LYNNE                                                                                 | WARRANTY DEED<br>15 BOSTON HOLLOW RD               |



*Ashford  
Woods*

*Photo  
by  
Christine  
Acebo*



## February 2022 Conservation Commission News

### Trash Clean Up Day Saturday March 19 Rain date March 26

We have decided to schedule one trash pick up day for the town of Ashford this spring and encourage everyone to get out to clean our roadways on that day. We will partner with ABA to spread the word about gathering as many residents as possible to help maintain the natural beauty of our town. Invite your neighbors to join you for a few hours to show your pride in our rural community. Look for more information on the town website as the event gets closer. Also, it will be in the March issue of the *Citizen*. We hope to get students involved and offer opportunities for extra credit for participation in this town wide event. For more info you can contact Pamm Summers at < 80barnowl@gmail.com >.

### Sustainable CT Issues of Affordable Housing and Homelessness

We have a small group of interested citizens who want to work on exploring and investigating the housing issues in Ashford as part of our participation in Sustainable CT. We know that many are struggling to maintain adequate housing during these times of increasing food, gas and heating prices along with few affordable housing units. We are meeting on February 9 at 11:15am at the Ashford Senior Center. If you are motivated to join our group, please attend or contact Loretta [birdeye123@charter.net](mailto:birdeye123@charter.net). We want to discuss creative ideas for alternative housing solutions. We will be masked and maintain social distance at the center.

### Winter In Ashford

Our small rural community showcases well during the winter months. We have abundant woods, numerous waterways and plenty of scenic views. Please view the pictures of our town in winter taken by Christine Acebo.

### Conservation Commission Meetings

Our commission meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7. We are presently meeting on zoom and the link can be found on the town website. You can also contact Loretta [birdeye123@charter.net](mailto:birdeye123@charter.net) and I will send you the link if you are interested in attending one of our meetings.

Happy February,  
and stay healthy!

Loretta Wrobel,  
chair



*Mt. Hope River  
from  
Westford Hill Road*

*Photo by  
Christine Acebo*



## ***Valentine's Day Hearts & Crafts***

*This Afterschool Special Event is for  
2nd, 3rd, & 4th Graders.*

*It will be in the*

*Cafeteria on **Mon. Feb. 7th.***

***Time 3:30-4:30. Fee: \$5***

*Get crafty and creative and show your Love !*

***4 different projects available!***

*We will serve a hearty afterschool snack!*

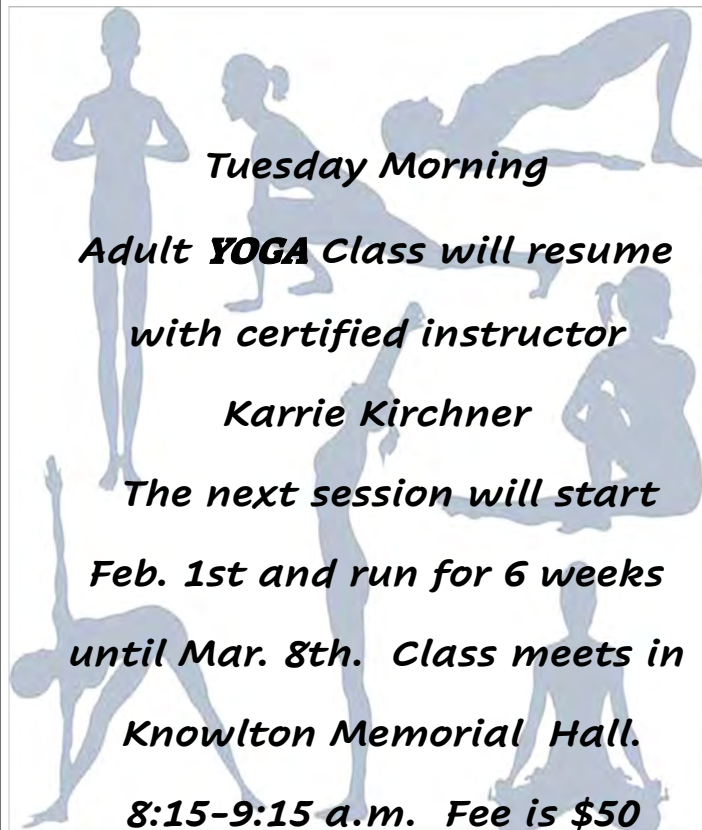
***Register*** by calling Ashford Parks and Rec.  
860-487-4409, then send in a permission note to  
the teacher and \$5 for the program.

*Limited to 16 children , **Call First,***

*Volunteer parent help is requested.  
Masks required!*

## **ASHFORD PARKS & RECREATION**

**860-487-4409**



***Tuesday Morning***

***Adult **YOGA** Class will resume  
with certified instructor***

***Karrie Kirchner***

***The next session will start***

***Feb. 1st and run for 6 weeks  
until Mar. 8th. Class meets in  
Knowlton Memorial Hall.***

***8:15-9:15 a.m. Fee is \$50***

## ***TINY TUMBLERS***



*This Ashford Park and Rec. sponsored  
program is for children ages 3-5.  
It's a great outlet for some of your  
little one's pent up energy.  
Participants will learn basic tumbling moves  
and have lots of fun trying  
a variety of movement skills: stretching,  
balancing, rolling, jumping,  
moving to music and making new friends!*

***Class meets Thursdays  
from 4:15-5:00 pm  
in Knowlton Memorial Hall.  
Class runs 6 weeks  
Feb. 17th—Mar. 24th Fee: \$50  
Lead Instructor: Caylin Fitzgerald***

# VALENTINE'S DAY Word Search



R L S R E L X S V O E Y C X O  
 E E T U C Y O L A Z N V W R Q  
 Z T R D N D T V L K P O I P Y  
 O T A I A L F U E D U Q T R R  
 R E E L M L S H N W L K A I I  
 O R H M O D G R T D E U P L I  
 S S T W R C A M I G R B A P A  
 E Y E G D C O T N B Q P I C O  
 S R E D O Z Y H E Y B H Q F M  
 S G W K A U A F C R S O G I L  
 I G S G T P D E A T C A N D Y  
 K P P P R P I A R E E E U E W  
 Y O W F E H L U D O M X S P W  
 K O Q E P V O Q D P F U Q Q I  
 R G Y C W C H V E S Y S I I J



- |                |           |             |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| LOVE           | CHOCOLATE | CANDY       |
| POETRY         | FLOWERS   | RED         |
| SECRET ADMIRER | ROSES     | LETTERS     |
| ROMANCE        | HOLIDAY   | SWEETHEARTS |
| VALENTINE CARD | COURTSHIP | RIBBON      |
| KISSES         |           |             |

**Instructions:**

Find and circle the words from the list. Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.

Courtesy of Memory-Improvement –Tips.com  
Reprinted by Permission

## HANDYMAN SERVICES

Sheet Rock Repair Misc. Repairs  
 Power Washing Gutter Cleaning/Repair  
 No Job Too Small Senior Discounts  
 Very Fair Prices  
 (860) 465-7262  
 24-hour Emergency Services

## COLUMBIA SEALCOAT CO.

Driveway & Parking Lot  
Maintenance and Repair

**860-228-7171**

Free Estimates  
Ct. Lic # 0552418

Tom Grano  
Columbia, CT

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

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

Local  
Postal Customer

860 Pet Sitting & Dog Walking  
Alexander Hastillo Electric  
American Scale Company Inc.  
Antero Health Care  
Anything Printed  
Ashford Garden Center  
Ashford Spirit Shoppe  
Basto Flooring LLC  
Bearing Star Insurance - Daniel Storer  
CNM Heating Cooling & Piping LLC  
Cool-Grind Technologies, LLC  
Count it All Joy Studio  
County Line Septic LLC  
Eastford Building Supply  
Fenton River North Veterinary Clinic  
Foundation Solutions of NE  
Franc Motors Inc.  
Funk & Little Inc  
Gary Stevens Remax Destination  
GM Thompson & Sons Inc.  
Greg Peck Landscaping

Hall Davis Marketing Strategies  
Henrietta House Bed & Breakfast and  
Red House Farm  
Insurance Engineering Solutions LLC  
Integrity Pest Control  
JCL Lawncare  
Key Bank  
Lance Glass  
Lawrence Real Estate  
Lyman Real Estate Carolyn Trotta  
Made and Formed Foundations  
Mansfield Supply  
Mansfield Tree Service  
McClintock Roofing

Midway Restaurant  
Mike Kovarovics Contracting  
Mobile Welding Industries LLC  
NAPA Auto Parts  
Neighborspaper LLC  
Northeast Builders Roofing Company  
Outpatient Mobile Solutions Inc.  
Pet-Law Farm  
Pfalzgraf P Farm  
Residential Foresters  
Rettenmeier Woodcarving  
Rogerson Masonry Inc.  
Sean Patrick Plants LLC  
Shooters Services  
Stoney Maple Carpentry  
Terry's Transmissions  
The Last Green Valley  
The Mobile Animal Clinic  
Westford Hill Distillers  
Willington Pizza  
Willow Valley Farm  
Yeagle Technologies



[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

**The Ashford Citizen is printed by Anything Printed Copy Center**