

Volume 53

Issue 3

March 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

### *Thank You to our Contributors!*

*The Ashford Citizen would like to acknowledge the many folks who write the articles and take the photos that grace our pages, month after month....*

*While we **always** appreciate any contributions that help us inform our readers, a special "Hats Off!" to the people who did down deep every month and do the work, and then remember to get their submissions in to us by the deadline (mostly!).*

*In no particular order:*

*Nord Yakovleff*

*Loretta Wrobel*

*Christine Acebo*

*Gary Brown*

*Tracey Stancil*

*Angelika Hansen*

*Pam King*

*Suzanne Schillinger*

*Carolann MacMaster*

*Members of*

*Members of*

*Kit Eves*

*Linda Gagne*

*Sherry York*

*Kara Fishman*

*Scout Troop 92*

*Ashford Conservation Commission*

*Ashford Conservation Commission*

*Assistance to Ashford Veterans*

*Ashford Volunteer Fire Dept.*

*Joshua's Trust*

*Ashford School*

*Ashford School*

*Babcock Library*

*Ashford Clean Energy Task Force*

*Ashford Arts Council*

*Municipal Agent for the Elderly*

*Ashford Tax Collector*

*Ashford Parks & Recreation*

*Ashford Assessor*



*We are also grateful to the advertisers who support our local publication. Thank you for not only helping us produce this long-time publication (1952!), but also for serving our residents with that small-town touch that we all so appreciate these days.*

*(If we have forgotten anybody, please let us know, and we will make sure that you are acknowledged next month! )*

## 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.



### SPRING AHEAD!

Daylight Savings Time  
begins Sunday, March 13th.

Remember to set your  
clocks AHEAD one hour!



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### 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)



## TRASH DAY!

### Spring Cleanup of Ashford Roads

Saturday, March 19th

Pick up vests, bags and pick-up sticks at Knowlton Memorial Hall

8:45 - 9:00 am

(Rain Date: March 26th)

Info: Loretta 860-429-2629

lorettaw886@gmail.com

### Ashford Tax Collector's Office

P.O. Box 173, Ashford, CT 06278  
487-4411



The Tax Collector's Office will be **CLOSED** in March as follows:

Wednesday, March 23rd, 2022

Friday, March 25th, 2022

The Tax Collector will be attending virtually the 51st Annual Seminar of the Tax Collectors' Association of CT for continuing education. Please e-mail with any questions: [taxcollector@ashfordtownhall.org](mailto:taxcollector@ashfordtownhall.org). Responses will be sent as time permits between sessions.

Linda G. Gagne CCMC  
Ashford Tax Collector

### \$500.00 Student Scholarship Offered by the Friends of Babcock Library



The goal of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to an actively involved Ashford student who is pursuing a post-graduation career. A panel of the F.O.B.L. officers will select the winning candidate. This scholarship is funded by membership dues and fundraising events. The application and details about eligibility requirements are available at Babcock Library, E.O. Smith High School and Windham Tech.

# FINANCIAL & TAX SERVICES

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### 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



# Ready for Kindergarten



## Kindergarten Screening Thursday, April 28, 2022

Ashford School  
440 Westford Road  
860-429-6419

The purpose of our Kindergarten Screening is to meet your child and gain a basic understanding of his/her readiness skills and personality. We make up classes by placing the same number of boys and girls per class and having a range of abilities in each class. Meeting your child helps us with class placement for the upcoming year.

### Who does the screening?

The Kindergarten Teachers and the Speech/ Language Pathologist.

### What does my child have to do?

Your child will be asked to do short, fun tasks, which are related to success in school, such as using playdough, naming colors, listening to a story, answering questions about the story, cutting, writing his/her name, naming letters/numbers and drawing a picture.

The screening is not used to verify if your child is ready for Kindergarten. **No child is refused from Kindergarten.** Kindergarten is available to all children who are age eligible.

**Please call Suzanne Schillinger at 860-429-6419, ext. 317 to make an appointment. April 28<sup>th</sup> is the only day for screenings.**

*\*Children enrolled in Ashford Preschool do not need to participate in the Kindergarten Screenings. They are automatically enrolled.*

### Drawing and Copying

- Hand preference
- Approach to task
- Comfort level
- Fine motor/grip (how well the muscles coordinate paper and pencil activities)

### Remembering

- Visual - Remembering what is seen
- Auditory - Remembering what is heard

### Using Language

- To describe
- To reason
- How your child understands and uses words and sentences
- Articulation (how well your child produces the sounds of speech)

# VITAL STATISTICS



## MARRIAGES:

William James Basch, Jr.     January 22, 2022  
Ashleigh Hope Martino



## 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

Changes/improvements are coming for VA life insurance. Check out:  
<https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/VALI.asp>



### Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust

**March 12, Saturday at 1 p.m.** It's time for Mills, Mills, Mills. Why are so many old mills in our woods? Come learn about the Gurley-Mason Mill and the adjoining Freeman property with historical expert Tina Waller. Meet at the Gurley-Mason Mill on Old Turnpike Road, Mansfield.

Sign up at [activities@joshuastrust.org](mailto:activities@joshuastrust.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



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 and Check Out



6. Read the Terms and Conditions before you press

- Especially if You Have Past Due Taxes

Pay Now

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**)

## 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.*

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## St. Patrick's Day Take Out Luncheon

Catered by MidWay Restaurant

\$9.00 paid in advance by March 10th



Pick up food Friday March 18<sup>th</sup>  
from 12:00-3:00 pm.

Brought to you by the Ashford  
Senior Center  
25 Tremko Lane  
860-487-5122



Tuesday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

11:00-3:30

St. Patrick's Day Celebration  
at *The Aqua Turf*

Featuring:

The Maclean Ave Band

\$47.00 p.p.

**CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE  
OR BAKED SCROD**

BUS LEAVES THE ASHFORD SENIOR CENTER,  
25 TREMKO LANE AT 9:30 for the Aqua Turf.

Very limited seating.

Payment must be made at time of sign-up.

## NOTICE OF DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

To enrolled members of the Democratic Party of  
the Town of Ashford Connecticut:

Pursuant to the Rules of the Democratic Party and  
State election laws, you are hereby notified that a  
caucus will be held on March 22, 2022, at 7:00  
P.M. at the Warrentville Old Post Office, 22  
Pompey Hollow Rd. (Route 44), Ashford CT  
06278 to **Endorse Delegates to State and District  
Conventions** and to transact other business as may  
be proper to come before said caucus.

Dated at Ashford, Connecticut,  
on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February, 2022

Democratic Town Committee of Ashford, CT.  
Bill Becker, Chairperson

All registered Ashford Democrats are welcome to  
attend the caucus and regular meetings of the  
Town Committee which are held on the third  
Tuesday of the month at 7:30PM.

Please contact [AshfordDTC@gmail.com](mailto:AshfordDTC@gmail.com) for  
further information about joining on Zoom or in  
person when that is possible.

Follow us on Facebook @AshfordDemocrats.

## Baked Potato Buffet



**St. Mary's Church**  
(Downstairs Hall)

218 Providence Street, Putnam

**Saturday, March 5th**

**5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

**\$5.00 per person**

**Giant Baked Potato  
7 toppings to choose from  
Dessert & Coffee or Tea**

**Eat In or Take Out**

Proceeds benefit Boy Scout Troop 21  
2022 Summer Camp Fund

For information, call  
(860) 928-7241.





## Ashford Food Program

Because of COVID-19 and a lack of food on grocery store shelves, Ashford Food Program would like to offer all residents, who qualify, to fill out an application to join Ashford Food Program.

The program provides only dried or canned foods once a month. Food is distributed on the first Friday of each month. Each month includes items such as canned meats, vegetables, soups, pasta, fruits, etc.

Please be aware applications are subject to income limits of \$35,950.00 (or less) for a single person, or \$41,050.00 (or less) for a couple. Also, the applicant must live in Ashford.

All completed applications should be mailed directly to the Ashford Food Program, 5 Town Hall Road, Ashford, CT 06278. No personal information will be received by anyone involved in the packing or distribution of the food, with the exception of your name and phone number for contact purposes on delivery/pickup times and places.

For questions, or applications, please email Megan at [communityconsulting92@charter.net](mailto:communityconsulting92@charter.net), or call Donna Dysart at # (860) 461-9434.

Donna Dysart, Chairman

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## Scout Troop 92 March Newsletter

### Troop 92 Klondike update:

The Scouts tested their outdoor skills at way stations at the Pachaug State Forest. Troop 92 placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at their best event. The trail was muddy and icy at this Klondike. The weather was agreeable; not too cold. Accommodations were warm sleeping bags and tents. There were no injuries. Lunch on the trail was tacos, and dinner was chili. Dave Gratton from Pomfret supplied wood for a substantial campfire. Sunday breakfast and breaking camp was in snow flurries.

Cub Scout Pack 92 went ice fishing at the beginning of February on Hall's Pond in Eastford. The Scouts learned some fishing knots, how to safely cut fishing line and even had a fire on the ice to cook lunch.

Cub Scouts reported that the Munson's Chocolate sale fund raiser was successful. Thank you to all that supported this worthwhile cause.

Scout Reservation JN Webster in Ashford is tapping their Maple trees for sap. We are looking forward to some wonderful syrup! Think spring.

March meetings will be every other weekend.  
New members are welcome to attend.

Troop 92 BSA  
Ashford/Eastford and Pomfret

Nord Yakovleff, Assistant Scout Master  
Cory Blanchette, Scout Master  
Chris Murphy, Assistant Scout Master  
Kurt van Heiningen, Cub Master  
Doug Nemeth, Committee Chair



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*Photos: Ice fishing on Hall's Pond (top); Troop 92's Klondike sled (bottom).*



# Ashford School News and Happenings

Ashford School had fun celebrating in February!



The Ashford Lady Wolves held off the Parish Hill Pirates 29-26 to win the QVJC Small Division Girls Basketball Championship. Kierra Busse scored a game high nine points for Ashford, while Kailee Kouatly and Malerye Knowlton both had 7 points, Addi Dingler, Esther Bowersett, and Katelynn Damble each had 2 points. Ashford School finished their season undefeated with a perfect 11-0 record!

## Up-Coming School Events

Date	Event
Monday, March 14 <sup>th</sup>	No School for Students – Professional Development Day
Thursday, March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Early Dismissal - 12:25

# SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

## Ashford Board of Education

### Bicknell Scholarship

The Ashford Board of Education, as trustees of the Bicknell Scholarship Trust, is pleased to announce that applications are available for the Maurice B. & Mildred C. Bicknell Scholarship. This year, there will be up to four (4) \$1,000 scholarships awarded.

The scholarships are awarded in memory of the Bicknell's, who established the trust fund to assist residents who are high school seniors who plan to enroll, or students already enrolled, in a full-time undergraduate program at an accredited school, college, or university. The awards, as stipulated by the Bicknell Trust, will be based on both need and merit.

The Board of Education will receive applications for the 2022 scholarships at the following address:

Bicknell Scholarship Trust  
c/o Ashford Board of Education  
440 Westford Rd.  
Ashford, CT 06278

**Application packets must be postmarked by April 15, 2022.** Awards will be announced in June.

You may obtain additional information regarding the scholarship by contacting the Office of the Superintendent, Ashford Public Schools, 440 Westford Road, Ashford, CT 06278 or calling 860-429-1927. Applications will be available at the Office of Superintendent of Schools at the above address and online at [www.ashfordct.org](http://www.ashfordct.org) beginning February 15, 2022.

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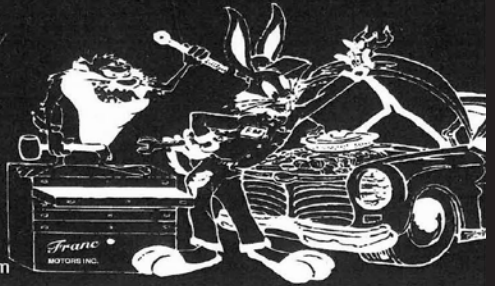


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[www.foundationsolutionsofne.com](http://www.foundationsolutionsofne.com)

Jeff Loya

Owner

(860) 463-3735

HIC 0659051

FFSIC Approved Contractor



## Announcing Ashford's Pollinator Pathway Project

March 2022

With the support of the Ashford Conservation Commission, and in collaboration with surrounding towns, the Pollinator Pathway project (<https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/>) encourages residents to get involved in local efforts to save pollinators -- butterflies, bees, hummingbirds – that have been in decline due to habitat loss, fragmentation and pesticide-usage. The Pollinator Pathway project collaborates with local gardeners, land owners, town officials and business owners to promote pollinator-friendly practices such as:

- including native plants on your property (since pollinators prefer these) and managing invasive species
- avoiding the use of pesticides and herbicides
- reducing your lawn size and/or leaving some bare ground and dead wood for nesting native bees (including leaving some autumn leaves for overwintering pollinating insects)

You do not need to be a large land-owner or convert current-use gardens, lawns or fields to all native plants in order to help pollinators. Even small window boxes and native plants left at the edge of pesticide-free fields or lawns are a huge benefit. Please help pollinators survive and thrive by adopting mindful pollinator practices and registering your efforts with Pollinator Pathways. You can help spread the word by ordering a Pollinator Pathway sign for your yard (<https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/sign>).

Registering your efforts with the Pollinator Pathway website also helps us work with surrounding towns to map contiguous pollinator corridors between land trust sites, town and state gardens/forests and other private properties. Ashford already has large tracts of protected land -- the Natchaug and Nipmuck State Forests, Wolf Den Land Trust, Joshua's Trust, Yale-Myers Forest and numerous non-profit camps – making it an ideal site for healthy, sustainable Pollinator Pathways.

The Ashford Pollinator Pathway Project is a group of volunteer Ashford residents who garden or maintain land with best-pollinator-practices. We can provide information and advice on native plants (including site visits to provide plant identification), invasive species, pesticide usage, lawn reduction and leaf collection. We are working with the Ashford Library to provide free native plant seeds through the Library's existing seedbank. We are partnered with Ashford Garden Club, Joshua Trust, and local businesses on a number of other initiatives, including invasive plant removal and town garden/land tours that feature native plants and best pollinator practices. Events and articles of interest will be posted on our Ashford Pollinator Pathway Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/AshfordPollinatorPathway>, please like us) and in the monthly Ashford Citizen.

If you would like to get involved, learn more, or become a partner, please message us through our Facebook page or email us at [AshfordPollinatorPathways@gmail.com](mailto:AshfordPollinatorPathways@gmail.com)





## Ashford Volunteer Fire Department

As the start of daylight-saving time approaches on Sunday, March 13th, AVFD reminds residents to practice this life-saving habit: When you change your clock, remember to change the battery in your smoke alarm.

Your risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half when you have smoke alarms that are working properly. Take the time to protect your family by making sure all smoke alarms in your home are working properly.

According to the NFPA, families have about two minutes to get out of their homes once their smoke alarm sounds due to fire. However, those life-saving minutes only occur when alarms are fully powered and operational. Three out of every five home fire deaths across the nation resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

**In addition to changing or checking your smoke alarm battery, here are some helpful preparedness tips:**

- Place a smoke alarm on every level of your home outside sleeping areas. If you keep bedroom doors shut, place a smoke alarm in each bedroom.
- Test your smoke alarms every month.
- Teach children what the smoke alarm sounds like and what to do when they hear it.
- Prepare and practice an escape plan – know at least two ways to get out of a room, crawl low under smoke and plan where to meet outside.
- Keep smoke alarms clean by regularly vacuuming over and around it. Dust and debris can interfere with its operation.
- Install smoke alarms away from windows, doors, or ducts that can interfere with their operation.
- Never remove the battery from or disable a smoke alarm. If your smoke alarm is sounding “nuisance alarms,” try locating it further from kitchens or bathrooms.
- Replace batteries at least once a year.



**The call count for January 2022 was 5 Fire/Rescue and 36 EMS. Our fiscal year total is 331.**

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

# Babcock News

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



March 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

**Carolann Mac Master,  
MLIS**

Library Director  
cmaacmaster@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.

Carolann Mac Master, MLIS  
Library Director

## Friend's of Babcock Library Scholarship

Applications are available at the library! Open to all Ashford Graduating Students wishing to continue their education after high school.

## 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 month's book will be **The Cruellest Month** by Louise Penny

## 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. Please let us know if you plan to attend.

In April we will have a Special Take Home Craft, for children and adults. We will provide all the materials needed for a small indoor greenhouse. Materials are Limited; please call the library to have your name put on the list. Limited to two per family. Please call the library starting the first week of March.

## CALENDAR

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

*Knitters*  
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  
March 15th  
~~~~~

BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES  
March 22nd  
~~~~~



© 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.

**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 we enjoy answering questions about him. 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 March 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.

**500 Books before Kindergarten**


500 Books Before Kindergarten is a commitment you make to your child that will prepare them to succeed in school and beyond! Stop by the library and pick up your 500 Book entry form and start reading, reach a milestone and earn a special prize.

**Annual Seed Program**




Once again we will be holding our seed program, either on Facebook, our website or in the library. Pick up an order form, simply tell us the number (not the name) that you would like. We will put together your request and you can pick them up. This is not a self service program; the library staff will prepare your order. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library, UConn Extension Service and a generous donor.

In late May we will have some seedlings available. These seeds will be available until the planting season is over. All the above events have limited supplies.

**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.



# MARCH

| SUNDAY                                                                                    | MONDAY                                                                            | TUESDAY                                                                         | WEDNESDAY                                                   | THURSDAY                                                                                                       | FRIDAY                                                                                                   | SATURDAY                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022                                                                                      | ~                                                                                 |                                                                                 |                                                             |                                                                                                                |                                                                                                          |                                                                                            |
|                                                                                           |  | 1<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>10:00 COA<br>10:45 Low Impact                              | 2<br>11:00 Lunch Bunch<br>Food distribution day             | 3<br>12:00 Dime Bingo                                                                                          | 4<br>9:00 Walking Tape<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>1:00 Dominos<br>Last day to order corned beef and cabbage meal | 5                                                                                          |
| 6                                                                                         | 7<br>9:30 Walking Tape<br>1:00 Mah Jong                                           | 8<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>10:00 ASCO Board<br>10:45 Low Impact<br>1:00 Roving Crafts | 9<br>Food distribution day                                  | 10<br>12:00 Dime Bingo                                                                                         | 11<br>9:00 Walking Tape<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>1:00 Dominos                                                  | 12<br> |
| 13<br> | 14<br>9:30 Casino Trip<br>9:30 Walking Tape<br>1:00 Mah Jong                      | 15<br>9:30 Aqua Turf Trip<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>10:45 Low Impact                   | 16<br>Food distribution day<br>1:00 ASCO Member Meeting     | 17<br>12:00 Dime Bingo<br> | 18<br>9:00 Walking Tape<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>12:00 pick up Corned beef meals<br>1:00 Dominos               | 19                                                                                         |
| 20                                                                                        | 21<br>9:30 Walking Tape<br>1:00 Mah Jong                                          | 22<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>10:45 Low Impact                                          | 23<br>Food distribution day                                 | 24<br>12:00 Dime Bingo                                                                                         | 25<br>9:00 Walking Tape<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>1:00 Dominos                                                  | 26                                                                                         |
| 27                                                                                        | 28<br>9:30 Walking Tape<br>1:00 Mah Jong                                          | 29<br>9:30 Tai Chi<br>10:45 Low Impact                                          | 30<br>Food distribution day<br>10:00 Probate Court Outreach | 31<br>12:00 Dime Bingo                                                                                         |                                                                                                          |                                                                                            |

ASHFORD SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR 25 TREMKO LANE 860-487-5122



## From the Municipal Agent for the Elderly

**Kit Eves 860-487-5122**

The Northeast Probate Court is providing community outreach here at the Ashford Senior Center. You can meet with the Probate Judge on Wednesday March 30<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm. Court staff will be available to:

1. Assist with court matters.
2. Help find and fill out forms.
3. Provide information on local resources.
4. Answer questions about the Probate system in CT. No appointment is necessary. Come and learn about the Court and what you will need to know.

The Senior Center is looking for a hairdresser who will come into the Center once a month and provide haircuts for individuals. This must be a licensed person. If you have a beautician who might be interested in providing this service for a modest fee to seniors, please contact me at 860-487-5122.

### Home Safety Checklist – Bedroom

Do throw rugs create a tripping hazard? Is the carpet torn? If so, remove throw rugs or use double-sided tape (heavy duty tape) or a rug pad to secure the rug to the floor. For small tears, a little glue or carpet staples can fix the problem.

Is the room cluttered with clothing, magazines, newspaper, or other items? Is there too much furniture for the space? If so, it might be a good time to work with your senior and clean out closets and drawers of items he/she no longer wears or uses. For other items, build or buy shelving for closets to store sweaters, blankets or shoes.

Does the senior lack access to a telephone or cell phone, especially at night? If so, consider a cordless phone. If the senior is not agreeable to having a phone in the bedroom, or he/she doesn't own a cell phone, suggest an emergency alert system. An internet search for emergency alert or medical alert systems will provide you with a variety of options.

Is there enough light? If not, nightlights are a good option for dark rooms at night. If the senior likes to read in the bedroom at night or turns on the light in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom, make sure the bulb wattage is high enough to properly illuminate the room. Rope lighting is another good option for hallways that connect the bathroom and bedroom.

My thanks to the folks at Home Instead Care for this information.

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# Ashford Transfer Report

1/15/2022 - 2/15/2022

## Office of the Tax Collector

The Tax Collector's Office is reviewing all accounts for unpaid balances. Real Estate accounts are being reviewed for possible action in a tax sale. There are currently 15 accounts that are identified for inclusion in the next auction of property for unpaid taxes. Owners will be notified by mail. A Demand Letter will be issued, and after the prescribed time listed in the Demand, the account will be turned over to our Tax Attorney to initiate the tax sale process.

The office attempts to work diligently with all taxpayers to achieve successful solutions to the problems that may be incurred. PLEASE make every effort to bring your account current.

Thank you.

Linda G. Gagne CCMC  
Tax Collector



| INSTRUMENT NUMBER | BOOK | PAGE | RECORDED DATE | PRICE LOCAL CONV      | GRANTOR/SELLER                                 | GRANTEE/BUYER                    | DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION                                 |
|-------------------|------|------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022-53           | 205  | 480  | 01/26/2022    | \$195,000<br>\$487.50 | NAVARRO MARIA NATASHA                          | TAMBORRA JOSEPH JOHN             | WARRANTY DEED<br>28 SLADE ROAD, LOT 1 ON MAP "PLAN C |
| 2022-58           | 205  | 521  | 01/28/2022    | \$0<br>\$0.00         | NIARHAKOS CHRISTOPHER W<br>NIARHAKOS LINDSEY L | 362 ASHFORD CENTER ROAD LLC      | DEED<br>362 ASHFORD CENTER ROAD                      |
| 2022-71           | 205  | 591  | 02/04/2022    | \$0<br>\$0.00         | DEVITO MARGARET J                              | DEVITO ROBERT M<br>DEVITO ROBERT | DEED<br>20 AMIDON DRIVE                              |
| 2022-72           | 205  | 593  | 02/07/2022    | \$220,000<br>\$550.00 | NELSON EDGAR J<br>NELSON DOROTHY G             | IRONWOOD ACRES LLC               | WARRANTY DEED<br>480 SQUAW HOLLOW RD                 |
| 2022-73           | 205  | 596  | 02/07/2022    | \$0<br>\$0.00         | CALARESE JOHN                                  | IRONWOOD ACRES LLC               | DEED<br>474 SQUAW HOLLOW RD                          |
| 2022-79           | 205  | 620  | 02/08/2022    | \$155,000<br>\$387.50 | SHOOKS ADAM C                                  | ASSELIN KATHERINE ANN            | WAR<br>7 ARMITAGE COURT LOTS 230 & 232 ON            |
| 2022-83           | 205  | 649  | 02/09/2022    | \$306,000<br>\$765.00 | DAVIS DAVID J<br>DAVIS ELEANOR                 | CHRISTY RICK<br>HOLLADAY YVETTE  | WARRANTY DEED<br>591 WESTFORD ROAD                   |
| 2022-87           | 205  | 663  | 02/11/2022    | \$234,000<br>\$585.00 | CLOUTIER GERALD                                | CAMPBELL DONALD                  | WARRANTY DEED<br>344 ASHFORD CENTER ROAD             |

## March 2022 Conservation Commission News

### Save the dates

#### **Clean Your Streets Day Saturday March 19 (Rain date-March 26)**

The Conservation Commission is sponsoring a day of Clean Your Streets this spring. We are hoping for a great spring day on March 19<sup>th</sup> so all Ashford residents can take to the streets and rid our roadways of all the detritus that has accrued during the winter months. The trash seems to grow along our Ashford roads. Again, this year Ian Preston, owner of Preston Family Property Maintenance in Ashford, will be sponsoring our trash pickup day. Come down to Knowlton Memorial Hall between 8:45AM-9AM to meet Ian and his family, ask any questions and pick up bags, vests and pick-up sticks. We want this one-day event to show pride in our beautiful town and get many folks out helping rid our roads of litter. Anyone or any business can adopt a road and make it sparkle. For further info contact Pamm Summers [80barnowl@gmail.com](mailto:80barnowl@gmail.com) or Loretta [lorettaw@gmail.com](mailto:lorettaw@gmail.com).

#### **Farmers Market**

Now that March is here, spring is soon to be upon us. Our Farmers Market will begin its 16<sup>th</sup> season as usual in May, which is only 2 months away. Again, you will be able to get a variety of locally grown fresh food. Look for details in next issues of the Citizen.

#### **Sustainable CT**

We are focusing on several aspects of the Sustainable CT program to achieve bronze recertification for Ashford by the end of August. Our Trash Cleanup Day is one event that we have scheduled and we plan to offer more options as the spring unfolds. We are looking at affordable housing issues in our town along with options for those who are experiencing difficulties managing their housing costs. PZC is developing a survey to further explore these issues. Look for news of the survey and a town meeting in March. Decreasing energy use and costs plus using more renewable energy is part of our work to become more sustainable. If you have any interest in working with us, please contact Loretta [lorettaw@gmail.com](mailto:lorettaw@gmail.com) or 860-429-2629.

We now have a pollinators pathways account so you can contact our coordinator, <[AshfordPollinatorPathways@gmail.com](mailto:AshfordPollinatorPathways@gmail.com)> and a Facebook page just for our town [www.facebook.com/AshfordPollinatorPathway](https://www.facebook.com/AshfordPollinatorPathway). Stay tuned for more information.

Happy Spring. Let's enjoy our precious resources and keep ourselves healthy.

Loretta Wrobel, chair



March 2022

There has never been a better time to consider putting solar panels on your home and reducing your electric bill. On January 1, new electric rates for solar went into effect. Now you have more choices, and can get a better rate for the energy you produce. With the Buy-All option, you sell all the energy your system produces back to the power company, without using it to power your home. The Netting option mixes the energy you produce with what you buy from the grid. This table summarizes the two choices for Ashford residents connecting new systems:

|                      | <b>Buy-All</b>                                       | <b>Netting</b>                                                                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Rate</i>          | \$.2943/kWh, fixed + \$.025/kWh (fixed) <sup>1</sup> | Retail rate (variable) + \$.0318/kWh (fixed) <sup>2</sup> + \$.025/kWh (fixed) <sup>3</sup> |
| <i>Payment</i>       | Cash                                                 | \$.0318/kWh in cash, balance credited to account monthly                                    |
| <i>When Paid Out</i> | Quarterly                                            | \$.0318/kWh quarterly, balance only paid when account closed                                |
| <i>Term</i>          | 20 years                                             | 20 years                                                                                    |

Choose the Buy-All option if you want a guaranteed income at a fixed rate that pays out regularly. The Netting rate varies as the retail rate changes, but the additional \$.0318/kWh, the Renewable Energy Credit (REC) is fixed. The \$.025/kWh portion is fixed but is only available if your income is less than 60% of the state median income. Note that the Netting option does not pay out any credited energy until you close the account. The Netting option is better if you will be installing batteries.

In both cases, the maximum size of your system is limited to the lower of 25kWh or your highest monthly consumption in the last 5 years. This is done to avoid overloading the distribution network, to spread the generation around the network. But if you will be converting to electric heat, you can add 3,608 kWh for a whole-home air source heat pump, or 2,458 kWh for a whole-home ground source heat pump. You can increase the system by 3,285 kWh each for up to 2 EV charging stations. If you want to add more panels to an existing system, you must use the Buy-All option. You can learn more by contacting a solar installer or Eversource.

Next month's Green Tip will look at the options and help available to install batteries in your home. The ACETF thanks you for your interest in our work, and welcomes your input. We welcome your participation by joining us as a member. If you have questions or comments, please contact John Sievel at [johnsievel@gmail.com](mailto:johnsievel@gmail.com).

<sup>1</sup> This is available if your income is below 60% of CT's median income.

<sup>2</sup> Renewable Energy Credit (REC), which can also be assigned to someone else to help pay for your system.

<sup>3</sup> This is available if your income is below 60% of CT's median income.





# ST. PATRICK'S DAY Word Search

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



- |             |          |          |
|-------------|----------|----------|
| CELTIC      | CLOVER   | COINS    |
| DOWNPATRICK | FESTIVAL | FOLKLORE |
| GAELIC      | GOLD     | GREEN    |
| IRELAND     | LEGEND   | LIMERICK |
| LUCK        | PARADE   | PATRON   |
| RAINBOW     | SHAMROCK | TRINITY  |

### 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  
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*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

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**24-hour Emergency Services**

# YOGA

## HATHA YOGA with Karrie Kirchner

Class meets Tuesday Mornings from 8:15-9:15 a.m.  
 at Knowlton Memorial Hall  
 Spring Session March 15th– April 19th  
 Fee: \$50 for 6 week session (Drop in \$10 a class)

Namaste



Ardha Padmasana



## TAI CHI Moving Meditation

Beginner's Tai Chi movements and traditional meditations to enhance our health and balance and wake our Spring energy. Class is led by Joe Pandolfo a certified Tai Chi instructor, Reiki Master, and Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist  
 It's offered on Monday evenings for adults in Knowlton Memorial Hall from 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
 Session runs March 7th—April 11th.  
 Fee: \$50 for the 6 week session (Drop in \$10 a class )

*Next Rec. Commission meeting will be **Monday March 14th 7:00**. The agenda will be posted on the town website. The public is always welcome, we value your input on our programs & facilities. We are looking for new ideas and members!*

Congratulations! To all the basketball players, teams, coaches, and parents on a fine season of Youth Basketball,

**We Made a Nice Comeback !**

Thank you for your patience, commitment effort and exciting play!  
 It has been a pleasure!



## ADULT PICK UP BASKETBALL

Enjoy some March Madness!  
 Monday evenings from 6:15-7:45.  
 March 14th thru April. (6 weeks)  
 Ashford School Gymnasium  
 \$20 per player

### REGISTRATION FORM

**Registration Information:** You may register for all activities at the Recreation office in Town Hall or by mail to: 5 Town Hall Rd. Registration and payment are required prior to the start of a program. Permission slips and waivers must be signed before participating in programs. Out of town residents are welcome if space is available and are charged an extra \$5 fee. Refunds are not given once a program begins except for medical reasons. Credits or refunds are given for cancelled programs. Checks may be made out to A.P.R.C. Please call 860-487-4409 with questions.

| Participants Name<br>Address & (e-mail) | Program | Phone | Age | Fee |
|-----------------------------------------|---------|-------|-----|-----|
|                                         |         |       |     |     |
|                                         |         |       |     |     |
|                                         |         |       |     |     |
|                                         |         |       |     |     |

Please list any allergies or medical conditions  
 (Write "None" if appropriate) \_\_\_\_\_

The signer or parent /guardian agree to waive, release and hold harmless the A.P.R.C. any persons connected with A.P.R.C. and or any volunteers from any claims of bodily or property damage resulting from the use of facilities or activity during an A.P.R.C. sponsored program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Parent or Guardian Signature)

# Lets Go Swimming!

Remember a Safe Swimmer is a Strong Swimmer!



**SWIM LESSONS** Swim Red Cross Learn to Swim Lessons will be offered on Wednesdays at the Evangelical Christian Center Pool. Spring Swim Lessons will run 6 weeks from April 6th-May 11th. Sandy Reed and Ashley Ault will instruct. Fee: \$60, Call 860-487-4409 with questions.

- ◆ Parent Tot /Preschool 4:30-5:00
- ◆ Preschool/ Level I 5:00-5:30
- ◆ Level II 5:30 –6:00
- ◆ Level III 6:00- 6:30
- ◆ Level IV & V 6:30-7:00

The Benefits of Swim Lessons are Endless!  
 Give yourself and your child piece of mind.  
 Enhance your enjoyment of all water sports.  
 It's great exercise and will build confidence  
 as your child develops skills and progresses from  
 one level to the next!

E.C.C. Rec. Center/Pool needs a new boiler furnace and heat exchanger, a major project.  
 Dates for swim programs above and below are target dates pending completion of the renovation.

## Swim Club

*For 4th, 5th, & 6th Graders!  
 Participants must be at least a  
 Level 2 Swimmer to participate.*

### How Cool to go from School to the Pool!

School bus transport is provided from school to the pool. Swim Lesson 4-4:30, we will practice our swim strokes, and build endurance!  
 From 4:30-5:00 is time for fun and games!  
 Water sports challenges and contests.  
 Parents pick up at the pool 5:00-5:15.  
 Fee: \$ 70 (10-16 kids needed)  
 Program runs on Mondays, for 6 weeks  
 April 4, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23.



## GYMNASTICS

**A 6 week program for K –4 graders. Meets in the gym after school on Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 p.m. Fee: \$60 Instructor: Sherry York and assistants.  
 Runs March 15, 22, 29, & April 5, & 26.**

Participants will stretch, strengthen, use the equipment and practice their favorite tricks and learn some new gymnastics moves! Besides being lots of fun!  
 Gymnastics builds strength, power, coordination, flexibility, and confidence!  
 Register early, space is limited. Call 860-487-4409 with questions.

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

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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

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