

# Town of South Windsor

## Town Manager's Report November 2018

Matthew B. Galligan  
Town Manager



### **Economic Development**

Before you is an approval for a tax fixing agreement with the new development on I-291 with Scannell and Coca-Cola. Currently, we collect about \$6,000 in taxes on this property. When this facility is operational, we will probably be looking at about \$300,000-\$400,000 per year in property taxes, in spite of a 70%, 7-year tax fixing agreement. I will be discussing these numbers in more detail at the Town Council meeting, when it comes time for the resolution, and I will highlight how I have come to those numbers.

### **CCM Convention**

I attended the CCM convention on October 30th and 31st. CCM did a terrific job with hosting the gubernatorial debate, and the conference was well-attended and well-informed of the topics that are facing us currently. I want to thank Joe DeLong and everyone else who put the program together, as it was very educational for us all.

Recently I have met with Tony Manfre from the WPCA concerning an interesting new program that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has put out called Waste Zero. It is almost a pay-as-you-throw type of program, but we are doing some research on it to see if there is a way to reduce costs even further. It would be a totally different way of processing waste. Some of the other topics that we discussed at the CCM conference were the recycling issues, and how

we are going to handle those as glass has been contaminated and there is now a tough market for recycling. We used to get paid for recycling, and now we may be in a position of having to pay for its disposal. During our discussions we came up with some ideas, and we are also looking at ways to resolve those issues locally so that we do not have rising costs.

At the CCM conference the Town of South Windsor was awarded the Bronze Award for sustainable cities. The award was accepted by our Director of Planning, Michele Lipe. I want to thank everyone who was involved, especially Michele Lipe, as it was a very tedious process to go through, but a worthwhile one in order to win such a prestigious award.

Each year CCM gives out two awards, the Richard C. Lee Innovators Award and the Joel Colgan Lifetime Achievement Award. These awards are given to individuals that CCM feels have contributed significantly not only to their community, but also to the State of Connecticut and to CCM. I was very surprised and honored to receive both of these awards, as I knew one of the individuals when I first came to CT, and to learn that my colleagues throughout the municipalities in the State had voted for me to be considered for both awards.

## Police Department

Scott P. Custer  
Chief of Police

### November 2018



### Swearing In Ceremony for Chief and Deputy Chief:

Chief Scott Custer and Deputy Chief Kristian Lindstrom were sworn in at Town Hall on Monday, October 1st in the Council Chambers. Town staff and members of local law enforcement attended the ceremony marking the swearing in of South Windsor's sixth Chief of Police.

### Department Staffing & Recruiting:

We continue to take part in recruiting events to find a diverse group of candidates. We held oral board interviews in mid-October and are working to fill three vacant officer positions. The department is currently short-staffed due to those 3 officer vacancies, 2 officers who are now in their four-month Field Training Program, and 3 officers who are out on long-term leave due to off-duty injury and pregnancy. We should have those officers back on duty by January and the field trainees will be done in March. This will bring staffing

closer to normal levels and reduce our overtime costs.

Medical Calls continue to increase due to the assisted living centers, walk-in clinics, and medical offices in town, all of which require a police response as the designated First Responders.

### New Officer Hired:

On Monday, October 29th we hired Officer Zachary Consenza. He is finishing his Master's Degree this month and will be attending the Hartford Police Academy in mid-November. We are very pleased with the training and values imparted by the Hartford Academy. Their recruits receive the normal police training but also get trained in Crisis Intervention Training and must perform Community Service projects in the city, which strengthens the connection between the officer and community.

### Community Policing Events:

October was a busy month; we assigned a Community Outreach Officer to two Recreation Department events where beer was served, the "Poker Ryed" and the "Porters on Porter". Both events were successful and gave us an opportunity to meet with citizens. Coffee with a Cop was held on October 3rd at Dunkin Donuts, it is always successful, we thank the Sullivan Avenue Dunkin Donuts for hosting us and letting us meet with customers to answer questions and discuss whatever is on their mind.

On October 12th we joined with the fire

## Police Department

Scott P. Custer  
Chief of Police

department and ambulance services at the CREC School Public Safety Day. We had breakfast together, met with students in the classrooms and showed off cruisers to the kids.

The Drug Takeback Day was held on October 27th at headquarters, this is an annual event and we take in unneeded medications for disposal. We took in hundreds of pounds of medications and we also were able to take syringes for disposal thanks to Environmental Services Inc.

### **Haunted Torch Walk:**

The Haunted Torch Walk was held on October 20th and was a huge success. Over \$12,000.00 was raised for various charities including the South Windsor Community Foundation and Veterans' Base camp. We thank all the volunteers and our own Corporal Ron Littell who works tirelessly every year to make this a fun event for our town.

### **"No Shave November":**

For the first time, South Windsor PD is participating in No Shave November. During November we will temporarily suspend our grooming regulations to allow for beards and goatees. Participating officers are making a donation to participate and all money raised is going to Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale. We lost Chief Tyler and Lt. Rich Bond to cancer. Retired Officer Rick Barile is fighting cancer now and many others have battled it. We want to show our support for Smilow and thank them for the excellent care they have given

officers over the years. There are at least 40 Connecticut police departments participating in this event.

### **Follow us on Social Media:**

We try to keep a presence on Social Media, our Facebook page and Twitter feed are also displayed on our webpage:

<https://www.southwindsor.org/police>

We encourage everyone to follow us and share information with friends and family.

Facebook: South Windsor Police Department

Twitter: @SWPD\_PIO

## Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick  
Director of Public Works

### Fleet Services

Your Fleet Services Division continues to provide unparalleled levels of service and commitment to the Town. Currently, the Division has been going the extra mile, like reporting for work an hour early and staying an hour later. On top of that, the mechanics have even been coming in on the weekends in order to meet the demands of the Town and its sizable fleet of vehicles and equipment. Every budget season and thereafter, the division requests an additional Mechanic in order for the division to continue to bring unrealized value and efficiencies to the Town.

This month, the division recycled an old leaf machine engine into a new leaf machine body to continue to generate more value in existing Town assets. Work of this nature takes time and expertise. Therefore, it is imperative for the Town to support and cultivate a culture of keeping work in-house and explore ways to get more life and productivity out of equipment.

Beyond this engine swap and reconfiguration, every leaf machine had new impellers installed, which is the part of the machine that creates suction. In addition, wear plates inside the leaf body impeller housing were installed to keep the machines wearing evenly and protect our workers from projectiles. Every year, quarter-inch steel wear plates are installed, and by the end of the season, this steel is almost paper thin. The purpose of these wear plates is to prevent the wear from

impacting the body and to prevent heat buildup, which will distort and twist the bodies of the leaf machines. Over just a few short weeks, it's impressive to see how much steel leaf chafe can eat away every year.

Every leaf machine engine gets a full tune-up, which is comprised of an oil change, new filters including fuel, oil, and air, new belts, new boom knuckles, and new suction tubes. Some machines end up needing new alternators or lifting cylinders, and ideally all these issues are worked out prior to the commencement of leaf season. Leaf boxes had to be reconfigured and adjusted to fit new truck body dimensions, and every leaf blower tuned up and tested; there are over 26 of them! Leaf blowers also receive a full service, oil change, filter changes, spark plugs, and pull cords if necessary.



On top of all this work, your three mechanics also maintained and attended to several police vehicles which required service, your Health and Human Services busses, fixed several lawn mower issues, and answered six road service calls.

- Vincent Stetson  
Superintendent of Streets



## Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick  
Director of Public Works

### **Pollution Control**

The Department of Water Pollution Control will begin the fourth and final phase of the Easement Vegetation Management program in November. Distinctive Tree Care, LLC. has once again been awarded the job. This phase of the project will take place in Area 4 which is located in the eastern portion of town. As part of this project Distinctive Tree is required to maintain the previous three phases with brush mowing, hand cutting, stump treatments, and herbicidal treatments. This program was initiated to clear trees and vegetation in the sanitary sewer easements throughout town allowing our staff and equipment to access the manholes for maintenance and emergency repair purposes. Over the long-term, the goal is to control undesirable plant species using the most selective treatment methods possible on regular treatment cycles. This will minimize the need for more intensive maintenance operations.

The Miller Road sewer extension project has been completed. The contractor has installed almost 1000' of pipe, 4 manholes and 12 laterals. Final pavement restoration will be completed the week of October 29 weather permitting. The residents in this area of Miller Road will be permitted to connect to the public sewer when the final costs are submitted and approved.

The Sullivan Avenue Siphon and Relief Sewer Project has begun. This project will increase the sewer capacity to better serve this area of

town. Over the years upstream development has increased the wastewater flow which in turn has maximized the high flow capacity of the siphon that runs under the Podunk River. The contractor will be adding a third siphon pipe and install a 12" sewer from Troy Road to Hillside Drive. Increasing the sewer capacity will mitigate surcharging and will allow development to continue east of the Sullivan Avenue water shed. We are addressing the traffic issues that this project has created by utilizing extra flaggers when necessary and keeping two lanes open as much as possible. An open line of communication with the business community has been established and we are reinforcing the long term benefits of this project for their businesses.



*Photo: Sullivan Avenue Siphon inlet structure being built.*

The Water Pollution Control Department is undertaking a pump station asset management study with the help of Wright-Pierce Engineering. We received a 55% grant from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protections' Clean Water Fund. The completion of the study will give us a comprehensive evaluation of our 11 pump stations and help us plan future upgrades to

## Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick  
Director of Public Works

our infrastructure. The study will also help secure any Clean Water Funding that may be available on future pump station projects.

The team at the treatment plant has been making winter preparations in anticipation of the colder temperatures which affect the microbiology. Our process changes include taking tanks off line to increase the biological inventory. Our maintenance staff takes advantage of the tanks being off line to perform preventative maintenance inspections and make any necessary repairs to the equipment. This year we are replacing 1,300 fine bubble diffuser membranes. This project requires the removal of each head, replacing the membrane and re-securing the head by hand. This is a very labor intensive job that takes several days to complete. The result of the new membranes will be an improved oxygen transfer with the microorganisms which in turn improves the breakdown of waste entering the treatment plant. The service life of each membrane is seven years.



You can find more information about the Water Pollution Control Facility and the

Water Pollution Control Authority on the Town of South Windsor's website at [www.southwindsor.org](http://www.southwindsor.org).

*-Tony Manfre*  
*Superintendent of Pollution Control*

### **Street Services**

Our crews are finishing up several projects as the summer season continues to wane. The employee parking lot at the town garage has been completed using in-house staff. This lot had numerous low spots that created icy patches and significant slipping hazards. To try and answer that age old question; how does the plow driver get to work? Well, hopefully safely. Although we usually have people in before the snow begins, previous storms can leave hidden dangers such as black ice. And with our staff being called in at almost any time of the day or night, weekend or workday, it was imperative that we keep these first responders as safe as possible to get the process of making our roads safe for everyone underway as quickly as possible.

Our entire Streets crew will soon be starting the annual leaf harvest. Hard to believe that the summer is behind us. Crews will be testing equipment on November 1st and 2nd in preparation for the official start on November 5th. In the meantime, crews will be preparing equipment, installing leaf boxes, and cleaning equipment for the start of the program.

## Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick  
Director of Public Works

We supported the Fall Harvest Fest, Heritage Day and the Hartford Marathon. For the Marathon, the crew pothole patched and swept along the entire race course, eliminating any potential hazards. For the Harvest Fest we installed temporary no parking signs and crowd control measures. For Heritage Day, we supplied the committee with several items that were requested.

Several drainage projects were finished up during the month which will put us in a good spot to begin road repairs in the spring. There has been some tree trimming as well as the removal of trees in decline.

The department supported the fire department by installing a protective coating on the front apparatus ramp. This treatment was necessary to prevent salt damage to the concrete apron.

We had crews pothole patching throughout town to the extent manpower and weather would permit. We are hopeful this will carry us through the leaf season before the pothole season comes into full swing.

*-Scott Yeomans  
Associate Manager, Street Services*

## Information Technology

Scott Roberts  
Assistant Town Manager/CIO

The Information Technology department is proud to announce that we received a 2018 Municipal Excellence Award from the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. We applied for their general entry award for our implementation and use of technology in our Emergency Operations Center. In addition to being recognized at their annual convention, we received \$1,000 to put towards the continued operation and success of the project.

In addition to the daily support we provide the other Town departments, the Information Technology department has been extremely busy working on the following projects. Most of these will be ongoing throughout the remainder of the fiscal year.

- Updating our virtual infrastructure.
- Overhaul of our physical networking equipment.
- Implementing additional network security features.
- Renovating the technology in the Police Department training room.
- Implementing a number of different modules in our financial management application with the Finance Department.
- Renovating the technology within Wapping for the Recreation Department.
- Working with Finance to renew the copier lease and replacing all of the Town copiers.
- Working with MDA 31 to create POD (Point of Dispensing) procedures for utilizing technology to improve onsite operations in addition to procuring and implementing

that technology.

- Selecting and implementing a new EDMS (Enterprise Document Management System).
- Converting from .org domain to a .gov domain.
- Rewiring the network cabling at the Police Department and Community Center.
- VoIP phone system implementation.
- Adding additional Town buildings to the fiber optic network.
- Converting from IPv4 to IPv6

- Drew Guild

*Systems Analysis/Administrator*

## Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco  
Director of Human Services

### **Human Services Update:**



On October 25 & 26, the Human Services Department hosted Kevin Briggs for four presentations on mental health and suicide prevention. Kevin is a former California Highway Patrol Officer who now travels the world in hopes to end suicide and the stigma of mental illness. He spoke to officers at SWPD on Crisis Intervention, vicarious trauma and self-care. 60 community members came out on Thursday night for his presentation on his experience patrolling the Golden Gate Bridge and assisting people while contemplating suicide. He discussed his own personal struggles and battle with depression. Something he said he initially believed was just a sign of weakness. Something he was subconsciously taught growing up and working what he calls "macho" jobs.



On Friday, he spoke to the entire junior and senior class (646 students) at SWHS. His focus with the students was how to hone in on active listening skills, the importance of

compassion and how to tell an adult when you're concerned about a friend's safety. We have had very positive feedback about his message!

### **Adult and Senior Services Division:** **Holiday Programs Beginning!**

The Thanksgiving Basket Program will soon be underway with individuals, local businesses, school and church groups donating items for a Thanksgiving meal. Contact Lindsey Ravalese at 860-648-6361 ext. 319 for more information on donating. We are also starting to recruit donors for our annual Adopt a Child program, which provides toys and clothes to children in low income families. To inquire about the Adopt a Child program, contact Steve Clapp at 860-648-6361 ext. 325.

### **Squash Gleaning**

Almost 600 pounds of butternut squash was picked by Human Services volunteers at Reichle Farm and donated to the Food Bank and Senior Center. This was a great effort thanks to the help of Nancy Swiatkiewicz from the Bridge Healthy Choice Pantry, part of Our Savior Lutheran Church.

### **Open House for Senior Center Month**

Our Open House in celebration of Senior Center Month was a big success, with many new people coming in to check out our programs and services, and some of our regulars learning new things!

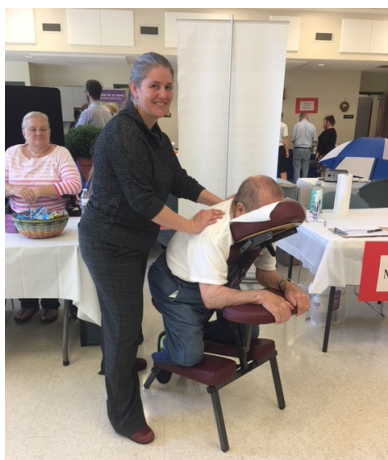




A big thanks to our volunteers who made this event possible!

### Health Fair

Our 8th annual Health and Safety Fair had almost 200 in attendance with 111 flu shots administered and 25 vendors providing a variety of services including blood pressure and blood sugar checks, balance screenings, muscle and nerve testing, evaluations for vein disease, oxygen level checks, mini mental exams, ear and hearing screenings and massages.



Healthy snacks were available at several of the vendor tables and information on a variety of topics was distributed including fire safety, Yellow Dot program, CRIS Radio and more!

### Bags of Love Donation to Food Bank



Tiernan Cabot from Hartford Bags of Love is pictured with Mayor Saud Anwar and Human Services Director Andrea Cofrancesco when he recently donated food and a tub of “bags of love” which consisted of toiletries to South Windsor families through the Food Bank.

### MCOA Presentation

Andrea Cofrancesco co-presented a workshop with Ronda Guberman, Assistant Director of the Plainville Senior Center recently at the Massachusetts Council on Aging annual conference. The presentation was on how to create an adventure club for older adults. Active programs promotes healthy aging, improves mental health, gives people more energy, challenges folks and encourages them to be engaged in programs with other people with similar interests. At times the programs offered will allow people to check something off their bucket list!

### Fit for Life Fitness Center

The South Windsor Community Foundation and Max Challenge attended our recent Open House to officially donate \$22,000 towards the cost of the equipment. A total of \$42,000 was used for this great service and only \$1500 of it was tax dollars. The remaining funds came from donations from seniors and other fundraisers. The fitness center is open to

residents age 55 and over at a nominal charge. Senior Center Program Coordinator and Exercise Health Specialist Susan Gouin meets with individuals to teach them how to use the equipment and designs a program based on their own personal health needs.



### Youth and Family Services

Every October, the Connecticut Youth Services Association (CYSA) hosts an annual conference, bringing together the 102 Youth Service Bureaus in the state. This conference topic this year was "YOUth Led Change Starts with YOU!" It was a full day of informative breakouts and motivational conversations. The best part is that one of our own South Windsor youth volunteers was awarded the Connecticut Youth Services Association's 2018 Youth Award! This award is given to one youth per year who has made a significant impact in their community. Jon has been involved with our programs here in South Windsor for 5 years. From volunteering at the Farmers Market to being in a leadership role with our Youth Council to tackling the large Eagle Scout project of building garden beds here at the community center. Gardens which will benefit those who utilize the food bank.



Our Teen Center Program Coordinator, Liane Lussier Smith had the privilege of awarding Jon. Seen here with Jon and his mom. We are so proud of you, Jon!

### Teen Center



During the month of October, high school students from the Teen Center worked together with Senior Center members to complete a final harvest and learn about preparing the gardens for winter. The food that the volunteers picked – squash, onions, tomatoes and pea pods, just to name a few varieties- all went to the Food Bank to provide locally grown produce for families in town. Teen Center Youth Council members are also working with SWHS students completing their Senior Year Capstone Projects on the



community center gardens and/or local farming in town. Lots of great partnerships happening!



Keeping the Teen Center fun and festive, middle school students from the Tuesday Afternoon Program (held in partnership with TEMS), decorated the Teen Center for Halloween. Just in time to keep things in the spirit for our middle school nights at the Teen Center on Fridays!

### **Parent Education and Support**



During the month of October, we met four times for the Monday Morning playgroup. Over sixty children and their caregivers attended the playgroup this month. The children enjoyed playing with the rainbow spaghetti and rolling, pumpkin spice, play doh! PLAY is essential to a child's overall development and is a child's most important form of learning. Play is crucial for a child's

cognitive, physical, social and emotional growth. Children benefit from unstructured playtime to work out problems themselves and develop their own interests and passions. Children who play together in an unstructured setting learn about fairness, sharing, and resolving conflicts. When parents play with their children, they develop stronger bonds because the adults remember how differently children view the world.

Something new we are trying is the Dads Dinner Playgroup. This is a monthly playgroup for Dads, Grandfathers and any positive male role model in a child's life. Also, on Tuesday, October 30, was the Relatives Raising Children support group. We welcomed two new members this month. Earlier in the month, we hosted a webinar "Legal Basics: Grandparents and Other Non-Parent Kinship Families" presented by the National Center on Law and Elder Rights. Currently, I'm working with Greater Hartford Legal Aid to bring a speaker to our November monthly meeting.



### **School Outreach & Prevention**

The Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Club welcomed over 70 students interested in getting involved in prevention programs at S.W.H.S.. On Wednesday,

October 3rd, we held a Seat Belt Check in the H.S. parking lot. Students and parents were given "Smart food" popcorn if they had their seatbelts on and their phones away. They were given pretzels and a safety reminder if they were not making a good choice.



S.W. Youth and Family teamed up with the S.W. Police Department on Fri., Oct. 19th, for a parent presentation, which was held during a middle school dance. More than 65 parents joined us for an engaging and informative program presented by Officer Roy, SRO at TEMS. Ofc. Roy spoke about social media, how technology is changing the lives of our kids and the latest trends.

School Outreach teamed up with the TEMS Counseling Dept. to bring the first Business Lunch of the year to 8th grade students. Mark

Zinni, anchor newscaster for WFSB, visited us on Friday, October 26th. He had a fun conversation with the students about his career and why he loves his job at the news station. Students asked great questions and learned a lot during the interactive program.

### **Counseling & Support**

Both of our part time youth counselors are currently at capacity. We are on a waitlist for our counseling services at this time.

Some great upcoming programs and events, please check out our Facebook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/SWYouthFamily>  
or call Liz at 860-648-6361 x331 for more information

*-Liz Langevin, LMSW*



## Parks & Recreation Department

Raymond Favreau  
Director of Parks & Recreation

### “Discover the Benefits!”

John Caldwell, Jr.  
Superintendent of Parks

**MONTHLY REPORT - November 5, 2018**

Keri Apt  
Asst. Director of Parks &  
Recreation

#### **Park & Recreation Commission (PARC)**

The next PARC meeting is Wednesday, Nov. 14th at 7:30pm now in their new location in Room 14 at Wapping School, 91 Ayers Road. Work continues on the master plan revision.

#### **The South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways (SWW&WW)**

sub-committee meets next on Wed., Nov. 7th at Wapping. Application has been submitted to DEEP for the CT Recreation Trails program for design work to develop the north-south cross-town trail through the Eversource power corridor. We should hear by the end of November if we are “in the running” for funding. The request is for \$300,000 of which the town would have to match 20% or \$60,000 to the state’s \$240,000.

**The South Windsor FOOD Alliance (SWFA)** –Go to [www.swfood.org](http://www.swfood.org) for more details.

#### **Special Invitation to Councilors – SAVE**

**THE DATE:** Friday, Nov. 9th join SW Walk & Wheel Ways on their first Moonlight Walk of the season on the trails at Nevers Park. Participants will depart from the Rotary Pavilion at 7:30pm for a 1.5 mile hike under the light of the moon! Enjoy hot cocoa by the fire pit afterward! Then on Fri., Nov. 30th

watch local youngsters get “Grinchy” at our second annual “Grinchmas” event. This free everything Grinch event is held at our Wapping facility from 7:00-8:30pm. As always, we offer all members of the Town Council an open invitation to visit any of our 400+ recreation programs or park facilities throughout the year. Please give us a call and we will even escort you!

#### **RECREATION DIVISION**

*“Feel great – recreate!”*

#### **4th R Before & After School Program -**

November enrollment accommodates 152 before school participants and 268 students after school. Additionally, 32 of our AM Only students also participate in our Early Release Wednesday program. On Tuesday, October 23 4th “R” Families enjoyed our annual family event at Foster Farms! 369 children and parents enjoyed the flashlight corn maze, an SWPRD haunted house, ghoulish games, and a costume contest!

**Trailblazer Poker Ryed**, our first-ever, was successfully held at Rye Street Park on Sat. Sept. 29th from 9-11am. Forty registered mountain bikers tackled the 4 miles of new mountain bike trails recently built by our parks crew! Along the ride bikers stopped at check points to draw a playing card – the



highest random poker hand was the lucky winner of a \$200 cash prize! This was not a competition, just pure family fun proudly co-sponsored by The Bike Shop, CT Valley Brewing Co., and SW Walk & Wheel Ways! Judging from the positive feedback it looks like a command performance next year!

**“Porters on Porter Pumpkin Roll”**, another first-ever, was also successfully held on the new Porter’s Hill, Friday, Oct. 19th from 5-8pm. Families thoroughly enjoyed pumpkin decorating contest, pumpkin rolling competition, porter beer, food trucks and music! By quitting time 150 participants had had their fill of pumpkins! Wait until next year when the “Roll” will be bigger and better!

**Wapping Re-Purposing** – A second structural engineering review has confirmed that the weight bearing capacity of the roof is not acceptable for roof mounted A/C units as originally designed. The A/C system is now under re-design using ground-level equipment. As soon as this new design is accepted by the BOE remodeling the Cafeteria to a Banquet facility will begin, so we can begin booking functions for our residents.

**Longest Dinner Table** fund raiser for the SW Community Foundation was held on for Sat., Sept. 29th from 5-10pm at Evergreen Walk. Our team of Lauren Bent, John Caldwell, Ray Favreau, Shelby Kosa, Kerry Macchi, Keri Montague and Sarah Robinson proudly served as volunteer judges for the table contest which had some unbelievable entries this year!!

**Annual Division Review** – The entire Parks & Recreation Administrative staff met

for the day on Oct. 11th to examine the past years’ successes and failures and to set new goals for the coming year as well as the immediate future. We will do the same with the Parks Division staff on Dec.14.

## **PARKS DIVISION**

*“Caring for South Windsor’s Growing Needs”*

### **October Activity Highlights:**

#### **Athletic Fields & Grounds:**

- Prepped Rye Street Park for the SWHS varsity soccer senior night and varsity football games the week of Oct.15 as well as the SW Soccer Club’s annual Fall Tournament the weekend of Oct. 27 & 28.
- Weekly athletic field preparations fully supported youth soccer, youth football and high school interscholastic sports.

#### **Parks & Open Space:**

- Prepared Nevers Park for the annual Apple Festival on Sun., Oct. 7th.
- Prepped Porter’s Hill for our first-ever Pumpkin Roll event on Friday, Oct. 19th, including harvesting and bailing the hay on the site, mowing, picking up and delivering 300 pumpkins, painting logo stencil on hill, and placing portable lighting in-house.
- Continued the restoration of the turf at the Fairgrounds (formerly Barton Property) including aeration, fertilization and overseeding following a very successful Wapping Fair.
- Special preparations were made at the VMP pavilion for the regional emergency operations training and exhibition event organized by South Windsor’s own Jay Gonzalez
- Completed all mowing and trimming at all flood control structures in preparation for

DEEP annual inspection.

- Prepared, set up, broke down and cleaned up the annual Haunted Torch Walk event at Nevers Park.
- Continued to hang community art work on the boarded up windows at the Priest farm house in support of the SW Agriculture, Arts & Nature Committee.
- Rough-cut mowed all open space properties.
- Began Fall clean-up at all town properties and Avery Community Gardens (sake removal and tilling).
- Final closing procedures completed at VMP pools.

#### **Projects:**

- John Caldwell provided supervision for the Town's first volunteer invasive species control effort along-side local master gardener Bill Marshall on Sat. Oct. 13th.
- Began site work behind the filter building at VMP in preparation for the conversion to liquid chlorine from pulsar tablets as a more efficient and less expensive disinfectant.

#### **Other:**

- Allen Livingston, Maintainer II with our parks crew will officially retire on Dec. 3 after a 31 year & 8 months career with us (his date of hire was April 6, 1987)! With his departure the Town of South Windsor loses a highly talented and skilled crew member with a wicked sense of humor! We wish him all the best in retirement!
- Allen's replacement will be Thomas Kuehlewind, an internal transfer from the Street Services Division of Public Works who has an extensive background in parks & grounds, a strong work ethic and an exemplary attitude. He promises to be an excellent addition to our crew!

- Assisted SW Walk & Wheel Ways and OpenSpace Task Force with their displays at Heritage Day on Sat., Oct. 6th.
- The crew along with a few Maintainers from DPW once again volunteered our "haunted bus" display for the annual Haunted Torch Walk on Sat., Oct. 20th from 4 to 10pm. They did a great job for a great charitable cause! It makes me proud to see them involved in the community beyond their typical work day.
- Transported the bike trailer back to the yard for the season after the final SW Walk & Wheel Ways/BOE 4th grade bike safety education program at the old Orchard Hill for the PRS students.

#### **PHOTOS:**



Two more beautifully done window coverings for the Priest farm house!!





Porters on Porter's Hill Pumpkin Roll Highlights – what a great new addition to our park system!



Our enthusiastic parks crew did an outstanding job creating the festive and functional set up for our Pumpkin Roll event, from bailing our own hay (thank you Jake Burnham!) to painting our logo with our enormous 27 foot stencil. That's veteran crew member Rich Olmstead with the steady hand behind the paint can in the bottom photo! And, thank you Dave Turkington & Brian Sullivan for their assistance and terrific customer service provided the night of the event. Well done, gang!







Highlights from our First Annual Trailblazer Poker Ryed on the new mountain bike trails at Rye St. Park drew 40+ riders on Sat., Sept. 29th from 9am to 12pm. Kudos to Lauren Bent & Mike Hanrahan!



Our annual 4th R Family Night at Foster Farms was once again extremely popular attracting over 350 costumed visitors. The staff out-did themselves with their costumes this year! (Bottom photo)



## ***November 2018 Town Council Meetings and Events***

### ***Meetings***

**Monday, November 5, 2018**

**7:00 pm Regular Meeting**

*Council Chambers*

**Monday, November 19, 2018**

**7:00 pm Regular Meeting**

*Council Chambers*

### ***Holidays***

**Monday, November 12, 2018**

*Town Offices Will Be Closed in Observance of Veteran's Day*

**Thursday, November 22, 2018 and Friday, November 23, 2018**

*Town Offices Will Be Closed Both Days in Observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.*

*Layout by Samara Haddock, Confidential Secretary*

