

Town of South Windsor

Town Manager's Report May 2016

*Matthew B. Galligan
Town Manager*



Eagle Scout

On Monday night, a young man hoping to attain his Eagle Scout badge will give a presentation to the Town Council. He would like to hold Clean Up South Windsor Day in June. It is a very ambitious project, and he is attempting to get many volunteers to help seniors mow their lawns, plant flowers, as well as clean up parks and other areas of Town. My staff and I stand ready to help this young man with any type of advertisement. Currently, he is in the planning process, but I wanted to inform you that his presentation will be at the beginning of the meeting.

Virtual Net Metering

I have met with Lodestar Energy and CTEC regarding Virtual Net Metering. I have allowed one of them to contact Eversource to determine what credits will be available for the Town. This is a nonbinding operation, and there is no obligation on our part. This is about research, and depending on what credits are available, we can negotiate what we feel is in the best interest for the Town.

MRSA Cuts

Senate Bill 11, from Senator Fonfara, cuts our current budget by \$1,338,000 in MRSA payments from the Municipal Revenue

Sharing Account. This money was originally earmarked for manufacturing and equipment until the State wanted to eliminate that tax on manufacturers to entice manufacturing enterprises to the State of Connecticut. Although we understand that was a great program, they switched to this new type of funding so that towns like South Windsor, Manchester, and East Hartford would not be affected.

This Bill was apparently sent to and agreed upon by the Senate Finance Committee over two months ago, but there was no specific language written on the Bill. People voted for this Bill without even knowing where cuts were coming from. Three days ago, the \$60 million cut in MRSA payments to municipalities reared its ugly head in the language of the Bill. I find it very strange that both Democratic and Republican Senators in the Senate Finance Committee would vote for something without even knowing the effects of the cuts. To me, it is like buying an automobile without knowing the price beforehand.

This is very disturbing to many communities throughout the State. CCM and its staff are trying to rectify this problem, and we are

lobbying very hard to make sure this cut does not go into effect. I have discussed this issue with Senators Cassano and Larson, and I told them we need to rectify this problem because it is devastating. This should have been decided in February when our payments are due instead of two months before the current fiscal year ends. This will hurt our fund balance. We have new revenues this year, and I thought this would be a good year for us to earn some additional fund balance. However, with a \$1.3 million cut along with a \$1.1 million appropriation to fund balance, we will be lucky to break even. We are trying to work with the Finance Department to see how we can accomplish this task. If this cut stays, fund balance will be affected, so we will need to lobby hard to make sure the State keeps its commitment to us when this program was started.

In addition to this year's cuts, they are looking to cut \$5 million from the MRSA program next year which will also negatively affect municipalities. There could be a reduction of up to 10% in MRSA payments. We will have to watch this very carefully, as we may need to adjust next year's budget.

CREC Captive Insurance Program

I recently attended another CREC Captive Insurance Program meeting. Several municipalities are combining their purchasing power for stop loss insurance. As of now, eleven municipalities have committed to this program. It is my understanding that six

more municipalities will be voting on this proposal Monday night so we can move forward. On Tuesday, we will be submitting our proposal to the State Commissioner of Insurance. We have kept her office apprised during this process, and we have received favorable responses on our proposal.

This Program will include a Board of Directors, and it would be run similar to the Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Association. CIRMA started with seven towns in the '80s, and they now include about 145 towns, housing authorities, and school districts. They are one of the largest insurance carriers for municipalities in the State of Connecticut.

During this process, a Board of Directors was appointed, and I was elected President of the Captive. Robert Lee, Town Manager of Plainville, was elected Secretary. This Program seems to be on target to begin this July. Any savings from this Program will stay within the fund to reduce risk, and over time we are hoping to reduce costs and build up funds. This could be an avenue for other health related issues that could be run on a regional basis to save municipalities money.

Matthew B. Galligan
Town Manager

Police Department

Timothy M. Edwards
Chief of Police

New School Resource Officer for High School:

Officer Ben White has been selected as the new school resource officer at South Windsor High School. Officer White was selected following an interview process and will begin on Monday, May 2nd. The position has been vacant since February when former SRO Brian Eckblom was promoted to Sergeant. Both Sgt. Eckblom and Officer White will work together at the school for a few days of transition training. Officer White will receive additional training specific to SRO's over the summer.

School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding signed:

We have been working on a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Education about our School Resource Officers. Our previous agreement had expired and such an agreement is now required by law. The Police Department command staff recently attended a Board of Education meeting to discuss the mutual benefits of the School Resource Officer program and discuss the duties of the officers stationed at both the Middle School and the High School.

Recruiting:

The Police Department continues to work on filling the four (4) vacant Police Officer positions and the vacant dispatcher position. A written exam was held in February, oral board interviews were held in March and the background investigation process has already disqualified two unsuitable candidates. We continue to work diligently to fill these vacant positions with qualified persons who exemplify the traits South Windsor Police officers are known for. We are working to control overtime costs while still participating in community events and proactive enforcement efforts.

Hiring is a significant expense, once a new officer is hired we must pay for salary, academy tuition, uniforms, bulletproof vests, handgun, Taser, gun belts, outerwear, and other equipment during the 6 month police academy and 4 month Field Training Program.

Medication Take -Back /Disposal Event:

The South Windsor Police Department continues to collect unwanted prescription medication, both at the lobby "drop box" and via the "DRUG DISPOSAL DAY" program. SWPD hosted a drop off event on Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at South Windsor Police headquarters.

Volunteers from the South Windsor TRIAD (Police, Human Services & Senior Services) were on hand to receive unwanted medications from citizens. These are drive up events; volunteers collect the unwanted medication and place it in a disposal container. The event is part of a nationally coordinated Drug Enforcement Administration event to allow citizens to safely dispose of unwanted medications. All medications are accepted: prescription, non-prescription and over the counter.

These events are held to reduce the risk of prescription drug diversion and abuse, and accidental ingestion. Additionally, the proper disposal of unwanted and outdated medication lessens the chance of negative environmental impact such as groundwater contamination and watercourse pollution.

DWI Checkpoint with Metro Traffic Services:

We continue to host grant-funded traffic checkpoints in conjunction with the regional traffic unit, Metro Traffic Services. The South Windsor Police Department and the Metro Traffic Services Regional Partnership hosted a DUI Checkpoint on Friday April 29, 2016 from 6:00 PM to 4:00 AM. The Checkpoint was conducted on John Fitch Blvd (Rte 5) between Burnham St and Chapel Rd.

During checkpoint operations all vehicles entering the checkpoint are stopped and the operators are briefly interviewed and

observed for obvious signs of intoxication. All motor vehicle laws are enforced throughout the duration of the checkpoint. The intent of these checkpoints is to promote safe driving and increase the protection of all motorists while decreasing DUI related offenses and crashes that often result in serious injuries and death. Funding for this effort has been provided through the Department of Transportation.

Metro Traffic Services is a regional partnership for traffic safety which includes South Windsor, Manchester, Coventry, Windsor, Enfield, East Windsor, Vernon, Glastonbury, Windsor Locks, and Bloomfield.

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

Sign Inventory and Management System

The Department recently hired Mid-West GIS to develop a system to manage the department's town wide sign inventory. The project also required Mid-West GIS to conduct a physical inventory of all signs throughout town including all town owned facilities. As a result of this project, we now have a comprehensive database of all our assets. The database provides the department the ability to search signs by condition, type (regulatory/non-regulatory), location, installation date and many other attributes which will allow us to create work flows and will also assist in budgeting for materials based on forecasts. The maintainer in the sign shop will be able to perform surveys in the field and record sign conditions at the location as well as making changes to a sign's attributes during replacement and new installations. We are now in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Highway Administration mandating an inventory and management system.

The sign shop provides a variety of services across all town departments as well as civic group events. This past month alone we assisted with an Earth Day parade, election/primary signage and support, a lacrosse sports tournament and various other town

events. These services are in addition to providing signage for temporary work zones, road construction, detours due to hazards and weather related emergencies.

Fleet Services

Fleet services of South Windsor continues to provide superior service to all of the towns emergency response and public works vehicles and equipment with incredible economic value to the towns tax paying residents.



Most recently fleet services with public works acquired a used 'Vacall' truck from the town of Greenwich far below market value. Fleet

services then with its extensive mechanical and fabricating abilities (thanks to its very knowledgeable and talented mechanics crew), rehabilitated the vac body issues and brought this used Vacall unit back to a like new condition. In fact they even made some insightful adjustments to alleviate some design flaws which will prevent future rotting conditions in the future. This new vacall unit with its low miles and low hours will now provide many years of service to come.

For the month of April Fleet Services performed 20 service calls on police cruisers, and serviced 3 out of the 4 towns' busses. Along with this they also performed an additional 105 services on the towns' DPW, Parks and Recreation and the towns' vehicles. They also rehabbed one of the do all mechanisms on one of the towns' dump trucks, completely removing the apparatus and replacing worn out parts.

Leon Clough
Fleet Services Manager

Street Services

Street Services is almost done completing the paving part of a full depth pavement reclamation project on Nevers Rd. All of the existing drainage was rebuilt this month. The .69 mile road section was completely ground up, widened a little, graded, and compacted in place. The reclamation process provides for an improved base by working with existing materials. The road has been paved with a 2 inch binder course and then

will be finished with 1.5" of top course. New curbing was installed and the resident's front lawn areas behind the newly installed curb will be re-graded and hydro seeded. Driveways will be restored. Line painting will be done. The finished product will be a new road with an excellent ride and improved curb appeal. The road will last 15 to 20 years with periodic maintenance performed at strategic intervals. We contracted with two different contractors off the State bid to do the work using State grant funds. The crew worked along side the contractor and the project is shaping up to be a huge success. We have provided the residents with a long overdue newly constructed safe road, which will last.



The department also contracted some spot paving on Strong Road and West road. The work was done to extend the useful

pavement life, improve ride, address poor conditions, and prepare for a late summer chip seal program.

Street Services continues to perform routine town maintenance with the start of our annual catch basin cleaning and street sweeping programs.

Mark Owens

Street Services Manager

Engineering

Avery Street Reconstruction (Beelzebub to Grey Road)

The Town's contractor, Morais Concrete has begun reconstruction of this section of Avery Street and realignment of Beelzebub Road. The new area for the east end of Beelzebub Road was excavated so utilities can be relocated there. They have closed Avery Street for about the next month to replace the Avery Brook culverts under the road. Once the culverts have been replaced, Avery Street will be reopened to at least one lane of traffic and the contractor will continue to install new storm water drainage pipes and structures and reconstruct this road to 28 feet wide with new base, pavement, curbs and 4 foot wide concrete sidewalks on the east side. The intersection of Avery, Beelzebub and Woodland will be realigned with a 4-way stop for traffic control. Reconstruction of this section of Avery Street will continue through the summer and fall and should be completed by the end of November 2016.

Local Roads Repaving 2016

Empire Paving has begun work on drainage repairs and milling and paving of roads including Diane Drive, Brent Drive, Goldmine Road, Gerber Road West, Gerber Road East, Laurel Street, Brian Road, Tumblebrook Drive, Hilton Drive, Simka Drive, Beechwood Lane, Kimberlay Drive and Sandra Drive. This work is funded with proceeds from the 2014 road improvements referendum bond. Work will proceed on these roads this summer is scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2016.

Buckland Road Sidewalks

Preliminary plans to construct sidewalks along the east side of Sullivan Avenue and the west side of Buckland Road from the Town Library to Deming Street are being reviewed by CRCOG. These sidewalks will connect the town buildings with the commercial businesses and residential units in the center of Town. The plans include traffic signal modifications at 3 intersections for pedestrian ramps, signals and crosswalks and an extension of the Plum Gulley Brook bridge.

Abbe Road Improvements (by Robert Drive and the Town Line)

Plans for improvements to Abbe Road by Robert Drive have been completed and are out to bid. These improvements will lower the abrupt hump in this road just north of Robert Drive and raising the road a little at Robert Drive to improve sight line and safety in this area. Bids will be opened in mid May and the construction should begin in June.

and be completed by the end of September 2016.

Avery Heights Road and Drainage Improvements

Final plans for Phase 1 of Road and Drainage improvements in the Avery Heights neighborhood have been completed and bid. Spazarrini construction will begin work on the first phase of this project in May installing new storm water drainage and reconstructing the south end of Benedict Drive, the south end of Pine Tree Lane, Good Hill Road and Pond Lane. Plans for Phase 2 should be completed in late spring so this section can be bid and work can begin later this summer. Improvements in Phase 3 will be done in 2017.

Avery Street Improvements 2 (Gray Road to Orchard Hill Road)

Preliminary plans have been reviewed to reconstruct Avery Street between Gray Road and Orchard Hill Road, and the Engineer is working on developing final plans for this project. This project includes new storm water drainage, base, pavement, curb and sidewalks. The schedule is to complete the design, obtain permits and easements and be ready to bid this project late in the fall of 2016. Most of this work will happen in 2017.

Sidewalk Repairs

The list of sidewalks in Town that need to be replaced or repaired has grown to over \$130,000 in estimated sidewalk repairs. Additional capital funds are needed to repair

these sidewalks and keep them safe pursuant to the Town ordinance. We will continue to mark the trip hazards on sidewalks where we have received complaints with bright pink paint to alert pedestrians of these hazards until there is funding to repair these sidewalks.

Jeffrey Doolittle
Town Engineer

Public Buildings Division

Project Updates

Fire Code Upgrades at Town Hall

Funds were recently allocated to complete the front door entryway doors component of this project. I will be contacting the vendor to take a final look at this project and proposal to make sure that we've taken all aspects of this project into consideration as it will require us to temporarily close off access to the front entry doors during the construction process. Pending the allocation of Capitol Projects funds for the coming fiscal year phase II of the Fire Code Upgrades may also get started. Phase II consists of replacing the Fire Alarm System, adding additional fire doors on the first floor and adding an area of refuge on the first and second floors.

Emergency Operations Center Construction Project

Construction work on the inside of the building is continuing to move forward on schedule and at a good pace. All of the drywall is hung, sanded and prepped for paint. Stubbing of electrical and plumbing

continues and is almost complete. Sprinkler mains, trunks and branch piping have also been hung; all that's remaining is the installation of the sprinkler heads and pressure testing the system. In the front and sides of the building old windows have been removed, openings reframed and new impact resistant category three windows were installed. Boilers and hot water storage tanks have been installed and piped to the main trunks. Wiring for controls and pumps has started and expected to be completed in the next couple weeks. Remaining air handling and mechanical equipment has arrived and is now in and being installed. All of the ductwork was completed well over a month ago so making final ductwork connection should not take long. This equipment will provide HVAC to the EOC hub and Administrative offices. The EOC hub access flooring installation has been installed. The flooring will eventually have carpet squares placed on top of it. The carpet squares can easily be removed for access to the panels for data and power wiring beneath the floor. Over six miles of cable will eventually be pulled throughout the building for the data, card access and video security systems.

Roofing materials were delivered and placed on the roof earlier in the month. The work to remove the existing flat roof and install the new one started as soon as a stretch of nice weather was upon us. Small areas of the existing roof were removed to evaluate the condition of the existing decking. Some of the sections that were inspected were in

good shape while others were not. New decking was ordered and installed on top of approximately three quarters of the roof. Work removing the shingles off the mansard roof has begun. New shingles are being installed as this report is being prepared.

Site work has also picked up now that Spring-time temperatures have arrived. Old site lighting poles and columns have been removed and concrete poured to fill the old pole locations. New pole lighting locations have been marked out and dug for placement of the precast concrete columns. A new drainage pipe from a catch basin on the east side of the building to Sullivan was installed to handle the anticipated added runoff from the driveway connection that will be constructed this summer.

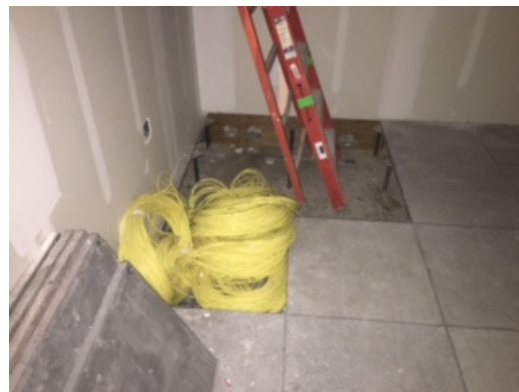
I've attached photos of the work in progress below.



High Efficiency Condensing Gas Boilers being installed



Ethernet, and video and security cabling in cable tray above ceiling



Card Access cabling in cable tray underneath access flooring



Air Handling Equipment ductwork being installed in mechanical room



Hallway through administrative offices completely sheetrocked and ready for paint

Heat Pump replacements at the Police Department

All of the heat pumps and the cooling tower have now been replaced. The server room units are also up and running. The new units are cooling the server room equipment as expected. The built in redundancy with these units allows peace of mind in the event one of them goes down. Each unit is equipped to independently handle the entire load of the room or work together in the event the heat load in the room increases. Both units have several means of alarming in the event a system failure occurs.

LED Lighting Upgrades at Town Garage

The lighting upgrade was fully completed earlier in the month.

Community Center Entryway Overhang Column Repairs

I will be meeting with the contractor in the next couple of weeks to review the project and confirm the prices in the original proposal from last summer. My hope is that the work can be completed early in fiscal year 2017

Electrical Load Shedding Event this Summer

Starting in 2017 the cost to we pay for electrical generation (just one portion of our electrical bill) is projected to go up three fold from 3 cents/kWh to 9 cents/kWh. The increase, enacted by Federal Regulation in recognition that many of the countries aging and coal burning power plants are or will soon be coming off line. To entice new power plants to be built the Independent Service Organizations ISO, (the not for profit organization that manages, maintains and ensures the reliability of the electrical grid) is imposing an increase in the cost of generation capacity. The capacity is generated by the demand we put on the grid during the peak electrical use during the summer months. To help mitigate some of these costs we will be implementing a Demand Reduction event this summer. The event will be a celebrative effort involving all Public Buildings. During a day typically in late July or early August when we historically put the most demand on the grid we'll be temporarily reducing our consumption for a short period of time to reduce our overall demand. The event typically lasts 1-2 hrs and will have a direct impact on the cost of electricity we pay for in 2017 as well as future yea's. I will update you with more information as we get closer to the event.

Calls for service during the month of April***OTIS Elevator***

Otis Elevator was called to the Library to respond to the elevators intermittent door issue. Otis was called out on four separate occasions to try to repair this issue. I've come to learn that the company that manufactured the elevator is no longer in business and OEM parts are non existent. OTIS stated that aftermarket parts are very hard to find and that if none were available when needed they'd have to engineer parts to keep the elevator in operation. They also strongly suggested that we plan on upgrading the electrical system on the elevator in the very near future to avoid a prolonged outage. This costs associated with this type of repair would have to be put in as a Capitol Project request.

New England Mechanical Services-Town Hall HVAC System Shutdown

On Sunday the 17th at 11a.m., I received an alarm from our Building Automation System indicating that a motor on the main air handling unit had stopped working. After dispatching staff to the site to investigate the problem it was determined that our HVAC contractor was needed to troubleshoot further. The contractor was able to call the distributor in on Sunday to open his business to supply the motor and associated parts needed for the repair. I mention this because it demonstrates the critical nature of how dependent our facilities and related services depend upon us to keep both business

continuity and program support services up and running behind the scenes. Unfortunately much of the work we do goes unnoticed. If it were not for a fully functional updated Building Automation System, qualified, trained, competent and dedicated staff and a properly equipped contractor the Town Hall may not have been open on Monday the 18th.

New England Mechanical services was also called out to install a backflow device on the water main at the Tyler Regional Animal Care Facility after an inspection and citation by CT Water who realized the devices were never installed. My staff also installed vacuum breakers on various hose bibs in the facility.

Commercial Appliance Repair

During the annual inspection of the dishwasher it was deemed not having enough hot water to sanitize the dishes and had to be immediately taken out of service. After a few repeated calls a technician was eventually sent out to troubleshoot the unit and found that one of the heating elements was burnt out. After the repairs were completed (a few days later) the unit was re inspected and put back into service.

Overhead Door Company

Overhead Door was called out to the Tyler Animal Care Facility to make repairs to the overhead door in the back of the building. After the initial visit it was determined that the door sensors failed and an electrician had

to be called. The door is working properly at this time.

Service Station Repair Company

A technician was called out to the Police Department after the monitoring system for the above ground tanks and generators failed. The technician found a glitch in the software and had to reload it to get it back up and running. This system is critical to record keeping and fuel oil/gasoline inventories and reconciliations required by the Federal and State Regulations.

Eversource was also called out to the Little League Concession Stand to address water coming out of the Main electrical distribution panel inside the building. After coming out to investigate they determined that the water was coming from two possible sources. The ultimate resolution was to dig down below the conduit a few feet away from the building and install crushed stone so that after the conduit relieved the water have an alternate path to drain.

Environmental Services was called to supply propane heaters and tanks to Veterans Memorial Park. With the unusually warm weather earlier in the month I decided to get a jump on de-winterizing the facility, unfortunately we had week when the temperatures dipped into the 20's for a few nights which forced us to rush at the last minute to get heat into the building to prevent pipes from freezing. Environmental

Services (as usual) pulled thought for us at the last minute!

Various Projects that staff completed this month

- The staff de-winterized the Rotary Pavilion, Ralph Giansanti Press Box, Rye St Concession Stand and the Little League Concession Stand facilities. The staff also started de-winterizing procedures for the Veterans Memorial Park and expect to have that finished in the next two weeks or so.
- The staff started re-staining portions of the Rotary pavilion, a project we started last year but didn't have a chance to finish. We anticipate being able to finish that work sometime this month.
- At the Ralph Giansanti Press Box we removed a rotted and split wood serving shelf and built a new shelf out of PVC and trimmed it out to look better than new (see photo below.)
- The staff made repairs to the entry doors at Nevers Batting Cages. Due to the lack of proper support around the door frame the doors were shifting to one side making them inoperable. The repair consisted of removing the sheathing from around the doors and re supporting them with 2x4's and 2x6's. At the
- Installed a new dishwasher at the TRAC's facility.
- Finished painting the teen center and teen center lounge at the Community Center
- Other work consisted of unclogging two sinks, installed a new display board

outside the Clerks office, installed a large plywood backer board for mounting control cabinets in the Annex/EOC server room, and made temporary repairs to a few rusted and leaking gutters at the Town Garage

Of the one-hundred and seven work order requests we received this month we were only able to close thirty-eight of them. This is due in part to the seasonal site opening duties and an increase in emergency type services where contractors we involved. Since July 1st we've completed 1,323 work orders, our current backlog stands at 252 open work orders.



New Serving Window Shelf at the Ralph Giansanti Press Box

Projects slated for FY 2016/17

- Update and reorganize Town Managers offices (pending new hire requests)
- Update Assessors office, new carpet and paint
- Move Channel 16 filming studio from Maintenance Dept to IT Office
- Project management and oversight of

second phase of Fire Code Upgrades at
Town Hall

- Closeout and commission of EOC project
- Closeout and commission of Police Department Heat Pump Replacement Project
- Move IT, Health and Facilities Dept. to EOC
- Reorganize newly vacant areas within Public Works offices
- Replace Support Columns to overhang at entryway of Community Center
- Replacement of Town Hall front doors and support "I" beam
- Phone system replacements Community Center and Police Department (pending allocation of Capitol Projects funds)
- Solicit Proposals for HVAC, Building Automation and Janitorial Services

Clay Major
Facilities Manager



Human Services Department

Adult & Senior Services

Andrea Cofrancesco, Director of Adult and Senior Services

**April is National Volunteer Month:
We can't spell Success without u!**



The South Windsor Human Services Department has over 250 volunteers in a variety of programs including meals on wheels, food bank, friendly shoppers, telephone reassurance, activities assistants, community service group, readers, youth council and much more. Over 120 volunteers showed up for our afternoon tea held on April



19 to celebrate National Volunteer Month and for staff to show appreciation for all they do for our department and for South Windsor residents. We simply could not provide the programs and services we do without their help.



Fashion Show & Wine Tasting Fundraiser to Benefit the Food Bank!

Join us on **Thursday, June 2 at 5:00 PM**
for a fashion show featuring models Scot

Haney and Nicole Nalepa from Channel 3, held at St. Robert Bellarmine Church, Windsor Locks. The cost is \$40 and includes appetizers, buffet dinner (chicken, sausage & peppers, sides) coffee/tea, dessert and wine tasting. Raffles too! If there is enough interest, we will provide a bus! Bus will leave the center at 4:30 PM. Register in the office any time, no need to wait for sign up day!



TRIAD FOR SENIOR SAFETY PROGRAMS

- **AARP Fraud Watch Seminar:** On **Monday, April 25 over 20 people attended this program** on "The Con Artist Playbook", a look inside the mind of a criminal. This interactive program was well received by all in attendance!
- **Medication Disposal Day:** The Triad for Senior Safety is sponsoring a Medication Disposal Day on **Saturday, April 30** from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Police Station. Drop off all prescription and non-prescription medications including liquid (no needles). For more information, call Andrea at 860-648-6357 or Corporal Jim Nicoletta at the Police Dept. 860-648-6256.

Outreach Continues!

Over the past year, caseworkers have gone to the police department, post office and five senior housing complexes to talk about the many services the Human Services department offers resident 18+. We've added South Windsor doctor's offices to our list and were able to meet and talk about our services

to Dr. Anis-Anwar's office staff. We will continue to reach out to the remaining doctor's offices in hopes of letting everyone know about all of the many benefits of living in South Windsor...from the food and fuel bank, to case management services, senior center programs and homebound services!

Street Crew Helps Food Bank

Thanks to the Street Crew for helping to get food that was being stored at Avery Street Church for the food bank!



Friends of the South Windsor Senior Center

The South Windsor Community Foundation has agreed to act as fiduciary for the new "Friends of the South Windsor Senior Center!"

FOSWSC has been created to allow people to make a 100% tax deductible contribution specific to improvements and enhancements to the current community center that will directly benefit South Windsor seniors. This fund will also allow us to access grant funding and solicit donations from local businesses and the community. We will be embarking on FUNdraising efforts as well! We are excited about the possibilities! A big thank you to the SW Community Foundation!

Special Needs Fund Needs Funds!

The Human Services Special Needs Fund is designed to assist South Windsor residents in need of things that do not fall in any category....they are miscellaneous services that are necessary but are not typically funded by agencies. Caseworkers in the Adult and Senior Services division carefully screens clients and designate money in this fund to be used for needs when all other avenues have been exhausted. For those wishing to make a donation to the Special Needs Fund, please send donations to the Human Services Office with "Special Needs" in the memo or call Andrea at 860-648-6357 with questions.

Like us on FACEBOOK! 

Facebook.com/swseniorcenter

Youth & Family Services

Elizabeth Langevin, Director of Youth and Family Services



April 2016

On April 13th, Youth & Family Services hosted the 11th annual Grandparent/Grandchild Pancake Breakfast and Bingo. 106 people came for pancakes, sausage and fruit prepared by the Youth & Family Services staff and volunteers. All proceeds from the breakfast went to the Youth & Family Services "CARE" Fund which benefits families in need of assistance with educational supports.



Parent Education and Support

On April 11, at the SW Library, SWAN hosted a presentation by

Dr. Pamela Deiter-Sands. Dr. Deiter-Sands is a clinical psychologist and an expert in the unique stresses facing parents who have children with special needs. She offered parents many tips and strategies on how to get through the day with strength, humor



and grace. The parents in attendance were very grateful to hear her realistic and optimistic vision of life caring for their children.

Upcoming events... to register to any below program:

<http://www.southwindsor.org/swan>

ADHD & the family

Studies have shown that parents who are raising children with ADHD experience greater stress in married life, family life, social life, community life, in the work place and health wise. It can be overwhelming to juggle competing responsibilities and support the **whole** family.

In this workshop you will have an opportunity to talk about your struggles and successes. And we will offer some practical tips on reducing stress, including a brief guided imagery exercise. Please join us on **Wednesday, May 11, 7-8:30 PM @ SW Community Center**

Quick Tips: Successful Potty Training

"The key to successful potty training is the reinforcer."

We will offer tips on effective reinforcers, encouraging children to initiate using the potty, bowel and nighttime training. Based on the work of Ashley Hickey, potty trainer

extraordinaire!

Thursday, June 2 7-8PM @ SW Community Center

Northern CT Parent Networking Group
SWAN Parenting Programs & Autism Services & Resources Connecticut are partnering to give parents and caregivers of teens with ASD a chance to network.

We will be having a guest speaker, name and topic to be announced.

Our next meeting is May 25, 6:30-8 PM, SW Community Center.

Quick Tips Healthy Sleep

Quick tips for those of you who were unable to attend our sleep seminar. We will have a conversation about how to create a strong sleep foundation for you and your child.

Intended audience: Sleep deprived parents with children ages birth to 5!

Wednesday, May 4th, 7-8PM @ SW Community Center

Helping Kids Find Friends

One of the hardest situations a parent faces is when their child says they don't have any friends. As parents, we can feel overwhelmed and at a loss to help. Research shows that parents are a huge source of friendship support, and there are practical strategies parents can use to help their child.

In this session we will explore why some kids have trouble finding friends and ways you can help your child. We will talk about everything from understanding social cues, to

ways of developing empathy. **May 19, 2016, 5-6PM@ SW Community Center**

School Outreach

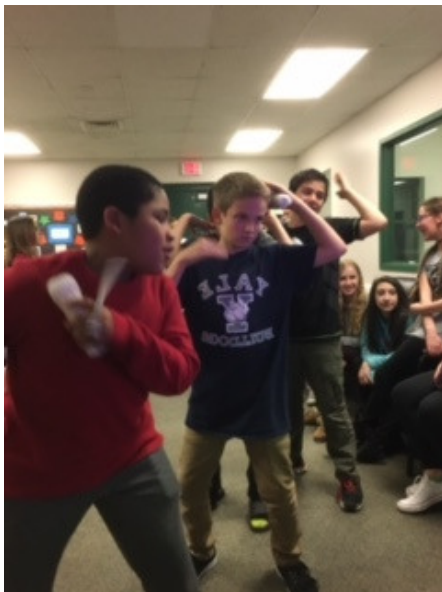
The 6th grade celebrated "Healthy Living Week" from April 18-22nd. This is made possible by our Local Prevention Council Grant. The students were active participants in the "Healthy Choices" Mime Show, , which highlighted ways to stay strong and confident. They were reminded about the importance of saying no to smoking, drugs, excessive screen time and unhealthy eating. Additionally, high school students representing SADD presented an activity on Friday morning to reinforce all of the topics that had been highlighted during the week. (Photos below)



~ The Mentoring Program Family Breakfast was also held in April. The breakfast gave the students the opportunity to invite family members to school to have breakfast with their mentors. It was a wonderful morning filled with smiles and laughter.

Teen Center

The Teen Center held a "Teas, Tapas & Talent Night" for high school students during April vacation. Eleven students attended and shared their musical talents! Drop in hours for high school students continues to be popular - averaging 30 youth a day during the month of March. Middle School Students continue to bring fun and energy on Friday nights when participating in various planned activities like Wii Dance Competitions and "Minute to Win It" Challenges. Our Friday Night attendance for April was an average of 32 youth per night!



Another fun, student lead project we had this month was initiated by Tishima Farrell, who

works at the Teen Center through our Youth Employment Program. Her idea for the project encouraged youth to be creative and paint on a canvas to help decorate the newly painted Teen Center space. We are very thankful for our space here and look forward to showcasing middle school and high school artwork!



Youth & Family Counseling

Youth Counselor, Eileen Adler is beginning a friendship group for 3rd through 5th graders on April 28th. This group will run until June 2nd and will focus on listening, sharing and developing social skills while playing games and making new friends.

Eileen continues to meet with youth & families in the community and at some of the schools.

Please check out our Parent Talk Newsletter, available on the town website for upcoming events.

<http://www.southwindsor.org/youth-family-services>



Parks & Recreation Department

Raymond Favreau
Director of Parks & Recreation

John Caldwell, Jr.
Superintendent of Parks

"Discover the Benefits!"

MONTHLY REPORT - May 2, 2016

Ryan Kane
Asst. Director of Parks & Recreation

Park & Recreation Commission (PARC) –

The next PARC meeting is Wednesday, May 9th at 7:30pm in the Sprekel Room of the Town Hall, at which they will continue work on the master plan.

growing - we are now "liked" by 1,283 people! Won't you like us too at south windsor parks & recreation and check out the awesome videos posted? Also, please follow us on Instagram too at SWPRD06074!!

The South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways

(SWW&WW) sub-committee meets next on Wednesday, May 4th at the Community Center, conference room 206 at 7pm. They are continuing their work on action plans for potential public access to the Eversource power line corridors for cross-town trails connecting the existing Jacques Lane trail to Pleasant Valley Road.

The South Windsor FOOD Alliance (SWFA) sub-committee is busy planning for their 2016 Summer Farmer's market beginning Sat., June 18. Go to www.swfood.org for more details. Committee founder and chair, Andy Paterna will receive the 2016 Eugene Policelli award from the BOE at an official ceremony on Tues., May 3rd at 7pm. Congratulations Andy on the well-deserved honor!

Special Invitation to Councilors – SAVE

THE DATE: Monday, May 30 Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony which will

include the official **dedication of the new Memorial Wall** compliments of extraordinary efforts by the South Windsor Patriotic Commission along-side numerous and generous local contractors and businesses. The parade steps off at 10am and the **ceremony is at 11:15am at VMP.** As

always, we offer all members of the Town Council an open invitation to visit any of our 350+ recreation programs or park facilities throughout the year. Please give us a call and we will even escort you!

RECREATION DIVISION

"Feel great – recreate!"

Like us on Facebook - The number keeps

Before & After School Program – March enrollment is down 5 at 340, with 49 additions

in after care on Early Release Wednesdays in support the BOE professional development program. 100 kids participated in the week long April vacation camp filled with guest visitors presenting special art projects, science experiments, earth day activities and dinosaur artifacts!

Veterans Memorial Park – We are extremely busy preparing for opening day Sat., May 28th and wanted to post a final reminder of some upcoming changes we are proposing for operation of the pools at VMP for the 2016 summer season. (1) We will prohibit water guns as they tend to create behaviors that annoy patrons. (2) Until such time as we can create a dedicated “grilling zone” (which is a project on the drawing board) we will curtail the use of charcoal and gas grills on park grounds. (3) Weekend daily admission rates for non-residents will increase from \$9 to \$12 for adults and from \$6 to \$8 for children. (4) Group visit discounts have been eliminated to reduce overcrowding, especially on weekends.

Fishing Derby – More than 200 participants enjoyed the 32nd annual Fishing Derby on Saturday, April 23rd. The pond on Barber Hill Road was stocked with 185 trout, with roughly one-third hooked by young anglers! Thank you Super Sixties Sportsman Club and Cheryl Gerber for another successful fish story!



Fishing at the Derby is for everyone – some more successful than others, but all smiles!



May the Fourth Be With You - For all the Star Wars fans in town, we are hosting this whimsical special event at My Friend's Place playground on Wed., May 4th (hence the play on words in the title!) from 6:30-8pm. Dept. staff will be joined by costumed Star Wars

characters to mingle with all visitors, pose for photos and enjoy the music and prizes!

Paws in the Park – the 12th annual event catered to our four-legged friends will happen at the Rotary Pavilion at Never park from 9:30am to 3pm on Sat., May 7th. The event includes contests, kids activities, food, and more than 80 vendors and is sponsored and presented by the SW Jaycees to benefit Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, the Gary Tyler Memorial Bark Park and the Tyler Regional Animal Care Shelter. For more information go to www.pawsintheparksw.org.

Color Me Grad – back by popular demand we will host this untimed “color run” through the trails at Nevers Park beginning at 5pm. Open to the entire family, all proceeds benefit South Windsor Operation Graduation. Pre-register through SW Parks & Recreation. Event starts at the upper parking lot of the high school.

“Walk 4 Good, Our Trails, Your Cause” – we will host our first-ever Trails for Charities Day on Sun., May 22 on the trails at Nevers Park from 9am to 2pm. The event was developed to accommodate the growing demand for charitable use of our trails without adversely impacting the general public's use of the park and to deliver it efficiently and frugally. Instead of expending resources singularly every time a group requested exclusive use of the trails we rolled it all into one shared day. Five

different organizations have been scheduled on the hour as follows: 9:00am—Journey Fund, Manchester (timed 5K run) ; 10:00am—Pulmonary Fibrosis (walk-a-thon) ; 11:00am—Alzheimer's (walk-a-thon) ; 12:00pm—Wapping School PTO (walk-a-thon) ; 1:00pm—Wapping Community Church (walkers will choose where their collected donations will go to any of ten charities that the church supports). Logistics, staff, signage and entertainment will be provided by Parks & Recreation.

PARKS DIVISION

“Caring for South Windsor's Growing Needs”

April Activity Highlights:

- Athletic Fields & Grounds:
 - o Continued with the extremely busy spring schedule preparing and renovating fields for the high school interscholastic program and local youth sports group needs, including two large tournaments on Sat. April 23rd one for girls lacrosse at Nevers park and a second for boys lacrosse at Rye Street Park.
 - o Irrigation systems repaired and prepared for anticipated use.
 - o Athletic field line painting is in full force, dropping over 5 miles of striping each week.
 - o Preparations for Little League Opening Day and 60th Anniversary celebration at the complex Sat., April 30

- Parks & Open Space:
 - o Ramped up preparations at the pools at VMP – removed the covers, began vacuuming pool floors, and continues working with Pollution Control staff on mechanicals.
 - o Continued Spring clean-up of winter debris.
 - o Plowed and stacked out plots at the Avery Community Gardens.
 - o Design and fabrication of signage for the new Mountain Biking Trail at Rye Street Park scheduled for official opening on June 5th.
 - o Prepared the Dzen Tree farm Pond site for the annual Fishing Derby on April 23rd.
 - o Installed gates at King Street open Space property.
 - o Planning and preparations have begun for the annual Picnic in the Park celebration in honor of Armed Forces Day on Sat., May 21 and the Memorial Day parade and ceremony on Mon., May 30.
- Projects:
 - o Memorial Wall Project at VMP – staff continues to assist the patriotic Commission and local contractors with this project. A retaining wall to stabilize the slope behind the monuments is near completion. Still to come: electrical work and new LED lighting, erecting the granite wall, repairs to the Eagle patio, fence replacement and finish grading and seeding of the disturbed area to be ready for the Memorial Day dedication.
 - o Barton Property Project – The construction a berm buffer is complete thanks to Billy Mitchell's generosity and an in-house team effort by members of the Street Services Division of Public Works and our Parks crew. The parks crew will seed the sides of the berm with a wild flower mix and plant trees and shrubs on the top and the Public Works crews will construct the entrance and exit driveways over the next few weeks. We are working with Jeff Folger and Jeff Doolittle on bid specs for Phase II for finish grading and seeding. The Wapping Fair will be hosted at the Evergreen Walk site for Sept., 2016 with plans to relocate that to Barton in 2017.
 - o Eagle Scout Austin Gore completed beautification of Jacob's View at My Friend's Place playground on Sat., April 23rd.
 - o Ayers Road Softball Field – was officially dedicated with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, April 22 at 3:30pm. Many thanks to Mayor Delnicki for his welcoming comments and kind words, and to all the Town Councilors, Board of Education members, Town Manager, Park & Recreation Commissioners, Public School Administrators, parents and players who attended. Those who

attended can appreciate a very big thank you to Gabe Melusso, SWHS senior, who belted out quite the rendition of our National Anthem! The goal from the very beginning was to create a varsity softball environment that paralleled that of our varsity baseball environment, and I think we have definitely accomplished that!

- o Deming Community Gardens - Neighbor friendly site plan modifications are a work-in-progress through our engineering department and should be ready to go to PZC for final approval in June. Once approved we will re-apply for the \$20,000 grant with the state of CT Dept. of agriculture Farmland Restoration Program. The goal is to have it ready for planting Spring, 2017.



Mayor Delnicki, Matt Galligan & Kate Carter join the SWHS girls' varsity softball team for the official dedication of the new softball field on Ayers Road on April 22.



Nevers Park soccer/lacrosse fields ready for the Spring season



Members of our Parks crew step forward to be recognized for their impressive efforts constructing the new softball field during the dedication ceremony April 22.



Soon the Dzen Tree Farm Pond property where the Fishing Derby is held will be South Windsor's next public park!



April Vacation camp, an extension of our 4th R program, accommodated 100 local kids who Enjoyed special art projects, science experiments, earth day activities and dinosaur artifacts.



May 2016 Town Council Meetings and Events

Meetings

Monday, May 2, 2016

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

Monday, May 16, 2016

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Set General Government Budget

Set Mill Rate

Appoint Rate Maker

Council Chambers

Friday, May 20, 2016

Deadline for Adoption of Board of Education Budget

Friday, May 27, 2016

Deadline for Adoption of General Government Budget

Holidays

Monday, May 30, 2016

Town Offices Will Be Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

Layout by Ashley Summers, Executive Secretary to the Town Manager

