

# Town of South Windsor

## Town Manager's Report May 2019

Matthew B. Galligan  
Town Manager



### **Tax Sale**

I would like to advise the Council that as of April 30th, time will be running out for people to pay their taxes before the tax sale. We have collected to date about \$470,000 of the \$2.1 million, which I think is a very good collection for this issue. The tax sale notices did cause some people to come in to take care of their tax obligation.

### **Tax Collection**

The Collector of Revenue has brought to my attention that as of April 30th we were at a 99% collection rate of current taxes. We still have two months to go to collect. This is an outstanding accomplishment, and I thank the Collector of Revenue and her staff for all of their hard work on this program.

### **Ridge Road**

I have put together a notice to proceed on the Ridge Road project. That project will be moving forward and hopefully within the first or second week of May we will see some construction in that area, which will finally take care of some of the drainage issues that have been plaguing the residents of Ridge Road.

### **Educational Playcare**

Educational Playcare is before the Planning and Zoning Commission. They have resolved the traffic issues but are still quite concerned as some of the members of the PZC seem to

not believe what our Chief of Police and traffic coordinators are telling us. We are conducting our own traffic study, for which we have hired a person that we use quite frequently, to review and come up with solutions that we think will suit the needs and safety concerns of that particular area. I am hoping that the PZC will see their way clear, as the Pleasant Valley district does need to have this type of facility in the area for before and after school programs. I know that Educational Playcare would like to be up and running for this next school year. Thank you for your understanding and we will continue to monitor the progress of this particular project.

### **Scannell**

I will be meeting with Scannell Properties on Wednesday 5/1. I do my Town Manager's Report early so it can go out to the Council, so at the Council meeting on Monday 5/6 I will give you any updates as to where we are on the next I-291 project. I know that Scannell has submitted various information to the DEEP, and the DEEP has been responsive; as well as our state representatives, who continue to monitor this project.

### **Harbor-Chase Project**

It comes to my understanding that the Harbor-Chase project is now refinanced, and they will be looking to take out some permitting for infrastructure work as they move forward

with their particular bid specs. I do believe that this was already approved by the PZC, and I think it will also be a project that is desperately needed in the Town of South Windsor, to help address some of the medical issues that are facing some of the residents in South Windsor and the region.

### **Teachers' Pension Cost**

Just recently I sent the Town Council some information from COST, which is the Council of Small Towns, concerning the Appropriations Committee passing a bill that would put the teachers' pension cost on the backs of local government. CCM is very clear that they will not accept this endeavor unless there is some sort of quid pro quo, where there will be additional funding sources or the Towns would have the ability to negotiate these pensions in order to reduce costs. The item that I sent you from COST does have South Windsor's requirement in there, as it lists all the towns and their respective amounts over the next 3 years. We will continue to monitor this situation to see how this all plays out over the next couple of weeks.

### **Conference**

During the second week of May I will be heading out to participate with CIRMA, our insurance pool, in the NLC RISC Trustee yearly educational conference. This year the conference happens to be in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. All of these expenses are paid for by CIRMA, so there is no cost to the Town at all. Of course I will be able to be contacted by phone or by computer, as all of my technical equipment will be with me so I can continue to work from that area.

## Police Department

Scott P. Custer  
Chief of Police

### **Community Events:**

#### **National Medication Takeback Day:**

On Saturday, April 27th we hosted a Medication Takeback Day at police headquarters.

Thanks to our volunteers and everyone who came out (in the pouring rain) we collected a total of 19 boxes of medications. We were visited by citizens in 143 vehicles. We collected a total of 529.4 pounds of unneeded medications that were disposed of in an environmentally safe manner.

Additionally, thanks to the generosity of Environmental Service Inc. (E.S.I.), we collected several 5 gallon pails of used syringes for disposal. (Note: we can only accept syringes during these takeback events for the safety of our staff.).

#### **Healthy Living Day:**

On Saturday, April 27th CSO Robin Bond and Officer Kevin Geraci participated in the Ellington YMCA Healthy Living Day. Our staff spoke with local families about Child Passenger Safety and Bicycle Safety. Although the YMCA is in Ellington, many South Windsor residents are members of the facility and we wanted to promote child safety at this event.

#### **Charity Event- Pick a Pasta Night at Maneeley's:**

Cpl. Ron Littell presented the annual "Pick a Pasta Night" at Maneeleys from 5pm to 8 pm

on Thursday, April 25th. The charity event raised over \$5,000.00 for the Veteran's Base Camp and local first responders charities. It's always been a success and we're proud to be part of this event.

#### **National Telecommunications Week April 14-20, 2019:**

Last month we said Thank You to our Emergency Telecommunicators who are here 24/7 to answer the call. National Telecommunicators Week is always mid-April and recognizes the great work dispatchers do each and every day. They are our first public safety staff to triage calls and direct appropriate resources to the scene of a crime, fire or medical emergency.

In South Windsor our phones are answered by an actual person, not a voice prompt or menu. Our staff dispatches police, fire and medical, connects citizens to needed resources, and provides pre-arrival medical instructions too.

Thank you Dispatchers: Steve, Christine, Gary, Tracy, Rachel, Pat, Ed and Alex; we are grateful for your service to us and our community!!

#### **Arrests and Activity:**

We post all arrests on our Facebook Page and distribute a daily Press Release to all local media outlets. One notable arrest is the culmination of a longer-term investigation by our drug task force member:

## Police Department

Scott P. Custer  
Chief of Police

### **Heroin Distribution Arrest by Task Force:**

On 04/24/19 at approximately 1900 hours members of the East Central Narcotics Task Force, (ECNTF) along with members of the South Windsor Police Department conducted a buy/bust operation on a suspected drug dealer, Alvin Maldonado, (09/22/1983) who goes by the name of "Louis" in the area of 1739 Ellington Rd. in the Town of South Windsor, (Stop and Shop Plaza). ECNTF held three, (3) active arrest warrants for Maldonado all for sale and possession of heroin. The warrants stem from previous ECNTF operations where Maldonado sold heroin to an undercover officer in South Windsor. Maldonado agreed to meet at the Stop and Shop Plaza to sell 6 bundles of heroin, (60 bags). On arrival, Maldonado was taken into custody. Along with the 4 grams of heroin, task force members seized his vehicle and an undisclosed amount of cash during the investigation.

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

We work very hard to have a presence on Social Media and update our citizens on all kinds of activity. 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

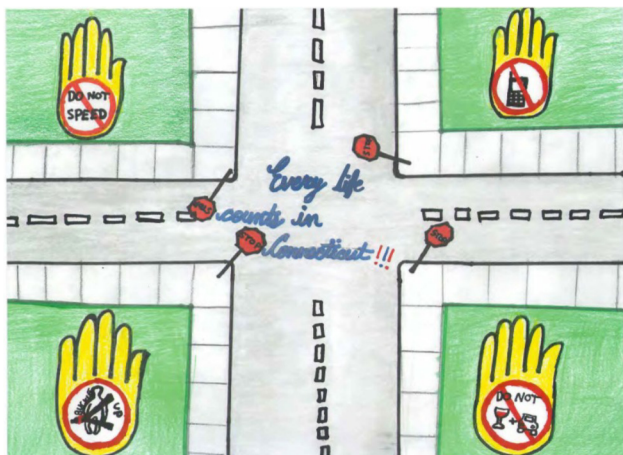


## Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick  
Director of Public Works

### UPDATES

Earlier this year the Connecticut Training and Technical Assistance Center at UCONN asked students from around the state to help promote roadway safety through art. After visiting the PBS Kids' Ruff Ruffman Driving website (a site to access resources including games and surveys to encourage kids to become better passengers and to play an active role in helping their parents to keep their eyes on the road), students in grades K-6 submitted their poster designs depicting how to be safe as a pedestrian, bicyclists, or driver. Submitted entries were reviewed by a panel of roadway safety professionals from the Connecticut Department of Transportation and other local Connecticut agencies, and a winner and honorable mention were selected for three age categories: K-1st grade, 2nd-4th grade, and 5th-6th grade.



Eshaa Sreeji Poster

On April 8th, the three winners and the three honorable mentions were invited to attend the Connecticut Work Zone Awareness Press Conference, held at the Newington

Department of Transportation building. There, the students were presented with ribbons and gift baskets to honor their artistic achievements. For the third year in a row a student from one of South Windsor's Elementary schools was a winner. This year Eshaa Sreeji, a fourth grader from Orchard Hill School, was selected as the grade 2-4 Honorable Mention. Her Art Teacher Lynsey Desmond has been instrumental in encouraging the many students to express their art work for this worthy program. Ms. Desmond is retiring this year and to have 4 students over a three-year period win based upon a blind judging process speaks to both the artist abilities of the students in South Windsor and the guidance Ms. Desmond has provided. Proclamations celebrating their achievements will be presented at the May 6th Town Council meeting.

National Public Works Week will be celebrated from May 19-25, 2019 this year. The second annual Fill A Public Works Truck



National Public Works Week  
May 19-25, 2019

## Public Works Department

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Director of Public Works

Food Drive will be held Sunday May 19th from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at both Geissler's Supermarket and Stop & Shop.

This year students from the CREC School will be visiting the Town Garage and Wastewater Treatment Plant on Tuesday May 21st where staff from all Divisions of Public Works and the Parks Crew will showcase equipment and explain to the kids what we do.

*Michael J. Gantick, P.E., P.W.L.F.  
Director of Public Works*

### **Engineering**

Public Works/Engineering Projects Update:

#### **Buckland Road Sidewalks**

Trademark Contractors has completed most of the new sidewalks along the west side of Buckland Road from Deming Street north to Ellington Road and Sullivan Ave up to the Library. The traffic signals at 3 intersections have been updated with new pedestrian push buttons, signals and painted crosswalks. These signals also now have a video camera to detect vehicles in place of the old in pavement wire loop detectors. They have begun to clean and extend the Plum Gulley Brook culverts under Buckland Road to the west to accommodate new sidewalks. The culvert extension and last pieces of sidewalk should be completed this summer.

#### **Avery Street Reconstruction 3 (Orchard Hill Road to Manchester Town Line)**

Phase 3 of the reconstruction of Avery Street is substantially complete. Red Technologies has reconstructed this section of Avery Street including new storm water drainage, base, pavement, curb, concrete sidewalks, driveway aprons and lawn restoration. They are working to complete a few remaining sidewalk sections and touch up the lawn restoration where needed this spring.

#### **Edwin Road Drainage**

This project was bid this February and work started in the beginning of April. Sunset Valley Construction has installed a new double catch basin, 36 inch drainage pipe, manhole and outfall to carry storm water from the south west corner of Edwin Road down to a brook that runs through the property at 105 Edwin Road. This replaces an old pipe that had failed, causing storm water to back up in the road and run down the driveway for 105 Edwin Road.

#### **Sidewalk Repairs**

Martin Laviero Contractors will continue to replace damaged sidewalk slabs in many places in Town starting in May. They will work to replace the worst sidewalk problems we have recorded in Town this summer. CRC of Connecticut will also continue raising sidewalk slabs that have settled a couple of inches throughout Town.

## Public Works Department

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Director of Public Works

### **Ridge Road and Deming St Drainage Improvements**

This project was bid in March and has been awarded to Hinkley Construction who will be starting work in early May. New storm water drainage pipes and structures will be installed on Deming Street from just north of Grandview Terrace up to Ridge Road and also in Ridge Road. These pipes will collect the storm water that currently ponds along Ridge Road and convey it down Deming Street. Ridge Road will be reconstructed to create a low point where stormwater will flow into new catch basins and replace the old broken pavement. This project is scheduled to be substantially completed by the middle of August and uses 2018 bond funds.

### **Local Road Paving**

The Town plans to mill and pave about 1.7 miles of local roads this summer including part of Chapel Rd, Governors Highway, Maskolo Road, the south part of Slater Street, Imperial Drive, Jonathan lane, Broadleaf Drive, Crestwood Drive and Mountain Dr. We are currently evaluating bids and plan to award this work in May. This program is supported by the 2018 Bond funds.

### **Eversource Gas Projects**

Eversource and their contractors plan to complete the new gas main installation on Strong Rd and the north end of Main St in May. They then plan to install a new gas main down Main St from Strong Rd to Governors Highway and up Governors Hwy to Rte 5. A

new gas main installation is also planned for 7 streets in the Quarry Brook neighborhood this spring and summer.

*Jeffrey Doolittle*

*Assistant Director of Public Works  
Town Engineer*

### **Street Services**

The Streets Department hired a contractor to mill some of the worst sections of Pleasant Valley Rd and Streets crews repaved these sections. In all, approximately 237 tons of asphalt were laid down in these areas.

Crews regraded and compacted Vibert Rd prior to opening day of fishing season.

Streets crews continue to repair catch basins on Mountain Dr, Crestwood Dr. and Broadleaf Dr, in preparation of resurfacing these roads later this year. Performing this work with Town staff saves several thousand dollars vs. having contractors perform this work.

Minor flooding has occurred during the month forcing the closing of Vibert Rd leading to the boat launch as well as the closure of Strong Rd west of Main St.

Streets supported the Parks Department with the annual removal of the pool covers at VMP. Crews have also been very busy repairing curb and lawn damage from the winter storms.

Street sweeping began the first week of the

## Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick  
Director of Public Works

month and will continue until all streets have had two complete passes. The department has also supported the Board of Education by sweeping all schools during the spring recess.

Streets maintainers installed no parking signage and crowd control for the girls' LAX tournament.

Signs were delivered for the Earth Day parade at the Orchard Hill School.

Potholes. You already know the deal on these. We have crews out daily as manpower and weather will permit.

The sign shop installed 62 signs during the month replacing damaged signs and signs that have exceeded their useful life.

*Scott Yeomans*  
*Associate Manager, Street Services*

## Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco  
Director of Human Services

### **Adult and Senior Services Division:** **Aging Mastery Program (AMP)**

This is a 10-week comprehensive and fun program that celebrates the gift of longevity is underway! We have met maximum enrollment of 30. The program combines goal setting, daily practices and peer support to help participants make meaningful changes in their lives. Topics include: Navigating Longer Lives, Exercise and You, Healthy Eating and Hydration, Falls Prevention, Medication Management and more! This is offered at no charge due to a grant from the CT Healthy Living collective. A graduation ceremony will be held at the conclusion of the 10-week series.



### **Volunteer Recognition**

Our annual volunteer recognition honored the over 250 (with 115 in attendance!) with a breakfast and social to thank them for their time and dedication to the Human Services programs.



### **Senior Center Theater!**

By the time you read this, we would have finished our first ever senior play! We hope you were able to join us! The Haverston Mills Town Meeting is a play written by Steve Henderson. The Townspeople are a mixed lot of characters: some are eccentric, one or two are normal, and some are just plain wacky characters. The cast has been hard at work in rehearsals and it is sure to be a success!



### **Outreach at Senior Housing**

For several years in a row, caseworkers and program coordinators have provided an ice cream social at each clubhouse at Senior Housing in an effort to inform residents of the services that are available through the Adult and Senior Services Division of Human



## Human Services Department

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Director of Human Services

Services. Events are scheduled for May. In addition, caseworkers will be meeting once a month at Berry Patch, Watson Farm and Hillcrest for tenants to stop in and talk to staff about services on a one-to-one basis.

### **NEW! Veteran's Coffee Hour!**

Human Services staff approached the American Legion Post 133 to start a new coffee hour for veterans on a monthly basis and Legion members jumped at the opportunity! The first meeting was a success with the hopes of the group continuing to grow. They will reminisce about the past, learn about programs available to them, and stay to play pool, ping pong or other games available in the Teen Center. Coffee hours are held the 3rd Thursday of the month at 9 AM.

### **Divorcing Cable**

Over 100 people registered to attend a program that the IT Department put together to educate residents about different television options: streaming, cable, etc. A future program will be scheduled as well so that more folks can be educated. Thank you to the IT Department for this timely and informative program!



This month, Youth & Family services hosted the 15th annual Grandparent/Grandchild Pancake Breakfast & Bingo. Youth & Family staff cooked up a delicious breakfast for 90 people during April vacation. It is a fun event that helps us raise money for our CARE fund, which we use to financially support South Windsor youth with pro-social, positive development and recreational activities. We couldn't have done it without the help of the Teen Center Youth Council!



### **Teen Center**

The month of April has been busy! Our Youth Council enjoyed teaming up with the Parks and Recreation Department and helped out at

## Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco  
Director of Human Services

the Annual Imperial Oil, Propane Plumbing & Heating Egg Hunt. Youth Volunteers helped collect the donations for the SW Food Bank and sold refreshments to help raise money for the teen center as well as for making a donation to a local charity of their choice.



Our teens also had an opportunity to join an Intergenerational Art Class – Glass Etching, held at the Senior Center and instructed by

Human Services staff person, Liz O'Brien. It was such a fun and creative class, we look forward planning another event sometime later this year!



Youth Council Members chose a day in April, just before Earth Day, to raise awareness about keeping our town parks and streets clean! Students took time from their April vacation to help clean up Ayers Road as part of the Adopt A Road project with the Public Works Department, Street Services Division.





## Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco  
Director of Human Services

The Teen Center was also happy to host two field trips earlier this month – 8th graders touring the high school stopped at the Teen Center for lunch and games and had the opportunity to learn a little more about our programs and ways to get involved. A third series of the TEMS Matinee program, “Tuesday Afternoons at the Teen Center” was held this month by popular demand! This continued partnership with TEMS allowed for a new group to be created, called “Just Be YOU”. This particular group focuses on using creative ways to foster self-empowerment and positive friendship skills.

### **S.W.A.N.** **Parent Education and Support**

April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. We use this month to acknowledge the importance of our community working together to prevent child abuse and neglect and to draw attention to the effective solution of prevention. There were several activities and workshops offered throughout the month of April. Did you all notice the BLUE pinwheels twirling in the wind? We kicked off Child Abuse Awareness Month on Monday, April 1st. We had our 2nd annual Pinwheel Planting and Ice Cream Social. You may have asked yourself, Why the Pinwheel? In 2008, Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the pinwheel as the new national symbol for child abuse prevention through Pinwheels for Prevention. What research showed, is that people respond to the pinwheel. By its very nature, the pinwheel connotes whimsy and

childlike notions. In essence, it has come to serve as the physical embodiment, or reminder, of the great childhoods we want for all children.



On Thursday, April 25th, we collaborated with South Windsor Police Department for the Keeping Kids Safe Workshop. Our Parent Educator, Kelly McKenney to talk with parents and caregivers about talking with children about body safety, consent, warning signs of possible sexual abuse and most importantly tips on how to protect your child from becoming a victim of child sexual abuse.

On Monday, April 29th, we offered parents and caregivers a workshop called Taking Care of Ourselves. Parenting can be stressful. It is important to learn to manage that stress instead of letting it manage you. In this workshop, caregivers learned and practiced simple stress management and relaxation skills. This was a fun and interactive class! After, Jessica Hale, Wellness Educator led

## Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco  
Director of Human Services

caregivers in creating a stress reducing spray/oil roller that families were able to take home.

parents join us for Monday Morning Playgroup.

Also, on Monday, April 8th, Annie Mohanty, Financial Services Professional for NYLIFE Securities and Kathleen Tetreault, Attorney and Co-founding member of Disability Planning Partners educated caregivers on caring for a loved one with special needs. They focused on the essential considerations in pursuing long-term financial security for children with special needs, government benefits children may be entitled to, legal instruments, insurance and investment strategies, funding of special needs trusts, guidance on planning tools (such as ABLE accounts) and how to create a financial plan for their child's future.



On April 11, Dads and their children came to play and have dinner at our monthly, Dads Dinner and Playgroup. The kids had a blast making "moon dough". Moon Dough is dough that the kids can play with. Think sand, but it holds its shape like Play Doh and is made with flour and vegetable oil so it is taste safe. Moon Dough is perfect for little ones, or children that need sensory activities, and apparently, the parents don't mind playing with it either. During the month of April, we had 80+

### School Outreach & Prevention

The Mentor Program Family Breakfast was held on Tuesday, April 16th at TEMS. The breakfast gives the students, their families and the mentors the chance to get to know one another better and share a meal together. It is always a wonderful morning to see the connections that are made through the mentor program. A few students shared with the group what their mentor means to them. They gave heartfelt speeches about how these adults have helped them in so many ways and made their time at TE even more special.

### 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. Both counselors are facilitating one therapeutic group each as well.

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 - May 6, 2019

Keri Apt  
Asst. Director of Parks &  
Recreation

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

– The next PARC meeting is Wednesday, May 8th 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., May 1st at Wapping. Efforts over the next year will be the design of the proposed cross-town trail through the Eversource power corridor including a massive outreach campaign to educate the public about the project.

#### **The South Windsor FOOD Alliance (SWFA)**

– The summer Farmer's Market will once again run every Saturday from June 22 to September 28 at the Community/Senior Center front lawn with new hours – 9am to 12pm (previously the hours were 10am to 1pm). Go to [www.swfood.org](http://www.swfood.org) for more details.

**2019 Legislative Session** – The three proposed bills to increase the minimum wage by nearly 50% to \$15/hour from the current \$10.10/hour have yet to go to a vote by the General Assembly. We anticipate this to occur within the next two weeks. I reiterate that to comply with this increase which has very, very strong support from both the House and the

Senate, we will experience an increase of over \$400,000 in added labor cost to deliver our current level of services and programs. We will also see an increase in the cost of products and services we need to purchase to support these programs. As a result our residents can expect to see unusually substantial incremental increases in program fees and probable reductions in services. On a good note we were able to “kill” raised bill HB 7003 An Act establishing a moratorium on the installation of recycled tire rubber at municipal and public schools playgrounds which would have been detrimental to providing inclusion access to public playgrounds across the state.

#### **Special Invitation to Councilors – SAVE THE DATES:**

- (1) Paws in the Park sponsored by the SW Jaycees on Sat., May 4th from 9:30am to 3pm at a substitute location at Rye Street Park as the Fairgrounds on Brookfield Street are flooded from the 19 days of April showers!
- (2) Annual Picnic in the Park celebration of Armed Forces Day presented by the SW Patriotic Commission on Sat., May 18th from 4:30pm to dark at Nevers Park.
- (3) Memorial Day parade at 10am followed by

a ceremony at 11am at Veterans Memorial Park, Mon., May 27th also presented by the SW Patriotic Commission.

- (4) Sun., May 19th Trails for Charities – Our Trails, Your Cause from 9am to 2pm at Nevers Park.
- (5) Sat., May 25th at noon Veterans Memorial Park Pools open for the 2019 season! 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** - May enrollment: 157 before school participants, 259 students after school participants and 37 in the for Early Release Wednesday program in support of the BOE professional development initiative. On Sat., May 4th we will conduct a separate public registration at Wapping. As openings are very limited, registration for available spots and inevitable wait list positions will be determined by lottery by school on the hour as follows: 9am – Eli Terry; 10am – Orchard Hill; 11am – Philip R. Smith; 12pm – Pleasant Valley.

**Wapping Re-Purposing** – The Cafeteria remodeling project has been on hold the majority of the month of March due to unexpected building code issues. A local professional architect has been hired to resolve the issues and we anticipate resuming renovations as soon as we can get the building department to sign off.

**2019 Spring/Summer Parks & Rec. Magazine** – Registration for residents began on April 4th at 8am with a record-breaking single day revenue collection of \$325,240, 95% of which was transacted on-line from the comforts of residents' homes. Summer camps are filling rapidly and we anticipate reaching capacity in most before the end of the month.

**35th Annual Fishing Derby** on Sat., April 13 drew 125 anxious anglers to the Town Pond on Barber Hill Road. This free event co-sponsored was by the Super Sixties Club.

**48th Annual Egg Hunt** on Fri., April 19 from 9am to 12pm at the high school stadium attracted a record attendance of nearly 5,000 regional ‘hunters’. The hunt schedule provided separate opportunities for seven age groups from 9am to 11:30am. The first sensory friendly hunt started at 9am and was geared towards children with differing abilities and their families which drew a record 50 people. This was followed at 10am every fifteen minutes for Age 2, Age 3, Age 4, Age 5 and Kindergarten, Grade 1, and a final hunt at 11:15am for Grade 2. The SW Community Women's Club once again ran their “Kids Fair” inside the high school from 10am to 1pm to round out the day. Many thanks to our sponsor Imperial Oil & Plumbing, Recreation Supervisor, Cheryl Gerber for another highly successful hunt!

## **PARKS DIVISION**

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

### **April Activity Highlights:**

- Athletic Fields & Grounds:
  - After an aggressive spring clean-up, prepared three athletic complexes for a very busy weekend of large scale events



on April 27 & 28. Seven lacrosse fields were mowed and lined at Rye St. Park for the boys youth lacrosse annual Robin Klemba Memorial Bobcat Blast tournament; four fields were mowed and lined for girls youth lacrosse tournament at Nevers Park, and all five fields the Little League complex and one at Wapping were groomed for opening day celebrations for SW Little League. Unfortunately, poor weather aggravated the scheduled activities to some degree, but the most was made of the situation by all. Kudos to the crew for their herculean efforts to get everything ready despite uncooperative weather conditions!!

- Thanks to the Building Maintenance Dept. all necessary park buildings were de-winterized on time for the weekend of April 27 & 28.
- Completed annual spring clean-up on all public building grounds and parks.
- Completed renovation of softball field at Rye Street Park in support of our adult softball league.
- A record volume of grass seed was planted and fertilizer applied at all athletic fields at Nevers Park, Rye St. Park, Barton property, the multi-purpose field at the high school as well as fields at TE and OH.
- In the midst of routine weekly field prep of all athletic fields to support the high school interscholastic program as well as youth boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, youth soccer and little league.
- Completed an aggressive restoration of the center landscape island at the rear parking lot at Town Hall.
- Parks & Open Space:
  - Began work on the flooding situation at the Fairgrounds (formerly Barton property) starting with pumping of the water from the low spot before some re-grading can be done to better control the water flow.
  - Weather and workload permitting we continued work on a fifth new trail loop, "Sneaky Pete", to be added to the mountain biking trail system at Rye Street Park.
  - Repaired stone dust trails after numerous heavy rain showers.
  - Removed all pool covers at VMP and began cleaning and preparing the facility for opening day Sat., May 25th.
  - Successfully completed the equipment installation for transitioning to liquid chlorine at the pools at VMP.
  - Prepared the town-owned Dzen Pond property on Barber Hill Road for our annual fishing derby on April 13th. Bank of pond was cleared, entire property mowed, and picnic tables and trash receptacles delivered.
  - Began clean-up of tree damage caused by the beavers at Nevers Park, requiring us to temporarily close the northern trail loop.
- Projects:
  - Construction of the Nevers Park restroom project in partnership with the SW Rotary club continues to move along

quite nicely. Interior plumbing, steel roofing, concrete sidewalks, siding and site grading & hydro-seeding are complete. Ceiling sheetrock work, finish electrical, restroom accessories, access system and painting remain. The old gazebo and electrical/irrigation shed were removed by our parks crew. We hope to open to the public mid-May.

### Pictures



New restroom facility at Nevers Park is nearing completion thanks to a wonderful partnership with the SW Rotary Club



48th Annual Egg Hunt on Fri., April 19th drew nearly 5,000 people!!



35th Annual Fishing Derby on Sat., April 13th attracted 125 anxious anglers!



Sarah Robinson, Recreation Supervisor (center) reviews expectations with all the players, coaches and Referees prior to the Sr. Division Basketball Championship game at SW High School.





Crew begins the pre-season preparations of the pools at VMP by removing the monstrous covers



Parks crew member Mike Samsel vacuuming the pool floor of the main tank



Nevers Park lacrosse fields fully prepared for the annual youth girls lacrosse tournament on April 27th



Rye St. Park fields fully prepared for the annual youth boys Robin Klemba Memorial lacrosse tournament on April 27th



Crew completed an aggressive restoration of the center landscape island at the rear parking lot at Town Hall



## ***May 2019 Town Council Meetings and Events***

### ***Meetings***

**Tuesday, May 1, 2019**

**7:00 pm Special Budget Work Session**

*Council Chambers*

**Monday, May 6, 2019**

**7:00 pm Regular Meeting**

*Council Chambers*

**Monday, May 20, 2019**

**7:00 pm Regular Meeting**

*Council Chambers*

### ***Holidays***

**Monday, May 27, 2019**

*Town offices will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.*

*Layout by Samara Haddock, Confidential Secretary*

