

Town of South Windsor

Town Manager's Report September 2022



Michael Maniscalco
Town Manager

Main Street Bridge I am pleased to announce that after many years of working through the State process, the Town along with subcontractors, have officially completed and opened the Main Street Bridge. The Town held a ribbon cutting/ opening ceremony on August 22 and it was fitting that the first official traffic to cross the bridge was a farm tractor. This project was jointly funded between the Town and State of CT.

Buckland Road Paving Currently, Buckland Road is in the process of milling and paving. So far, much of it has gone along without any major issues. We have had a minor delay that should push the finishing work out a couple weeks but overall things are progressing nicely. This project was approved and funded through referendum bond funds.

Town Department Tours With the Council on vacation during the month of August, I have had the chance to conduct some department Tours and have an opportunity to get my hands dirty working alongside some of our great staff. At the time of this report, I have worked with Street Services, the Town Garage, Water Pollution Control, Parks and Recreation. I can tell you that we have very thoughtful and dedicated staff who work very hard every day to not just get their job done but to do the best they possibly can for the tax payers of South Windsor.

Park & Rec Facilities Committee The Parks and Rec Facilities Committee has been continuing to work through the reports and findings from Colliers in an effort to narrow down to the best location for the Parks and Rec Department. At the last meeting, the Director of Parks and Rec was asked to take a look at an existing facility in Town to see how it could potentially meet the needs of the Department if we were to take a piecemeal approach.

Strategic Planning The Strategic Planning Committee has had a presentation from Dr. Alkadry from UConn. He is putting together a

proposal for the Committee to take a look at that would survey the community through multiple methods and provide administrative support for facilitating brainstorming sessions with targeted groups.

Michael Maniscalco, MPA
Town Manager



Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

Monthly Statistics June and July 2022:

Each month we publish the totals of some of our more common calls for service. We continue to see some minor fluctuations in activity levels as school schedules change and Covid trends shift. Patrol staff continue to proactively check businesses and facilities whose schedules and business models have been impact by the public health crisis.

June's numbers are below

Total Computer Aided Dispatch Entries:	2434
911 Calls	638
Routine Calls Received/Outgoing:	3832
Directed Patrol/Premise Checks:	957
Motor Vehicle Stops:	209
Emotionally Disturbed Persons:	15
Medical Assists:	155
Suspicious:	95
Alarms:	100
Motor Vehicle Accidents:	42
Welfare Check:	35
Assist Outside Agency:	27
Animal Problem:	58
Citizen Assist:	25
Miscellaneous Service:	9
Collision Reports:	17
BOLO:	7
Disabled Motor Vehicle:	34
Larceny - Motor Vehicle	1
Larceny:	32
Hazardous Conditions:	21
Pistol Permits:	13
Burglary	4
Burglary - Motor Vehicle	0
Civil Matter:	18
911 Check:	9
Fraud:	6
Domestic Dispute:	13
Violation of Town Ordinance:	2
Sexual Assault	2
Youth Problem:	8

July's numbers are below

Total Computer Aided Dispatch Entries:	2226
Routine Calls Received/Outgoing:	4131
Directed Patrol/Premise Checks:	769
Motor Vehicle Stops:	219
Emotionally Disturbed Persons:	12
Medical Assists:	168
Suspicious:	98
Alarms:	84
Motor Vehicle Accidents:	24
Welfare Check:	42
Assist Outside Agency:	37
Animal Problem:	45
Citizen Assist:	42
Miscellaneous Service:	4
Collision Reports:	19
BOLO:	13
Disabled Motor Vehicle:	29
Larceny - Motor Vehicle	2
Larceny:	29
Hazardous Conditions:	23
Pistol Permits:	6
Burglary	5
Burglary - Motor Vehicle	0
Civil Matter:	18
911 Check:	10
Fraud:	18
Domestic Dispute:	10
Violation of Town Ordinance:	4
Sexual Assault	3
Youth Problem:	3



Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

Covid 19 Update (cont. from last month):

The months of July and August saw Covid numbers being held at a dull simmer. Community spread has remained manageable and those infected with the virus have, for the most part, recovered fully and quickly.

As we are now in the beginning of the third year of dealing with Covid, we have moved from a pandemic status to an endemic status. Covid is here to stay and it appears as though its potency is certainly weakening. That being said, the police department continues to be cognizant of the fact that for many the transition away from Covid will be welcomed with open arms and enthusiasm, while for many others it will bring increased levels of anxiety and concern. For these reasons, we will continue to not only respond to the community's needs as a whole, but also respond to the individual needs of community members regardless of their position on the pandemic and the socio-political topics embedded within.

Department officials continue to work collaboratively with other local officials to continually monitor community health trends and needs.

Personnel and Recruiting Status

The strength of the South Windsor Police Department always has been, and continues to be, the staff who keep things moving day in and day out. This month a variety of personnel movements occurred that impact the police department.

As Sgt. Cleverdon continues to recruit candidates to fill our two sworn vacancies, one Dispatcher position, one Animal Control/Community Service Officer position, and part time kennel assistant positions.

Officers Sarfo and Weiss continue to progress well through their academy training and we anticipate that they will both graduate on schedule this fall. Ofc. Chris Myska completed his FTO training and after almost of year of training, he is now an fully functioning, independent, police officer. Ofc. Grabowski is nearing the end of this field training.

We are currently conducting pre-employment background investigations for police officer candidates and hope to have two officers enter the police academy at the end of September.

Although these new officers will not be fully operational for several month. When the above additions and departures are calculated, we are left with two vacancies at the moment. Sgt. Mark Cleverdon is overseeing our recruiting efforts and is actively working to fill these gaps with the right candidate in a timely manner.

Personnel Summary: With an authorized strength of 46 sworn members, we currently have 2 in the academy (Weiss, Sarfo), 1 in field training (Grabowski), 1 on maternity leave, 1 out on medical leave (non-work related), and two vacancies within our sworn ranks. By month's end, 44 of our 46 authorized sworn personnel are employed at this agency and 39 are fully operational sworn FTE's. Among our 14 civilian employees, we currently have two vacancies (one in Dispatch and one ACO/CSO).

Over 41% of our personnel have been hired in the last 5 years and will be the future of the agency. It is important that we continue to enrich their work experience and motivate them so that they will continue the proud tradition of high quality police service well into the future.

July 13, 2022 marked the first anniversary of the untimely and unexpected death of Ofc. Ben Lovett. This occasion was recognized with a wreath laying ceremony in front of police headquarters at 2:01pm (Ben's badge number was 201).

Local and National Social Justice Movements

The South Windsor Police Department remains strongly opposed to racism and biased policing. It continues to serve the public with the element of its mission to "Respect the Rights of Individuals" in mind.

We continue to monitor the community for changes and trends in the social justice arena.



Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

As an agency, and as a profession, we continue to stand ready to engage in crucial conversations to make meaningful change that enhances the world that we live in.

Community Activities and Support from our Citizens

The South Windsor Police Department continues to make efforts to engage the community through non-confrontational consensual encounters. It is our hope that these contacts and efforts will help to build trust and legitimacy with the community.

During the months of July and August, our two School Resource Officers (Ofc. Korchari and Ofc. Owens) functioned in full time outreach positions by participating in the Town's Rising Stars program. Unlike many outreach events that create singular short term contacts with community members, this program provided these officers with an opportunity to spend several weeks with local youth and allowed for deliberate, sustained, non-confrontational contacts with dozens of community members.

On July 26, Chief Lindstrom, Officer, Geraci, and Officer Dabrowski attended Law Enforcement Day at Camp Courant. This was a great opportunity for these department members to engage and interact with area youth in a setting that builds trust, communication, and positive interaction between law enforcement and kids.

The police department is continuing its social media activity and, in particular, its "Get to Know Your Department" program. This initiative will highlight a different officer each week. These posts will introduce the officer and identify, not only some of their professional attributes, but it aims to also humanize our staff and show the community what exists "behind the uniform." Based on likes and responses online, these profiles have been well received thus far.

Events like those described above are of particular importance as the local community emerges from its Covid quarantine and tries to re-establish some normalcy. As is stated above, community

engagement and community policing efforts are paramount to our agency creating and maintaining our legitimacy with the community we serve.

The department continues to benefit from regular gestures of support from the community.

Traffic Safety

Our Traffic Unit continues to exercise the "3 E's" of Engineering, Enforcement, and Education as we address complaints ranging from speed to Commercial Vehicle travel. We continue to work in partnership with the Office of the State Traffic Authority to address traffic proposals, and projects.

In the waning weeks of August, the police department began its back to school safe traffic initiative. This annual program serves to increase high visibility patrols and traffic enforcement in the town's school zones in preparation of an increase in motor vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic as a new school year begins. The intent of this initiative is to raise motorist awareness and educate drivers by way of public information and warnings prior to transitioning to a phase of traditional enforcement via infractions.

In addition, we are currently monitoring traffic flow on Buckland Road and in Evergreen Walk as several development and paving projects continue. In addition, we are monitoring some complaints of traffic issues in several other areas in town such as the railroad crossing on Chapel Road near Route 5.

The reconstruction of the King Street bridge and the Main Street bridge are well underway and have created long term detours at the south end of Main Street. Mid August saw one of these projects draw to a close when the Main Street bridge was reopened. The detours are well marked and people moving through the area appear to have acclimated well to this change as there have been few, if any, complaints. These projects are two of many we are monitoring as development, upgrades, and improvement continue in the community.



Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

Police Activity and Significant Events

The South Windsor Police Department remains active and dedicated to the traditional law enforcement function by responding to the public's needs.

As has been the trend over the last several months, during the month of June the police department received, and is processing, several FOI requests. While these requests are not out of the ordinary, there seems to be a recent influx of these requests. In speaking with other area agencies, this does not seem to be a trend unique to South Windsor, however these requests are noteworthy as they can be very labor intensive to satisfy. Particularly when dealing with record redactions and video redactions, these requests can occupy dozens of labor hours a week.

The expansion and update of the women's locker room facilities is well underway as our officers are working around and alongside a fully functioning construction zone. As has been explained previously, because we are not expanding the footprint of the building, this expansion within it will cause a ripple effect that will impact and subsequently update several rooms in the lower level of police headquarters. It is understood that our lower level may be in a state of disarray for several months, we are excited for the finished product anticipated near the end of this calendar year.

On July 4th, through the use of Narcan, police personnel saved the life of a citizen who was experiencing an opioid overdose. A couple of days before that, police responded to an unrelated armed kidnapping incident. This custodial abduction was carried out by an individual who was armed with a knife.

The weekend of July 16 and 17 was one that pushed patrol personnel with several significant cases. In that short period of time, patrol and detective unit personnel responded to and investigated a serious motorcycle crash with injuries, a suicide, a home invasion/assault, and reported kidnapping. All of these cases were

investigated and processed while the expected load of routine calls was also received and handled. As would be expected, department personnel handled all of these calls with professionalism, dedication to the mission, and teamwork.

In a more administrative sense, department members attended a meeting on July 19th to discuss the traffic plans associated with the redevelopment of the Geissler's plaza and we also collected and destroyed over 440lbs of unwanted/unused prescription medication.

Unfortunately, in early August, we saw a significant increase in the number of cars that failed/refused to stop when police vehicles attempted to pull them over for traffic violations. Officers did a nice job of letting these vehicles go and not engaging them vehicles in pursuit as such a pursuit would not be justified under the State's current pursuit policy. We hope that this was an anomaly and is not a harbinger of trends to come. We will continue to monitor this issue.

On August 8th, police responded to a report of a man with a gun walking down the road. The man was located, investigated, and arrested all with no use of force from the police.

While these more prominent events are occurring, the men and women of the police department continue to respond to calls for assistance and engage in more traditional law enforcement activities. Police personnel continue to respond to motor vehicle crashes, medicals, crimes, and suspicious activities.

Unlocked Car Burglaries & Car Thefts (cont. from last month)

With warmer weather on the horizon, we will wait to see if car burglaries and catalytic converter thefts spike once again. For the time being the police department continues to monitor the trend in the region and deter crime with high visibility patrols. We have temporarily stopped our public service messaging on social media in an effort to prevent it from becoming "white noise" and ignored. We will resume disseminating those



Police Department

Kristian R. Lindstrom
Chief of Police

messages in the coming months if the need arises.

Never too early to prepare for an emergency (cont. from last month)

After experiencing some significant weather events through the summer, I hope that our citizens will think about all-hazard preparations especially with the potential of significant winter weather events on the horizon.

The Ready.gov webpage has great information pages on preparation for natural disasters, severe weather, and active shooters. Please share with friends and family that may rely on you in a severe weather event, or have questions about how to react to an active shooter event.

We have had our share of severe weather in Connecticut and now is a good time to review your plan to protect yourself and your family.

<https://www.ready.gov/>

Follow us on Social Media

We continue to have a strong 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

Vincent Stetson
Director of Public Works

Street Services May 2022

The Street Services Department worked with our contractor, Comer Contracting, to chip seal several roads in town. This required our maintainers to prep these surfaces prior to chip sealing taking place. Several cut and patches areas were tackled, weeds were removed, temporary markers were installed and our crews pothole patched even the smallest areas. This should extend the longevity of these wear surfaces by several years.

The department also took on significant cut and patch work on Sullivan Ave near Main St. This area has been deteriorating for some time now and necessitated some much needed attention.

Street sweeping wrapped up for the season. All town roads and town buildings including BOE facilities were swept.

Streets assisted the WPCA with a refresh of the bio-filter at the treatment plant. This filter helps reduce odors coming from their processes.

Maintainers completed building the variable message board pedestal and installed the sign at Fire Headquarters. This is the 2nd of 3 new signs to help improve communications with our residents.

Several drainage projects were undertaken including the installation of 124 linear feet of 24" drainage pipe on Carriage Dr to eliminate a drainage problem in the area.

Crews set up and took down no parking signs and barricades for Paws in the Park and a very large, very well attended, volleyball tournament at the John Mitchell Fairgrounds.

The department installed a new gate (fabricated by Fleet Services), at the direction of the Police Department, on Vibert Rd leading to Linear Park. This new gate will be closed from sundown to sunrise daily.

All the compost from site #2 has been sold and hauled off the property. The site is now being readied for the upcoming leaf harvest.

Streets maintainers have begun the repair and replacement of several catch basins at the town hall/library complex in preparation for resurfacing later this year. There will also be a new sidewalk installed for ADA access and additional parking lot lighting at the library.

August saw the opening of the new bridge on Main St over the Podunk River. Several members of the crew worked to cut back vegetation along the approach to the bridge as they weren't able to do regular maintenance in the area. This created a great first impression for the ribbon cutting for the new structure.

The department assisted the Registrars of Voters with signage for the August primaries.

A maintainer I test was conducted for the open position in the Streets Department. We will hopefully have a new maintainer of board very soon.

Street Services congratulates Neil Roback, formerly a Maintainer III, as a new Associate Manager for the department. We all look forward to working with Neil and wish him much success. Good luck Neil!

The sign shop fabricated and installed several warning and information signs for the new gate on Vibert Rd. The shop also installed several signs for a police department project and re-installed signs knocked over by construction and vehicle accidents.

Residents are encouraged to use Connect South Windsor to report hazards. WWW.SOUTHWINDSOR.ORG/CONNECT or look for the app for iPhones and Androids.

Scott Yeomans
Associate Manager, Street Services

Public Works Department

Vincent Stetson
Director of Public Works

Engineering Projects Update

Main Street Bridge over the Podunk River

The reconstruction of the Main Street Bridge over the Podunk River is complete, and the bridge was opened for use on August 22, 2022. Dayton Construction completed the new bridge more than a month ahead of schedule and within budget. This new bridge will be used by motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians and farmers for many years to come.

Beelzebub Road

The reconstruction of Beelzebub Road is underway. Spazzarini Construction has begun work at the eastern end of the road with the installation of new storm drainage pipes, structures, and concrete sidewalks. They will continue with road excavation, new stone base, bituminous pavement, and curbs, and expect to complete the eastern half of the road from Avery Street to about Norton Drive this fall. Eversource Gas and their contractor NPL have completed the new gas main in the eastern half of the road and are continuing to install a new gas main west from Norton Drive to Foster Street. Frontier and Eversource are continuing their relocation of 12 utility poles and overhead wires in coordination with this project. All this work will cause traffic delays but at least one lane of the road will remain open to traffic. I am following up on the outstanding temporary and sidewalk easements and 2 easements needed on DEEP property on the south side of the road. Beelzebub road reconstruction will continue into 2023.

Buckland Road Repaving

Palmer Paving is working on milling and repaving Buckland Road from the Manchester Town Line through the intersection of Deming Street. This work is scheduled to be complete in early September.

Pleasant Valley Reconstruction

WMC Consulting Engineers is working on developing plans for the drainage improvements and reconstruction of Pleasant Valley Road from Clark Street to just past Hilton Drive. They have completed surveying and soils investigations, and

we expect to have a preliminary design soon.

Pleasant Valley Road Bridge Replacement

WMC Consulting Engineers is also working on developing plans for the replacement of the Pleasant Valley Road bridge over the Podunk River. They have completed surveying, geotechnical investigations, and a survey of the river for any endangered or listed species. They expect to have a preliminary design done as soon as the hydraulic analysis are complete.

LOTICIP Sidewalk project for Ayers Road, Nevers Road, Foster Street and Buckland Road

This project is to complete sidewalks and fill in gaps where they are missing on the above roads. We have received approval and a commitment to fund letter for the construction of this project from ConnDOT. The Town is responsible for the Design plans for these sidewalks and we are in the process of selecting a consulting engineer to work on this project.

Pleasant Valley/Clark Street Sidewalk Project

Costa & Son LLC has completed most of the new sidewalk connections on the eastern section of Pleasant Valley road and the southern part of Clark Street and residents are using the new sidewalks. They need to complete construction of a wall and the last piece of sidewalk over Quarry Brook to finish this project.

Local Road Paving

Ident Road has been improved with new drainage, gravel base and pavement. The drainage was completed by ESI and the gravel base and pavement was completed by Palmer Paving in July. Palmer Paving is scheduled to mill and repave the Town Hall and Library parking lots and possibly the rear parking lot of the Police Department in October. The schedule for repaving the Police Department rear lot is dependent on completing the bulk of the interior renovations first. This work is funded by the 2018 Bond referendum.

Public Works Department

Vincent Stetson
Director of Public Works

Sidewalk Repair

Sidewalk repair and replacement work is on-going and we continue to update the list of sidewalks that need to be repaired. Atlas Concrete is raising concrete sidewalk slabs. Hathaway Landscaping is replacing Concrete Sidewalks throughout Town.

Abbe Road Drainage Study

Weston & Sampson is investigating the drainage problems that have occurred on and around Abbe Road in past years. They will verify the cause(s) of the drainage problems and recommend improvements to alleviate the drainage problems on this road. We are reviewing their draft report.

Eli Terry Safe Routes to School Project

This project includes replacement of the pedestrian bridge that connects this school to the Brook Street neighborhood, and other pedestrian improvements on roads around the school. ConnDOT has reviewed the final plans and contract documents and sent us comments to address in these plans.

LOTICIP Application Submitted for the Reconstruction of Dart Hill Road

An application for funding the reconstruction of Dart Hill Road was submitted to CRCOG in January for consideration under the State LOTICIP program. This has been preliminarily selected for funding by CRCOG, along with other projects from communities in the Region. These project selections will be finalized by CRCOG and then will be sent to CT DOT for review. After CT DOT has reviewed and approved the projects, they issue a Commitment to Fund letter. We are in the process of selecting a consulting engineer to finalize the design of this project.

Utility Work

The Connecticut Water Company contractor is mostly finished installing a new water main on Deming Street (from Buckland Road to Summit Drive). The remaining work on Summit Drive will be completed soon. A new water main is also being installed in the Farnham Estates neighborhood on Farnham and McGrath Roads. This contractor is scheduled to complete installation of a new water main in all roads in this

neighborhood in the fall of 2022.

Jeffrey Doolittle

Town Engineer/Assistant Director of Public Works

Water Pollution Control

Odor Control Improvements

Over the last two months short term odor control improvements have been made while the Water Pollution Control Authority works on a long-term plan to address reducing hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) levels at the facility. The most recent improvement was the removal of compacted biofilter media that was causing air to short circuit through the system ultimately compromising the treatment efficiency. The project was completed internally by the Streets Division using locally sourced media.

Through the data that is being collected daily by the operations staff we have located the tanks with the highest concentrations of H₂S at the facility. Treating odor compounds locally in these tanks will effectively remove peak loads being delivered to the biofilter. This in turn will make the biofilter more efficient. Two different odor control systems are going to be trialed in the coming months. The first system produces ozone which is applied in the tank and treats odor producing compounds as they are released. The other system is a small carbon unit that will draw air from the tank and treat odors as it passes through the media. If these units prove effective the next step would be a permanent installation.

James Fox Retirement

James Fox began his career as an entry level operator with the Town of South Windsor Water Pollution Control Department on January 30, 1984 and worked his way up to the position of Lead Process Control Operator which he retired from on August 12th of this year.

Through his years of experience and knowledge of the microbiological process, he has made many operational control changes which have successfully lowered the amount of Nitrogen,

Public Works Department

Vincent Stetson
Director of Public Works

Suspended Solids, and Biological Oxygen Demand that the Treatment Plant discharges into the Connecticut River.

For over 38 years James has been not only an innovative thinker and doer for this department, but also a mentor and friend to a vast array of employees and their extended families. James' quick wit, dedication and positive energy will be sorely missed.

Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement Projects

Pump Station Improvements: The design to upgrade the Town's three largest pump stations; Clark Street, Benedict Drive, and Pleasant Valley Pump Stations is in the final phases. Construction of this project is anticipated to begin in 2023.

Aeration Weir Gate Improvements:

Last November the aeration weir gates were evaluated due to the increasing concern of their poor operation. The gates serve an important role in our treatment process by controlling flow to the secondary clarifiers. Repairs to the gates are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Phase IV Sewer System Improvements:

The scope of this project is to reline 40 sewer pipe segments ranging from 8" to 30" diameter and rehabilitate 28 manholes that are in various stages of degradation. The contractor has completed the lining portion of the project and will be moving on to repairing the manholes. This project is being funded through the ARPA money which was allocated to the WPCA.

UV Disinfection Upgrade:

Disinfection is the last process required by our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit. Ultraviolet Light is utilized to disinfect treated wastewater before it is discharged to the Connecticut River. The WPCA is using ARPA funds to upgrade the 20 year old system. Construction is expected to begin at the end of 2023 disinfection season.

-Tony Manfre
Superintendent of Pollution Control

Finance Department

Patricia Perry, Director of Finance
Mary Huda, Assessor
Jennifer Hilinski-Shirley, Collector of Revenue

Assessor

In mid-September, the Assessor's Office will be mailing the 2022 Personal Property Declarations to all businesses in town.

Please note the following important details regarding the filing of Personal Property Declarations:

- The Assessor's Office has many online available resources regarding Personal Property such as a step-by-step PowerPoint guide to filing the declaration, a Frequently Asked Questions pamphlet, and other tools to aid in filing the annual declaration. These can be found here: <https://www.southwindsor-ct.gov/assessor/pages/personal-property-declaration-information>
- All Personal Property Declarations are due back to the Assessor's Office on or before November 1, 2022, to avoid a 25% penalty for late or non-filing.
- If a declaration was received and residents **do not** have a business, unregistered motor vehicle, or horses in South Windsor; they must contact the Assessor's Office. *This form should not be ignored.* Please reach out to us via phone or email should you have any questions or need assistance.

Additionally, business owners or their agents have the option to file online. If interested in the online filing option, please contact us to request the online filing code if one was not provided. You may want to visit the Assessor's Office webpage in October for the updated link to the online filing process as well as all 2022 Personal Property forms.

The Board of Assessment Appeals will hear pre-scheduled appeals for Motor Vehicles only on September 12 and 13, 2022.

The 2022 Revaluation project is currently in the process of analyzing and inspecting recent South Windsor sales which will continue up to October 1, 2022. Assessor Staff and Vision are in the final stages of data verification for all parcels.

Collector of Revenue

Delinquent/demand notices were mailed August 31, 2022. To avoid additional interest and fees payment must be received by the close of business Friday, September 30, 2022. DMV has been notified of accounts that are delinquent. Therefore, clearance will be required from our office to complete a renewal or new registration of a motor vehicle.

Residential sewer use bills will be mailed September 23, 2022, payment is due October 1, 2022 and the last day to pay without penalty is Monday, October 31, 2022.

Many resources are available on line from the Collector of Revenue including the option to receive enotifications of mailings/due dates, the ability to view or print tax bills and/or payment receipts, Frequently Asked Questions and much more. The link is <https://www.southwindsor-ct.gov/collector-revenue>.

If you have questions please contact the office via email taxcollector@southwindsor-ct.gov or 860-644-2511 extension 2321.

Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco
Director of Human Services

**Town Manager's Report ~
July & August 2022
Andrea Cofrancesco, Director of Human
Services**

American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Human Services continues to assist South Windsor residents who are experiencing financial hardship due to Covid-19. In addition, behavioral health services are continuing to be offered at the Community Center through Intercommunity Health Care for people of all ages. Our Bereavement Support Group is also well attended, and is offered twice a month. We are offering a monthly group "Pandemic and a War on our Mental Health." For more information on any of these services, please contact Human Services at 860-648-6361 ext. 3335 to be directed to a staff person who can assist.

Grant Funded Musical Expression Program

Maggie Carchrie, MA, MT-BC -- Board Certified Music Therapist, will offer a 6-week session where participants will experience the many health and wellness benefits of active music making. Some of the modalities presented will include drumming, guided relaxation to music, bell choir, song writing, singing and movement. Activities will be modified to fit the needs of participants. No musical training is required, just an open mind and the willingness to have some fun! ***This is FREE to South Windsor residents 55+ as a result of a SW Greater Together Community Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.*** For information please contact Andrea at 860-648-6357.

RENTER'S REBATE...Deadline is October 1

Did you rent an apartment in 2021? Are you 65 or totally disabled? Income limited to \$38,100 for an individual, \$46,400 for a couple. Documentation needed includes all income for 2021 which includes your 2021 1040 form and Social Security 1099 form or if you do not file taxes all 2021 1099 forms and proof of what you paid for rent and utilities for 2021. Call 860-648-6361 ext. 3335 for more information.

Energy Assistance

Caseworkers (Lindsey, Steve and Sue) in the Adult and Senior Services Division of Human Services has been assisting people with applying for our Fuel Bank which has seen an increase in need for service due to the high cost of fuel. The CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) and Operation Fuel will be starting in September. For more information on how to apply, please call 860-648-6361 ext. 3335.

Food and Fuel Bank Receives Donation

Mayor Liz Pendleton recently donated a subscription of toilet paper to the Food and Fuel Bank. Amazon offers an opportunity to subscribe and save with a monthly delivery. What a great idea! The Food Bank is always in need of paper goods and cleaning products, which are not funded by the SNAP Program. Thank you, Mayor Liz!



Produce for the Food Bank

We are fortunate to have a variety of sources donate fresh produce to the food bank and to our older adult population. DeLuca Farms, Power of Peace, Broadridge, Avery Street Orchard and more! Shown are volunteers in the Power of Peace group with Tiffany Lazur, Program Coordinator.

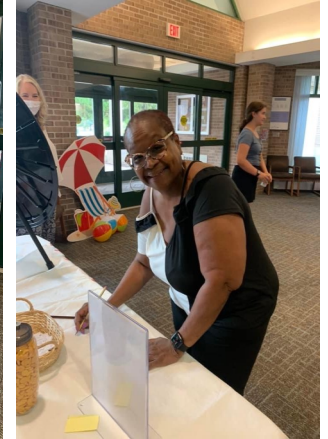


Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco
Director of Human Services

New Stove for the Community Center

After nearly four months, we finally received delivery of our new stove, which was damaged in a fire back in April. The stove that it replaced was the original to the building, almost 30 years old. This new one looks too nice and shiny to use!



Adventure Club Activities

Our Adventure Club continues to enjoy the great outdoors with hiking, kayaking and exploring! Check out our September newsletter for more info on ALL of our activities!

https://www.southwindsor-ct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf8416/f/uploads/september_2022_senior_connections.pdf



Annual Senior Picnic a Success!

Another one in the books! Our senior picnic is always a popular event and this year was no different! 130 people joined us for a beach themed event with fun games and great food! The Teen Center's Rising Stars volunteers were super helpful, we could not have done it without them! Tiffany Lazur and Barbara Konicki, Program Coordinators worked hard to ensure that a fun time was had by all!

Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco
Director of Human Services



The Teen Center staff spent the summer months having a blast doing our Rising Stars program. We held four sessions- two for the middle school students and two for the high school students. The program ran Monday through Thursday from 9 to 2pm. Our staff is so thankful to have had such amazing groups of engaged, enthusiastic youth, which made our time together that much more fun. Participants in the Rising Stars program register for the opportunity to volunteer around the community, partake in teambuilding and leadership activities, and to meet peers and community members. Thank you to our two very special guests who joined us all summer- Officer Owens, the middle school resource officer, along with the high school SRO, Officer Korchari. This was the second year having them join the program and it is always amazing to see the connections built and positive interactions with the youth. It is extremely beneficial when the students begin school and see a friendly face!

We participated in many different volunteer opportunities this summer, giving the students a variety of ways to help out and find their interests. Our students volunteered at Mazolu Animal Sanctuary in town, assisting with cleaning up around the farm, feeding, and playing with the donkeys, bunnies, dogs and cats.

Our middle school sessions each held a car wash; one was for the senior center where students raised \$430 in donations, and the other was a fundraiser in Honor of Officer Ben Lovett. The \$600 made from this was donated to Mothers Against Drunk Driving for prevention efforts. Thank you to those who stopped by and donated, it is greatly appreciated and makes a huge difference.

Participants were able to learn about the process of having a hydroponic garden at TicketNetwork,

helping with weeding and planting outdoors, and visited the animal sanctuary, they have.

The Teen Center collaborated with Synergy, where we went to do America Ninja Warrior challenges and partake in exercises so our youth were able to learn about healthy living and wellness, building confidence and self-esteem, and getting out of their comfort zone.

The students helped the Parks Department with spreading woodchips and sand at the parks, and cleaning up garbage on the trails, leaving them looking great!

One of our favorites was playing bingo with the senior center and getting in a few games of chair volleyball. We had a great time and surprised to say we finally won!

We visited the can and bottle redemption center since we usually have an overload of donations from community members. All of the proceeds made from those contributions went towards Rising Stars and Teen Center activities.



For a couple of weeks, we had the Navigators group join us in the Teen Center. We all engaged by playing games or doing crafts to get to know each other.

Students wrote cards to isolated seniors through Letters Against Isolation, giving them the chance to brighten someone's day, send them to nursing homes or community living centers anywhere around the world. They decorated the cards by

Human Services Department

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Director of Human Services

drawing pictures, adding jokes or fun facts, and a little bit about themselves.

Any downtime we had was either spent playing games, doing crafts, or watching movies together. At the end of the session we brought the high school students to go kayaking, and the middle school students enjoyed their time at Lake Compounce.

We are now planning for fall events and activities at the Teen Center! We can't wait to share what we are going to achieve.



School Outreach & Prevention

Kathy Reed worked with the Rising Stars Summer Camp to provide cooperative games and activities 2 days per session. The kids had fun exploring what it means to work as a team and accomplish their goals together. Our Monday sessions helped the campers connect with each other and the staff in a fun and relaxing environment!

Robin Lagasse and Kathy Reed were excited to have the Moving On Up program return to TEMS this summer. We held 11 sessions throughout the month of August and welcomed 126 incoming 6th graders to the school. We took some time to get to know each other, play cooperative games, answer questions, take a tour and practice lockers. The students left feeling excited and a bit less nervous about attending a new school. We are pleased to be able to provide this important program for middle school students.

We are also thankful to the SW Parks Department for installing the Adirondack chairs that we

purchased last spring. These chairs were placed outside TEMS to provide an opportunity for mentors to meet with their mentees outside so they can enjoy some fresh air together. They will also be used by our counselors to have another fun and beautiful place to meet. We appreciate the Parks Department collaborating with us to make this project a reality!

Youth Counseling, Parent Education and Support

YFS counselors remained busy with majority of clients wanting to meet for counseling throughout the summer! We also utilized this time to look at paperwork and our processes to make necessary changes that better meet the needs of our families. We are thrilled to have Paula Berson join our team as an additional Youth Counselor. Paula's position is through the ARPA funds. She will be here up to 12 hours per week.

Sarah Soboleski provided a several "mini talks" to the Rising Stars participants. These talks were on discovering personality types and the way that they take on challenges differently.

Virna Powell continues on as our JRB Coordinator and is working with the SWPD on a presentation on our JRB for new Police Officers.

Liz Langevin, LCSW
Youth and Family Services



Parks & Recreation Department

Molly Keays
Director of Parks & Recreation

“Discover the Benefits!”

John Caldwell, Jr.
Parks Superintendent

MONTHLY REPORT

Jennifer Filer
Asst. Director of Parks & Recreation



MONTHLY REPORT

Park & Recreation Commission (PARC): The Commission will be meeting at Town Hall on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 pm.

RECREATION DIVISION “Feel great – recreate!”

Summer Camp Our summer camp program had another successful season! This year, we were able to welcome back more youth as we offered three of our traditional camp programs along with pre and post-camp. Throughout the summer, we had several fun activities! All three camps attended VMP each week in addition to their weekly field trips. Some other highlights include our camp carnival with a dunk tank, three bounce houses, snow cones, and cotton candy, and a visit from the South Windsor Police department, who brought cruisers and did a Q&A. We served a total of 1,873 campers this summer, and we are looking forward to seeing everyone next year!

Summer Concert Series Our Annual Summer Concert Series at Evergreen Walk kicked off on June 23! This summer we were excited to offer nine concerts which allowed the community to gather together to enjoy live music. Each week we saw a large crowd averaging over 300 people. We have one more concert performance from the Community Band on Thursday, September 15, at 7:00 pm on the green at Evergreen Walk.

ABCD Awards On August 18, we hosted our annual Parks and Recreation ABCD awards. The ABCD award, also known as the above and beyond the call of duty award, was an initiative created within our department back in 2009. We realized we are very fortunate in South Windsor to have many individuals who exemplify our mission and strive for excellence to make a positive impact on our department and community. Each year, we give these awards out to part-time staff, volunteers, community groups, and local businesses that truly go beyond their duties, display passion and dedication to parks and recreation, and most importantly, make a positive impact on our programs, department, and the

community. During the awards, we recognized five ABCD winners. Our ABCD award recipients are; Nancy Morrison, Amelia Savola, Mahryeah Torres, Jamie Waldo, and the South Windsor Mom's Club.

Veteran's Memorial Park Pool Veterans Memorial Park Pool closed for the season on August 28 after a busy summer! This year we had over 1,600 pool pass holders enjoying the warm weather along with many camps and civic groups. We also offered some aqua fitness classes, Lifeguard classes, and fun special events and served over 800 youth and adults in our swim lesson program. Our Seals swim team had a great season and had the opportunity to host the CT Recreation League Championship swim meet at the end of July. We ended our pool season with the annual Doggy Dips event on August 30. We hope everyone has a nice year, and we are already planning some awesome things at VMP for 2023!

Family Camp Out At our second annual Family Camp Out Event, 14 families (approximately 55 people) pitched their tents in our very own Rye Street Park, and enjoyed a camp-out experience without going too far from home! Families participated in activities such as; lawn games, a nature scavenger hunt, rock painting, camping charades, and star-gazing. Dinner was prepared by the owner of Red Heat Tavern, and for dessert, families were able to roast marshmallows over the fire and make S'mores!

Friday Flicks We hosted three family-friendly outdoor movie nights at Evergreen walk this summer for families to enjoy some quality time under the stars. We presented Encanto, Space Jam, and Sing 2. We had a great turnout each time, and we are planning to offer one this fall for our families!

Specialty Camps We offered a variety of other camps this summer for youth to participate in. We had everything from Mad Science and art camps to a variety of sports and cooking classes. We served a total of 444 youth in our specialty camp programs.

4th R This past weekend, the 4th "R" Program held our annual beginning of the year training for all staff. 4th "R" staff participated in 3 days (24 hours) of hands-on training to prepare them for the upcoming school year. Training topics included The importance of 4th "R," inclusion, energy & enthusiasm, staff participation and

engagement, positive reinforcement, tone & perception, communication (with children, parents, and other staff), planning activities, problem-solving, behavior management, appropriate discipline, games, and activities, going "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty," Mandated Reporter, Sexual Harassment, Workers Compensation, OSHA and Bloodborne Pathogens, First Aid, AED, and CPR. This year's training theme was Candy Land, and all the staff had an engaging, thematic, fun, and knowledgeable weekend. We are excited to welcome our participants back!

Joga This summer program occurred on Tuesday mornings, and participants loved starting their day outside doing yoga and enjoying coffee and bagels with friends. This program has wrapped up for the summer, and we will be offering an amended version on Wednesday mornings this fall at the Rotary Pavilion due to its popularity of the program.

Adult Softball We had nine teams registered for the league this summer and they played games weekly up until the championships on August 25. We are excited to announce that the South Windsor Fire Department is the winner of the 2022 South Windsor Adult Softball league. Congratulations!

Cornhole The first season of cornhole was a blast! We had ten teams register and each week they were able to play cornhole while relaxing and making connections with other adults in the community. Congratulations to the Beanie Weenies, who won the championships this year! We look forward to offering this league again next summer.

Farmers Market The Farmers Market has been a hit this year! This season we have increased our vendors made improvements to the market space, and have been offering some fun themes for the community. We brought back the POP program in July and the youth have been enjoying the variety of educational activities. The Market will be held every Saturday from 9-12 pm through October 8.

PARKS DEPARTMENT *"Caring for South Windsor's Growing Needs"*

The Parks crew is made up of very talented individuals and this summer they have continued to go above and beyond as they took on additional tasks and projects. Please see below for some photos of their hard work.

Athletic Fields & Grounds

These past few months we have had extremely dry weather which presents challenges with how we manage irrigation for lawns and newly planted trees and plants.

- We fixed worn-out spots with either sod or seed on our athletic fields.
- We have begun preparing sports fields for the fall

season by aerating and marking field locations.

- The high school turf field has been groomed and is ready for play. At the end of the fall season, we have a contractor coming to make repairs on the turf field.

Parks & Open Space

- We continued our trail work at the Rye St. Park mountain bike trails as we prepare for our Poker Ryed event on September 17.
- Our trail systems have been somewhat easy to maintain this season because of the lack of rain, but the two days of downpours at the end of August created serious rutting on the trails. We had to take a lot of time and material to repair the trails to ensure they were safe for our community.
- We continued all summer to work on regularly scheduled things such as routine mowing and hedge trimming at all of the town-owned properties including BOE and firehouses.
- The wildflowers that we planted at the farmers Market came in nicely to help with our proactive approach to all the pollinators. Go check out the beautiful wildflowers at the Farmers Market every Saturday from 9-12 pm.

Projects

- We would like to thank the Rising Stars for spreading 12 yards of new certified playground chips at Rye Street park playground.
- The Parks Department will be working with Steve Galuska from Home Depot and Michael Perry Owner of D'Agata -Perry Granite and Bronze to make the Covid memorial.
The crew did a great job on the Buckland Islands as they weeded, and added self-watering planters, and 30 feet of cobblers at the end of each island. We will continue to work to improve the planting and look of Buckland Island.
- We have made a lot of progress on the Rye Street Pickleball Courts this summer. Our contractor finished the Post Tension concrete pour and the fence contractor has started their work to install all the line posts. The parks crew has been working on framing and pouring a sidewalk that will go the length of the courts. The painting and final touches for the courts will be finalized after Labor Day.
- The Parks crew installed another memorial bench at Nevers parks and a large Bronze Statue outside the library.

Parks Photos:



Site work and post tension concrete poured at Rye street Parks eight new Pickleball courts.



Mike and Brian repair an irrigation failure on a mainline at Rye Street Park.



Jumbo cobble stones installed on the Buckland Islands

Parks Photos:



New Wapping Park sign, parking lot, and new trail head was constructed this summer at 1355 Ellington Road.

Recreation Photos:



Adventure unit having a blast during their surfing field trip!



Our campers loved their weekly swim trip to VMP!



A big thank you to the Town Manager for spending the day at camp! Our Little Explorers group loved him leading story time.

Recreation Photos



Our summer concert series rocked this year! Thank you to our amazing bands, Evergreen Walk, and our sponsors for another fun summer.



This year's ABCD award winners.
Congratulations!



Thank you, Mayor Pendleton, for coming to support our staff during the ABCD Awards.



Our awesome camp staff at our Annual ABCD Awards to support the recipient's.

Recreation Photos



We had fun this summer going on field trips, playing games, and making friends!



Recreation Photos



We had the opportunity to host the CT Recreation championship swim meet on July 28.
Go Seals!



A Beautiful photo of VMP after a swim meet.



Under the sea swim lesson theme day
at VMP



Safari swim lesson theme day
at VMP

Recreation Photos



Free Friday Flicks provided the opportunity for families to gather under the stars to watch movies.



Family Camp out participants enjoying S'mores. Yum!



Thank you to our community members for supporting our local vendors each week at the Farmers Market.



Recreation Photos



Congratulations to our 2022 Adult Softball League Champions, the South Windsor Fire Department!



Our first cornhole season was a hit! We look forward to expanding the league next year.



Congratulations to the Beanie Weenies! They won our 2022 Inaugural Cornhole League Championships.

September 2022 Town Council Meetings and Events

Meetings

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

7:00 pm Town Council Regular Meeting
Council Chambers

Monday, September 19, 2022

7:00 pm Town Council Regular Meeting
Council Chambers

Holidays

Monday, September 5, 2022

Labor Day
Town Offices closed

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Patriot Day

Thursday, September 22, 2022

First Day of Autumn

Sunday, September 25, 2022

Rosh Hashanah, Begins at Sunset

Layout by Katherine Senerth, Executive Assistant

