



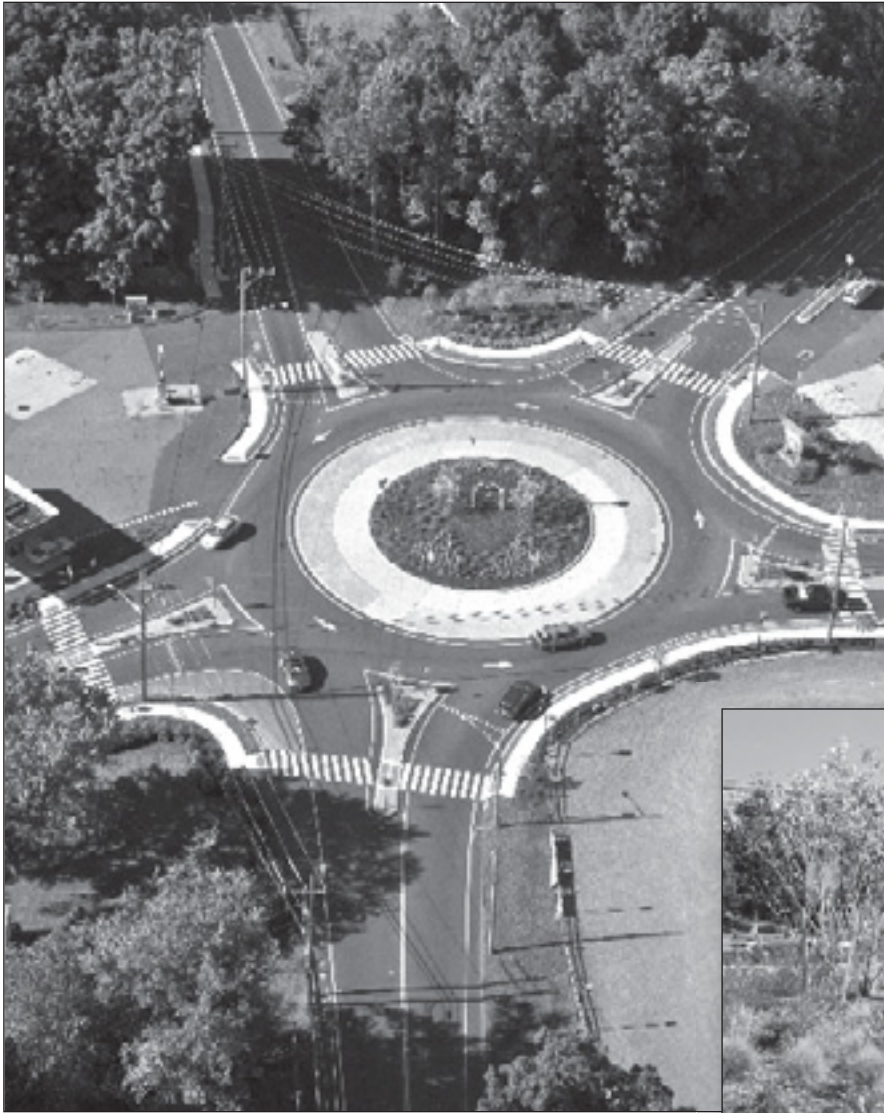
Annual Report  
2011-2012



# town of Ellington

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012



### *New Roundabout at Five Corners*

The front cover photo is the Roundabout at Routes 74 and 286 also referred to as the Five Corners. This roundabout intersects Routes 74, 286, Windsorville Road and Skinner Road. It was constructed by the Connecticut Department of Transportation. Construction began in April of 2011 and was completed with landscaping in the spring of 2012. With the installation of the Welcome to Ellington sign, this has become the gateway to the town. The benefits are improved traffic flow and aesthetics.



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## TOP DOG CONTEST

### TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Each year the Town Clerk's Office runs a Top Dog Contest. People send in photographs of their dogs and the pictures are arranged on a poster. Each photo is as-signed a number and this year the Town employees voted on which dog is the Top Dog. We enjoyed all of the pictures!

The **Top Dog for 2012-2013 is Molly**, who is the companion of Anthony and Barbara Moss. The Top Dog gets tag #1 for the year.





STATE OF CONNECTICUT • COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

[www.ellington-ct.gov](http://www.ellington-ct.gov)

## BOARD OF FINANCE

ROBERT J. CLEMENTS  
Chairman

RICHARD J. CLEARY  
MARK A. JOYSE  
BARRY C. PINTO  
JOHN P. RACHEK  
MICHAEL D. VARNEY

Dear Ellington Residents:

Each of the last few years we have approached the budget season knowing that the economy is depressed, unemployment is high and tax revenues at all levels are not as good as they once were. Each year we prayed that this environment would soon change and things would return to normal, like they were in January of 2007. Unemployment was at 4.6%, the GDP was up 3.5% from the previous quarter and we had just set a record of 52 straight months of job growth. We are still hoping.

Through it all, we have managed to pass 5 budgets with minimal tax increases even through a 1.67% reduction in the Grand List and one of the lowest Education Cost Sharing reimbursement rates from the State of Connecticut of the 168 current existing school districts.

We have managed to rewrite some Bonds from 1994 and 1998 with lower rates and no extension of time for a savings of \$392,620 over nine (9) years and then a year later we re-financed the 2002 and 2003 bonds with lower rates and no extension of time for a total savings over thirteen (13) years of \$785,216, the first year savings being \$212,545.

The Board of Education has done its part by renegotiating their Health Insurance plan, saving between \$700,000 and \$800,000 per year and submitted some very responsible budgets.


This past year we managed to bring together \$1,200,000 in small projects that have been deferred for several years as well as the usual road overlay projects that must be done every year just to maintain the quality of the roads in town.

In addition to the above, the citizens voted to proceed with two major projects, the long awaited Crystal Lake Elementary School renovation and expansion project, Windermere School Alterations and a brand new Senior Center, to be located across from the High School on Maple Street.

All in all, in spite of difficult economic times, progress is being made each year to make Ellington a better place to live, work, go to school and to enjoy the American Dream.

We acknowledge that we could not achieve these goals without the many volunteers to the various boards and committees and the commitment of the finest town employees in the state to provide the best services in the most cost effective way.

We look forward to another successful budget season with the continuing support of all of you.



Robert J. Clements, Chairman

*Equal Opportunity Employer*

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# General Government Administration

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) is collectively responsible for the administration of the Town offices, the maintenance of the Town highways and parks, the public safety of its citizens, the keeping of financial accounts and the appointment of administrative officers, boards and commissions. The First Selectman is the chief administrative and executive officer of the Town, and as such, is directly responsible to the Board of Selectmen for the administration and supervision of all Town departments, agencies and officers appointed by the board. The First Selectman is also responsible for the enforcement of all the laws and ordinances governing the Town.



*Back Row (L-R) John Turner, Ronald F. Stomberg, Lori Spielman, Rachel Wheeler-Rossow: Front Row (L-R) James Prichard, Maurice Blanchette, A. Leo Miller*

## HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Selectmen met at least once each month. There were a total of thirteen regular meetings plus nine special meetings. Three public hearings were held. The Board of Selectmen called eight Town meetings including the annual budget Town meeting. All these meetings were duly warned and tape recorded with the minutes being filed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. The following are some of the primary items addressed by the Board of Selectmen during fiscal year 2011-12:

## REFERENDA:

- Adopted resolution for Renovations, Additions, Alterations and Improvements to Crystal Lake School and Renovations, Alterations and Improvements to Windermere School - \$21,040,000 setting Special Town Meeting Date 1/31/2012; **Referendum for 2/14/2012; Vote: yes (1,358) no (554)**

- Adopted resolution for Design, Construction, Equipping and Furnishing of a new Senior Center - \$2,500,000 setting Special Town Meeting Date 1/31/2012; **Referendum for 2/14/2012; Vote: yes (1,340) no (573)**
- Appropriated the total sum for all expenditures, A/K/A budget grand total for the fiscal year 2012-2013 the sum of \$48,133,654; **Referendum for 5/15/2012; Vote: yes (523) no (290)**

## AGREEMENTS:

- Authorized the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department to enter into a lease agreement with Nutmeg Park, LLC for truck bay space located on Nutmeg Drive.
- Renewed agreement with Visiting Nurse and Health Services of CT for 2012-2013.

## CONTRACTS:

- Awarded the bid for the construction of four new tennis courts to be located at Abram and Rachel Schwartz Park, 23 Maple Street, Ellington, CT to M&M Tennis Court Company of Bristol, CT, in an amount not to exceed \$187,450.
- Awarded the bid for the HVAC upgrades at Hall Memorial Library, Phase II, to C&N Mechanical of Glastonbury, CT in an amount not to exceed \$174,266.
- Awarded the bid for the conceptual design of the new Senior Center Building to The Lawrence Associates of Manchester, CT in an amount not to exceed \$4,500.
- Awarded contract for solid waste disposal to the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority.
- Awarded contract for mechanical Services to Action Air.
- Awarded contract for cleaning services for Town Facilities to Adams and Adams Cleaning Service of Enfield, CT.
- Renewed the contract for the service of maintenance of the Town's computer system with The Computer Company of Cromwell, CT.
- Awarded contract – Preparation of Small Cities Grant Application/Program Administration for FY 2012 to Community Opportunities Group, Inc., Boston, MA.
- Awarded the contract for the Windermere School Fence project in the 2012-2013 Capital Improvement Budget to Atlas Companies of Branford, CT in an amount not to exceed \$8,500.
- Awarded the contract for the Board of Education Administration Building Roof Replacement to Tracy Brothers Roofing of Tolland, CT in an amount not to exceed \$19,000.
- Awarded bid for the replacement of the gazebos at Arbor Park to the Barn Yard and Kloter Farms of Ellington in an amount not to exceed \$18,700.

## EQUIPMENT:

- Granted the request of the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department to donate the 1975 American LaFrance Engine Tank to the Connecticut Fire Museum.



## **FINANCES:**

- Authorized the School Administration Director of Business Services to negotiate and execute a contract agreement with Automated Building Systems for the completion of the Windermere School heating project prior to the heating season.
- Granted permission to the Senior Center Steering Committee to raise funds to contribute toward the building construction of a new Senior Center.
- Set Trash Collection Fee at \$103.
- Approved an emergency appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$161,000 for emergency equipment (re: Storm Alfred).
- Allowed the Director of Public Works to expend up to \$80,000 for debris removal from Storm Alfred, from the Winter Storm Budget.
- Approved an appropriation for \$300,000 to cover the cost of debris clean up from Storm Alfred. (75% reimbursable through FEMA).
- Granted abatement of taxes to Country Warehouse, LLC for two years.
- Approved an appropriation of \$11,000 for the demolition of 82 Maple Street.
- Approved an appropriation of \$20,000 for the demolition of 59 South Road.
- Appropriation of \$83,500 from the undesignated Fund Balance for the Town's share of costs related to the acquisition by the Town jointly with the State of CT of certain development and other rights with respect to approximately 72.66 acres of land situated on the general westerly side of Green Road, known as the Myers Nursery Property.
- Moved the employees 401A Money Purchase Plan from The Hartford to ING and enhanced the 401A Plan with ING to include a matching provision up to 3% of salary.
- Authorized the First Selectman to waive fees due the Town associated with the construction of the home for USMC Corporal Greg Caron and his wife, Nina, at 188 Abbott Road, as proposed by Building Homes for Heroes, Inc.

## **GRANTS:**

- Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) for construction of tennis courts in the amount of \$170,000.
- CT State Library Grant – Library Services and Technology Act Grant in the category of services to older adults in the amount of \$27,154.
- Small Cities Grant – Renovation to Snipsic Village Capital Improvements in the amount of \$485,000.
- CT State Library – Historic Documents Preservation Grant in the amount of \$4,000.

## **PROPERTY:**

- Accepted offer in the amount of \$3,750 from Daniel and Doreen Petrozza to purchase Town-owned property located at 11 Wheelock Road.

- Approved the new senior center conceptual architectural design as prepared by The Lawrence Associates and as recommended by the Human Services Commission.

## **STAFF:**

- Granted Permanent Status to Gail Moran, Assistant Town Clerk.
- Accepted resignation of Jill Mannise, Administrative Assistant in the Finance Office.
- Appointed Felicia LaPlante as the Administrative Assistant in the Finance Office.
- Recognized Linda Callahan, Reference Librarian; Marcia Downs, Library Bookkeeper; Diane Lasher-Penti, Youth Services Director; Ronald Moser, Maintainer II; and Jason Suchecki, Maintainer I for 10 years of service.
- Recognized Lisa Giaquinto, Library Assistant; Erin Graziani, Senior Center Director; Mark Lavoie, Maintainer I; Maureen Lowe, Assistant Police Support Admin; and Barbara Murdach, Animal Control Officer for 20 years of service.
- Recognized Robert Hoffman, Police Officer, for 30 years of service.
- Reclassified Mary Thiesing from the position of Assessment Aide to the position of Administrative Assessment Technician.
- Hired Thomas Modzelewski, Mechanic I.
- Accepted letter of resignation/retirement from Carol York, Executive Assistant, after 22 years of service.
- Promoted LouAnn Cannella to Executive Secretary for the First Selectman's Office.
- Reclassified Marie Sauvé from Executive Assistant to Executive Assistant/Human Resources Coordinator.
- Accepted the resignation/retirement of Mark Lavoie, DPW, Maintainer I, after 26 years of service.
- Accepted the resignation/retirement of Franz Redler, Maintainer II, after 31 years of service.
- Accepted the resignation/retirement of Rosario Raia, DPW Crew Chief after 27 years of service.
- Accepted the resignation/retirement of Barry Glazier, Lead Mechanic after 23 years of service.
- Accepted the resignation of Lisa Glazier, Custodian
- Reclassified Thomas Modzelewski from the position of Mechanic I to Lead Mechanic.
- Accepted the resignation of Rhonda McCarty, Assessor
- Accepted the resignation of Andrea Caldwell, Accounting/Deputy Treasurer.
- Appointed Felicia LaPlante as the Accounting Assistant/Deputy Treasurer.

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

- Appointed Robert Hoffman to the Planning and Zoning Commission to complete a 2-year term.

## OTHER ACTIONS

- Re-established the Ad Hoc Committee for the Preservation of the Pinney House.
- Issued Special Event License to Brent Moser for Truck/Mud Bog Event, 43 Lower Butcher Road.
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Drug Abuse Prevention/Youth Services Advisory Board.
- Accepted donation of a flagpole from Dale Printy to be installed at Brookside Park Football Field.
- Accepted donation of a sailboat from Dr. & Mrs. Robert Burstein for use in providing instructional and education sailing programs on Crystal Lake.
- Granted the request of the Winterfest Committee to use the Town Green for the Annual Winterfest.
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Drug Free Graduation Party Committee for another year.
- Based on the BOS's review of the Town Charter and lack of any input from citizens, determined that the establishment of a Charter Revision Commission is not necessary at this time. [10/17/11].
- Re-established Ad Hoc Budget Advisory Committee.
- Approved revisions to the Emergency Services Incentive Program, as submitted and as recommended by the Ad Hoc Emergency Services Committee.
- Appointed Ronald Stomberg as Deputy First Selectman.
- Appointed Atherton B. Ryan as Town Counsel.
- Appointed Patrick McHale of Kainen, Escalera and McHale, P.C. as Special Counsel.
- Appointed the firm of Day Pitney, LLP as Bonding Counsel.
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee.
- Directed the Emergency Management Director to conduct a public after-action review of all of the events related to Storm Alfred and the Town's Response.
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Emergency Services Committee.
- Approved application for a regatta permit as requested by the Crystal Lake Sailing Club.
- Re-established the Ad Hoc Crystal Lake Milfoil Committee.
- Established Ad Hoc Planning Committee for the Pinney Street Town-Owned Property to review the feasibility of developing recreation fields and establishing a September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial Park.
- Granted request of committee name change from Drug Abuse Prevention Council/Youth Advisory Board to Ad Hoc Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture.
- Granted request from Conservation Commission to serve as a Hiking Trail Review Board
- Authorized Girl Scouts from Troop #10750 to place bat houses on the Batz property.
- Approved regulations for the use of the Old Crystal Lake School House.
- Re-established Ad Hoc Design Review Board.

## BOARD OF FINANCE:

The Board of Finance (BOF) is the Financial Authority of the Town. The BOF represents the taxpayers on all matters concerning the receipt or expenditure of taxpayer funds. The BOF also represents taxpayer interests in other policy or operational matters which would affect the tax base or impact the future receipt of taxpayer funds. While the BOF's principal responsibility is in the preparation of the annual budget, the BOF works closely with the Finance Officer to establish and enforce fiscal policy, and implement the recommendations of the Town auditors. The BOF also directs fiscal policy such as the establishment of Reserve Funds, and the allocation of funds among sectors such as departmental budgets, capital expenditures and debt service. The BOF meets monthly, except during the period of January through April when it meets weekly toward assembling the annual budget.

## RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Hold public hearings from January - March on submitted departmental budgets.
- Hold the annual Budget hearing in April.
- Deliberate/approve a completed budget for taxpayer approval.
- Upon budget approval by taxpayers, set the mill rate.
- Authorize/deny expenditures in excess of budgeted amounts.
- Authorize/deny the issuance of Municipal Bonds.
- Monitor Town revenues and expenditures on a monthly basis.
- Interview and engage the outside auditing firm.
- Prepare the Annual Town Budget.
- Provide fiscal expertise to other Town boards and agencies.
- Observe and consult in labor contract negotiations.
- Represent the Town's financial position in contract arbitration hearings.



*Back Row (L-R) Barry Pinto, Mark Joyse, Michael Varney: Front Row (L-R) Richard Cleary, Robert Clements, John Racheck*

## TOWN ASSESSOR:

The primary responsibility of the Assessor's Office is to compile the Grand List, (the record of all taxable and tax-exempt property in the Town of Ellington). This is accomplished by identifying and placing value on all of the property located in the Town as of October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The objective is to ensure that all property is assessed equitably in accordance with applicable law so that every property owner bears the appropriate share of the total property tax burden.

Accomplishment of this requires uniform assessments within each category of property. Real Estate assessments are 70% of the market value as established by the October 1, 2010 revaluation. Motor vehicle assessments are 70% of retail market value as of October 1st of each year. Business Personal Property assessments are 70% of the original cost less depreciation.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Implementation of the October 1, 2011 Grand List.
- Updated the GIS parcel base layer and property maps.
- Expanded use of technology to improve efficiency.

## TAX BASE:

Grand List Totals	10/1/2009	10/1/2010	10/1/2011
Real Estate	1,120,650,046	1,094,539,616	1,100,236,325
Personal Property	40,126,463	38,570,430	39,086,761
Motor Vehicles	103,250,925	109,851,670	116,838,137
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,264,027,434</b>	<b>1,242,961,716</b>	<b>1,256,161,223</b>

## LAND RECORDS INSPECTOR

In accordance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut (Inspection Sec. 7-14) “an inspection of the Land Records of each municipality in this State must be done annually”. The Land Records Inspector is appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a term of one year, which commences in September. The Land Record documents prepared by the Town Clerk’s Office have been inspected for the period from January 2011 through December 2011, the corrections and certification has been completed and sent to the Public Records Administrator.

## TOWN ENGINEER

By resolution of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) in 1963, James Thompson of the firm Buck & Buck Engineering in Hartford was appointed as the Town Engineer. In November 1980, the BOS established the policy that the Town Engineer shall be utilized by all Town boards and commissions. Upon the request of a Town agency, designation of a temporary Town engineer for a particular function to be performed may be approved by the BOS when it is deemed to be in the best interest of the Town. The Town Engineer reviews subdivisions and makes recommendations to various land use commissions; reviews and issues recommendations to land use commissions regarding proposed commercial, industrial and residential site plans and permits.

## FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER

The Finance Officer is responsible for the accounting and reporting of all financial transactions for the Town. Other duties include: investment of Town funds, preparation of financial statements, submission of annual budget to the Board of Finance, preparation of bid documents, purchasing agent, and serving as financial advisor to all boards and agencies. The Finance Officer oversees

operations in the Tax Collector and the Assessor offices.

## HIGHLIGHTS:

The Finance Office accomplished or assisted in the following projects:

- Assisted in administration of Small Cities grants.
- Oversees Information Technology.
- Refunding Bond Resolution \$9,500,000 - Bond Issues 2002 and 2003, Moody’s Rating: Aa3.
- Bond Resolution-\$21,040,000 for Renovations, Additions, Alterations and Improvements to Crystal Lake School, and Renovations, Alterations, and Improvements to Windermere School.
- Bond Resolution-\$2,500,000 for Senior Center.
- Commenced close out of the Ellington High School Project Number 048-0050, and Center School Project Number 048-0051 for final State grant reimbursement.
- Assist the Deferred Compensation Committee in the review of the Town Pension Plan.
- CCM Energy Purchasing Supply Agreement Extension to December 2017 .

The Finance Office requested and/or awarded bids on the following projects:

- Bid-Tennis Court Construction Abram and Rachel Schwartz Park, 23 Maple Street.
- Bid-Hall Memorial Library HVAC upgrades.
- RFP-Conceptual Design of New Senior Center Building.
- Bid-To Provide Cleaning Services for Town facilities.
- Bid-To Provide Mechanical Services for Town facilities.
- Bid-To Provide Disaster Debris Services as needed.
- Bid-Chipseal of Town Roads.
- Bid-To Install Exterior Vinyl Siding, Trim, and Windows-Human Services/Recreation facility building, 31 Arbor Way.
- RFQ/P-Architectural and Related Consultant Services for Crystal Lake and Windermere Elementary School Projects.
- Bid-To Provide Tree Trimming, Removal and Treatment Services.
- Bid-To Provide Electrical Services.
- Bid-Reconstruction of Brookside Park Tennis Courts.

The Finance Office assisted the Board of Finance in the following areas:

- Budget preparation (tables and books) and capital improvement books.
- Provided historical statistics for maintaining reserve and contingency funds.
- Interim budget expenditures/revenue projections.



The Finance Office assisted the Permanent Building Committee in the following areas:

- Steap Grant-Pinney House project.
- Senior Center Building project.
- Crystal Lake School Renovations, Addition, Alterations and Improvements project.
- Windermere School Renovations, Alterations, and Improvements project.
- Project accounting.
- Grant reimbursements.

## TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Collector is responsible for the billing and collection of real estate, motor vehicle, personal property taxes, water assessments, trash collection fees, sewer use and assessments. These responsibilities are governed by CT State Statutes, Town Charter, and Town Ordinances. A consistently high rate of collection is the key to fiscal stability for the Town and remains the number one priority of the Tax Collector. Balancing the need to maintain a high rate of collection with the sensitivity necessary to deal with the individual taxpayer issues is an integral part of the tax collection function.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The 2010 Grand List was comprised of the following accounts:

Real Estate	5,827
Personal Property	917
Motor Vehicle	15,894
Supplemental Motor Vehicle	2,360
Total	\$34,331,007

COMPARISON:	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Current Collections	\$30,905,542	\$31,788,687	\$33,887,727
Back Collections	419,263	106,297	359,188
Interest and Liens	296,489	175,091	306,471
Collection Rate	98.8%	98.7%	98.7%

There are several statutory methods used to collect past due taxes. Liens are placed on all past due real estate accounts; demand letters are prepared and mailed and non-responsive accounts are referred to the Town Attorney for Tax Sales or foreclosure. UCC liens are filed with the Secretary of State on all past due personal property accounts. All past due motor vehicle accounts are reported to the State Department of Motor Vehicles, which prevents residents from renewing their registration.

The Tax Office provides ongoing technical information and assistance to taxpayers, attorneys, bankers, appraisers and leasing companies. The Tax Office deals electronically with escrow services and banks which make it more critical for the customer to ask questions if there is a discrepancy.

## TOWN CLERK

The duties and responsibilities of the Town Clerk's Office consist of the following, most of which are governed by State Statute, others by Town Charter and the Board of Selectmen. The State Statutes govern the duties and responsibilities of the Office of Vital Records.

- Records documents related to real estate transactions.
- Collects conveyance taxes.
- Files and maintains maps, trade names, liquor permits, military discharges, and Notary Public Certificates.
- Posts notices of meetings and files minutes and notices received from various Boards and Commissions, as required by the Freedom of Information Laws.
- Prepares absentee ballot election material for all elections, primaries, referenda.
- Registers voters and accepts applications for voters wishing to change their party affiliation.
- Issues marriage licenses, burial, cremation and transit permits and certifies copies of birth, death, and marriage certificates.
- Registers dogs annually.
- Facilitates the sale of Sportsman Licenses.
- Serves as Aircraft Registration Official.
- Records and prepares minutes of Town Meetings. All Town Meeting Minutes are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.
- The Town Clerk also serves as accepting agent for civil actions brought against the Town and is responsible for processing claims and suits and submitting them to the Town Attorney, Selectmen, insurance carrier, and the department involved.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- On-line Dog registration is now available through the Town website.
- Awarded Historic Document Preservation Grant for \$4,000 to upgrade the land records indexing system to "Resolution 3".
- Land record indexes are available on the internet at no cost to the public.
- Land record images are available at a nominal charge.
- All recorded survey and subdivision maps are available electronically for public retrieval in the Town Clerks office

Summary	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Births	123	155	108
Marriages	83	101	84
Deaths	84	83	73
Land Records Filed	2,804	3,022	2,855
Maps Filed	28	36	38
Trade Names	46	46	67
Dog Licenses	2,327	2,329	2,328
Kennel Licenses	12	9	8
Sports Licenses	540	357	295
Liquor Permits	17	16	10
Veteran Discharges	39	32	27
Cemetery Deeds	17	15	24
Aircraft Registrations	32	33	31

# *Boards, Agencies and Commissions*

## **TOWN PLANNER**

The Planning Department services five permanent land use commissions. The commissions include the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Inland Wetlands Agency, the Economic Development Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Conservation Commission. Department staff consists of a full-time Town Planner, a full-time Assistant Town Planner, a full-time Assistant Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer and a part-time Administrative Secretary. In addition to carrying out the planning, permitting and enforcement duties, department staff also provide assistance to members of the development community and to the general public. The Planning Department coordinates closely with other town, state and federal agencies and their staff. Land use policies are created by the five commissions and then are incorporated into local planning documents. Related policy objectives are then translated into land use regulations and related procedures. Planning Department staff assists elected and appointed officials to achieve these objectives by administering the regulations and procedures.

## **TOWN ATTORNEY**

Consistent with the slow-down of the housing market, work in the land use area has been lighter than normal with no land use appeals. Most work has consisted of verifying and approving of easements for projects approved in prior years. There are now three pending tax appeals of business properties from the revaluation tax list of 2010 and a new appeal from the 2011 list. While former Assessor, Rhonda McCarty, worked diligently with the Town Attorney to try to resolve these appeals, they have been unsuccessful to date but have them ready for decision or hearing with the next Assessor in the coming year. It has been a busy year in the contract and bidding area with the intent of lining up contractors to be available for emergency work with equipment and manpower in the event of events such as the late October storm as well as with specialized maintenance contractors. The challenge and fascination of this position is and has always been the variety of issues that must be addressed. The Town benefits by the dedication of the volunteer board and commission members, both elected and appointed, as well as committed staff whose interest is to do what is best for the Town and the residents.

## **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION: (PZC)**

The PZC is responsible to maintain and update the Plan of Conservation and Development for the Town, as well as process subdivision, site plan, special permit and other development applications. These applications are processed in accordance with regulations such as the zoning and subdivision regulations. In addition, the PZC reviews proposed public improvements for consistency with land use goals and objectives and makes recommendations to the Board of Selectmen regarding the acceptance of proposed public streets and open space areas. Through its staff, the PZC is obligated by law to ensure that developments comply with applicable regulations and approved plans through the issuance of zoning permits and certificates of zoning compliance.

In 2011-2012 Commission initiatives included pursuing the implementation of the goals and objectives of the recently revised Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). The CT General Statutes require that municipalities prepare or amend a POCD at least every ten (10) years and the PZC last amended the plan in April of 2008. The POCD is primarily an advisory document and is intended to provide a framework of consistent decision making in conservation and development activities in Town over the next ten years. More specifically, the PODC:

- Establishes land use policies to guide residential and commercial development in Town.
- Encourages economic development and reduces residential development.
- Protects natural, scenic, cultural resources and promotes quality of life for residents.
- Enhances and preserves the rural character and small town aesthetics.
- Establishes zoning to promote development towards appropriate areas and away from sensitive areas.
- Creates more comprehensive and flexible land use regulation to effectively manage growth in a responsible manner.

Subdivision and zoning regulations are the main tools that the Town uses to guide conservation and development practices and are derived from the POCD. Both sets of these regulations are now being reviewed and amended over the next several years in accordance with the goals and objectives of the POCD.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- One zoning regulation amendment and one subdivision regulation amendment approved to formalize post approval process currently administered "in house" and address changes to State Statutes necessary to comply with Public Act 11-79.
- Three subdivision or re-subdivision applications were approved, resulting in two new building lots.
- Twenty-nine other zoning applications were submitted composed of site plan reviews and modifications, special permits and modifications, earth excavation renewals, zone changes or statutory referral reports.
- Eight administrative actions were processed including extensions, release/reduction in bonding and changing approval classifications.
- One application withdrawn.

## **INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY (IWA)**

The IWA is responsible by state law to protect our inland wetlands and watercourses. The wetlands and watercourses are an interrelated web of nature essential to an adequate supply of surface and underground water; to hydrological stability and control of flooding and erosion; to the recharging and purification of groundwater; and to the existence of many forms of animal, aquatic and plant life. Wetlands are defined by state law, and include certain soils that are poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial (found along a watercourse or water body) and floodplain soils.

Depending upon the location of the resource, the IWA regulates areas either one-hundred (100) feet or two-hundred and fifty (250) feet away from these resources, as well as direct impacts to wetlands and watercourses. The IWA does this via permits and through enforcement of the regulations by field inspections, cease and desist orders, and if necessary, by fines.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Five Agency permit applications approved/approved with modifications or conditions/denied without prejudice. [three residential and two commercial/industrial/other].
- Eleven Administrative Agent applications approved/approved with modifications or conditions. [ten residential and one commercial/industrial].
- Two Request for Notification of Permitted & Non-Regulated Uses, one Extension of Permit, and two Modifications to Permit.
- One Amendment to the Inland Wetland Regulations and one Amendment to the Inland Wetland Map.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The EDC is committed to fostering a pro-business environment which encourages a growing, sustainable and diverse tax base. The EDC continuously looks to facilitate communication between businesses and Town officials. The EDC adopts policies consistent with the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development and strives to improve the quality of life in Ellington.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- As follow-up to the 2011 Business Survey and ongoing initiatives, the following businesses were visited: Big Y Foods, Bolles Motors, Country Pure Foods, Dymotek Corporation, Dzen Garden Market, Ellington Realty, Ellington Ridge Country Club, Kelly Fradet and Rice Packaging.
- Supported the establishment of a tax abatement program for qualifying farm buildings, as provided for by the CT General Statutes.
- Supported a Tax Abatement Agreement for Country Warehouse, LLC.
- Requested budgetary funding to help facilitate the creation of a Business Directory.

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA)

The ZBA is essentially a court consisting of local volunteers who judge applicants' claims that they cannot comply with the zoning regulations because the regulations affect their land in some unique way. This land-based hardship can be the basis for the granting of a variance to the zoning regulations. If a variance is granted, the applicant does not have to comply with a specific provision of the zoning regulations. In addition, the ZBA hears appeals from people who feel that department staff had made an error in interpreting and applying a provision of the zoning regulations, or if they have been denied a zoning permit from the designated Enforcement Officer(s).

The ZBA also currently approves locations for an applicant who desires to obtain a license for dealing in or repairing motor vehicles from the Department of Motor Vehicles. Although this authority given to the ZBA has been the subject of many statutory revisions in recent years, it is subject to change during any upcoming state legislative session.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Reviewed fifteen applications of which fourteen variances approved; six with modifications or conditions.
- One variance application withdrawn.

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION (CC)

The CC focuses on conservation planning. This includes planning for open space and farmland preservation. The commission is advisory, and does not issue permits for development, rather its members make recommendations to the PZC, Board of Selectmen and others regarding planned open spaces, greenways, acquisition of farmland development rights and similar topics.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Reviewed one (1) 2-lot subdivision for open space or fee-in-lieu-of open space (FILO). Recommended FILO.
- Continued supporting three (3) properties for consideration under the Town farmland preservation program totaling over 200 acres.
- Created an "Open Space" brochure to inform and educate the public on the many benefits of open space preservation, such as aesthetic and fiscal benefits to the community.
- Created an on-line directory of significant Town open space lands with various attributes, attractions and accessibility features with an emphasis on it being "smart phone" accessible.
- Funding the design and creation of the Batz Property sign which was installed with the aid of the Ellington Department of Public Works.
- Supported "Dark-Sky" initiative in an effort to preserve the rural character of Town and reduce light pollution.
- Supported the Hockanum River Trail Association in an effort to create and maintain trails in and around the Hockanum River area.
- Continued an ongoing interest in monitoring Crystal Lake and its water quality concerns.

## HOUSING AUTHORITY

In the previous year, the Board of Selectmen made available to the Housing Authority an allocation from its annual Small Cities Grant in the amount of \$530,000. The State Department of Economic and Community Development gave its required approval for the use of these funds late in 2011. The reconstruction of all driveways and parking areas began in May 2012 and was completed by the end of June and what a difference it makes!



No more ruts and potholes and huge puddles of water that followed every rainstorm. At year end, work on the remainder of the project was just beginning. Exterior entry and screen doors will be replaced. Two units will be converted for handicapped accessibility. Interior vent fans and attic ventilation ducts will be replaced. During the winter, a Weatherization grant provided for an additional 12" of insulation in the attics of all units in addition to sealing air leaks that permitted infiltration of outside cold air.

During the year, three tenants passed away, one moved out, and three new tenants moved in. At year end, the two units being converted to handicapped were vacant. Two new commissioners joined our five member board. Donald Gessay, a Snipsic Village resident, was appointed in October 2011 to fill the unexpired term of Peg Bean, who passed away in June 2011. Albert Wachsman was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Deb Stauffer, who resigned after five years of devoted service to the board. In June 2012, Judith Plantier was reappointed for another five year term. Late in the year, the board formed an informal subcommittee to look in to the need for additional elderly housing. The committee consists of all five board members and Attorney Bruce Fader (a Town resident), whose practice specializes in landlord/tenant law. In his career, Bruce also worked for HUD, where he learned a great deal about the financing and construction of public housing facilities. The committee is currently gathering information and interviewing interested and knowledgeable Town officers and employees in order to learn as much as possible about the need and how it might be addressed.

## **WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY (WPCA)**

The WPCA is a five-member board with the responsibility for the administration and maintenance of the two sewer systems in the Town; the Hockanum Sewer System that collects residential and commercial sewage for treatment at the Vernon Sewer Plant and the Crystal Lake Sewer System that collects residential sewage for treatment at the Stafford Sewer Plant. All Town sewer maintenance is handled by the Public Works Department, by agreement with the Water Pollution Control Authority.

## **REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

The Registrars of Voters are elected officials of the Town and serve four-year terms. The Democratic registrar is Susan Luginbuhl and the Republican registrar is Wanda DeLand. The registrars are responsible for organizing and conducting all elections, primaries and referenda. They are also responsible for registering and maintaining accurate voter records for the Town. They also must integrate all new legislation regarding voter rights and attend meetings and conferences that are State mandated.

This past year, municipal elections and federal primaries were held. The percentage of registered voters having voted was approximately 25%. This is down from 62% last year. The Town is divided into two districts. District #1 currently has 1,740 registered Democrats, 1,656 registered Republicans, 3,610 registered unaffiliated voters and 64 registered voters from minor parties. District #2 currently has 514 registered Democratic voters, 471 registered Republican voters, 1,062 registered unaffiliated voters and 23 registered voters from minor parties. The total number of registered voters from the Town of Ellington is 9,140, which is a decrease of 37 registered voters from last year.

## **PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE (PBC)**

The PBC has eleven members who are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The duties of this board are to investigate sites for future public building and to make recommendations as requested by the Town Meeting for acquisition and construction of all building projects and/or work with construction costs of over \$20,000. The Committee may investigate sites and make recommendations of acquisition and construction of building projects and/or work with construction costs of less than \$20,000 if requested to do so by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee undertakes such functions as: surveying sites, recommending acquisition, preparation and disposition of sites and buildings, engaging architects and engineers through quality base selection, approving plans, procuring bids and entering into contracts for construction, supervising construction and accepting work as authorized and delegated by the Town Meeting.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- During fiscal Year 2011-12 the Permanent Building Committee received the final use report from Moser Pilon Nelson Architects for the Pinney House Restoration project and the STEAP grant was closed out.
- The Senior Center project received approval from taxpayers and the PBC was given the project to monitor. The Lawrence Associates architects were selected and the construction documents are almost completed as of this report.
- The Crystal Lake School Renovation/Addition and Windermere School Alteration projects were approved by taxpayers and given to the PBC to monitor. The Committee started the process of selecting an architect for the project. The RFQ/P was developed and went out to bid.
- The PBC met 7 times this fiscal year.

## BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS (BAA)

The purpose of the BAA is to hear the appeals of the taxpayers who believe they have been unfairly assessed on the valuation of their real estate, motor vehicles or personal property. The three member board, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, conducts appeal hearings and adjusts assessed valuations based on board determinations. Connecticut General Statutes permit appointing additional members to the Board during a revaluation year and the following year.

The BAA conducts hearings for real estate and personal property in March and hearings for motor vehicles in September. Appeal hearings on the 2011 Grand List for Real Estate and Personal Property were scheduled in March based on the appeal applications received in the Assessor's Office by February 20, 2012.

The nine applicants that submitted appeals were notified by mail on the date and time to hear the appeals. The Board reviewed the evidence presented in the appeals and mailed the BAA's decisions to the appellants within the week of the decision. The BAA completed the work required for processing appeals on March 30, 2012. Motor vehicle hearings were scheduled for September 12, 2011. Hearings for automobile appeals are heard on a first-come, first-served basis. Ten appeals were heard and processed during the month of September.

## AD HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE

The annual maintenance was performed in the main body of the lake to remove a small amount of milfoil and two large beds of Large Leaf Pondweed that were first discovered in 2005 (near the Town Beach and just outside of the Northeast Cove). Approximately 0.8 acre of milfoil was also removed from the Dam Area and Aborn Cove. Approximately 1.4 acres remains in the coves. The 2011 Aquatic Plant Mapping Report was completed by Northeast Aquatic Research (NEAR). The open water areas of the lake are in good condition but the remaining milfoil in the coves will be difficult and time consuming to remove. Continued milfoil removal and monitoring of plants in the lake is recommended to prevent a re-infestation of the open water areas. To view the report, please contact the First Selectman's Office. In FY 2012 - 2013 we intend to expand our water quality testing program as recommended by NEAR using a new test meter purchased by the Crystal Lake Association. We will also continue the maintenance work and removal of milfoil and pondweed in the Dam Area, Aborn Cove and Northeast Cove.



## RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS

The principal function of the State Police is to protect life and property. The team consists of a Sergeant, four Resident State Troopers, twelve Town Officers, three Marine Officers and troopers from the State Police Barracks, Troop "C" in Tolland. The team is backed up by the entire State Police Department and its specialists which include: Major Crime Squad, Detective Division, Forensic Laboratory, Fire Marshals Division, Emergency Services Division, Narcotics Division, Canine Corps, Bomb Squad, Traffic and Truck Squads. Ellington's Resident Troopers and Town Officers will continue to give the citizens of Ellington the most professional service possible.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- In an effort to reduce serious fatal and motor vehicle accidents Resident Troopers and Town Officers are continuing their strict enforcement policies and periodic DWI saturation patrols. In conjunction with the Town of Ellington Youth Services and the Ac Hoc Council For Developing Positive Youth Culture, we continue working on an Underage Drinking Grant which is allowing the police more patrols specifically targeting underage drinking.
- The Town-wide Crime Prevention Program continues in the community this year. We welcome residents of any neighborhood to contact our office for help in setting up a Neighborhood Watch program.
- During the past year the Resident Troopers and Town Officers made numerous presentations to schools and civic groups regarding drug abuse, drunken driving, seatbelt safety, home and business security, careers in law enforcement and various other issues concerning public safety.
- The Ellington Marine Officers continue to administer vessel safety inspections and enforcement on Crystal Lake enforcing both State Statutes and Town Ordinances that promote water safety.

Summary of Major Activity	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011	2011/ 2012
Criminal Cases Investigated	221	247	243
MV Accident Investigations	179	162	187
Motor Vehicle Arrests/ Warnings	2,610	1,807	2,736
DWI's	28	39	26
Marine Safety Inspections	625	717	780
Calls for Services	5,379	5,788	7,071

## E911 MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR

This office has several key functions that help to deliver efficient emergency services to the citizens of Ellington. John W. Turner was appointed Ellington's E911 Municipal Coordinator in July of 1985 by the Board of Selectmen. Since the start of the statewide E911 emergency network your local coordinator has maintained a Master Street Address Guide, MSAG, for the telephone computer database. This insures that all streets and all numbers assigned to properties on those streets are within the parameters of the E911 database guide. New streets are added to the database at time of construction. Existing streets are adjusted for extensions or additional lots. Several times during the course of a year conflicts will arise and need to be reviewed by this office. Mr. Turner also consults with the Planning Department and Building Official concerning street names and house numbering.

In cooperation with the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Crystal Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the CT State Police Resident Troopers Office, this office insures the efficient handling of all 911 calls for assistance. As a member of a regional dispatch center, the Town is able to provide a professional answering and dispatch service at a very economical rate.

Legislated financial support for regional dispatch centers and 911 PSAP's is in place and is distributing funds for the continued operation of these vital communication centers. Funds collected from telephone user fees are distributed to all eligible dispatch centers. Legislature passed a bill allowing an increase in the user fee to a maximum of seventy-five dollars per month to stabilize the funding program. The funding formula for distribution of these revenues supplements operating expenses, capital improvements and dispatcher training. That funding has been held to FY 09-10 funding levels. Any increase in operating expenses, salary or capital costs will most likely be passed along to the member towns of the regional center in the future. The Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications will be reviewing the content of a report on the operations of Primary Service Answering Points across the state during the next twelve months.

Efforts have continued to further develop the use of the Computer Aided Dispatch, CAD programs to further benefit the user agencies. Increase usage of the system, communications coverage and inter operability between jurisdictions and agencies continues to be a priority and a challenge for the county planning committee as they move forward to implement the long range plan. Dispatch software upgrades, base radio replacements and compliance with the FCC narrow banding requirements are being addressed.

## BUILDING OFFICIAL

The Building Official is responsible for the public safety, health and welfare, as it relates to the use and occupancy of all Town buildings and structures. The Building Official's office is located in the Town Hall Annex. Building inspections are generally done the next day after notification is given to the Building Official.

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12
New Single Family Homes	67	30	40	21	35
New Commercial Buildings	2	4	0	0	0
New Multi-Family Buildings	5	4	3	0	8
Residential Alterations & Additions	87	64	66	52	49
Repairs/Replacements to Existing	163	174	168	173	200
Mechanical/Electrical	688	651	600	541	707
Other	249	149	126	132	152
Totals	1,261	1,076	1,003	919	1,151
Field Inspections	1,468	1,276	1,198	976	1,305

## FIRE MARSHAL

The Department of Town Fire Marshal performs both investigative and code enforcement roles within our community. Direct responsibility for the investigation of all fires, explosions and hazardous materials incidents is mandated by Connecticut General Statutes. Search warrant applications and misdemeanor and felony arrest warrant applications are filed with the court system when appropriate.

Annual code compliance inspections of all buildings and occupancies except single and two-family homes are mandated by State statute. This requires enforcement of the following State of Connecticut codes: Fire Safety, Fire Prevention, Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code, Hazardous Chemicals Code, Explosives Code, Liquid Petroleum Gas, Liquid Natural Gas, Gas Equipment, Fireworks and Special Effects, Oil Burner Equipment, Tent and Portable Shelter. Numerous sections of the Connecticut General Statutes are also enforced. Orders are prepared and issued for the abatement of violations of the referenced codes and statutes and arrest warrants are prepared when appropriate. In cooperation with the appropriate State agencies, permits are processed for all liquor establishments, day care centers, group day care homes, explosives operations, and all trucks transporting flammable or combustible liquids or hazardous materials.



Construction plans for buildings and occupancies regulated by the Connecticut Fire Safety Code are reviewed and approved prior to the issuance of building permits, all open burning is regulated, all underground and above ground flammable and combustible liquids storage tank installations and removals are regulated, the town's portion of the state-wide annual fire prevention poster contest is administered, and numerous additional services are provided as necessary.

#### SELECTED STATISTICS COVERING THE PAST 20 FISCAL YEARS.

SUMMARY OF FIRE MARSHAL SERVICES:	1991-92	2001-02	2011-12
Investigations	69	56	50
Criminal	19	13	16
Non-criminal	49	42	31
Suspicious	0	0	0
Undetermined	1	1	3
Fire Casualties	0	1	2
Fatal	0	0	0
Non-fatal	0	1	2
Building Fires	27	24	17
Motor Vehicle Fires	8	8	2
All Other Fires	28	17	26
Hazardous Materials Incidents	1	7	8
Fire Losses, Total (X \$1000)	\$ 45.25	\$ 200.3	\$ 1,343.1
Criminal	\$ 15.0	\$ 2.0	\$ 258.4
Non-criminal	\$ 30.25	\$ 198.3	\$ 26.5
Suspicious	0	0	0
Undetermined	0	0	\$ 1,034.0
Value of All Properties Exposed to Loss (X \$1000)	-	\$ 3,855.5	\$ 1,698.5
Enforcement Inspections	76	189	615
Commercial	6	8	81
Public Assembly	14	17	33
Educational	8	11	20
Residential (Multi-family)	1	102	500
Hazardous Materials	47	17	17
Other	0	34	19
State Licenses and Permits Approved	59	37	37
Open Burning Permits Processed / Approved	-	59	33
Enforcement Citations Issued	41	270	205
Arrests and/or Referrals	4	4	3

## ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

**Chief:** Michael D. Varney

**Assistant Chief:** Gary T. Feldman, Sr.

**Deputy Chiefs:** John W. Turner, Brendan L. Burke

**Captains:** Robert Smith, Jack Rich, II

**Lieutenants:** Vince Gambacorta, Karl Neubecker, Frederica M. Weeks

**Secretary:** Jae-P Levitan

**Treasurer:** Elizabeth Feldman



### Members:

Thomas Adams	Valerie Adams	Jonathan H. Allen*
Clayton Bannock	Brandon Bartell	Paul Bigelow
Fred Bird	Bryan Blotniski	Steven Breault, Sr.
John Burns	Dominick Cristelli	Richard Daugherty
Donald Davis	Robert Frederigan	Gary T. Feldman, Jr.
Kevin Gambacorta	Kim Gambacorta	Sarah Gambacorta
Mitchell Griswold	Peter Hany, Jr.	Bradford Hoffman
Robert Levandoski	Blaize Levitan	John Meigel
Debra Messier	Earl Palmer-Lavoie	Jeffrey Parent
Daniel Parisi	Robert Parlante	Bryan Platt
Keith Ruff	Andrew Slicer	Randall Smith
Kelly Toomey	Regan Toomey	Dennis C. Varney
Rachel E. Virkler		

*\*2011 Firefighter of the Year*

### Life Members:

Leonard Aronson	Arthur Caldwell	Daniel Connors
Jerry Connors	Leonard Descheneaux, Sr.	Allan Lawrence, Jr.
Jack Rich	Robert Sandberg, Sr.	Allen Smith

### Explorer Members:

Michael Bahler	Jeff Bird	Brianna Bogrette
Julia Busky	Zachary Doyon	Kevin Gilson
David Godek	Hayley Godek	Zachary Greco
Katherine Hany	Zachary Hazzard	Matthew Moser
Travis Palmer-Lavoie	Doug Parent	David Schoolnick
John Vogel		

### Honorary Members:

Stephan Chase	Ted Graziani
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The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. was organized in 1928. We are proud to recognize over 80 years of providing the Town of Ellington and its citizens with the finest possible volunteer emergency fire and rescue services.

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department's mission is the protection and preservation of life and property during fire and other emergencies in the Town of Ellington; to honor all emergency calls, and to support fire prevention education activities.

Currently the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department is rated by the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) as a class 5/9. During the past several years, the types of incidents, their added frequency and growth, the town has demanded increased levels of training, equipment and expertise in new technologies by our volunteers.

The greatest care and concern are given to those who become injured. The most up to date rescue tools and techniques are used to extricate those who have become injured as the result of a motor vehicle or industrial accidents. Our rescue personnel work with the Ellington Ambulance to provide the best possible care for the injured. For those patients in need of advanced life support or trauma team services, the Rockville General Hospital Paramedic Unit, frequently supported by the LifeStar Helicopter transport team, are requested.

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. formally signed a multi-year agreement in 2009 to provide services to the Town of Ellington as outlined in the Town of Ellington Charter as revised.

During these last few years there has been a greater need for additional volunteers. Every volunteer fire department across the state is experiencing shortages of manpower. It is not easy with today's employment and family commitments to be a volunteer firefighter. Many hours of training are required to be a part of our emergency service delivery team.

For information about how you can become a volunteer or if you wish to learn more about your local emergency services you can pick up information at the Ellington Center Fire House on Main Street. Visit our award winning websites at [www.ellingtonfire.org](http://www.ellingtonfire.org), [facebook.com/ellingtonfd](https://www.facebook.com/ellingtonfd) or leave us a message at 860-870-3190.

### Incident Report Summary:

Below is a summary of emergency response statistics for the time period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. During this period, the department responded to 814 emergency calls, 637 hours on scene hours which donated more than 6,724 man-hours for emergency services, this represents another year of increased activity from the previous year. Significant incident activity for the year included single family home structure fires, and several large mutual aid fires. Most significant were the extensive volunteer hours spent responding to and assisting residents and businesses in the aftermath of tropical storm Irene and the October snowstorm, both of which required 24 hour continuous response from the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department for several weeks each event.

To report an emergency, enhanced 911 telephone services are available throughout our community. Persons reporting emergencies are able to communicate directly with our regional emergency dispatch center. The following outlines the emergency activity and related services provided by the department to the Town of Ellington:

<b>Fire, Explosion</b>	<b>51</b>
Structural/Building Fire	13
Cooking Fire	7
Chimney/Fuel Burner/Boiler Malfunction	3
Vehicle/Mobile property fire	4
Forest, brush, grass, crop fires	7

Refuse, construction, dumpster fire	10
Outside Storage or Equipment fire	6
Overpressure rupture of boiler	1
<b>Rescue Call</b>	<b>404</b>
Emergency Medical Call/Assist	349
Vehicle Accident, Extrication from vehicle	49
Search for Person on Land	1
Water/Swift Water/Ice Rescue	2
Extrication from Building/Structure	1
Rescue Incident, other	1
Rescue Standby	1
<b>Hazardous Condition Standby</b>	<b>138</b>
Flammable/Combustible liquid spill	8
Gas leak (natural or LP)	2
Chemical hazard spill or leak	3
Carbon monoxide incident	18
Power line down	78
Arching, wiring/electrical equip. problem	9
Accident other	2
Vehicle accident no extrication	11
Building collapse/weakened	1
Aircraft Standby	2
Hazardous Condition, Other	4
<b>Service Call</b>	<b>102</b>
Service call, other	12
Person in distress, other	1
Lock out	3
Water or steam problem, other	2
Water evacuation, leak	11
Smoke, odor removal	7
Animal problem	1
Police or other govt. agency assist	13
Public Service assistance	18
Assist Invalid	2
Unauthorized burning	7
Cover assignment, standby, move up	25
<b>Good Intent Call</b>	<b>41</b>
Good intent call, other	11
Cancelled en-route, wrong location	10
Authorized controlled burning/ Prescribed fire	4
Odor of smoke, steam or vapor	9
Hazardous materials investigation	7
<b>False Call</b>	<b>74</b>
False call, other	4
Alarm system malfunction	36
Unintentional alarm	33
Carbon monoxide detector activation, No CO	1
<b>Other Type of Incident</b>	<b>4</b>
Wind Storm, Tornado/Hurricane Assessment	1
Lightning Strike (no fire)	2
Severe weather standby	1

### **Membership Training & Activities:**

During the year Ellington firefighters spent over 8,000 hours in departmental training activities. Several officer drills were conducted in the area of planning, management skills, interoperable communications, incident command and regional response plans. Training sessions were also conducted throughout the year with surrounding mutual aid fire and rescue departments in topics such as: National Incident Management System (NIMS), Rural Water Supply and Live Fire Training. The Ellington Fire Department also hosted and sponsored several courses this past year including; Emergency Medical Technician, Emergency Medical Responder, Firefighting and Rescue, Hazardous Materials and OSHA reviews.

Attendance at regionally sponsored training programs included classes in the following skills; firefighting, hazardous materials, emergency medical training, incident command, live burn exercises, response to weapons of mass destruction, decontamination, management and planning, water rescue, and several areas of technical rescue. The Connecticut Fire Academy, Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Emergency Medical Services, National Fire Academy, or some other recognized organization/agency accredited all courses attended.

Members of our department also attending specialty courses held at several International Fire Chiefs Conferences and the New England Fire Chiefs Conference in Springfield, Mass.

The Department also operated our live burn trailer which was purchased through a grant several years ago. This piece of equipment allows us to provide firefighting and rescue evolutions within Ellington for all of our members. It also allows us to train more readily with our regular mutual aid partners.

We are very proud of our high levels of training and certifications held by our members in Ellington. Several of our members are adjunct faculty for many of the area regional fire schools as well as the State Fire and Emergency Medical Training programs.

### **Current Levels of members' certifications include:**

Fire Fighter 1	11
Fire Fighter II/III	23
Fire Service Instructor I	9
Fire Service Instructor II	4
Fire Officer I	7
Fire Officer II	5
Safety Officer	6
Pump Operator	5
Aerial Operator	8
Hazardous Materials Operational	14
Hazardous Materials Technician	20
Emergency Medical Technician	18
Emergency Medical Responder	21
Emergency Medical Services Instructor	4

### **Awards Received and Regional Offices:**

Several of our officers and members are also very active within regional and state organizations. The officers listed held the following leadership positions in these organizations; Michael Varney, First Vice President of the New England Division of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and board member of the CT Fire Chiefs Associations, Lieutenant Frederica Weeks, Connecticut Fire Department Instructors Association Treasurer. Chief Varney also is a Statewide Fire Rescue Disaster Plan Coordinator as well as serving on several other regional and statewide workgroups. Chief Varney was also a contributing member of Volunteer Combination Officers Section Strategic Planning Task Force, IAFC Technology Council and Economic Challenges Task Force. These again show the dedication of our members and the respect they receive throughout the state with their training and leadership.

### **Equipment:**

All safety inspections for apparatus and equipment were conducted as required by DOT, DMV, OSHA and NFPA. It should be noted that extensive efforts are necessary to meet these regulations. Examples of specific annual tests include: Apparatus, Ladder, Hose, Pump, SCBA, SCBA Cylinders, and all Fire Extinguishers. This year we continued a program with the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps to consolidate the purchase of our respective agencies emergency medical service equipment and supplies. This promotes standardization of equipment and the leverage of bulk purchases.

### **Facility:**

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department continues to occupy a second facility through a lease agreement. This additional facility is located in the southwest section of town on Nutmeg Drive. This facility allows our department to respond from a location with a ladder / pumper truck, fire pumper and a small rescue, as well as store the utility terrain vehicle (gator). The center fire house located at 29 Main Street houses eight vehicles, several trailers and all dept offices, equipment and records. Department meetings and trainings are also conducted at this facility. During this year we continued with our regular maintenance and safety inspections.

### **Specialty Teams:**

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department members are active participants in several regional and statewide teams supporting regional emergency service activities. Members actively participate on The Capital Regional Hazardous Materials Response and Incident Management Teams and the Tolland County Mutual Aid Fire Service Dive Team and Search and Rescue Team. The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department also actively participates on several State Fire Rescue Disaster Plan; Strike Teams and Task Forces.



Responses of our members of these teams included several incident management team activations around the state, hazardous materials incidents in the capitol region, dive team responses throughout the Tolland County area and Strike Team and Task Force deployments in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

### **Junior Firefighter / Explorer Program:**

The Explorer Program is open to youths between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one. Explorers participate in the same programs and training as the regular membership, and they engage in their own training and activities. This program continued its affiliation with the National Fire Service Exploring program. Their participation at emergency incidents is restricted as not to expose them to hazardous activities. The insights and support they bring to the fire department represents a valuable part of our organization. As they grow in experience and age they are brought into the organization as fully training members.

### **Fire Department Auxiliary:**

The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary was established January 30, 1997. The mission of the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary is to provide a network of support for the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department and the Ellington community. Activities that support both the fire department and the town that are regularly performed by our group include: Supporting fire department personnel at fire department incidents; contributing to the town's human services organization, especially at holiday time; contributing to the safe graduation party and providing an annual scholarship for a graduating High School senior. The auxiliary meets once a month for regular meeting topics and occasionally participate in making crafts for sale at craft fairs and other fund raising events. They also participate in the town's Winterfest celebration by putting on a dinner for all participating firemen. We are a group of dedicated individuals who provide whatever support is needed for both our fire department and our community and we welcome new volunteers.

### **Fire Prevention & Public Fire Safety Education:**

The Fire Prevention and Public Education Team had another busy year. Over 20 public education presentations were conducted. The majority of emphasis is placed on the younger children trying to build a comprehensive understanding about fire and mind a safety presence. These included visiting the Elementary schools, K through Grade 2, the area nursery schools, Pre-K programs, and the Senior Center and participating as a TRIAD member providing support to this program through the Town Social Service office. During the year we also gave numerous tours to groups of our firehouse and spoke to other organizations on fire and safety related issues. Please contact us if you would like to set up an appointment for us to host or speak to your organization.

### **Incentive Program:**

It is essential that we continue to support the volunteer character of the emergency services that protect our community. To aid in this effort the Town's emergency services instituted a program to provide funds to run a volunteer incentive program in an attempt

to attract new volunteers as well as increase the activity of the current members. Members are paid a monetary stipend based on their activity levels. Since the inception of the program, we believe the program has benefited the town by attracting more members and increasing the activity of the existing staff.

### **Future Planning:**

The Town is experiencing an increased growth rate and we are planning now to meet the needs of our community in the years to come. The need for improved facilities, apparatus replacement and relocation are areas of immediate concern. The Town has appointed an emergency services committee and had previously hired a consultant to review the services provided to the town by the emergency service agencies to address these areas which need improvement.

Thank you for your continued support, respect and help in making this the 82nd year of our service to the community a safe and successful year for everyone.

For more information on our department's activities and programs please visit us on the Internet at [www.ellingtonfire.org](http://www.ellingtonfire.org) or [www.facebook.com/ellingtonfd](http://www.facebook.com/ellingtonfd).

## **CRYSTAL LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT (CLVFD)**

Chief: Charles Pippin  
Assistant Chief: Chris Marks  
Deputy Chief: Brian Pippin  
Captains: Rob Edwards, William Trisler  
Lieutenants: Bryan Harvell, Bob Ludwig  
Secretary: Britney Conklin  
Treasurer: John Strieber

### **MEMBERS**

James Adkins	Mike Allen	John Aubin
Jason Carroll	Britney Conklin	Dannielle Decina
Tom Descheneaux	Matt Dickson	Rob Edwards
Allen Harvell	Bryan Harvell	Brian Legare
Richard Legare	Bob Ludwig	Gregory Manner
Ashley Marks	Chris Marks	Amanda Morrison
Erik Person	Brian Pippin	Chuck Pippin
Cindy Rivard	Doug Rogala	Sarah Rogala
Annemarie Seitz	Timothy Seitz	John Streiber
Brian Sutton	Susan Trisler	William Trisler
John Wrynn		

### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Gretchen Harvell	Reka Wrynn	Jennifer Olynyk
Jessica Harvell	Larry Booth	Cindy Bregoli
David Bregoli		

### **LIFE MEMBERS**

William Morrison	Paul McDonald	Thomas Trapp
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## BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Chairman: Joseph Willis

Co-Chairman: John Wrynn

Clerk: Tonya Glomboske

Board: Frank Patagimas, Chuck Christman, Joe Kuzia

The Crystal Lake Volunteer Fire Department proudly continues to provide fire and emergency medical services to the Crystal Lake community while providing assistance to surrounding communities. The department is staffed by State certified firefighters, emergency medical technicians and emergency medical responders. We are proud of the dedication and commitment of the members that makes the success of the department possible.

With the responsibility of responding to a variety of emergencies, members maintained or advanced required skills through in-house training drills and by attending courses offered by the CT Fire Academy, Hartford County Fire School, Department of Environmental Protection, and the Office of Emergency Medical Services. Attendance at these courses included classes in the following skills: firefighting, hazardous materials, emergency medical training, incident command, live burn exercise, thermal imaging camera technology, water rescue, and ice rescue. The Crystal Lake Fire Department currently has 12 certified divers. Department members certified as divers also participate as part of the Tolland County Dive Team. These members train with the dive team attending drills and meetings each month.

Our medically trained personnel, consisting of Emergency Medical Technicians and Emergency Medical Responders, work side-by-side with Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps to ensure the best pre-hospital medical care possible. In addition, for serious medical emergencies requiring advanced care we work with the ASM & AMR Paramedics and the Life-Star Helicopter. Our members train diligently and routinely to make sure our patients receive excellent pre-hospital care.

The Crystal Lake Fire Department currently has over 30 members on our roster. The department is continuously looking to expand its membership with new members. We also offer a junior program to the youth of the community. Junior members are able to join at sixteen years of age and train and operate with the fire department members under the supervision of an advisor.

Each October, our department visits the Crystal Lake School to teach the students the importance of fire prevention and fire safety. All students K-4 are given the chance to talk with a firefighter about the importance of fire safety, how to properly use 9-1-1, and most importantly, fire prevention.

The Crystal Lake Fire Department would like to thank our families, friends and the Town of Ellington for their continued support in our efforts as we strive to make our community a safe place in which to live. We would also like to thank all the businesses and residents of the Crystal Lake area for their support in the community and all donated monies toward the purchase of equipment. We hope for everyone's continued support and hope the best for the community and all the residents.

## OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Office of Emergency Management (Civil Preparedness) is responsible for the constant review of and adjustments to the Town Emergency Plan as filed with the State Department of Emergency Management Homeland Security. This office receives and disseminates information from the State Department of Emergency Management Homeland Security concerning impending emergencies, such as severe weather, terrorism alerts and other situations that may affect the Town of Ellington and its citizens. The Town web site will be utilized to provide tips on preparing an Emergency Communications Plan, an Emergency Supply kit, plans for Persons With Special Needs and more. Also, a new Emergency Notification System (ENS) will be installed that will alert citizens in time of emergencies or other significant events in Town. The Office of Emergency Management is an independent department of the Town.

Conceived by former President Bush after Hurricane Katrina wreaked havoc on the south, while recognizing the need for communities to become more self-reliant in the first 72 hours after a disaster, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was born and is supported by Federal and Local Homeland Security Departments. The Ellington CERT is supported and managed by the Ellington Office of Emergency Management. In addition to training of new recruits along with the basic CERT class, we have been busy learning additional specialties in order to create a diverse team that will be able to handle a multitude of tasks. Within the next two years we would like to form a Mountain Bike Team and solidify our Animal Sheltering Team while training all CERT members in all aspects of CERT functions.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members are able to assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community. We have run two basic training classes in the last two years and our group has grown to over 25 members.

If you would like information on how you can help your families, neighbors and fellow citizens by joining the Ellington CERT, please call the Emergency Management office at (860) 870-3182 or email the Deputy Director of the Emergency Management Office, John Streiber, at [jstreiber@ellington-ct.gov](mailto:jstreiber@ellington-ct.gov).

The winter of 2011-2012 was full of surprises, weather wise. Tropical Storm Irene and Storm Alfred (the October Nor'easter) were not to be outdone by the winter storms. Although by the time Irene hit the state it was just a tropical storm, and Irene caused a record number of electrical outages throughout the state. CL&P was overwhelmed with over 800,000 outages. The Town fared pretty well and we were lucky we did not have more damage. Representatives from the different Town departments/agencies were at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and everyone worked to get the Town back to some normalcy.

After the storm went through, 80% of the Town was without power. There were a few customers that were without power for many days. Two months after Tropical Storm Irene hit the Town we had another storm. On October 29, 2011 the Town experienced a nor-easter. Because the storm was so early in the season most of the trees still had foliage and the weight of the wet snow brought down many, many trees and the Town looked like it had been bombed. Several firsts happened with this storm. We opened the shelter for our residents at the High School and it operated for nine days 24 hours a day. The record power outages, from Tropical Storm Irene, were broken, and we were without power in 99% of the Town. The Town received more damage than Irene had left. The departments/agencies of the Town went back to work and for almost two weeks dealt with problems trying to get the Town back on the right track.

The Ellington CERT worked in the shelter with the staff of Human Services and the Custodians and Kitchen workers from the High School. By the time the shelter closed, we had housed up to 64 people in one night, had several of our residents in daily for showers and during those nine days we served 2,250 meals. This was a community effort. I thank all the businesses, church organizations and our residents for pitching in and helping us get things back to some sense of normalcy. It is nice to know that when the need arises the residents of the Town of Ellington truly are neighbors helping neighbors.

The Office of Emergency Management worked very closely with the First Selectman's Office to ensure the proper paper work was submitted to the State on time for reimbursement from the State and Federal Governments.

The Office of Emergency Management maintains and operates Town of Ellington Emergency Operations Center from which critical Town government functions are conducted during any large- scale emergency situation.



Ellington's Emergency Operations Center

## ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS, INC. (EVAC)

**President:** Peter Hany, Sr.  
**Vice President:** Dan Flanagan  
**Secretary:** Don Lanier  
**Treasurer:** Simon Hessler  
**Training:** Bruce Hoffman  
**Scheduling:** Doreen Connor  
**Supply:** Andrew Slicer  
**Maintenance:** Joe Glomboske  
**Public Relations:** Wendy Pospisil



### Active Members:

Matt Brown	Doreen Connor	Nancy Stillman
Renee Cyr	Dawn Gerber	Jennifer Gallup
Rachel Harris	Simon Hessler	Cassandra Smith
Annalise Hurley	Laura Lakenbach	Brandon Getty
Don Lanier	Brittany Martin	Wendy Pospisil
Dan Flanagan	David Rice	Andrew Slicer
Taylor Somma	Eric Thepsiri	Nicole Fillion
Brandon Bartell	Joe Glomboske	Peter Hany Sr.
Jennifer Hays	Bruce Hoffman	Steve Jachym
Jeff Jones	Matthew Lontz	Michael McLain
Gregory York		

### Paid Staff

Kim Courville	Danielle Cowee	Andrea Balatkova
Kristin Fries	Tonya Glomboske	Kerri Pliszka
John Rooney	Debbie Schiessl	

### Associate Members

Jeff Gerber	Bryan Goulet	Barry Lanz
Aaron Lapointe	Krista Schulz	Becky York
Diane Turner		

### Probationary Members

Alexis D'Aloisio	Alex Marrotte	Josh Perkins
Ryan Laferte		

### Life Members

Sharon Breault	Ray Close	Jean-Marie Currier
Denise Rioux	Angie Sandberg	John Watts

The Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corp, Inc. (EVAC) is a dedicated group of volunteers and paid personnel. EVAC is responsible for providing emergency medical service to the Town of Ellington and its surrounding communities, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. EVAC responded to 996 EMS requests during the previous year, 74 of which were in the Crystal Lake district. All crews and equipment meet or exceed the State of CT requirements and remain fully licensed through examination and inspection.

An active first response system allows EVAC and both fire



departments to render immediate life saving care when it is needed most. All members are provided with emergency medical supplies and are encouraged to respond whenever possible. Additionally, automated external defibrillators (AED's) are provided to most active members for rapid response to victims in acute cardiac arrest.

EVAC continues its commitment to current and ongoing training by sending representatives to both State and National EMS conferences. This allows EVAC and its members to remain educated concerning the latest challenges and updates affecting the provision and delivery of emergency medical services. In addition, EVAC remains an active source of first aid and CPR training to various organizations and individuals in our community. As part of this commitment, the number and locations of AEDs in Town has been expanded to provide ease of public access during cardiac arrests. As a result of this effort the Town of Ellington was designated a Heartsafe Community by the American Heart Association.

As a responsible municipal member of the Town of Ellington, EVAC is working in conjunction with other departments and the Town to streamline services and reduce costs to the taxpayers whenever possible. In addition to the centralization of the AED program, EVAC is the central purchasing point for all EMS supplies for Town-wide fire and rescue services. Funding for this is provided by utilizing money generated by ambulance billing resulting in a reduction of the town budget.

### Explorer Rescue Post 512

EVAC continues to look to the future by providing sponsorship for Explorer Rescue Post 512. All of these high school students assist EVAC by responding to calls during the daytime hours. All Post members become certified by the State of CT as EMRs or EMTs and most continue their medical education beyond high school graduation. Members are held to high academic standards in addition to the rigorous medical training in which they must excel. The Rescue Post is one of only two programs in the State of CT that allows students to ride on ambulances and has been active in Ellington for 45 years. In addition to emergency medical service exposure, Post members participate in various events throughout the year that benefit both the community and EVAC. Rescue Post 512 could not function without the adult advisors who volunteer their time and knowledge:

Tonya Glomboske, Head Advisor

Joe Glomboske	Ray Close	Kristin Fries
Bryan Goulet	Deb Schiessl	Kim Courville

### HIGHLIGHTS

- EVAC began mailing surveys to patients asking them to evaluate their experience with the ambulance service and responding personnel. The overwhelming majority of responses have been positive and any improvements suggested are evaluated.
- During the devastating Nor'easter, EVAC's building was used as an Emergency Operations Center for the Town. Two ambulances were staffed during the storm recovery and members provided medical care at the emergency shelter located within Ellington High School.

- EVAC continued the tradition of awarding scholarships to graduating Rescue Post members who planned to continue their education in the medical field.
- The 50th anniversary of Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps was celebrated with an open house in May. Participating in the event were the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, the Resident State Troopers office, Animal Control, the CERT Team, the Tolland County Dive Team, the State Police SWAT team, Parks and Recreation department and Life Star helicopter medical service.

### Membership

Like any active organization, EVAC is always looking for good members. Prospective members must be committed to providing high-quality emergency care at any hour of the day. All costs for required training are reimbursed to volunteers and employees. EVAC provides uniforms and equipment at no cost to all members. For additional information call EVAC at (860) 870-3170 or visit us on the web at [www.ellingtonambulance.org](http://www.ellingtonambulance.org).

As Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corp, Inc. celebrates its 50th year of service, we would like to thank our families, friends and the Town of Ellington for their continued support as we strive to make our community a safer place to live.

### ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

Ellington Animal Control (AC) is responsible for the enforcement of the CT State Laws pertaining to domestic animals. AC responds to complaints of violations of animal control laws by telephone or by police dispatch. The officer also investigates complaints of vicious, diseased or neglected and abused animals as well as stray and roaming dogs. Impounded animals are cared for at the shelter by the officer. Unclaimed animals are carefully evaluated before being placed for adoption. Following the month of June, when all dog owners must renew their dog licenses, a search for unlicensed dogs on our delinquent list begins. The Officers are available to assist the police or the public with any animal emergency. AC also works closely with Emergency Management to ensure a plan is in place to provide temporary shelter for residents and their pets together, in the event of a disaster. The AC department makes every effort to insure that all functions of this department and the operation of the shelter are carried out in the most economical manner with cost savings in mind, while providing the highest degree of professional service to the townspeople. The AC Department consists of Animal Control Officer (ACO) and an Assistant Animal Control Officer. The shelter is open seven days a week between 11:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. To speak with an ACO please call 860-870-3155. Appointments are recommended for visiting pets for adoption. The Shelter, which is located on Main St. behind the Fire Station, is the holding quarters for stray, roaming and relinquished dogs and also quarantined dogs and cats. The ACO is available for emergency calls through the Ellington Resident Troopers Office. Emergency calls consist of: animal bites, dog damage to livestock or personal property, injured animals or wildlife that has had contact with people or pets or is suspected of having rabies.

Nuisance wildlife calls are handled through the State D.E.P. Wildlife Department and they can be reached at: 860-424-3011. Routine calls will be handled during the normal shelter hours. Ellington AC provides assistance to the community so that animals and people can co-exist safely and peacefully. An important role of this department is to work closely with the public to provide education on laws, solve problems and offer advice on the care and concerns of pet ownership.

## HIGHLIGHTS

Ellington Animal Control will be conducting the yearly 'Door to Door' survey in search of unlicensed dogs. This survey is requested by the State of CT per Section 22-347 of the CT General Statutes. The completed survey allows the Town to keep a larger percentage of the revenue from the dog license fees. The survey also is a way of verifying dog license compliance and the requirement for current rabies vaccinations, as the dog owner must present a copy of the dog's rabies certificate when obtaining a license. Rabies Vaccination of pets is extremely important with the incidents of rabies in the State. Pets, if not protected from rabies, can serve as a vector in the transmission of this fatal disease to humans.

Stay updated on Animal Control news by following our newsletter which is produced at least twice a year. You can obtain a copy of the current issue, as well as past issues on the Town's website. To be included on the automatic email list, contact the Animal Control office. Each newsletter contains updates on new laws, helpful hints on animal care and training, animal control issues and more.

Search for Ellington Animal Control on your Facebook Page, and "like" us. You will receive news about lost & found animals, animal related news articles, seasonal information and tips, events in the area, pets for adoption and much more. Please call our office in regards to complaints to make sure they are addressed in a timely manner.

The State of CT Animal Population Control Program, is currently offering a Low-Income Pet Sterilization voucher. This program helps CT low-income residents by providing vaccination/sterilization vouchers for their pets. An application must be completed and submitted to the CT State Animal Control Division. Applications are available at our office. To qualify, the applicant must already qualify for one of six low-income state assistance programs listed on the application. For information, call (860) 713-2507.

This past June, we coordinated our Rabies Clinic with the Ellington Center Animal Clinic and the Ellington Farmer's Market. Dr. Prichard was on staff, along with many volunteers, administering Rabies vaccines and implanting Microchips on "Dog Days" at the farmers market. All proceeds were donated to our shelter, to help animals that we impound who are in need of medical attention. Thank you to the Ellington Farmer's Market for allowing us to be there, and partake in the festivities. And also to the Ellington Center Animal Clinic for helping coordinate such a great fundraiser for the shelter.

## PET ADOPTION

Ellington Animal Control has a web page to view adoptable shelter pets at <http://www.ellingtonaco.petfinder.com>, or through [petfinder.com](http://petfinder.com) search by zip code. This free website has greatly increased our ability to find our homeless pets new homes. The adoptable animals are spending less time in the shelter waiting to be adopted. The Internet has offered us greater exposure for advertising these homeless pets for adoption.

Dogs and cats are adopted under the CT Animal Population Control Program. This program is for pets adopted from a CT municipal shelter and provides low-cost vaccination and assists with the costs of sterilization. The Animal Population Control Program intends to reduce the overpopulation of unwanted dogs and cats and to also reduce the cost and burden to the Towns coping with pet overpopulation. The fee for adopting a pet from a pound in CT is \$50 that includes a voucher for vaccinations and sterilization.

Our microchip program is working very well. We will continue to microchip adopted dogs, at a minimal cost to the adoptee. This is made possible from the help of Home Again Microchips. The reason for micro-chipping is to be able to reunite lost pets back with their owners and for the pets to spend minimal time in a shelter. Ensure your pet will be returned to you, and contact our office to have your pet micro-chipped.

## ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS

We are always grateful for the donations that are brought to us throughout the year. The dogs especially love the treats, toys, and rawhides. Our most needed items are dog food and bleach. We usually have plenty of blankets and towels, and pass them along to other shelters in need.

As some of you may know, our facilities are a little outdated. We would love a new pound, but we thought we would take baby steps this year. By this time next year, we hope to have a new shed in place to help with our shortage of storage space. We have utilized every spare corner and crevice in our office, bathroom and pound. It's finally time to expand. We hate to turn donations down, and with extra space we can store more of the items we use regularly.

*"Animals are such agreeable friends. They ask no questions, they pass no criticisms." George Eliot (Mary Anne Evans)*

## Animal Control Statistics

Summary of Services	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Complaints	1,040	1,040	1,068
Impounded pets redeemed by owners	47	53	46
Animals Adopted	20	28	27
Dogs/Cats Euthanized	7	7	5
Animal Bites	26	27	34
Dogs/Cats picked up Dead	5	11	9
Infractions/Summons	12	6	8
Impounded Animals	79	99	88
Licensed Dogs	2,325	2,328	2,315

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW)

It is the duty of the DPW to maintain, repair, clean, and remove snow from all public streets and ways; maintain and operate storm sewers and other drains; care for and maintain all Town buildings other than those under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education; prepare or supervise the preparation of plans and specifications for the construction or reconstruction of streets, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm sewers, drains, public buildings and other structures and construct or supervise the construction of the same; to care for parks, grassed areas in streets and public grounds, including athletic fields under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education and the Parks & Recreation Commission; to plant and care for trees within the street line; to enforce ordinances imposing on owners of property obligations to construct and maintain sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm sewers and drains; contract with the Water Pollution Control Authority for the maintenance of the facilities and grounds which come under their jurisdiction.

### HIGHLIGHTS

The DPW had another good year, with funds expended to get the most out of them. The men and women of the DPW put in an all-out effort to accomplish the day-to-day demands put on the DPW and still be able to accomplish other jobs over and above their daily duties.

Road Work – The reconstruction of North Park Street that was started in 2010-11 was completed this fiscal year with paving, driveway aprons and curbing. The following streets were shimmed and chipsealed: Middle Rd., Abbott Rd., Tripp Rd. and Stein Rd. The following roads were paved: Grant Rd, Woodmar Circle, Majus Circle, Pinney Rd., Ridgeview Dr., Hilltop Dr., Francis Ave. and Standish Rd. DPW used a process of placing geothermal fabric under the pavement on Pinney Rd. and Ridgeview Dr. to keep the surface cracking from reoccurring and give the pavement a longer life span. We appreciate the cooperation of the residents in these areas for their patience.

Building Projects – Two gazebos were replaced at Arbor Park.

Snow/Debris Removal - The crews went out eight times for plowing or treating of roads for ice. We purchased 1,713 tons of Clear Lane, 24.90 tons of salt and 171.5 tons of sand. This year was not about the snow but about the removal of debris from Hurricane Irene in August and Winter Storm Alfred in October. From Winter Storm Alfred the Town collected 50,169 cy of debris, almost ½ of which was picked up by Town crews and taken to Greencycle from October 30 to December 9, 2011. Residents hauled in 28,000 cy of debris to the Hoffman Rd Brush dump which was open 24/7 through mid-December. We set up three work crews for brush retrieval. The WPCA maintenance workers pumped down the grinder pumps as they could as well as monitored the pump stations. We found that the Crystal Lake Pump Station generator needed repair and the 140 Pump station did not have a generator and had to be pumped daily until the power was restored.



The Crystal Lake area was the last area to have power restored on November 8, 2011. A result of this storm was the necessity to purchase generators for several Town facilities. A large generator was purchased to service the Center Fire Dept/Police/Human Services/Recreation facilities, a generator was put in place at the Route 140 Pump Station and a portable generator with appropriate plugs for the grinder pumps was purchased for WPCA maintenance. This was done in an effort to be prepared for the next occurrence.



Garbage and Recycling – The automated garbage and recycling system continues to be working well in Ellington. Town residents recycled 1,426 tons of materials in 2011-12. Additional recycling containers are free of charge to residents that need them. Please call the DPW at 860-870-3140 if you would like one. We had another very successful Household Hazardous Waste ( HHW) Day on September 17, 2011; 252 households from Ellington dropped off hazardous waste. This is the last year that Ellington will be participating in the MDC HHW program. In 2013, the Town will be implementing a new system for residents to dispose of their household hazardous waste. Residents can continue to bring electronics, waste oil, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, and propane tanks to the shed at the Public Works Complex. Over the last 12 months and including the September 17 collection day, residents dropped off 3,990 gallons of waste oil, 47.66 tons of electronics, and .27 tons fluorescent light bulbs.

WPCA – A bioxide system was installed at the Meadow Brook Pump Station on Meadow Brook Road. This injects bioxide into the system to reduce the H<sub>2</sub>S. We are continuing to monitor this at the Vernon Pump Station as well and have purchased an Odalog monitoring system that can be inserted into the manholes at various points. The control system at the Crystal Lake Pump Station was upgraded this year. We are continuing our grinder pump inspections and maintenance at Crystal Lake.

Miscellaneous – The DPW developed specifications and went out to bid for Cleaning Services, Chip Sealing, Tree Removal and Trimming Services, Electrical Contracting, Tennis Court Reconstruction at Brookside Park, and Disaster Debris Services. By having a contract for Disaster Debris Services in place, it speeds up the process of getting the Town cleaned up and qualifies for federal reimbursement through FEMA. This is a proactive approach to future disasters such as we experienced with Storm Alfred.

Recreation – The DPW assisted in the installation of two new scoreboards at Brookside Park as well as the installation of the items at the new Schwartz Tennis Courts. We have also been working to preserve the playing fields with turf maintenance items including overseeding, and aerating. We have also realigned soccer fields.

### Assessment of Needs:

- Continued commitment of the four-year road-resurfacing program.
- Continued equipment replacement as per Capital Improvements Program.



# Hall Memorial Library



## HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Hall Memorial Library is the principal public library for the Town of Ellington, providing free and equal access to a variety of materials and programs for all residents. The Library plays an active role in the community as a popular materials library, a preschooler's door to learning, a formal education support center and a community reference source and gathering place.

## SERVICES

The Hall Memorial Library provides all residents of Ellington with materials and opportunities for entertainment and education. The collection consists of items in many formats, including books, periodicals, newspapers, audiobooks, videotapes, compact discs, DVDs, puzzles, puppets, online databases and reference materials, and equipment, such as ereaders and mp3 players.

These materials are categorized into the adult circulating collection, young adult circulating collection, juvenile circulating collection, and Reference non-circulating collection. Also available are computers for word processing and access to the Internet. The friendly, well-trained staff is available to help find information, answer questions, and recommend reading materials using this collection.

The Library also provides a variety of programs for adults and children. Story time sessions are run by the Children's Librarian for children from 9 months to 2½ years old, 2½ year-olds, and 3-5 year-olds. Seasonal events for children include the annual summer reading program, movies, craft workshops, and various entertaining and educational speakers and performers. Young adults may participate in book discussions, contests, and their own summer reading program. For adults, there are book discussion series, cultural programs, concerts, and speakers on a range of topics, both informative and entertaining.

For those patrons who are unable to come to the Library, outreach services are provided. At Snipsic Village, the senior housing complex, a rotating collection of library books is made available on a monthly basis, and there is a delivery service to homebound patrons.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The Hall Memorial Library experienced another busy year, serving 87,335 patrons, circulating 131,174 items and answering 2,925 reference questions. Programs for children included over 100 story time sessions, the annual holiday ornament workshop and a variety of programs including musicians, magicians, book discussions, story tellers and truck day.

For teens there were book discussions, including two intergenerational programs with members of the senior center, a read-a-thon, craft programs and the creative writing group. Programming for adults was greatly expanded and featured a wild range of presentations including dating quilts, making truffles, music of the Civil War, couponing, college planning and financing, fly-tying, ballroom dancing, digital photography, the 1964 World's Fair, as well as book discussions and visits and discussion by several authors. The bi-weekly knitting group expanded to welcome all types of handcrafters and several sessions of crochet lessons were offered during the summer. Exhibits included model airplanes from the North Central Radio Control Club, quilts from the Ellington Country Quilters and art from the Tolland Country Art Association, the Tobacco Valley Artists Association, Ellington High School seniors and several community artists and photographers. The summer reading programs "One World, Many Stories" featured a variety of performers and arts and crafts programming, as well as reading fun, games and prizes, all generously funded by the Friends of the Library. The international theme presented an opportunity to explore the cultures of Ellington residents originally from the Philippines and India.

Computer instruction in the recently-created lab space was held throughout the year, teaching basic skills in computer use, email, word processing and internet searching. Assistance with resume writing and job searching was offered in the Reference Room. The library acquired two ebook readers, a Nook and a Kindle, so that the staff could become familiar with this new technology in order to better help patrons gain access to our cooperative collection of ebooks that currently contains 4,241 items. A beautiful new webpage for the library was developed this year, with a new address, [www.library.ellington-ct.gov](http://www.library.ellington-ct.gov). The Library again participated in the Winterfest celebration, hosting musical performances by the EHS music department, the Fourth Grade Choruses from Center and Crystal Lake Schools, and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Windermere Instrumentalists. As an outreach project to the preschools of Ellington, the Library hosted two story telling programs, both of which were attended by over 100 children. During the extreme weather emergencies of the past year, the library became a place of refuge for those seeking warmth, electricity to charge phones and laptops, computer access, water to take home and the camaraderie and support of friends and neighbors.

The Friends of the Hall Memorial Library celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an open house in September 2011 that featured food, photos and fun. Since its inception in 1986, the Friends has raised and donated over \$200,000 to fund everything from book purchases to furnishings for the computer lab to the automated library system. Currently, they fund the museum passes, the wireless access within the building, the summer reading programs for all ages, various cultural and educational programs throughout the year, and of course library materials. Thanks, Friends. We couldn't do it without you!

All in all, the library has been busy, inside and out, once again illustrating its importance in the lives of the citizens of Ellington.

# *Parks and Recreation*

## **HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY STATISTICS**

### **CIRCULATION**

Adult Books and Periodicals	42,406
Young Adult Books and Periodicals	5,934
Children's Books and Periodicals	42,083
Audiovisual and Miscellaneous Materials	39,712
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>130,135</b>

### **COLLECTION**

Adult Books and Periodicals	35,392
Young Adult Books and Periodicals	3,036
Children's Books and Periodicals	18,884
Audiovisual and Miscellaneous Materials	7,677
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64,989</b>

### **REGISTERED BORROWERS**

Adults	7,019
Young Adults	662
Children	1,735
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,446</b>

## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (P&R)**

The Parks and Recreation Commission and Recreation staff continue to make a concentrated effort to provide a cross section of quality programming on a year-round basis. An earnest effort has been made to create and offer programs, both on a passive and non-passive basis, for all age groups within the community. Additional special events and "creative" programming continue to be of interest to the residents of the community, providing department staff with the opportunity to plan and implement family oriented activities too.

The Recreation Department is located at 31 Arbor Way (located between Arbor Park and the Ellington Center Fire Department). The office phone number is 860-870-3118, and the fax number is 860-870-3198. Normal business hours are Monday 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Our general email address is: [recreation@ellington-ct.gov](mailto:recreation@ellington-ct.gov). Comments and suggestions are always welcome, either via a phone call to a staff member, fax, email or written form.

### **STAFFING**

The department is staffed by two full-time recreation professionals, one of which also serves as the director of the waterfront. Part-time positions (generated by revenue) include athletic officials, special skills instructors, lifeguards, day camp counselors, and program supervisors. Town of Ellington applications are available at the Recreation office during normal business hours. In addition, the Recreation and Human Services departments share the services of two part-time support staff.

### **VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE**

Those who volunteer are a vital component of the Department. We are indebted to those who have the time, talent, and ability to provide assistance with coaching, transportation, and encouragement.

Recruiting, securing and approving of the over 350 individuals that volunteer on an annual basis within the Town programs is an enjoyable yet time-consuming task. A person wishing to volunteer must complete a newly approved volunteer disclosure form. The Department has formulated a non-certified coaching seminar that stresses the current aspects of coaching today's youth. The Department also provides technical assistance to all sports coaches as well as access to taking part in the certification process for becoming a legally registered official in softball, basketball, soccer and lacrosse. In addition, the Recreation Department provides pre-season certification in: CPR/FIRSTAID/AED classes (NO fee) for all volunteers that contribute to the Town's programming needs. All coaches/volunteers must complete a background check form and receive clearance before becoming a member of the Department.

### **PROGRAMS**

Traditional athletic programs continue to enjoy increased enrollment, and Department staff continues to make a concentrated effort to get the "pulse" of the community when arranging special events and passive-oriented programs. The Department is always on the lookout for skilled artisans and/or individuals with special talents. Please feel free to contact the office with your suggestions.

- The Department provides indoor and outdoor activities on a year-round basis, using the following locations: Brookside Park (Route 140), Sandy Beach (Crystal Lake), and both interior and exterior facilities located at the public schools.
- Classes and programs include but are not limited to: youth and adult athletic team sports, special skills classes, health classes and special events. A hiking program formed last year has been well-received and meets on Tuesday mornings at Arbor Park (9:30 am) before heading out to the defined location.
- Extensive efforts have been made to expand summer program offerings in addition to seasonal events.
- The Sunday Summer Evening Concert series at Arbor Park continued. Local businesses were helpful in providing partial sponsorships.
- Pre-school programming has continued to be a very successful component of the Department's year-round offerings, especially for ages two through five.
- Enrollment in the spring youth lacrosse program continued to increase, both male and female, including K-3 instructional program.

### **COMPETITIVE ATHLETIC PROGRAMS**

The P&R Department offers a three tier format: travel teams, recreation teams, and instructional leagues. The approach of the P&R Commission is that everyone should be encouraged to compete in the athletic arena regardless of age or ability. The P&R Commission is proud of the fact that coaches, players and spectators are well versed in their roles regarding their sport, along with promoting good sportsmanship. Fall/Winter: To become eligible for selection to a travel team a player must attend a minimum of two evaluation clinics, based on evaluations submitted by the head coach and independent evaluator.

Travel teams compete with surrounding communities while the recreation division teams participate in an in-house program only. Although participation is the key component, providing the coaches with the “tools” for coaching is the number one priority

## SHARED SERVICES

The P&R Department continues to interact, on a daily basis, year-round, with the Board of Education’s business office/school staff, and in particular, the Board of Education’s custodial staff, whose dedication and assistance is greatly appreciated. The every-day assistance from the Department of Public Works does not go unnoticed, the parks crew takes special care in keeping up both park and school facilities.

The support and in-kind services that are provided by both agencies are greatly appreciated, as the continued, behind the scenes support helps identify Ellington as a quality community.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The P&R Commission, along with all other Town boards and agencies, is taking a serious look at the present and future, both short and long term. The need exists for a long-term athletic facility plan to be formulated. The Commission’s mission statement still revolves around safe and useable athletic facilities.
- A Town-wide recreational sub-committee has been engaged in preparing a draft that addresses both the short and long term needs of the community.
- Summer day camp has entered its 9th year of full-time hours.
- The Ellington Connection will be the main vehicle for keeping the public informed of current/upcoming programs. The Town website will have the same or updated information.
- The Town implemented a program to enhance the safety of the children that participate in contact athletics, specifically soccer, lacrosse and football. The program, ImPACT (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive testing) is the first, most-widely used, and most scientifically validated computerized evaluation system.
- A special note of appreciation should be forwarded to ALL of the part-time staff that service Town programs. Ellington is fortunate to have secured and continued to retain quality athletic officials, summer staff and talented program instructors.
- The Friends of Ellington Tennis organization continued to provide all levels of tennis lessons/camps to Town residents. The NEWLY built tennis (4) courts at the Abram and Rachel Schwartz Park received their first major season of use in the spring with the boys and girls teams from Ellington High School. The Friends of Ellington Tennis has been instrumental in helping to support and develop participation in youth and adult programs.
- The Ellington Little League Boys Baseball and Girls Softball programs have continued their traditional approach to enhancing the athletic facilities at Brookside Park.
  - The Boys’ program, with budget support from the Town, completed a major upgrade @ Brookside Park, inclusive of new safety netting, scoreboard and batting cage upgrades.

- The Girls’ program secured permission to upgrade their storage space, batting cage area and installation of new, protective fencing located at the first and third base dugouts. A new scoreboard was installed as well.
- The major renovations on the Old Crystal Lake Schoolhouse have been completed. The P&R Department has begun regular use of the building, offering middle and pre-school programming.
- The P&R Commission continues to show interest in creating and helping sustain town-wide walking or bicycle trails, as well as potential new athletic fields to support the current strain on existing facilities.
- Vandalism has been limited this past year, but increased supervision at various parks and schools may have been a deterrent.
- Three long-time members of the P&R Commission stepped down after an aggregate total of 36 years of service to the community. Michael Pantuosco, Thomas Neeson and Hunter Giroux provided the Town with program and policy support. All three were well-versed in their fields! Thanks to each for their service.

Total Participants	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Summer Day Camp (Avg.day)	70	85	70
Beach Passes	255	292	228
Swim Lessons	330	266	200
Open Swim	62 days	61 days	60 days
Boys Basketball	340	311	315
Girls Basketball	236	214	245
Men’s Basketball	115	95	90
Summer Basketball	20	50	40
Instructional Basketball	165	174	175
Men’s Volleyball	20	20	25
Co-Ed Volleyball	80	60	65
Girls Softball	165	175	165
Instructional T-Ball	180	141	160
Co-ed Adult Softball	30	75	80
Junior Soccer	665	647	674
Indoor Soccer	115	125	90
Letters To Santa	30	40	30
Tennis Lessons/ Camp	290	325	255
Sports Coaches’ Clinics	25	55	40
Mini Programs	2,550	2,450	2,550
Basketball Camps	145	140	160
Red Cross Courses	60	20	50
Integrative Programs	40	45	30
Teen Activities	230	240	240
Track & Field	109	78	95
Adult Fitness	275	290	240
Yoga	60	25	65
Jukido	55	80	70
Little League Baseball	340	340	340
Football	140	170	135
Lacrosse	175	144	183
Soccer Camps	80	90	70
Vacation Camp	100	40	80
Triathlon-summer	185	220	190
American Heart Assoc.		65	75
Afterschool Bowling		98	80
CPO Heart Babysitter		50	40



# *Information Guide*

## **AREA**

Ellington is located 16 miles, northeast of Hartford with 34.8 square miles of area.

## **ALTITUDE**

The altitude ranges from 200 feet to 950 feet above sea level. Most of the Town is approximately 450 feet above sea level.

## **CLIMATE**

The average temperatures in the Town are 74 degrees during the summer months and 25 degrees during the winter months. Wind directions are south to southwest in the summer, and north to west in the winter.

## **POPULATION**

The population of the Town has remained moderately stable over the past ten years. As of 2011, the population was approximately 15,856.

## **GOVERNMENT**

The Town has a Selectman form of government, which operates under a charter adopted in 1975. The Town Meeting serves as the legislative arm of the government. The Board of Finance recommends the annual budget to the Town Meeting for approval and sets the tax rate.

## **STREETS**

The Town has 94 miles of municipally maintained roads. The State of Connecticut maintains 24.62 miles of state roads which intersect the Town. These are Routes 140, 286, 83, 30, 32 and 74.

## **TAXES**

The Town currently has a tax rate of 27.9 mills applied to the 2011 Grand List at 70% of Fair Market Value of property. A Town-wide revaluation of real estate and personal property was completed in 2010.

## **SEWERS**

The Ellington Water Pollution Control Authority manages three major sewer systems: Longview, Hockanum River and Crystal Lake. Approximately 90% of the commercially zoned land has direct access to the sewer system. Windermere Industrial Park has either direct or reasonable access to the sewer system.

## **WATER**

The Town is serviced by CT Water Co. which have the capacity of accommodating approximately 70% of the commercial and industrial zoned land. Shenipsit Lake is the largest local water source which spans the borders of two adjoining Towns. Crystal Lake is located in Ellington and stretches over an area of 175 acres. The Hockanum River runs north-south and is located in the southern part of Town.

## **SCHOOLS**

The Ellington school system includes five schools which provide public education for grade levels kindergarten through 12th grade inclusive. Total enrollment as of 2011 is 2,691 students. Within a 20-mile radius the Town has access to the University of Connecticut, Manchester Community Technical College, Eastern Connecticut State College, Trinity College and Asnuntuck Community Technical College.

## **INCOME**

The mean income per household was \$83,132 as of the 2012 Census.

## **HOUSING**

As of the 2009 Census, the Town of Ellington had 6,406 housing units, including 462 condominiums. There are 11 apartment complexes, one of which provides subsidized housing.

## **AIRPORT**

The Town has a privately-owned airport that is centrally located to provide air carrier service to both New York and Boston. The airport can accommodate both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters.

## **RECREATION**

The Town provides beach facilities at Crystal Lake during the summer months. The State of Connecticut maintains a public boat launch at Crystal Lake. The Town maintains sports facilities at each school, Brookside Park and the High School Athletic Field, providing manicured playing fields. In 2004, a new playscape was constructed for elementary children at Center School. Brookside Park Pavilion was completed in 1991. The building, equipped with restrooms and a concession stand, is available to local groups by obtaining a permit from the Parks and Recreation Office. Arbor Park, located on Main Street, contains a walking course and 2 gazebos, picnic tables, and Sunday evening concerts sponsored by the Recreation Department. In 2012, four new tennis courts were completed at Schwartz Field next to Ellington High School.

## **LOCAL BUSINESS**

The Ellington business community is currently a blend of agriculture and small commercial and industrial enterprises. The dairy industry has long been the major producer of goods, but Ellington also provides products in the fields of packaging, pharmaceuticals, sporting goods, automobiles, industrial designs and printing. The Farmers Market runs Saturdays from May - October; 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in Arbor Park.

## **SENIOR CENTER**

The Ellington Senior Center is located in the  
Center Plaza  
16 Church Street.

Hours:

Monday 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

# Social Services

## HUMAN SERVICES

The Human Services Commission oversees the Human Services Department which is the Town's principal agency for providing essential social service needs to the community. These services identify and provide programs which cover a wide spectrum of activities in public health, income support, food assistance, heating and shelter requirements. It is the purpose of the Commission to preserve and improve these activities for all Ellington residents in the most cost effective and efficient manner.

**PROGRAMS:** The Human Services Commission is responsible for the administration and execution of social service, health care, and transportation needs of the community. The Commission is charged with reviewing funding requests from various service providers in an attempt to deliver quality service decisions in the interest of meeting resident needs. This support provides residents direct service or referral to community-based programs. In addition, supplemental supportive services of short-term case management, counseling, information, and referral are available for adults, elderly, and disabled residents. These services are summarized below:

### DIRECT SERVICES:

**BENEFIT COUNSELING:** Assistance is provided to individuals and families in applying for state and federal programs. Staff will advise applicants of the appropriate program and its guidelines. Programs include Social Security Benefits, Title XIX, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly known as the Food Stamps Program, Veterans Benefits, ConnPACE, Renters Rebate, and the HUSKY program.

**DISCRETIONARY PROGRAM FUNDS:** Limited funds are available through donations to assist residents with non-recurring emergency needs. Households must meet certain income guidelines. Maximum benefit: \$300 per calendar year. Funds are used to provide rental payments, heating and utility cost, and prescriptions for individuals and families who lack other resources. Annual allocation within this program is based on funding availability. Applicant must provide proof of financial hardship.

**FOOD BANK:** Non-perishable food items and food vouchers are available to individuals and families in need. Referral and assistance is available to apply for WIC and Food Stamps. Participants are required to register and provide income verification. The Food Bank operates year round and distributes baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Major donors to the food bank include the Boy Scouts' annual food drive in the Fall and the Postal Carriers' annual food drive in May. Individuals, churches, school parent-teacher organizations and social/civic groups contribute to the food bank year round.

**FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:** Ellington Human Services is an in-take site for the State energy program (CEAP). This program assists eligible households to pay their winter heating bills. Households must meet income guidelines based on the Federal Poverty Level.

This program annually accepts applications from late August through April. Limited financial assistance is available through the Ellington Fuel Bank, Tri-Town Fuel Bank and Operation Fuel. Similar eligibility guidelines apply.

**SEASONAL PROGRAMS:** Holiday food baskets and new toys and clothing are collected and distributed to individuals and families during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Households must meet Federal Poverty Level guidelines. Individuals, churches, and community groups participate in an adopt-a-family program for the holidays.

**HOUSING REHAB PROGRAM:** Funds are available to make no interest loans for the rehabilitation of residential properties. Funds for the program come from a Small Cities Grant from the CT Department of Economic & Community Development.

To be eligible, low and moderate-income residents must live in the housing units. Landlords owning buildings in Ellington with up to seven units whose tenants meet the income guidelines are eligible for assistance. Typical repair work address building code and serious maintenance problems. These no-interest loans do not have to be repaid as long as the applicant lives in the home. When the home is sold in the future the loan must be repaid to the Town. Community Opportunities Group (COG) manages this program for the Town.

**SALVATION ARMY:** The Human Services Department acts as the local agent for the Salvation Army. Funds are available through the Salvation Army Service Unit to meet emergency and supplemental needs of individuals and families. Funds are used to provide food, clothing vouchers, rental/mortgage assistance, heating and utility costs, and prescription costs. The Salvation Army offers a week of fun-filled activities and swimming for children ages 7 to 12 at Camp Connri in Ashford, CT. Applications can be obtained from Human Services. Boots N' Shoes is a back to school program that provides shoes and boots to school age children from national retailer, Payless Shoe Source. Parents/guardians are given gift cards to purchase shoes for back to school.

**FAIR HOUSING:** The Director of Human Services is also the Fair Housing Officer for the Town of Ellington. Some of the services provided include receiving and reviewing housing complaints, complaints of housing discrimination. Providing residents information regarding their rights and responsibilities under CT State Law. Providing information on housing programs available state wide including local housing rehab programs.

### COMMUNITY- BASED SERVICES:

**COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES:** Health care services are provided by local agencies. Home health care is available through the Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT. VNHSC offers a comprehensive range of in-home health services. Services are available on a fee for service basis.

Programs promoting good health, public education, and community awareness of early prevention and detection of diseases are sponsored by the home health care agency and the North Central District Health Department.

**COUNSELING AND ADVOCACY:** Information, referral, advocacy and counseling is provided on a telephone and appointment basis to area residents through local mental health providers in the area. In times of crisis or stress there are 24-hour hot lines available to the caller. Limited counseling for youth and their families is available through Ellington Youth Services. The Town also contracts with Hockanum Valley Community Council, Inc. to provide counseling services.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Dial-A- Ride service is available to elderly and disabled residents for employment, medical appointments, and local recreation and socialization within Tolland, Vernon, and Ellington. Vans are wheel-chair accessible. Advance reservation is required. For rides outside of the Tri-Town area, ADA Transit service is available. Rides are available Monday through Friday from Hockanum Valley Community Council's Transit Program. The Senior Center also provides door-to-door service to the center and to shopping and medical appointments. Medical appointments are scheduled through the center's Ellington Medical Appointment Transportation Services (E-MATS) Program.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- A referendum was passed in February 2012 to build a new Senior Center across from the High School. The architectural firm, The Lawrence Associates, was hired to design the new 10,600 square foot building. The new center will provide separate rooms for health screenings, arts & crafts, games/cards and a full service kitchen.
- An Activity/Program Coordinator was hired for the Senior Center to recruit, train, and retain volunteers in addition to plan and or organize activities and programs.

The Department continues to seek out resources for the expansion of Arbor Commons to increase space for Youth Services programming including counseling. We thank our volunteers who dedicate unselfish hours to help make our programs a success.

APPLICATIONS	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Ellington Fuel Bank	0	0	50
Tri-Town Fuel Bank	18	25	5
Operation Fuel	18	16	20
ACCESS Fuel Program	242	240	223
Salvation Army Vouchers	8	1	3
Salvation Army Boots N Shoes	50	60	60
Salvation Army Camp Connri	0	1	0
Thanksgiving	108	106	152
Christmas	140	144	128
Renters' Rebate	96	102	95
AARP Tax Program	48	74	74
Discretionary Utility/Housing	60	35	25
Food Pantry	135	70	61
Notary Services	20	24	18

## NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT (NCDHD)

The NCDHD provides Ellington with full-time health department services and is on call seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day for emergencies. The Department is governed by a Board of Directors (Board of Health) in accordance with the General Statutes of CT. Tami Miller and Edward Kramer serve as Ellington's representatives. The Health Department is staffed by a Director of Public Health, a Chief of Environmental Services (both registered sanitarians), a Health Educator, nine sanitarians and a support staff of 2.5 clerical workers and a part-time bookkeeper. The Department has a Medical Advisor and contracts for auditing and legal services.

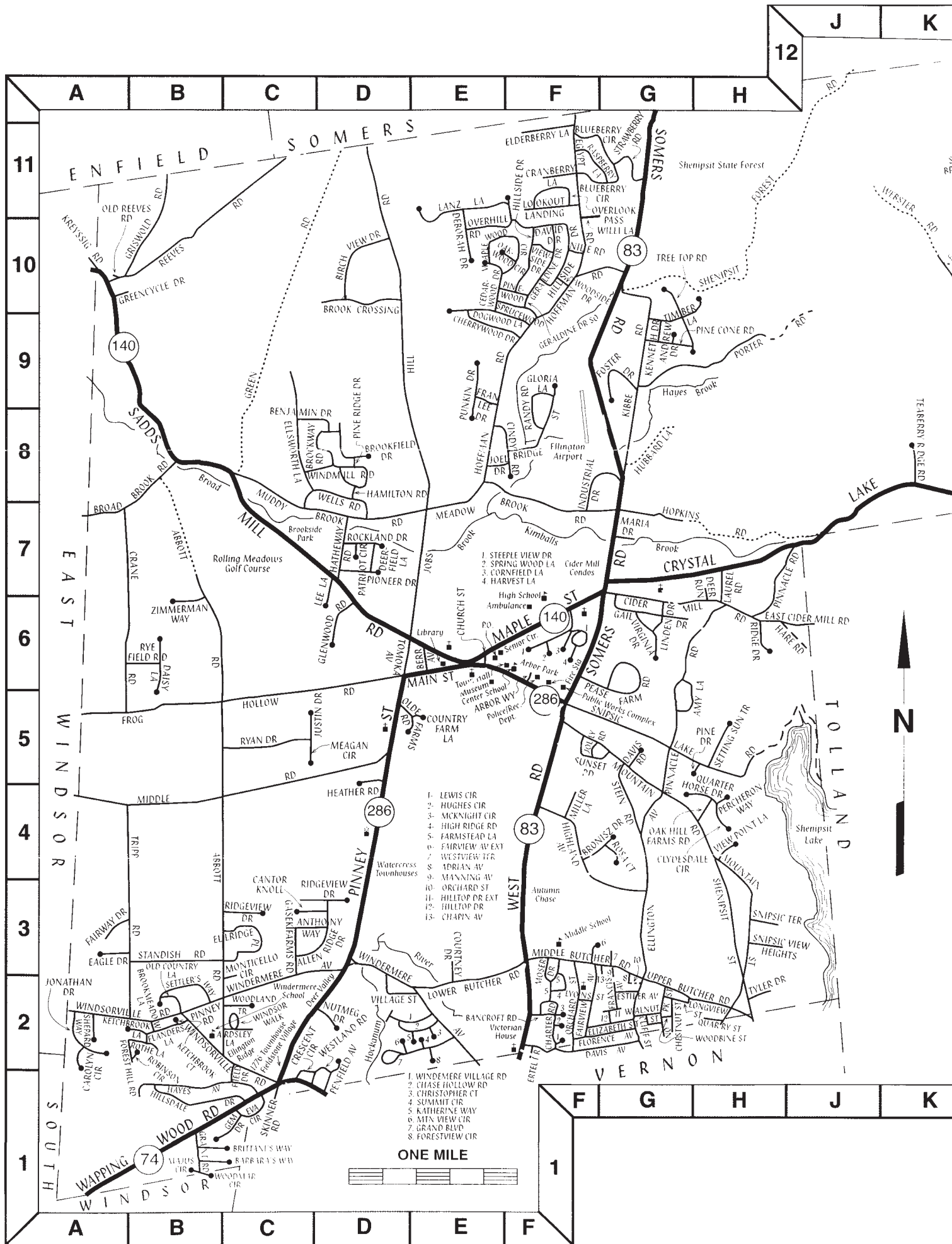
The primary mission of the NCDHD is disease prevention, surveillance and health promotion in the district's population. The District is responsible for programs in a number of areas including:

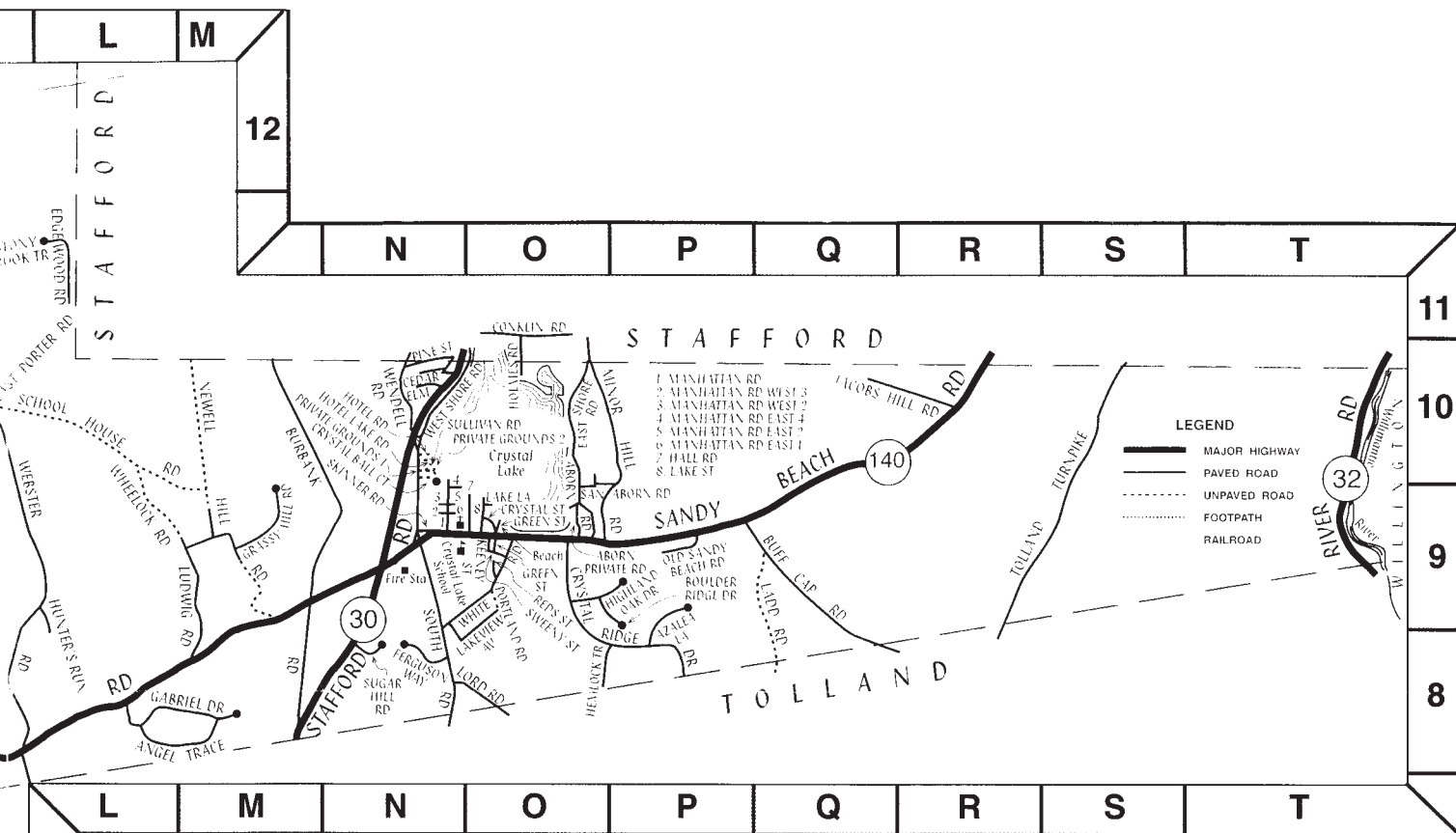
- Preventing epidemics and outbreaks of diseases; undertaking epidemiological investigations, follow-up and working to prevent the spread of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases and the like.
- Inspection of restaurants, other food service establishments and facilities and the epidemiological investigations follow-up and prevention of the spread of food borne diseases.
- Safety inspections of schools, convalescent homes and other institutions.
- Water quality testing of bathing areas.
- Review, testing and approval of new septic systems, as well as the review and approval of plans for system repairs and/or expansion.
- Provision of laboratory testing of drinking water, paint samples for lead, blood, stool and other samples such as insects and birds as may be necessary in the investigation of outbreaks and illnesses.
- Investigation of complaints in regard to public health hazards, nuisances, rodent or insect control.
- Inspection of housing units in response to physician's positive lead blood tests in children.
- The provision and support of health education and prevention programs.
- Monitoring the health status of the population.
- Assistance to the Department of Environmental Protection upon request for help in collection of samples or for follow-up or investigation of specific problems.
- Development and exercising plans for emergency response and mass dispensing of medications, anti-virals, and or vaccines in response to natural and/or man made outbreaks.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The director continues to review all communicable disease reports from labs, physicians and hospitals pertaining to residents of Ellington and follows up on any cases that need to be followed to stop any potential transmission. Ellington is served out of the Enfield office at 31 North Main Street, the Stafford office at 1 Main Street and the Vernon office at 375 Hartford Turnpike.







## STREET INDEX

Abbott Rd	B2	Daisy La	B6	*Hall Rd	O9	Main St	E6-F5	Quarry St	H2	Upper Butcher Rd	G2
Aborn Rd	P9	David Dr	F10	Hamilton Rd	D8	Majus Cir	B1	Quarter Horse Dr	G4-H4	Victorian House	F2
*Aborn Private Rd	O9	Davis Rd	G5	Hare Rd	H6	*Manhattan Rd	N9-N10	Randy Rd	F8	View Point La	H4
Adrian Av	G2	Deborah Dr	E10	Harvest La	F6	*Manhattan Rd East 1	N9	Raspberry La	F11	Viewside Dr	F10
Allen Ridge Dr	C3-D3	*Deer Run	H6-H7	Haythway Rd	D7	*Manhattan Rd East 2	N9	Reds St	O9	Village St	D2
Amy La	G5	Deer Valley	D2	Hayes Av	B1	*Manhattan Rd East 4	N9	Reeves Rd	A10-C11	Virginia Dr	G6
Andrew Dr	G9	Deerfield La	D7	Heather Rd	D5	*Manhattan Rd West 2	N9	Ridge Dr	H6	Walnut St	G2
Angel Trace	L8-M8	Dogwood La	F10	Hemlock Trail	O10	*Manhattan Rd West 3	N9	Ridgeview Dr	C3, D3	Wapping Wood Rd	A1-C1
Anthony Way	C3-D3	Eagle Dr	A3	High Ridge Rd	F2	Manning Av	G3	River Rd	T9-T10	Webster Rd	K8-K10
Arbor Way	F6	East Cider Mill Rd	H6-J6	Highland Av	F4	Maplewood Dr	E6-G7	Robinson Cir	B2	Wells Rd	D8
*Ardley La	C2	East Porter Rd	K10-L11	Highland Oak Dr	O9-P9	B1	F10	Rockland Dr	D7	Wendell Rd	N10
Azalea La	P9-P10	*East Shore Rd	O9-O10	Hillsdale Dr	B1	*Maria Dr	G7	Rosa Ct	G4	West Rd	F2-F5
				Hillside Dr	F10	McKnight Cir	F2	Rothe La	A2-B2	West Shore Rd	N9-O10
Bancroft Rd	F2	Edgewood Rd	L11	Hilltop Dr	G2	Meadow Brook Rd	E7	Ryan Dr	C5	Westland Rd	C1
Barbara's Way	B1-C1	Egypt Rd	F10	Hilltop Dr Ext	G2	Meagan Cir	D5	Rye Field Rd	B6	Westview Ter	G3
Benjamin Dr	C8-D8	Elderberry La	F11	Hoffman Rd	E8-G10	Middle Butcher Rd	A4	1776 Townhouses	C2	Wheelock Rd	L9
Berr Av	E6	Elizabeth St	G2	Hopkins Rd	O10-O11	Miller La	F3	Sadds Mill Rd	A10-E6	White Rd	O9
Birch View Dr	D10	Ellington Av	G2	*Hotel Lake Rd	N10	Minor Hill Rd	P10	*San Aborn Rd	O10	*Willi La	F11-G10
Blueberry Cir	F11	Ellington Ridge Condos	C2	*Hotel Rd	N10	Monticello Cir	C2-C3	Sandy Beach Rd	N9-R10	Windermere Av	C2-D3
Boulder Ridge Dr	O9-P9	Ellsworth La	C8	Hubbard La	G8	Moser Dr	F2	School House Rd	L10	Windermere Village Rd	D2-E2
Bridge St	F8	Elridge Pl	C3	Hughes Cir	F2	Mountain Rd	F5-H4	*Setting Sun Trail	H5	Windmill Rd	C8-D8
Brittani's Way	B1-C1	Elm St	N10	*Hunter's Run	L8-L9	Mountain St	H4-F3	Settler's Way	B2	*Windsor Walk	C2
Broad Brook Rd	A7	Ertel Dr	F2	Industrial Dr	F8-G8	*Mountainview Cir	D2-E2	Shenipsit St	H3	Windsorville Rd	B2
Brookway Rd	D8	Esther Av	G2			Muddy Brook Rd	C8	Shenipsit Forest Rd	G10-J12	Woodbine St	G2
Bronisz Dr	F4-G4	Eva Cir	C1			Newell Hill Rd	M9	Shepard Way	A10-A12	Woodland Trail	C2
Brook Crossing	D10	Fairview Av	F2			Nile Rd	F10	Skinner Rd	N9,C1	Woodmar Cir	B1-C1
Brookfield Dr	D8	Fairview Av Ext	F3	Jacobs Hill Rd	R10	North Park St	G2	Snipsic Lake Rd	G5	Woodside Dr	F10
Brookmeadow La	A2-B2	Fairway Dr	F3	Joel Dr	E8	Nutmeg Dr	D2	Snipsic Ter	H3		
Buff Cap Rd	Q9		A2	Jolly Rd	F5	Oak Hill Farms Rd	G4-H4	Snipsic View Hgts	H3	Zimmerman Way	B6
Burbank Rd	M8-M10	Farmstead La	N8	Jonathan Dr	A1	Oakwood Cir	F10	Somers Rd	F6-G12	* Private	
		Ferguson Way	C1	Justin Dr	C5-D5	Old Country La	B2	South Rd	N9		
Cantor Knoll	C3-D3	Field Dr	C2	Katherine Way	E2	Old Reeves Rd	A10	Springwood La	F6		
Carolyn Cir	A1	Fieldstone Village	C2	Keeney St	O9	Old Sandy Beach Rd	P9	Sprucewood Dr	E10		
Cedarwood Dr	E10	Flanders La	A2-B2	Kenneth Dr	G9	Olde Farms Rd	D5	Stafford Rd	M8-N10		
Cedar St	N10	Florence Av	F2	Ketchbrook Ct	B2	Orchard St	F2-F3	Standish Rd	B3		
Chapin Av	G3	Foster Rd	G9	Ketchbrook La	A2-B2	Orchard Av	G2-G3	Steeple View Dr	F6		
Charter Rd	F2	Forest Hill Rd	A2	Kibbe La	G8	Overhill Rd	E10	Stein Rd	G4		
Chase Hollow Rd	D2-E2	*Forestview Cir	E2	Kreyssig Rd	A10	Overlook Pass	F11	Stony Brook Trail	L11		
Cherrywood Dr	E10	Francis Av	G2			Patriot Cir	D7	Strawberry Rd	G11		
Chestnut St	G2	Frankie Dr	E9			Pease Farm Rd	F6-G5	Sugar Hill Rd	N8		
Christopher Ct	E2	Frog Hollow Rd	A5	Ladd Rd	Q9	Penfield Av	D1	*Sullivan Rd	N10		
Church St	E6			Lake La	O9	Percheron Way	H4	*Summit Cir	E2		
Cider Mill Rd	G6-J6	Gabriel Dr	L8-M8	Lake St	O9	*Pine Dr	G5	Sunset Rd	F5		
Cider Mill Condos	F7	Gail Dr	G6	Lakeview Av	O9	Pine St	N10	Sweeny St	O9		
Cindy Rd	E8	Gasek Farms Rd	C3	Laurel Rd	F10	Pine Cone Rd	G9	Teaberry Ridge Rd	K8		
Cliff St	G2	Gem Dr	F10	Lee La	D6	Pine Ridge Dr	D8	Timber La	G9		
Cornfield La	F8	Geraldine Dr	D6	Lewis Cir	F2	Pinewood La	F10	Tolland Tpk	S9		
Country Farm La	D5	Geraldine Dr So	F9	Linden Dr	G6	Pinnacle Rd	G5	Tomoka Av	D6		
Courtney Dr	E2-E3	*Grand Blvd	D2-E2	Longview St	G2	Pinney Rd	B2	Tree Top Rd	G9-G10		
Cranberry La	F11	Grant Rd	B1	Lookout Landing	F11	Pinney St	C1-D6	Tripp Rd	A2		
Crane Rd	A5	Grassy Hill Rd	M9-M10	Lord Rd	O8	Pioneer Dr	D7	*Tyler Dr	H2		
Crescent Cir	C1	Green Rd	C8	Lower Butcher Rd	E2	Porter Rd	G9-J10				
Crystal St	O9	Green St	O9	Ludwig Rd	M8-M9	Portland Rd	O9				
Crystal Ball Ct	N10	*Greencycle Dr	A10-B10	Lyons St	F2	*Private Grounds 1	N10				
Crystal Lake Rd	G7-M8	Griswold Rd	B10			*Private Grounds 2	N10				
Crystal Ridge Dr	P8-O9					Punkin Dr	E8				
Clydesdale Cir	G4-H4										

## Health Education

In 2011-2012, North Central District Health Department offered Health Education programs to all residents throughout our Health District. The goal of NCDHD's health education effort is to improve the health conditions and behaviors of each community member through the promotion of healthier lifestyles, education on chronic disease prevention, and support of strong health policies and environmental changes. Our health education programs seek to reduce the incidence of preventable diseases and increase the well-being of the community. As stated by the Center for Disease Control, regular physical activity can improve health and the quality of life of Americans of all ages, regardless of the presence of a chronic disease or disability. In 2011-2012, NCDHD continued to offer an A.C.T.I.V.E. (Activity Class to Improve Vitality In Everyone) Fitness program which included:

- Nine fitness classes held throughout the District and offered to all residents.
- Of these nine classes, three classes were funded through the CT State Department of Health's Preventative Health Block Grant and six classes were self-supporting fitness classes.
- Classes successfully engaged older participants who probably would not consider joining a gym.

The USDA's 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Diet states a strong relation between body weight and health status. Good nutrition is important for all, especially for developing children. Scientific evidence shows a healthful diet also helps Americans reduce their risks for many health conditions, including: overweight and obesity, heart disease, high blood pressure, Type 2 diabetes, and some cancers. Three nutrition classes were offered in the 2011-2012 year for residents 18 years and older residing in our members Towns.

Putting on AIRS (Asthma Indoor Risk Strategies) Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disorder of the airways characterized by episodes of reversible breathing problems due to airway narrowing and obstruction. These episodes can range in severity from mild to life threatening. Daily preventive treatment can prevent symptoms and attacks and enable individuals who have asthma to lead active lives.

- In 2011-2012, NCDHD continued to implement the Putting On Airs (Asthma Indoor Risk Strategies) Program funded by a grant through the State Department of Health.
- NCDHD serves Ellington, Stafford, Vernon and Windham through the State's Region 3.
- The Health Educator and one of our Sanitarians are trained to provide in-home assessments for the Putting On AIRS Program. Presently, referrals are received from the community members, health care providers and the Region 3 coalition upon which in-home visits are then scheduled.

NCDHD renewed its partnership with the American Lung Association and is working to develop tobacco prevention efforts and increase smoking cessation support throughout the District. ALA's newest program, Teens Against Tobacco Use is a teen empowerment program designed to support tobacco free living and provide teens with an opportunity to be a healthy role model for their younger peers. Freedom From Smoking is a smoking cessation program. Both programs are being considered for implementation in towns of highest need in the District.

**The Community Transformation Grant (CTG)** was awarded to six counties in Connecticut. These county-wide grants directly impact four of NCDHD's towns located in Windham and Tolland Counties including Stafford, Windham, Ellington and Vernon. As a result, NCDHD is participating in CTG efforts including coalition building and technical support for the Tolland Prevention Coalition and data collection and report for Windham. The remaining towns in the District indirectly benefit from this funding. CTG Community Assessment framework and data will be merged with NCDHD's Community Assessment to provide a comprehensive report of health needs for each town in the District.

During 2011-2012, the Health Educator supported efforts to conduct a NCDHD Community Health Needs Assessment. The Community Health Assessment will help identify and prioritize the health needs of the District and will guide strategic planning for future health education programs and initiatives.

Supporting public health professionals through workforce development and mentor-ship is an oftentimes unspoken and underestimated responsibility of public health professionals practicing in the field. The Director of Public Health and the Health Educator have met with a total of four undergraduate and graduate students studying in the fields of public health and nutrition to discuss working at a local health department and opportunities in the field. Collectively, these students provided invaluable assistance with creating the framework for NCDHD's 2012 Community Needs Assessment. Three of the graduate students are responsible for the research needed to develop the Needs Assessment report for three of our towns.

## Emergency Preparedness/Bioterrorism

Over the course of the past year, the District Emergency Preparedness Coordinator (EPC) has worked with Ellington's Emergency Management Director to develop a great working relationship. During the October 2011 Storm Alfred, NCDHD was in contact daily, exchanging information and determining needs. Since September 2011, the EPC has been diligently reviewing and revising the Mass Dispensing Plan to ensure Ellington residents effectively and efficiently receive the proper medicine in the event of a pandemic or terrorist attack. Our EPC has attended and will continue to attend the Ellington Advisory meetings and provide input as requested. A recent redirection of resources has resulted in increase funding for the EPC which will assist us in providing better service and response to the public health emergency preparedness needs of the Town of Ellington.



We will be changing the Health District's volunteer pool to a Medical Reserve Corp. (MRC) organization. This will take some time and a lot of effort but will provide the residents of Ellington with a better trained and effective emergency resource as well as an avenue for community involvement.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ACTIVITY**

A review of the environmental services activity report for 2011-2012 indicates that the economic downturn still affects the housing industry. While construction activities have slowed, as has been the case historically, Ellington is still one of the busiest towns in the District for septic system construction. The one area that showed a significant downturn was testing of new lots and new proposed subdivision.

**On-Site Sewage Disposal:** The Health Department conducted nine soil tests for new or repair septic systems. We issued 28 septic system construction permits and conducted approximately 90 inspections. Seventeen new well permits were issued. Some of the permits were for geo-thermal wells used to reduce energy cost to heat and cool buildings. The District conducted a sanitary survey of septic systems in the Crystal Lake area.

We worked with the WPCA and the Town Engineer to promote the expansion of the public sewer system along Stafford Road and Sandy Beach Road. Eighty-nine building additions/change of use projects were reviewed where the house is serviced by an on-site sewage disposal septic system and/or a private water supply well.

**Salons:** The Health District has enacted Barber Shop, Beauty Salon and Nail Salon Regulations pursuant to state statutes to license and inspect these salon facilities. All new facility plans are reviewed by staff. A state licensed cosmetologist subcontractor does most yearly inspections for sanitation and infection prevention but the health department is involved in initial inspections and reinspection. The department has translated the Sanitary Code regulations into Korean, Vietnamese and Mandarin languages to assist new operators of nail and/or beauty salons. In Ellington, ten salons were inspected and licensed this year.

**Food Service:** One of our main functions in Ellington is the licensing and inspection of food service facilities providing protection against food borne illness to the public. Forty-one facilities plus five public schools were licensed during this period with 111 inspections conducted. Eight plans were submitted for review and related inspections were conducted for new food service facilities. In addition to inspection of restaurants, the Department inspects cafes, bakeries, cafeterias, food vendors at fairs and carnivals, itinerant food vendors, shellfish vendors, grocery stores, food facilities in rest homes and convalescent homes and some non-profit organizations where food or beverages are offered or sold to the public. The Health Department also inspects cafeterias and eating facilities in the public and private school systems.

We have received 31 temporary event permit applications, each of which is evaluated by a staff inspector. Depending on the complexity of the proposed food service, our department will inspect evening and weekend events as needed such as the Ellington Fire Department Carnival; Valley Truck Event 2011; and the Ellington Farmers' Market.

The Health District is responsible for conducting follow-up interviews and on some occasions, follow-up inspections related to possible food borne illness. The food borne alerts form (for single cases) and the enteric disease interview form (for confirmed cases) are both confidential and are submitted to the State Health Department for review. In addition to routine food service inspections, well water supply reviews for food service and other related food service inspections, we respond to and investigate food related complaints and possible food borne illness reports received by the department. The department also responds to, and provides follow-up to, certain food recalls.

**Public Swimming Pools:** Section 19-13-B33b of the CT Public Health Code requires the inspection of public swimming pools and whirlpools at hotels, apartments and condominium complexes as well as public pools at schools or parks. The pools are checked for chlorine content, safety equipment and the operation of the pool filtration system. This year, six public swimming pools were inspected and licensed.

**Day Care Centers:** Day care centers are inspected once every two years at the request of the State Health Department to review environmental health and safety issues related to the building and grounds. Additionally, day care centers that serve meals are inspected approximately twice a year. The Department reviews food handling, water, sewer and the general physical condition of the facility, including the presence of lead painted surfaces and soils if the building predates 1978 construction. NCDHD inspects six day care facilities for annual safety and environmental health issues.

**Lead:** With new regulations in effect requiring all children under the age of six years have their blood tested for lead. This regulation lowered the action level of the blood's lead level where the local health department must start an epidemiological investigation and conduct follow-up inspections of the possible source of the lead poisoning. 251 blood tests for lead were reported to the State Health Department. Of those, only two cases were referred to the District for follow-up. These two cases were below the blood lead level of 20 mg/dL at which household lead abatement is required. It is hoped by following up on children with lower blood lead levels will prevent lead poisoning and the associated long term health effects. Also, by following up on these children early, the cost of lead remediation in the home can be greatly reduced.

**Complaints:** The District inspects complaints related to housing, trash, rodents and insects, sewage and water quality, and the food service industry (restaurants, etc.). This year, 40 complaints were received, more than any other year on record. There were 24 housing complaints - a sign of the economic times since property owners are finding it more difficult to keep up with property maintenance. There were also three trash complaints; five rodent/insect complaints; three sewage complaints and two complaints regarding water quality. The water quality (bacteria levels) at the Town beach on Crystal Lake is monitored by our Department. Water samples taken at the beach are sent to the State Health Department Laboratory for testing. The water

samples again tested satisfactory for swimming last summer and up to this point in this current year.

The inspections and investigations follows. It should be noted that raw numbers are no indication of time spent or the relative complexity of inspections; therefore a comparison is only possible in the most general sense.

#### Year End Report - 2011-2012

\* The State's new Lead Monitoring website allows the District to monitor lead related activities and children's blood lead test results.

	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Soil Tests (Total)	21	13	9
New	11	2	3
Repair	10	11	6
Septic Permits			
New	23	13	14
Repair	14	19	14
Septic Inspections	125	106	90
Well Permits	27	17	17
Additions Reviews (on well/septic)	129	75	89
Plans Reviewed			
Subdivisions	15	6	1
(Total Lots)			
New Plot Plans	43	21	23
Repairs	17	21	18
Wells Only	9	4	7
Well Water Test	23	7	8
Reviews			
Permits to Dis-charge	33	17	15
Food Licenses Issued	34	36	41
Temp. Food Permits	30	27	31
Food Service Inspections	61	63	111
Plans Reviewed for Food	1	4	8
Food Orders Issued	1	4	5
Complaints (Total)	26	28	40
Garbage & Refuse	3	3	3
Housing	9	10	24
Rodents & Insects	2	3	5
Sewage Overflow	3	3	3
Water Quality	1	1	2
Food Complaints	5	3	1
Miscellaneous	3	5	1
Complaint Orders Sent	2	2	6
Illness Investigation			1
Swimming Pool Inspect.	3	6	6
Day Care Inspections	3	4	5
Blood Lead Level Case Reviews	0-10 ug/dL - 1 10-19 ug/dL - 0 20+ ug/dL - 0	0-10 ug/dL - 1* 10-19 ug/dL - 0 20+ ug/dL - 0	0-10 ug/dL - 249* 10-14 ug/dL - 1 15-19 ug/dL - 1 20+ ug/dL - 0
Barber Shops, Hair & Nail Salons	8	9	10

## HOCKANUM VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL, INC. (HVCC)

Hockanum Valley Community Council, Inc. is an independent non-profit human service agency. It is dedicated to meeting the needs of residents of the Tolland County Area. HVCC provides services to individuals and/or families in a manner which will promote independence while assuring that basic needs are met regardless of ability to pay.

**GOOD CENTS TREASURES:** For the past six years, Good Cents has had an enriching and beneficial partnership with the Rockville High School work experience program. The students who have completed a work experience at Good Cents have benefited from the nurturing and supportive environment. They are exposed to various job skills and more importantly an opportunity to work on appropriate social skills at the workplace. Good Cents continues to receive donations from a very generous community, which allows us to continue to provide low cost clothing and household needs for low-income families. We also offer clothing vouchers for people who are without funds. The small surplus generated by the store helps to fund the much-needed programs at HVCC. We have a wonderful team of employees and volunteers at Good Cents.

**TRANSPORTATION:** The Dial-a-Ride program has provided over 30,650 rides to area residents during FY 2011/2012 covering over 154,511 miles The Dial-a-Ride program in Ellington, Tolland and Vernon started collecting \$2.00 donation each way per ride. We have taken on a courier service, and now have 4 full time courier routes contracted through Eastern CT Health Network. Our couriers transport medical specimens to and from local doctors' offices and hospitals.

**COUNSELING SERVICES:** HVCC's counseling department is a licensed outpatient clinic serving area residents experiencing emotional, behavioral and/or substance abuse issues. Services available are individual, group, and family therapy, couples counseling, and medication management. HVCC's counseling services has been very busy over the past year. The clinic has added additional hours per week of staffing hours due to the increased need. From July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011, the clinic had acknowledged 14,418 appointments (this includes all services). From July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012, the clinic has acknowledged 14,854 appointments (this includes all services). HVCC has increased the number of Family Violence Education Program (FVEP) groups per year. The Parenting Education Program (PEP) also has increased the number of cycles and the number of participants. HVCC has a HIV/AIDS Prevention program funded by the Department of Public Health, and prevention staff has seen over 100 clients. ASIST program was added this year.

**CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES:** In July 2012, HVCC initiated case management services – a natural outgrowth following continual requests from clients trying to solve basic need problems beyond the scope of services provided by our Behavioral Health Outpatient Clinic and our Food Pantry. Clients who sought us out tended to be facing problems causing serious instability in their lives. Difficulty finding work, eviction or foreclosure, shortage of food, inability to

pay rent or utilities, loss of health insurance and unreliable transportation were the most common problems they were struggling to overcome.

Implementing the LAST model (Link, Advocate, Support and Teach), each client was teamed with a resource knowledgeable case manager. Together, they developed goals and objectives that gave the client a structure from which to operate. The Case Manager acted as guide, mentor and advocate as clients were encouraged to carry out the tasks associated with their personal plan.

One case manager assessed the first-year program this way, "Income was increased due to careful economic strategizing. Resumes were built from scratch or polished resulting in increased earning power. Employment was secured by efforts taken from the meetings, or after linking to employment specialists. Persons acquired health insurance or optimized their existing plan following benefits counseling. Countless persons have been linked to varying services to pinpoint specific needs like clothes, transportation, baby items, furniture and house wares. Evictions and foreclosures were averted at the zero hour. Supplemental food was provided to thousands at our Pantry and connections were made to much needed mental health and substance abuse counseling. In each case, unique needs of the consumer were considered."

This program was described by an agency funder as one for which other agencies could use as a model.

Since July 1, 2011, 491 unduplicated clients were seen, well over the 300 estimated. Gender makeup was about even, 43% male, 57% female. With respect to age, the majority, 81%, were ranged from 25-59 years, 15% were over age 60, with the smallest group 4% falling between the ages of 15-24. Incomes for all were less than 200% of the poverty level, i.e., \$1,862 a month or \$22,340 a year.

**FOOD PANTRY:** The Food Pantry is an emergency food source for Vernon, Tolland and Ellington. It's a free service. Our primary focus is providing nutritious food items along with opportunities to access additional internal and external social services.

The Pantry is supported by acquisitions from Foodshare, the regional food distributor, and donations of food and services received throughout the year from Vernon schools, local businesses, area churches and individuals. The numbers of individuals and families in need of our service continues to grow; 5,617 individuals were registered for food in 2011/2012. On average, 575 bags of food were distributed a month. Families consisted of 433 seniors, 2,479 adults and 2,705 children. During the 2011 holiday season, over 1,560 food baskets and/or gifts were distributed.

In addition to food from the Pantry, clients could take advantage of the following workshops and services:

- Shuttle Service to and from the Pantry
- Haircuts
- Pet Vouchers for free spaying or neutering
- On site representative from East Hartford Comm. Healthcare (access Health, Dental care)
- Seventy-five school-aged children received backpacks filled with school supplies.

HVCC has over 50 dedicated volunteers working for the pantry. While some are visible, others work behind the scene on special projects picking up food from local grocery stores or dropping off food to our homebound seniors. If it were not for our volunteers, we wouldn't be able to provide the services we do. We appreciate their dedication to our clients and agency.

Pantry Hours: Mon 9-12; Tuesday 10-1; 5-7; Wed. 9-1; 4-6; Thurs. 9-1; Fri 9-12

Counseling Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-9; Fri 9-12

Good Cents Treasures: Mon-Sat 10-5; Closed Sundays

Administration: 860-872-7727 Elder Services: 860-872-9825

Counseling: 860-872-9825 Good Cents Treasures: 860-871-1959

## VISITING NURSE & HEALTH SERVICES OF CONNECTICUT, INC. (VNHSC)

VNHSC offers home health, hospice and wellness services to residents of twenty-five communities in Eastern and North Central CT. VNHSC is part of the continuum of care that communities depend on to provide services to their elderly, frail and disabled residents.

Agency Services:

- **Home Health:** Skilled Nursing; Physical Therapy; Occupational Therapy; Speech Therapy; Medical Social Work; Home Health Aide.
- **Medicare Certified Hospice:** Routine Hospice Home Care; Inpatient Hospice Care; Respite Hospice Care; Continuous Hospice Care; Hospice Volunteers; Pastoral Care; Bereavement Services.
- **Specialty Services:** Alzheimer Support Groups; Cardiac Rehabilitation; Diabetic Nursing; Enterostomal Therapy; Intravenous Therapy Services; Nutritional Counseling; Ostomy Support Group; Palliative Care; Psychiatric Nursing; Rehabilitation Nursing; Stroke Support Groups; Tele-Health Monitoring.
- **Wellness Services:** Corporate Wellness; Elder Wellness; Flu Immunization; Lifeline; Meals-On-Wheels
- **A Caring Hand, LLC:** Companions, Home Care Aides, Homemakers; Live-Ins; Personal Care Attendants.
- **Assisted Living Service Agency**

VNCC Services Provided	Home Health Care Visits	Hospice Visits
Skilled Nursing	2,657	270
Physical Therapy	1,016	0
Occupational Therapy	313	0
Speech Therapy	76	0
Chaplin	0	0
Medical Social Work	78	27
Home Health Visits	1,931	297
<b>Total Visits</b>	<b>6,071</b>	<b>594</b>

Meals on Wheels	1,510 (Two Meal Packets)
Elder Wellness Programs	170 (Residents)
Flue Vaccine Program	106 (Residents)

## TRI-TOWN SHELTER

Our mission is to provide safe and supportive emergency shelter for the displaced, along with the services needed for them to move towards increased self-sufficiency.

Tri-Town Shelter Services, Inc. provides emergency shelter for fifteen residents, either individuals or families and is staffed twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. During the past year we provided shelter for 253 clients. Of these, 106/42% were un-duplicates. The trend of serving clients who are more educated, fall within a higher age bracket, have been in the workforce longer, have more marketable skills, and have been on public assistance less often, continues. We have also noticed that more clients have come from stable housing, but due to the inability to make their rents, they have been displaced. Of the un-duplicated clients 71/69% were White, 30/28% Black, and 5/5% Hispanic. On an average day, 43% of clients have substance abuse histories and are in recovery support services and 55% have mental health challenges for which they receive local provider services. We have noticed a gradual change in those struggling with substance abuse and mental health challenges. Previously, the higher percentage was on the substance abuse side, whereas lately, it is on the mental health side. These conditions, along with the contributing factors resulting in their homelessness, mitigate against their ability to function according to their potential. We have noticed a significant increase in the demand for services by families too large to accommodate due to space and/or facility configuration limitations. This year we had 4,774 bed - nights occupied with a 87% average monthly utilization. We also provided referral services to 2,173 callers, an average of 181 calls per month.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

During the intake process with a resident, the contributing factors resulting in their homelessness are identified and addressed through intentional and directive case management, along with collaboration with other local and area service providers. Individualized Service Plans are created and residents meet weekly with the Service Coordinator to ensure that they are complying with program rules and their ISP's. By addressing these contributing factors and adopting an empowerment model i.e., Empathetic Care + Encouragement + Effective Life Coaching + Education + Equipping, we decrease recidivism and increase a residents self-resiliency, self-regulation, and self-determination. Staff model and mentor residents in the development of the adult life skills needed to overcome their unique challenges and thereby break the self-sabotaging cycle of dysfunction. During the intake process, residents are assessed to determine their eligibility for legitimate support services and their follow-through becomes an integral part their Individualized Service Plans. Program We help our residents navigate through the oftentimes complex landscape of the service delivery systems that are available. Together we examine the eligibility requirements, obtain applications, help them fill these out, along with the necessary support documentation, submit them, and ensure that they follow-through. This entire process requires numerous adult life skills, not the least of which are: planning, being organized, self-determination, self-resiliency, being proactive rather than reactive, detail-oriented, focused, purposeful,

and thorough. In our multi-purpose room we coordinate case review meetings with the other service providers that are involved in our residents lives. This is done with the intent of minimizing redundancy and maximizing effectiveness. Residents also have access to educational and informational materials here. The multi-purpose room also houses our computer lab. Each of the computers are internet capable and residents can job search and receive one-on-one computer instruction thanks to local volunteers. The multi-purpose room also has numerous assessment instruments, curriculum, and the Dept. of Health and Human Services TAP & TIP Series, as well as Addiction and Prevention materials relevant to the population we serve. Through internal and external sources, we offer workgroups on a wide range of pertinent topics, inclusive of Adult Daily Life Skills and Job Readiness and Retention. In an effort to ensure that our services are resident-centered, we get their feedback via a Client Satisfaction Survey. This gives the residents an opportunity to evaluate us and to make suggestions on how we can improve our support and services. Thanks to Rockville General Hospital, we have a locally reliable lab to provide drug testing when needed in order to maintain a zero tolerance for substance use. River East provides our residents with an assortment of services ranging from assessment, individual therapy, group sessions, and psychiatric and clinical supports. The Cornerstone Foundation provides a community kitchen and clothing bank that they frequent often.

The Perception Program provides a team of trained staff to conduct in-house workgroups, along with free and confidential HIV / AIDS testing and private counseling and referral services. The parishes and churches represented by the Greater Rockville Clergy Council have provided us with countless practical forms of help. There are numerous local venues that offer 12-Step meetings and Tri -Town Shelter now has a weekly, closed in-house 12-Step meeting that is facilitated by a former client who is pursuing his Licensed Alcohol and Drug Addiction Counseling Certification. There are occasions when we need the assistance of the Vernon Police Department and we are fortunate that they have been so responsive. Over the years we have established an excellent working relationship with them. Finally, we maintain an ever expanding database of local and area providers that we can access.

Thank you for your continued financial support and, on a more personal note, I would be delighted to give your readers a tour of our facility. On behalf of our board of directors, staff, and the residents entrusted to our care, thank you for your valued support

## YOUTH SERVICES

As a department of Ellington Human Services, Youth Services mission is to provide programs and services, while building relationships which bond youth in a positive way to their families, schools, peers and community. The staff of Youth Services supports and assists children from birth to 18 years old through their life transitions. Youth Services provides programs that strengthen and develop life skills needed to succeed in the many challenges facing the youth of today. The staff of youth services consists of a full-time director, a part-time youth worker, prevention coordinator and volunteers.



## HIGHLIGHTS:

Youth Services provides a wide range of programs in areas of community services activities, after-school programs, mental health services (individual, family and group), and volunteerism. For the 2011-2012 year, Youth Services and the Ad Hoc Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture (DPYC) had a total of approximately 5,000 children and their families participate in the following programs including assemblies, in school, afterschool programs and other events:

**Counseling:** A family therapist is employed by the Town to provide sliding fee scale counseling services to the youth (under the age of 18) and their families. Referrals and advocacy are also provided. All services are confidential and evening hours are available by appointment. Throughout the year, 43 children and families were provided this service.

**In-School programs:** Youth Services worked in 27 classrooms and taught approximately 675 students from K-4.

Here is a sample:

- **Querks and Bucket Fillers:** A six week in-school program for Kindergarten and 1st graders which teaches the students social skills and self-esteem. Over the summer we ran a girl power camp.
- **Team Builders: Conflict Resolution for 2nd graders.** A six week in-school program for 2nd grade which teaches recognizing and appropriate ways of dealing with emotions and anger.
- **Peacemakers: 3rd Graders;** The main goal is to develop an understanding on how actions affect ourselves and others, coping with feelings and learning to set goals.
- **All Star Communications: 4th Graders;** a six week program with the main goal to increase positive peer relationships, teach and reinforce the use of conflict resolution skills and recognize and cope with feelings.
- **1-2-3, I am me:** for pre-K to 3rd Graders.
- **Rachel's Challenge:** Youth Services partnered with Windermere Intermediate School to present a parent workshop on bullying.
- **Safety Town;** A summer program for children beginning Kindergarten which expands the child's knowledge of safety as it relates to fire prevention, personal safety, bus and car safety, stranger awareness and playground safety.
- **Homework Club:** We ran seven homework clubs this year. This year for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders, we had 27 students with 33 high school tutors (working at various clubs). For 1<sup>st</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup> grade clubs we had total of 104 students with 13 middle school volunteers (at the various clubs).

The Ellington Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture (DPYC), formerly called the Ellington Drug Abuse Prevention Council (DAPC) is a long standing group that has been

coordinating prevention services for the youth of Ellington for fifteen years. The newly named group's mission is to create and sustain a positive youth culture for Ellington's youth through collaboration among the community, schools and Town agencies. Membership includes key stakeholders in the community, including Ellington Youth Services, Ellington Human Services, Ellington Public Schools, and Ellington Recreation Department, Resident State Troopers and student and parent representatives. The DPYC continues to manage a five-year \$325,000 grant called Partnership for Success (PFS), to be used for the prevention of underage drinking in Ellington. Two subgroups continue to bring awareness and education to both the student and adult community.

**The Parent Connection** is a group formed in February 2007 of concerned parents interested in bringing awareness and information to the community of the danger of underage drinking. The group published a quarterly newsletter and mailed it to parents of middle school and high school students.

**Rise Above** is a group of Ellington High School students with a mission of being role models and encouraging those students around them to make positive choices continued in its fifth year with over a 100 members. They continued to be a presence and encourage alternate forms of recreation besides drinking. The group met monthly throughout the school year. A Core Group of 10 members served as the executive board for the group.

Activities included: A High School Dodge Ball Tournament and a middle school Dodge Ball Tournament which included outreach to students with the theme "Dream Big." The group also hosted, billiards night, bowling night, middle school movie night and game night. In addition, Rise Above members performed community service by helping out at the Recreation Department's Fall Festival, and developed and implemented the Kid's Fair at Brookside Park in May. In the spring, the DPYC sponsored Project Prom 2012 at Ellington High School. Five students made up a committee that planned out the week before the prom (May 14-18) with a theme each day. It began with a slogan contest in early spring and the prize was 2 free prom tickets. The slogan, "Red Solo Cup, Don't Fill Me Up" was the winner and a banner was made to display it at the school.

The week focused on safety and included a wrist band giveaway, a "Did you Know" day, a Black Out Day (wear black) to support anyone affected by alcohol, a visit from the CT State Police with several simulators and ending the week with a cookie giveaway with the slogan on the outside of the bag.

The DPYC also funded a fall assembly at the middle school and High School, transportation and registration fee to student leadership conferences, literacy and leadership programs, and other activities for high school and middle school students.

## ELDERLY OUTREACH/ MUNICIPAL AGENT

The Elderly Outreach Social Worker (EOSW)/Municipal Agent serves as a resource of information to elderly Town residents for details on programs, services and agencies that enable the elder to remain independent in their home environment. The EOSW can assist elders in learning of local housing options or short/long term care services as needed. The EOSW serves as an advocate for Ellington elders and their families to provide information and counseling on service options/interventions and educational information.

### Services:

- Home visits and individual needs assessments for programs and services. Collaboration with local visiting nurse agencies to coordinate in-home care services to benefit the elder.
- Assisted the Emergency Management Team with the Fall 2011 shelter care and home visits to check on home-bound elders
- Make appropriate referrals and provided follow-up contact/case management on an as-needed basis
- Assists clients and/or family in completing applications for various programs and services including, but not limited to Medicare and supplemental health insurance, emergency call systems like Lifeline, the Medicare Savings Program, Medicaid/Title 19, USDA SNAP (food stamp) benefit, Veteran's Health Services, CT National Family Caregiver Support Grant, the CT Home Care Program for Elders, Alzheimer's Respite Grant, the Geri-psychiatric Day treatment program, visiting nurse services, adult day care, housing applications, legal aid services, and information on funeral and burial service options
- Works with the Protective Services for the Elderly Program to assist elders and/or family members who have concerns or issues of neglect, abuse or fraud.
- Works with the Tax Assessor's office on the State of CT Office of Policy and Management tax credit programs for elderly homeowners and eligible veterans; assist elderly and disabled renters with the State of CT Office of Policy and Management Renters Rebate program applications
- Works with the Ellington Senior Center to provide informational programs and clinics to the senior public.
- Assist eligible seniors in applying to the ACCESS Energy assistance program and for additional heating assistance benefits with Operation Fuel and the Citizens Oil program
- Coordinator of the Ellington TRIAD Senior Safety program which this year provided public programs attended by 302 Ellington residents on such topic as: Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage plans; the Everbridge Emergency Notification system; Cardiac Disease Management; home medical equipment; the CT Home Care Program for Elders; Annual senior flu shot clinic; and emergency shelter information
- Co-facilitator of monthly Parkinson's Disease support group

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Hosted annual "April is Parkinson's Awareness" month attended by 47 individuals and had local neurologist for presenter.
- Deliver monthly food bank items to 11 homebound Ellington residents; and discussed SNAP/food stamp issues with 46 callers
- Reviewed housing options with 101 callers
- Addressed 57 inquiries regarding the Elderly, Totally Disabled, and Additional Veteran's tax relief program
- Replied to 124 calls about the Medicare Savings program; 47 calls about Medicare Advantage plans; 71 calls regarding Medicare Part D prescription drug benefits; and 10 calls about pharmaceutical discount prescription program eligibility
- Advised 25 callers on programs and services to assist those with Alzheimer's Disease/dementia; 36 calls on nursing home issues; and 118 calls on in-home care options. Provided information to 25 contacts regarding the CT Home Care Program for Elders
- Reviewed program eligibility and application process with 168 callers on energy assistance issues and 25 contact about weatherization programs
- Conducted 373 home visits with Ellington residents to address in-person their questions/concerns and assist with applications for various programs of benefit to them
- Met with 280 persons in office to review and counsel them on matters/service questions and make referrals to appropriate program.

Month	Calls	Office	Corresp.	Home Visit
July	147	20	45	27
August	166	28	64	24
September	101	12	23	8
October	200	33	60	26
November	110	20	32	43
December	159	14	13	66
January	159	13	39	32
February	185	30	83	26
March	134	33	85	22
April	147	29	44	25
May	174	34	64	43
June	110	14	36	31
Total	1,792	280	588	373

## ELLINGTON SENIOR CENTER

The Ellington Senior Center offers programs and activities that enhance the physiological well-being for individuals age 60 years and older. Activities are offered in health and wellness, along with transportation services that help support socialization among peers and promote a healthier life style.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The referendum passed on February 14, 2012 when voters approved to build a 10,600- square-foot building for a new Senior Center! The new building will be located at 40 Maple Street, across from the High School. The five acres of property was donated to the Town by Tom Savage.
- The Lawrence Associates Architects/Planners P.C. was awarded the contract to complete preliminary design of a conceptual drawing for the proposed new building. After the referendum passed, the Town hired the architectural firm to proceed with its design. The Town plans to go out to bid for construction by late summer and to break ground in the fall.
- The Senior Center Steering Committee members, Wayne Reynolds, Chairman; Sue Hannigan, Vice-Chairman; Tom Dzicek, Morris Webber, Amelia Kurpat and M. Estelle Williamson endlessly volunteered their time to communicate to the public the need for a new Senior Center through the "Supporting Senior Life" campaign. They produced power point presentations, publications and organized a fundraising event. Under the direction of Stuart Magdefrau, a golf tournament was held on October 3, 2011 with Chris Dailey serving as the Honorary Chairperson. This fundraising event raised over \$50,000 with proceeds to benefit the Senior Center Building Fund. We appreciate all their diligent work and endless hours of volunteer time!
- In April 2012, at the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Senior Center opening, we honored our wonderful dedicated volunteers. A special dedication ceremony was held to honor the 20 original volunteers who have remained active since 1997. We are extremely fortunate and grateful to all volunteers for their continued support!
- The Town was awarded a \$4,000 grant for medical transportation services by the North Central Area Agency on Aging that is funded in part by the Older American's Act.

**STAFFING:** The Senior Center is staffed by a full-time Director, part-time Assistant to the Director, two part-time Drivers and two part-time Transportation Secretaries. In addition, we have over 35 Volunteers who help with special programs and assist with receptionist duties.

### SOCIAL/HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAMS:

Exercise classes, tai-chi, line dancing, social ballroom dancing, monthly socials, musical insights, chess classes, craft and art classes are some of the programs offered. Two programs were held by volunteers, Frank Hann and Wilhelm Frederich. Mr. Hann held monthly men's discussion groups and Mr. Frederich offered classes

to learn German. "Lunch & Learn" programs that combine informative programs with lunch are offered monthly. Bi-monthly blood pressure clinics and diabetic screenings are contracted with the Visiting Nurse & Health Services of CT. A monthly podiatry clinic is held the first Wednesday of the month by a registered nurse. The Elderly Outreach Social Worker provides the Senior Center with TRIAD events, an annual flu shot clinic, health, legal and financial programs and monthly Parkinson's Support Group meetings.

**TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM:** The Senior Center has offered transportation services since 2001 for social activities, shopping, and social outings. Medical (non-emergency) transportation is provided through EMATS, Ellington Medical Appointments Transportation program.

**VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:** Volunteers of all ages are always welcome to share their talents with us. Whether it be filling in as our receptionist or offering their knowledge with various programs. Currently, we have 35 volunteers who are active in programs and fundraising events.

**FUNDRAISERS:** Volunteers assist in helping raise funds! The Senior Center Holiday Bazaar is an annual fundraiser that takes place on the first Saturday in November. This is a great start to your holiday shopping with purchases of hand-made items made by the crafters.

**COMPUTER SOFTWARE PROGRAM:** The Senior Center uses the software program, MySeniorCenter, which is used to maintain statistical information for social programs and transportation services.

**SENIOR CITIZENS ENDOWMENT FUND:** The Town established the Senior Citizens Endowment Fund in 2005, this is an interest bearing account for donations and designated fundraisers. The funds in this account can be utilized for a new building and for the awarding of two scholarships annually to High School seniors pursuing a career in human services. Endowment Committee members are Carolyn Cook, June Lyons and William Enes.

The Senior Center is located at 16 Church Street.

Regular hours of operation are

Monday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.,

Tuesday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.;

Friday 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For inquiries please call 860-870-3133.

For Transportation Services please call the transit line at 860-870-3137 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

For information on programs and services, see our monthly newsletter and calendar available by the first of each month. Copies can be obtained at the Senior Center or online at

[www.ellington-ct.gov](http://www.ellington-ct.gov)

# Ellington Public Schools



(Ellington Middle School's December food drive to benefit Crystal Lake Food Pantry)

During the 2011-12 school year, the district continued the work of aligning our curriculum with the newly adopted Common Core State Standards. Elementary report cards were completely revised and new grade level expectations developed. The middle school staff participated in professional development sessions and book studies to lay the foundation for movement to a standards-based report card.

In 2008, Ellington became a member of the National Affiliate Network of the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project. Through this affiliation, two staff developers worked with teachers at grades K-4 for a total of 15 days of professional development and coaching over the 2011-12 school year. This year, we completed the fifth year of full implementation of reading workshop in grades 5 and 6, the second year of full implementation for grades K-4, and continued work on expanding the workshop model to the middle school with a new staff developer working across grades 5-8. A significant focus of the professional development this year was on writing workshop. At the middle school, teachers participated in a study group on assessment and grading practices in a differentiated classroom. Teachers at the High School continued to revise curriculum documents in preparation for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) review.

To support implementation of these initiatives, many professional development opportunities for staff members were offered. During the fall professional development series, more than 200 certified staff members participated in 22 courses, focused on effective grading practices, developing student success plans, supporting students with IEPs in the general classroom, Responsive Classroom, curriculum development, differentiated instruction, and technology literacy. Approximately 18 teachers and administrators supported our professional development initiatives by presenting workshops or facilitating professional study groups or curriculum development work with their colleagues. At the end

of the school year, the district began training all staff members mandated by state statute, using a Department of Children and Families module on Child Abuse and Mandated Reporters. Inservices for administrators and selected staff were also offered on bullying and the new CT bullying regulations. Twenty-two teachers and administrators who were new to the district received training in Data-Driven Decision Making/Data Teams. Study groups for special education teachers provided ongoing opportunities for special services staff members to learn and to share best practices, including new learning about phonemic awareness, social awareness, autism, communication systems for students and new special education regulations.

Ellington High School teachers continued work on differentiated instruction with the support of an on-site technical advisor. A grant of \$195,000 to the Connecticut Academy and its partners, Ellington, Windsor and Windsor Locks, provided funds to support professional development, curriculum development and the development of common assessments. Teachers from Windermere Intermediate School participated in *American Voices*, a Teaching American History grant sponsored by the U.S. Depart. of Education.

In an effort to increase special education student achievement, the special services department continued to review student individual education plans, working with parents to help ensure that goals and objectives were aligned when appropriate with the district's curriculum standards. In this way, parents, special and regular education teachers shared a common and collaborative understanding of each student's performance levels, and were able to better measure and understand student learning and meet special education needs.

Standardized testing such as the CT Mastery Test (CMT), CT Academic Performance Test (CAPT), Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and Advanced Placement Examinations (AP), are important, even if they represent only a small portion of the totality of student achievement measures.

On the CT Mastery Test, the state assessment for grades three through eight, Ellington students consistently score close to or above 90% proficient. In the 2012 administration of the CMT the following percentage of students scored at or above proficient:

- Grade 3 Math 95.0%; Reading 84.3%; Writing 91.7%
- Grade 4 Math 96.1%; Reading 92.9%; Writing 91.9%
- Grade 5 Math 99.0%; Reading 94.5%; Writing 97.6%; Science 93.4%
- Grade 6 Math 97.5%; Reading 96.5%; Writing 96.5%
- Grade 7 Math 96.0%; Reading 95.9%; Writing 93.8%
- Grade 8 Math 97.9%; Reading 94.1%; Writing 94.7%; Science 91.0%

On the CT Mastery Test, Ellington students consistently score at the higher goal level as well. In the 2011 administration of the CMT the following percentage of students scored at or above goal:



- Grade 3 Math 82.2%; Reading 73.2%; Writing 74.1%
- Grade 4 Math 79.5%; Reading 81.7%; Writing 81.8%
- Grade 5 Math 92.0%; Reading 85.9%; Writing 84.4%; Science 79.1%
- Grade 6 Math 92.4%; Reading 90.4%; Writing 83.1%
- Grade 7 Math 82.1%; Reading 90.0%; Writing 81.3%
- Grade 8 Math 82.9%; Reading 85.5%; Writing 79.8%; Science 79.4

Ellington High School students continue to do very well on the CT Academic Performance Test, the statewide high school assessment. The 2011 CAPT results show strong performance in all four areas: reading, writing, math and science.

- In Reading, 89.7% at or above proficiency; 57.2% at or above goal
- In Writing, 93.9% at or above proficiency; 74.0% at or above goal
- In Math, 88.8% at or above proficiency; 58.2% at or above goal
- In Science, 90.4% at or above proficiency; 53.5% at or above goal

Last year, 55 EHS students took 78 advanced placement exams in Calculus AB, Calculus BC, chemistry, English literature, U.S. History, music theory, civics, Computer Science A, physics electrical, physics mechanical and Spanish. Ninety-five percent of the students scored 3 or better. Two students were named AP scholars for taking 3 or more exams and scoring a 3 or better on each. Two AP Scholar with Distinction were identified from the class of 2012. These students received an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams

Annual results of the SAT show that Ellington students continue to score above the state. A review of the SAT scores results in the following comparison:

	EHS	CT
Critical Reading	521	508
Mathematics	527	503
Writing	531	506

## ONGOING K-8 PROGRAMS

- The special services department continued its collaborative relationship with the town's social services department by developing a collaborative and innovative preschool extended-year summer program drawing on typical students from Safety Town to join the preschool special education students for a mutually enhanced social and academic learning experience while attending extended summer school.
- The foundation for the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is Center School's *Kind Kids Count* program which recognizes about 55 children monthly for highlighted character traits such as honesty and responsibility. Center

School's goal is to help all children experience academic, social and emotional growth during each of their school years. Next year we will begin the first full year implementation of PBIS. The purpose of PBIS is to establish and maintain a safe and effective school environment that maximizes academic achievement and the behavioral competence of all students. PBIS encourages students to form positive relationships with each other and with adults. Through the PBIS approach, Center School has created positively stated expectations for all students and staff. A matrix of behavior expectations will be taught to all students for all school settings. Throughout the school, a set of common expectations and common language will support the students' successes. This year the students met their cougar mascot and named him Rocky. Rocky will now serve to encourage students to make "PAWS-itive" choices through a simple recognition system. There is a continuum of procedures for encouraging the demonstration of "PAWS-itive" choices and procedures for discouraging negative behaviors.

- Windermere's School- Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SW-PBIS) began its first year of full-implementation at the elementary level while the intermediate school began its year of training in preparation for implementation the following year. The elementary school saw tremendous gains from the program which featured students earning positive tickets, classrooms earning "Whale Done Notes," and periodic school-wide celebrations when ticket goals were obtained. The elementary students earned over 50,000 tickets throughout the course of the year. Students and staff all enjoyed celebrating their positive behavior throughout the year and the program has expanded to also include the school bus drivers. The team will also be focusing on Tier 2 interventions to be implemented next school year. The K-4 team piloted a Check-In/Check-Out (CICO) system for Tier 2 students who require additional adult assistance and monitoring.
- Crystal Lake reading consultant Louise Kelly organized a Summer Readers Celebration. Students who completed the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge were invited to the library to discuss some of their favorite summer books. Fifty-nine students took part in the celebration having read over 1,000 books!
- The preschool participated in the Hall Memorial Library's annual "Tell-ebriation." Ann Shapiro, Director of the CT Storytelling Center performed with puppets, songs and storytelling. The preschool students walked to the library for the story telling celebration. It was an adventure beyond belief! Everyone had to climb over tree branches, through mud puddles and around tree trunks, but they all made it

safely and enjoyed the storytelling! The Ellington police were the highlight of the day as they stopped traffic with their lights flashing, so the children could safely cross the street.

- Windermere guidance counselors Marilyn Toback-Reveley and Jessica Marshall met weekly with sixth grade social studies classes throughout the fall. The students role-played on how to “cool down” when angered or upset, how to use active listening to understand both sides in a conflict, and how to communicate how you feel to the other disputant using “I Messages.” Students also learned how to brainstorm and develop “Win/Win” solutions to conflicts, how to respond assertively when teased by others, and how to identify bullying behaviors and respond if they witness bullying or are bullied themselves.
- A series of parent conversation nights were developed by the Director of Special Services in conjunction with the town’s Director of Youth Services. The conversation nights were well received by the community with a high parental attendance rate.
- The Center School Recess Mileage Club began in October with parent Cathryn Couzens setting up parent volunteers on the playground to help children track their laps and building physical fitness and stamina.
- The first Crystal Lake School town meeting assembly was held on October 18. Town meeting assemblies are held every other month and are opportunities for students to share their learning with the school community. Third graders informed the school of a community service project they were working on called, “Treats for Troops.” This is a program in which candy is collected and shipped to the men and women of the military serving overseas. Throughout the month classrooms collected donated candy for the troops.
- Study Island accounts were created for all fifth grade students and sixth grade student accounts were updated from last year. Teachers have provided students with their username and password and have begun to utilize the CMT preparation package. The program allows for students to have the ability to log on from anywhere and work on CMT preparation materials built from the CT Curriculum Frameworks.
- Building Community through Shared Reading continues to promote school values through shared readings of picture books with the selection of one children’s book per month to be read throughout the Center School community. Books are selected as having a powerful theme, as within the pages there is something the author has intended for readers to glean from the story. Themes of these books become common conversation points to help children solve problems and make wise choices. Copies of the book, accompanied by a letter from the principal, are raffled monthly to students and teachers.
- At Windermere Intermediate School, Mrs. Toback-Reveley coordinated cross-age teaching groups for the school where fifth and sixth grade students take time from their recess to assist in grades one through three.
- EMS Spanish teacher Liz Overton and a group of community service-minded students created an after-school program called “World Changers.” One of their first projects was to collect used eyeglasses and sunglasses either prescription or non-prescription to be sent to OneSight and EYEsee organizations.
- During the week of September 21, library media specialist Pat McAuley coordinated a celebration for Center School students who had read over the summer for the *Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge*. Students independently practice the reading skills and strategies they have learned throughout the school year in order to help them be better prepared for that first day of school in the fall. Center School had 144 students enrolled in the Reading Challenge, and collectively these dedicated readers read a total of 2,427 books. Even more exciting, these readers read a grand total of 177,151 pages!
- *Rachel’s Challenge* returned to Windermere School and presented two different assemblies to fifth and sixth grade students respectively regarding Rachel Scott who was the first person killed at Columbine High School. The story of Rachel’s acts of kindness and compassion are presented along with the contents of her six diaries. The information has become the foundation for the school program that inspires students to spread a chain of kindness in the school. Students attended a 60-minute assembly and 90-minute Chain Links training session. Rachel’s Chain Links Clubs have begun and will carry out Rachel’s positive messages at Windermere School.
- Eighth grade American history teachers Mike Nash and Edie Vibert-Johnson’s classes participated in a cross-team mock Congress simulation in the fall. The students composed hypothetical bills, debated their merits, and then tried to get them passed in the classroom exercise. In an effort to bring their student’s learning to real life and modern times, after hearing about a current bill proposal by Senator Gary LeBeau to change the State General Assembly to a unicameral legislature, students wrote over 200 letters of support and opposition. Senator LeBeau was gracious enough to accept the students invite to host a “town meeting” at EMS where there was a vigorous exchange and debate on the key issues of Senator LeBeau’s legislative proposal.
- The *Reading for Fun* store opened in October, supporting student reading at home. Center School students attended the ‘store’ as

reward for logging hours of at-home reading time. Parent volunteer Toni Bannock organized these monthly events.

- To celebrate Veterans Day, Crystal Lake School was honored to fly a special American flag that was given to the school by Iraq war veteran Lieutenant Fred Crayton. Lieutenant Crayton is the uncle of two former Crystal Lake School students. The flag was flown on an aircraft doing flight missions in Iraq and was presented to Crystal Lake School as a thank you for sending care packages to the troops.
- Thanks to Center School PTO and Cathryn Couzens for arranging for the Shakesperience Production Company to present a whole school assembly performance of *The Jungle Book*. Through puppetry, dance, live music and American Sign Language, Center School students learned about responsibility, respect and honesty with Mowgli, Baloo and Bagheera, characters from Rudyard Kipling's book.
- Students in grade three visited the CRRA Trash Museum in Hartford for a lesson on recycling to complement the science curriculum. They learned about the problems of prior methods of disposal and considered solutions, including explanations of source reduction, recycling, trash-to-energy and landfills.
- On November 11, the EMS student council members planned and hosted the annual Veterans Day ceremony coordinated by student council advisor, Jennifer Reynolds. Many students read original poems and essays honoring those who have honorably served our country. In addition, the event included an emotional playing of Taps, a flag raising ceremony, and the singing of God Bless America by the EMS select choir. This annual event was well attended by area veterans and active military personnel.
- With school being held on Veterans Day, Center School had a first-hand opportunity to share the significance of the day of recognition and gratitude throughout the school. Third and fourth graders, Natalie Dagon, Sara Guerette, Skylar Kubas, Anthony Massaro, Alex Shepard, and Matthew Tebbetts began the day with a poetry reading and message over the intercom. Classrooms shared in the commemoration through learning activities such as shared readings of *In Flanders Field*, *Hero Dad*, and other books, short videos from the History Channel or Scholastic websites, classroom periodical readings, and craft activities. Center School sincerely thanks veterans, Retired Naval Captain John Szymanski and Second Lieutenant Emily Hein, for visiting the first grade classrooms to share what soldiers do at home and around the world, along with the importance of military service with the youngsters.
- The Mystic Aquarium travel program provided in-class

presentations called Discovering Freshwater Ecosystems. The program explored the unique relationships that are found within New England's largest river ecosystem. Students participated in hands-on activities regarding the wonders of the CT River and discovered how factors such as invasive species, non-point source pollution, and riverside development can affect the populations within the freshwater ecosystem. The students discovered what steps are being taken to clean up our rivers and what they can do to help keep these ecosystems safe for generations to come.

- The High Touch-High Tech program brought a physics experience to the fourth graders at Center School, where they explored force and motion. Students made balloon rockets to take home.
- At Crystal Lake, Lisa Garofalo and Laurie Brookes hosted a book talk luncheon for students who were reading the Nutmeg Award nominated books. Students Andrew Ferruolo, Joshua Mudano, Sadie Sanville, Marisa Morneau, Emma Gorham, Samantha Kearney, Jack MacGillis and Cole Daniel were invited to participate in the luncheon.
- Center School families gathered for seven weekly *Parenting with Love & Logic Evenings* with principal Trudie Luck Roberts. Conversations concerning solving typical family problems were facilitated in the media center. Among topics the families discussed were ideas and strategies for working with children, including allowing children to own (and learn from) their own problems, diffusing arguments, and the power of the empathy response.
- At Windermere School, media specialist Mary Varley held a Nutmeg celebration for any fourth grade student who read at least two Nutmeg books and fifth and sixth grade students who read at least four Nutmeg books. The celebration included a balloon volleyball game where the balloons would be popped unveiling a question regarding one of the books that would be discussed among the students.
- The annual Center School/Crystal Lake School combined fourth grade chorus concert was held on December 12. Under the direction of music teacher Tim Adams and piano accompaniment of music teacher Sharon Bigge, students treated the audience to seasonal favorites. Mr. Adams also led fourth grade students from Center and Crystal Lake Schools in a chorus performance of holiday songs during the *Winterfest* celebration on the Town Green.
- Crystal Lake's fourth grade teachers Christine Marshall and Nancy Connelly led their students in a community service project during the month of December, a toy collection for *Toys for Tots*. Students researched the organization and sought

the school community's assistance in collecting toys. Over 180 toys were collected for donation. The toys were presented to Susan Trisler and John Wrynn of the Crystal Lake Fire Department.

- Technology coordinator John Collins met with each grade level team as well as support staff to present information on the *Finalsite* teacher portals, which will allow teachers to update their web pages with pertinent information for students and their families.
- At Windermere, a variety of assemblies were held for the elementary and intermediate schools. Both schools enjoyed "Go for the Stars" which taught students about orbits, microgravity, rockets, living in space and much more. Volunteers from the audience were chosen and were able to dress in astronaut flight suits, and perform live demonstrations and experiments. Along with the use of computer aided technology and numerous props, this presentation created a fun learning experience that included a robot that was programmed to talk, move, and interact with the audience.
- At Center School, firefighter Brendan Burke presented the fire prevention assembly during Fire Prevention Week where children were able to review home safety procedures and observe the firefighters wearing full equipment for familiarity and assurance.
- The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Crystal Lake School Pancake Breakfast was held



(Student Sing-a-long after Crystal Lake Pancake Breakfast)

December 13. Students were served pancakes in the cafeteria upon their arrival to school. Kindergarten teacher Valerie Gagnon coordinated this much anticipated annual event with the assistance of Crystal Lake School teachers and staff. Music teacher Tim Adams led the sing-along in the gym after the breakfast. Special invited guests to the breakfast included First Selectman Maurice Blanchette, Board of Education members

Kristen Picard-Wambolt, Gary Blanchette and Dan Keune, Superintendent Stephen Cullinan and other central office administrators and teachers.

- The Ellington High School Vocal Chorale led by music teacher Richard Diamond visited Center School in December to sing for the students. Rather than a full school assembly, the chorale caroled in the three main classroom hallways. The children enjoyed hearing their favorite carols, and commented on how "the singers' voices matched" and sounded as one.
- On Friday, January 13 the Crystal Lake School gymnasium was transformed into a living wax museum. Fourth grade students culminated their biography unit of study by becoming a statue of the subject of their biography study. Students dressed in costume and when visitors approached, they came to life to share information about their lives. Teachers Nancy Connelly and Christine Marshall organized the wax museum.
- Center School teachers Esther Boucher, Jessica Buttafuoco, Christine Feeney, Marita Francis, Ellen Levesque, Abbey Manzone, Katie Herrity and Pam Whiting hosted student interns from the Ellington High School Early Childhood class led by David Helmin. This collaboration allowed 21 high school students to engage in direct interactions weekly with elementary students as they learn the skills and strategies of becoming teachers.
- As part of our elementary health program, teachers Pam Schlectweg and Jeri St. John created thought-provoking daily activities to build school-wide awareness of the importance of being "Drug Free: The Healthy Way to Be" during the *Red Ribbon Week* celebration.
- Preschool teachers Sandy Suib-Dutcher, Carol Connolly, Esther Boucher, and Jodi Smith along with Valerie Baigert, Jen Ryan and Laura Barnhart hosted four playgroups in March to select typically developing children from the community to integrate into the *Early Childhood Special Education Program*. There was, as always, tremendous interest and support from the community. Selection was based on children who display good language and good social skills, enrolling a range of three and four year old children to help balance the classes for the coming year.
- Crystal Lake School fourth grade students have been reading the ten Nutmeg Award nominated books. Our Nutmeg Readers voted on January 26 and choose *Stolen Children* by Peg Kehert as their favorite 2012 Nutmeg nominee. There was a three-way tie between *Herbert's Wormhole*, *Signal*, and *Deep and Dark and Dangerous*. Congratulations to Andrew Ferruolo, Meredith LaMalva, Josh Mudano, Samantha Kearney, Jack MacGillis, and Marisa Moreau for their reading achievement and participating in this state-wide program.



- Olivia Catlett, Natalie Dagon, Sara Gurette, Skylar Kubas, Anthony Massaro, Alex Shepard, Matthew Tebbetts and Drew Thibert promoted *National No-Name Calling Week* at Center School with posters and daily announcements of tips to encourage saying something nice to someone every day.
- In March, the EMS Student Council sponsored a “Build a Care” package drive for three Marines stationed in Afghanistan. In all, enough items were donated to send twenty-two care packages to these men. The donation drive culminated with the *American Pride* dance. In addition, \$1 from all dance ticket sales was given to the Greg Caron Fund. In total, students raised approximately \$255 for the fund.
- Center School’s third and fourth grade were delightfully entertained by teacher Bill Prenetta’s high school drama club with a play the EHS students wrote themselves on the subject of lice. Disney Princess Rapunzel, with her case of lice, was snubbed by the other princesses until Prince Charming arrived with his lice shampoo and nit comb to save the day!
- As a culmination of the grade 3 Native American unit of study, students traveled to the Mashantucket Pequot Museum on March 30.
- Michael Larkin issued the 100 CARES (Cooperation, Advocacy, Respect, Empathy, and Self-Control) Award Challenge to Crystal Lake School students during the month of March. The challenge was that if 100 CARES Awards were earned by students during the month, there would be a school-wide spirit day to celebrate. The challenge was met and exceeded with 142 CARES Awards distributed. The students voted to celebrate with a “Pajama Day Spirit Day.”
- Technology continues to be integrated into our classrooms. This past year, PTOs at Windermere and Center Schools graciously supported this initiative. At Windermere, the PTO finalized their plans to purchase five SMART Boards to be installed in the remaining classrooms that currently do not have one and will begin installing SMART Boards in specials areas. At Center School, new SMART Boards were installed in the second grade classrooms. Many thanks to both PTOs for their continued support. Their contributions will allow teachers to present even more engaging and empowering learning experiences to our students using the interactive features of this technology.
- Media specialist Lisa Garofalo arranged for author, rapper and poet Charles R. Smith, Jr. to visit both Ellington Middle School and Crystal Lake School on April 11 to share his craft of writing. He focused on his process for writing, idea generation, and recited some of his written works as well. Students were able to purchase signed copies of the author’s

book prior to his visit. Mr. Smith is the author of “Twelve Rounds of Glory” and “The Mighty Twelve.”

- April 26 was *National Poem in Your Pocket Day*. At Center School the day began with students reading poetry as part of the morning announcements. In all grades, students wrote their own poetry, crafted class poems together, or read poetry books to find their favorites. Students and staff carried these much-loved poems throughout the day and eagerly shared them with others. Some classes posted their class choice in a large pocket on the classroom door. Others had students dress as poets, read poems to their book buddies, hear authors read their poems aloud via the SMART Board, and/or engage in



(Teachers Bill Prenetta and Sam Avram performing in the 2012 EHS Talent Variety Show)

poetry circles. It was a great beginning to what will be an annual tradition at Center School.

- This year’s sixth grade students experienced a fun-filled and educational Immigration Day at Windermere School. Students began the day with the port of entry and being “processed” in the cafeteria. The entire day was created to simulate what an immigrant would go through when first arriving at Ellis Island in the early 1900s. Various stations were created to describe the different areas of Ellis Island such as a medical station, money exchange station, and musical folk songs from the time period. Students were treated to a catered lunch and the day ended with board member and attorney Dale Roberson officiating a Naturalization Ceremony where the students were officially sworn in as American citizens.
- The annual Special Persons’ Day celebration was held at Crystal Lake School on May 7. Students performed a concert for special invited guests under the direction of Tim Adams and guests had the opportunity to visit classrooms, meet school staff and visit the PTO sponsored plant sale. The Special Persons Day Concert was performed again in the

evening for any family and friends unable to attend during the day.

- English Language Learner (ELL) staff Tara Kelly and Colleen Palozej held the sixth annual ESL Potluck Supper. Over 125 parents, siblings, and family members of students involved in the ESL program brought a variety of ethnic dishes and enjoyed a night of conversation. The evening was concluded with an African Dancers performance.
- Music teacher Tim Adams presented well-rehearsed performances during the Center School Grandparents and Special Persons' Day. Over 800 parents, grandparents, great-grandparents and other special persons enjoyed the musical performance. One morning and one afternoon presentation featured grade levels singing and dancing, playing recorders, and a lively rendition of the song *Hats!* from the fourth grade spring concert. Students performed to a packed house! It was a powerful example of the strength of community surrounding Center School.
- Windermere's sixth grade got a feel for some possible future occupations during Career Day. Career Day caps off a month long career awareness program run by Marilyn Toback-Reveley, Jessica Marshall, and Mary Temple. The students were provided with a list of twenty different professionals and signed up for those in which they were most interested. The results were tallied and the professionals volunteered their time to speak with the students regarding what it is they do for a living and what schooling was necessary to qualify. Each professional gave two 30-minute long presentations to students who attended four different presentations in total. Students were asked to evaluate each presentation and the results will be used to plan for the following year.
- On June 4, the annual Young Author's Readers Conference was held at Crystal Lake School. Students gathered in multi-age groups to share a piece of their writing. Special invited guests included: Steve Cullinan, Erin McGurk, Leslie Mancuso, and Robin Kline. Language arts consultant Louise Kelly organized the celebration
- Windermere Intermediate School's fifth grade held the annual American Revolutionary War Day encampment outside. Students transitioned between various stations including marching exercises, medicine, games, candle making, militia, music, codes, debate, and journal writing. The day was collaboratively organized between the WPTO and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. The day was an experience the students will never forget and culminated with Steve Moccio reading a portion of the Declaration of Independence.
- The fourth grade at Windermere School held its fourth annual

Reading Olympics Opening Ceremony. The opening ceremony included a procession of classes by class color and flag. Activities as part of the opening ceremony were opening remarks by language arts consultant Kathy Bienkowski and special guests from central office including Superintendent Steve Cullinan, Director of Educational Services Erin McGurk, and curriculum specialists Leslie Mancuso and Robin Kline. Groups were then run for students to discuss book recommendations. Each class pledged that they would read during the month long Reading Olympics and keep track of the number of minutes read in their log. Mr. Pechie's class read the most minutes with 31,442 minutes, Ms. Hall's class was next with 31,212 minutes, followed by Mrs. Menard's class with 30,972, and Mrs. Mudgett's class with 30,708. The top 3 student readers were Esha Kataria with 4,410 minutes, Ariana Bahavar with 3,626 minutes, and Joey Champeau with 3,398 minutes.

#### ONGOING 9-12 PROGRAMS

- Ellington High School welcomed four foreign exchange students this year, Elina Kaha of Estonia, Caroline Reimann of Denmark, Aleksandra Rossa of Germany, and Sorawis Veskijkul of Thailand. The students, who lived with host families for the school year, quickly became active members of the school community.
- As the school year progressed, the high school staff began a self-evaluation process for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), which will conduct an evaluative site visitation to Ellington High School on September 23 – 26, 2012. Teachers Amy White and Peter Corbett served as chairpersons for the EHS Steering Committee. In preparation for the evaluation visit, the High School has revised its core values, beliefs and 21<sup>st</sup> century expectations for student learning.



(As part of PBIS "Whale Done Rewards" students are recognized for their positive behavior and successes including having their picture taken with their principal, Mr. Moccio)

The High School's 21<sup>st</sup> century expectations for student learning are accompanied by analytic rubrics that measure student progress. Ellington High School has also revised a majority of the curriculum so that it is aligned to the school's 21st-century learning expectations. A process is in place to assess and report out the progress of all students in achieving these expectations using school-wide rubrics. The high school staff and community members completed an intensive self-study that documents the school's adherence to seven NEASC standards for accreditation. The school's accreditation status will be reviewed when the commission considers the evaluation report resulting from the decennial visit.

- The Ellington High School Marching Knight Band performed at CT Day at The Big E in September. The band performed on the Storowtown Green and then marched in the parade. In November, selected students from the music department performed in the NCCC band and chorus concert at East Windsor High School.
- In November, over 800 students, staff and guests gathered in the gymnasium to honor our veterans. The Veterans Day ceremony was organized, planned and implemented by the high school student council under the direction of advisor Cynthia Fontanella. Oliviana Bailey greeted guests and Cody Fongemie served as Master of Ceremony. The highlight of the ceremony was a reading of an original essay by Erin Schirra that was dedicated to all of our veterans. Our former State Representative Ted Graziani, State Representative Christopher Davis, State Senator Gary LeBeau, State Senator Tony Guglielmo, and Board of Education Chair Daniel Keune all provided remarks on the significance of Veterans' Day. Oliviana Bailey provided the closing commentary for the ceremony and the student council then hosted breakfast for our veterans. The vocal ensemble provided music for the ceremony and breakfast was provided by family and consumer arts teacher David Helmin and his culinary students. This annual event aligns with the high school's Core Values and Beliefs that all Ellington High School students demonstrate responsibility, integrity, respect, cultural understanding and ethical behavior.
- The Ellington High School Music Department presented winter and spring concerts. Both sets of concerts featured our Chorale, Vocal Ensemble, Jazz Band, Concert Band and Wind Ensemble groups.
- Ellington High School's Unified Basketball team hosted the first ever "Unified Sports Day."

## STUDENT AND STAFF RECOGNITION

- Meeting a need for ongoing emphasis on safe and respectful behavior, the *Student Spirit Group* continued at Center School with third and fourth grade teachers nominating students Olivia Catlett, Natalie Dagon, Sara Guerette, Skylar Kubas,

Anthony Massarro, Alex Shepard, Matthew Tebbetts, and Drew Thibert for this responsibility. These students worked with Principal Roberts throughout the year to promote school spirit and elements of good character.

- Now that Windermere's School-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Team has transitioned from planning to implementation, positive outcomes have been experienced. As a result, in their lead roles as SW-PBIS school coaches, teachers Sara Varga and David Pechie were invited to present at a CREC conference to share the insight of the framework and the effectiveness of Windermere's program.
- The Girls' Soccer team won the Sportsmanship Award from the State Officials' Association.
- The following students were recognized at the high school's athletic awards. Emily Cohen received the Gordon C. Getchell Scholar-Athlete Award, given to the varsity athlete with the highest scholastic standing who has earned two varsity letters in CIAC-sanctioned sports in the current school year. Ali Larew, Zachary Topor, and Alexander Smith received the Sportsmanship Award presented to the boy and girl who have earned two varsity letters in the current school year, performed well and demonstrated sportsmanlike traits under all conditions. Hannah Naumec and Mitchell DiResta received the Coaches Award given to the boy and girl who have earned two varsity letters in the current school year and who, in the opinion of the coaches, have set an example by their character, tenacity, determination, leadership, and improvement. Neil Hulstein and Kelly Conley received the Thomas W. Hartman Athlete of the Year Award, presented to the outstanding boy and girl athlete, who have competed in three sports in the current school year. Kelly Conley and Michael Cleary received the Outstanding Athlete Award that is given to the boy and girl who have excelled both athletically and in terms of their character in a minimum of three sports over a four-year period. Consideration is given to those athletes who have shown good character and have earned the most varsity letters.
- The annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest winners were announced for the school district. Windermere Elementary student Alyssa Gionfriddo was the overall fourth grade winner for the district and Ashka Patel was the third place winner. The Fifth Grade Fire Prevention Winners were:
  - First Place – Amanda Laneri
  - Second Place – Noah Welti
  - Third Place –Keegan Terry

The students were awarded prizes of \$50 for first place, \$35 for second place, and \$25 for third place at the December 19 Board of Selectmen's meeting. Amanda Laneri, was also a county winner and attended an award presentation luncheon at the Cromwell Courtyard by Marriott. Amanda's parents, Mrs. Satagaj, Mrs. Dymkowski, and Mr. Moccio also attended the luncheon.

- Congratulations to Center School student Clare Mattson for placing second in the fourth grade Fire Prevention Poster contest. All Ellington fourth graders made a poster to reflect the theme, "Fire Prevention; Everyone, Everyday." Center students worked under the guidance of art teacher Steven Bernard, learning how to present important information graphically using pictures and few words. Clare was also recognized for her efforts at the Selectman's meeting on December 19.
- Crystal Lake School students participated in the Fire Prevention Poster Contest. Susan Trisler, a member of the Crystal Lake Fire Department judged the posters. The following students entered winning posters: Patrick Dobrowolski, Olivia Bechard, Tate McNamar, Katie Hurlburt, Sara Fornwalt, Evan Charette, Madeline Hass, Andrew Alberts, Abby Meacham, Emma Lipman, Rachel Shaw, Erin Fitzgerald, Abigail Shuman and Emma Carpenter.
- Thanksgiving baskets were collected and organized by Center School parents Cheri Murphy, Tracy Thibert with the help of school secretary Sharon Riggs who organized the staff donation portion of the food drive. Thanks as well to Big Y for their donation of reusable bags. Despite this year's storm, the school had an incredibly successful food drive. Thanks to the generous families Center School was able to provide Ellington Human Services with twenty-six food baskets, each including a \$25 gift card to Big Y, along with seventeen extra boxes of various food items, and nine extra Big Y and Stop & Shop gift cards.
- The girls' lacrosse won their first State Tournament Game in school history.
- The football team had an undefeated season, winning the Pequot Championship and hosting the first night game in Ellington history.
- Eighteen seniors were selected as All Conference Athletes 39 times this year alone and eight of those students were recognized All-State Athletes.
- Three students from Ellington Middle School captured the top three awards at the local level of the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest. This year's essay topic was, "Are You Proud of Your Country?" Over 120 essays were submitted and EMS is proud to announce that Brigid McGrath was awarded first place with her essay and won a prize of \$50, Julia Tiedt took second place and Kyle Fitzgerald came in as third place winner, with each student receiving awards of \$25.
- Bruce Workentin from the VFW presented awards to this year's Patriot's Pen essay contest winners. The year's Windermere Intermediate School winners were Megan Knowing, Aiden Gonzalez, and Sydney Coles from Mrs. Perkins's classroom; Matthew Phillips from Mrs. Jackopsis's classroom; and Erin Hayes from Mr. Murphy's classroom. Each winner was presented with a certificate.
- Windermere 's sixth grade teacher Matt Murphy led a group of brave souls into the chilly waters of Crystal Lake for the second annual Penguin Plunge. With the help of a staff fundraiser, the school was able to earn over \$1,400 for the Special Olympics of CT.
- The High School's girls' basketball, boys' indoor track, cheerleading, golf and baseball teams were the NCCC Champions.
- The High School chorus and instrumental ensembles earned three gold medals and two platinum medals in a spring music adjudication festival.
- The Opening Knight Players, under the direction of Bill Prenetta, presented a record number of performances this year, winning the First place trophy in the CT Drama festival and representing the State of CT at the Northeast Drama Festival in New Hampshire. The Opening Knight Players and the music department presented Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, which was a High School masterpiece and a source of pride for our entire community. In culmination of their outstanding year, the Opening Knight Players were invited to perform as part of the American High School Theatre Festival. As a result, the group traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland in August to perform at the 2012 Fringe Festival. Congratulations to Mr. Prenetta, his talented students, and to all those behind the scenes who made this year such an enjoyment for so many.
- Ellington Middle School is proud of Jennifer Reynolds, eighth grade language arts teacher, for being chosen as "Teacher of the Year" for District 3 of the VFW. As a result of winning at the local level, Mrs. Reynolds was entered into the state finals for this prestigious award. Jennifer was chosen to receive nomination into the state finals based on her active work with students in promoting citizenship education by recognizing and honoring veterans via essays which are then presented to participating veterans at the annual Veterans' Day ceremony held at Ellington Middle School.
- In the Chemistry Olympiad, Ellington High School achieved a first place finish based on ten AP Chemistry participants' scores. Ellington also had the highest number of students in the state advancing to the second and third rounds of the competition. Following the regional competition, a total of



13 students were selected to participate in the national Chemistry Olympiad competition and two of our seniors among this group received honors from the American Chemical Society.

- We are very fortunate to have strong and supportive PTOs and booster clubs in our district. They are an integral part of our school community. Through their continuing efforts and fund raising events, these volunteer groups help enhance programs and provide enrichment activities for students at all grade levels. We wish to thank the officers and coordinators of these groups, as well as, the parents who volunteer their time, talents and resources to help support the many activities and programs offered to our students.
- In February, 40 EHS Latin students joined over 150,000 others from all 50 states and several other countries in taking the 2012 National Latin Exam. Awards on this exam are given



(Crystal Lake Parents and Students at Math Night)

according to the student's score on the exam, with *summa cum laude* being the highest level of honor, followed by *maxima cum laude*, *magna cum laude* and finally, *cum laude*. This year, EHS had nine award-winners: Latin One: Ian Chandler and Andrew Bahler, *magna cum laude*; Isabella Viega, Karli King and Kiara Stone, *cum laude*. Latin Two: Kasey Pekala, *maxima cum laude*, with silver medal; Nick Greika, *cum laude*. Latin Three: Ben Friedman, *magna cum laude*; Blaire Herter, *cum laude*.

- EMS media specialist Lisa Garofalo began her fourth year on the Middle Level Nutmeg selection committee, and second year as chairperson. In addition, Lisa is co-chair for the first ever High School Nutmeg Selection Committee. Supporting this work, EMS eighth grade language arts teacher Jennifer Reynolds is a member of the 2014 High School Nutmeg Book Award Selection Committee and EMS reading teacher Courtney Harris is a member of the 2014 Teen Nutmeg Book Award Selection Committee. All three teachers will be reading between 70 and 80 teen/young adults' novels between December 2011 and September 2012. From these books, they will help the committee choose the ten finalists to become

2014 Nutmeg Nominees.

- EHS principal Neil Rinaldi presented seniors Kelly Mulka and Zachary Topor to the Board of Education as the CT Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Student Leadership Award winners for distinguished leadership in school activities and daily life.
- The following Windermere students' art work was chosen for Art-at-the-Capitol 2012: first grade: Natalie Zahner; second grade: Easha Patel; fifth grade: Margaret Andreyeva and Dan Johnson; and sixth grade: Nick Abbruzzese and Becky Cyr.
- Three Center students Ryan Zahner, Katelyn Johndrow and Fiona Armstrong attended Art-at-the-Capitol with their art teacher Steven Bernard.
- Crystal Lake third grade student Emily Willis and fourth grade student Zachary Longo accompanied art teacher Steve Bernard to the annual Art- at-the-Capitol celebration on April 9 where their artwork was on display.
- Windermere's Aman Kumar, a first grade student in Aimee Boehm's class, was the winner of the CT Higher Education Trust (CHET) drawing competition. The competition required students to draw what they would like to do after college. Aman's drawing was of him working for NASA and included planets, galaxies, and other celestial bodies. All winners were awarded with college scholarship money.
- The following students were nominated by Ellington High School faculty members to be Ellington High School's representatives to the 71st American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State. The Boys State delegates are Andrew Cohen, Neal Janiga, and Joseph Taft. The Girls State delegates are Alexandra Larew and Ann Sawamura. Nominations were based on leadership, ability, friendliness, good sportsmanship, civic interests, cooperativeness and academics. Boys and Girls State train our students in the ideal and objectives of American government by teaching them to understand and appreciate the basic principles involved in the successful management of a democratic society not by classroom lectures or textbook learning but by participation and personal experience in a model state, complete with its governing bodies and elected public officials.
- The Ellington High School Fine and Performing Arts groups continued to be the pride of our community. Tessa Jacques and Michaela Whiting were selected by Ellington High School to be honored at the CT Association of Schools' 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Recognition Dinner for outstanding seniors who excel in visual or performing arts. They were recognized at a banquet at the Aqua Turf in April.
- In May, a representative group from the middle school was greeted by Governor Dannel Malloy where they accepted an award for being a top reading school at the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge awards ceremony for the fifth straight year.

- The following students were inducted into the Robert W. Murphy Chapter of the National Honor Society during a special ceremony at Ellington High School on May 16: Stefan Amundarain, Kevin Arbeiter, Margo Bailey, Jessica Baker, Amanda Conti, Lisa DeConti, Renee Gayton, Rachel Hardy, Blaire Herter, Kayla Hickman, Jennifer Hulstein, Alyssa Jones, Karli King, Hannah Kogut, Bailey Krasinski, Alexandra Larew, Jessica Malone, Shannon McIlrath, Rachel Oakes, Kaitlyn Powers, Margaret Quinn, Gabriella Rubino, Sophia Rubino, Ann Sawamura, Carolyn Schafer, Ann Skorulski, Kevin Stein, Joseph Taft, Rachel Tshonas, and Anthony Velazquez.
- Windermere's largest fundraiser was a coin collection contest to benefit Corporal Greg Caron who was a former Ellington student and severely injured while serving in Afghanistan. K-2 classrooms collected coins while grades 3-6 competed to see which classroom could collect the most pennies. Thank you to all of the K-6 classrooms for their support of this worthy cause. In total, Windermere raised \$2,916.57 to benefit Corporal Caron.
- Windermere Assistant Principal Kristy LaPorte and school psychologists Valerie Baigert and Carin Faraci attended a DCF Training for Mandated Reporters. This intensive workshop enabled them to become certified district trainers.
- Ellington Middle School received two state-wide recognitions for excellence. In May of 2012, a representative group of EMS students and teachers attended the CT Association of Schools (CAS) "Safe School Climate Conference" where EMS was one of eight schools in the state to be recognized as having exemplary practices in developing a positive school climate.
- Maren Sussman is to be congratulated for being selected as a State Finalist for the *2012 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching* (PAEMST) program in recognition for her outstanding contributions to elementary mathematics education in CT. This status forwards her application to the *National Science Foundation* for review for the 2013 prestigious national award.
- Joshua Condron was recognized as a Commended Student in the National Merit Scholarship program and fourteen Ellington High School seniors were Presidential Award recipients.
- The President's Education Award was awarded to twenty-one sixth grade students for their educational excellence and academic achievement. The recipients were announced at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade D.A.R.E. graduation and awards assembly and received a congratulations letter from President Obama, certificate of achievement and pin. The award recipients were selected according to their spring 2011 CMT scores and academic performance throughout fifth and sixth grades. This year's recipients were Emma Barry, Lindsey Bourque, William Daigle, Julia DeBaise, Olivia Dutkewych, Benjamin Goodman, Marissa Guilmain, Megan Harris, Matthew Kirk, Joshua LaPointe, Alison Mangold, Molly McGrath, Daniel Meaney, Sarah Nedwick, John Pasini, Mathew Phillips, Amanda Pretty, Ian Pyne, Jacob Schlenner, Jennie Schneider and Nicholas Willett.
- On Friday, June 15, 2012, Ellington High School graduated 184 seniors. The ceremony took place outside on the Ellington High School soccer field. Superintendent Cullinan presented the diplomas as Principal Rinaldi called off the graduates' names. Mr. Rinaldi praised the seniors' academic accomplishments stating that "The Class of 2012 has single handedly enhanced the school culture and climate of Ellington High School." He also stated that The Class of 2012 collectively earned more than \$200,000 in scholarships. The Ellington Community Scholarship Association awarded scholarships totaling over \$50,000 to EHS students.
- The following class scholars represented the highest five percent of the Class of 2012: Travis Wallace, Emily Cohen, Jeffrey Patrick, Matthew Mashayekhi, Austin Heffernan, Ryan DeLand, Kathryn Angelica, Nicole Angelica, Kristen Joyse, and Nishant Patel. Over 85% of the graduates plan to continue education beyond high school. Fifteen percent of the graduates consistently made the honor roll since their freshman year.
- Travis Wallace, son of Robert Wallace and Debra Rondinone, was the Class of 2012 valedictorian with a 4.0 GPA. Travis attended both Ellington High School and the Greater Hartford Academy of Math and Science (GHAMAS). Travis, as a member of the GHAMAS robotics team, was a regional finalist in the WPI FIRST Robotics Competition. He was recognized as an AP Scholar with Honors. Travis helped found the student tutoring program at GHAMAS and was the team captain for the FIRST Tech Challenge 2012 season. At the Ellington High School Academic Awards Ceremony held on June 6, Travis was recognized as a class scholar and received the Presidential Academic Award. He placed in the top three for the Trinity College Regional Brain Bee in 2010 and 2011 and was recognized for outstanding achievement in Spanish, U. S. History, physics and chemistry. At GHAMAS, Travis was the National Honor Society Captain, recipient of the President's Education Award and the Active Learner Award. Travis was also an active member of extra-curricular activities at GHAMAS, serving as a member of the Junior Engineering Technical Society and as Squad Captain for the Biodiesel project at GHAMAS. Next fall Travis will attend Johns Hopkins University, where he was one of 100 students selected into the biomedical engineering program.
- Emily Cohen, daughter of Steve and Flo Cohen, was the Class of 2012 salutatorian. Emily is the recipient of the Harvard-Radcliffe Book Award, candidate for the Governor Scholar, and a participant in Girls' State sponsored by the American Legion. She has achieved high honors through all four years at Ellington High School. In addition, Emily was inducted into the National Honor Society her junior year, and held the title of Secretary. Besides her excellence in academics, Emily was an active member in many of Ellington High School's clubs and organizations. She was the senior class Treasurer as well as Vice President of Student Council. As an active participant in Peer Mediation over the course of her four years, she

earned the title of a Senior Officer where she helped students learn the problem-solving process and led team-building exercises. In addition, Emily served on the committees of Peer Advocates, Code Green Club, and Prom Committee. Other commitments Emily has dedicated herself to include tutoring fifth and sixth grade students at Windermere School through the Ellington Recreation Department and volunteering as a youth soccer coach. Athletics has also been an important part of Emily's high school career. Recently, she was awarded the CT Association of Schools Scholar Athlete Award. She has been a member of the girls' varsity soccer team since her freshman year and received the CT Girls' Soccer Coaches Association Scholarship. Emily played lacrosse all four years and earned All-Conference Status her sophomore year. As a senior, she was captain of both her soccer and lacrosse teams. She also enjoyed one season of varsity basketball and one season of indoor track. Emily has been accepted into the Honors Program at the University of CT where she will study business finance.

- After the ceremony, the Ellington Safe Graduation Committee, chaired by Debbie Stauffer, hosted an all-night event that promoted a drug and alcohol free celebration at Ellington Middle School. The community appreciates the many volunteers who provided this opportunity for our graduates.
- At the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year, the district saw the retirements of Janet Arnone, math teacher at Ellington High School; Cheryl Morrow, English teacher at Ellington High School; Dennis Klinkowski, French teacher at Ellington High School; Nancy Strong, library/media specialist at Ellington High School; Smaranda Avram, chemistry/physics teacher at Ellington High School; Kathleen Capobianco, business education teacher at Ellington High School; Raphael Murasso, school psychologist at Ellington Middle School and Ellington High School; Christine Zaremski, fifth grade teacher at Windermere Intermediate School; and Celinda Weber, special education teacher at Crystal Lake School. Congratulations and best wishes to these dedicated educators whose contributions positively affected the lives of countless students throughout their more than 277 years of combined service.

#### **DISTRICT NEEDS:**

As indicated in this annual report, Ellington students continue to perform at high levels academically despite larger class sizes and spending less per student than similar or comparable school systems. In 2010-2011 Ellington ranked last in CT in spending per pupil. This is documented through information published in the CT State Department of Education's annual Strategic School Profiles Report (SSP). Student achievement across all measures (CMT, CAPT, SAT, AP and ACT) is most favorable. Academic awards and achievements listed throughout this report demonstrate that the students in the Ellington Public School continue to excel in a variety of venues.

The most significant issue impacting the Ellington Public Schools will continue to be growing enrollment. Student enrollment in most CT towns and cities is either stagnant or declining. In Ellington, however, student enrollment increased by approximately twenty percent over the past decade and is projected to grow by about fifteen percent in the decade ahead. The need for classroom space will be addressed through the renovation and expansion of Crystal Lake School. The support of the community in approving this much needed expansion is certainly appreciated and is indicative of Ellington's commitment to education.

The 2012-2013 budget process saw the transition of positions previously funded by federal sources absorbed locally. The 2012-2013 budget also provided the completion of the Board's three-year Athletic Restoration Plan for our secondary schools.

The changing landscape of the Sheff v. O'Neil settlement continues to unfold, and the financial impact upon local communities continues to evolve. The Ellington Board of Education has again increased its participation in both the Hartford Choice and the various magnet school programs. With continued growth in student population, further expansion of available seats for this program may

be severely limited. Also, without a significant increase in state aid, continued growth will be most problematic. Rulings from the CT State Department of Education regarding funding for magnet schools continue to drain funds from local communities. In an effort to preserve local programs and to provide equity of opportunity, the Ellington Board of Education joined five other CT communities in initiating legal action against the CT State Department of Education.



(Civil War Encampment Day at Windermere School)



## CLASS OF 2012

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Haley Alyssa Brown	Justin Guy Gottier*	Brooke Ashley Murdock	Natalie N. Vazquez
Daniel Kenneth Browne	William Arthur Graydus	Hannah Joy Myers	Talia Vazquez
Paige Nicole Brunelle	Freesia Marie Green	Hannah Marie Naumec	Victor John Viega
Amanda Nicole Caouette	Capri Melody Guidotti	Dana Ashley Noonan	Daron Charles Villanova
Nicole Rae Chamberlain	Robert E. Gworek	Christopher R. Norris	Travis Robert Wallace+
Katherine Rose Chamberlin	Rachel Lynn Hardy	Stone Myers Oliver	Alexander Lucas Weiner
Chelsea Marie Champ	Austin J. Heffernan+*	Alexander James Oliwa	Mackenzie Elizabeth Whiting
Brandon K. Chesworth	Robert Herold	Garrett Scott Palmer	Michaela Dalvay Whiting
Michael James Cleary*	Jason Peter Hoffman	Travis Austin Palmer-Lavoie	Ryan McGowan Whiting
Mitchell Willis Cobb	Ryan Steven Holmes	Zachary Roland Paquette	Taylor Lorraine Woronecki
Emily Rose Cohen+*	Lucas Joseph Horvath	Katrina Haley Parker	Robert James Wyse
Christopher E. Colon	Frederick William Houle	Nishant Kanu Patel+*	Sumaira Zaman
Joshua Thomas Condron	Michelle Christine Hover	Jeffrey Michael Patrick+*	John Gallop Ziomek
Kelly Eleanor Conley*	Zacharie A. Hunt	Brian Christopher Patsun	Jessie Anne Zwiesler*
Todd Winfield Costello	Tessa Storm G.W. Jacques	Catherine Mary Payzant*	
Zachary David Crickmore	Kyleigh Johnson	Kasey James Pekala*	<b>Honorary diplomas:</b>
Heather Marie Davis	Alyssa Morelli Jones	Dayna Marie Petrolito	Elina Kaha
James de Guzman	Megan Ann Jones	Kaitlin Petrone	Caroline Reimann
Dannielle Cecilia Decina	Kristen Marie Joyse+*	Kyle V. Plickys	Aleksandra Rossa
Katherine Marie DeForge*	Tessa Noelle Kehoe	John Matthew Potkaj	
Ryan Jeffrey DeLandHunter	Samuel C. Kim	Jennifer Jean Poulin	
Cameron Delasco	Cameron Robert King	Jesse James Prichard	
David Matthew Della Penna	John L. Kloter	John Dennis Quinn	
Stacey Dias	Kayla Anne Knudson	Jacqueline C. Reed	
Mitchell J. DiResta	Joseph M. Korzeb	Bryan William Rider	
Cayla Eve Dixon*	Matthew Logan Kramer	Nathan J. Ridzon	
Jessie Ryan Donnelly	Savannah Mae Kresge*	Shea Patrick Riley*	
Brandon Edwin Eigenbrode	John Robert Kuehn	Cali Ann Russell	
Emerson James Ewald	Meredith Rose Kuraska	Nicholas Michael Salwa	
Katelyn Rose Farrar	Jonathon Westley Paul Kutscher	Venessa Stowell Samuel-Steinmetz	

+ Class Scholar

\* Attained honor roll status each quarter during his/her high school career

Members of the Robert W. Murphy Chapter of the National Honor Society wore Gold Honor Cords.

Members of Troupe 5226 of the International Thespian Society wore Black/White Honor Cords.



## STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS

### CONNECTICUT STATE LEGISLATURE

#### Representative-57th Assembly District

Christopher Davis 800-842-1423 or  
House Republican Office 860-240-8700  
L.O.B. Room 4200  
Hartford, CT 06106  
Email: [Christopher.Davis@housegop.ct.gov](mailto:Christopher.Davis@housegop.ct.gov)

#### Senator - 3rd Senatorial District:

Gary LeBeau 860-240-0511  
Capitol Office  
State Capitol  
Room 110  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591  
Email: [Gary.Lebeau@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Gary.Lebeau@cga.ct.gov)

#### Senator - 35th Senatorial District

Tony Guglielmo 800-842-1421 or  
Legislative Office Building 860-240-8800  
300 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106  
Email: [Anthony.Guglielmo@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Anthony.Guglielmo@cga.ct.gov)

### UNITED STATES CONGRESS

#### Representative - 2nd Congressional District:

Joe Courtney  
Norwich District Headquarters: 860-886-0139  
55 Main Street, Suite 250  
Norwich, CT 06360  
Washington, DC Office: 202-225-2076  
Enfield Office: 860-741-6011

#### Senators:

Richard Blumenthal 860-258-6940  
State Office  
30 Lewis St., Ste 101  
Hartford, CT 06103  
Washington DC Office 202-224-2823  
  
Joseph Lieberman 800-225-5605  
1 Constitution Plaza, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103-1803  
Washington, DC Office 202-224-4041

## TOWN DEPARTMENTS

### ADMINISTRATION:

First Selectman: Maurice W. Blanchette  
Executive Assistant/Human Resources Coordinator: Marie Sauve  
Executive Secretary: LouAnn Cannella

### ANIMAL CONTROL:

Animal Control Officer: Barbara Murdach  
Assistant Animal Control Officer: Ashlee Leone

### ASSESSOR'S OFFICE:

Assessor: Cindy Roman  
Deputy Assessor: Kevin Lonergan  
Administrative Assessment Technician: Kimberly Bechard  
Administrative Assessment Technician: Mary Thiesing

### BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

Building Official: Peter Rafe Williams  
Secretary: Maureen O'Neil

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE:

Program Assistant: Diane Fiore  
Rehabilitation Specialist: Peter Kenefick

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Director: Donald Davis  
Deputy Director: John Streiber  
Deputy Director: Frederica Weeks

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

Finance Officer/Treasurer: Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr.  
Accounting Assistant/Deputy Treasurer: Felicia LaPlante  
Administrative/Accounting Assistant: Gail Moran

### FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE:

Fire Marshal: Allan Lawrence  
Deputy Fire Marshal: Robert DaBica  
Deputy Fire Marshal: James York  
Fire Inspector: Scott Cunningham  
Burning Official: Allan Lawrence and James York

### HUMAN SERVICES:

Human Service Director: Doris Crayton  
Administrative Secretaries: Cynthia Boscarino and  
Tina Modzelewski  
Senior Center Director: Erin Graziani  
Assistant to Senior Center Director: Jean Baseel  
Senior Center Van Driver: Margaret Anderson and  
Michael Joslin  
Senior Center Transportation Secretaries: Florence Brennan  
and Claude Robert  
Senior Center Receptionist: Mary Ann Mandell  
Elderly Outreach Caseworker: Anna Turner  
Director of Youth Services: Diane Lasher-Penti  
Assistant Program Coordinator: Chantal Haracsy  
Prevention Coordinator: Debbie Stauffer

### LIBRARY:

Library Director: Susan J. Phillips  
Children's Librarian: Patricia W. Grundman  
Library Technical Assistant: Gail Avino  
Library Assistant II: Lisa Giaquinto  
Library Assistant II: Debra Cormier  
Library Assistant II: Cheryl Chamberlin

Library Assistant I: Gay Szumyk  
Library Assistant I: Kathy Boop  
Library Assistant I/Reference Librarian: Francie Berger  
Library Assistant I: Linda Judd  
Library Assistant I: Laurie Wormstedt  
Library Assistant I: Emily Nedwick  
Reference Librarian: Linda Callahan  
Reference Librarian: Susan Slaga  
Reference Librarian: Angela Walker  
Bookkeeper: Marcia Downs  
Custodian: John Abate  
Page: Travis McBrearty  
Page: Heidi Hoffman  
Page: Kristyn Stauffer  
Page: Heather Sofianos

**MUNICIPAL AGENT:** Anna Turner

**NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**  
Director: William Blitz

**PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT:**

Town Planner: Robert A. Phillips  
Assistant Town Planner: Lisa M. Houlihan  
Assistant Zoning & Wetlands Enforcement Officer: John Colonese  
Secretary: Kristin Michaud

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Resident State Troopers:  
Sgt. Patrick Sweeney  
TFC Ron Richardson  
TFC Robert Given  
TFC Keith Timme  
TFC Jacob Bissaillon  
Road Constables:  
Bart Alexander  
Michael Bard  
John Barth  
Aaron Blank  
Arthur Carlson, III  
Michael Caron  
Thomas Clark  
Edward Decker  
Martin Dorey  
Joseph Grayeb  
Robert Hoffman  
Sebastian Magnano  
Marine Constables:  
Allen Bump  
Thomas Davenport  
Michael Hesnan  
Assistant Police Support Administrator:  
Maureen Lowe

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:**

Director: Timothy Webb  
Administrative Assistant: Lori Smith  
Foreman: Robert Willis  
Assistant Foreman: Leonard Descheneaux  
Assistant Foreman: Jack Rich  
Lead Mechanic: Thomas Modzelewski  
Mechanic I: Taylor Olson  
Maintainer II: Jon Godek  
Maintainer II: Joshua Hebert  
Maintainer II: Ronald Moser  
Maintainer I: Shawn Bull  
Maintainer I: Richard Daugherty  
Maintainer I: Kevin Gambacorta  
Maintainer I: Rebecca O'Brien  
Maintainer I: Bob Ouellette  
Maintainer I: Benjamin Pare  
Maintainer I: Paul Prouty  
Maintainer I: Patrick Roy  
Maintainer I: Jason Suchecki  
Lead Custodian: Kim Gallicchio  
Custodian: Dana DiNallo

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:**

Director: Robert Tedford  
Recreation Coordinator/Supervisor: Mary Bartley  
Administrative Secretaries: Cynthia Boscarino and  
Tina Modzelewski

**TAX DEPARTMENT:**

Tax Collector: Ann Marie Conti  
Deputy Tax Collector: Brenda Gower  
Tax Clerk: Dawn Stavens

**TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE:**

Town Clerk/Registrar of Vital Statistics: Diane McKeegan  
Assistant Town Clerk/Registrar of Vital Stats.: Elizabeth Waters

**TOWN COUNSEL:** Atherton B. Ryan, Esq.

**Special Counsel:**

Day Pitney LLC  
(Bond Counsel)  
Shipman & Goodman  
(Special Ed Counsel for Board. of Education)  
Siegel, O'Connor, Schiff & Zangari  
(Negotiations Counsel for Board of Education)  
Kainen, Escalera & McHale  
(Negotiations Counsel for General Government)

**TOWN ENGINEER:** James Thompson, Buck & Buck Engineers

**TREE WARDEN:** Timothy Webb

**WPCA ADMINISTRATOR:** Peter Williams

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Maurice W. Blanchette, First Selectman	December 2013
Ronald F. Stomberg, Deputy First Selectman	December 2013
Leo Miller	December 2013
James M. Prichard	December 2013
Lori L. Spielman	December 2013
John W. Turner	December 2013
Rachel Wheeler-Rossow	December 2013

### BOARD OF FINANCE

Robert J. Clements, Chairman	December 2015
Richard J. Cleary, Jr.	December 2013
Mark A. Joyse	December 2013
Barry C. Pinto	December 2013
John Rachek	December 2015
Michael D. Varney	December 2015

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Daniel C. Keune, Chairman	November 2013
Gary J. Blanchette	November 2013
Howard S. Friedman	November 2015
Ann Marie Hayes	November 2013
Tracey J. Kiff-Judson	November 2015
Andrew McNamar	November 2015
Kristen Picard-Wambolt	November 2013
Dale C. Roberson	November 2015
James M. Stoughton	November 2013
Michael Young	November 2015

### REGISTRARS OF VOTERS:

Susan J. Luginbuhl ( <i>Democrat</i> )	January 2015
Wanda Deland ( <i>Republican</i> )	January 2015

### LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

John M. Halloran Jr., Chairman	December 2015
Mary E. Blanchette	December 2015
Mary K. Clements	December 2015
C. Peter Nickerson	December 2013
Janet Wieliczka	December 2013

### PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION:

Arlo Hoffman, Chairman	December 2013
Douglas Harding	December 2015
Ricci Hirth	December 2013
William R. Hogan	December 2013
Robert G. Hoffman	December 2013
David Stavens	December 2015
Carol A. Strom	December 2015

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Mary B. Cardin, Chairman	December 2015
Arthur G. Aube	December 2015
Kenneth M. Braga	December 2013
Robert Sandberg	December 2013
Mark R. Spurling	December 2015

## APPOINTED BOARDS/ COMMISSIONS

### AD HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE

(1 yr. to May 2013)

David Arzt, <i>Chairman</i>	Monique Burns
Rodger Hosig	William Merson
<i>Vacant</i>	

### AD HOC DESIGN REVIEW BOARD (1 yr. to June 2013)

Robert M. Dawson, III, <i>Chairman</i>	Michele Beaulieu
Gary Chaplin	Janet Marshall
Kevin Zahner	

### AD HOC COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPING POSITIVE YOUTH CULTURE (1 yr. to August 2012)

Joyce Agnew	Mary Bartley
Yale Cantor	Doris Crayton
Lisa Kelly	Tom Kindall
Ali Larew	Kathleen Larew
Diane Lasher-Penti	Jessica Malone
Erin McGurk	Nancy Netherwood
David Pearson	Ron Richardson
Nick Schipper	Deborah Stauffer
Daniel Uriano	

### AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE

(1 yr. to February 2013)

John Turner, <i>Chairman</i> , Board of Selectmen Rep.
Richard Cleary, Board of Finance Rep.
Robert Clements, Board of Finance Rep.
Donald Davis, Director of Emergency Management
Peter Hany, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Rep.
Bryan Harvell, Crystal Lake Fire Department Representative
Robert Smith, Ellington Fire Department Representative
Edward Ludwig, Crystal Lake Fire Department Representative
Simon Hessler, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Representative
Michael Varney, Ellington Fire Department Representative
Rachel Wheeler-Rossow, Board of Selectmen Representative

### AD HOC PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE

(1 yr. to December 2012)

Jeffrey Martin, <i>Chairman</i>	Wilson Flynn
David Grim	Alan Lewandosky
Robert McConnell	James Stemmerman
Michael Stupinski	Michael Varney

**AD HOC PRESERVATION OF PINNEY HOUSE****COMMITTEE** (1 yr. to July 2012)

Gerry Gillung, <i>Chairman</i>	James Gage
Marcia Kupferschmid	Dale Roberson
Debby Wallace	<i>Vacant</i>

**BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS** (3 yrs.)

John Rachek, <i>Chairman</i>	January 2015
Marie Bedor	January 2014
Charles Jackson	January 2013

**Alternates** (2 yrs.)

Joel Nadel	January 2014
<i>Vacant</i>	January 2013

**BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS** (5 yrs.)

James Alexander	April 2015
Donald Gobeille, Jr.	April 2015
Dennis Milanovich	April 2016
Howard D. Reckert	April 2013
<i>Vacant</i>	April 2014

**CENTRAL REGIONAL TOURISM DISTRICT** (3 yrs.)

Galen Semprebon	June 2014
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**COMMUNITY VOICE CHANNEL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

(2 yrs.)

Christopher Moyer	June 2014
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**CONSERVATION COMMISSION** (4 yrs.)

Walter Moody, <i>Chairman</i>	March 2013
Jesse Amsel	March 2014
James Gage	March 2015
Joan Kovel	March 2014
George Nickerson	March 2013
Rebecca Quarno	March 2015
Nathaniel Stafford	March 2016

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION Alternates** (2 yrs.)

Charles McCleary	March 2013
Sean Dwyer	March 2014

**CT WATER COMPANY CUSTOMER ADVISORY COUNCIL** (1 yr.)

George Shaw	August 2012
Alternate – <i>Vacant</i>	August 2012

**DEPUTY REGISTRARS OF VOTERS** (4 yrs.)

Roberta Printy ( <i>Republican</i> )	January 2015
Debra A. Riley ( <i>Democrat</i> )	January 2015

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)**

(4 yrs.)

Sean Kelly, <i>Chairman</i>	July 2012
David Hurley	July 2014
Charles McCleary	July 2013
Stanislav Moline	July 2014
Christopher Todd	July 2015

**Alternates** (2 yrs.)

Stefanie Cunningham	January 2013
Joseph Dorreman	January 2013
Gilbert Gamboa, Jr.	January 2013

**ETHICS COMMISSION** (4 yrs.)

Elizabeth Feldman <i>Interim Chairman</i>	January 31, 2013
Jennifer Lovett	January 31, 2016
Elaine Pont	January 31, 2014
Maya Smyth	January 31, 2015
<i>Vacant</i>	January 31, 2016

**HOUSING AUTHORITY** (5 yrs.)

Stephen Bidwell, <i>Chairman</i>	June 2015
Donald J. Gessay	June 2014
Judith Plantier	June 2017
Harold Tibbetts	June 2013
Albert Wachsmann	June 2016
Ted Yampanis, Executive Director	

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION** (4 yrs.)

Melinda Ferry, <i>Chairman</i>	January 2014
Hocine Baouche	January 2014
Yale Cantor	January 2014
Helen Filloramo	January 2016
Susan Hannigan	January 2016
Anne Nickerson	January 2016
Susan Stack	January 2016
<i>Vacant</i>	January 2016

**INLAND/WETLANDS AGENCY** (4 yrs.)

Kenneth Braga, <i>Chairman</i>	January 2015
Hocine Baouche	January 2013
Joseph Boucher	January 2015
Ron Brown	January 2013
Jean Burns	January 2013
Steven Hoffman	January 2015
Beth O'Neill	January 2015

**Alternates** (2 yrs.)

<i>Vacant</i>	January 2014
<i>Vacant</i>	January 2013



**INSURANCE ADVISORY BOARD (4 yrs.)**

Audrey Kubas, <i>Chairman</i>	April 2015
Jonathan Allen	April 2013
Mark Boone	April 2015
Lisa K. Howard	April 2015
Diane O'Hagan	April 2013
Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr., Finance Officer (Ex-officio)	

**LAND RECORDS INSPECTOR (1 yr.)**

Nancy Lemek	September 2013
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**MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL #15 (3 yrs.)**

Beryl Cantor	January 2013
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**NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS (3 yrs.)**

Edward S. Kramer	June 2013
Tami Miller	June 2013

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION (4 yrs.)**

Gordon Oliver, <i>Chairman</i>	January 2016
Thomas Boscarino	January 2016
Cynthia Costanzo	January 2016
Shay Diwinsky	January 2014
Kevin Hayes	January 2014
Robert Larew	January 2016
Matthew Maznicki	January 2014
Thomas Stauffer	January 2014
Christopher Weitz	January 2014

**PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE (4 yrs.)**

Peter W. Welty, <i>Chairman</i>	February 2014
Thomas Adams	February 2014
Gary T. Feldman, Sr.	February 2014
Jeffrey Gerber	February 2012
Katherine Heminway	February 2014
Gary Magnuson	February 2012
Lori Spielman	February 2012
Ronald Stomberg (BOS Rep)	December 2013
Gary Blanchette (Board of Education Rep)	November 2013
John Racheck (Board of Finance Rep)	December 2013
David Stavens (Planning & Zoning Rep)	December 2013
Timothy Webb, Public Works Director ( <i>Ex-officio</i> )	

**PLANNING AND ZONING ALTERNATES (2 yrs.)**

F. Michael Francis	September 2012
James M. Prichard	September 2012

**SENIOR CENTER ENDOWMENT FUND (3 yrs.)**

Carolyn Cook	October 2014
William H. Enes, Jr.	October 2013
June N. Lyons	October 2012

**VERNON AREA CABLE TV ADVISORY COUNCIL**

(2 yrs.)

Michael Young	June 2013
<i>Vacant</i>	June 2012

**VISITING NURSE & HEALTH SERVICES OF CT., INC., BOARD OF DIRECTORS (1 yr.)**

J. Renee Irvin	June 2013
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**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY (4 yrs.)**

Daniel Parisi, <i>Chairman</i>	April 2013
Edward Duell	April 2014
<i>Vacant</i>	April 2015
Paul F. Gilbert	April 2014
Shawn Koehler	April 2016

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ALTERNATES (2 yrs.)**

Ronald Brown	August 2013
Rodger Hosig	August 2012
Ronald Stomberg	August 2012

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE**

(Terms to January 2013)

***Democrat***

Yale Cantor	Thomas J. Dzicek
Glenora Forbes	Frank C. Graziani
John M. Halloran, Jr.	James R. Josephiac
Edwin M. Lavitt	Dennis Milanovich
Thaddeus J. Okolo	Mark R. Spurling
Rachel Wheeler-Rossow	

***Republican***

Clifford L. Aucter	Maurice W. Blanchette
Peter J. Charter	Robert J. Clements
Dale T. Cunningham	Ann L. Harford
Leonard A. Johnson	

***Unaffiliated***

Bettie Rivard-Darby	James Darby
Richard J. Sabonis, Sr.	Elizabeth C. Waters

# Ellington Public Schools

## Opening and Closing Schedule

### Ellington High School

37 Maple Street

(860) 896-2352

**Mr. Neil Rinaldi, Principal**

Nurse B (860) 896-2352

7:15 a.m. - 1:55 p.m.

7:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.\*

### Ellington Middle School

46 Middle Butcher Road

(860) 896-2339

**Mr. David Pearson, Principal**

Nurse B (860) 896-2344

7:22 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

7:22 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.\*

### Center School

49 Main Street

(860) 896-2315

**Ms. Trudie Luck Roberts, Principal**

Nurse B (860) 896-2320

8:50 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

8:50 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.\*

### Crystal Lake School

284 Sandy Beach Road

(860) 896-2322

**Mr. Michael Larkin, Principal**

Nurse B (860) 896-2323

8:50 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

8:50 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.\*

### Windermere School

Elementary: Grades K-4

Intermediate: Grades 5-6

2 Abbott Road

(860) 896-2329

**Mr. Steven Moccio, Principal**

Nurse B (860) 896-2337

8:50 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

8:50 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.\*

8:00 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.\*

\* Opening and closing schedule for early dismissal days.

## Kindergarten Schedule

### Regular Schedule Early Dismissal

A.M. Session 8:50 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

P.M. Session 12:35 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

A.M. Session 8:50 a.m. - 10:42 a.m.

P.M. Session 11:22 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

### Preschool Schedule

A.M. Session 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (M-F)

Extended 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (M-TH)

8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (F)

P.M. Session 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (M-TH)

A.M. Session 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Extended 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

P.M. Session 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

**In the case of a delay/late opening, all kindergarten and preschool a.m. sessions will be cancelled.**

All delays will be *two hours*.

## School Closing/Late Opening Announcements

Ellington school closings and late openings will be announced on WTIC (1080 AM, 96.5 FM ) as well as WFSB (TV Channel 3), WTNH (TV Channel 8), WVIT (TV Channel 30) and WTIC (TV Channel 61). In addition, all school closings, delays and early dismissals due to weather will be communicated through *School Messenger*.

Buses will not transport students to out-of-town schools when Ellington schools are closed.



# Ellington Public Schools

"Where Children Come First"

## August

S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4  
5 6 7 8 9 10 11  
12 13 14 15 16 17 18  
19 20 21 22 23 24 25  
26 27 28 29 30 31

## September

S M T W T F S

1  
2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
9 10 11 12 13 14 15  
16 17 18 19 20 21 22  
23 24 25 26 27 28 29  
30

## 2012-2013 School Calendar



## DATES

First Day of School ..... Aug 29

Last Day of School\*\* ..... Jun 10\*\*

\*\* Tentative

☐ ☐ **NO SCHOOL** ☐ ☐

Teacher Inservice ..... Aug 27  
Teacher Day ..... Aug 28  
Labor Day ..... Sept 3  
Columbus Day ..... Oct 8  
Teacher Inservice ..... Nov 6  
Thanksgiving ..... Nov 22-23  
Christmas Recess ..... Dec 24-Jan 1  
Martin Luther King Day .. Jan 21  
Presidents' Day ..... Feb 18  
Teacher Inservice ..... Feb 19  
Good Friday ..... Mar 29  
Spring Recess ..... Apr 15-19  
Memorial Day ..... May 27  
Teacher Day ..... June 11

## October

S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4 5 6  
7 8 9 10 11 12 13  
14 15 16 17 18 19 20  
21 22 23 24 25 26 27  
28 29 30 31

## November

S M T W T F S

1 2 3  
4 5 6 7 8 9 10  
11 12 13 14 15 16 17  
18 19 20 21 22 23 24  
25 26 27 28 29 30

## December

S M T W T F S

1  
2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
9 10 11 12 13 14 15  
16 17 18 19 20 21 22  
23 24 25 26 27 28 29  
30 31

## January

S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4 5  
6 7 8 9 10 11 12  
13 14 15 16 17 18 19  
20 21 22 23 24 25 26  
27 28 29 30 31

## February

S M T W T F S

1 2  
3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
10 11 12 13 14 15 16  
17 18 19 20 21 22 23  
24 25 26 27 28

## March

S M T W T F S

1 2  
3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
10 11 12 13 14 15 16  
17 18 19 20 21 22 23  
24 25 26 27 28 29 30  
31

○○ **EARLY DISMISSALS** ○○

7-8 Conferences ..... Nov 14-15  
½ Day - All Schools ..... Nov 21  
K-6 Conferences ..... Dec 5-7  
Christmas Recess ..... Dec 21  
7-8 Conferences ..... Feb 6-7  
K-6 Conferences ..... Mar 26-28  
Last Day ..... June 10\*\*  
High School Exams ..... T.B.D.  
(4 days in January & June)  
Graduation ..... June 14\*\*

\*\* Tentative

## April

S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4 5 6  
7 8 9 10 11 12 13  
14 15 16 17 18 19 20  
21 22 23 24 25 26 27  
28 29 30

## May

S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4  
5 6 7 8 9 10 11  
12 13 14 15 16 17 18  
19 20 21 22 23 24 25  
26 27 28 29 30 31

## June

S M T W T F S

1  
2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
9 10 11 12 13 14 15  
16 17 18 19 20 21 22  
23 24 25 26 27 28 29  
30

## NOTE

Make-up days will be scheduled after June 10th. If more than nine school cancellations occur, the days may be made up during the April vacation beginning with the last day of the week. This decision will be made by March 18, 2013.

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON TELEPHONE DIRECTORY**  
**(Area Code 860)**  
**IN AN EMERGENCY POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE DIAL 911**

NON EMERGENCY CALLS		TOWN HALL	
AMBULANCE:	870-3170	55 Main Street, PO Box 187; Ellington, CT 06029	
FIRE: Crystal Lake Fire District	870-3174	Hours: Monday 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM	
Center Fire Department	870-3190	Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM	
RESIDENT STATE TROOPER:	875-1522	Friday - 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM	
Sgt. Patrick Sweeney		Website: <a href="http://www.ellington-ct.gov">www.ellington-ct.gov</a>	
STATE POLICE – TROOP C:	896-3200	General Email: <a href="mailto:Info@Ellington-CT.Gov">Info@Ellington-CT.Gov</a>	
TDD/TT Phone for Hearing Impaired 870-3196			
<b>ADMINISTRATION:</b>		<b>PROBATE COURT:</b> 14 Park Place, Vernon	872-0519
Maurice W. Blanchette, First Selectman	870-3100	<b>PUBLIC WORKS:</b> 21 Main Street	
Selectman's Office Fax		Timothy Webb, Director	870-3140
<b>ANIMAL CONTROL:</b>		Public Works Fax	870-3147
Barbara Murdach, ACO	870-3155	<b>RECREATION:</b> 31 Arbor Way	
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>		Robert Tedford, Director	870-3118
Cindy Roman, Assessor	870-3109	Recreation Office Fax	870-3198
Assessor's Office Fax	870-3197	<b>RECYCLING/REFUSE COORDINATOR:</b>	
<b>BUILDING PERMITS:</b>		Timothy Webb	870-3140
Peter R. Williams, Building Official	870-3124	Bulky Waste Disposal	289-7850
Building Office Fax	870-3122	<b>SCHOOLS:</b>	
<b>BURNING PERMITS:</b>		Superintendent's Office: 47 Main Street	896-2300
Allan Lawrence, Fire Marshal	870-3126	Superintendent's Office Fax	896-2312
<b>CEMETERIES:</b>		Special Services	896-2300
Rachel Dearborn	875-8204	Center School	896-2315
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICE:</b>		Crystal Lake School	896-2322
Hockanum Valley Community Council	872-9905	Ellington High School	896-2352
<b>DEP CONSERVATION OFFICER:</b>		Guidance Office	896-2357
Laura Pettus	424-3333	Ellington Middle School	896-2339
<b>ELDERLY OUTREACH CASEWORKER:</b>		Windermere School	896-2329
Anna Turner	870-3131	<b>SENIOR CENTER:</b>	
<b>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:</b>		Erin Graziani, Director	870-3133
Donald Davis, Director	870-3182	Transportation	870-3137
Emergency Management Fax:	870-3768	Sr. Center Fax	870-3136
<b>FINANCE:</b>		<b>SEWER ADMINISTRATION:</b>	
Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr., Finance Officer	870-3115	Peter Williams, WPCA Administrator	870-3124
Bills and Accounts: Felicia LaPlante	870-3115	<b>SEWER MAINTENANCE:</b>	
Finance Office Fax	870-3158	Timothy Webb	870-3140
<b>FIRE MARSHAL:</b>		Emergency Maintenance Number	870-3145
Allan Lawrence	870-3126	<b>STATE ROADS:</b>	
Fire Marshal Fax	870-3122	East Windsor Garage	623-4473
<b>HEALTH:</b>		Vernon Garage	875-4993
North Central District Health Department:		<b>TAXES:</b>	
William Blitz, Director	745-0383	Ann Marie Conti, Tax Collector	870-3113
Visiting Nurse & Health Services, Inc.	872-9163	Tax Office Fax	870-3704
<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY:</b>		<b>TOWN CLERK/REGISTRAR VITAL STATS:</b>	
Ted Yampanis, Executive Director	872-6923	Diane McKeegan	870-3105
<b>HOUSING REHABILITATION:</b>	870-3132	Town Clerk Fax	870-3721
<b>HUMAN SERVICES:</b>		<b>TOWN PLANNER:</b>	
Doris Crayton, Director	870-3128	Robert A. Phillips	870-3120
Human Services Fax	870-3198	Planning Office Fax	870-3122
<b>LIBRARY, HALL MEMORIAL:</b>		<b>TREE WARDEN:</b>	
Susan Phillips, Director	870-3160	Timothy Webb	870-3140
<b>MUNICIPAL AGENT:</b>		<b>VOTING:</b>	
Anna Turner	870-3131	Susan Luginbuhl/Wanda DeLand	870-3107
Municipal Agent Fax	870-3198	<b>YOUTH SERVICES:</b>	
<b>POLICE: 33 Arbor Way</b>		Diane Lasher-Penti, Director	870-3130
Resident Troopers' Office	875-1522	Youth Services Fax	870-3198
Resident Troopers' Fax	870-3152	<b>ZONING &amp; WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT OFFICER</b>	
<b>POST OFFICE:</b>	875-6391	John Colonese	870-3120
		Zoning & Wetlands Fax	870-3122

**HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

TEL: 870-3160 – FAX: 870-3163 – E-mail: [hallmlib@ellington-ct.gov](mailto:hallmlib@ellington-ct.gov)

93 Main Street, PO Box 280

Hours: Mon-Thurs: 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Fri: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Saturday in July & August 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM)

Sunday: 1:00 PM to 5 PM October through May

HOUSING AUTHORITY - 872-6923

20 Main Street, PO Box 416 – Monday, Wednesday & Friday – 9:00 AM to Noon