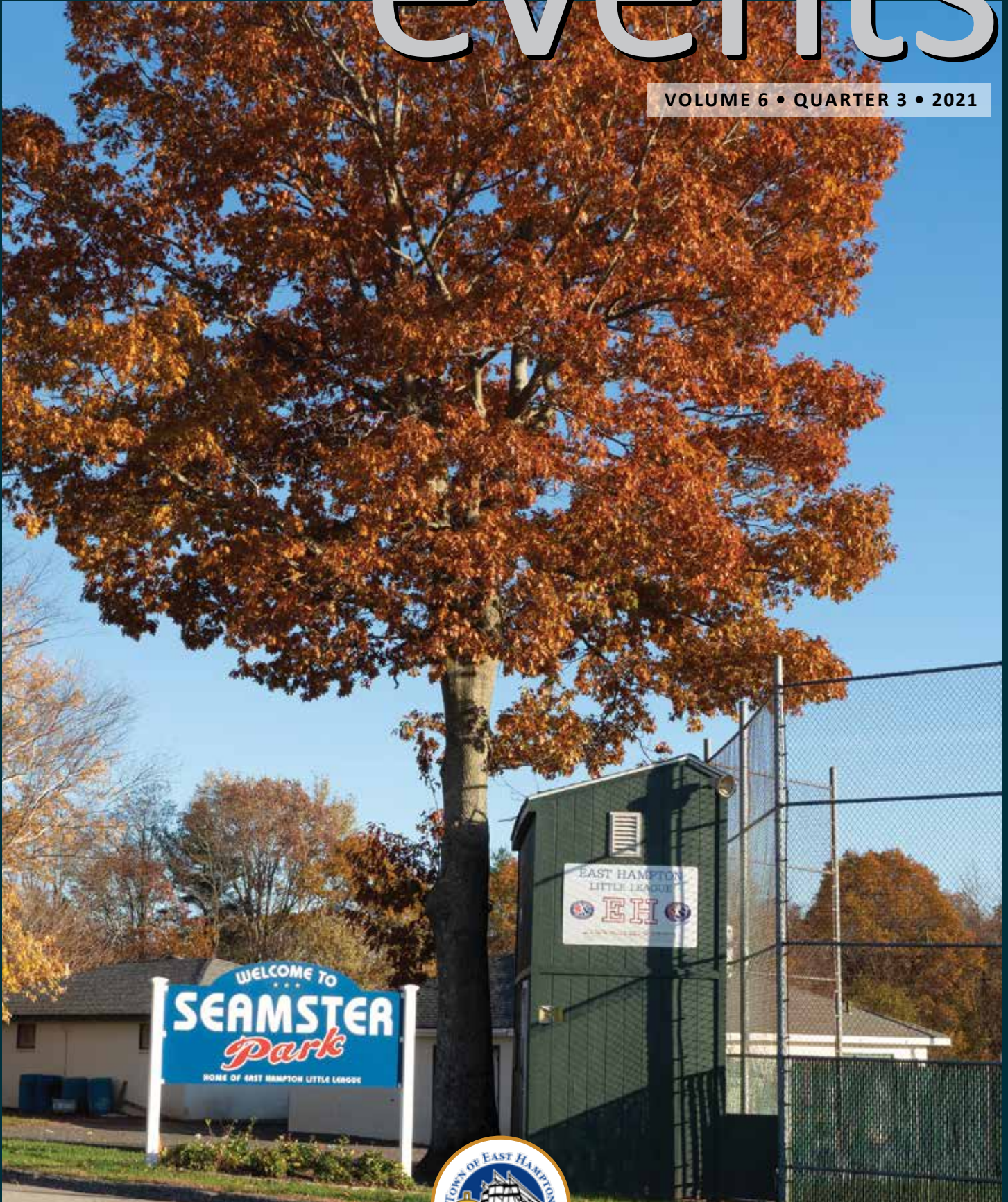


# East Hampton events

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# Town Manager's Corner

Hello East Hampton,

Fall is right around the corner and I am sure we are all hoping that the Town, State and Country are getting to a better situation quickly. It has certainly been difficult and trying times since March 2020. Despite the recent setbacks, we had a pretty great summer filled with lots of outdoor activities. Whether through the Recreation Department, the Library or the Senior Center, residents were participating in programs and activities at rates higher than they have ever been. Plus, as a community, we borrowed over 100,000 items in one year from our Library for the first time ever! As we don masks, get vaccinated and take other safety precautions, I hope we continue to engage and move forward into the fall and winter.



This fall, work will commence on the athletic fields at the High School including projects to improve the tennis courts, baseball field, track and soccer field. Based on the approval granted by the Town Meeting earlier this year, the nearly \$1.1 million project will be funded with unspent proceeds for the High School renovation project. Additionally, the Town is selecting an engineering firm to

assist it with identifying and developing one or more new water sources for the Town's water system as well as to work with the Town to develop the long-term plans for improving service in and around the Village Center as well as adjoining areas to address water quality and water quantity needs. With previously received grant funds, American Rescue Plan funds and, perhaps, other infrastructure funding from outside of East Hampton, we may be in a unique position to move appropriate plans forward.

Please enjoy this edition of East Hampton Events magazine. It is full of information on what the community has been doing and what it will be doing in the upcoming months. We hope the magazine is a great resource for its readers. As always, I encourage everyone to support our local businesses and especially those that sponsor this publication. The Town regularly publishes a local business guide that is available in the Town Hall and at various locations around Town. I invite readers to pick one up.

Stay well, stay safe and have a terrific fall!



David E. Cox  
Town Manager

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# East Hampton Economic Development Commission

Our mission is: "To successfully attract new business, retain established business and improve the quality of life of East Hampton residents, visitors and tourists." We congratulate the following businesses, Roberts LakeHouse Restaurant and The Tavern on 66 on being named "Belltown Spotlight on Business" monthly honorees. Please contact any member of the EDC or the Town Manager to nominate a business for this award. Current EDC members are Matt Reich, Ted Turner, Tim Csere, Robyn Letourneau, Walt Jedziniak and Jase Doane. EDC meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm in the EH Town Hall Meeting Room. All are welcome and please remember "shop local and put your money where your house is!"



East Hampton EDC Member Ted Turner presents Robert Reson of Roberts LakeHouse Restaurant and his team the Business of the Month proclamation. Robert's LakeHouse Restaurant is located at 81 North Main Street overlooking Lake Pocotopaug and serves a fine selection of American

Cuisine. They are open Tuesday through Sunday for lunch and dinner. If you want a thoughtfully crafted meal, a cold drink and outstanding service give Robert a call at 860-365-5216 to make a reservation. Outside patio with live music, weather permitting. Website is <https://robertslakehouse.com/>

East Hampton EDC Member Ted Turner presents the Business of the Month proclamation to Tavern on 66 Owner Bonnie Desso Rau. The Tavern on 66 is located at 227 West High Street and their phone number is 860-267-6569. The Tavern serves a fine array of locally sourced fruits, vegetables, cheeses and smoked meats. They also have drink specials and serve craft beers. Try the wings! The Tavern is open seven days a week so give Bonnie a call for specials and to make reservations. Outside patio dining available weather permitting. Website is [www.tavernon66.com](http://www.tavernon66.com). Save on gas and time and dine locally.




## Police Department

The East Hampton Police Department would like to remind everyone to be aware of school buses picking up and dropping off students with the start of the new school year. Motorists are required to stop for a school bus whenever the flashing red signal lights are displayed. Motorists who fail to stop can be issued an Infraction for 14-279, which carries a fine of \$470.00 dollars.



The Town of East Hampton, like other towns, is not immune to the occasional rash of car burglaries or stolen vehicles that are often committed by juveniles. Prevention efforts on the part of residents can help prevent future incidents. In almost all the cases in which the vehicles were entered, the vehicle was left unlocked. In cases in which the car was stolen, the keys were left in the vehicle. Please remove the keys from your vehicle, lock all doors and remove valuables from plain sight. DO NOT attempt to intervene if you see someone attempting to break into your vehicle, these individuals are now resorting to violence when confronted. PLEASE just dial 911. Your efforts can prevent future incidents.




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## Lake-Smart Award Evaluation

The East Hampton Conservation & Lake Commission (C&LC) started the "Lake-Smart Award Program" for property owners living on Lake Pocotopaug or in the surrounding watershed. The purpose is to encourage property owners to improve the quality of Lake Pocotopaug by doing projects to prevent infiltration of phosphates, nitrates, pesticides, and other impurities from entering the lake. Those that achieve seven requirements will receive a Lake-Smart Award sign they can display on their property. It is hoped the program will not only improve the quality of the lake but also encourage neighbors to make improvements to their property,

Congratulations to these other families in the Lake Pocotopaug Water Shed who have received the "Lake-Smart Award" in 2020: Pam Joslyn and Gary Greenwald of Hale Road, John Roche Family and Ellen Braun Family both on Raymond Road, Cap & Craig Nelson on Lakewood Road, and Lynn & Marty Podskoch on O'Neill Lane.

Some of the seven criteria property owners will be evaluated on are do they have a "buffer zone," rain gardens, diversion ditches, etc. that contain stormwater runoff before it reaches the lake. Do owners refrain from using chemical fertilizers containing phosphates and nitrates or using pesticides and herbicides. In mowing their lawn do they maintain the level of their lawn at 2 ½-3" and use a mulching blade instead of bagging grass clippings. Do they cover bare soil areas with mulch or plantings. Do they refrain from feeding water fowl and discourage them from coming onto their property. Finally, do they prevent leaves and grass clippings from entering the lake.

Those wishing to be evaluated for the award should contact: Jeremy Hall of the Parks & Recreation Dept. (860-267-7300 or [jhall@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:jhall@easthamptonct.gov)) or Jeremy DeCarli of the Planning & Zoning Dept. (860-267-7450 or [jdecarli@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:jdecarli@easthamptonct.gov))



Don Burr, a resident of 29 Bay Rd. was awarded the "Lake Smart Award" for managing his property to benefit Lake Pocotopaug. Burr's grandfather was one of the original members of the Bay Point Community in the early 1900s and Don tries to keep native plants as a buffer along his shoreline and throughout his property. Photo by Martin Podskoch

or any members of the C&LC. An appointment will be arranged for a C&LC member(s) to visit the owners and help them evaluate their property. If there is a deficiency, owners will be given suggestions on improving their property. If they achieve all the goals, they will receive a Lake-Smart Award. We can all work together to have a cleaner lake.

### Fire Marshal

## Thanksgiving Safety

The East Hampton Fire Marshal wants to stress the importance of safety in the kitchen this Thanksgiving holiday. There is a lot of activities & commotion within the kitchen on this holiday, so practice these safety tips to have a fun and safe Thanksgiving.

- Always keep an eye on your food so stay in proximity of your cooking area.
- Frequently check on the food while cooking and NEVER leave the home when cooking.

- Children should be kept at least 3 feet from the stove.
- Ensure the children stay away from not only the stove but hot food
- Keep a clean working area to ensure no tripping accidents occur
- Always keep knives in a safe location- especially away from children
- Electric cords should not be reachable by children and should remain untangled



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# Land Use Department

Land Use Department has begun a planning effort to improve the Village Center and create bike and pedestrian friendly connections throughout the area. With the Air Line Trail State Park running through the Village Center, bike and pedestrian infrastructure is a necessary component of this plan.

The goal of this project is to encourage walkability in the Village Center, create pedestrian and bike friendly connectivity, and create an overall attractive space where residents and visitors alike want to stop and spend time. Some preliminary ideas include general streetscape improvements, wayfinding, additional public gathering spaces, and the incorporation of cultural and historical elements to add to the aesthetic of the Village Center.

As of now preliminary research has taken place, as well as meetings with the business owners from the Village Center to gain valuable insight. An inventory of existing conditions has been started in the Village Center focusing on current infrastructure, such as crosswalks, sidewalks, bike racks, trash, and recycling receptacles, parking, open space, and signage. These elements were some of those addressed by the business owners and found as valuable and necessary components to the aesthetic, and functionality of the Village Center.

On August 3, the department held a planning event attended by about 15 residents where we were able to gain valuable insight. A draft plan is currently in the works and is scheduled to be made public around Labor Day. Final comments will be received, and the final plan should be completed by late September.

This project is being led by our intern, Chris Roberts, a recent CCSU Planning program graduate and is funded through a grant from the Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association.

- Lock up matches and utility lighters so children cannot reach or find them
- Children should never be near or left alone with lit candles
- Test your smoke alarms and ensure they are working



If you have any Questions, please do not hesitate to contact the East Hampton Fire Marshal Richard Klotzbier. He can be reached at 860-267-0088 or via email at [firemarshal@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:firemarshal@easthamptonct.gov)

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# 2021 East Hampton & Portland Electric Car Show

The East Hampton and Portland Clean Energy Task Forces are organizing the Third Annual “Electric Car Show” on Saturday, September 25, 2021 at the East Hampton High School from 12 noon to 3 pm (Rain Date is Sunday, September 26th). Come join them as they showcase electric, hybrid, and alternative fuel cars from private owners and various dealerships.

The Task Forces are also inviting residents who own any electric, hybrid or alternative fuel vehicle to register their clean energy machine too. There is no registration fee, but the deadline to register your vehicle for the show is Friday, September 17.

Registration is also open, at no charge, to any companies, town groups, non-profits, associations or clubs with an interest in promoting clean and renewable energy. Simply register for a booth at the show.



Visitors to the 2017 Electric Car Show looking at electric and hybrid vehicles on display. Pamela Rinaldi

All participants can register online at [www.easthamptonrec.com](http://www.easthamptonrec.com), or by emailing the East Hampton Clean Energy Task Force at [ehcetf@gmail.com](mailto:ehcetf@gmail.com) or call us 860-748-5165.

The Clean Energy Task Forces are volunteer committees dedicated to

promoting green energy alternatives in their towns. The East Hampton Parks and Recreation Department is coordinating online registration for the event.

So, come on out, show off your ride or just do some green window-shopping with us and have some good “clean” fun!

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## Town Clerk's Office

REMINDER - All dogs over six months were to be licensed by the 30th of June. A one-dollar fee will be charged for each month late.

Dog licenses may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Tuesday, 8:00 am to 6:30 pm and Friday, 8:00 am to 12:30 pm, by mail or online. If applying by mail please include a check for the proper fee made payable to the East Hampton Town Clerk, all certificates, and a self-addressed stamped envelope, and mail to Town Clerk, Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. To renew online you must have a current rabies certificate on file with the Town Clerk's Office. You can access the on-line dog renewal system at [www.easthamptonct.gov/town-clerk/pages/dog-licenses](http://www.easthamptonct.gov/town-clerk/pages/dog-licenses)



If you would like to update any information on your dog license, you may either go to the Town Clerk's office or email [townclerk@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:townclerk@easthamptonct.gov)

**November 2nd** is the date of the municipal election. Absentee ballots will become available on October 1st. The application can be obtained in person, via mail or by visiting [www.easthamptonct.gov/town-clerk/pages/absentee-ballots](http://www.easthamptonct.gov/town-clerk/pages/absentee-ballots)



# East Hampton Social Services

## Energy Assistance

Please contact Christine at (860) 267-4468 ext. 3208 to coordinate your 2021/2022 winter energy assistance application to apply for this program. We are still following COVID precautions, and the application process is being conducted mainly over the phone. Processing by CRT may take up to 45 business days, so please factor that in when planning. This program is to assist with your primary heating source, and any funds that you qualify for become available for use in November. Please call/email (cwiesner@easthamptonct.gov) to acquire the list of required documents needed to determine your eligibility. Do not wait until you are out of fuel! In the event you are approved for energy assistance, and are in need of a delivery, it is best to request your delivery 5-7 business days before you will be in need of the fuel. This ensures enough time for the request to get to your approved vendor and for them to deliver to your home in a timely manner.

East Hampton Social Services continues to assist residents with applications and renewals for DSS services. If you are in need of assistance with either, please call us to discuss. Most of these we can help with remotely.

Eversource: If you are struggling to keep up with your electric bill, contact us and we can help to find what options may be available to your household.

Residents who are struggling financially, short-term or long-term are encouraged to contact Social Services to discuss resources and options that may be available. We recommend residents contact us as soon as they feel a need. All information disclosed is handled with confidentiality.

## Holiday Giving

The season of giving is upon us! Contact Christine (860-267-4468, ext 3208/cwiesner@easthamptonct.gov) if you are interested in finding out how you may be able to help families in our community or if you would like to be considered as a recipient.

## East Hampton Youth & Family Services

Youth & Family Services continues to provide free counseling to the community. Each of our therapy rooms have been updated to include fidgets and sensory integration items for our clients. Our clinicians provide individual and family counseling.

We would like to thank Epoch Arts for partnering with us on an office-wide art installation that will be completed entirely by East Hampton Youth. The project, which was made possible through enhancement grant funding, is meant to incorporate key concepts of inclusion, diversity, respect, and mental health. The project will be taking place over the next couple of months. We encourage families to visit our Facebook Page for dates and registration information if any youth want to register for a paint night. When the project is complete Youth & Family/Social Services will invite the community in for an open house to see the final product.



east hampton  
prevention  
partnership

As a Local Prevention Council, the East Hampton Prevention Partnership is dedicated to reducing the substance abuse among young people. Our mission is to foster a culture that values the wellbeing of East Hampton's youth. We strive to instill self-acceptance, self-confidence, and goal setting to promote healthy choices. In collaboration with community stakeholders, we offer educational programs and outreach initiatives.

We are currently looking for new High School students to join the Youth Committee during the 2021-2022 school year and beyond. Students involved will run peer to peer campaigns to promote healthy lifestyles among their classmates. Please call or email the Prevention Coordinator, Courtney Widrick at 860-267-4468 Ext. 3227 or cwidrick@easthamptonct.gov

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All proceeds fund the East Hampton Rotary Club and 100% of the proceeds will be supporting community service projects.

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Blackledge Country Club, 180 West Street, Hebron, CT 06248

Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 (rain date October 13th)

Registration: 10:00 am - Noon

Lunch: 11:00 am

Shot Gun Start: 12:00 Noon

Format: Scramble (prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams, closest to the pin, longest drive, closest to the line)

Dinner follows the tournament. All prizes given after dinner. A tee-cup raffle with many great prizes will also be held!

Virtual auction and live auction to be held with separate prizes. Virtual auction will start October 1 closing October 6 at midnight. Live auction will be after dinner.

There will be a putting contest from 10:00 am to 11:30 am with a 50/50 payout

You may register online by typing this URL [tinyurl.com/5h5sf7pf](http://tinyurl.com/5h5sf7pf) or click on this link <https://easthamptonct.rotary7980gives.org/redmckinneyrotarygolftournament>

Contact Pam Joslyn at [pjoslyngreenwald@gmail.com](mailto:pjoslyngreenwald@gmail.com) for a registration or sponsor form.

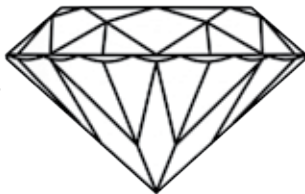
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## A Reminder

There is not an additional mailing for the second installment of taxes due in January. Please use your payment voucher that was included with your July tax bill. If you have misplaced your bill you may look it up by visiting [www.easthamptonct.gov](http://www.easthamptonct.gov) or contact the Tax Office at (860) 267-2300.

# Chatham Historical Society News

## Historic House Tour

This year's historic house tour will be Saturday, September 25th from 10:00am – 4:00pm. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, a house tour could not be offered in 2020. Many people have inquired about a tour this year, so save the date. Six fabulous residences will be included in this East Hampton event. Tickets for the event are \$20 and will be available at the East Hampton Public Library and in the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall. For additional information on this event, please call 860-267-4732.

The Chatham Historical Society Museum is open the first Sunday of every month from 2:00pm – 4:00pm or by appointment, call 860-267-8953.

## ***We Hope You're Enjoying Events Magazine!***

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# Office of the Assessor

In accordance with Connecticut General Statute 12-40, all persons who are liable to pay taxes on tangible personal property belonging to them on October 1, 2021, must file a declaration of their personal property on or before Monday, November 1, 2021, with the Assessor, or be subject to an estimated assessment and the statutory 25% penalty. Various exemptions are explained on the declaration and available if filed on time.

## NO DECLARATION IS REQUIRED FOR MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED IN EAST HAMPTON, CT

## NO DECLARATION IS REQUIRED FOR REAL ESTATE

Personal property includes, but is not limited to, non-CT registered motor vehicles, unregistered motor vehicles (including junk autos), campers, all business machinery, equipment, tools, commercial furniture and fixtures.

If you no longer own a motor vehicle and have cancelled the registration at

DMV, please bring the DMV plate receipt and one of the following forms of proof in order to receive a tax credit. The documentation must have the VIN# and all the corroborating information.

## UNREGISTERED VEHICLES STILL OWNED AND LOCATED IN EAST HAMPTON WILL REMAIN ON THE GRAND LIST.

- A. A copy of the bill of sale.
- B. A copy of the transfer of title (i.e., receipt from junkyard, trade-in paperwork, donation receipt).
- C. A copy of the original registration issued to the person to whom you sold the vehicle.
- D. A copy of the registration in another state.
- E. Documentation from an insurance company, i.e.; payment for a stolen vehicle, payment for a totaled vehicle, cancellation of coverage due to sale of vehicle.

The Assessor's office may require a combination of additional information or verification of the preceding items, as necessary, for the removal or crediting of a motor vehicle assessment.

## TRANSFERRED PLATES:

When the registration is transferred to a new or replacement vehicle, the adjustment follows the plate. The over payment on the July tax bill is applied to the supplemental tax bill in December.



## The filing deadlines for various exemptions and classifications are as follows:

**PUBLIC ACT 490:** All applications for classification of farm or forestland must be received by October 31, 2021.

## East Hampton Town Directory

[www.easthamptonct.gov](http://www.easthamptonct.gov)

Animal Control (24 hour dispatch).....	860-873-5044	Land Use .....	860-267-7450
Assessor .....	860-267-2510	Parks & Recreation .....	860-267-7300
Board of Education .....	860-365-4000	Police Department (non-emergency).....	860-267-9544
Building.....	860-267-9601	Probate Court .....	860-295-6239
Chatham Health District .....	860-365-0884	Public Library .....	860-267-6621
Chatham Historical Society.....	860-202-5308	Public Works.....	860-267-4747
Collector of Revenue.....	860-267-2300	Registrars.....	860-267-6720
Emergency Management.....	860-267-0088	Senior Center .....	860-267-4426
Finance Department .....	860-267-7548	Town Clerk .....	860-267-2519
Fire Marshal .....	860-267-0088	Town Manager.....	860-267-4468
Food Bank .....	860-365-5978	Water Pollution Control Authority .....	860-267-2536
Housing Authority .....	860-267-8498	Youth & Family/Social Services.....	860-267-9982
Human Resources .....	860-267-4468		

**VETERANS:** All property owners claiming exemption due to military service must file their DD214 form with the Town Clerk by September 30, 2021. Veterans claiming disability exemption must submit proof from the Veterans Administration.

**DISABILITY:** Persons totally disabled receiving SSD benefits may be eligible for a \$1000 property exemption. Proof of award and application must be submitted by January 31, 2021.

**ELDERLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED RENTER'S REBATE PROGRAM:**

Residents 65 years of age or totally disabled may be eligible for a rent rebate under CT State law; income guidelines apply and are adjusted each year. Applications must be received by October 1, 2021.

Please call the office with any questions at 860-267-2510. Thank you.



**Automatic Fuel Delivery Price Protection Programs**

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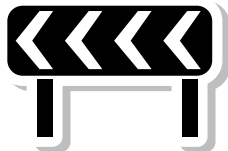
**Public Works**



Summer work for the Public Works Department is winding down. Filling of potholes, road sweeping, tree work, roadside mowing and gravel road maintenance have been a part of the daily routine. Catch basin cleaning, line painting, and curbing will be completed before adverse weather sets in. Public Works equipment is being repaired and maintained for in season work and being readied for winter use.

Along with our normal road and fleet maintenance operations, the Public Works Department has undertaken several projects throughout the town including pavement shimming work on Mott Hill Road and White Birch Road. Additionally, drainage projects have been undertaken on Edgerton Street, Ridgeview Drive, and Navajo Trail.

Crews from Indus Inc. have completed crack sealing operations on Hurd Park Road, Hog Hill Road, Haddam Neck Road, Carriage Drive and Emily Lane. Crack sealing is an important pavement preservation technique that prevents water from seeping into the pavement structure causing premature failure.



The Town recycling center is fully open again accepting normal recycling materials. The normal hours of the recycling center are Saturdays 7:30 am to 3:00 pm.

**Wanted to Buy:**

**Private Collector**

looking to buy most any items related to East Hampton, Cobalt and Middle Haddam, CT.

Post Cards, Pictures, Toys, Paper, Bells, Souvenirs, Old Home Days, etc... N.N. Hill, Bevin, Starr Bros. Gong Bell, etc...

**Anything East Hampton!!!**

*Please keep my "Want to Buy"*

always on File and let others know of my wants as well.

**Call or Write:**

James (Jay) Hansen  
15 Fairlawn Ave.

E. Hampton, CT 06424

**860-267-9074**



**MISSION STATEMENT:** The East Hampton Parks and Recreation Department is committed to providing innovative program opportunities and well-maintained facilities that enrich the East Hampton community.

**STAFF**

Jeremy Hall, Director  
 Shawn Mullen, Program Coordinator  
 Sheri Yorker, Office Assistant  
 Morgan Slossberg, Program Leader  
 Joshua Seymour, Parks Maintainer II

**ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

Deborah McKinney, Chairperson  
 Tim Adams  
 Sheryl Dougherty  
 Courtney Hyte  
 Jeff Leith  
 Daniel Roy  
 Jessica Rurka

**CONTACT INFORMATION  
 PARKS AND RECREATION  
 DEPARTMENT**

www.easthamptonct.gov  
 Telephone: 860-267-7300  
 Jeremy Hall: jhall@easthamptonct.gov  
 Shawn Mullen: smullen@easthamptonct.gov  
 Sheri Yorker: syorker@easthamptonct.gov  
 Morgan Slossberg: mslossberg@easthamptonct.gov

**Mailing Address and Physical Location  
 have changed.**

We are now located at the New Town Hall!  
 Parks and Recreation  
 1 Community Drive  
 East Hampton, CT. 06424

**Afternoon Adventures  
 After-School Program**

860-367-5429 – Memorial School location  
 860-781-0209 - Center School location  
 (if in use)

**Youth and Family Services**

860-267-9982

**SEARS PARK FACILITIES:** All rental request forms are available online at www.easthamptonct.gov.

**PAVILION:** Residents of East Hampton can rent the Pavilion for events for full or half-day rentals. The fees are \$75/half-day or \$125/full day. All reservations require a security deposit of \$125.

**LION'S PICNIC SHELTER:** Sears Park patrons may use this shelter when it is not reserved. Reservations are posted daily on the small kiosk next to the shelter with the specific reservations for that day. There is no cost to reserve the shelter. However, a completed reservation form is required.

**GOVERNOR WILLIAM A. O'NEILL**

**PERFORMING ARTS GAZEBO:** The Gazebo can be used for small family-oriented performances and programs such as small musical performances, magic shows, plays, variety groups, etc. Music concerts are restricted to acoustic, instrumental or small jazz venues. Weddings and other special celebrations will be considered. Venues are lawn seating. The gazebo will not be used for loud bands and or concerts. The fees are \$75 per day and a \$25 additional fee is added on if electrical or stage lighting is required. All reservations also require a \$125 security deposit.

**FREQUENTLY REQUESTED  
 INFORMATION:**

**EAST HAMPTON LITTLE LEAGUE**

- www.easthamptonlittleleague.sportssignup.com
- For boys and girls ages 6 - 18 (by July 31 of the current year)
- Registration takes place in January
- Practices for the season begin in late March
- Opening day is in April
- Fall season begins in September and is open for children ages 8 years and up

**EAST HAMPTON TRAVEL BASEBALL**

Tom Weyrauch – 860-881-7360

**YOUTH FOOTBALL  
 AND CHEERLEADING**

www.ehyouthfootball.org  
 For boys and girls ages 7 - 14  
 email: info@ehyouthfootball.org

**EAST HAMPTON SOCCER CLUB  
 TOWN RECREATIONAL LEAGUE**

www.easthamptonsoccerclub.org  
 For boys and girls pre K-8  
 Spring season is late March-June  
 Registration for spring takes place in January

Fall season is late August-October  
 Registration for fall takes place in June

**TRAVEL SOCCER**

www.easthamptonsoccerclub.org  
 For boys and girls ages 8 – 18  
 Email Soccer Club for tryout information

**JOSEPH N. GOFF HOUSE**

Contact: Brian Lemire - 860-467-4001

**EPOCH ARTS**

www.epocharts.org  
 email: info@epocharts.org  
 Contact: Elizabeth Namen 860-365-0337

# PARKS & RECREATION

## Registration & Program Information

Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic our program offerings are ever changing based on local and state guidelines. Please check out [www.easthamptonrec.com](http://www.easthamptonrec.com) for the latest schedule and offerings. Our programs all follow in accordance with current CDC and OEC guidelines. Program enrollments are accepted online at [www.easthamptonrec.com](http://www.easthamptonrec.com). Registration forms are available online at [www.easthamptonrec.com](http://www.easthamptonrec.com) or at the Parks and Recreation Office.

All registration forms must include payment. Payment is required at the time of registration. All registrations are taken on a first come, first serve basis. We accept MasterCard and Visa. Please make checks payable to East Hampton Parks and Recreation. Cash payments should be made in the office only. Please do not try to register or pay program instructors unless indicated.

Registration confirmations are available by e-mail if subscribed to on your main account page at [www.easthamptonct.gov](http://www.easthamptonct.gov). No other confirmations are provided; however, if you have registered with us and paid, you will be on the final roster.

## Program Refund Policy

If you are unable to attend a program you have registered for, please contact us. You must contact us 7 days before a program starts to receive a 100% refund. Cancellations inside of 7 days will receive a 50% refund or be issued an account credit for another activity. After the program starts no refunds will be issued. Our ability to refund money for trip cancellations depends on our contractual agreement with the travel companies.

In the event of inclement weather, all programs are cancelled if school is closed or has an early dismissal. Cancellation information is posted on WFSB Channel 3 Early Warning Network. Households who have subscribed to the online registration site's e-mail notifications will receive an e-mail regarding the cancellation.

Program times are subject to change based on enrollment numbers. Programs will be cancelled if the minimum enrollment number is not reached. Applications for reduced-tuition scholarships are available at the Parks and Recreation Office and Youth and Family Services. All information is strictly confidential. This is an application process. Only programs run directly by East Hampton Parks and Recreation qualify.

A portion of your enrollment fee may be put into your Special Revenue Program account for the East Hampton Parks & Recreation Department to maintain or enhance this program or other programs. This fund is not associated with the General Fund of the Town of East Hampton.

## Fall Programming

Fall programming is being added to the schedule as we have dates finalized. As they are finalized, they will be posted to [www.easthamptonrec.com](http://www.easthamptonrec.com). We have many great offerings scheduled for the fall and winter seasons. Check out our website for all programs.

## Trunk or Treat! – October 28 –

5:30pm – 7:00pm

Our Annual Trunk or Treat event is BACK! This is one of our all-time favorites. Families, local businesses and organizations register now to decorate your vehicle and win some great prizes! Participants decorate their vehicles (trunks) and kids trick or treat to each vehicle. To host a vehicle or come to the event please pre-register on [www.easthamptonrec.com](http://www.easthamptonrec.com). Participants hosting a vehicle should provide candy (we will have extra on hand if you run out).

## Morning and Afternoon Adventures Before and After School Program

Afternoon Adventures meets at Memorial Elementary School before and after school each day from 7:00 am - 8:30 am and 3:00



pm - 6:00 pm. Students in grades K-5 may attend the

program. Program attendance options are 2 days a week, 3 days a week, or 5 days a week. Registration is done on a monthly basis, either online or at the Parks and Recreation Office. You must enroll for the whole month each month and pay in advance. There are a limited number of openings in this program.

Please send your child with a healthy snack each day. The children have time for play outside (weather permitting) every day or time in the gym. Everyone does homework or quiet reading; then they enjoy crafts, games, special guests and play with staff and their peers until pickup time. Care is provided on scheduled school half days from when school gets out until 6:00pm for no additional charge. A discount is offered if doing both before and after school.

Options are 2 days a week, 3 days a week or 5 days a week. When doing part time note the days of the week at checkout. Rates for the months are firm, there are no adjustments if your schedule does not align, or you miss days of school.

Students from Center School are bussed to Memorial School in the afternoon, and from Memorial School to Center school in the morning.

**Location:** Memorial Elementary School.

**Dates:** First day of school to last day of school.

**Times:** 7:00 am - 8:30 am and 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

If you are registering for both before and after care. Put the before care portion in your cart first, and the after-school portion will be discounted 10% at checkout.

For pricing, please visit [www.easthamptonrec.com](http://www.easthamptonrec.com) or call the office at 860-267-7300.

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# EYEGLASSES SUNGLASSES CONTACT LENSES



## ***PALMER EYECARE NEWS***

We are excited to announce that MARTIN L. HELLMAN, OD, FAAO has joined Dr. JEFFREY M. PALMER in offering expert, full-service, comprehensive medical and optometric eye care Monday through Friday in our East Hampton office. Please call for an appointment.

Our contact lens clinic has reopened. We have contact lenses for every eye condition. Multifocal lenses for great distance and near vision, special daily lenses for people with very dry eyes and custom lenses for very high prescriptions, sports and corneal irregularities.

COVID-19 is still with us. We require all patients to wear a mask in our office (which we will give you) for everyone's

protection. Everyone on our staff has been vaccinated.

If masks are causing your eyeglasses to fog up, we have extra-strength anti-fog spray for eyeglasses. If you are working from home and experience eyestrain at your workstation, we have individualized, task-specific eyeglasses to relieve that strain. This is especially important for students.

It's been 75 years since George W. Palmer, OD opened his optometry office in Middletown. We're still here to care for all your vision and eye care needs. Your parents and grandparents may have come to see us.

Call us at 860-267-2222 for an appointment and find out why.

## PALMER EYECARE CENTER

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ADVERTISEMENT



# East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department and the Art of “Rural” Firefighting

At its basic level, the Fire Service defines three distinct firefighting categories, each with their own unique characteristics, tools, equipment and methodologies.

In urban areas, municipal fire departments typically have multiple stations serving specific districts and are staffed by career firefighters on a 24/7 basis. These departments utilize equipment geared toward containing and suppressing fires occurring in densely populated neighborhoods and business districts and, most importantly, have a readily available water supply through pressurized hydrant systems.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, wildland firefighting usually involves large scale forest and brush fires that typically consume vast areas of timber and underbrush. Wildland firefighters employ hand tools and heavy equipment to construct fire breaks to stop the progress of these swift-moving fires and, with water supplies not easily accessible, rely on aerial drops of fire retardants and water imported from long distances by helicopter or fixed wing aircraft.

Between these two extremes lies the “WUI” - the “Wildland / Urban Interface” - more commonly described as the “rural” areas of our country. With the US Census Bureau defining “rural” as a locality with less than 500 inhabitants per square mile, East Hampton’s population demographics settle within a range of approximately 375-380 per square mile, a decidedly “rural” community.

For the Fire Service, the defining feature that distinguishes rural firefighting from the other categories involves its lifeblood: water supply. In urban areas with hydrants, there’s plenty of water nearby; in the wildlands, you have to have somebody else bring it in for you. In rural firefighting, you have to bring the water with you because there are no hydrants installed and aerial bombardments are neither appropriate nor timely.

Rural fire departments, typically staffed by volunteers, rely on tanker trucks to transport water to the scene of a fire where they will feed the pumper trucks for fire suppression. Multiple tankers are usually pressed into



service and a continuous loop is established between a water source (such as Lake Pocotopaug) and the fire scene to maintain a constant flow of water as required. Each tanker will normally make multiple trips to the water source and back until the fire is extinguished.

In East Hampton, the Volunteer Fire Department currently has three tanker trucks, each capable of carrying a minimum of 2000 gallons of water, strategically placed across the town. The Department’s protocol requires at least one tanker to initially respond to any potential fire or fire alarm along with at least one engine (pumper). Other apparatus, including additional tankers and perhaps including mutual aid from surrounding departments, are dispatched as the incident dictates.

Unfortunately, two of the Department’s three tankers are over twenty years old and have reached the end of their serviceable life. Beginning to spend increasingly more time out-of-service for maintenance, they are to be replaced with two new tankers and will be in service well before the end of the year.

“Water on Wheels”, as Fire Chief Greg Voelker describes his tanker force, “is a core competency of our Department, and we

spend quite a bit of time training and practicing our tanker operations. As a rule, fire engines only carry a limited supply of water on board and we depend on those tankers to keep those hoses charged and operational; without those tanker resources available when we need them, we can’t do our job.”

The new tankers will have a capacity to carry 2100 gallons of water per vehicle and will be able to pump between 1000 and 1250 gallons per minute. Manufactured by Pierce, the tankers are built on commercial Freightliner M2 106 4 X 2 chassis, with single rear axles. “We specified the single axles because, at 148 inches long, the tankers will be able to maneuver better through the tight confines of the areas surrounding the lake and other residential spots such as the Poet’s or the Indigenous People’s sections. When we need water, getting in and out quickly with our tankers is extremely important. They are the perfect fit for our Department and our Town’s needs.”

The East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department remains a 100% volunteer organization that provides emergency services to our residents. For information on becoming a member, leave a message at Department headquarters (860) 267-2198.



# EAST HAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

105 Main Street, East Hampton CT 06424  
860-267-6621

Please check our website for our current operating hours and the latest news and events.  
[www.EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://www.EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org)

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

### **Baby Rhyme Time Outside** Ages 0-18 months

Thursdays at 10:15 am,  
September 30 - October 21

Held outdoors near the Gazebo at Center School, on the church lawn, weather permitting.

A story time program for children ages 0-18 months and their caregivers. This early literacy program combines singing, dancing and whole body movement. Sing songs, dance to favorites, find your happy place! This program will continue to be held on the lawn by the gazebo at Center School. Since school is in session, we will be using the church parking lot. Siblings welcome. No registration required; just drop in!

### **Stories and Songs Outside** Ages 18 months-5 years

Wednesdays at 10:15 am,  
September 29 - October 20

Held outdoors at Sears Park, weather permitting.

A story time program for children ages 18 months to five years old and their caregivers. Join us for stories, songs and to interact with other families in the community! Since school is starting, we will be moving from Seamster Park to Sears Park, right by the lake. Siblings welcome. No registration required; just drop in!

### **Preschool Musical Adventures Ages 3 - 6**

Select Wednesdays at 4:00 pm  
September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 13, 20

Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library.

A story time program for families with children ages 3 to 6. Join us for a story time filled with music and stories, followed by a craft that goes along with the day's theme. Siblings welcome! Register online at

[EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### **Take and Makes:** **Little Learners and School Age**

Each month, the Library debuts four Take and Make activity kits: One for school age children, one for our littlest learners plus one for teens and one for adults. Inside your kit you'll find all of the supplies needed to make a fun art or craft project. Reserve your kit online on our website and pick it up in person or curbside. Act fast; supplies are limited! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### **DIY Days: For Families with Children in Grades 2-8**

Two sessions to choose from:  
Select Saturdays at 11:00 am or select Mondays at 6:00 pm  
September 25, 27, October 16, 18, November 27, 29

Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library.

Reduce, reuse, upcycle! Children and families with children in grades 2-8 are invited to the children's room to create a different toy or game each month using traditional household objects. Siblings welcome. No registration required; just drop in!

### **Halloween Happening: Ages 0-5**

Wednesday, October 27, 10:15 am

Registration is required and opens October 1.

Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library.

Join us for a special story time followed by a parade to the Senior Center, who will be giving out books and treats! Costumes encouraged, but not required. Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

## TEEN PROGRAMS

### **Dungeons & Dragons: Grades 8 - 12**

Select Wednesdays at 5:30 - 7:30 pm  
September 15, 29, October 13, 27,  
November 10, 24

Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library.

Join us for an exciting journey into the world of Dungeons & Dragons! No previous playing experience required. We will provide basic, fifth edition, level two characters; all supplies included! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### **Teen Advisory Tuesday: Grades 8-12**

Select Wednesdays, 5:30 -7:00 pm  
September 22, October 20, November 17

Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library.

If you're a teen and you're passionate about helping your community, consider joining the Library's Teen Advisory Board. You'll come together with other East Hampton teens to plan and create events and programs you want, provide input to expand our YA/Teen collection and share your knowledge, creativity and interests to make the East Hampton Public Library a place you love to be. Earn community service hours. Applications are being taken now! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### **De-stress Friday: Grades 6 - 12**

The first Friday of each month! 3:30 pm  
September 3, October 1, November 5

Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library.

Friday is finally here! Kick back and relax and start your weekend off right. Join us for some destressing tips and therapeutic craft activities. Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

## TEEN PROGRAMS *cont'd*

### Mystery Monday: Grades 6 - 12

Select Mondays at 5:30 pm

September 20, October 25, November 22

Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library.

Are you a Marvel Fan? BTS fan? Disney Fan? We'll have a different activity each week focused on either a popular movie or music genre! Could be a trivia game or a project to make for your room. We'll have conversation and maybe a dance party! It's a mystery! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### DIY Days: For Families with Children in Grades 2-8

Two sessions to choose from: Select Saturdays at 11:00 am or select Mondays at 6:00 pm

September 25, 27, October 16, 18, November 27, 29

Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library.

Reduce, reuse, upcycle! Children and families with children in grades 2-8 are invited to the children's room to create a different toy or game each month using common household objects. Siblings welcome. No registration required; just drop in!

### Teen Take and Makes: Grades 6 - 12

Each month, the Library debuts four Take and Make activity kits: one for teens plus, one for adults, one for school age children and one for our littlest learners. Inside your kit you'll find all of the supplies needed to make a fun art or craft project. Reserve your kit online on our website and pick it up in person or curbside. Act fast; supplies are limited! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

*continued on page 20*



## FALL AUTHOR SERIES

### Megan Collins, Author of *The Family Plot*

Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30 pm Will be held virtually on Zoom.

Join us for an evening with Megan Collins, the author of *The Winter Sister*, *Behind the Red Door* and coming-soon *The Family Plot*. Books will be on sale for cash or check to benefit the Friends of the East Hampton Public Library. Space is limited! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### Ellen Feldman, Author of *The Living and the Lost*

Tuesday, October 12 at 6:30 pm

May be held in person at the East Hampton Public Library or on zoom. Please check the Library's website for the most up-to-date information.

Join us for an evening with Ellen Feldman, the author of *Paris Never Leaves You* and coming-soon *The Living and the Lost*. Books will be on sale for cash or check to benefit the Friends of the East Hampton Public Library. Space is limited! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### Deborah Copaken, Author of *Ladyparts*

Tuesday, November 16 at 6:30 pm

May be held in person at the East Hampton Public Library or on zoom. Please check the Library's website for the most up-to-date information.

Join us for an evening with Deborah Copaken, the New York Times Best Selling author of *Shutterbabe*, *The Red Book* and coming-soon *Ladyparts*. Books will be on sale for cash or check to benefit the Friends of the East Hampton Public Library. Space is limited! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### Juliet Grames, Author of *The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna*

Tuesday, December 7 at 6:30 pm

May be held in person at the East Hampton Public Library or on zoom. Please check the Library's website for the most up-to-date information.

Join us for an evening with Juliet Grames, the author of the *The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna*. Books will be on sale for cash or check to benefit the Friends of the East Hampton Public Library. Space is limited! Register online at [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org) or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Book Club

Third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm  
AND Third Thursday of every month  
at 2:00 pm

Held in person at the East Hampton Public  
Library

Each month we choose a different book  
to read and discuss. And you've got TWO  
opportunities to attend book club. Copies of  
the month's book are available for checkout  
at the circulation desk.

September: *The Family Plot* by Megan Collins

October: *The Living and the Lost* by Ellen  
Feldman

November: *Ladyparts* by Deborah Copaken

Register online at EastHamptonPublicLi-  
brary.org or by calling us at 860-267-6621.

### Adult Crafternoon

Select Saturdays at 11:00 am  
September 11, October 9, November 20

Held in person at the East Hampton Public  
Library

Connect with your crafty side and join us  
for a craft just for adults! Act fast, supplies  
and spaces are limited! Register online at  
EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org or by calling  
us at 860-267-6621.

### Adult Take & Makes

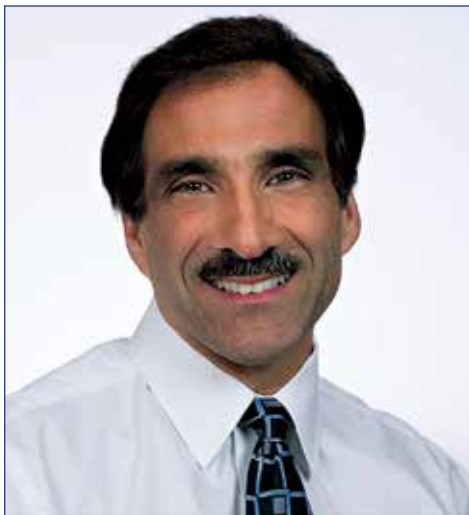
Once a month we'll have a take-home craft  
activity kit just for adults! Pre-registration  
begins the first of every month. Act fast;  
supplies are limited! Register online at  
EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org or by calling  
us at 860-267-6621.

### Investigating Paranormal Activity: Presentation by the Connecticut Paranormal Research Team

Tuesday, October 26 at 7:00 pm

Held in person at the East Hampton Public  
Library.

Who you gonna call? For the past 5 years,  
Eastern Connecticut Paranormal Society  
has worked with hundreds of homeowners,  
businesses and organizations looking for  
the truth behind the paranormal activity  
happening to them. Join us for an evening  
with the ECPS team to revisit real paranor-  
mal case studies from across New England,  
where they've used their combined scientif-  
ic, investigative and mediumship abilities to  
find the truth. Register online at EastHamp-  
tonPublicLibrary.org or by calling us at  
860-267-6621.



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### CURBSIDE PICKUP

For your convenience and safety, the Library offers curbside pickup. Call the Library with your requests or place your items on hold through our online catalog. When you're informed that your items are ready for pick up, just let a staff member know that you would like to pick up your items curbside. We'll put your items outside on our curbside pickup rack for your quick pickup. Call us with questions at 860-267-6621.

### NEW ITEMS FOR CHECKOUT!

We've got a variety of library services to keep you curious.

#### Coming Soon! Cake Pans

Thanks to a generous donation from an East Hampton community member, this fall we will be debuting a collection of cake pans so you can create your own incredible creation at home without breaking the bank on a new pan.

#### Puzzle and Board Game Swap

Bring one or take one; it's just that easy! We have tons of puzzles and board games for you to enjoy. Just return them when you're done!

#### Hotspots Now Available

Check out the internet! The Library has five hotspots available for checkout. A hotspot enables any wifi-enabled device to connect to the internet. No data limits or overages! Any adult with a valid library card can check out a hotspot for a week. Call us to reserve yours.

#### Nintendo Switch Games

We now have a growing collection of games for the Nintendo Switch. Check our catalog for offerings and borrow a new game for a week.

#### Sprout Early Learning Backpacks

Need new toys and games to keep children occupied but don't have the space? Check out one of our 33 new early learning backpacks! Each backpack is themed and includes picture books, two to four educational games or toys and an activity guide showing how to use the items. For example, try out The Science of Sound, which contains books, musical instruments and more! Families can check out one backpack at a time. Backpacks are available for ages 3-8 years old.



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## East Hampton Senior Center

105 Main Street, East Hampton, CT

860-267-4426

Email: [seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov)

The East Hampton Senior Center is Open! We ask you to pre-register for programs via on-line services (My Active Center.com) or by calling 860-267-4426 to sign up. At this writing mask wearing is recommended for all participants regardless of vaccination status. Please note: if you are unsure of status please call the Senior Center for further information.

Virtual programming was established, and the Older Adults saw the need for the interaction with one another and were willing to learn to meet virtually. We offered reassurance phone calls to over 600 people. We developed a 'contactless' volunteer shopping program to help keep people safe. Many volunteers made masks to share with others to help keep people safe. The Senior Center and Community Renewal Team provided weekly drop-off Grab and Go meals. We continued to meet peoples' needs by listening, calling, emailing and providing virtual opportunities. Now, many Older Adults are vaccinated, the Center opened its doors, with certain protocols in place. As the Governor opened the state, we relaxed some of those rules. Now as the transmission rates are increasing, we need to encourage best safe practices. At this time, it is recommended for you to wear your mask indoors in public buildings, regardless of vaccination status. This is to help keep you protected as well as the most vulnerable from the illness.

September is National Senior Center Month! We are so pleased with the programs & services that have been provided to the Older Adult population we plan to offer more programs to encourage interaction and community involvement. At this writing we are planning for in-person programming, with a virtual component, in case transmission rates do not allow us to meet in person. Not on-to the virtual world, but interested? We can help you get signed up in order to join the virtual opportunities, just give us a call.



Here is a hint of the upcoming programs in September, October and November:

Bingo via Zoom: Tuesdays at 1:30 pm.  
Wednesday Writer's Workshop with Elizabeth, every other Wednesday at 9:30 am OR Writer's Workshop with Elizabeth every Thursday at 10:30 am. Yoga via Zoom/ In-person Wednesdays, at 11:30 am. This yoga class stretches your mind, body and soul. Call the Center for more information. \$20.00 fee for 10-week session. Next session will start October 27. The Book Club plans to meet in-person on September 14, October 12, November 9 at 10:30 am. Lunch on the Patio September 20, last call until Spring, 12:30 pm-1:30 pm followed by movie theater at the Center. Creative Crafts offered monthly let's get ready for the upcoming holidays making Mesh Wreaths and Gift Macramé Keychains. Picnic at Sear's Park September 8 and much more. Please watch our Facebook Page, Town website and Newsletter for more details.

Don't forget! Connecticut Energy Assistance Program begins November 15. Please call the Senior Center for an appointment to apply, beginning September 1.

Call the Center for Open Enrollment Events: Medicare's Annual Enrollment period is October 15 through December 7. It is important for all Medicare recipients to check their

plans to make sure that they will be enrolled in the plan that will work best for them. For most people this is the ONLY time during the year that you can change your plan.

If you would like help with checking your Medicare plans, please make an appointment with a Choices Counselor through the East Hampton Senior Center at 860-267-4426. This is a FREE service to anyone in the community on Medicare. You do not have to be 65. The Choices Counselors are trained to provide you with a comprehensive understanding of the Medicare options, so you can make informed decisions regarding your healthcare.

The State of Connecticut offers some additional help for people with low incomes. Your eligibility could also be checked by making an appointment with a counselor. This can be done ANY time during the year, not only during Annual Enrollment.

The East Hampton/ CRT Community Café is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 12:00 noon. We are hoping to be open in September 5 days a week. The Café Coordinator, Dorene, needs you to complete a Form 5 registration form prior to reserving your seat in the café. You can call in or register online at My Active Center.com. Please call before 11:00 am for more information at 860-267-4426 ext. 230.

# Too Cold in Winter? Too Hot in Summer? There's a Solution with Weatherization

By Enoch Lenge

Earlier this month, New England saw five days of 90 degree-plus heat, the longest June heat wave in nearly a century. That worrying trend not only highlights the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, but is also a reminder to ensure our homes are sufficiently weatherized to keep cool air in during the



summertime, not to mention warm air in during New England's notoriously brutal winters. If your home seems too hot these days, it may be time to explore weatherization to help make your home more comfortable and save money.

Weatherization is the process of making your home better protected against the effects of changing weather. It can involve actions like sealing air leaks, eliminating drafts and adding insulation. These strategies help improve your home's performance and make it more energy efficient. Plus, it can help you save money on your energy bills.

## Sealing and insulating your home saves both money and energy.

Air can escape, or leak, through your home's envelope, including the outer walls, windows, doors and other openings. Your heating and cooling systems work hard to warm or cool your home, and undetected air leaks and drafts, inadequate insulation or worn out ductwork can cause those HVAC systems to use more energy without doing much to increase the comfort of the home.

And, if your HVAC system is outdated (i.e. hasn't been replaced or repaired in the last fifteen years or so) it may be producing warm or cool air inefficiently. Thus, by the time the air reaches the vents, it may be several degrees off from the starting temperature.

But by implementing weatherization techniques, such as air sealing and new insulation, your HVAC's performance is improved and the desired warm or cool air will stay inside the home, reducing energy use and saving money.

## Weatherization also increases comfort.

When your home is properly weatherized by sealing leaks and adding insulation, drafts are virtually eliminated, improving the overall comfort of your home. You will notice the temperature you set your thermostat to is maintained more easily. And, if you incorporate

insulation along with air sealing, there will be a denser layer between you and the sounds outside, resulting in a quieter home and reducing the likelihood of ice dams on the roof and eaves.

Weatherization also keeps the outside from coming into your home - that includes pollen, dust and other allergens. It also reduces the chance for mold buildup. The temperature around the inside perimeter fluctuates less in a weatherized home, resulting in less moisture buildup during the summer and winter. The result is cleaner, healthier air.

Most homes in the U.S. don't have enough insulation and have significant air leaks. In fact, if you added up all the leaks, holes and gaps in a typical home's envelope, it would be the equivalent of having a window open every day of the year. But when your home's energy performance is improved, it not only makes your home more comfortable and saves money, but the consumption of water, electricity and fossil fuels (i.e. natural gas, coal and oil) are reduced as well. Thus, greenhouse gas emissions - which, of course, contribute to climate change - decrease. By weatherizing your home, you are helping the environment and contributing to emissions reductions that could help stave off future heat waves.

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*To learn more about how Eversource, an Energize Connecticut sponsor, can help you save energy in your Connecticut home or business with weatherization, rebates, financing and other services, go to [Eversource.com](http://Eversource.com).*

*Enoch Lenge is Eversource's energy efficiency spokesman and provides energy saving tips on the company's blog.*

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