FALL 2023 VOL. 10

Tatros Park Pavilion Update

In the last edition of the Wire, we heard a little about the Tatros Park Pavilion project. In the Spring, basic work was completed to better clear the space. Now, the Tatros Park Pavilion construction is underway. Construction started the first weekend in September. The goal for this project is to reintroduce the space as a formal park and to restore the beauty of the area.

Local Boy Scouts are putting in the work! The team is led by Nicholas Waters. Other local volunteers are working with construction and landscaping companies to get playground equipment from the old school to bring to the pond. This portion of the improvements to the park will be completed thanks to private donations.



Pavilion Sketch



Events & Activities - Fall 2023

Sept. 20th: Little Guild's Free Pet Pantry located at 75 Rowley St. at 1PM

Sept. 23rd: Annual Fall River Clean-Up! The clean-up begins at 9:30AM in East End Park.

Sept. 23rd: Family Bicycle Rally, a free and fun adventure across the Sue Grossman Greenway trail! The start and finish are at the RBC Bearings Parking Lot located at 2788 Winsted Rd., Torrington. There will be prizes, giveaways, refueling stops, a helmet giveaway, fun activities for the kids, a Strider Bike obstacle course and Meraki's food truck.

Sept. 30th: 23rd Annual Fall Foliage Festival & Car Show, 10AM-3PM (rain date Oct. 1st).

Oct. 4th: National Coffee with a Cop Day

Oct. 11th: EDC Job Fair at the Gilbert School from 3PM-6PM

Oct. 11th: First Time Home Buyers Seminar at 6PM at Town Hall

Oct. 18th: Little Guild's Free Pet Pantry located at 75 Rowley St. at 1PM

Oct. 28th: Trunk or Treat at Rowley St Playground from 5:30-7:30 PM (rain date October

29th from 4:30-6:30 PM)

Nov. 7th: Municipal Elections are held, voting to occur from 6am to 8pm at 2 Wetmore Ave.

Nov. 15th- Little Guild's Free Pet Pantry located at 75 Rowley St. at 1PM

Please submit any events that you would like to see listed in the Winter edition (events to be held between December and March) of the Winchester Wire to communications@townofwinchester.org.







Connect With Us







Facebook: facebook.com/TownWinchesterCT
Instagram: @Winchester_CT
Twitter: @Winchester_CT

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/winchesterct **YouTube:** Town of Winchester-CT

Nextdoor: Nextdoor.com

You can also visit townofwinchester.org to find links to our social media pages. Town Hall can be reached at 860-379-2713 or at communications@townofwinchester.org.

FALL 2023 VOL. 10

WINCHESTER WIRE

The latest, direct community updates from the Town of Winchester, CT.



REMINDERS & UPDATES

PERSONAL PROPERTY DECLARATIONS ARE DUE BY NOVEMBER 1ST

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS
WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, NOV 7TH

FILING PERIOD FOR FARM
STATUS BEGINS ON
SEPTEMBER 1ST AND LASTS
UNTIL OCTOBER 31ST

TUNE INTO 1620 AM STATION FOR INFORMATION ON EMERGENCIES

THE BOARD OF
ASSESSMENT APPELS
WILL HEAR APPEALS ON
THE 2022 MOTOR
VEHICLE GRAND LIST
STARTING SEPTEMBER 12

Town Manager Josh Kelly Stepping Down; Search Begins for Next Manager

Town Manager Josh Kelly has accepted the position of Chief Executive Officer with the Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA) in southeastern Connecticut, a position that will take him closer to his family. He will remain in office as Town Manager until October 20th.



During Kelly's tenure in office, the Town has made considerable gains in a wide variety of areas. Financially, the Town has seen a double bond rating increase up to AA and the Town received over \$6 million in grant funding in 2022 and 2023 alone. Economically, the Town has seen many new businesses open in the downtown area. The \$24.7 million Infrastructure Improvement Plan was approved and is underway, and much more work has been completed.

"I want to thank the people of Winsted and Winchester and the Town staff and Board members for being so welcoming to me and so passionate about the town," said Town Manager Kelly. "The Town Manager job is a difficult one, especially when this town has seen so much hardship in its past and there is such a drive to see the town do better. I hope that my efforts to continue the Town's progress and development prove to pay dividends down the road. I know that my experiences here have changed who I am, fundamentally, for the better, and that is largely because of and thanks to the wonderful people that I have had the pleasure of working with and knowing," said Kelly.

The Town is seeking candidates for the Town Manager position and has posted a recruitment brochure on its website.

FALL 2023 VOL. 10

Trunk or Treat

On October 28th from 5:30-7:30 PM (rain date October 29th from 4:30-6:30 PM) the Recreation Department will be putting together a Trunk or Treat at Rowley St Playground. The entry fee is \$5 per family. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

The Recreation Department is currently accepting donations of candy from now up until October 27th in Town Hall.

If you would like to register a car for Trunk or Treat, contact the Recreation Department at (860) 738-6964.



Last Years Trunk-or-Treat

Road Improvement Updates

The Town has been investing a significant amount of time and effort into repairing its roadways. This summer, Wetmore Avenue, Fruit Street, and Allen Street were milled and paved as part of the Town required pavement restoration following Eversource Gas utility work. In September, Marshall Street, Indian Meadow Drive, and Old Colebrook Road will be Reclaimed and repaved, and Gregory Street will be milled and paved. In July and August we crack sealed and chip sealed 3.35 miles of roads. Case Avenue drainage, sidewalk, road reconstruction is underway. The Case Avenue Bridge deck and parapet walls are being formed and will be poured in September. In September we will also have new guide rails installed along Rugg Brook Road at the reservoir.

The Town's website has more information about upcoming road projects, and the Director of Public Works submits an update on road work to the Selectmen once a quarter. Stay tuned for more updates!

Economic Development Community Job Fair

The Economic Development Community is putting together a Job Fair. This is the second year the Job Fair has been held. This year the Job Fair will be held at the Gilbert School. The Economic Development Community is expecting at least 75 employers this year. Last year, the Job Fair attracted over 100 job seekers.

The Economic Development Community has been working hard with the Connecticut Department of Labor, the CT State Community College Northwestern, Northwest, Regional Workforce Investment Board, the Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce and the Gilbert School to put everything together.



ast Years' Job Fair

The Job Fair is open to all Business Sectors! If you would like to register to have a table, go to bit.ly/EDCJobFair2023. Reach out to Ted Shafer at 860-921-7097 with any questions.

SNAP Recipients are Eligible for NCCC Scholarship

Northwestern Connecticut Community College offers a program called SNAP Employment and Training in which recipients receive training needed to obtain jobs. This program is federally funded. SNAP recipients may be eligible to take one of NCCC's workforce training programs for free. Some of these certificate programs include but are not limited to: EKG/Phlebotomy, Certified Nurse Aide, Pharmacy Technician, EMT, Computer Programming, and Medical Assistant. If you have questions or would like more information, reach out to call Erin Kennedy at (860) 738-6419 or email ekennedy@nwcc.edu.



FALL 2023 VOL. 10

Senior Center Events

Exciting things are happening for adults age 55+ at the Winsted Senior Center. Check our monthly newsletter the Town's website or give us a call at 860-379-4252 or stop by 80 Holabird Avenue for more information. Here are some of the free fitness classes that the Winsted Senior Center is offering: To participate, you must be a current Winsted Senior Center member and complete a short emergency form. For a full list, please go online to our website or contact the Winsted Senior Center.



Chair Yoga ~ Mondays & Fridays at 9:00am

Practice gentle weight bearing movements that strengthen your body and improve your balance to help reduce the risk of falling. Movements can be done on a chair or standing.

Tai-Chi ~Mondays & Fridays at 10:15am

Learn to improve your balance and flexibility, prevent joint injuries, protect your heart, increase focus and reduce stress and anxiety by following this traditional Chinese healing practice.

Drumming Circle ~ Mondays at 1pm

Drumming leads to increased focus, upper body coordination, connectedness, relaxation, boosts the immune system and will make you happy. No musical experience is necessary.

Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest

Fire Prevention week is from October 7th to the 13th this year. This week has been celebrated for over 100 years. Students in the Fourth and Fifth grade will be participating in the annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest. This year's theme is 'Fire Prevention: Everyone, Everyday'. For information on fire safety, please visit our website under the Fire Marshal tab.



The First Annual Citizens' Academy



The first annual Citizen's Academy starts on Wednesday, September 13th. You can register for the Academy up until 4:00 PM on Tuesday, Sept 12th. To register, please visit the Town's website. These learning sessions were brought about to help give residents a deeper understanding of how the town operates. Citizens' Academy is a nine week long program and is provided at no charge.

Participants will go behind the scenes and see the inner workings of our police department, see the latest firefighting equipment, see what it is like to be in a snow plow truck, tour the town, and meet and get to know a variety of town staff members. This dynamic program will uncover facts about Winchester's operations that people never knew! Each week the academy will meet to cover different programs and departments, and the final "graduation" ceremony will be held on November 8th.

Town Board & Commission Meetings

Below is a selection of regular board and commission meeting schedules convened to consider, advise, and decide on issues faced by the town and its residents. Please note meeting dates are subject to change due to holidays and extenuating circumstances.

- Board of Selectmen: 1st & 3rd Monday of each month, 7:00 PM, in the Hicks Room at Town Hall.
- Board of Education: 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 PM, in the Hicks Room.
- Planning & Zoning Commission: 2nd & 4th Mon. of each month, 7:00 PM, in the Hicks Room.
- Water & Sewer Commision: 2nd Tues of the month, 6PM (note: new time!), Blue Room at Town Hall.

To volunteer for a Board or Commission, please contact the Town Manager at townmanager@townofwinchester.org. Visit townofwincherster.org for a full listing of agencies, meeting dates and times, and the most up-to-date information.