



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

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WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06107
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www.westhartfordct.gov

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: October 24, 2017
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council, the staff, and the community:

Council Business

- *ICMA Annual Conference* - Town Manager Matt Hart is currently attending the ICMA Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas. On Sunday, he began his three-year term on the ICMA Executive Board. Human Resources Director Rick Ledwith is Acting Town Manager.
- *Finance and Budget Committee* – The Town Council's Finance and Budget Committee will meet at 8:00 AM this Friday, October 27, 2017.
- *MDC Budget Meeting for Town Officials* - On November 2nd, Finance Director Peter Privitera and Town Manager Matt Hart will attend the MDC's third budget meeting for Town officials. They will share any public documents with the Town Council and provide a report at the next regular Council meeting.
- *Public Safety Committee* -The Town Council's Public Safety Committee will meet at 8:00 AM on Friday, November 3, 2017.

Departmental Reports

- *October 31st is the deadline to register to vote* for the municipal election on November 7th. The Office of the Registrar of Voters will be open from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM on October 31. They are located in Room 209, Town Hall. On-line registration is October 31 by midnight. Mail-in registration must be postmarked by October 31. For more information, visit www.WestHartfordCT.gov/Vote
- *New Facebook page launched* - The Town of West Hartford has added Facebook to its social media toolbox to reach more residents and businesses with information from the municipality. We invite you to 'Like' and 'Follow' us at www.facebook.com/TownofWestHartfordCT. In one week's time, we have obtained 1,090 followers. We would like to reach even more! Come check it out.

- *Park Rd/I-84 project has begun* - Crews have begun to remove trees between the on/off ramps in preparation of the reconfiguration of the Park Road and the I-84 interchange area. The project will improve capacity, efficiency, and safety. There will be minimal traffic disruption at this stage. Information about the project can be found at www.WestHartfordCT.gov/ParkRd. The website includes project overview, construction updates, a live photo cam, traffic advisories, and frequently asked questions.
- *Celebrate West Hartford Library's 120 anniversary* - The West Hartford Public Library became an official Town department on November 10, 1897 when the West Hartford Board of Selectmen "voted without dissent to establish a free library" and to make an appropriation annually towards its support. Please join us on Sunday, November 12, 2:00-4:00 PM, in the Noah Webster Library Meeting Room, 20 South Main Street, for an 'old-fashioned' birthday party, complete with party games, balloons, and cake! There will also be a display of library memorabilia and photos from our Local History collections. This event is made possible with support from the Friends of the West Hartford Library.
- *Fairview Cemetery Office reopens after three years* - The Fairview Cemetery Office reopened on October 13, 2017 after extensive renovations. In 2014 the office was closed when it was discovered that the nearly 100-year old building had suffered considerable water damage over the years. Today, the cemetery office is a modern space complete with all new mechanical and electrical equipment, energy efficient interior and exterior lighting, water-saving plumbing fixtures, a new ADA-compliant restroom, and new architectural style roofing shingles that mimic the look of slate shingles commonly found in 1920's. The entryway was restored with a new retaining wall, fencing, vintage era lighting, landscaping and a handicap accessible entrance. The building's stone exterior was cleaned to remove a century of contaminants. Fairview Cemetery Office is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM and 1:00-3:00 PM. The office maintains records of its nearly 20,000 past residents of West Hartford.
- *Curbside Textile Recycling* - Soon pink bags will arrive in the mail from SimpleRecycling and residents can fill those bags with all types of clothing, coats, shoes and other textiles including backpacks, purses, hats, blankets, drapes/curtains, pillows, and even sleeping bags. Beginning the week of Oct. 30, SimpleRecycling will pick up the bags on your trash collection day. For more information and additional bags, go to SimpleRecycling.com. This service is in addition to the textile recycling found at the Recycling Center, 25 Brixton Street.
- *Toro Power Equipment demonstration*: Public Works and Toro Power Equipment teamed up last week to learn about Toro's newest equipment solutions. A team of five Toro manufacture representatives and eight Public Work grounds professionals tested and used two newly designed units at Fernridge Park. Our staff provided valuable feedback on performance, machine capabilities and equipment mannerisms. We thank Toro for the opportunity to be a part of this evaluation process while having the added value of cleaning a large section of Fernridge Park.

- *Happy Retirement to Richard Winn* - Assistant Fire Chief Richard T. Winn will retire from the Fire Department after 33 years of service. A farewell open house will be held on Monday, October 30, 9:00-11:00 AM, Room 400. Congratulations and best wishes!
- *Food Pantry in critical need of food* - The Food Pantry is dire need of the following items: macaroni and cheese, applesauce/canned fruit, pasta sauce, peanut butter and rice. Donations may be left in the lobby of town hall (Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-4:30PM).
- *Office Volunteer needed for Social Services* - West Hartford Social Services is looking for a volunteer to help two days per week, Wednesday and Thursday, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, to help with general office duties. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, contact Barbara Roberts at Barbara.Roberts@westhartfordct.gov or call 860-561-7567.
- *National Take-Back Day* - On Saturday, October 28, 2017, the West Hartford Police Department, the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District and the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration will coordinate a collaborative effort to remove unwanted and unused pharmaceutical-controlled substances and other medicine during National Take-Back Day. Collection activities will take place at the Department of Public Works, 17 Brixton Street from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The program is anonymous and free of charge.

Upcoming Events & Announcements

- *A Diary of Anne Frank*, October 25-November 19 - *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*, is the next show in Playhouse on Park's Main Stage series, running from October 25-November 19. Tickets range from \$25 to \$40, all seats reserved. Call the box office at 860-523-5900 x10 or visit www.PlayhouseOnPark.org.
- *The Phantom of the First Church Crypt*, Friday, October 27, 7:00 PM - The Phantom of the First Church Crypt will return for one night to engage in musical treats for Halloween on Friday, October 27, at 7 p.m. \$10 Suggested donation. Come dressed for the occasion and have your picture taken with our favorite ghoul after the concert. First Church of Christ Congregational is located at 12 South Main Street.
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- *Spooktacular*, Friday, October 27, 5:00-8:00PM - Join the Children's Museum for frighteningly fun festivities for the whole family on Friday, October 27, 5:00-8:00PM. This event is perfect for younger children who aren't quite ready to trick-or-treat around the neighborhood. Admission is \$5 for members; \$10 non-members. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Go to www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org
 - *West Hartford's Annual Halloween Stroll*, Saturday, October 28, 10:30AM-12:30PM - Costumed children of all ages are invited for a fun morning in West Hartford Center and Blue Back Square for the Moms & More Club of West Hartford's Annual Halloween Stroll on Saturday, October 28, 2017, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM. The event features Trick-or-Treating at participating merchants, live music, a fire truck to climb aboard, team mascots, crafts, games, and other activities throughout the Center. For more information, visit www.WeHaMoms.com.
 - *West Hartford Hauntings*, Friday and Saturday evenings, October 27 & 28 – The Noah Webster House's spooky, theatrical cemetery tour returns for its 13th year. In a perfect blend of real history and theater, the lives of past West Hartford residents are researched and recreated to inform the audience about our predecessors. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Go to www.NoahWebsterHouse.org.
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To watch the Town Manager Report on West Hartford Community TV, click on the link: <https://plus.google.com/share?url=https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGKXYtu8jIQ>