



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

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Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: October 23, 2018
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 & Meetings

- Nov 13, 6:30 PM (Rm 312) – Blue Back Square Special Services District Meeting
- Nov 13, 7:00 PM (Rm 314) - Public Hearing
- Nov 13, 7:25 PM (Rm 314) - Public Hearing
- Nov 13, 7:30 PM (Rm 314) - Town Council Meeting

Staff and Departmental Reports

- *Car Break-ins* - The West Hartford Police Department is once again urging residents to make sure that they do not leave their keys or fobs inside unlocked vehicles overnight. In the past three days, four cars have been stolen in town. All stolen cars were left unlocked in residential neighborhoods with their keys or fobs left in the vehicle. During this same time period there were no reported thefts of locked vehicles with no keys in them. These thefts occurred throughout town. The most recent thefts occurred in the Kirkwood Road, High Farms Road, Ledyard Road and Sampson Street neighborhoods. Residents are reminded to:
 - Lock your car
 - Do not leave a key, fob, spare key or key to another vehicle in your car
 - Remove all valuables from your car at night
 - Call police if you see or hear anything suspicious
- *Survey seeks community feedback for POCD followed by workshop* - The Planning Division is conducting a survey to collect community feedback as a critical element to updating its ten-year Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). The survey is found on the project website: www.PlanWestHartford.com. The results of the survey will be held at a Community Workshop on Tuesday, October 30th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Town Hall Auditorium.

- *Information meeting on intersection improvements of Mountain Road at Albany Avenue* - The Engineering Division is preparing design plans to improve the intersection of Mountain Road at Albany Avenue and will hold a meeting on Monday, October 29th at 6:30PM in Room 400 of Town Hall to explain the project and solicit valuable feedback. Improvements include widening Mountain Road north and south of Albany Avenue to provide a dedicated left turn lane, a through lane, and a shared through/right turn lane in each direction. The traffic signal will also be replaced as part of the project. These improvements will provide additional intersection capacity, which will accommodate the existing and future vehicular demand, and improve safety.
- *Election Day* - Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th. Polls are open from 6:00AM to 8:00 PM. The deadline to register online, in person, and by mail is Tuesday, October 30th. The Registrar of Voters office will be open on October 30 from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM for special voter registration session. West Hartford residents who are not registered by Election Day can still register and vote on Election Day. Election-day registration is not available at polling locations, but is available at Town Hall, Room 313, from 6:00AM through 8:00PM. You must be registered by 8:00PM in order to vote; you will need to provide proof of identity and residency.
- *Leaf Bag Collection* – Public Works will begin its curbside nine-week leaf bag collection beginning next Monday, October 29. The program will continue through December 28, 2018, weather permitting. Leaves should be placed 30-gallon biodegradable paper leaf bags, free of twigs, dirt and stones. Please place your leaf bags at the curb by 6:00 AM on your trash collection day.
- *Leaf Voucher program improved* - The Town has improved and streamlined its Residential Leaf Voucher system. Leaf vouchers allow private contractors to dispose of leaves from residential properties at the Town's Yard Waste and Recycling Center, free of charge. Beginning Monday, October 29, residents will be able to apply for residential leaf vouchers online, by phone or in person. Now, residents can fill out the form electronically and submit it through the Town's website. The new process will cut down on paperwork, improve customer service, and ensure compliance with the Town's rules and regulations.
- *Chief Gary Allyn retirement* – The Town will hold a retirement ceremony on Tuesday, October 30 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Legislative Chambers, Room 314, to recognize and thank Fire Chief Gary Allyn for his 30 years of dedicated service to our community. The members of the Public Safety Committee will also recognize Chief Allyn at their meeting on November 1st. Chief Allyn's last official day is November 10, 2018.

Upcoming Events & Announcements

- *Charter Oak International Academy receives Green Building Award* - Fusco Construction is pleased to announce that Charter Oak International Academy has been awarded the 2018 Green Building Award of Honor from the CT Green Building Council in the institutional Projects category. The 87,700 SF, circular school houses 560 Pre-K through 5th grade students and was built to maximize energy efficiency, water savings and create a park like environment conducive to collaborative, hands-on learning. Sustainable features include a field of geothermal wells and a 100kW photovoltaic array on the roof. Designed without boilers, heat pumps are the sources for cooling and heating. The exterior envelope includes high thermal resistance wall and roof construction, as well as low emissivity glass and thermally broken aluminum framed windows to prevent conductive thermal energy loss. The school is LEED Gold Certified.
- *Kindness Project begins* – In the spirit of compassion, the West Hartford Public Libraries' Kindness Project, which runs through November 10, encourages the public to donate specific items to help stock the shelves of the West Hartford Food Pantry. Items include toiletries, feminine hygiene products, baby essentials, kitchen items, first aid supplies and gloves for men and women. Look for specially marked Kindness Project boxes at any of the three library locations.
- *Health District offers Flu Vaccines in October* - The West Hartford Bloomfield Health District will hold its last of four scheduled flu vaccination clinics on Wednesday, October 24, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM at the West Hartford Senior Center, 15 Starkel Road.
- *Police Recruitment Fair and Open House* - If you always wondered what it would be like to work for the police department, here's your chance to get an inside look. On Saturday, October 27, the West Hartford Police Department will hold a Recruitment Fair and Open House from 12:00-4:00 PM. The West Hartford Police Department presently has nine openings and is hoping to attract qualified applicants who may not have previously considered a career in law enforcement. Members of the Training Division and the Town's Human Resources Department will explain the hiring process. Representatives from the police departments division and specialized units will be on hand to explain job functions. They include Community Relations, Detective Division, Traffic Division, SCUBA, K-9, SWAT, Motorcycle, Bicycle Patrol and Patrol.
- *Halloween Stroll* - Costumed children of all ages are invited for a fun morning of trick-or-treating in West Hartford Center and Blue Back Square for the Moms & More Club of West Hartford's Annual Halloween Stroll on Saturday, October 27, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM. There will be musicians, face painting, a fire truck to climb aboard, games, and other activities throughout the area. The free festivities are featured at various stations along the route that encompasses LaSalle Road, Farmington Avenue, South Main Street, Memorial Road and Isham Road. You

decide where and when to begin. Parking is available at Town Hall and in the garages. Parking fees apply.

- *National Take Back Day* - On Saturday, October 27, 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.
- *West Hartford Hauntings* - *West Hartford Hauntings*, theatrical cemetery tour at the Old North Cemetery, will be held on Friday, October 26 and Saturday, October 27. Tours leave every 15 minutes started at 6:00 PM through 8:45 PM. The tour is 45 minutes. 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 and information are available at NoahWebster.yapsody.com. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children ages 10 years and older.
- *16th Annual Jazz Brunch* - Rotary Club of West Hartford presents the 16th Annual Jazz Brunch on Sunday November 4, 12:00-4:00 PM, to benefit Gifts of Music, a non-profit organization providing musical instruments and private lessons to gifted and talented West Hartford public school students with limited financial resources. The event is held at The Hartford Club and features The Chris Flory & Harry Allen Quartet. Tickets are \$85 per person / \$850 for a table of 10. Contact Jim Kilian at (860) 716-5335 or email Jim.Kilian@pioneer-financial.com.
- *Paul Vicinus named keynote speaker on Veterans Day* - Command Sergeant Major Paul W. Vicinus will be the keynote guest speaker for the 2018 Veterans Day Ceremony, on November 11, at 1:00PM, at the Connecticut Veterans Memorial West Hartford, corner of North Main Street and Farmington Avenue. Paul is also the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction for West Hartford Public Schools.