

# Town of Glastonbury

2155 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 6523 • GLASTONBURY, CT 06033-6523 • (860) 652-7500 FAX (860) 652-7505

Richard J. Johnson Town Manager ITEM #7 05-12-2020 Meeting

May 8, 2020

The Glastonbury Town Council 2155 Main Street Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: Town Manager's Report

Dear Council Members:

The following will keep you up to date on various topics.

### 1. COVID-19

In her May 3<sup>rd</sup> report, Director of Health Wendy Mis, summarizes positive test results (188) and COVID-19 related deaths (47) in Glastonbury through May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Planning continues for possible "reopening" of the State under the general heading of recovery. There are a variety of moving parts that change daily/weekly and partners will evolve over coming weeks and months. I have established a number of internal working groups to review all aspects of Town operations. These groups include health and safety, programs, services and activities, communications, ongoing operations, FEMA and grant protocols, coordination with State Department of Emergency Management, purchasing/supplies/PPE, and others. Education and Housing Authority participate as applicable.

External partners include the Chamber of Commerce, faith community (in progress), non-profits, private sector, etc. Recently distribution of PPE provided by the State for local businesses was coordinated between the Town, Monaco Ford and the Marine Corps League. These partnerships continue to evolve and there will be ongoing communications between the Town, Chamber of Commerce and local business.

Work is in progress to establish administrative approvals and protocols for expanded outdoor dining. Generally, a shift from indoor seating to outdoor seating with no net increase in total approved capacity. This will be temporary to assist the restaurant community. There are a number of moving parts and the expectation is protocols will be generally understood shortly. This will provide for expedited review and approval. The Chamber of Commerce is actively involved in these discussions and a Governor's Executive Order is expected on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> to support this initiative.

Established protocols and relationships are working well and I will provide a report at each Council meeting. The goal is to streamline and expedite activities in response to evolving conditions that change daily.

#### 2. Voting Process

Secretary of State Merrill issued the attached memorandum concerning absentee ballots during the current pandemic.

### 3. Several Project Updates

- Gideon Welles Air Conditioning Project complete and subject to final punch list.
- Library Design proceeding through final Town approvals. Early June bid process planned.
- Glastonbury Boulevard Bids received consistent with estimates and budget. Work to proceed over summer months.
- Fisher Hill Bridge Project under way. Fisher Hill Road to be closed beginning week of May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- GHS Kitchen Work to begin this month.
- Multi-Use Trail Construction started end of April and to proceed over summer months.

### 4. Athletic Field Lighting

On the evening of Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, athletic field lighting at the high school track and field and tennis courts and Riverfront Park baseball field will be turned on to honor the spring sport teams at GHS. This initiative was developed by the Student Council at GHS and supported by Education and Town staff.

### 5. Communications Tower - 63 Woodland Street

Operator is seeking an extension (Siting Council) to September 30th to install utilities and make tower operational.

### 6. 280 Western Boulevard

A Purchase and Sale Agreement is executed for proposed sale of this Town-owned parcel off Western Boulevard. The original document called for a permit contingency date of March 22, 2020. Given the current situation, the permit contingency date is extended to July 17<sup>th</sup>.

### 7. Tax Deferrals

For the Tax Deferral Program for taxes due and payable July 1, the grace period is extended to October 1<sup>st</sup>. Landlords of commercial property are required to file an application form with the Collector of Revenue. The application is developed by OPM and posted to the Town website. For landlords of residential properties, an email, letter, etc. to the Collector of Revenue confirming they have complied with Executive Order 7X is acceptable. For all others, no action is required.

### 8. Town Staff Appreciation

Recent thank you notes to Town staff are attached for your information

Richard J. Johnson Town Manager

Sincerely

RJJ/sal Attachments



# Town of Glastonbury

Health Department

### Memo

May 3, 2020

To: Richard J. Johnson

Town Manager

Fr: WendyS. Mis WSM

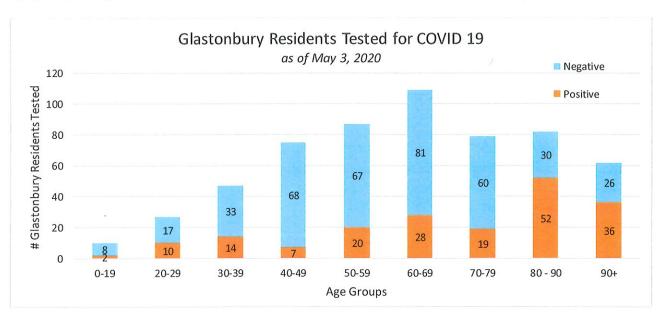
Director of Health

Re: COVID 19 update

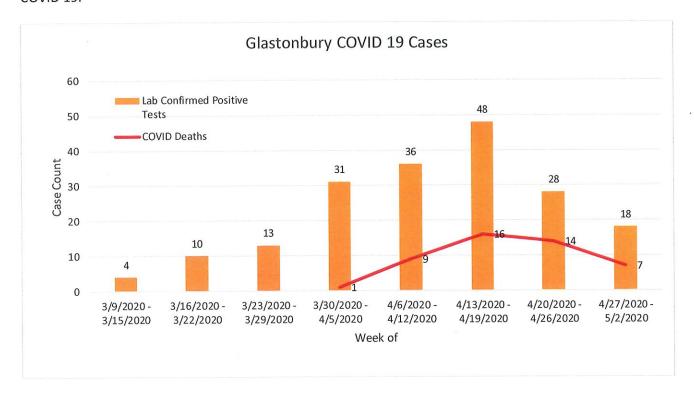
As per CT Department of Public Health (DPH) lab testing data available 5/3/20, Glastonbury has 578 residents who have been tested for COVID-19. Of those 578 residents, 188 have laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19. There have been 47 COVID-19-associated deaths to date, 38 of which were in residents over the age of 80.

Data from DPH is considered preliminary, and data changes as new reports are received and data errors are corrected. In an ongoing process of data assessment, DPH has modified how certain disease-positive lab results are considered, slightly changing some previous counts.

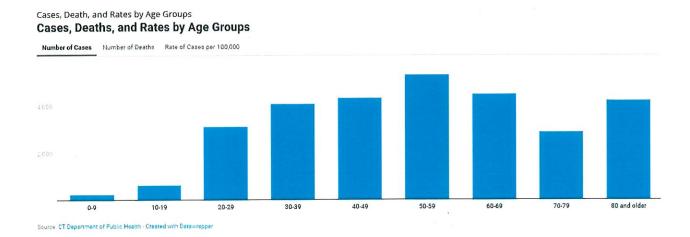
As depicted below, the greatest number of positive cases is seen in age groups 80 years and older. A significant increase in testing across all age groups over 40 years of age has occurred, with the 60-69 age group being the most tested. A total of 112 females and 76 males have tested positive.



This graph shows a weekly count of residents with lab-confirmed cases as well as deaths related to COVID 19.



The May 3 data snapshot below offers a comparison to the number of positive cases in Connecticut by age group.







Office of the Secretary of the State 165 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106

### MEMORANDUM OF OPINION

To: All Town Clerks and Registrars of Voters

From: Office of the Secretary of the State

Date: May 6, 2020

Re: Absentee Balloting Voting During a State of Health Emergency

We are writing this opinion to ensure that voters are able to participate in the upcoming August 11, 2020 Republican and Democratic Primaries in the safest manner possible. More specifically, we are clarifying the definition of "Illness" for Absentee Balloting at a time when the Governor has declared a public health and civil preparedness emergency throughout the State of Connecticut.

This opinion is issued pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §9-3 which states, "(a) The Secretary of the State, by virtue of the office, shall be the Commissioner of Elections of the state, with such powers and duties relating to the conduct of elections as are prescribed by law and, unless otherwise provided by state statute, the secretary's regulations, declaratory rulings, instructions and opinions, if in written form, and any order issued under subsection (b) of this section, shall be presumed as correctly interpreting and effectuating the administration of elections and primaries under this title, except for chapters 155 to 158, inclusive, and shall be executed, carried out or implemented, as the case may be, provided nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the right of appeal provided under the provisions of chapter 54. Any such written instruction or opinion shall be labeled as an instruction or opinion issued pursuant to this section, as applicable, and any such instruction or opinion shall cite any authority that is discussed in such instruction or opinion...."

Connecticut General Statutes §9-135 permits a voter to receive an absentee ballot if they cannot appear at their assigned polling place because of "(1) His or her active service with the armed forces of the United States; (2) his or her absence from the town of his or her voting residence during all of the hours of voting; (3) his or her illness; (4) his or her physical disability; (5) the tenets of his or her religion forbid secular activity on the day of the primary, election or referendum; or (6) the required performance of his or her duties as a primary, election or referendum

official, including as a town clerk or registrar of voters or as staff of the clerk or registrar, at a polling place other than his or her own during all of the hours of voting at such primary, election or referendum."

Webster's dictionary defines "illness" as "an unhealthy condition of body or mind or sickness." "Illness." Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary, Merriam-Webster, <a href="https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/illness.">https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/illness.</a>
Accessed 2 May. 2020. It is clear that this definition as well as the statutory section referenced above, does not limit the term illness to an individual who has limited mobile function or is hospitalized or confined to a bed.

In fact, the Centers for Disease Control have identified numerous <u>pre-existing illnesses</u> that put certain individuals at increased risk when exposed to the COVID-19 virus. These include, but are not limited to: (1) People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including: People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, People who have serious heart conditions, People who are immunocompromised (Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids or other immune weakening medications); (2) People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher); (3) People with diabetes; (4) People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; (5) People with liver disease; and (6) Pregnant women.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-2z, "The meaning of a statute shall, in the first instance, be ascertained from the text of the statute itself and its relationship to other statutes. If, after examining such text and considering such relationship, the meaning of such text is plain and unambiguous and does not yield absurd or unworkable results, extratextual evidence of the meaning of the statute shall not be considered."

Looking first at the statutory language and the relationship to other statutes, "illness" cannot be limited to some affliction that leaves an individual debilitated or bed ridden. First, the statutory section itself does not define "illness" in such a way. Second, the statutory section at issue also uses the term "physical disability" which in and of itself identifies an individual with mobility issues that can be described as both an "illness" as well as a limitation on mobility. As such, it would be contrary to statutory construction to place the same or similar meaning to both phrases.

In addition, Connecticut General Statutes also provides additional methods of absentee balloting such as Supervised Absentee Balloting see section 9-159q, Emergency Absentee Balloting see section 9-150c, Permanent Absentee Balloting see section 9-140e, and Voting In Person After Voting By Absentee Ballot see section 9-158n. Given the additional meanings of "illness" or "physical disability" when used in the other sections of the General Statutes, it stands to reason that "illness" as used in Connecticut General Statutes §9-135 must have a broad definition, one that gives meaning to the special circumstances by which voters can vote using an absentee ballot.

Given the reasoning set forth above and the guidance provided by the Centers of Disease Control, the Office of the Secretary of the State has determined that any registered voter who has a <u>pre-existing illness</u> can vote by absentee ballot because that voter's illness would prevent them from appearing at their designed polling place safely because of the COVID 19 virus.

In addition, individuals who may have been in contact with a COVID-19 infected individual such as healthcare workers, first responders, individuals who are caring for someone at increased risk, as well as those that feel ill or think they are ill because of the possibility of contact with the COVID-19 virus should also be included in the category of voters that would qualify as "ill" for the purposes of absentee voting.





March 12, 2020

Police Chief Marshall Porter Glastonbury Police Department 2108 Main Street Glastonbury, CT 06033

Dear Chief Porter;

As you may know, on February 21, 2020, Webster Bank, 141 Hebron Ave. Glastonbury experienced a robbery. A male suspect entered the banking center, presented a demand note and verbally indicated he had a gun. The banking center employee complied with the suspects demands and retreived money from their cash drawer and presented it to the suspect who immediately left the banking center.

Detective Peter Brander along with members of the Patrol Divison and Detective Bureau arrived at the banking center and began an intense investigation to identify and apprehend this robbery suspect as soon as possible.

The next day, February 22<sup>nd</sup> Det. Brander contacted me to inform me that they apprehended the robbery suspect and recovered most of the money taken in the robbery. I immediately contacted the banking center who were relieved the suspect was apprehended so quickly.

On behalf of the Webster Bank Corporate Security Department and employees at the Glastonbury Banking Center we would like to thank the following Officers for their quick response to our banking center and the quick apprehendtion of the robbery suspect: Det. Peter Brander, Lt. Corey Davis, Sgt. Nathan Saucier, Agent Adam Vanskiver, Officer Katie Kratzer, Officer Jim Phillips, Officer, John Barrett, Officer Carlos DaCruz, Officer Emily Cooper, Officer Segey Sharov and Officer Neal Cavanaugh and K-9 Soleil

Sincerely,

Frank Teti, Jr. VP Corporate Security

The Town of Glastonbury recognizes the importance of providing the highest level of service to all residents and visitors to Town offices and programs. With this in mind, I will appreciate hearing from you concerning your experience when visiting Town offices/facilities. Please take a moment to offer your comments and suggestions in the space below.

Richard J. Johnson Town Manager

### GLASTONBURY CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

1.	Please provide date and department(s) you visited:  Date 2 /2 // 20 Department(s)
2.	Were you greeted promptly and courteously? ☐ No
3.	Did you receive the information or help you needed? ☐ No
4.	Please tell us the main purpose of your visit to the Town facility:
5.	Please rate the overall quality of information/help you were given:  Excellent  Very Good  Average  Below Average  Unsatisfactory
6.	Please share any comments or suggestions which would help us improve our service to the public. KATRINA WAS FABOUUSSI LUENT ABOVE & REYOND P
	Feel free to include your name, address, and telephone number in the space provided:

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Simply tear this card at the perforation and drop the postage paid survey in the mail.



### LAW OFFICE OF JANE STARKOWSKI-POLVANI, LLC

February 13, 2020

Durlene Mikkelson, Director Human Services 300 Welles Street Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: Theresa Buckson, Community Outreach Social Worker

Dear Director Mikkelson:

In a busy world, we become so immersed in both our personal and professional lives that we tend to forget those who in some manner make our lives easier. I am not in the habit of writing letters acknowledging an individual's performance but I would be remiss if I did not do so in the instant case.

This letter is written as an unsolicited endorsement of Theresa Buckson. It is with genuine pleasure that I write this letter on Theresa's behalf. I have had the pleasure of working with Theresa on case. She always performed with due diligence and dedication. She went above and beyond in meeting many community needs. It was an honor to interact with Theresa.

Theresa has earned both my respect and admiration. I emphasize "earned" since my respect is not given freely. Respect is attained through my recognition of an individual's knowledge, commitment, veracity, and integrity. Theresa is a consummate professional, possessing an impeccable work ethic.

Theresa enhances the services provided by the Town of Glastonbury to its residents. Congratulations on such an exemplary employee.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Jane Starkowski-Polvani

Attorney-at-Law

JSP/nm

C: Richard Johnson, Town Manager

2020 FEB 18 AMII: 2

The Town of Glastonbury recognizes the importance of providing the highest level of service to all residents and visitors to Town offices and programs. With this in mind, I will appreciate hearing from you concerning your experience when visiting Town offices/facilities. Please take a moment to offer your comments and suggestions in the space below.

2020 FEB 27 PM 3: 03

Richard J. Johnson Town Manager

### GLASTONBURY CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

1.	Please provide date and department(s) you visited:  Date 2/27/20 Department(s) IRS Tax		•		
2.	Were you greeted promptly and courteously?	Yes	□ No		
3.	Did you receive the information or help you needed?	Yes	☐ No		
4.	Please tell us the main purpose of your visit to the Town facility  To pay my cartino				
5.	Please rate the overall quality of information/help you were give Excellent  Very Good  Average  Below Average		sfactory		
6.	Please share any comments or suggestions which would help us improve our service to the public.				
	Feel free to include your name, address, and telephone number in the Espanance of Livisarian CT	the space (	orovided:		

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Simply tear this card at the perforation and drop the postage paid survey in the mail.

DebJust evanted to thank you for all your help and patience over the years with our AffandMusic Vendors. You are so easy to work with And are a great sounding board when they are driving me crazy:

Looking for navel to a great 2000Time

The Town of Glastonbury recognizes the importance of providing the highest level of service to all residents and visitors to Town offices and programs. With this in mind, I will appreciate hearing from you concerning your experience when visiting Town offices/facilities. Please take a moment to offer your comments and suggestions in the space below.

Richard J. Johnson Town Manager

### GLASTONBURY CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

1.	Please provide date and department(s) you visited:		
	Date 12/30 Department(s) Parks & Rec		
2.	Were you greeted promptly and courteously?	Yes	☐ No
3.	Did you receive the information or help you needed?	Yes	☐ No
4.	Please tell us the main purpose of your visit to the Town facility:		
	Request refund for fitness class		
5.			
	Excellent	Insatis	factory
6.	Please share any comments or suggestions which would help us im-	prove	our
	service to the public. PARS & ROC STUFF IS always	fre	endles
	helpful and responsive		7
	Feel free to include your name, address, and telephone number in the sp	oace p	rovided:
	Richard Nicholas 860-633-8926	, a, a	rovidod.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us. Simply tear this card at the perforation and drop the postage paid survey in the mail.

## Italian Classes went Virtual 5/7/2020 20 participants

The class was wonderful. No problems. Thank you for putting it all together - Mimi

So good to see my fellow students and to have our lesson. Thanks to all who facilitated this. I was grateful to have these lessons continued, especially because I am alone most of my time while "staying in place". - Marie De Filippo

Thank you - Connie Patterson

Went well Good to see everyone- John Dresty

Thank you so much for offering us the opportunity to keep up our practice of Italian. The consistency is very important. Thank you all for setting up Zoom for our class. Ciao, - Grace Garro

Thank you very much for setting up the Italian class zoom meeting. Besides the enlightened content of the class, it was a nice change of pace and form of socialization during our daily isolation. - Rich

Thank you I enjoyed it so much. It went very well. - Corenda

It was great. Worked out well. Looking forward to next week! - Marianna

To: theresa buckson < theresa.buckson@glastonbury-ct.gov>
Subject: Re: face masks

Teresa,

I am a senior citizen. I just picked up my mask at the Community Center. Please extend my thanks and gratitude to the workers who tirelessly put together these masks and to the staff and town for coordinating this important event. Glastonbury is a great and giving community to reside in!

# THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN SOUTH GLASTONBURY United Church Of Christ Main and High Streets. P.O. Box 187 South Glastonbury, Connecticut 06073 (86O) 633-4651 Founded, 1836

April 9, 2020

To the Glastonbury Police Department,

processional dow this time of social Your kindness last communities need most acutely by conficers that guid for all of you on a supported our conduction of the conficers of th	I wish to offer our deepest gratitude for your support in leading our processional down Hebron Avenue and through the processional down Hebron Avenue and through the processional distancing, churches are challenged with how to support families in their grief. Your kindness last night enabled us to safely envelop the processionals and civil servants. We hope the professionals and civil servants. We hope the professionals and civil servants. We hope the professional of you on the front lines. The Glastonbury Police Department answered our call and supported our community in a most thoughtful and tangible way. We are so grateful for all you do for our community. Please know your support to the community and the professional safe and chank you for all you do to protect and serve this wonderful community.					
With Gratitude,						
Paul DeMaio, Pr The Congregatio	esident nal Church in South Glastonbury					
Sent: To: Subject:	Monday, May 4, 2020 12:22 PM RCC Staff thank you					
I had a message on the Face Mask line today with many thanks from . He was most appreciative for the mask and all the work in this effort by Social Services and the volunteers.						

Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 4:00 PM

To: Marshall Porter <marshall.porter@glastonbury-ct.gov>

Subject: Thank You

Dear Chief Porter:

This is just a brief note to thank the Glastonbury Police Dept. for finding and returning my wife's credit card which she lost at Hubbard Park today. We returned there to retrace our steps, then called Dispatch to report the missing card and leave our contact info. It is amazing because it was literally just minutes after I called Dispatch when a police officer up and handed us the card. I'm sorry that I did not get his name but I just want you to know how appreciative (and relieved) we are that he found the card. Thank you so much.

Thank you again for offering this "class" via live stream and for making it happen. I was able to register for both times on T & TH.
I especially appreciated the 1 hour of sensing some "normalcy" in what has become a very abnormal time. The live streaming worked perfectly and I got an opportunity to relax, stretch, and re-energize. I'm already looking forward to Thursday's session!
Hi, I just want to thank you and the Town for putting this together for us. Maggie and the staff of Personal Euphoria are wonderful, we are lucky to have them in our town. I so appreciate being able to keep up with some healthy activities at this time. Take care,
Thank you so much for providing the streaming classes. I did Maggie's 9:30 class this morning and it was great. I really appreciate your extra effort to provide the classes during the pandemic when nearly everything else is cancelled or closed.
Loved doing the class on line with Maggie. Thank you for allowing that to happen
Hi Liz,  Just wanted to let you know this worked out great this morning using zoom. Thank you for being flexible and allowing the class to continue, I appreciate it!
Thank you so very much for the video Pilates class. It was an hour of normal in a not normal world! Stay healthy!
Liz & Maggie, I just attended the first class. It was awesome!!! We didn't seem to have many technical difficulties. Thank you sooo much for putting this together and giving us some sense of normal. Keep well,
Liz, this live streaming class was great! Thanks so much for offering it!
Liz: Just a quick note to tell you how much I appreciate that Glastonbury Park and Rec is offering these streamed sessions. It is important that we all try to maintain some sense of normalcy during this stressful time. It's wonderful to see Glastonbury doing what it can for its program participants.
Dear Ms. Gambacorta, Thank you so much for working on this with Maggie! This is great to have this opportunity. Wishing you all the best ①

From: Glastonbury, CT Webmaster < webmaster@glastonbury-ct.gov >

Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2020 12:46 AM

To: Mark Catania <mark.catania@glastonbury-ct.gov>

Subject: Many Thanks.

Good Evening Captain Catania,

As a resident of THE TANNERY, I am reaching out with a simple "Thanks" for what seem to be a recent increase of drivethru passes by Patrol Officers under your charge through our Complex; especially in late evening/early morning hours. While I am not a pet owner myself, many of the Folks in our Community, who may be out late walking their dogs to the remote reaches of the property, appreciate the additional Police presence.

Also, Many Thanks to the Department for your front-line efforts in keeping our Families and Glastonbury Community safe during this cataclysmic time of uncertainty. Hopefully we are all back to normal activities again soon.

Glastonbury Police Department 2108 Main Street Glastonbury, CT. 06033

To all members of the Glastonbury Police Department,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your outstanding commitment to servicing and protecting our town and citizens during this time of uncertainty and residents fears.

The tireless efforts of all police officers, dispatchers and all other members of the Glastonbury police department are to be highly commended!

Thank you everyone for all you do!

**To:** Marshall Porter <marshall.porter@glastonbury-ct.gov> **Cc:** Michael Magrey <michael.magrey@glastonbury-ct.gov>

Subject: Self defense class

Hello Officer Porter,

I would like to thank you, officer Magrey and Glastonbury Police station for organizing it.

It was such an educational class and officer Magrey was such a great instructor for us.

Have a safe journey and thanks for taking care of Glastonbury community

To: Marshall Porter <marshall.porter@glastonbury-ct.gov>

Subject: Thank you

We wanted to extend our deepest thanks and appreciation to Officer Trudeau. He was with us during the hardest time, finding out the most difficult news to process that my husband/our dad passed away. He stayed with us and was a shoulder to cry on. He is a very special person and a wonderful addition to the Glastonbury community. Please make sure he knows we are so very thankful for him and his service.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts,

To: Marshall Porter <marshall.porter@glastonbury-ct.gov> Subject: Thanks to PO DaCruz

Chief Porter -

Wanted to send a note of thanks and appreciation for Officer Carlos DaCruz who responded to a medical emergency at my home yesterday.

I took a nasty fall down the main stair case in my home. Dispatched with Glastonbury EMS, Officer DaCruz was first on the scene. The Officer calmed my wife, assessed the injuries and assisted EMS with my care and move to the gurney. His professionalism and demeanor are appreciated and I hope this note finds it's way into his personnel file. My wife believes she got his name correct, but you understand in the moment she was more focused on the emergency. As it turns out my injuries were more severe than we first thought, with two bones fractured in my back. Therefore the

As it turns out my injuries were more severe than we first thought, with two bones fractured in my back. Therefore the rapid response on his part was even more meaningful.

I am now home recovering and wanted to take a moment to get this off to you before I forgot to recognize his service.

Sincerely,

**To:** Marshall Porter <marshall.porter@glastonbury-ct.gov> **Subject:** Thanks!

Hi Chief Porter - I've written to you before about Traffic & Safety, and I feel a bit like a one-trick pony ... but I did want to thank you for two things that caught my attention this week: 1) yesterday the large portable LED signs near the construction in front of Daybreak Coffee asked drivers to pay attention to pedestrians in the cross-walks; and 2) this morning was the second day in a month I saw a patrol car parked conspicuously near the four-way stop signs at the corner of Buttonball & Olde Stage. Motorists frequently fail to stop when they're supposed to at both of these intersections, which make pedestrians -like me- always on our guard when crossing. I imagine you have lots of competing uses for our police resource, and I'm grateful to have been the beneficiary of them on these occasions.

To: lisa zerio < <a href="mailto:lisa.zerio@glastonbury-ct.gov">lisa.zerio@glastonbury-ct.gov</a>>; Katryna Albert <a href="mailto:katryna.albert@glastonbury-ct.gov">katryna.albert@glastonbury-ct.gov</a>> Subject: MUCH Appreciation

This past Saturday, we held a memorial dedication at Ferry Park for our very special, close friend. Everyone felt the Tupelo tree was a perfect way to honor and remember \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you and everyone involved for all your help and support in making this happen. Sincerely,