

East Mountain News

East Mountain Neighborhood Assn. Waterbury, CT

Check our website: www.EastmountainCT.com

EMNA meets 3rd Wednesday of each
month except July and August
Our Lady of Lebanon Church 7:00 PM

September 2013

East Mountain Neighborhood Association

President: Bob Perigard 203-753-2575
Vice Pres: Dave Muccino 203-757-5277
Secretary: Stacey Kearney 203-725-7343
Treasurer: Evelyn Carrah 203-756-2927
Community Relations Officer: Matt Lemos
mlemos@wtbydpd.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

As we enter our 13th year, I once again hope that you and your family had an enjoyable, relaxing and safe summer.

I would like to thank all of you who supported our Association with your dues, attendance at our meetings and volunteering for different projects. It is you, our dedicated members, who consistently donate your time, talent, resources and monetary help to a variety of projects that continue to keep our community safe, secure and a pleasant place for our families to live.

We invite guest speakers to our meetings and they are always impressed with the number of people present. Please try to attend as many meetings as you can. It is a great place to meet new neighbors as well as socialize with friends. Two hours a month gives you a say in what you would like to see or do here in East Mountain. If you cannot join us, support the Association with your \$15.00 membership dues. You can be sure it will be used for the benefit of our neighborhood.

We continue to hang flags throughout all our streets and maintain our paver flag and letters on the dam. We plant flowers in the park, as well as weed and mulch, and volunteers are always welcome.

In the spring of 2014, with help from the Wendell Cross PTA, we hope to spruce up the side of the school bordering Hamilton Avenue. The area we would like to address is between the stairs leading up to the school and the driveway. There is a bus stop there that can use a make-over. More discussion on this will take place throughout the year.

There are other projects being considered and the more residents involved, the easier the work. We have much talent and ingenuity here in East Mountain. Please join us as I can only imagine what great things we can accomplish together.

Bob Perigard, President

2013-2014 Meeting Dates & Proposed Speakers

Sept 18: Joe McGrath-
Wtby Dir. Of Economic Development
*Oct 09: Open
Nov 20: Bill DeMaida-
History of U.S. Flags
Dec 18: Christmas Social
Jan 15: Open
Feb 19: State Representative Selim Noujaim
Mar 19: Waterbury Mayor
Apr 16: Open
May 21: Open
June 18: Award-High School Grant
Big Green Pizza Truck

*Date change

Helpful Phone Numbers:

Emergency:

Fire-Police-Medical	911
Building Dept.	203-574-6832
Education Dept.	203-574-8000
Citizen Service Center	203-597-3444
Library	203-574-8200
Mayor's Office	203-574-6712
Police Community Relations	203-574-6962
Public Works	203-574-6851
Parks Dept	203-574-6793
Refuse Dept	203-574-6857
Water Dept	203-574-8251

In December we said goodbye to our Community Relations Officer, Joe Padua, and wished him well on his retirement from W.P.D. Now we welcome Officer Matt Lemos as our new Community Relations Officer. Matt attends all EMNA meetings with a police report and answers concerns we may have about our neighborhood. He may be reached at mlemos@wtbydpd.org. This is a direct link to his police vehicle and he assures us he will answer all calls within 24 hours. You may also call the community relations office at 203-574-6962.

EAST MOUNTAIN PARK.....Larry Davino

East Mountain Park is now serving our neighborhood and the city in its fifth year, after undergoing a major renovation, officially completing in a gala June 2009 re-opening ceremony.

In four short years the park has become a popular place for all to enjoy a multitude of outdoor activities, ranging from the sports activities sponsored by the East Mountain Athletic Association to people who just want to sit on a shady bench and relax a bit. In between these two extremes are people enjoying all kinds of outdoor activities such as walking, jogging, pet exercising, pick-up basketball, cooling off in the sprinkler, using the playground and having picnics or celebrating events such as a birthday in the gazebo. The park is also the venue for our movie nights and, every so often, for a concert. There's no question that the park provides a wonderful setting for individual and family outdoor fun.

Maintenance of the park is of utmost importance. A clean, well-kept facility allows people to enjoy themselves in a safe, litter-free setting. It is important to keep in mind that not only was our EMNA instrumental in getting the park renovated but also that it is playing a leading role in ensuring the park is properly maintained. We are fortunate indeed to have a very effective city liaison who serves on the Park Board. This ensures that major problems and issues are brought to the attention of the appropriate city officials for resolution. We are also heavily involved with more mundane tasks through a group of dedicated volunteers who do flower plantings, weeding, mulching, trash pick-up and other maintenance chores which are beyond the city's resources at this time. Our hard-working volunteers also keep the paver flag and letters on the face of the dam weed-free and well kept....no simple matter, especially in the heat of summer.

There are many others who keep the park litter-free. The coaches of the E.M. Athletic Association encourage the players, parents and spectators to keep the ball fields and dugouts free of trash. This is a huge factor in keeping the park looking great. Pet walkers are now using the dog waste bags regularly which keep the walking path and edges waste free. Lately, even the Canada Geese are co-operating in keeping off the walking path! Park regulars have seen that cleanliness inspires cleanliness and observe park users picking up after themselves, leaving the gazebo and playground relatively clean.

Of course, there's always room for improvement. We could use more and/or larger trash containers and more timely and more frequent waste collections. Another improvement would be for a disposal area for used charcoal briquettes. Until we can get a designated coal disposal area, picnickers who bring cooking stoves should also bring a heavy pail to collect their hot coals. Leaving the coals in the park is unsightly and, more importantly, unsafe.

Hats off and a hearty "Thank You!" for EMNA member support and for all who strive to keep our park as one of the finest in the city.

HARRY NORTHROP GRANT RECIPIENT:

Once again, for our 11th year, the EMNA presented a grant of \$750.00 in memory of Harry Northrop to a deserving high school graduate who is a resident of East Mountain. Mr. Northrop was a long time resident of East Mountain who was a founder of the East Mt. Community Club and the East Mt. Athletic Association. He was instrumental in the construction of the original East Mt. Park and a memorial stone is dedicated to him in the Memorial Circle of our new park.

This year's recipient was Gregory Nicholson, son of David & Bellen Nicholson of Pineridge Rd. who excelled in his studies at Crosby High School. Gregory plans to attend the University of CT in the fall and will major in Biomedical Engineering.

THE BIG GREEN PIZZA TRUCK.....Ned Mencio

The final meeting of the year for the East Mt. Neighborhood Association was held on June 19th at Our Lady of Lebanon Church. At this meeting our \$750 award, named in honor of Harry Northrop was presented to Gregory Nicholson, a recent graduate of Crosby High School. On this occasion, the Association, in response to a survey taken in the September Newsletter, honored a request that we cater a pizza party. There were many discussions at the various monthly meetings on how to make this a memorable event.

We finally decided to hire “The Big Green Pizza Truck” from New Haven. Their staff did not disappoint the more than 100 people who attended. We were treated to seventeen different thin-crust pizzas, salad, cappuccino, espresso and gelato. All of these items were readily available from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Soft drinks and water were provided by the Association, and people were invited to bring their own wine and beer. The charge for this event was \$20 for non-members and \$15 for members. The Association would like to thank the many volunteers who made the evening the success that it was and those who sold tickets to EMNA members and non-members throughout the city.

It has already been added to the June 18, 2014 calendar! We hope to see you there!

PRESERVING A CLEAN AND SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD.....Ned Mencio

The EMNA is asking for your help once again in keeping our community as clean and safe as possible. We have a few suggestions that might help in this endeavor.

Please pick up any trash that might accumulate around your property. Pull weeds or unwanted grass from your sidewalk and driveway.

If there is a fire hydrant or catch basin near your home, try to keep them free of any debris, as well as ice and snow. Keeping basins and drains clear will prevent street flooding.

If you see a home that is overgrown with weeds (9” or more) please notify our Community Relations

Officer Matt Lemos at mlemos@wtbypd.org who will contact the Blight Office to have the grass cut. This will discourage any intruder who might think the house is vacant.

All blue refuse containers and recycle bins must be placed at the curb on the night before pick-up and returned to your property no later than that evening. They are not to remain curbside.

Be sure that your house numbers (minimum 4”) are visible from the street so emergency personnel can locate your house.

GRACIOUS HOST.....

A heartwarming thanks goes to Rev. Dany Aki Abar, Pastor of Our Lady of Lebanon Church, as well as all his parishioners, for the use of Cedars Hall to hold our monthly meetings. The church has allowed us to meet there monthly for more than ten years. It is comforting to know we have a clean and well maintained place to hold our gatherings. Thank you Father and all of your parishioners for your kindness and hospitality.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Sept 2013 – June 2014 – Dues are \$15 – up to 2 Members
Members Names Must Be Listed Separately on the Form Below for Voting Purposes
Example: Henry and Margaret Smith

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please make check payable to: East Mountain Neighborhood Association (EMNA)
Please return this form with your check in the enclosed envelope.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Aug. 23:** Family Movie Night in the Park “Despicable Me”
 Sponsored by Wtby. Arts & Tourism Commission
 East End Community Club
 East Mt. Neighborhood Association
- Sept. 18:** First meeting of the year – Discussion on new voting dates for Officers
- Nov. (TBA)** Remove neighborhood flags
- Dec. 8:** Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa 5:30 PM
 East Mt. Golf Course Clubhouse – Open to the Public
- Apr/May: (TBA)** Earth Day – Neighborhood Clean-Up
 Clean up Wendell Cross School Grounds (Hamilton Ave.)
 Hang neighborhood flags
- June 18:** Presentation of Harry Northrop Student Grant to high school graduate
 residing in East Mountain
 End of Year Party (Proposed Big Green Pizza Truck)
 Final meeting before summer break

Our thanks to EMNA member, Bill Grossberndt of Deering Lane for his ingenuity and resourcefulness while installing solar powered lights on our paver flag. Bill admits it’s a trial and error process, but it seems to work. They are anchored in the ground and can be removed during the winter months. This was done at no cost to the Association. Well done, Bill, and thank you.

In October, 2013, we were hit with Hurricane Sandy. Fortunately we here on the Mountain were spared any serious damage. However, our sign located on Rte. 69 in front of the FasMart did not fare too well. Time had rotted some of the wood and the wind and rain from the storm made the sign unstable.

Once again East Mountain resident Dave Watterworth of Watterworth & Son Signs stepped up. Dave donated time and material to replace the sign and with the help of resident volunteers the new sign was installed. The Association is very grateful to Dave for his kindness and generosity.

In the spring of this year a burn hole was noticed in the protective plastic lens covering the park flagpole light from what appeared to be minor vandalism. The hole in the cover did not prevent the light from operating but now the lamp protection was partially lost.

Fortunately, a former resident, Stephen Mencio, an electrical contractor and owner of Power Unlimited, was able to locate a replacement lens and generously donated it to the Association. Steve is the son of EMNA members, Ned & Patricia Mencio of Pineridge Road.

Thank you, Steve, for your help and donation as we continually try to keep our neighborhood clean and safe.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:

In July, Community Relations Officer Matt Lemos met with a small group of residents interested in establishing a Neighborhood Watch Program. He explained that the concept requires no additional work on behalf of residents except to keep attentive during normal routine activities and communicate with other residents. The Mountain would be divided into sections with each area having a designated Captain. Tentatively we have divided the area into 7 sections. A Captain is needed for each section. We hope to make each section smaller (maybe 10-12) if more residents are interested. This is strictly a volunteer program. We are fortunate to have a very safe and somewhat crime-free neighborhood and this program can only improve our quality of life in East Mountain. Further discussion and information will be forthcoming at the 9/18/13 meeting with the October meeting being dedicated to this worthwhile project. Anyone interested in joining this endeavor can contact Association President Bob Perigard at 203-753-2575.

EAST MOUNTAIN HISTORY:

Efforts are being made to obtain some history about the original East Mountain School located on Prospect Road (Rt 69) at the junction of Hamilton Ave and across the street from East Mountain Rd. Anyone having any information and/or pictures, and would like to help with this project is asked to contact Larry Davino at 203-755-6955.

A special thanks to Sally McGovern for her assistance with this newsletter and continued professional care of our website.