



# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Monthly Report

QUALITY, EFFICIENT SERVICE ON BEHALF OF RESIDENTS, LOCAL, REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AUTHORITIES

APRIL 2020

## COVID-19 Continues



Public Works has settled into the new normal, part of which means interviews & other business done via Zoom and email. Among contracts conveyed in April:

- Groton finished negotiation of a 'maximum price contract' with **O&G Industries** of Torrington for construction management of the Westside and Cutler elementary school projects.
- **Anchor Engineering Services, Inc.** of Glastonbury was awarded a two-year contract to provide outfall sampling and investigation of Illicit Discharges, work required under the DEEP 'MS4' permit for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems.

Equipment Operator **Kyle Bartha** (l)  
New Maintainer **Michael Tanguay** (r)



## April 20-24: National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week

In January, the UCONN CT Transportation Institute's 'Training & Technical Assistance,' or "T2," Center invited students state-wide to promote road safety with a poster design contest. 340 students submitted designs with pedestrian, bike, and driver safety themes. Entries were judged by DOT road safety professionals, and a winner and honorable mention chosen in each of three age categories. Note our local 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade category winner, below. *The T2 Center is a trusted resource for Groton & Public Works Departments throughout CT.*

➢ Work of Gianna Curioso, daughter of Roads & Streets Equipment Operator **Joe Curioso**. ➢ Roads & Streets crew members display **safety gear donated by T2** after safety training.



Gianna Curioso — 2-3 Winner

## Welcome new Town employee **Michael Tanguay**:

Michael started at the **Water Pollution Control Facility** in April as the new Sewer Collections System Maintainer, or "**Maintainer.**" He is part of a team that takes care of 136 miles of sewer system (underground pipes, manholes, pump stations, & treatment facility) conducting routine maintenance and working 'on call' to respond to emergencies.

The Collections team helps keep our community healthy & clean by:

- **Inspecting** piping with a CCTV trailer & robotic camera (shown)
- **Cleaning** sewer piping with a high pressure jet truck.
- **Unclogging** pipes of fat, oil, grease, flushable wipes, & problem objects.
- Grounds maintenance • Manhole cover inspecting, cleaning, repair, & replacement • Hauling, assembly, & removal of emergency equipment

**DID YOU KNOW?** Many products are mislabeled as "flushable" but create clogs. *The only flushable items are toilet paper & waste.*

## Thank you, **Sydney Rosen**

This Killingly HS junior **donated 64 handcrafted face-masks to Public Works** for a National Honor Society service project. Sydney has been sewing since age 5, crochets, and is active in FFA, an agricultural youth leadership program. She plays varsity volleyball, is on the track team, & this year placed 8<sup>th</sup> in shotput at the State Championship.



## 2020 marks **25 years** of recognition for The Town of Groton by **Tree City USA**

### a program of **The National Arbor Day Foundation**

A municipality must meet four standards of sound urban forestry management to uphold its standing: • maintain a tree board or department • have a community tree ordinance • spend \$2+ per capita on urban forestry • and Celebrate Arbor Day. The CT Urban Forest Council also recognizes Groton as a "ReLeaf Community Partner." The Arbor Day event hosted by Public Works each **April 24** was expectedly cancelled but will resume next year. In the meantime, please take the time to appreciate our trees.

