

Bethany Seniority
April 2017

St. Patrick's Luncheon a sell out!!

Can you believe it, it was a sell out! This also where I apologize that I had to stop taking reservations. I want to thank everyone who attended. I see that everyone's inner Irish was very satisfied. It's nice to see all of you again and again. Both chefs once again did an exemplary job, so another round of applause and appreciation. Also a big thank you to the volunteers who helped me put this luncheon together. What would I do without Jan, Jackie, Don, and our State Troopers! I do hope you all loved your take home sweet treats.

Mother's Day Tea Scheduled for May 12th

We will be celebrating our Mother's Day Tea at the Clark Memorial Library on Friday May 12th. Starting at 12Noon. "Tales of Women, Wise and Wondrous", a program presented by Sara deBeer, is one of the teller's most popular programs. Sara's style of storytelling and her presentation is warm and personal. The stories that she shares speak of the potential of women that we don't often see highlighted in traditional tales: their courage, intelligence, wit. Sara selects these stories from her repertoire of international folktales featuring clever and resourceful women. Please join us for a very special Afternoon Tea. Reservations required by calling Jeanne DeVecchio 203 393-2100 Ext. 124 no later than Tuesday May 9th.

Connecticut Tech Act Project

Assistive Technology Loan Program (ATLP)

What is the Assistive Technology Loan Program (ATLP)? ATLP is a financial loan to help purchase AT devices and services which can be repaid at a lower monthly fee.

Who can apply for a loan through ATLP? Any individual with a disability that permanently affects the major life activity and who has been a resident of Connecticut for at least one year, or parents, guardians, family member or legal representative of the person with a disability can apply for a loan.

What can ATLP be used for? The ATLP can be used for broad range of assistive technology devices and services such as:

- wheelchairs and scooters
- braille notetakers and equipment
- assistive listening devices
- augmentative communication devices
- daily living aids
- computers and accessories
- adaptive software
- minor home modification equipment such as ramps or stair lifts
- motor vehicles that have/need modifications
- service animals
- evaluations or training to learn how to use an AT device, and more.

How much and for how long? AT loan amounts generally range from \$500-\$30,000 and can range from 1 to 10 years, depending on the type of AT device(s) or service(s) and the amount borrowed.

To get started, visit www.CTTechAct.com/loan to learn more or to download an application. You can also contact us at:

Voice: 860-424-5619

Toll-free in state: 800-537-2549

By mail: Connecticut Tech Act Project
55 Farmington Ave, 12th Floor
Hartford, CT 06105

Veteran's Calling All Veteran's VFW Post 2448

Your meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month beginning 7 P.M., at Lakeview Lodge, 265 Beacon Road, Bethany. Your attendance is requested. Membership drive is always opened

Brought You by the VFW Beletzky-Hoppe Post 2448

When you come by the Town Hall on the landing before you enter into the business offices on the left hand side you will find a "storage bin" where you can place your American Flag that is no longer a fitting emblem for display. The storage bin is clearly marked for its purpose. When the storage bin is full, a proper flag retirement ceremony will take place. The Town Hall is opened Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 4:30PM except for holidays. Thank you to Art Slicer who comes by and checks constantly on the storage bin. Keep up the good service that you provide Art, and also to our community who are dropping off the American Flags.

Bethany Lions Club Distributes Eyeglass collection boxes

Their mission is services for visually impaired. One part of this mission to collect usable eyeglasses that are then distributed to the people in need. The Bethany Lions Club has distributed to various locations in our Town eyeglass collection boxes. You will find a collection box on my bulletin board shelf. You'll recognize the collection boxes at the schools and our local businesses. A more comprehensive list will follow.

If you're unable to come to a drop off location, you may contact Lion Clark Hurlburt at 203-444-4469, he will accommodate and pick them up at your convenience, now how's that for service? I see that our Town citizens are leaving usable eyeglasses in our collection box, what can I say? I know what I can say, Thank you, and keep them coming!

PRESS RELEASE
TOWN OF BETHANY

Applications for tax credits for homeowners over 65 years of age and those totally disabled will be taken at the Assessor's office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. beginning February 1, 2017 thru May 16th, 2017.

These programs consist of the following:

ELDERLY HOMEOWNERS PROGRAM-This is a real estate tax credit program for homeowners who are at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2016 and meet certain income guidelines.

Those guidelines require that annual income for single people, including Social Security benefits, should not exceed \$35, 200. Married couples can be eligible if their income, including Social Security benefits, does not exceed \$ 42,900.

Applicants should bring all proof of their 2016 income including a copy of their 2016 income tax returns if filing, and proof of Social Security income (Form 1099). Also, the applicant must own and reside at the property for which tax relief is sought, or must hold a tenancy for life use of the property and be liable for the tax bill. This must be the applicant's principal or legal residence.

DISABILITY PROGRAM-Those homeowners who are disabled, and don't qualify for the elderly homeowners program because they are under the age of 65 can apply. One must provide proof of their disability award letter from the Social Security Administration. Also, the same income guidelines established for the elderly homeowners program must be met.

Previous participants in either of these two programs will be required to re-file their applications bi-annually and will be notified by mail of this refiling requirement. New applicants who think they qualify for this tax relief should inquire at the Assessor's Office.

In addition to this State property tax relief program, the Town of Bethany has adopted a local option property tax relief program at the February 7, 2000 Special Town Meeting. Those applicants who qualify for the State of Connecticut property tax relief program can also apply for the Town program. Those taxpayers who are already on the program and are required to refile, will be notified by mail.

Dated this 4th day of January, 2017

Mario J. Panagrosso, Assessor for the Town of Bethany

Additional Veterans and Local Veterans Exemption Notice Issued

ADDITIONAL VETERANS AND LOCAL VETERANS EXEMPTION- The additional veteran's and local veteran's exemptions are available to qualified veterans who meet certain income requirements. These two programs provide an increase in assessment reduction beyond the standard veteran exemption. The deadline for filing applications is October 2, 2017. Applicants must meet an income requirement of not more than \$42,900 if married and \$35,200 if single to qualify for the State of Connecticut Additional Veteran's Program. The income limits for the Town of Bethany Local Option Additional Veterans Exemption are \$60,200 for single persons and \$67,900 for married couples. Income includes adjusted gross income plus any other income, including Social Security benefits. Income is based upon the 2016 calendar year. Federal Income Tax returns and/or proof of all income must be presented to the Assessor's office which is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Please remember that proof of all income, including Social Security benefits (Form SSA-1099) for the 2016 calendar year must be submitted by October 2, 2017 or the application cannot be processed.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Assessor's office with any questions or concerns regarding this program. Call 203 393-2100 Ext. 112.

Mario Panagrosso, Assessor

Dated January 4, 2017

Ten Things A Person Living With Dementia Would Tell You If They Could

1. You know what makes me feel safe, secure, and happy? A smile.
2. Did you ever consider this? When you get tense and uptight it makes me feel tense and uptight.
3. Instead of getting all bent out of shape when I do something that seems perfectly normal to me, and perfectly nutty to you, why not just smile at me? It will take the edge off the situation all the way around.
4. Please try to understand and remember it is my short term memory, my right now memory, that is gone -- don't talk so fast, or use so many words.
5. You know what I am going to say if you go off into long winded explanations on why we should do something? I am going to say No, because I can never be certain if you are asking me to do something I like, or drink a bottle of castor oil. So I'll just say No to be safe.
6. Slow down. And don't sneak up on me and start talking. Did I tell you I like smiles?
7. Make sure you have my attention before you start blabbering away. What is going to happen if you start blabbering away and you don't have my attention, or confuse me? I am going to say No - count on it.
8. My attention span and ability to pay attention are not as good as they once were, please make eye contact with me before you start talking. A nice smile always gets my attention. Did I mention that before?
9. Sometimes you talk to me like I am a child or an idiot. How would you like it if I did that to you? Go to your room and think about this. Don't come back and tell me you are sorry, I won't know what you are talking about. Just stop doing it and we will get along very well, and probably better than you think.
10. You talk too much -- instead try taking my hand and leading the way. I need a guide not a person to nag me all the time.