

BETHANY BULLETIN

VOL.15, ISSUE 1

www.bethany-ct.com

January 2025

**Town Hall Offices and the Public Works Department will be closed
Wednesday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day and
Monday, January 20th for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

*Trash Pick up will be delayed one (1) day on:
Wednesday, January 1st & Thursday, January 2nd*

From the First Selectman's Desk December Highlights and January Updates

Dear Bethany Residents,

The holidays have come and gone and the new year awaits us! Welcome to 2025! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays.

Mother Nature brought Bethany its first accumulating snow on December 5th, well before winter officially starting on December 21st.

The Bethany Historical Society held its annual Tree Lighting on Sunday, December 1st at the Russell Homestead, and Christ Church Bethany followed on Sunday, December 8th. The Bethany Lions Club followed up on Tuesday, December 10th with their annual caroling event. It is one of their favorite service activities.

On Friday, December 6th, Bethany Human Services hosted a Senior Holiday Luncheon. Approximately 80 meals were served. Attendees enjoyed beautifully decorated tables and a delicious meal. The festivities began with the beautiful voices of our very talented students from Bethany Community School led by their music teacher Mr. Chad Fortune serenading the seniors with holiday songs. Santa (Don Shea) made a special appearance to visit with the seniors. Thank you to Human Services Director Robin Glowa, her assistant Emily Richard, and Officer Merriam who helped with this wonderful event.

Thank you to those residents who donated to the TEAM Toys 4 Kids toy drive this year. TEAM Toys 4 Kids supports nearly 2,000 children from low-income families in our and neighboring communities. On Wednesday, December 11th, I had the pleasure to deliver those donations to Echo Hose Training Center, which is the collection and distribution site for the TEAM's donations. There were numerous volunteers on hand to collect and separate the toys by age group. It was a reminder of how lucky many of us are and how we can bring smiles to the less fortunate. Thank you again for your generous support.

The Bethany Lions Club held their 7th Annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, December 14th at the Bethany Community School. The first 200 shoppers received a couple of special holiday gifts inside a Lions large/sturdy shopping bag to hold their fantastic



finds. Besides the 50+ vendors, there were also gift raffle prizes. The food truck Not Just Blowin' Smoke was available for those wishing to get breakfast or lunch. Thank you to the Lions Club for making holiday shopping easy for many.

Monday, December 16th, Seniors took a virtual tour of Germany to see all the sights and sounds of the holiday season. They also learned how to make beautiful paper stars. The trip and craft were hosted by our Bethany Human Services Department. It was a fun event, and it was a full house. Thank you to Robin Glowa and Emily Richard for a wonderful event.

Remember to visit the Bethany Seniority page to check out other events and helpful information.

Santa was sighted visiting houses on Sunday, December 22nd. Mother Nature provided a very brisk, seasonal forecast to help with smooth deliveries. A BIG shout out and thank you to Nicole Velardi, Steven Kirschbaum and the Bethany Volunteer Fire Department for bringing so much joy and lots of smiles to so many in Town. It was fun to watch the Santa sightings on Facebook. I think the adults were as excited as the children. I know I was. It is always a good time! We are very lucky to have such a wonderful Fire Department. Thank you again!

Depending on when this Bulletin hits your mailbox, a Hanukkah Menorah Lighting and celebration is being/was held at the Bethany Town Hall, on Sunday, December 29th. All are/were welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be/were served after the lighting. Thank you to Jordan and Dawn Miller Stark

Continued on pg.2

Inside This Edition:

Town Hall News	Pg. 1-2
School News	Pg. 4
Bethany Seniority	Pg.5, 11
Library Happenings	Pg. 9
Meetings Calendar	Pg. 11

*Submit stories, events, calendar dates, press releases, inquiries, advertisements, etc. to Jenn Cafusso at BethanyBulletin@bethany-ct.com
Please hand deliver or mail all advertisements' payments and make checks payable to the Town Clerk's office located at 40 Peck Road, Bethany, CT 06524.*

Deadline is the 15th of the previous month.

First Selectman's Desk

continued from front page

for organizing this event.

Reminders: The Public Works Department has been going through Town putting in stakes at various locations. Those stakes are temporary for the winter season and will be removed in the spring. The stakes help the Public Works crew when plowing.

As we still have some winter to contend with: Here are some additional reminders from the Public Works Department – Snow plowing reminders/rules:

-Blocked driveways – Snowplows may push snow in front of residential driveways. It is the homeowner's responsibility to clear access to their driveway. To avoid repeatedly clearing, it is recommended to wait until the plow is done.

-Mailbox damage – The Town will repair or replace mailboxes and/or posts that are struck by a plow blade, not ones damaged by the force of plowed snow. Plastic posts and mailboxes may not withstand the force of the snow. A recommendation is a 4-inch by 4-inch wooden post or 2-inch metal pipe, with a metal mailbox.

-Private plowing – Private plow contractors cannot push snow from private driveways or parking lots into the street. If there is no option but to put the snow in the street, the private plow must re-plow that part of the road until it is clear.

-Parking – No vehicles should be parked on the road during the winter months. This impedes the plow trucks from properly clearing the roads during inclement weather events.

-Snow stakes – Snow stakes can be installed along the edge of your property to help distinguish the property from the pavement. The stakes should be 30-36 inches high. Wooden stakes should have the top three (3) inches painted red to increase visibility.

-Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Public Works Department – 475-238-6966.

An important reminder from the Bethany Volunteer Fire Department: In an emergency, every second counts. Help first responders by making sure you have your address number properly displayed on both your mailbox and house. Numbers on the house should be at least four (4") inches tall; numbers on the mailbox should be at least three (3") inches tall and reflective; if it is a shared driveway with clustered mailboxes, use arrows to distinguish each address; and be sure that any tall plants or shrubbery, or snow, around the mailbox does not block the visibility of the numbers. Driveways should have clear access. Help them in order to help you if an emergency occurs.

These reminders above also help when fuel is being delivered. Residences should be properly identified, and driveways and delivery pipes should be easily and safely accessible. Preventative measures are always key to divert problems.

The winter season is officially upon us! Please be sure you are prepared for any inclement weather. If you have not done so already, please sign up for Code Red on the Town website: Easy to do: Go to the Town main page, scroll down, click on Sign Up for Emergency Phone Alerts and just follow the directions from

there. Many people have dropped their landlines in favor of using their cell phones. You will have the option of receiving texts and/or emails. If you are already on the Code Red system, please make sure your information is up to date.

As we know, Bethany weather conditions can change in an instant and can be very different from our neighboring towns. Our roads are a pleasure to drive on, but safety is always a main concern and keeping a slow speed is very important for maintaining control. When snow hits, please keep in mind that our Town crew works very hard to keep our roads clear for travel. We have over 60+ miles of road to cover, and we do our best to take care of them in a timely fashion. Conditions may warrant allowing additional time for travel or waiting until they improve. Please take your time—for your safety and the safety of others.

Please make sure you read the full reminder notice from the Tax Collector's Office: The second installment of Bethany Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes and the full amount of Supplemental Motor Vehicle Taxes become due and payable on January 1, 2025. Monday, February 3, 2025, is the last day to pay said taxes without interest penalty. Please see the Tax Collector's notice in this Bulletin for additional important information.

May the new year bring you good health, good fortune and the joy of family and friends.

HAPPY 2025!



REMINDER: Town Hall Offices and the Public Works Department will be closed Wednesday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day and Monday, January 20th for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

REMINDER FROM:
Residential Waste Systems (RWS)
New Year's Day 2025 – Wednesday & Thursday
trash pick-ups delayed one (1) day

ATTENTION BETHANY REPUBLICANS

The Bethany Republican Town Committee is looking for candidates who want to be a part of the process of operating the Town of Bethany. If you are interested in running for an office in the November 2025 municipal Election, please contact Linda Bates, BRTC Chair at: batesrtc@yahoo.com



BETHANY LIONS SCHOLARSHIP

Applicants must be a Bethany resident and a member of a graduation class of an accredited secondary school.

Applications are available at the Clark Memorial Library, the Bethany Town Hall and the Amity Regional High School Guidance Office.

Applications must be returned to the Amity Guidance Office or Bethany Town Hall on or before MAY 1, 2025

BETHANY LIONS ONLINE AUCTION

Annual Goods and Services Auction:
Our very popular online auction will be running from March 26, 2025 - April 4, 2025.

Have you been cleaning out your garage, attic or closets? The Lions are looking for donations of quality used items to include in our auction. If you own a business, we welcome gift certificates!

Questions, call Lion Janet at (203) 393-0598 or email: brunwin@sbcglobal.net.

Welcome to Bring Your Own Food & Beverage

BETHANY LIONS

COFFEE, TEA, DESSERT PROVIDED

FEBRUARY 1, 2025

SATURDAY COMEDY NIGHT

FEATURING

JIM MC CUE

Donation \$25/pp
Doors Open at 7 pm

JOHN MC CLELLAN

BETHANY LAKEVIEW LODGE

DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM, SHOW STARTS AT 7:30 PM

265 Beacon Rd., CT-42, Bethany, CT 06524

Tickets? Call/Text Lion Linda
(203) 530-5287 or email:
blcomedynight@gmail.com

PG16-R*
*Some adult suggestive material, language



What Can We Feed or Fix For You?

770 Amity Road, Bethany, CT | lsbfarmsupply.com | (203) 393-0002

From the Superintendent of School's Desk

Dear BCS Community,

As we approach the new year, we are excited to announce the launch of the BCS CARE Closet, set to open in January 2025.



Our students, staff, and the greater Bethany Community School (BCS) family have always demonstrated incredible generosity and dedication in supporting various charitable causes. Whether through fundraising for breast cancer research with our Pink Walk to School, organizing food drives at Thanksgiving, or collecting toys for those in need during the holiday season, we have consistently shown our commitment to helping others.

While we take great pride in these efforts, we also recognize that there is a need to support and care for our own BCS community. With that in mind, we are thrilled to introduce the BCS CARE Closet—a resource designed to meet the needs of our students and their families.

The BCS CARE Closet will offer a variety of essential items that any student may access. These include hygiene products, shelf-stable foods, and clothing items, such as socks, gloves, and other necessities. The closet will be available for students to access during the school day for items they may need, whether it's something to take home or something to use while at school.

The CARE Closet is a way for us to support each other—acknowledging that sometimes our own community members need a little extra help. Our goal is to ensure that every student feels supported, both in and out of the classroom.

We are grateful for the continued generosity of our BCS family and look forward to this new chapter of community care.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Bethany Community School, and we look forward to working together to make a difference in our own community. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at (203) 393-1170 or via email at kbyrd@bethany-ed.org.

Wishing each and every one of you the very best in the new year – filled with joy, success, and continued community strength.

Sincerely,
Kai Byrd, Superintendent

From the Fire Marshal's Desk

'Tis the Season: Not only is this the holiday season where we can enjoy ourselves with family and friends, but it is also the season for avoidable fire safety issues. The Fire Service responds to an increase in calls during the winter season for a variety of reasons. These include cooking and smoking-related fires in the home. These two everyday occurrences make up the number one and two causes for accidental fires, as well as fire-related deaths annually. Unattended cooking and improper use and disposal of smoking materials are the primary causes for these types of fires.

Another significant factor in cold-weather responses are carbon monoxide-related emergencies. This colorless and odorless gas is a by-product of combustion and is normally carried away via the appliances flue or chimney but can be expelled back into the home for a variety of reasons. These can include cracked or broken piping or masonry, service-related issues and more in fossil fuel and woodburning appliances. It is important to have these appliances serviced and inspected on a regular basis by a trained professional. At one time the Bethany Fire Department had responded to what appeared to be a routine medical call and because of a carbon monoxide meter attached to the medical bag, were alerted to a fatal level (over 500 Parts Per Million) of carbon monoxide and were able to rapidly remove the person from that environment. Awareness of potential problems and having early warning devices such as smoke and carbon monoxide detectors will help prevent these accidents.

Every home should have smoke detectors on every level, inside each bedroom, as well as outside the sleeping areas for proper coverage. Carbon monoxide detectors should also be placed on every level of the home. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) offers specific guidelines and a comprehensive amount of information and safety tips at their website. (www.nfpa.org). Please include these items on your list while you are out shopping. They may be the most important gift you can give. Feel free to contact the Fire Marshal's office with any questions: 203-393-2100 Ext. 1119.



Bethany Seniority

By Robin Glowa

January 2025

"The magic in new beginnings is truly the most powerful of them all." -Josiyah Martin

Bethany Town Hall will be closed Wednesday, January 1st for New Year's Day and Monday, January 20th in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
No Senior Bus Transportation on Wednesday, January 1st or Monday, January 20th

SENIOR LUNCH!

Senior Lunch is held every *Wednesday at Noon at Bethany Town Hall*. Reservations must be made by the Wednesday prior at 203-393-2100 x1124.

\$9.00 per person.

(Please pay in exact cash when you arrive.)

JANUARY ENTREES:

Jan. 8th: Mushroom Barley Soup - Beef Burgundy

Jan. 15th: Lunch and Learn with Oak St. Health Care
"Medicare Scam Prevention"

Soup, Sandwiches, and Sweets will be served

Jan. 22nd: Cinnamon French Toast, Scrambled Eggs

Jan. 29th: Italian Wedding Soup - Eggplant Rollatini

FREE-FRIDAY FILM FESTIVAL

"BUTCH CASSIDY & THE SUNDANCE KID"

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10th

11:00 AM

Bethany Senior Center

Don't miss this classic adventure starring Paul Newman and Robert Redford.

Please call to reserve a seat 203-393-2100 x1124

NEXT FILM: FRI, FEBRUARY 7th

11:00 AM

Bethany Senior Center

"BLUE HAWAII"

Let's escape winter with this classic Elvis Presley movie!

AAA FREE Senior Safe Driving Course

Tuesday, January 14th

10 AM-2 PM

Bethany Senior Center

Rsvp By Thursday, Jan. 2nd 203-393-2100 x1124

FREE SENIOR CRAFT CORNER

Sponsored by Bethany Human Services

MONDAY, JANUARY 27th

11 AM

Bethany Senior Center

Cozy Up With A Good Book

We will be creating beautiful bookmarks and bookplates.

Reserve a seat by January 17th 203-393-2100 x1124

CANASTA CLUB

Come join the fun as we learn how to play Canasta!

No experience necessary **FREE EVENT.**

Tuesday, January 21st at 11 AM

Bethany Senior Center

Please reserve your seat at the card table by

Monday, January 13th 203-393-2100 x1124

FREE AARP SEMINAR

"What I Need To Know About Electric Choices"

Tuesday, January 28th

11 AM-1 PM

Bethany Senior Center

Don't miss this important and informative free seminar!

RSVP by Friday, Jan. 17th 203-393-2100 x1124

SAVE THE DATE -FREE EVENT

Special Valentine's Day Virtual Visit to Hawaii

Leave behind the winter cold and fall in love with one of our most beautiful states!

Friday, February 14th

11 AM

Bethany Senior Center

RSVP by Monday, February 3rd

203-393-2100 x1124

BETHANY LAND TRUST



Cold Weather Hiking

Winter's cold, even with temps below freezing for several days, presents a unique opportunity to leave our comfortable warm spaces indoors for a walk in the woods. No ticks, no mosquitoes, animal tracks, iced over streams and ponds, blissful quiet, early morning and late afternoon winter shadows, the unexpected warmth of the noonday sun, an altered perception of our favorite trails and places....the list of surprises goes on and on.

Being prepared is one secret to enjoying a winter walk in the woods. Check your local forecast and trail conditions. Dress in layers like an onion with a merino or smart wool/synthetic base layer. Use waterproof outer wear with room for layers underneath. It may be not so much bad weather as it is bad clothes. Start off cold, knowing you'll warm up and don't overdress. Pack some traction such as microspikes. Also, pack snacks and extra liquids; winter hiking is harder on your body, so you'll need extra fuel and drink more often than you think you should.

Recommendations for safe outdoor recreation are also available from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA) posted on their websites.

New Year's First Day Hike

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Speaking of cold weather hiking, the Land Trust will kick off our planned series of hikes for 2025 with a New Year's Day afternoon hike through the Hidden Brook Preserve, the most recent Land Trust acquisition. The hike will be about 2.5 miles through Whispering Pines and the Carrington Preserve as well as Hidden Brook. Join us and start your new year with a walk in the woods.

We will meet at the end of Village Lane in Bethany at 1:00 PM. Ample street parking is available. Look for the green Land Trust banner. All are welcome but space for the hike will be limited to 25 registered participants. Please keep your pets at home and inclement weather may cancel.

To register: contact Bob Harrison by Monday December 30th via cell at 203-506-5888 or email at bjh51box@gmail.com

Educational Program Addendum: Monarch Butterflies Recommended for Protected Status

Last May at the Land Trust's spring educational program, Kelsey Fisher, Ph.D, entomologist with the Connecticut Agricultural Experimental Station, presented a detailed overview of the monarch butterfly life cycle. She described how habitat loss, pesticide use and climate change have significantly reduced monarch populations.

In December, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed protection for the monarch butterfly and is encouraging the public to be part of its recovery. The Service is seeking public input on a proposal to list the species as threatened with species-specific protections and flexibilities to encourage conservation under section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). For more information about the monarch listing proposal, and how to help conserve monarch butterflies, please visit: <https://www.fws.gov/monarch>.

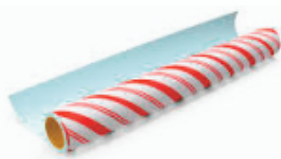
Three Sisters Preserve Boundary Stone Display in Clark Memorial Library

Come see the historical boundary stone once used to mark the site where Bethany, Naugatuck, and Prospect meet at the top of a ravine in the Bethany Land Trust's Three Sisters Preserve. The stone, once lost but now returned, is currently on display in the library's first floor exhibit case with photos, historical content and a map until the end of January.

Bob Harrison
Bethany Land Trust Trails Chair

REMINDER FROM THE RECYCLING CENTER

During the holiday season:
Holiday gift wrap and gift bags should be considered curbside municipal solid waste and NOT recyclable mixed paper. You can check www.recyclect.com for a list of "what's in/what's out" for recyclables (click on Get to Know Recycling) and learn so much more



INFO FOR PUBLIC WORKS

For road/tree issues call:
475-238-6966

PW Hours: M-F 7a.m.-3p.m.

For recycling/bulk waste call:
203-393-1555

R/BW Hours:
Tues. - Sat. 7:30a.m.-3:00p.m.

It Happened In Bethany

How It Started...The Bethany Historical Society

By Linda Wooster

Longtime Bethany, friends, Bob and Jan Brinton, Hiram Carrington, Edith Carrington, Timer and Kathryn Downs met at the Brinton house and began discussing what to do with the “treasures” in the Brinton attic. Bob, an avid historian, had collected items of interest from around Bethany for many years.

The group decided that they would need some type of “historical society,” similar to those of surrounding towns, in order to receive donated items. The Society started without any thought of where to store their treasures. They hoped to acquire a room at the school or some type of storage facility. At the time, it seemed that every house in Bethany had something “historical” that needed saving. The group asked Attorney Jerry Barnett to help establish a local foundation, which became known as the Bethany Historical Society.

The group spread the word about wanting items of historical interest to create the museum. After several more get-togethers, Society members started looking for a place to store those items. Recollections are vague as to how the church, town, and newly-formed Historical Society entered into conversations to consider the Stanley H. Downs Old Town Hall on Amity Road as a museum — a repository for historic Bethany items being collected. That building was owned by the Episcopal Church, had been used by various groups and agencies for several years, but was currently vacant and in need of major repairs. The church had originally bought the old Town Hall because they needed the parking spaces for parishioners. If they hadn’t bought it, whoever did could turn the area into a residence, dig up the back parking lot, and eliminate all church parking in that area. The church had not maintained the building, and it was in a state of disrepair.

In 1994, the church turned the building over to the Historical Society in return for the town forgiving the balance of the sale price. Society members had to go to a town meeting to get approval for the remaining balance of the church purchase price to be forgiven by the Town.

And thus, the Historical Society had a place to store its growing number of historic Bethany items. Bob Brinton and several others began the arduous

process of cataloguing the documents and artifacts as he and other Society members made extensive repairs and renovations to the building. Timer Downs was elected the first president... followed by Will Brinton for a year, and Les Warner for the next 12 years. Linda Wooster was elected president in 2021.

In helping people clean out their houses of historical items, Timer Downs was working with the Russell family on Round Hill Road. One evening Kathryn and Timer were invited to the Russell home for coffee. Unbeknown to them, Ernie and Mary Russell had been discussing donating the house, barn, and land located next to their house, to the Historical Society. Soon after that, on Christmas Eve, Timer and Ernie met at the attorney’s office, and the Society bought the Russell Homestead for one dollar.

The Homestead, and especially the barn, was in need of major structural repairs. An army of volunteers, led by Les Warner, spent thousands of hours repairing and cleaning the buildings in order to preserve a glimpse of life in agricultural Bethany for future generations.

2023-24 proved to be an epic year for the Historical Society as the town designated a portion of the Federal ARPA funds for non-profit organizations. That once-in-a-lifetime funding opportunity, along with support from local businesses and private donors, resulted in a new roof, exterior painting, air conditioning, carpeting, a repaved parking lot and driveway, new septic system, masonry repairs, supplies for Homestead repairs, and monies to begin digitizing our amazing artifacts so they may be shared online.

The generosity of voters and the Best Bakers in Bethany resulted in a record-setting Election Day Bake Sale. Volunteers brought their backhoes to work magic on the Russell Homestead fields. In addition, BHS plans to launch its new website at Bethanyhistory.com. Check us out!

Notice from Residential Waste System: Smaller Bins

Residents who have requested smaller trash can accommodations will be contacted by RWS to set up distribution. Carts should arrive in approximately 3 to 4 weeks. Any questions regarding a smaller trash can should be directed to RWS at 203-334-1660.

Sustainable Bethany

No. 49. Letter from Sustainable Bethany, Surviving Falling Through Ice, Well Water Testing, Book, January Night Skies, Upcoming Events.

Surviving falling through ice: Rule 1: Don't go out on thin ice. But if you do and fall through, then follow the 1-10-1 principle. **Minute 1**, stop drowning; **10 minutes** self-rescue; **1 hour**, warming.

Minute 1. During the fall stick out your arms to prevent your head from going under water. You'll experience an immediate "cold shock response," gasping, hard breathing, and panic. This lasts 1-3 minutes. Focus on slowing breathing and keeping head above water. Stay still, calm down.

10 Minutes. Exit towards the ice you were on. It held your weight before the fall. Reach forward with arms and raise legs to a swimming position. Kick vigorously pulling with arms and elbows scooching chest and abdomen up onto ice. Once on the ice, roll away. Flatten yourself to spread your body weight and either slide, army crawl, or roll to safety. If you can't get out allow arms to freeze to ice. If you black-out, this will safely hold you until help arrives.

1 hour. Regaining warmth. ASAP remove everything that's wet. Wrap in dry fabric and apply warm compresses to neck, chest wall and groin, not arms and legs. Do not warm legs and arms first. This forces cold blood back to the heart and lungs dropping core temperature further, which could be fatal. Do not use direct heat e.g., heat lamp/heating pad/hot water on numb skin. Drink warm fluids.

Safety ice picks and whistle. If you plan to be on or near ice, buy safety wearable ice picks with retractable cord for grip and an emergency whistle. Next issue, tips on saving your dog.

Well Water Testing: On November 16th UCONN's mobile water lab visited town. 80 households participated. Of the samples tested, there were a significant number of samples that exceeded state safety minimums. Among the findings were that more than 1 in 5 samples exceeded state minimums for TCB colonies (an indicator of *Vibrio* contamination) and 2 samples tested positive for *E. coli* contamination. If you haven't had your well tested recently, we recommend that you do so. We are currently planning a program on water testing and remediation. Watch this space for details. Our thanks to Marie Pulito and Sheila Wade for organizing the well water testing program.

Book: Solvable: *How we healed the Earth, and how we can do it again*, by Susan Solomon

We have faced planet threatening problems before and have solved them. Solomon describes how we addressed past environmental issues over the health of our environment, and how we came together to solve them. She focusses on issues of the growing Antarctic ozone hole, overwhelming

smog in Los Angeles, ubiquity of lead in everything from paint, gasoline to water pipes, and the scourge of DDT. We now turn our attention to climate change, and as in the past, there is an avenue to solve environmental problems when they become personal and perceptible to the public. Decision makers respond to this momentum, and effective change takes place when legislation and regulation lead to practical solutions.

Solvable is available at Clark Memorial Library. If you have recommendations about books that you think others should read, let us know at the email address below.

January Night Skies: The Quadrantid meteor shower is active December 12-January 12, producing its peak rate of meteors around January 3 (time of new moon). From Bethany the radiant point is circumpolar, above the horizon, and active throughout the night. 114 meteors/hour are expected at its peak.

Now is the time of year to visit the constellation Orion, named after a Greek mythological hunter and is one of the most prominent constellations in the northern hemisphere. One of 88 modern constellations, it was among 48 constellations listed by the 2nd-century Greco-Egyptian astronomer Ptolemy. Orion's two brightest stars, Rigel and Betelgeuse (Yes, that is the source of the movie character Beetlejuice's name!), are among the brightest stars and are supergiants. To find Orion look for his belt, three bright stars close together in an almost-straight line. Two brighter stars to the north represent his shoulders and two more to the south represent his feet. Orion also hosts the radiant of the annual Orionids meteor shower associated with Halley's Comet, and the Orion Nebula, one of the brightest nebulae in the sky, and middle "star" of three making up Orion's sword. The nebula is a great cloud of gas and dust, a nursery for newborn stars.

Since the theme of this month's Sustainable Bethany column is water, astrophysicists have found water on many orbs in our solar system, including some of the planets, dwarf planets, their moons. Water is present on Mars, Pluto, Uranus; the Jupiter moons named Europa and Ganymede; and Saturn's moon, Titan.

Upcoming Events: *The Woodbridge and Bethany Sustainability committees* are co-hosting monthly lectures. Next lecture is Saturday, January 18th at 3:00 PM at the Woodbridge Library. Everything that you want to know about how to make your home more efficient through low-cost Energy Audits.

Gale Ridge
Co-Chair Sustainable Bethany

Michael Kaloyanides and Eric Frieden contributors.
sustainablebethany@gmail.com

Recycle Center hours: Tuesday-Saturday 7:30AM-3:00PM.
Bulky waste appointments: (203) 393-1555.



ElmCityTrailer.com

Work or play, we're behind you all the way!

Trailer Sales

Dump - Equipment - Utility - Car Hauler
ATV - Snowmobile - Motorcycle - Boat
Open & Enclosed - Steel & Aluminum - Custom Builds

Services

Hitch Installs - Federal Annual Inspections
Custom Fabrication - Trailer Wiring - Brake Systems

Accessories

Replacement Parts - Aluminum Truck Bodies
Snowplows - Sanders - Pushers

Financing Available - On-Site Registration

74 Amity Rd Bethany, CT 06524

(203)535-0075

Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm, Saturday: 8-2pm

Come Visit Our New Location!



FULL MAILING & PRINTING SERVICES

**CUSTOM TOWN WIDE & TARGETED MAILINGS
LETTERS, ENVELOPES, POST CARDS, FLYERS
BROCHURES, NEWSLETTERS, MENUS, SELF
MAILERS, ANNUAL REPORTS, APPEAL MAILINGS
NOTE PADS, MULTI-PART CARBONLESS FORMS
INVOICES, RECEIPTS CONTRACTS, WRAP AROUND
RECIPT BOOKLETS, PERFORATING, CUTTING
NUMBERING, MEDICAL FORMS, PROGRAM
BOOKLETS, CATALOGS, DIRECTORIES, POSTERS
BANNERS, LETTERHEAD, LAWN SIGNS, SANDWICH
BOARDS, PRINTING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES
GROUPS, POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS
SCHOOLS, MUNICIPALITIES & MORE!!!**

Quality Printing Personal Service

16 Research Dr., Woodbridge, CT 06525

(203) 389-4452

joyceprinters@outlook.com

Check It Out !

*January 2025
Clark Memorial Library*

Check our website and online calendar for a full list of programs and activities.

<http://bethanylibrary.org>

Mini Golf is Back

Saturday, February 1st, 11AM – 4PM

Help us celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day with a round of mini-golf, a fundraiser organized by the Friends of the Library. "Putter" your way through picture and chapter books, non-fiction, biographies, mysteries, audio-books, and magazines as both floors of Clark Memorial Library are transformed into an 18-hole mini golf course! Each hole is sponsored by a local organization or business. For all ages! \$5 per individual or \$15 per family.

**Arts@Clark! and Bethany Land Trust
Historical Boundary Rock Exhibit**

Come see the historical boundary stone once used to mark the site where Bethany, Naugatuck, and Prospect meet. The ancient stone is engraved with dates and initials and was originally located at the top of a steep ravine marking where the boundaries of Bethany, Prospect and Naugatuck converge in the Bethany Land Trust's Three Sisters Preserve. This famous rock will be on display in the Library's first floor exhibit case through January.

Nifty Needlers – Thursdays 3:00PM – 5:00PM

Bring your latest needlework project and enjoy the company of fellow needlers. We have yarn and needles if you would like to learn to knit or crochet – all are welcome, from novice to expert.

Bethany Library Association Annual Drive

Your gift will mean so much to the financial stability of this beloved institution. The Annual Pledge Card may be downloaded at <http://bethanylibrary.org>



With Gratitude,
The Bethany Library Association

**The Library will close at 3PM on Tuesday, 12/31 and
reopen on Thursday 1/2 10:30AM.**

Library Hours

Tues/Wed/Thurs 10:30AM - 7PM

Friday/Saturday: 10:30PM - 5PM



TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE

The second installment of the Bethany Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes, and the full amount of Supplemental Motor Vehicle Taxes on the 2023 Grand List are due and payable on January 1, 2025. Mail payments to Bethany Tax Collector, 40 Peck Rd, Bethany CT 06524. Payments must be received or postmarked by February 3, 2025, to avoid interest.

All payments remaining unpaid after February 3, 2024 will be charged interest from January 1, 2025, at the rate of 1.5% for each month elapsing from the due date of the delinquent tax to the date of payment with a minimum interest charge of \$2.00 per installment. SS 12-146 Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the taxpayer of his/her responsibility for the payment of taxes or delinquent charges. SS 12-130

Payments may also be made at the Tax Collector's Office M-F 8:30 to 4:00, or online at www.bethany-ct.com. Supply a self-addressed stamped envelope if you require a receipt mailed back to you. Credit Card payments will require a 2.5% bank fee to be paid by the taxpayer. There is no fee for EFT payments online. Back taxes on Motor Vehicles must be paid with cash, bank check or credit/debit card IN PERSON for immediate DMV registration release.

Also, please be advised that Webster Bank will no longer be accepting January or July tax payments at their branch. This change has been implemented at the request of our auditors to bring the department into compliance.

We kindly ask that payments be made at the towns website www.bethany-ct.com (No fee for EFT payments), in the Tax Office during the hours of 8:30 – 4:00, or mail checks to: Bethany Town Hall, Attn: Tax Collector, 40 Peck Road, Bethany, CT 06524. Please provide your bill stub with your payment.

Linda Bates, Tax Collector

2025 Annual Conservationist of the Year Award

The Bethany Conservation Commission is seeking nominees for the annual Conservationist of the Year Award. The nomination form can be found on the town's website or at Town Hall and needs to be submitted by March 9, 2025. Brian Eitzer, Chair Conservation Commission."

Join Our Grant Committee!

The Town is seeking interested individuals to become members of our Grant Committee! Grants play a vital role in funding projects beyond our annual budget process. If you're passionate about community impact and possess any of the following skills, we want to hear from you:

- Economic development experience
- Grant writing experience
- Project management experience
- Legal/contract experience

Don't worry if you lack some skills! The Board of Finance is dedicated to building a working committee of enthusiastic members and will provide grant writing training to enhance your skills and knowledge of the process.

For more information or to submit a letter of interest, contact us at finance@bethany-ct.com. Please submit letters by January 15, 2025.

Advisory Housing Committee Seeks Volunteers

The Board of Selectmen has approved the re-constitution of this advisory committee. The reason for re-establishing the Housing Advisory Committee now is to again serve as a resource to the Planning & Zoning Commission in its ongoing mission to develop, enforce and modify land-use and zoning policies related to housing needs within the Town and to monitor State mandates and the potential impact on the Town. All decision-making authority will remain with the Planning and Zoning Commission.

If you are interested in serving on the Advisory Housing Committee, please send a letter of interest to Planning & Zoning Chair Nancy Held-Sheehe at townofbethany@bethany-ct.com.

ANTIQUQUE TOOL SHOW

at Lakeview Lodge 265 Beacon Rd. (Rt. 42)
Bethany, Connecticut

Saturday Jan. 4

10 a.m. till 2 p.m.

BUY-SELL-TRADE

Dealers from all over
will be there!

FREE ADMISSION

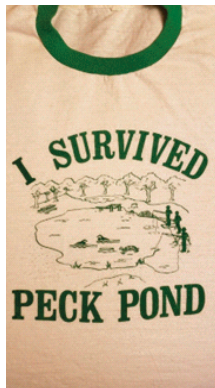


SPONSORED BY ANTIQUE TOOLS AND TRADES IN CT

**Bethany Then and Now Exhibition
Throughout January**

January 11, 2025 – Library Reception 1:00-2:00
[light refreshments served]

BHS is collaborating with Clark Memorial Library to host a “Bethany Then and Now” Exhibit. Photos will highlight the transition of Bethany’s iconic people, places, and events through the years. For example: Country Queen Ice Cream, Countryside Pool and Tennis Club, TeddyB’s, Dew Drop Inn, Billy’s Ice Cream and Yogurt, Country Corner Diner and Public Works, Shoveling roads by hand, plow trucks



A Self-Guided Exhibit At
The Clark Memorial Library
Runs Throughout January

Check out the exhibit in the Library Community Room throughout January. Join us on Saturday, January 18th from 1:00PM-2:00PM for a reception and light refreshments.



Bethany Seniority

continued from page 5

**FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR
BETHANY RESIDENTS**

Christ Church Bethany and Woodbridge is offering Bethany residents contactless, front-door delivery of nonperishable goods. **Contact Christ Church at 203-393-3399. Leave your name and phone number.**

**STRUGGLING TO PAY
YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?**

Eversource has programs that may help. Call 800-286-2828 or visit Eversource.com/BillHelp to find out if you qualify for Protection from Shutoff, Medical Protection or Matching Payment Programs. Eversource also offers Home Energy Solutions at 1-877-947-3873.

**SENIOR BUS TRANSPORTATION
IS AVAILABLE MON-WED-FRI
from 8:30AM to 3:30PM.**

To reserve call 203-393-2100 x1324

Medical appointments take priority.

First time riders please call 203-393-2100 x 1124 before making reservations.

**Town of Bethany
Monthly Meeting Schedule**

January 2nd	Planning and Zoning Commission	7:00PM
January 7th	Board of Selectmen	6:30PM
January 8th	BCS Bethany Board of Education	6:30PM
January 8th	Economic Development Commission	6:30PM
January 9th	Conservation Commission	7:30PM
January 13th	Amity Board of Education	6:30PM
January 14th	Board of Finance	7:00PM
January 13th	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00PM
January 16th	Cemetery Commission	7:00PM
January 21st	Town Code Review Committee	6:30PM
January 21st	Inland Wetlands Commission	7:30PM
January 22nd	Parks and Recreation Commission	7:00PM

Meetings may change: Check Bethany-ct.com/virtual-bulletin-board for up-to-date information.



BILL MAREK
EXCAVATING & SEPTIC SYSTEMS LLC

- SEPTIC SYSTEMS INSTALLED & REPAIRED
- SEPTIC TANKS CLEANED
- PERCOLATION TESTS & REAL ESTATE INSPECTIONS
- EXCAVATING WORK

(203)-410-1137



HOULIHAN LAWRENCE
 WARECK D'OSTILIO

Selling?

I HAVE BUYERS WAITING!



Heidee Garcia Pestana
 Bethany Resident

(203)543-9408

hgarciapestana@houlihanlawrence.com

378 Amity Rd, Woodbridge.
 CT. 06525





APRIL STIRLING Realtor®
 Stirling Service is my Gold Standard!

Coldwell Banker Realty
 270 Amity Road
 Woodbridge, CT 06525
 Cell: 203-910-8078
 aprilstirlingrealestate.com



Calcagni REAL ESTATE

SUSAN BEDRON
 REALTOR, CNHS, RCC

203-215-2158
 203-272-1821 ext. 1381
 Susan_Bedron@calcagni.com
 www.calcagni.com

W. R. GRIEGER  Since 1980

EXCAVATION

WWW.GRIEGEREXCAVATION.COM **(203) 393-1392**

- SEPTIC SYSTEMS REPAIRED AND INSTALLED
- SEPTIC TANK CLEANING & INSPECTIONS
- SOILS TESTING & B100
- REMOVAL OF INGROUND OIL TANKS

Calcagni REAL ESTATE

Irma Nesson
 ABR, CRS, GRI, REALTOR
 Bethany Resident since 1972.

Multi-year recipient of Connecticut Magazine's
 Five Star Real Estate Agent Award.

203-671-1706 Irma_Nesson@calcagni.com



 **Bethany Fuel**
affordable home heating oil

203-308-4OIL
 bethanyfuel.com

HOD 1201

Town of Bethany
 40 Peck Road
 Bethany, CT 06524

PRSRST STD
 ECRWSS
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 EDDM RETAIL

**LOCAL
 POSTAL CUSTOMER
 BETHANY, CT 06524**