

BETHANY BULLETIN

VOL.17, ISSUE 4

www.bethanyct.gov

April 2026

Town Hall & Public Works/Recycling Center will be **CLOSED**
Friday, April 3rd in Observance of Good Friday. Trash pick up will not change.

From the First Selectman's Desk

Dear Bethany Residents,
Happy Spring, everyone! As the season changes, I am excited to share several important updates happening from in and around Town Hall. There is a lot of progress happening across Bethany, and I am grateful for the teamwork and community spirit behind it all.



Major Funding Wins for Bethany

I am proud to announce that Bethany has been awarded \$344,000 in Community Project Funding to support safety improvements on Round Hill Road.

My sincere thanks go to Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro and her team for their partnership, guidance, and advocacy. We anticipate beginning this project this year and I look forward to keeping you informed as work progresses.

Celebrating Local Agriculture

Please join me in congratulating Clover Nook Farm, one of only a few farms statewide to receive a Farm Transition Grant from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. This highly competitive grant, in the amount of \$12,500 will allow the farm to purchase a no-till grain drill, improving forage quality, expanding capacity, and supporting increased beef production. This is a wonderful achievement for one of Bethany's longstanding agricultural pillars.

Expanded Recycling Services

We continue to strengthen our commitment to sustainability. You can now bring used tires and rims to the Recycling Center for repurposing at no cost. A new blue barrel will soon be available for recycling propane cylinders under 20 lbs, fuel torches, helium containers and small butane cylinders, also free of charge.

Our Recycling Center, open Tuesday through Saturday, accepts glass, paper, metal, tin, cardboard, plastic, tires, propane cylinders, electronics, light bulbs, batteries, mattresses, refrigerators, oil and antifreeze. We are working hard to make responsible recycling as easy and accessible as possible for all residents.

Veteran's Memorial Park Improvements

A new geese remediation program is now in place at Veteran's Memorial Park. You will notice 6 small light units in the pond area. These lights are safe for wildlife and designed to gently deter geese, helping keep our park and pond clean and healthy for everyone who enjoys swimming, walking, and playing there.

As you walk the path around the lake, you will also see new plantings near the Lodge and preserved milkweed for

butterflies - part of our ongoing effort to beautify and protect this cherished community space. Thank you to our dedicated Department of Public Works for their hard work.

Budget Process & Upcoming Hearing

My deep appreciation goes to the Board of Finance, our schools, and all town departments for their thoughtful work in developing a budget that is both balanced and fair. This has been a challenging process, and I am grateful for the collaboration and care shown throughout.

Please join us for the Budget Hearing on April 22, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall gym.

Community Engagement & New Leadership

Our Horse Council continues to grow under the leadership of Horse Commissioner Andy Liviten. This group brings together horse owners, riders, farms, and enthusiasts across Bethany. If you are interested in participating, I welcome you to reach out to me. We will be appointing members to the Horse Council soon.

Welcoming New Team Members

We have new faces at Town Hall.

- Rod White, our new Emergency Management Director, brings years of experience and a deep connection to Bethany. We thank Mike Katzmark for his years of dedicated service in this role.

- Samantha Konow, our new Executive Assistant, joins us from the Comptroller's Office in Greenwich. She has already made a meaningful impact on our operations. We extend our gratitude to Jenn Cafasso for her commitment and service to the town when she held a similar role.

Please stop by to say hello to Rod and Samantha. They are already strengthening our team.

My Door Is Always Open

Over the past few months, I have had the privilege of speaking with many of you, and it has truly been an honor. I welcome your thoughts, questions, and ideas. You can reach me at (203) 393-2100 or cgoldberg@bethanyct.gov. I look forward to hearing from you and continuing our work together to keep Bethany thriving.

Carol R. Goldberg

Submit stories, events, calendar dates, press releases, inquiries, advertisements, etc. to [Deyonelle Patterson at BethanyBulletin@bethanyct.gov](mailto:Deyonelle.Patterson@bethanyct.gov). 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.

Bethany Rid Litter Day

Roadside clean up Saturday, April 11th



Rid Litter Day is a town wide roadside clean up event of Bethany. You can do it individually, with a group of your friends, teammates, coworkers, clubs, or families.

Have you noticed a lot of trash in an area where you live or pass by every day?! That is a perfect place to get started. Volunteer sign up on the link found at:

<https://forms.gle/AQyvddVrkruX1eBHA> www.facebook.com/BethanyRidLitterDay

We can help you with:

- Supplies such as garbage bags, gloves, safety vests, pick up tools.
- Letters of participation for **community service hour credits**
- Recommendations of areas needing extra attention.
- Finding clean up groups that you may want to join

Questions and more info - email John Pellicano at Bethanyridlitterday@gmail.com or call 203-687-5755

TRIBUTE TO OUR TROOPS

Bethany Salutes Our Resident Veterans

VIETNAM ERA

Robert Reggiani	Frank John Silva
Robert Reinwald	Dennis Stephens
John Rieger	Albert Stoltman
Jason Rubino	Paul Sudak
Francis Selva	Terrance Tabaka
Egidio Severini	James Tirrell, Jr.
James Sherman	Philip Tortora

Thank you for your patriotism and efforts to keep us safe and free!

GOD BLESS AMERICA



Check It Out !

April 2026 - Clark Memorial Library
bethanylibrary.org/event-calendar

April 19th-25th is National Library Week

Help Us Honor Our Donors!

Our individual donors are essential to the Library, and contribute to the entire Bethany community with their support. Drop in any time between

11:00 AM and 4:00 PM on April 25th to join us in letting them know how much we appreciate the benefits they help provide. View our thank you display, enjoy a snack and be a part of all the Library has to offer. Come one, come all!

Friends of the Library Paint and Sip

Mark your calendars for another "Paint and Sip" event organized by the Friends of the Library. **Saturday April 11th, 2-4 PM**, Call the library to register/20.00 payable in advance. Space is limited!

Book Donation Day

The Friends will be on site to accept gently used books for the entryway book sale. Books for children and adults in good condition will be considered.

Saturday April 25th from 10 AM – 1 PM.

Arts@Clark! April/May Art Exhibit

Hamden Artist, **Jane Weiner**, will be exhibiting abstract Acrylic Paint Fluid Art Pouring as well as floral and garden mosaics made from China plates, stones and ceramic.

Cheshire Artist **Edward Rogan** will display his collection of hand crafted jewelry and mosaic artwork crafted from the glass shards and buttons discarded from the Ball and Socket factory in Cheshire that operated from 1850-1992.

Passport to Connecticut Libraries

Between April 1st and April 30th pick up your passport at Clark Memorial Library. Take this opportunity to explore each library on the passport list – it's architecture, ambiance, and collection. Have your passport stamped at five or more libraries on the list to be eligible to win a \$200 gift card for adults or a \$200 gift card for children. See our website for more information.

Library Hours

Tues/Wed/Thurs: 10:30 AM -7:00 PM
Saturday: 10:30 AM -5:00 PM



From the Superintendent of School's Desk

Bethany Community School will soon be saying farewell to a valued member of its leadership team. After seven years of dedicated service to the Bethany community, Principal Mr. Reed-Swale has announced that he will not be returning to Bethany Community School next year as he prepares to continue his career in another district.



During his time at Bethany, Mr. Reed-Swale played an important role in supporting students, staff, and families while helping to strengthen the school's culture and commitment to student success. Mr. Reed-Swale's presence could often be seen throughout the school, whether visiting classrooms, greeting students in the hallways, attending school events, or connecting with families. He worked to ensure that students felt supported and encouraged in their learning, and he remained committed to maintaining strong communication and collaboration with staff and families. His approachable leadership style and dedication to the daily life of the school made a meaningful impact on the Bethany community.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Reed-Swale demonstrated a deep commitment to the well being and success of Bethany students. The relationships he built with students, families, and staff helped foster a school

environment centered on respect, collaboration, and shared responsibility for student achievement. His contributions over the past seven years have helped strengthen the foundation that supports Bethany Community School today.

As Bethany Community School prepares for this transition, the district will begin the process of identifying the next principal for the school. A key part of this effort will include gathering input from across the school community and ensuring that a variety of perspectives are represented in the selection process. Teachers, paraeducators, parents, administrators, and members of the Board of Education will have opportunities to participate in the search process, and student perspectives will also be included through the Leadership Council.

Mr. Reed-Swale has been an important part of the Bethany Community School family for the past seven years, and he will be missed by many throughout the community. We thank him for his service and dedication to Bethany Community School and wish him the very best as he begins the next chapter of his career in another district.

Bethany Community School has a long tradition of strong leadership and community partnership. I am confident that, through a collaborative process, we will identify a principal who will continue to support the success and growth of our students and school.

In Partnership,
Kai Byrd
Superintendent



Lock Stock & Barrel
What Can We Feed or Fix For You
770Amity Rd, Bethany, CT
203-393-0002



BETHANY LAND TRUST

April Hike on Sunday April 12th, 1 – 3 P.M

We're back on the trails after a long winter! Join us for the second hike of 2026 to be held on Sunday April 12th from 1 - 3 P.M. We will be doing a loop hike of about 2 miles that begins in the Van Epps Preserve climbing into the abutting Naugatuck State Forest along the Blue Trail on the ridge before returning to Van Epps.

To register: contact Bob Harrison by April 10th via cell at 203-506-5888 or bjh51box@gmail.com

Parking: We will meet at the Van Epps Preserve at 390 Beacon Road (Route 42) in Bethany at 1:00 PM, where participants will be directed to an off-road parking area. All are welcome but space for the hike will be limited to 25 registered participants. Please leave your pets at home and inclement weather will cancel.

Spring Educational Program: Bats are the Best!
Thursday, April 9th, 7 PM at Lakeview Lodge 265
Beacon Road (Route 42), Bethany.

Join Carrie Szwed of the White Memorial Conservation Center for an hour-long program during which she will take you from fearing this often-maligned animal to appreciating their uniqueness and how beneficial they are to the planet. There'll be no live bats but she'll use props that include a bat skeleton, a replica bat fossil, and a sample bat house. She'll use a fun photo/video presentation and interactive activities to count down all the reasons why bats are simply the coolest. First, she'll describe some bat basics providing some fun facts that might surprise you. Then, she'll delve into which species are native to CT and how they are the "bugbusters" of the nocturnal world. She'll also cover why humans and bats share more in common than you think, and discuss their significance in several cultures. Finally, she'll uncover what is causing the recent decline of bats and suggest ways we can help these misunderstood creatures.

DIY bat house kits will be available at the program in exchange for a donation to the Land Trust.

Join Our Mailing List for the BLT Newsletter

In response to our calls for photos from people exploring Land Trust preserves, Condie Ward submitted beautiful fall photos taken at Mendell's Folly while Dan Van Epps sent us photos of eastern box turtles seen in the Van Epps Preserve.

To see these photos and more, sign up for all things BLT to be delivered directly to your inbox by sending an email to BethanyLandTrustCT@gmail.com

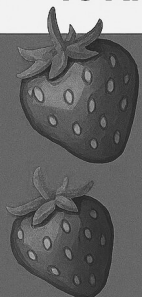
Bob Harrison, Bethany Land Trust Trails Chair

Save the Date

BETHANY FIRST CHURCH
ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

JUNE 6, 2026
10 AM – 3 PM

Homemade Strawberry Shortcake • Vendors, Food and More
511 Amity Rd., Bethany, CT



Christ Church Bethany

Christ Church in Bethany is delighted to welcome The Rev. Diane Kyle, who was recently ordained to the priesthood and is the new Priest-in-Charge. Rev. Diane brings a warm pastoral presence and a deep love of community life to the parish.

Currently completing her Master of Divinity at Virginia Theological Seminary, Rev. Diane is passionate about pastoral care, meaningful liturgy, and helping people connect faith with everyday life. She believes strongly in raising up lay leaders and encouraging people to share their gifts and talents in the life of the church. She is also committed to creating a church where all are welcome, especially children, who can be nurtured and invited to be full participants in worship and community life.

Before answering the call to ordained ministry, Rev. Diane worked in health care and owned and operated Miss Diane's School of Dance, where she spent many years teaching children and adults the joy of movement and creativity.

A teacher, mother, and grandmother, Rev. Diane looks forward to building relationships in Bethany and sharing her pastoral gifts in the wider community.

Bethany Seniority

By Robin Glowa

April 2026

"April is a promise that May is bound to keep." — Hal Borland

BETHANY SENIOR BUS TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE FRIDAYS

8:30 AM – 3:30 PM FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS ONLY

To reserve call 203-393-2100 x1324

(First time riders must call 203-393-2100 x1124 or 1113 to register before making reservations)

Additional ride service is available with the Greater New Haven Transit District

ENCOMPASS program call 203-393-2100 x1113 for more details

SENIOR LUNCH!

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

\$9.00 per person.

(Please pay in exact cash when you arrive)

APRIL ENTREES:

Apr. 1st: NO LUNCH

Apr. 8th: HERB ROASTED CHICKEN

Apr. 15th: VEGETABLE FRITATTA

Special America's 250th Event!

Time Travel to Revolutionary War Era

Apr. 22nd: MANICOTTI

Apr. 29th: KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY

BEST HAT CONTEST

GRIEF SUPPORT

Are you experiencing grief or loss of any kind? Join us for this special session with Diane Puterski, Griffin Hospital Chaplain, who will share coping methods.

Mon., Apr. 6th 11:30 AM BETHANY SR ROOM

Reserve your seat by calling 203-393-2100 x1124

NEED HELP UNDERSTANDING & USING YOUR DEVICES?

Are you struggling to keep up with today's technology?
Bethany Senior Services is here to help!

Join us for "Education with Emily"

Mon., Apr. 20th 10:30 AM in the Bethany Senior Room

This Session: **FRAUDS & SCAMS**

Special Guest: **John Wilson** from **AARP**

RSVP by April 10th 203-393-2100 x1113

NEXT SESSION: Monday, May 11th: **PROTECTING PERSONAL INFO ONLINE**

CANASTA CLUB Apr. 7th and 21st

11 AM Bethany Senior Room

FREE FRIDAY CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL

Fri., Apr. 10th 11:00 AM Bethany SR Room
"FORREST GUMP"

This critically acclaimed classic stars Tom Hanks as a kind-hearted man with a low IQ, who inadvertently influences major historical events.

Next Film: Friday, May 15th - **"GREEN BOOK"**

SENIOR ART CLASS

Apr. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

11 AM Bethany Senior Room

Learn how to work with watercolor to create beautiful artwork. No experience necessary. All materials supplied.

\$9 per class paid directly to instructor Mary Lou Narowski
Call to reserve your seat 203-393-2100 x1124

APRIL SENIOR CRAFT CORNER

Mon., Apr. 13th 11:00 AM Bethany SR ROOM

POM POM KITTEN FACES

Calling all kitten lovers! Come join us as we craft adorable, keepsake, kitten faces from pom poms

Reserve your seat by Apr. 6th
203-393-2100 x1124

Next Craft: Mon., June 8th Red, White & Blue Lanterns

SAVE THE DATES!

COLONIAL TEA PARTY for Bethany Senior Ladies
Hosted by Bethany Senior Services

Join us for tea, treats, and a tribute to America's 250th!

Monday, May 4th 11:00 AM **BETHANY SR ROOM**

RSVP no later than April 20th as seats are limited
203-393-2100 x1124

AT & T CELEBRATION

Bring Your Tech and Learn to Avoid Scams!
Co-hosted by Bethany Senior Services and AT&T

May 6th 11:00 AM **BETHANY SR ROOM**

Call 203-393-2100 x1124 by Apr. 24th to reserve your seat

Bethany Seniority

Continued from page 5

VISION CLINIC FOR OLDER ADULTS

Co-hosted by Bethany Senior Services
and the Bethany Lions Club

Monday, May 18th 10 AM - 3 PM

Please call 203-393-2100 x1124 or 1113
for more details

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

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF SENIOR EVENTS BY E-MAIL?

Please e-mail rglowa@bethanyct.gov or
erichard@bethanyct.gov to be added to our monthly
activity e-mail list.

ATTENTION BETHANY HORSE OWNERS



Fire Safety & Emergency Rescue

Free public information session
on barn fire safety measures and
what you should know in the event you have an
emergency rescue situation for one of your horses.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Veterans Park Lakeview Lodge
265 CT-42, Bethany, CT 06524

Presenters

BRENT CICCARELLI
Bethany Fire Chief

SUE WHITE
Durham Animal Response Team Director



Hosted by

THE BETHANY HORSE COUNCIL

Sustainable Bethany

No. 64. Letter from Sustainable Bethany.

How is Bethany doing it in its transition to Clean Energy? People's Action for Clean Energy (PACE) www.pacecleanenergy.org/, has a tool to help us find out. Results are:

- Bethany has 265 solar installations, providing 12.7% of the electricity use by our municipality and residents, compared to 6.9% from solar statewide.
- Bethany residents installed 191 heat pumps, calculated at about 9.5% of town buildings, compared to 6.4% of buildings statewide.
- Bethany residents drive 145 EVs or PHEVs, calculated at 3% of all town vehicles, compared to 2.3% statewide.

If you are one of those who has switched to electrification – thank you! If not, what are you waiting for?

Recommended Reading: Under the Sky We Make, by Kimberly Nicholas. Nicholas, a leading global sustainability scientist, writes "It's warming. It's us. We're sure. It's bad. But we can fix it." Her thought-provoking book discusses current warming data and strategies for repair. Her central argument is a fundamental mindset shift *from exploitation* - producing and consuming more goods as progress, *to regeneration* - conceptualizing growth as a process of renewal, restoration, and care for what matters most. This isn't about deprivation or sacrifice but asking deeper questions. Just because we can extract unlimited oil, should we? We should consider what kind of world we are giving our children and unborn generations. Nicholas combines rigorous climate science with pragmatic strategies showing that while the challenges are urgent-real, we have the knowledge and the capacity to act. The "regeneration mindset" offers a path forward, not about fear or fatalism, but about purposeful, restorative action.

April night skies

April 1st/Fools' day pink moon reaches peak illumination, 10:12 PM. While not pink, its name comes from wild phlox, a common Eastern spring flower.

April 15th-22nd. Pre-dawn trio of Mercury, Mars, and Saturn low in the eastern horizon 30-45 minutes before dawn. Above them on the 15th a slender waning crescent Moon joins them. April 20, they closely align.

April 21st. Lyrid Meteor Shower peaks; 15-20 meteors/hour. They're famous for brilliant "fireballs" and glowing trails. Best viewing after midnight when radiant point is near the star **Vega**.

April 25th. Occultation Alert! Between 8:05-10:00PM, the moon passes directly in front of the star **Regulus**. Best seen using binoculars/small telescope. The star suddenly disappears behind the moon's dark edge.

Woodbridge Earth Day April 25th: We're on the Woodbridge Town Green for Earth Day 2026. Come by, visit our table, and learn about Pollinators and Invasive Species!

Gale Ridge, Co-Chair Sustainable Bethany
Eric Frieden, Michael Kaloyanides, contributors
sustainablebethany@gmail.com

From the Desk of the Fire Marshal

Spring Open Burning Regulations

With the arrival of spring, many residents are beginning seasonal yard maintenance. The Office of the Fire Marshal reminds the community that all open burning is regulated by the State of Connecticut and requires a local permit.

Regulations & Restrictions

- **Materials:** Residents may only burn brush that is three inches in diameter or less. The burning of leaves and grass clippings is strictly prohibited.
- **Weather Conditions:** Permits are only valid on days when the Daily Forest Fire Danger Report is below "High." You must check this status on the day you plan to burn.

Permit Application Process

Residents may access the Open Burn Permit application via the Bethany Fire Marshal's webpage or visit Town Hall in person. Digital applications should be submitted to firemarshal@bethanyct.gov. Please ensure you have a signed permit in your possession before initiating any burn.

BETHANY'S NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Everyone is welcome to join us for the 75th National Day of Prayer Meeting at the Bethany Town Hall (Commission Room) Thursday, May 7th at 6:30 pm as we lift up the seven mountains of influence to include Government, Church, Military, Business, Education, Family and Media/Arts/ Entertainment.

This year's theme is "Glorify God Among The Nations, Seeking Him In All Generations" I Cron 16:24 (NASB)

*Light refreshments will be provided.

Contact: Sarita King @ jk3sbk@gmail.com
1-844-551-4325

Christ Church Bethany

Save the date! The Annual Christ Church Bethany Humongous Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, May 9th from 9 am-2 pm. (526 Amity Rd., Rt. 63 at the blinking light). You'll find great bargains on a vast array of household items, decor, toys, twice-as-nice clothes, books, baked goods, plants, and more. Take a break from bargain hunting with lunch at our Grill.

You don't want to miss this!

From the Department of Public Works

Tony Ciarleglio

The Department of Public Works will be starting routine seasonal work, including street sweeping, addressing winter-related damage, and removing the wood stake markers that were put in place for the winter season.

BETHANY HORSEMEN ANNUAL MEETING

The Bethany Horsemen are the administrator for the RWA's equestrian permit program at Lake Chamberlain. If you would like a membership for the 2026-27 season that includes a saddle tag that allows you to ride in that area, attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 12 at 6:00 PM at Lakeview Lodge at Veterans Park. For more information, go to www.bethanyhorsemen.org



An All-Ages Music, Art, & Community Spot

10 Selden Street

Woodbridge, CT

www.10selden.org

UPCOMING EVENTS- APRIL

Friday, April 3rd- Live Punk Bands Featuring: As System Fails, Jason Gage, & Tern Away. \$12 | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

Saturday, April 4th- Live Acoustic Bands Featuring: Robert Leitner and TBA. \$12 | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

Friday, April 10th- Live Emo Bands Featuring: Arms Reach, Three-Seater & TBA. \$12 | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

Saturday, April 11th- Live Punk / Emo Bands Featuring: Cat Crash, Bad Static, Untold Joys & Illicify. \$12 | All Ages | Doors at 6pm | Show at 6:30

Friday, April 17th- Deadlocked Productions Presents: Live Hardcore / Metal Bands Featuring: Life Abuse, Haste & TBA. \$15 | All Ages | Doors at 6:30pm | Show at 7:00

Saturday, April 18th- Techo/House Dance Party Featuring: DJ. Jspin\$, and TBA. \$10 with College or High School I.D. | \$12 General Admission | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

Friday, April 24th- Next Level Ministries Presents: The Spot- Christian Youth Ministry Fellowship, Activity & Worship Night. \$FREE | All Ages | All Welcome | Doors at 7pm

Saturday, April 25th- Live Hardcore / Metal Bands Featuring: Agonized, & TBA. \$12 | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

From the Assessor's Office

Applications for tax credits for homeowners over 65 years of age and those totally disabled will be taken in the Assessor's office between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm beginning February 1, 2026, thru May 15, 2026.

ELDERLY HOMEOWNERS & DISABILITY PROGRAM- This is a real estate tax credit program for homeowners who are at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2025, and meet certain income guidelines. Those guidelines require that annual income for single people, including Social Security benefits, should not exceed \$46,300. Married couples can be eligible if their income, including Social Security benefits, does not exceed \$56,500. Applicants should bring all proof of their 2025 income including a copy of their 2025 Income Tax Return, if filing, and proof of Social Security income (Form 1099). Also, applicant must own and reside at the property for which tax relief is sought or must hold tenancy for life use of the property and be liable for the tax bill. This must be the applicant's principal or legal residence.

Those Homeowners who are disabled, and don't qualify for the elderly homeowner's 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 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 re-filing 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 will also receive the Town of Bethany benefit. Those taxpayers who are already on the program and are required to refile, will be notified by mail.

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 September 30, 2026. Applicants must meet an income requirement of not more than \$46,300 if single, and \$56,500 if married to qualify for the State of Connecticut Additional Veteran's Program. The income limit for the Town of Bethany Local Option Additional Veterans Exemption is \$71,300 for single applicants and \$81,500 for married applicants. Income includes adjusted gross income plus any other income, including Social Security benefits. Income is based upon the 2025 calendar year. Federal

Income Tax return and/or proof of all income must be presented to the Assessor's office which is open Monday through Friday 8:30 am and 4:00 pm. Please remember that all proof of income, including Social Security benefits (Form SSA-1099) for the 2025 calendar year, must be submitted by September 30, 2026, or the application cannot be processed.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Assessor's Office with any questions or concerns regarding these programs.

Dated 15th day of December 2025.

Betsy Quist – Assessor for the Town of Bethany

RECYCLING CENTER NEWS TIRES

Good news! Bethany's Recycle Center now accepts tires for FREE, and you don't even need to remove them from the rims. Tires should be taken to the Tires trailer on the South side of the Recycling Center.

Bethany has joined the Connecticut Tire Stewardship Program, which is a nonprofit organization created in response to a new state law that mandates tire manufacturers take responsibility for the management of their products after consumer use. This program is part of Connecticut's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) initiative—more on that in a future article.

Hundreds of thousands of tires reach the end of their useful life in Connecticut each year. Improper disposal can lead to illegal dumping, fire risk, mosquito breeding, and costly cleanups, often paid for by municipalities. Those same tires can be retreaded, become roads that improve the state's infrastructure, or be remade into everyday commercial products like mats, garbage cans, flooring tiles, automotive parts, and more.

Tires that can be collected are:

- Passenger or light truck, commercial vehicle, motorcycle, off-road
- Heavy-duty truck and bus tires
- Lawn and garden tractor, golf cart, ATV tires
- Agricultural, construction, mining, and industrial tires
- Non-commercial aircraft, trailer, or mobile home tires

Not Accepted are tires from toys, bicycles, personal mobility devices, or commercial aircraft.

Please note: This service is available to Bethany residents only, and tires must have been purchased in Connecticut.

If there are topics that you would like to see addressed, let us know at BethanySWARC@gmail.com

Recycle Center Hours: Tuesday – Saturday
7:30AM to 3:00PM
755 Amity Road

Parks & Recreation Department

A Year in Review

Nicolle D. Vigneron, Director

It is hard to believe how quickly this year has passed. As the newly reopened Bethany Parks and Recreation Department begins a new chapter, I am grateful to have spent this first year serving as its Director. Rebuilding and relaunching the department has been both a challenge and a privilege, and I am incredibly proud of the progress we have made together.

I would like to take a moment to thank the many individuals and organizations that helped make this transition and relaunch possible. I would especially like to extend my sincere thanks to Michael Centoni, Youth Program Manager, for believing in the vision and taking a chance on me to help revitalize the Bethany Parks and Recreation Department. Thank you to the parents who believed in the program and trusted us with their children. I would also like to recognize Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Jen Galik and the Commission members for the countless hours they dedicate to supporting us through this process. My appreciation also goes out to the Bethany Fire Department for their continued support, Public Works for their assistance in improving and maintaining our facilities, the members of the Lions Club who are always willing to lend a hand, and the entire BCS community for their encouragement and support.

Over the past year, the department has achieved several major accomplishments.

One of the most exciting developments was the transformation of the Annex building. The facility now includes four new program rooms designed for engaging activities, a dedicated nurse's station, and safety film installed on all windows and doors to improve security.

Before launching programs, we developed and implemented all new policies and procedures for both programs and staff. We were able to hire an outstanding team who all completed background checks and professional training. Staff certifications include CPR/AED, de-escalation training, mandated reporter training, EpiPen administration, and more, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for participants.

Our Summer Camp was a tremendous success, serving 88 families and providing a structured, safe, and fun-filled environment for children over an eight-week period. Families received detailed weekly schedules featuring themed activities such as carnival week, sports, music, fishing, s'mores, science experiments, art projects, water activities, bounce houses, trips to Veterans Park and more. Special guests included Mad

Science, Ali the Balloon Guy, and Curious Creatures, all of whom helped create memorable experiences for the campers.

As soon as summer camp concluded, we launched our Extended Day Program, which now serves 123 families by providing a structured and engaging before/after-school environment for children. We were also fortunate to receive a grant in partnership with BCS to support this program.

The department was also proud to be involved with the town's annual Harvest Festival. The Harvest Fest Committee once again organized a wonderful event, and we were honored to play a role in supporting this great community tradition.

Throughout the year we introduced several new youth programs including baking, watercolor painting, sculpting, yoga, music, science, soccer, and basketball, offering children a wide range of opportunities to learn and explore new interests.

Bethany Hoops is currently wrapping up another successful season with 113 participants. The program provides skill development for grades K-3 and both instruction and league play for grades 4-6. This year we collaborated with neighboring towns to expand opportunities for our players. Woodbridge and Monroe hosted games for our boys' teams, while Orange welcomed our girls' team into their league. The Bethany girls' team will be competing in the championship game on March 14th and the boys' championship will be held on March 21st .

Bethany Hoops would not be possible without the dedication of Craig Behun and our incredible volunteer coaches who generously give their time to support the program. We would also like to thank Tom Dunn, who will be making a generous donation to Bethany Hoops. His contribution will establish a scholarship fund to help families facing financial hardship so that every child who wants to participate will have the opportunity to do so. Tom has been a coach in the league for many years, and his generosity will make a lasting impact on our community.

As we look ahead, we are currently preparing for our second year of summer camp and continuing to develop new programs for adults and families. In April, we will be offering a Cooking Class and a Pizza Making Class. We encourage everyone to visit the town website for more information and to register.

This year has been an exciting beginning for the revitalized Bethany Parks and Recreation Department, and we look forward to continuing to grow, expand programs, and serve our community in the years ahead.

It Happened in Bethany

Bethany's Highways

By Linda Wooster

Since Bethany's 100th Anniversary Celebration in 1932, the town's roads have undergone significant improvement. Once narrow dirt paths, all have since been widened and hard-surfaced. At that time, the only paved roads running through Bethany were the two state highways—Amity Road (Route 63) and Litchfield Turnpike (Route 69)—which were maintained by the State of Connecticut.

In the early 1930s, the Bethany Grange, working in conjunction with other local Granges and the Connecticut State Grange, developed a program known as "Get Connecticut Out of the Mud." Their efforts successfully persuaded the Legislature to pass a bill allocating "state aid" funds to improve dirt roads in each of Connecticut's 169 towns.

As Bethany's population grew, so did the demand for better roads. With annual appropriations of state aid funds supplementing town resources, these improvements became possible. Over time, all town roads were upgraded to hard surfaces.

Ralph R. Downs served as Supervisor in charge of road construction and maintenance until the establishment of a formal Highway Department in 1963. Edward Hinman was then appointed Foreman, followed by George E. Howard, who served until his retirement.

When the Town of Bethany purchased the airport property, the hangar was converted into the Highway Department headquarters, providing ample space to house trucks and equipment. This development allowed for more effective year-round maintenance. During the winter months, snow-covered roads are plowed and treated promptly, ensuring that school buses and residents can continue their daily activities without interruption. The department now operates with a full complement of modern equipment.

In recent years, the construction of numerous new homes has required the development of many additional roads. Today, Bethany maintains approximately 55 miles of town highways. In addition, three state routes—63, 69, and 42—pass through the town and are maintained by the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

As Bethany approaches its 200th anniversary as an incorporated town, its highways remain well maintained. Alongside its many fine homes, the town features two schools, a town hall, two fire stations, an ambulance corps with highly trained crews, office centers, a bank, light industry, greenhouses, a State Police barracks, restaurants, a well-stocked library, and two historic white churches with parish houses. Together, these elements make Bethany a community in which residents take great pride. (Excerpted from an article by Olive Howard)

Bethany Historical Society

Public Service Announcements

1. Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages for Trivia Tuesday or Photo Friday!
2. When leaving a message on our answering machine, please speak slowly and distinctly and repeat your telephone number twice so we can respond.

BETHANY LIONS UPDATE

BETHANY LIONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Application Deadline May 1st

Bethany Lions has established four scholarships for \$2,000 each and one scholarship for \$3,000. 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, Bethany Town Hall, and the Amity Regional High School Guidance office.

EGG MY YARD - April 5th

Back for our 5th year. Let the Lion "bunnies" do your Easter egg hunts at your house! Go to the Bethany Lions Facebook page for the link/QR code. It's filling up fast!

BETHANY LIONS SPRING SHRED/E-WASTE AND FOOD DRIVE

Our bi-annual shred and E-waste day will be Saturday, April 18th from 9 am - Noon at the Bethany Airport Hanger. Bring your documents for shredding and E-waste to be destroyed. Pricing on our flyers.

BETHANY FLEA MARKET TIME - OPENING DAY MAY 2ND!

2026 Opening day is Saturday, May 2nd and will run 26-weeks through October 31st.

BETHANY LIONS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE - SAVE THE DATE FOR MAY 25TH

Save the date for Monday, May 25th for our Annual Memorial Day Parade! Please let us know of any Bethany veterans who would like to participate in the event. Email Janet Brunwin at: brunwins@sbcglobal.net.



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Bethany Historical Society

LASAGNA DINNER

Saturday April 11

RSVP 203-393-1832

& Pay By April 8

Lakeview Lodge

265 Beacon Rd Bethany

BYOB

6:00 Eat In

5:00 Take Out

\$25 Adults

\$10 Kids Under 12



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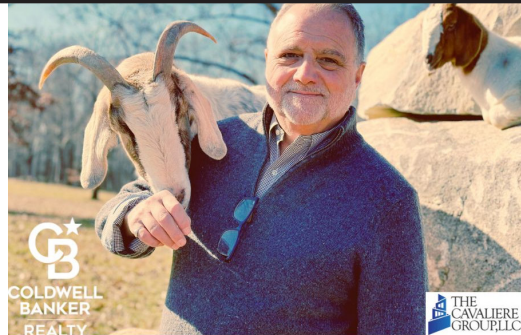
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Town of Bethany Monthly Meeting Schedule

Apr. 6th	Amity Board of Education	6:30PM
Apr. 6th	Housing Advisory Committee	7:00PM
Apr. 8th	Bethany Board of Education	6:30PM
Apr. 8th	Economic Development Commission	6:30PM
Apr. 9th	Conservation Commission	7:30PM
Apr. 22nd	Board of Finance Public Hearing	7:00PM
Apr. 13th	250th Committee	7:00PM
Apr. 13th	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00PM
Apr. 15th	Board of Selectmen	6:30PM
Apr. 16th	Cemetery Commission	7:00PM
Apr. 20th	Solid Waste & Recycling Committee	5:30PM
Apr. 20th	Inland Wetlands Commission	7:30PM
Apr. 29th	Parks & Recreation Commission	6:30PM

Meetings may change: Check Bethanyct.gov/virtual-bulletin-board for up-to-date information.



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