

BETHANY BULLETIN

VOL.17, ISSUE 2

www.bethany-ct.com

February 2026

Town Hall & Public Works/Recycling Center will be **CLOSED**
Monday, February 16th in observance of President's Day

Trash Pick up will not change.

From the First Selectman's Desk

Dear Bethany Residents,

I am pleased to share that we have a new Zoning Enforcement Officer - Curt Bosco! Curt brings extensive experience and will be working with both Zoning Enforcement and Inland Wetlands. Please join me in welcoming him to Bethany. Curt is in the Building Office Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. He is already a great asset to our town.

Our Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services are constantly at work on our behalf. When we call for help, they are there. Last year alone, they responded to 741 calls, including approximately 460 EMS/ambulance calls, 81 motor vehicle accidents and related fires, 124 alarms and associated incidents, 31 assistance calls, and 45 miscellaneous calls. Beyond emergency response, these dedicated volunteers also serve our community in meaningful ways—hosting a Make-A-Wish event, cooking for over 1,000 people at their annual barbecue, teaching fire prevention at BCS, and helping Santa deliver gifts to local children.

Throughout the year, I will continue to share information in the Bulletin about Fire Department and Police call volumes. It is important for residents to know what is going on and the work being done on our behalf.

You may have noticed recent activity at Center Station. A vehicle struck the building one night, causing significant damage. Repairs are underway, which is why you will see a temporary plywood structure. Center Station is currently closed to meetings and events during construction, but all proceedings are being held at Town Hall, so nothing is delayed. This historic building withstood the impact and will be fully restored. I anticipate repairs will be completed by March.

I am pleased to let you know that 323 people answered our recycling survey. A large majority of those who answered utilize the Recycling Center and, those that do recycle at the Center, go 1-2 times per week. Only a few people said they were not interested in recycling at all or did not know we have a recycling center. Some people



want different and longer hours, while some do not know what is recyclable. For some people, separating materials is too confusing or too much work. Almost a third of those who answered who do not recycle at the Center indicated that they pay for curbside recycling. Many people recognized that not all items can be recycled curbside. Some people indicated that they love the Recycling Center and use it as a teaching tool for their children. A big thank you to all who responded. It will help us figure out ways to encourage and develop recycling in the future.

We are also continuing to expand online access to Board and Commission meetings. Many are now live-streamed on YouTube and interactive via Zoom. The Planning and Zoning Commission meetings are now available on Zoom, allowing residents to watch from home and participate in public hearings. In-person attendance is always welcome, and recordings of meetings can be viewed anytime on the Bethany Town Clerk's YouTube page.

Town Website: <https://bethany-ct.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/townofbethanyct>

Email: cgoldberg@bethany-ct.com

As always, please feel free to stop by my office to say hello or to share any questions or concerns you may have. You are welcome anytime.

Carol R. Goldberg

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Submit stories, events, calendar dates, press releases, inquiries, advertisements, etc. to Dey Patterson 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.

From the Department of Public Works Winter Reminders

Mother Nature can be finicky so you never know when it will snow. Here are some early 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.
- Do not shovel or snow blow snow from the driveway into the road.
- 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.
- Do not pull cars into the road and clear snow off of them in the road.
- Parking – No vehicles should be parked on the road during a snowstorm. This impedes the plow trucks from properly clearing the roads. Town Code 194-4
- Snow stakes – Snow stakes can be installed along the edge of a 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.
- As the winter season approaches, you may see Public Works going out and putting up what appear to be random stakes around town. Please know that they serve a purpose and will be removed when the winter season ends.
- Do not place garbage pails/bins in the road. They should be kept in your driveway.
- Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Public Works Department – 475-238-6966.

Check It Out !

February 2026 - Clark Memorial Library

View our online calendar for all events:
bethanylibrary.org/event-calendar

Take Your Child to the Library Day 2026

Take Your Child to the Library Day is a national event that encourages library visits! Join us throughout February for a special craft (What Can You Do with a Dot?) during library hours and **Saturday, Feb. 7th** for a Montessori Morning Storytime at 10:30 AM and a special marionette production of **"The Snow Queen"** by local artist and puppeteer Robin McCahill at 2:00 PM! Drop in.

Arts@Clark! Student Art Exhibit & Reception

Students from Amity High School and Bethany and Orange Middle Schools will be sharing their work in a exhibit in the Community Room during February and March. A reception for the artists will take place on **Wednesday, March 4th from 4-6 PM.**

Bethany Library Association Annual Drive

Thank you to all who have donated to our Annual Drive. Your gift will mean so much to the financial stability of this beloved institution. The Annual Pledge Card may be downloaded at bethanylibrary.org With Gratitude,
The Bethany Library Association



Homeschool Hangout

Thursdays - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Drop in to meet other homeschool families and enjoy all the library has to offer.

Nifty Needlers new time!

Thursdays 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Bring your current project or come to learn something new. Drop in.

*A special **thank you** to everyone who has loaned decorations to the library for the holiday season – and donated time and materials for our outdoor snowmen!*

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

January was a month filled with both celebration and thoughtful planning for the Bethany Community School District. It provided an opportunity to reflect on the many strengths of our students and staff, while also looking ahead to ensure the continued success and stability of our schools.



One of the highlights of the month was our winter concert, which showcased the remarkable talents of our student musicians and singers. The performances reflected not only natural ability, but also dedication, growth, and confidence developed through consistent practice and instruction. We are extremely fortunate to have Mr. Chad Fortune leading our music program. His commitment to fostering musicianship, performance skills, and a love of the arts is evident in every rehearsal and performance. Events like the winter concert enrich our school community and reinforce the value of a well-rounded educational experience that includes the arts as an essential component of student learning.

January also marked an important milestone in our budget planning process. I presented the first phase of the Superintendent's Preliminary Proposed Spending Plan for the 2026–2027 academic year. Since that initial presentation, we have continued to refine the proposal with careful attention to both fiscal responsibility and the evolving needs of our students and staff. Rising insurance costs remain a significant chal-

lenge, and addressing them requires deliberate planning and collaboration. This spending proposal reflects the collective efforts of the Bethany Board of Education, district administration, and department leaders, all working together to develop a thoughtful and balanced budget.

This month, I will present a revised version of the Superintendent's Proposed Spending Plan at the February 11th Board of Education meeting. This updated proposal incorporates feedback, updated information, and ongoing analysis to ensure that our financial plan remains responsive, transparent, and aligned with district priorities.

In addition to planning for the future, we are also preparing to welcome our next class of learners. Kindergarten enrollment for the 2026–2027 school year is currently open. Children must be five years old on or before September 1, 2026, to be eligible for enrollment. Families with incoming kindergarten students are encouraged to visit the district website to begin the enrollment process. Early enrollment supports effective planning and helps ensure a smooth and successful transition for students as they begin their educational journey.

As always, open communication remains a priority. I welcome questions, feedback, or ideas from members of our community. Please feel free to contact me at 203-393-1170 or via email at kbyrd@bethany-ed.org at any time. Together, we will continue to build on Bethany's strengths and plan thoughtfully for the future of our schools.

Sincerely,
Kai Byrd - Superintendent



LOCK STOCK & BARREL

What Can We Feed or Fix For You

770 Amity Rd, Bethany, CT

203-393-0002



BETHANY LAND TRUST

2026 First Day Hike - A Positive, Shared Experience In Nature

Despite or perhaps because of the splendid, wintry conditions, some 25+ hikers enjoyed the trails in two of Bethany's premier open spaces: Veterans Memorial Park and the adjacent Simpson Preserve. The Land Trust Trail Crew has spent several hours clearing and marking trails in both parcels in preparation for this event.

Hikers walked on trails covered with an overnight dusting of snow. Some trails covered with snow from the previous storm had not yet seen any human footprints. The low angle of the winter afternoon sun cast long shadows, and the woods seemed to sparkle with winter light reflecting off the snow. Tracks of coyote, deer, bobcat, among others were seen in the snow.

This was the first in the 2026 series of planned hikes to be sponsored by the Land Trust. More details to come.

Wildlife in Winter - Identifying Tracks in Snow

A recent snowfall made the First Day Hike especially fun, as we were rewarded with animal tracks in the snow. While areas of melting and refreezing blurred some prints, several tracks were fresh and clear enough to identify. Of particular interest were deer and coyote tracks traveling close together.... Was this evidence of a coyote pursuing a potential meal? It's impossible to know for sure, since we stuck to our

trail and didn't follow the tracks, but moments like this remind us how much wildlife activity happens quietly around us, even when we don't see the animals themselves.

One exciting find was what appeared to be bobcat tracks, which are sometimes confused with coyote prints. In Connecticut, this is a common mix-up. One major difference lies in the shape and "negative space" of the track. Coyote tracks are more oval and typically show an "X" shape in the empty space between the toes and pad, while bobcat tracks are rounder, with a more open "C"-shaped space and no visible claw marks. Cats, unlike canines, usually keep their claws retracted.

A good CT winter tracking article can be found here:

Ali Beres-Nork, Naturalist



A Call to Action – Share Your Adventures with Us

We would love for you to share photos of your explorations throughout Land Trust preserves. Please send us your landscapes, animal/bird sightings, plant finds and YOU - any part of your adventures that you'd like to share, we'd love to see!

Photos will be shared in the monthly newsletter and, with permission, they may also be featured on our Facebook and Instagram pages! Send your photos to: bethany-landtrustCT@gmail.com

Bob Harrison, Bethany Land Trust Trails Chair

Bethany Recycling Center

Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM

755 Amity Road

Items Accepted:

Mixed Paper
Cardboard
Single Stream
Plastics (1-7), Tin Cans
Glass Bottles and Jars
Deposit Cans and Bottles
Look for CTRV on the label
Automobile Batteries
Mattresses and Box Springs (Clean and Dry)

E-Waste

Computers, TVs, Printers, etc.
Light Bulbs (Fluorescent and LED)
Batteries (single use and rechargeable)

Motor oil (Uncontaminated)
Antifreeze (Uncontaminated)

Fees Charged:

Tires (no rims)
Freon Containing Appliances
Refrigerators, Air conditioners, dehumidifiers

Now Accepting:

- Small Propane and Butane gas tanks
- Clean, thin film packing plastic, bubble wrap and plastic bags (Bins in Bottle Trailer)
- Used clothes, shoes and textiles
- Cooking Oil

Bulky Waste: Call for Appointment 203-393-1555

By Robin Glowa

Bethany Seniority

February 2026

"Where there is love, there is life." — Mahatma Gandhi

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 x1113 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 at 203-393-2100 x1124.

\$9.00 per person.

(Please pay in exact cash when you arrive.)

FEBRUARY ENTREES:

Feb 4th: "SOUPERBOWL" PARTY

Trio of Soup- Cream of Tomato, Butternut Squash Bisque & Beef Barley

Feb. 11th: VALENTINE BINGO BRUNCH

Belgian Waffle with strawberry sauce
Bingo Calling by Oak Street Health at 1:00 PM

Feb. 18th: NO LUNCH SERVED

Feb 25th: Lemon Dill Cod

NEED HELP UNDERSTANDING HOW TO USE 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" on
Monday, February 23rd at 10:30 AM
in the Bethany Senior Room

This session: BANKING & FINANCIAL APPS

RSVP by February 13th 203-393-2100 x1113

GRIEF SUPPORT

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

Mon., Feb. 2nd 11:30 AM Bethany SR Room
RSVP 203-393-2100 x1124

FRIDAY CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL

Friday, Feb. 13th 11 AM Bethany SR Room

"THE SOUND OF MUSIC"

Don't miss this 1965 classic that embodies themes of hope, freedom, and resistance against tyranny, representing enduring symbols of the American spirit.

Starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer

RSVP by Feb. 5th 203-393-2100 x1124

Next Film: "CASABLANCA" Fri., March 13th

SENIOR ART CLASS

Feb. 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th

11 AM Bethany Senior Room

Learn 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

SENIOR CRAFT CORNER

Valentine Themed Jewelry Boxes and Earrings

MONDAY, Feb. 9th 11 AM Bethany SR Room

Reserve your seat no later than February 2nd
203-393-2100 x1124

CANASTA CLUB Feb. 10th and 24th
11 AM Bethany Senior Room

RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW!

Senior St. Patrick's Day Party

Wednesday, March 4th
Noon-2:00 PM
Lakeview Lodge

Irish Beef Stew or Broccoli Cheddar Soup, Shamrock Salad, Homemade Irish Soda Bread & Irish Cream Cupcakes

Special LIVE Entertainment: Pierce Cambell

Member of CT's own Irish Folk Band "The Kerry Boys"
\$13.00 per person. Please pay in exact cash at the door
RSVP by February 20th 203-393-2100 x1124

Sustainable Bethany

No. 62. Letter from Sustainable Bethany.

Resolution: Energy Efficiency to lower home energy costs
Resources:

- Energize Connecticut: Initiative providing information, programs (weatherization, renewable energy incentives, energy assessments), and rebates. www.energizect.com.
- Connecticut Green Bank: Provides financing options, resources for solar, and other clean energy projects. www.ctgreenbank.com.
- Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP): Provides guidance on energy-saving tips, renewable energy programs, and state policies. portal.ct.gov/DEEP.
- Eversource: Provides information on energy efficiency rebates, home-energy solutions, and conservation. scef_enrollment@eversource.com.
- People's Action for Clean Energy (PACE): Grassroots public health and environmental organization working through education and advocacy to transition Connecticut to clean energy. www.pacecleanenergy.org/

Recommended reading: *Regeneration: Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation*, Paul Hawken. This book (a series of essays) describes strategies to mitigate disastrous effects of climate change, through carbon sequestration and temperature reduction of an overheating world. It divides global warming into nine broad subjects including Oceans, Forests, Energy, Industry, and People, showing real world sustainable programs that reduce human environmental impact. Strategies include replanting stripped forests, ocean cleaning, sustainable power, new farming practices, and re-thinking our relationship with food and food-waste. Regeneration puts life at the center of every action and decision. Hawken closes by providing a roadmap for our individual actions."

February night skies: Bethany will be treated to winter skies featuring a rare planetary alignment, a dramatic lunar event involving a bright star, and the "Snow Moon."

February 1st: Full Snow Moon, rising at 4:57 PM, peaking illumination at 5:09 PM. Winter air is clear, creating a brilliant moon.

February 2nd: A rare lunar occultation between 8:40-10:50PM, the Moon will pass directly in front of the star Regulus, the constellation Leo brightest star. Use binoculars to clearly see Regulus through the lunar glare.

February 17th: The New Moon marks the height of "galaxy season." No moonlight provides excellent night sky viewing. Visit a local dark-sky spot and observe objects such as the Andromeda galaxy.

February 19th: Mercury will reach its greatest eastern elongation (farthest point from the Sun). View this "swift planet" low in the west, immediately after sunset.

February 26th, peaking February 28th: "The Planet Parade," a rare alignment of six planets - Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune in the western sky, 45

minutes after sunset. Jupiter, Venus, and Saturn are easily seen. Venus and Mercury sit low on the horizon, while bright Jupiter shines near the Moon. Use binoculars/telescope for the faint blue disks of Uranus and Neptune.

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

RECYCLING CENTER NEWS

TEXTILES

The average American throws away about 80 pounds of clothing each year. Only a small fraction (less than 1%) of clothing is actually recycled into new textiles, and an estimated 85% of discarded textiles are dumped in landfills or incinerators annually despite millions of tons being recyclable or reusable. Textile recycling has become an increasingly important response to the mounting environmental toll of the fashion industry, especially as fast fashion fuels overconsumption and waste. Clothing is only worn 7-10 times before being discarded. There is usually a lot of life left in those clothes!

The Town of Bethany has recently partnered with Helpsy to collect used textiles for re-wear, reuse and recycling. Helpsy accepts clothing, footwear, linens and accessories that are clean, dry, and odorless. Everything should be kept dry in a closed, plastic bag. The blue Helpsy bins are located just outside the fence at the Recycling Center and are available 24 hours a day. In the first two months of collections, over 7000 pounds of used textiles have been placed in the bins.

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

INFORMATION REGARDING WEEKLY TRASH PICK-UP

You can sign up for text alerts – text BETHANY to 203-334-1660 to be added to their holiday and weather-related schedule change Alert System.

You can also sign up to receive email notifications on their website: <https://residentialwastesystems.com> If you need to email RWS, put BETHANY in the subject line.

Their email address is: info@residentialwastesystems.com.

NOTE: ALL CUSTOMERS, PLEASE HAVE YOUR TRASH OUT THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR PICK UP DAY (EVEN IF IT'S NOT A HOLIDAY OR WEATHER-RELATED). STORING/SECURING YOUR TRASH IN PROPER BINS OR PAILS COULD HELP AVOID YOUR TRASH FROM BEING RUMMAGED THROUGH BY ANIMALS.

It Happened in Bethany

Bethany Observatory: Yale University's Historic Observing Station

By Linda Wooster

The Bethany Observatory, officially designated the Yale University Observatory — Bethany, was an important mid-20th-century astronomical facility located in the rural hills of Bethany, Connecticut. Established to address the growing problem of light pollution in New Haven, the observatory reflects a period when American universities sought darker, off-campus sites to support observational astronomy. The facility is formally recognized in international records as observatory code 798.

By the 1950s, Yale University's on-campus observing conditions had deteriorated due to urban expansion and artificial lighting. To preserve its observational astronomy program, Yale selected a hilltop location in Bethany on Hilldale Road, known for its darker skies and relatively stable atmospheric conditions. Construction began in 1957, and the observatory officially opened in 1958. The land was leased from the New Haven Water Company for the nominal cost of one dollar per year, reflecting the institution's educational purpose.

Early operations at Bethany focused on student instruction and modest research projects. Initial equipment included the Loomis Telescope, which provided hands-on training for undergraduate and graduate students. These early efforts helped establish the observatory as a practical extension of Yale's astronomy curriculum.

During the early 1960s, the observatory entered its most ambitious phase with the installation of a 40-inch (1-meter) Boller & Chivens reflecting telescope. At the time, this instrument was among the larger research telescopes operated by a U.S. university. Its presence allowed Yale astronomers to conduct professional research during the early Space Age and placed the Bethany Observatory within the global network of recognized observing sites.

Despite its success, the Bethany location faced limitations common to northeastern observatories. Advances in astronomy increasingly required exceptionally dark skies, high altitude, and minimal atmospheric interference. These conditions could not be achieved in southern New England. As a result, Yale decided to relocate its primary research instrument.

In 1972, the 1-meter telescope was dismantled and moved to the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile, where it became known as the Yale 1-meter Telescope. The Chilean site offered vastly superior observing conditions, allowing the telescope to remain scientifically productive. Following the relocation, the Bethany Observatory ceased operating as a major research facility.

In subsequent decades, the site continued to be used for educational purposes and informal observing. Local amateur astronomers, including members of the New Haven As-

trononical Society, became involved in maintaining the observatory and organizing public observing events. Today, Yale's formal observatory activities are centered at the Leitner Family Observatory and Planetarium in New Haven.

Although no longer a research observatory, the Bethany Observatory, now a privately-owned residence, remains a significant historical site, representing a transitional era in astronomical research.

TRIBUTE TO OUR TROOPS

Bethany Salutes Our Resident Veterans

VIETNAM ERA

Thomas Hicks

Peter Kaminski

Edward Hirsch

Robert Kolb

Allan Holbrook

Joseph Kowalski

Martin Horowitz

George Lamont, Jr

Jeffrey Huyser

Alfred Ledewitz

Richard Huxley

Gordon Levasseur

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

GOD BLESS AMERICA



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INVOICES, RECEIPTS CONTRACTS, WRAP AROUND
RECEIPT BOOKLETS, PERFORATING, CUTTING
NUMBERING, MEDICAL FORMS, PROGRAM
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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 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 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

BETHANY LIONS WED. FEB. 25TH BLOOD DRIVE 2026

LAKEVIEW LODGE

265 BEACON RD.

BETHANY, CT 06524

Schedule Below



TIME: 12 PM - 5 PM

Walk-Ins Welcome, Too!

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>



Bethany Conservation Commission

The Bethany Conservation Commission is seeking nominees for the annual Conservationist of the Year Award. Nomination forms are available at Town Hall and are due by March 9, 2026.

Volunteers needed for Grant Committee

Have experience in grant writing and want to make a difference in Bethany?

The Town is moving forward on establishing a Grant Committee and is looking for interested residents to get involved. If you'd like to participate, please reach out to First Selectwoman, Carol Goldberg at cgoldberg@bethany-ct.com.

Parks & Recreation Department & Commission Update

Nicolle D. Vigneron, Director and
Jennifer Galik, Chairwoman

Summer Camp: Summer camp registration is now open on MyRec, and we encourage families to sign up early, as spots always fill quickly. The camp team is already planning another fun and active season filled with outdoor adventures and community spirit.

Summer camp will offer fun-filled days from 9 AM to 3 PM for \$265 per week, with before and after care options available at an additional cost. Campers can look forward to a summer full of games, crafts, special events, outdoor adventures, and plenty of fun and laughter! Save the date- An open house is scheduled for May 28th from 3:30-6:30!

Be sure to visit our website (bethanyct.myrec.com) for full details and registration links.

Bethany Hoops: Bethany Hoops is now underway for all age groups and is running at full capacity. Due to high demand, we've opened a second session for grades 2-3, ensuring more young players can participate. On January 2, Hoops families were invited to attend a Quinnipiac University basketball game, where more than 85 members of our community joined in the fun. A special highlight was seeing our grades 4-6 players take to the court during halftime. A wonderful experience for everyone involved.

Vacation Day Camps: Looking ahead, families are reminded about our Vacation Day Camps, available during planned early release days as well as school closures for holidays such as Presidents Day and April break. These programs provide a great mix of recreation, creativity, and play in a safe, local setting.

Thank you to our families, volunteers, and staff for continuing to support our recreation programs and strengthen community engagement in Bethany.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR!

The Bethany Democratic Town Committee seeks nominations for CITIZEN OF THE YEAR. This is a non-partisan award given annually to a Bethany citizen who has gone above and beyond in volunteering time and effort within or outside of our community. Please submit nominations to

bethanydems@gmail.com no later than March 20, 2025.

All suggestions are welcome!

BETHANY LIONS UPDATE

BETHANY LIONS CHARITY AUCTION

Our annual online auction will be running from March 15th - March 26th. We are looking for donations of quality items such as:

Artwork, Sports and Entertainment Tickets, Antiques, Jewelry, Designer Clothing and Handbags, Collectibles, Books, Gift Certificates – Restaurants, Personal Services, Gently Used Home Décor, Kitchen and Serving Items and Unique Finds

If you are downsizing, moving or just cleaning out your attic, garage or closets and find items that don't bring you joy any more but may be someone else's treasure, please consider donating.

Contact Lion Janet at (203) 231-3694 or email her at brunwin@sbcglobal.net.

BETHANY LIONS COMEDY NIGHT

By February we will all be going a little stir crazy! Our ever-popular Lions Comedy Night will be held on Valentine's Day – Saturday, February 14th. We'll have two top headliners – Linda Belt and Paul Higgins will keep you laughing all night. Tickets are \$25. Doors open at 7 pm and the show starts at 7:30 pm. You're welcome to bring your own food and beverage. We'll supply the coffee/tea/dessert.

Call/text Lion Linda at (203) 530-5287 or email her at blcomedy@gmail.com for tickets or questions.

Give the Gift of Laughter!

250th Committee: Save the Date!

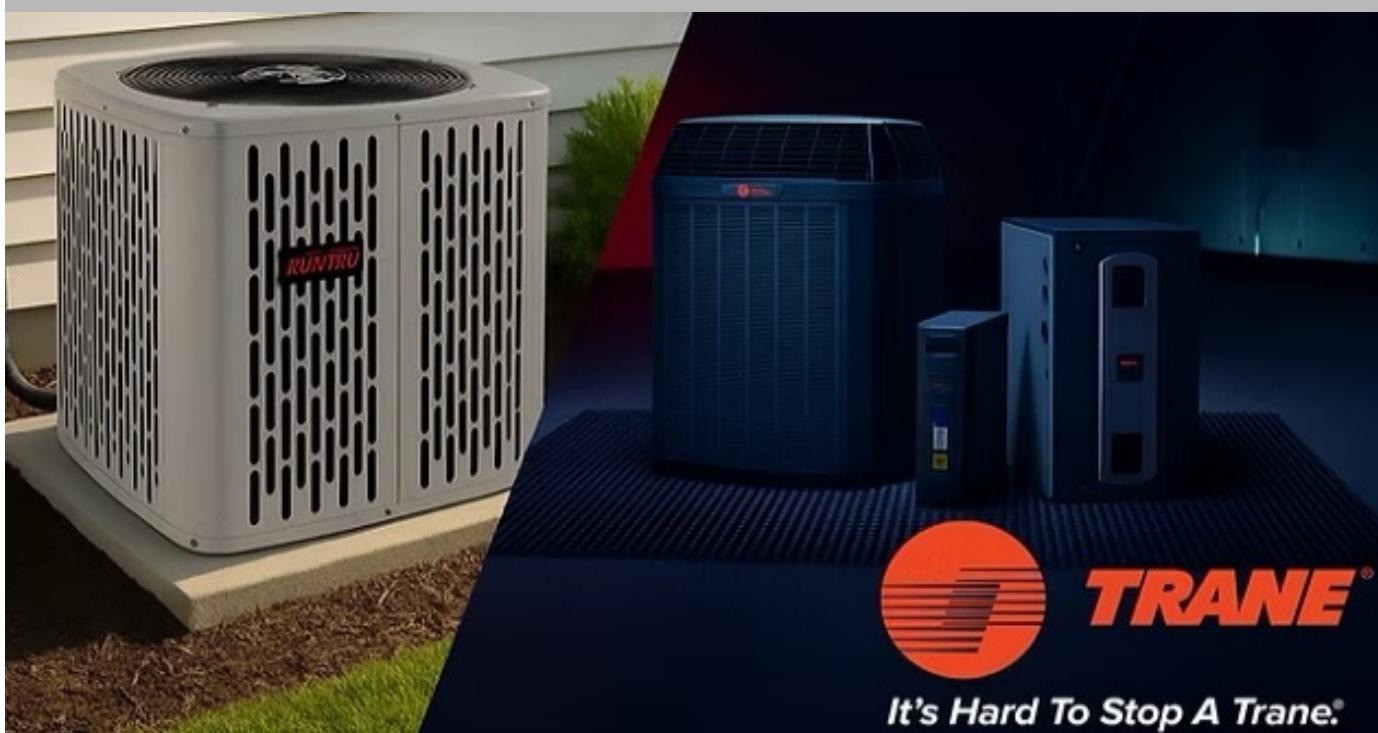
The Bethany 250th Committee has been working hard and is happy to announce that we will have events scheduled on the weekend of June 13th & 14th to celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776! We will kick off the weekend with our "Red, White and Blue 5K!".

Details about all events, including how to register for the 5K or sign up to be a volunteer, will be coming soon. If you do not already follow our Facebook page, please do, so you can stay up to date on all the information.

Mark your calendars-you won't want to miss this!



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Bethany Nursery Group Preschoolers Complete 100 Acts of Kindness

Bethany Nursery Group preschoolers recently took part in a fundraiser focused on giving back in meaningful ways. As part of the project, the students completed 100 acts of kindness while learning the importance of compassion, generosity and helping others.

Acts of kindness included age-appropriate gestures such as helping classmates, sharing with friends, writing thank-you notes and assisting family members. The fundraiser encouraged children to see how small actions can make a big difference.

The initiative supported Bethany Nursery Group programs while reinforcing social-emotional learning and community values in a hands-on, engaging way.

A Bethany Nursery Group student celebrates helping fill in the "Kindness Fox" scarf as part of the school's acts of kindness fundraiser. The children even added extra segments when they exceeded their goal!



PJ Hop: Breakfast for Dinner Fundraiser

Bethany Nursery Group invites the community to put on their pajamas and join the fun at its PJ Hop: Breakfast for Dinner Fundraiser on Sunday, March 15th, at the Bethany Town Hall Auditorium!

The family-friendly evening will feature breakfast favorites served for dinner, fun activities, a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. Proceeds support Bethany Nursery Group programs and resources.

Tickets on sale now at givebutter.com/PJHOP26! Purchase by February 15th for a 10% discount

CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

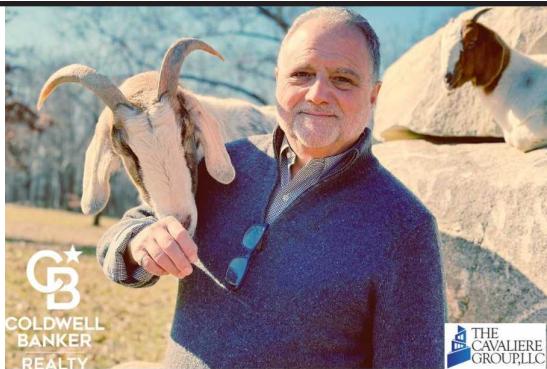
The annual Chili Cook-Off presented by the Friends of Christ Church will be held on Saturday, February 21 from 3-6 pm. Sample delicious chilis and vote for your favorite! Held at Christ Episcopal Church, 526 Amity Rd, Bethany (at the blinking light). \$20 per person to sample (and re-sample) all the chilis and cornbread too. Tickets in advance at www.christchurchbethany.org ("Connect" drop down menu; look for Chili Cook Off) or by cash/check at the door. For info contact ruthbeardsley@comcast.net. There are some good cooks in town so don't miss this!



Town of Bethany Monthly Meeting Schedule

Feb. 2nd	Housing Advisory Committee	7:00PM
Feb. 4th	Board of Selectmen	6:30PM
Feb. 4th	Planning & Zoning Commission	7:00PM
Feb. 9th	Amity Board of Education	6:30PM
Feb. 9th	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00PM
Feb. 10th	Board of Finance	7:00PM
Feb. 11th	Bethany Board of Education	6:30PM
Feb. 11th	Economic Development Commission	6:30PM
Feb. 12th	250th Committee	7:00PM
Feb. 12th	Conservation Commission	7:30PM
Feb. 16th	Solid Waste & Recycling Committee	5:30PM
Feb. 17th	Inland Wetlands Commission	7:30PM
Feb. 18th	Board of Selectmen	6:30PM

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



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Assessment Appeals Notice Issued

The Board of Assessment Appeals of the Town will be holding their annual appeal meetings in March.

These meetings will be held in the Assessor's Office, to hear appeals relating to assessments for Real Estate Property and Business Personal Property on the Grand List of October 1, 2025 and Supplemental Vehicles for Grand List 2024.

All persons claiming to be aggrieved by the actions of the Assessor on said list are hereby warned to submit their written appeal by February 20, 2026.

Written applications are mandatory, and no appeal will be heard without one. Applications may be obtained from the Assessor's office or from the Bethany-ct.com website. All applications must be filled out and received in the Assessor's office no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 20, 2026. All persons filing proper applications shall be notified of the date, time, and place of appeal hearing.

If you have any questions concerning the Board of Assessment Appeals, please call the Assessor's Office at 203-393-2100 ext. 1112.



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