



OUR TOWN

BRIDGEWATER
Connecticut

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, CT

AUGUST, 2021

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See
Insert
Tractor Parade!



Message from Our First Selectman

There are three problems in Bridgewater that never seem to get resolved: Speeding, signs, and the weather. Let's take a look at these commonly heard complaints in ascending order.

First, the weather. One can complain about any season. It's easy to feel aggrieved, but individuals can't do much about it. It's always too hot in summer and getting hotter. Christmas isn't white enough, while winter is too long and icy. In any season the winds are knocking down trees, power lines and cables. The Town is doing something about the wind by more than tripling our tree budget this year and going after "problem trees" along with Eversource. Maybe we can start to catch up with the Emerald Ash Borer to take down dead trees and overhanging limbs before potential outage events. This process may become the constant "new normal."

A second problem is more than an annoyance and comes from beyond our town borders. It's the great polarity of political opinions that manifests itself in signs, flags and banners that can offend neighbors or visitors. I hope we could refrain from these provocative or profane expressions. With due respect, everyone is entitled to freedom of speech guaranteed by the First Amendment. As First Selectman, I'm the designated "Sign Officer." One enforceable guideline limits signs in residential areas to 4 sq. ft while another seemingly ignored section forbids roadside contractor signs. These will be pulled out when we see them. Apologies, but our roadsides are not ad spaces. More guidance can be found in the Sign Ordinance on the Town website under Selectmen/Informational Documents.

One thing we all can agree on is that SPEEDING is rampant on both the state and local roads. It's the number one complaint. We have solutions on the way. We have added one police officer recently and will sign up another within a couple of months. There will soon be more shifts and more tickets given as opposed to warnings. Bridgewater also just received a grant for two new LED radar signs. These can alert officers of rates and times when speeding occurs.

Our "ace in the hole" to suppress the speeders is to call in the CT State Police special unit to make unannounced visits and pull over everyone exceeding the posted limit on any road. So pay attention, and please SLOW DOWN or you could have a big fine to pay, or even hit a cow!

Stay Cool and Be Cool,

Curtis S. Read, First Selectman

LAND TRANSFERS

Land Transfers: April 2021

- Daniel C. Py to RSW LLC, land and buildings, 136 Curtis Road, \$1,150,000
- Thomas P. Andrighetti Jr. to Frank and Sandra Duemmler, land and buildings, 9 Lake Lillinonah Drive South, \$1,080,000
- Kathleen M. Lord to Allison and Steven Thierfeld, land and buildings, 59 New Milford Road West, \$510,000
- John C O'Donnell Estate to KVLJC Realty LLC, land and buidings, 18 Stuart Road West, \$550,000
- David and Julie Ledbetter to Peter and Erin Mariano, land and buildings, 54 Hat shop Hill Road, \$535,000
- 409 Northrup St LLC to Vandana Radhakrishnan and Sangeet Pillai, land and buildings, 409 Northrup Street, \$2,200,000

Land Transfers: May 2021

- Holland Joint Venture LLC to SMF Universal LLC, land and buildings, 6 Kruskyville Road, \$400,000
- Steven and Kirsten Gould to John and Suzanne Creech, land and buildings, 134 Main Street North, \$600,000
- Scott and Laura Shail to Ann Frattalone, land and buildings, 15 Bilberry Road, \$350,000

Land Transfers: June 2021

- John and Beverly Carr to Nealoy and Smita Bandyopadhyay, land and buildings, 27 Laurel Hill Road \$885,000
- Kurt Swenson to Bernard Roof and Melissa Leyva, land and buildings, 26 Cedar Hill Road, \$495,000
- Donald and Linda Garrity to Sunny Meadow Farm LLC, land, New Milford Road East, \$650,000

ATTEST:
Cheryl L. Pinkos, Town Clerk



Office of the Tax Collector

TAX COLLECTOR

**LAST DAY TO PAY
WITHOUT PENALTY
AUGUST 2, 2021**

Taxes received or postmarked August 3 through August 31, 2021 will be delinquent.

COLLECTION HOURS:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
8-12:30, Tuesday 8-3:30
Pay online at
www.mytaxbill.net/bridgewater

Catherine B. Vikstrom, CCMC Tax Collector
860-355-9220 cvikstrom@bridgewater-ct.gov
Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and
Friday 8-12:30 / Tuesday 8-3:30

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Taxpayers who wish to file for Farm Land, Forest Land or Open Space under Public Act #490 must do so between September 1st and October 31, 2021. A Qualified Forester's Report must accompany the Forest Land application, so please apply early as the process does take a while.

Personal Property forms will be mailed early October. Personal property that is required to be claimed are any assets owned by October 1, 2021 and used for business purposes and unregistered motor vehicles. Examples of items used for a business are tools, office supplies, furniture and equipment (computers, fax, printers etc.). Unregistered Motor vehicles including campers, RV's, snowmobiles, trailers and cars registered in another state but garaged in Bridgewater for more than 90 days. Tractor and horses need to be claimed if used for business purposes only. The Personal property forms must be received by November 1, 2021.

Attention Veterans- If you have not filed your honorable discharge papers with the Town Clerk you must do so before September 30th to receive your tax benefit for next year. There are various tax programs available for Veterans'. If your income is below \$37,600 if you are single or \$45,800 if married (not including Veteran benefits) you may qualify for an Additional Veteran's exemption. Also, if you were designated by the Veteran's Administration as disabled please bring your form in as you may qualify for a Disabled Veteran's benefit. These forms must be in our office before October 1, 2021.

The **Board of Assessment Appeals** will be meeting in September to hear disputes on motor vehicle assessments only. Please contact our office in August for applications.

Totally Disabled and Certification of Blindness must be filed with our office by October 1st 2021.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (860) 355-9379 or email: dpinter@bridgewater-ct.gov.

Our hours of business are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8am until 12:30pm and Tuesday 8am until 3:30pm.

Sincerely,
Denise C. Pinter Assessor



Help If You Can Donations Welcome

Items may be dropped off at Town Hall, Burnham Library, or Bridgewater Congregational Church. Thank you!

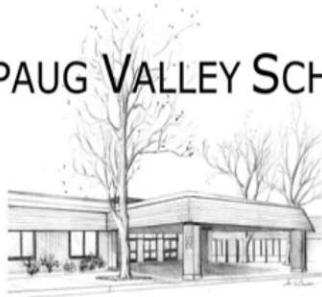


REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

A new schedule for in-person registration will be announced soon.



SHEPAUG VALLEY SCHOOL

Region 12 Schools Tuition-In
Program A Big Success

Region 12 Schools has been creative with its enrollment efforts over the last five years. These efforts have resulted in bringing more attention and additional students to the district and our towns. For the past three years, much focus and awareness have been placed on the success of our fledgling agriscience program. However, the success of the Region 12

Schools tuition-in program cannot be underestimated. The tuition-in program has brought numerous students from beyond the towns of Bridgewater, Roxbury, and Washington into our outstanding school system.

This quiet tuition-in program has offered educational opportunities for families that do not live in the towns but are willing to pay to have their students access our educational system at Booth Free School, Burnham School, Washington Primary School, and Shepaug Valley School. Tuition-in does not just benefit the students and families accessing our schools; it also benefits the communities by providing additional revenue back to the towns. Roxbury Selectwoman Barbara Henry shared, "Having the tuitioning-in students is a win-win for our outstanding school system. One, it benefits the students to have slightly larger class sizes which brings a more diverse interaction and learning experience, and, two, the monies garnered from those tuitioning-in students are returned to the towns from the school. It's an example of collaboration that has worked well in our small communities for years. Now that we have the agriscience program up and running, it is taking what has been done in the past to a higher level."

Educating students who choose to tuition-in does not cost the district additional dollars. All monies received from tuition-in students are returned to the towns. Region 12 Schools has seen a steady increase with tuition-in revenue over the past three years: 2017-18 resulted in \$351,744 to the towns, 2018-19 increased to \$615,491, and 2019-20 refunded \$925,686. Washington Selectman Jim Brinton spoke about the refund to the town of Washington, "Our town was very pleased to see this year's refund from Region 12. It shows solid fiscal responsibility and a continued partnership between our schools and the three towns that make up the Region."

Tuition-in seats are offered based on availability within the grade level and school. Seats offered do not take away from the educational opportunities of the students who are residents in our three towns. Our analogy is that we sell the empty seats on the plane, we do not buy a new plane. Region 12 Schools' educational quality is not compromised by accommodating tuition-in families; therefore, resources available and educational needs are taken into consideration during the application process. Selectman Curtis Read from Bridgewater credits the tuition-in experience for our children by saying, "The expression 'the more, the merrier' certainly applies to our Region 12 Schools. To combat declining population and low birth rates, the Region needed more students to add capability and vibrancy to the student body. With the expanding tuition-in program all our schools have gone beyond survival to a thriving level of academic achievement with financial benefits returning to the towns. Every agriscience or student from neighboring towns comes with tuition funds that must, by law, be returned to Bridgewater, Roxbury, or Washington proportionally. More students equals more unexpected income. It's the definition of a win-win." Families seeking tuition-in opportunities complete an application and are interviewed with the building principal. Applications are reviewed by both the school and district.

The quiet tuition-in program has thrived mostly through word of mouth. The waitlist continues to grow as the demand to be part of Region 12 Schools increases. For the 2021-22 school year, Region 12 Schools has received 260 applications to be part of the tuition-in program. For more information about the tuition-in program, please visit <https://www.region-12.org/registration>.

Megan Bennett, Superintendent
Region 12 Schools



Burnham School PTO NEWS

The Burnham School has had another successful year, even through a pandemic. Our "Tiny but Mighty" school is proof that we are able to conquer anything together!

The Burnham School PTO has taken this pandemic year to help support teachers and staff in a different way. By providing extra, individualized recess equipment, the school could maintain CDC suggested protocols while allowing students to enjoy recess together!

Fundraising was a bit more challenging, but like everything else this year, we made it work! The PTO sponsored a number of fundraisers, including: The Spirit Wear Fundraiser, Bottle and Can Drive, The Read-A-Thon, and the Fall Pie Fundraiser, to name a few.

Easy Ways You Can Help to Support Burnham School PTO Today:

- Cash donations are a generous way to support the school and we are a 501c3 organization.
- Sign-Up for Amazon Smile: www.smile.amazon.com/ch/26-0011749. A portion of your purchase will go directly to our organization!
- Sign-Up for School Rewards at your local grocery store: Register your store cards at ShopRite
- And YES, we are collecting BOX TOPS at our school!

Look for important dates and events on our website: www.burnhamschoolpto.weebly.com

We wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer!

Kindly submitted by,

The Burnham School, PTO Officers

President: Diana Kelly

Co-Treasurers: Joy Ruppert & Rhei C. Gordon

Vice President: Tabitha Potok

Secretary: Krystle Toczylowski

The Bridgewater Scholarship Commission

2021 has been a particularly challenging year for students and the committee alike. For the Students, getting transcripts and dealing with the Scholarship Committee in a remote fashion has once again added a degree of difficulty. For us, adding a new set of verification rules has meant added pressure.

But I am glad to report that we accomplished our objective of bringing our bylaws and rules in line with virtually every other scholarship committee in Litchfield and Northern Fairfield Counties. By doing so, we were able to focus on the student population that has the greatest need, thereby increasing the amount of individual awards.

The following Bridgewater Students received scholarships for the 2021-2022 academic year:

Jack Abbott, Cameron Brown, Taryn Crossley, James Foote, Bram Gattie, Mason Gsell, Isabella Guzman, Kayleigh Hendy, Bailey Herron, Maya Jacob, Ava Landry, Evan Landry, Daniel Manning, Timothy Manning, Anna Maxwell, John Maxwell, Timothy Murphy, Alison Parker, Briana Vasquez-Peragine, Olivia Seger, Julia Sinatra, Hayley Virbickas, Spencer Weston, and Sierra Wilson.

In addition the following students have been recognized for the following named scholarship honors:

Evadina and Grover Allen Scholarship- Kayleigh Hendy

Mardie Ford Scholarship- Julia Sinatra

Canfield Scholarship- Daniel Manning

Herron Scholarship- Sierra Wilson

Matthew Hines Scholarship- Ava Landry

Francis Scholarship- Timothy Murphy

A big thank you to Catherine Vikstrom, whose expertise and dedication has made online applications possible. Also to Curtis Read for his attentiveness concerning our procedural and bylaw changes. And, of course, to arguably the most dedicated committee in town: Joy Bollard, Paul Hines, Russell Marcus, Susan Niesobecki, Jeanne Papparazzo and Cheryl Pinkos.



VETERANS' NEWS

Hoping you all had a safe July 4 celebration. We certainly deserve it as we get closer to surviving COVID!

The Department of Veterans Affairs: The latest funding bill has the VA receiving nearly \$270 billion, including \$113.1 billion in discretionary spending and \$113.1 billion in advanced funding for veterans medical care for fiscal 2023. Much of the \$170 million increase would go to health care services, including \$73 million added to the \$778.5 million request for women's health and \$1 million above the \$13.2 billion request for mental health services. The bill also would fully fund the VA's construction projects, assistance programs for an estimated 37,200 homeless veterans and rural health initiatives.

A working group of dedicated advocates from The Military Coalition - a consortium of organizations representing a combined 5.5 million members - is making progress on concurrent receipt legislation and needs your help with a summer surge. Please ask your lawmakers to support the Major Richard Star Act. Maj. Richard Star, USAR, namesake of the Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S.344), lost his fight with cancer in February of this year. Before the pandemic hit in 2020, he was tenacious - even with terminal lung cancer, he would struggle down the halls of congressional office buildings, stopping to catch his breath, to make it to the next office to advocate for concurrent receipt. For more information Check out this Star Act Tracker from Senior Master Sgt. Jeremy Kitzhaber, USAF (Ret), a dedicated volunteer advocate for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. With turmoil over delayed budgets and work on the National Defense Authorization Act, it is impactful to email and call your elected officials asking them to support the Star Act. You can call your lawmaker via MOAA's toll-free Capitol Switchboard at 1-866-272-6622.

For those collecting pensions, your monthly electronic Retiree Account Statement (eRAS) is now available on myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. While you're logged in to your account, please also take a few moments to verify that all of your contact information is correct. The key to receiving your military retired pay and other important information in a timely and efficient manner is to make sure that both your mailing address and email address on file are up to date. If you are a new retiree, it may be 30-60 days before your eRAS is available in myPay.

The DoD budget (\$715 billion) released by the White House last month includes \$228 million for Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), a \$146 million year-over-year increase thanks in large part to \$141 million in support of ANC's southern expansion. The Military Coalition (TMC) - a group of military and veterans service organizations representing a combined 5.5 million-plus membership - support this expansion and appreciate the ongoing capacity concerns of ANC officials. Please take action to preserve the future rights of our Veterans.

eBenefits (Your VA Benefits Updates):

Homeowner's Guide to Hurricane Season: Do you know how to protect your home during hurricane season? Find out how to get help if you have a VA-backed home loan or VA housing grant and your house is damaged by a hurricane, flood, or another natural disaster. FAST Assists Fiduciaries: VA's fiduciary program protects Veterans and other beneficiaries who, due to injury, disease, or age, are unable to manage their financial affairs. Learn how the Fiduciary Accounting Submission Tool (FAST) makes the accounting process easier for fiduciaries.

Give Your Pension a Boost: Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can occur after exposure to extreme stress, such as combat, an assault, or a disaster. If you're living with PTSD caused by military service, you may be entitled to VA disability benefits and compensation. Find out if you qualify and how to apply!

Watch VA Benefits News: Tune in to the latest episode of VA Benefits News (VBN)! Join the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits, Michael Frueh, to learn of initiatives and updates that directly impact you and your family.

continued

Veterans' News, cont.

COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Available: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is providing financial assistance for coronavirus-related funeral costs incurred after Jan. 20, 2020. VA has no role in this reimbursement program. If you have had COVID-19 burial expenses, learn how to apply for FEMA aid.

Hiring Platform for Veterans: Bridge My Return (BMR) can help you leverage your military skills in the job market. The free hiring platform connects you with employers and provides the tools and coaching necessary for private-sector success.

Take VA's White Ribbon Pledge: White Ribbon VA is a national call to action to eliminate sexual harassment, sexual assault, and domestic violence across VA. Everyone can help by pledging to never commit, condone, or remain silent about all forms of violence. Please join your fellow Veterans and VA employees across the country and take the White Ribbon VA pledge. DoD announced the further extension of certain expired retiree and dependent identification cards in a June 7 news release. The previous extension was scheduled to end June 30. Now, all ID cards with expiration dates between Jan. 1, 2020, and July 31, 2021, will be extended as described below:

- Through Aug. 31, 2021, for all Foreign Affiliates and their dependents.
- Through Oct. 31, 2021, for active duty dependents, as well as Reserve and Guard servicemembers and their dependents.
- Through Jan. 31, 2022, for retirees, their dependents, and all other Uniformed Services ID (USID) beneficiaries.

Joe Buchheit, LTC-USA (Ret), VA Liaison, 860-355-2433 or
email: townofbridgewaterva@gmail.com



Literacy Volunteers on the Green

After fifteen months of adapting to distance learning, LVG's tutors and adult learners are slowly and safely returning to on location and in-person tutoring sessions in a variety of ways that suit each learning team. LVG's mission remains steadfast - to offer free English language literacy to adult learners in northern Fairfield and Litchfield counties, as they strive to become independent readers, writers, listeners, and speakers of English, enabling their full participation in the communities we share. We thank our many dedicated Bridgewater tutors who continue to give so freely of their time!

Our adult students continually look for ways to balance family and job responsibilities, while attempting to improve their English language skills and hone basic reading and math skills. LVG's tutoring community remains closely connected through monthly Zoom meetings, professional development opportunities, and social gatherings.

Potential tutors can feel safe meeting with adult students - all tutors and students are expected to be fully vaccinated before joining in person tutoring sessions - unvaccinated students will be offered remote learning options.

New tutor training is planned for September as we anticipate a full offering of fall literacy programs. In August, feel free to contact LVG's office, conveniently located at St John's Church on the Green in New Milford, to register for new tutor orientation. Please consider impacting the lives of adult learners and their families by revitalizing the working lives of adults seeking English language proficiency. For further information, please contact Lynn@lvg-ct.org to learn of ways to support English language literacy in northwestern Connecticut.

Lynn Davies Executive Director
Literacy Volunteers on the Green



The Bridgewater Land Trust Summer/Fall 2021

In 2021 we welcome the public to enjoy our public trail located on the Town Line Preserve and the Ketchum Children's Trail (Maps are now on our Website). As always, we ask that you help take care of our trails and open space by adhering to our Carry In, Carry Out policy.

We will be having our 2nd Annual Volksmarsch Walk on Sunday, September 26th. It should be a great day the includes an awesome hike on BWLT and neighboring trails followed by German themed food & music.

Please consider joining our Land Trust in 2021. Membership dollars are crucial to the operation of the trust and preservation of our beautiful open space in Bridgewater. The Bridgewater Land Trust is an approved 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Visit us at our website bridgewaterlandtrust.org or our Facebook page. Thank you to everyone who participated in 2021 Give Local. The money donated will help us maintain and improve the land we all love.

Thank you,
The Bridgewater Land Trust



Roxbury-Bridgewater Garden Club

The members of the Roxbury-Bridgewater Garden Club would like to thank the good folks of Bridgewater for your support during the Give Local campaign in April and for supporting our Plant Mart in May. Thanks to you, we are able to continue our work to create beautiful garden spaces. Our current focus is on Pollinator gardens. We have been working with the Bridgewater Land Trust and agencies in Roxbury to increase awareness of the importance of saving our pollinators. Have a wonderful summer, enjoy your gardens and thank you again!

Sincerely, Estelle Mackenzie,
president RBGC



Join us for the 2nd Annual

Volksmarsch Walk

Volksmarsching, or "People's March", is a form of non-competitive fitness walking that started in Europe in the 1960s.

Our 6 mile loop will begin and end at the Bridgewater Pavilion, exploring Land Trust trails and including surprises along the way.

At the end of your walk enjoy bratwursts, warm pretzels and some German beer with live music by a cozy fire.

Sunday, September 26th - Rain or shine

Start time and registration between 12-1pm

Attendance is limited to (100) guests, pre-registration is advised.

For more information please visit

www.bridgewaterlandtrust.org

Tickets: \$50 per person / Children 12 and under \$15

Hosted by Bridgewater Land Trust and sponsored by Bridgewater Recreation Commission



Proceeds benefit the
**BRIDGEWATER
LAND TRUST**

Historical Society News

LOVERS' LEAP

The land we know as "Lovers' Leap State Park has a long and storied history. The 140 acres dedicated on June 16, 2007 was occupied for over 8,000 years by Native American tribes. Shad and salmon were the reason for its popularity, offering a plentiful food source prior to the damming of the waterway for the creation of Lake Lillinonah in the 50s.

Chief Waramaug was a famous leader for many years. His daughter, Princess Lillinonah, was the basis of the legend of two lovers who died in the waters of the lake. Great changes also came from the incorporation of Bridgewater in 1856, leaving the mother town of New Milford. Then called "The Neck", our Bridgewater was a subset of New Milford. As such, it lacked local government, taxation or decision making powers.

Once the Weantinocks left the land, it became home to the Hurd family. Their connection to Bridgewater was through the Judson family, one of the founding families of our town. The last of their line was Catherine Judson Hurd. This lady broke the mold. Orphaned at 15, she lived in "The Castle," the family home on the lake. Once she finished schooling, she became an actress, working with Bob Hope and Cole Porter among others. She wintered in the family apartment in New York City, enjoying



the arts and theater. She summered in the Castle and invited many of the rich and famous to visit. One of the buildings on the property was made into a tea house, called the "Yellow Cat Tea House." When she died in March of 1971, she left her estate to the State of Connecticut for a "public park." The Castle was destroyed by fire in 1988. The Tea room was destroyed by fire in 1995. While her history is all but forgotten, the land she gave to the public lives on. Stop by and visit this summer and see what this amazing woman did for our community.

- Eileen Buchheit 860-355-2433



From The Desk of the Town Historian

With Covid came a shift in population from New York City to Connecticut. For many years, this has been the place to go to escape the crowds and intrusive press. When you live in Connecticut, your privacy is respected. Our town's history can claim many famous celebrities. Writers like Theodore White lived here for many years. Nobel award winners like Van Wyck Brooks and his poetess wife, Gladys, and celebrity Norman Mailer were residents. Artists Lina Hartwell and Grace Mead Wellwood found their inspiration here. The man responsible for the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906, Harvey W. Wiley lived in a home on Skyline Ridge Road. Actress Mia Farrow calls Bridgewater "home," as have noted producers and directors. Scholars who taught at Trinity College and Columbia, like the Babbitt brothers called Bridgewater home. Others of note have enjoyed "Our Town." Part of the reason is that, when you live here, you're a part of our community, putting celebrity aside. Who knows who the next famous person will be?

- Eileen Buchheit



BURNHAM LIBRARY NEWS AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER

Keep up-to-date with all the Burnham Buzz at www.burnhamlibrary.org, via Facebook OR have news dropped into your inbox by emailing cfisher@burnhamlibrary.org.

Library services and restriction are subject to change and are based on the State of Connecticut's reopening plan and the latest guidance from the CT State Library. Please visit our website for details.

NEW Expanded Hours beginning on September 1!

Expanded hours means more time for YOU! Visit us Tuesday - Friday from 10-5 and Saturday 9-1.

Short on time? Schedule a Curbside Pick-up! Available Tuesday - Saturday. Simply email, call, or place a request through the catalog and we will notify you when your pick-up is ready!

Message From The Director

This past May, the Connecticut State Library (CSL) was awarded \$2,775,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) with \$2 million earmarked for direct grants to Connecticut's 165 eligible principal public libraries. To achieve ARPA's purposes, IMLS established high priority spending categories for the ARPA Grants to CT Public Libraries program which includes digital connectivity, pandemic-related needs, and accessibility.

Here at the Burnham Library, ARPA Grant funds are supporting reopening efforts for our community by providing a clean and safe environment, creating comfortable and private seating and study spaces, and offering a reliable and effective public wireless network.

IMLS sees the outcome of the ARPA funding as the logical extension of the rapid and intentional rollout of the CARES Act of 2020 as well as Governor Ned Lamont's Everybody Learns Initiative which helped address digital inequities. Libraries empower their communities. As public libraries receive support to safely refresh spaces and equipment, expand programming possibilities, and increase services, we are growing library access for all.

Our goal is to not just provide an institution rooted in the traditional trappings of libraries but to create a place for gathering, conversation, and community. As we navigate this "new" normal, these grant funds are vital for us to continue to engage with our community in a creative and safe environment.

Come in and see all we have to offer!

Jean Kallay
Library Director

Featured Services

NEW Library of Things - The Library of Things (LoT) is a circulating collection of items that complement the Burnham Library's mission of providing traditional and innovative library resources, programs and services for lifelong learning to our community. Our growing collection of lawn games, equipment, puzzles, and Discovery Bags are available for one-week loan!



Our **Digital Branch** is open 24/7 ... your library card grants you access to instantly stream eBooks or audiobooks, comics or music, movies, and television. Visit the Digital Branch on our website to access Great Courses, Hoopla and NOW (thanks to the Connecticut Library Consortium) digital magazines!



Burnham Library, cont.

The Great Giveaway!

It can't get any easier than this! Stop into the library every month and grab the newest item in Burnham Library's The Great Giveaway! Supplies are limited! Sponsored by a generous Friend.



Read 'Em and Eat - Summer reading challenge for adults ends on September 1. Read a book. Log it. Earn a raffle ticket. Easy as that! Visit our website to register www.burnhamlibrary.com/summer-reading.

Art @ the Library - Now through August 28, "Sunrise in the Park," paintings in oils by artist Peter Wiehl. Mr. Wiehl's paintings have been on display in both solo and group shows throughout the US, Europe, and Australia. "Sunrise in the Park" may be viewed during library hours. For more information on the artist, visit his website at www.peterwiehl.com.

Get Carded @ Your Library - September is Library Card month ... renew your library card or refer a friend for a library card and YOU can win a \$30 gift card to the Bridgewater Bistro!

Music on Main - This exciting event is back. See details on page 18 of this newsletter.



Reading Lover's Challenge 2021 - New year, new challenge! Beginning February 1, 2021 and ending January 31, 2022. This is a year-long opportunity for adult book lovers to explore new authors and genres while having fun with your reading list. We have chosen the prompts and we challenge you to read 14 books within those categories (or read more! who is stopping you?) Upon completion you will receive a BL drink koozie to brag about your accomplishments, AND one lucky reader will receive a BL hoodie! More details available at the library or email jkallay@burnhamlibrary.org. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Adult Programming - The Burnham Library has teamed up with the Minor Memorial Library in Roxbury, the Gunn Memorial Library in Washington, and the New Milford Library to provide all four communities with a wide range of virtual and in-person events this summer and fall. Visit www.burnhamlibrary.org/events for featured collaborative programs and the most update-to-date information on Burnham Library events and services.

Virtual Book Discussions - Book discussions return in September. All are welcome to join in on the lively monthly discussion. Third Thursday at 5:00 via Zoom. Advance registration is required to receive the Zoom event link. Please email cwflyn60@gmail.com to register or for further information.
Sept 23 - *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles
October 28 - *The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin
Copies of each selection will be available at the library or request curbside pick-up.

Youth Programs in the Susie Beris MD Youth Learning Center

Join us this fall for some fun in-person, virtual, and hybrid programming! A full slate of programs and events will be released mid-August.

Favorites returning this Fall:

- **Virtual Tabletop RPG Club** - Bi-monthly gaming at its best for grades 3-5
- **Crafts to Go!** - Grab and go kits for kids of all ages!
- **Burnham Bunch Storytime** - Books, bubbles, and songs for the under 5 crowd.



EMERGENCY SERVICES



Bridgewater EMS Update

Do you know how to contact EMS when you need help? Call 911! Recently we have had people call the Fire House or individual members of the Fire Department looking for help. It may seem that this approach is more appropriate for a call that you do not think deserves a 911 response. But if you do not call 911 the delivery of the help you are seeking will likely be delayed. Delays can cause serious complications for people in need of Emergency Medical assistance. EMTs and Firefighters in Bridgewater are volunteers. We are not usually present at the Fire House. If you call the Firehouse you will probably get voicemail. If you call 911 our members will be promptly alerted by the 911 dispatcher. Bridgewater pays Litchfield County Dispatch for 24/7 dispatch services that notify us when we are needed. Our volunteers wear pagers so that Dispatch can reach us wherever we are. When our pagers are activated we all receive the alert at the same time. This allows us to respond most efficiently. If you call the Fire House, a Fire Department member, or some other person instead of 911, you will most likely cause unnecessary delays in our response. It is also possible that equipment we require to help you will be delayed. Please call 911 when you need our help. Do not hesitate.

Our volunteers often respond to 911 calls in personal vehicles. When the volunteers are responding they activate blue flashing lights on their vehicles. Whenever you are operating your vehicle and see you are being approached by a vehicle with blue flashing lights please pull off to the right side of the road and bring your vehicle to a stop. Allow us to pass you. Your courtesy will help us respond safely and in a timely manner. We appreciate your cooperation. Your neighbors who need our prompt assistance will also be grateful.

I am happy to tell you that we have another new Bridgewater EMT! Alison Parker joined us in July. She is an impressive and dependable young woman. At the completion of her most recent semester at Fordham University she also completed the work necessary to become a Certified EMT in New York. As soon as she reached that goal she contacted me and asked if she could volunteer as a Bridgewater EMT. Unlike New York, our state requires students to pass the challenging National Registry Examination for EMTs before it will grant certification. When I explained this to Alison she promptly registered for the test and successfully passed

the exam. She also completed the application process to obtain her CT Certification. She was accepted as a new member of our Fire Department and is now responding to EMS calls in our town. We are very happy that she has joined us. She is a good example of the kind of people that make Bridgewater such a special place. Please join me and the other members of the BVFD Emergency Medical Services team in welcoming Alison. We are grateful for her dedication and hard work.

We have a very good team of volunteers who provide Emergency Medical Services to our neighbors in Bridgewater. We are always in need of additional volunteers. If you have an interest in joining us I would like to speak with you. Please contact me using the email address below.

The members of the Bridgewater Emergency Services team want you to know that we appreciate the trust you give us when you and your loved ones are most in need. We will always do our best to provide the best care possible.

Jim McNulty, NREMT
Ambulance Coordinator
The Bridgewater Fire Department, Inc.
Email: JamesMcNultyNREMT@gmail.com



BFD Women's Auxiliary

The auxiliary is proud to announce our scholarship recipients:

Sierra Wilson
Kayleigh Hendy

The auxiliary extends their best wishes in their new endeavors.

Please join us at our annual Wine & Beer tasting on Saturday, September 18th from 5-8pm at the Pratt Pavilion. Tickets are \$25.00 in advance \$30 at the door. There will be a 2-\$10.00 raffle of beers donated by our vendors in terrific coolers donated by NeJaime's wines & liquors.

The Town Wide Tag will be the weekend of Saturday & Sunday, October 2 & 3. Cost is \$30.00 for the weekend and \$20.00 per table Saturday only in the firehouse. Maps will be available with a list of houses where the tag sales will be in town. Please text Carole Hanlon at 860-946-7778 if you are interested in participating. Hope to see you all at our fall activities!!

Ann Frattalone President





Community Caring in Bridgewater, Inc. (CCB)

Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Staying Healthy and Happy at Home

Thank You to N.E.W.S.

CCB would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Newtown Ecumenical Workcamp Servants (N.E.W.S.). From June 28th through July 1st, NEWS had 20+ workcampers and 7 adult supervisors working at three of our Bridgewater Senior homes making them more safe and secure for their residents. This work was done during one of our 90+ degree heat waves. CCB director, Alex McNaughton became the workcampers' best friend by bringing popsicles and ice cream to help cool them. CCB director Joe Buchheit worked closely with N.E.W.S. staff and our seniors organizing the work. Thanks to all.

N.E.W.S. is a mission group for High School youth from 9th grade through 12th grade. It is ecumenical, which means it involves youth from local churches of varied denominations. The group is called the N.E.W.S because through the years they have served people in the North, East, West, and South. Their members are known as "workcampers." Each year a service trip is planned to take place during a week in the summer. Originally this year the workcampers were scheduled to go to Puerto Rico but the pandemic interfered with that travel and CCB and Bridgewater were the beneficiaries. The workcampers learn carpentry and related skills as well learning to interact with all sorts of community members. It is a wonderful group. We encourage you to check out the N.E.W.S. website: <https://www.newtownctchurch.org/ministries/global-communitysupportjusticemercyprogramsresources/workcampmissiontripshighschoolagednews-work-camp/>

Paper Shredding Day

Our Paper Shredding Day is scheduled for Saturday September 11, 2021 from 9-12pm at the Town Garage. CCB is happy that we can offer this service to our seniors free of charge.

Fall Chores for Seniors

Although when you are reading this it still the dog days of Summer, by late September and October it will be time to consider Fall chores and winter preparation. Let us know if we can help you with bothersome chores and maintenance issues.

Contact Us

If you need assistance (all requests are confidential). We can be reached:

By Phone: 860-350-2194.

By Mail: CCB, P.O. Box 338, Bridgewater, CT 06752

By Email: info@ccbridgewater.org or cheryl@westernviewfarms.com





BRIDGEWATER HILLTOP CENTER NEWS

Back In The Swing Of Things!

The Senior Center is back to regular activities, classes and events. For the latest updates and news you will want to be on our email list. Give us a call at 860-355-3090 and request that we add your name. You can also go to our website to view the current newsletter and calendar. bridgewater-ct.gov/hilltop-senior-center. Below are our upcoming events:

ROCK 'N' ROLL WITH STEPHEN ARMSTRONG - THURSDAY, AUGUST 5th at 1:00 PM
Stephen will be discussing the "MUSIC of the 50's and 60's and its Impact on America." This will be an upbeat presentation on this entertaining topic. Come and tap into Stephen's wealth of knowledge on this topic. Refreshments will be served. Sign up is requested.

CELEBRATE AUGUST - THURSDAY, AUGUST 12th at 12:00 PM
August is full of fun reasons to celebrate... Friendship Day, National Daughter's & Son's Day, National Blame Someone Else Day, National Creamsicle Day, National Relaxation Day, and Kiss and Make Up Day, just to name a few! We will be serving fried chicken, potato salad and, of course, creamsicles for dessert. Music will be provided by Jim Moker and Angela, the Walking Fish duo. Sign up is required.

BINGO -THURSDAY, AUGUST 19th at 1:00 PM No cost, but sign up is requested.

VIOLIN CONCERT ON THE PATIO - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd at 1:00 PM
Jane Chung, a Bridgewater resident, and Larry Deming will be performing duo works by Bach, Bartok Teirstein, O'Connor and traditional fiddle tunes. It will be an afternoon of beautiful music you don't want to miss. Refreshments will be served. Sign up is requested.

AUTUMN LUNCHEON - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th at 12:00 PM

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7th 12:30 - 4:30 PM
Pre-registration required. \$20 for AARP Members; \$25 for non-members.

OKTOBERFEST LUNCHEON - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21st at 12:00 PM

FLU CLINIC - Date to be determined. Call the center for more information.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

- Body Conditioning Exercise:
Monday 10:30 and Wednesday 11:30
- Tai Ji Quan for Better Balance:
Monday 1:00 and Thursday 10:00
- Computer Club: Tuesday 10:00
- Silver Needles: Tuesday 1:00
- Tai Chi: Wednesday 10:00
- Mahjong: Wednesday 1:00
- Poker: Friday 10:00
- Chair Yoga: Friday 10:30
- Canasta: Friday 1:00
- Hilltop Book Group: Last Monday of each month at 2:00
- Blood Pressure Clinic: 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:00
- Burnham Library Program: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 1:00

Patricia Babbage, Director

OUR CHURCHES



St. Marks Episcopal Church

August, September,
October 2021

We are having a service at 9:30 every Sunday morning both in church and on Zoom which is available to all from our new website: <https://stmarksbridgewater.weebly.com>. Father David has put the ID for the Zoom meeting on it, and there are other interesting sermons, pictures, events and so forth.

We are also having a Bible study program which started in April, and will continue weekly on Tuesdays both in the old Vestry room and on Zoom. Check the website for details.

*Please
join us!*

Pulled Pork Supper at the Episcopal Church

A Pulled Pork Supper will be held on Saturday, August 14th on the lawn or take-out from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm. There will be music by the JEMS. (Rain Date - Aug. 15th.)

The Bridgewater Congregational Church Tag Sale

Our annual HUGE Tag Sale will be even more so this year. Two years of collecting treasures for the event.

**Saturday, SEPTEMBER 25
9:00AM - 3:00PM**

Inside and outside - rain or shine
Always Lots of Great Stuff!!



The Bridgewater Congregational Church



There are new opportunities for individuals and families at Bridgewater Congregational Church. For the past several months we have been meeting on Zoom, a medium that allowed us to nearly double our attendance by including people who tuned in from all over the country.

Now we are holding traditional services in our historic building at Clapboard Road and Main Street AND on Zoom. To connect, just go to our Web site www.bwucc.org and find the Join Zoom button on the home page. You're in!

We are adjusting the social distancing and mask requirements as the recommendations for safety are changing. (Unvaccinated people are asked to wear masks; others who prefer masks are welcome to do so as well). The organ is now part of our service as is wonderful special music and messages worth hearing. You will find a warm welcome from so many of your neighbors, many of whom you will recognize from their participation in town goings-on.

If you're seeking some quiet solace, we invite you to visit our Meditation Garden that has stone benches and a labyrinth. In addition, you'll find a "prayer box" in which you can confidentially write out a prayer about what's on your mind. These prayers are privately gathered each month and collectively remembered as part of our communion service on the first Sunday of the month.

So if God has been in your heart lately, please join us live or on Zoom Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m.

-Submitted by Rev. Daniel England, Interim Pastor

Church Office

Tuesday-Thursday, 9-2 and by appointment
Telephone: 860-354-8283 Email: office.bwucc@gmail.com
The Bridgewater Friendship Hall www.bridgewaterfriendshiphall.com

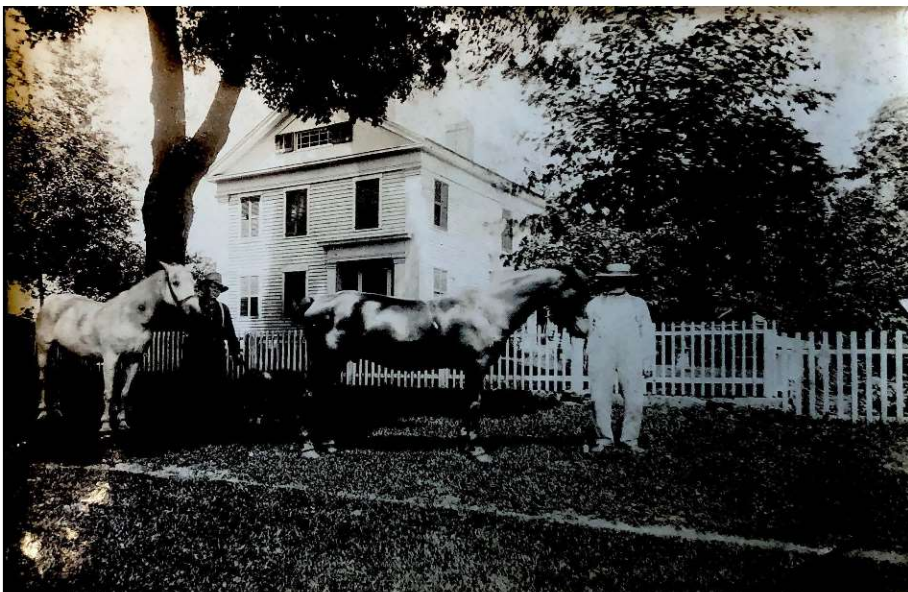
S. Eugenia Canfield

A few months ago, a strange black & white photograph came across my desk that had me perplexed. It shows two men, standing with their horses in front of a handsome gable-front home. There are some scribbles on the photo, but none of it meant much to me, except for the fact that it was allegedly in Bridgewater. What was suspect, was that the date of the picture (or so I guessed) was written in pencil: "1867-1871." The following line appeared to say "E. Schraeders," and then in pen, but in the same handwriting: "Bridgewater, CT." The first mystery was easy to figure out. Where did this come from? People know that we always consider items to include in our historical collection, so they drop things off to show us. It was a simple task to figure out that a friend of the library had left it knowing that I love all things Bridgewater history.

I shelved the picture as a nice gesture. I reached out to the patron and friend who dropped it off and went on my way for the next few months, with the handsome photo of someone else's family on my desk. This was about the same time that I started a project to document all of the people who have worked at Burnham as head librarian and director. I went into the files of Burnham Library, pulled out whatever pertinent reports I could find, and also re-read a history of the Library that Burton Canfield wrote at the dedication of the Burnham Library. Canfield had 22 years to retell, as the library, a separate nonprofit, had been housed at the Town Hall from 1904-1926 before it moved into its handsome stone building.

Canfield retold the early days of the library, focusing on those who worked to make the organization possible. It's nice to see other names highlighted. Surely Captain William Dickson Burnham deserves accolades, but his money would only get the organization so far without the hard work of oft-forgotten individuals. One of these individuals was Mrs. Burton Canfield, or Eugenia Canfield, as I soon found out. One of the shelves in the library is dedicated to S. Eugenia Canfield: First Librarian. It's amazing how important pieces of information can be sitting, waiting for context. I began my research. It turned out that S. Eugenia Canfield was the first wife of Burton Canfield, a prominent and philanthropic Bridgewater resident. S. Eugenia Canfield, or Sarah Eugenia Canfield was born on September 28th, 1866 (coincidentally, my Birthday 120 years early) in Bridgewater to Arza and Sarah Morris. Arza was active in St. Mark's church and owned a significant amount of stock in a hat factory across the road from his home. The factory has since been moved across the street, behind the house.

The picture? Where does it fit in? The picture I later realized, was labeled as the Mary Morris House. Mary was Eugenia's sister who was the last in the line of Amos Morris (the original owner of the property) to own the Morris homestead. This is the house that Eugenia grew up in, the home where she developed her love of books, and her passion for the community. In the end, this seemingly unconnected photograph meant more to the library than we thought. Sometimes it seems that context arrives when we aren't looking for it,



especially when doing research. Eugenia would have been young when this photograph was taken, but Arza and Sarah certainly were living there, planning their lives. If I hadn't spent the time to consider this photograph, then an early artifact of the home of our first librarian would have been lost.

The photo of the Mary Morris House and more artifacts and information about the history of Burnham Library and Bridgewater are available during normal business hours. Birthday gifts for the assistant director are accepted anytime.

Christopher B. Fisher
Assistant Director
Burnham Library

2021 Persbacker Family Scholarships Awarded

The Persbacker Family Fund at Connecticut Community Foundation has awarded college scholarships of \$4,000 each to five Bridgewater residents for the 2021-22 academic year.

The Persbacker Family Fund is among the largest college scholarship funds available to students residing in Bridgewater, Connecticut. To receive an award from the fund, a student must demonstrate an outstanding commitment to community service in the town of Bridgewater, and the student's primary residence must have been in Bridgewater for at least six years. The honors are renewable for up to four years.

Former Bridgewater resident Victor L. Persbacker established the scholarship fund at the Foundation with the intention of making college more affordable for local students who are involved in volunteer work throughout the Bridgewater community.

"I'd just like to give the biggest thanks to the Persbecker Scholarship Fund for recognizing me as one of the 2021 recipients," said Bailey Herron, a Persbacker Scholarship recipient. "It is a great honor and I am excited to continue to represent everything that this scholarship embodies".

The Persbacker Fund has awarded scholarships totaling over \$260,000 to 31 students since its inception in 2004. Congratulations to the following scholars for the 2021-2022 academic year:

Taryn Crossley
University of Connecticut, Class of 2024
Field of Study: Environmental Studies

Julia Sinatra
Hamilton College, Class of 2024
Field of Study: Languages, Literature and Linguistics

Bailey Herron
Elon University, Class of 2024
Field of Study: Spanish and Political Science

Annika Vikstrom
Middlebury College, Class of 2025
Field of Study: Liberal Arts and Sciences / Humanities

Sierra Wilson
Delaware Valley University, Class of 2025
Field of Study: Agriculture and Related Sciences



Learn more about the scholarship program at Connecticut Community Foundation at conncf.org/scholarships.

Established in 1923, Connecticut Community Foundation fosters an equitable and inclusive community in Greater Waterbury and Litchfield Hills by inspiring generosity, supporting organizations and cultivating effective leaders. The Foundation provides leadership in addressing the region's critical issues, strengthens local nonprofit organizations through grants and technical assistance programs, and works with individuals, families and corporations to establish and steward scholarships and charitable funds. Learn more at www.conncf.org.

Fireman's Beer & Wine Tasting



Sponsored by BVFD
Women's Auxiliary,
Bridgewater Volunteer Fire
Department, New Milford
Spirit Shoppe & NeJaime's
Fine Wine & Spirits



There will be over 40 beer and wine vendors as well as food trucks.

Saturday, September 18th, 2021

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Bridgewater Pavilion

\$25.00 per ticket (\$30.00 at the door)

DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

IT'S BACK!
BURNHAM LIBRARY PRESENTS

MUSIC ON MAIN

PICNIC AND LISTEN ON THE LAWN

 THE OVER DUE BAND

FEATURING MEMBERS OF
ROOTS ROCK



AUGUST 27TH 5:30 - 8:00

more details to come!

Come on over y'all

HILLTOP HOEDOWN

Food & Drink ★ Live Music with Joe West

Friday, August 6th
5 PM - 8 PM
Hilltop Center
132 Hut Hill Road

Tickets are \$30 in advance
\$35 at the door
Stop by the Center to
purchase or call
860-355-3090



There's an app for that....

The RecycleCT Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the importance of managing materials more sustainably through waste reduction, reuse, recycling and composting, is adding an app to its very successful RecycleCT Wizard search tool. The wizard is currently posted on the home page of the HRRRA website.

While the web-based search tool has been very successful, the app will increase ease and access right from your phone. The RecycleCT Wizard App will help you quickly discover which household items are acceptable in your recycling bin or not, tips for reusing certain materials, and how to properly dispose of other materials. Increasing recycling, and decreasing contamination in our recycling stream is especially important now given the waste crisis the state is facing, as aging waste-to-energy facilities go offline. Information on how to download the app can be found at www.hrra.org

Glass Recycling Program



Please do not add your glass bottles and container to your mixed recycling. To ensure it gets recycled take it to the Town Garage and recycle it separately. To understand why, visit our website. Use the QR code to the left. It's simple. Open your camera on your smart phone, hover over the code and it will take you to www.hrra.org

IMPORTANT: Glass is a designated recyclable by state law and should never be disposed of in the trash. Learn more about Connecticut's recycling laws by visiting www.ct.gov/deep

Food Scrap Recycling

The Town of Bridgewater has a collection container at the Town Garage for food scraps. By removing your food waste from your household trash, you can reduce curbside pickup to twice or once a month. To learn more about the Bridgewater food waste recycling program, visit www.hrra.org or use this QR Code.



Household Hazardous Waste Events



Do you have unwanted paint, old gasoline, or household chemicals you need to dispose of? The next HHW event for the region is scheduled as follows:

- **September 11th 9am to 2pm Brookfield High School, Brookfield**
- **October 9th 9am to 3pm John Pettibone School, New Milford**

A list of acceptable items and details about the event can be found on the HRRRA website

For questions on all things waste, recycling, household hazardous waste, composting, textiles, medical waste etc. Email the HRRRA Executive Director, Jennifer Heaton-Jones at Info@hrra.org or call 203.775.4539



Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 273
New Milford, CT 06776
Carrier Route Presorted

BRIDGEWATER RESIDENT Bridgewater, CT 06752

Town Newsletter Statement of Purpose

This is the official town newsletter to communicate current issues, services and activities in Bridgewater to the residents of the town. The newsletter is published quarterly. *Deadline for the next issue is October 5th, 2021.*

About *Our Town*

Our Town is published with the assistance of town officials, employees and volunteers from boards, commissions, groups and organizations. The Town of Bridgewater reserves the right to edit submissions. Articles, input or ideas can be sent to Julie Stuart at juliestuartct@gmail.com

Bridgewater Board of Selectmen

Curtis Read, *First Selectman*
Alan Brown
Laz Pinter
Administrative Assistant
Anne Marie Wagner

CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 3 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 3 Inland Wetlands Comm. 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 10 Board of Selectman 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 19 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 26 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Tractor Parade
- 6 Labor Day ***Town Hall Closed***
- 7 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 7 Inland Wetlands Comm. 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 14 Board of Selectman 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 15 Board of Finance 5:30 PM, Town Hall
- 16 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 23 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall

OCTOBER

- 5 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 5 Inland Wetlands Comm. 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 11 Columbus Day ***Town Hall Closed***
- 12 Board of Selectmen 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 21 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 21 Board of Trustees 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 28 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall

For additional information and updates, please visit our website at www.bridgewater-ct.gov

FALL BULKY DROP OFF October 18 - 23



Congratulations
to Bridgewater's
Scholarship
Recipients!
See pages
5 & 17

Bridgewater Recreation News

Recreation News

Have questions about Bridgewater Recreation?
Contact Allison Gsell Bridgewater Recreation
Coordinator www.bridgewater-ct.gov
Email - bridgewaterpavilion@gmail.com
Cell - 203-417-0744 Office - 860-355-9133

Thank you to everyone who supported
Rec camp this summer! It was an
amazing turnout and fun was had by all!!

Mindful Moves Yoga

Held at the Friendship
Hall at Bridgewater
Congregational Church.

For more information on
classes
email Tanya at:
yoga.mindfulmoves@gmail.com



Pickle Ball

Mondays/Fridays 6 PM
Recreation Center tennis courts
All are welcome!



Pavilion Rentals



Thank you all for a full season of Pavilion
rentals. If you are interested in renting the
Pratt Pavilion please contact
bridgewaterpavilion@gmail.com.

Trunk Or Treat October 31st

Join in on the fun by
decorating your trunk and
giving out goodies to Trick-
Or-Treaters. Register at
Town Hall. Prizes
awarded!



The Bridgewater Recreation Commission

Eric Soetbeer - *Chairman*
Roberta Allen - *Secretary*
Josh Murphy
Lynn Kubisek
Jim Moker
Christian Stuart
Mike Dubos
Allison Gsell - *Recreation Coordinator*

The Bridgewater Recreation Commission is working hard to bring fun filled activities to all the residents of Bridgewater. Our newsletter is now incorporated into "Our Town" and programs will be announced through town email blasts, the town website and the town calendar. If you have any ideas, feedback or suggestions, please let us know. Thank you for your continued support of our programs.

All Bridgewater Residents and Tractor Enthusiasts are Invited to

The Bridgewater Tractor Parade

You don't have to have a tractor to participate...
decorate your mule, gator, or golf cart and join
the fun! Floats are the highlight of the parade
and are eligible for special awards!

Sunday, September 5th



Line up at 1:30 p.m. at Shallow Brook Farm, Bridgewater
Parade starts at 2:30 p.m. Spectators welcome on Main Street.
Music, awards and barbecue at Pratt Pavilion
after parade. BYOB!

Many thanks to
Sunny Meadow Farm
and Union Savings Bank
for sponsoring this event



Many thanks to the
Town of Bridgewater and
Bill Stuart of Shallow Brook
Farm for supporting this event