



OUR TOWN

BRIDGEWATER
Connecticut

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, CT

FEBRUARY 2023

INSIDE

Page

8



Town Clean Up

Page

11

Boards & Brews

Page

14



Page

17



BCC Tag Sale

Message from Our First Selectman

I spotted a large map on the wall in Newtown Town Hall recently: Clark & Tackabury's New Topographical Map of the State of Connecticut (1860). It showed where hat factories, tanneries, sawmills, etc. were located amongst Bridgewater hills and watercourses. To my surprise, up in the town's northeast corner along Second Hill Brook there was a notation for "Beer Manf" (see page 2). Eureka! CT's first micro-brewery in our formerly "dry" town!

That wet my whistle to go back in time when Bridgewater split from New Milford (1856), when The Civil War was on the horizon, and our first benefactor arrived in town as a four-year old. If you are guessing Captain Burnham, you are correct.

My recent dive into Bridgewater history has led to places and people who would have faded from collective memory had not past residents, writers and artists taken the time to decode our town's transition from an agrarian self-sufficient society to where we are today. There exists a cache of documentation at the newly vibrant Bridgewater Historical Society, Town Hall and the Burnham Library to help anyone delve into some fascinating history.

My research corresponds to the historically accurate rebuilding of "The Captain's House" now in progress. The site is almost exactly where the building has been since 1961 when it was moved from Keeler Road. Before that, it was moved from the Center Cemetery land in 1895.

William Dickson Burnham was born in 1847 and lived in the Captain's House for perhaps one year while a permanent house was constructed on Main Street in 1851. His family moved into their new home, living there until 1860, when they moved to Sharon. Shortly thereafter, William "ran off to sea" to work on clipper ships and eventually steamships. He became a Captain and was instrumental in forming the American-Hawaiian Steamship Co. in 1900. He was Head of Operations for the company that eventually had a fleet of over 50 modern craft carrying trade in both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

The Captain was a well-read and wealthy man when he retired in 1917 as WWI began. He often traveled back to Bridgewater, his idyllic boyhood home. He died in 1919 as a widower and without children leaving the bulk of his estate (\$200,000 est.) to Bridgewater for the purpose of establishing educational opportunities that led to building Burnham Library (1926) and Burnham School (1929). He also directed monies "for the benefit and relief of the poor." One could rightly argue that Captain Burnham's legacy is a living testament lasting over a century.

We are hoping that the new Captain's House will celebrate his life and times with an exhibit that can capture the imagination of young and old alike, and place Captain Burnham in the historical context he deserves. Come by Town Hall or the Library when you get a chance to see a portrait of this fine fellow.

Thanks for following me down this rabbit hole and appreciating our lovely town.

Curtis S. Read, First Selectman

LAND TRANSFERS

Land Transfers: October 2022

- Frederick and Linda Farewell to Phil and Leslie Granger, land and buildings, 152 Main Street South, \$690,000
- Sandra Welwood to Christopher and Andrea Cassel and Kevin Lubanski, land and buildings, 107 Curtis Road, \$430,000

Land Transfers: November 2022

- Estate of David Davison to Douglas and Michelle Dunleavy, land and buildings, 25 Canfield Drive, \$415,000
- Maura J. Garych to Joshua and Karen Heimann, land and buildings, 166 Christian Street, \$1,515,000

Land Transfers: December 2022

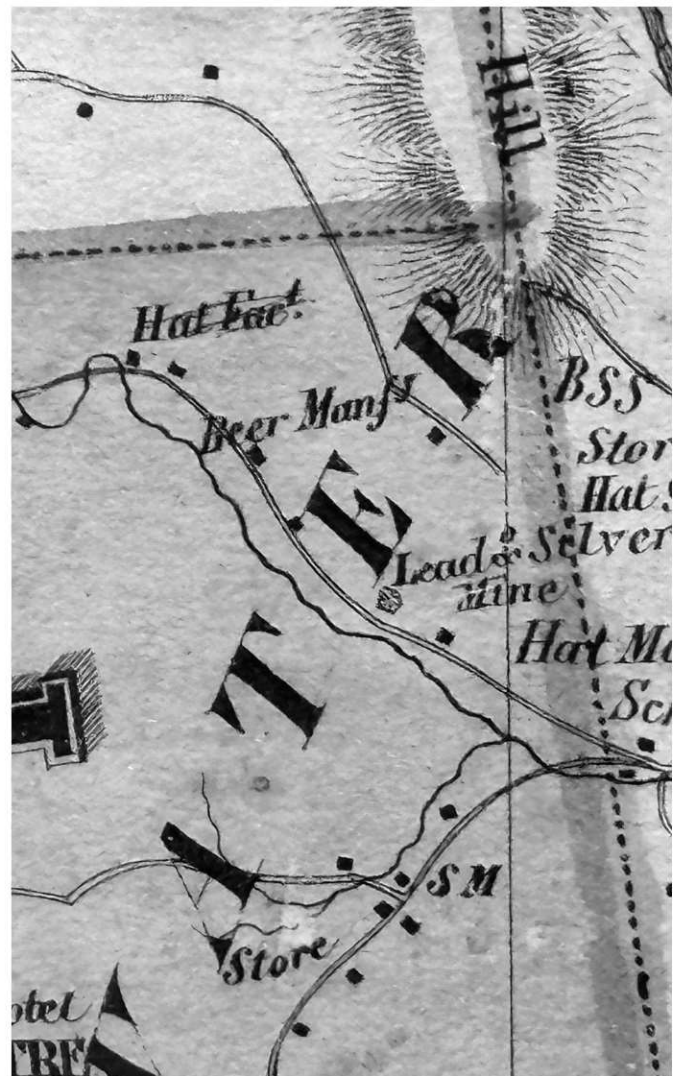
- Mark Morril and Marilyn Greenberg to Burch and Rachelle LaPrade, land and buildings, 163 Clatter Valley Road, \$1,070,000
- Albert and Debra Voytek to William New and Helaina Buzzeo, land and buildings, 160 Keeler Road, \$550,000
- Albert Voytek to William New and Helaina Buzzeo, land and buildings, 168 Keeler Road, \$225,000

ATTEST:
Cheryl L. Pinkos, Town Clerk



Bridgewater Brewery?

Take a close look at this old Bridgewater map and you will see a reference to Beer Manufacturing!



ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

The following programs are available to the residents of Bridgewater, CT:

Taxpayers who are **65 or older or totally disabled** on or before December 31, 2022 and are full-time residents may be eligible for tax relief under the Homeowners program. To qualify for the **State** benefit, your income must be no more than \$40,300 if unmarried and \$49,100 if married, including Social Security. For the **Local** benefit, your income must be \$16,000 or under, not including Social Security. The application period starts **February 1, 2023, and must be received in the Assessor's office by May 15, 2023.**

If you are a **Veteran** or surviving spouse of a veteran and would like to apply for benefits, you must file your proof of honorable discharge (DD-214) with the Town Clerk's office by September 30, 2023.

If you are a **Veteran or surviving spouse of a Veteran** and your income is \$40,300 or under if single and \$49,100 or under if married (not including your Veteran's disability payments) you may qualify for an Additional Veteran's Exemption.

If you are a Veteran's Administration designated Disabled Veteran, you may qualify for other programs. Please speak to the Assessor about the various Veterans programs. We appreciate your service and want to make sure you are receiving the full benefit to which you are entitled.

If you know of a resident of Bridgewater who is an Active-Duty Serviceman with a Motor vehicle registered in Bridgewater, please contact our office, as they may qualify for a total tax exemption of his or her vehicle. Applications are available in the Assessor's office or at our town wide website: www.bridgewater-ct.gov.

The **Board of Assessment Appeals** will be meeting by appointment only in March to hear disputes on Real Estate assessments for the 2022 Grand list and Motor Vehicles on the 2021 Supplemental list. Applications are available in the Assessor's office or online at our town website: www.bridgewater-ct.gov. The applications are due in the office by February 20, 2023. Once all the applications are in, you will be notified of the date and time of your hearing in March.

My assistant of 20 years, **Terri DeVito**, is retiring at the end of January. I appreciate her dedication to her job, her friendship, and fun-loving humor. Please welcome my new assistant, **Bruce Parker**, next time you come to Town Hall.

If you have any questions, please contact the Assessor's office at (860) 355-9379 or dpinter@bridgewater-ct.gov. Our hours of business are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8am until 12:30pm, Tuesday 8am until 3:30pm.

Sincerely,
Denise C. Pinter Assessor

The Bridgewater Scholarship Commission

With every end, comes a new beginning. The New Year is all about dreaming big, setting goals, and seizing opportunities as they present themselves. As we welcome in 2023, The Bridgewater Scholarship Committee wishes our students engaging educational experiences and great success in the Spring semester.

Before long, the scholarship process for the 2023-2024 academic year will take place. The application process has a few changes this year. The deadline to submit applications (with or without transcripts) is now **May 1**. This is two weeks earlier than it has been in the past. No applications will be accepted after May 1. Eligibility requirements may be found at www.bridgewater-ct.gov/bridgewater-scholarship-committee. In addition to completed applications and transcripts, proof of Bridgewater residency and the SAR (Student Aid Report) Acknowledgment Letter for 2022-2023, page 1, showing your name and EFC (Estimated Family Contribution) must accompany the application. We hope to have in-person interviews this year. These have been scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., Thursday, May 18, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., Saturday May 20, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., and Tuesday, May 23, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Interview signups may be scheduled online or at the Town Hall.

Opportunities await all of us in the year ahead. If you are interested in making a difference in the life of one of our young people, the Bridgewater Scholarship Committee offers opportunities for those who might consider being a mentor or one-time advisor to a college-aged student. For more information, please contact lenary1@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Neary, Chairman

Office of the Tax Collector

LAST DAY TO PAY WITHOUT PENALTY
FEBRUARY 1, 2023

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the Town of Bridgewater that the second installment of property taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2021 became due on January 1, 2023. **Payments must be received or postmarked by February 1, 2023 to avoid an interest penalty.**

Also due on January 1 is the Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax (vehicles newly registered after October 1, 2021 and before September 30, 2022). Supplemental tax bills were mailed in December.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or interest.

PAYMENTS may be mailed to: Tax Collector, P.O. Box 171, Bridgewater, CT 06752. E-checks and credit card payments are also accepted but are subject to a processing fee, with a minimum fee of \$2. Online tax payments may be made at www.mytaxbill.net/bridgewater.

DOING YOUR STATE/FEDERAL TAXES? Payment history reports can be generated via the town's website. Please visit the Tax Collector's page at www.bridgewater-ct.gov and follow directions carefully.

DMV NEWS: Get out of line by going online! Visit the DMV website at www.ct.gov/dmv. Check the status of your license and registration; check property tax, insurance, emissions and other compliance issues; pay infractions online; cancel or renew registrations, and more.

If the address on your motor vehicle bill is wrong, it is your responsibility to change it with the Department of Motor Vehicles. Our office cannot change the DMV record. A lot of effort is wasted on redirecting bills that are sent to the wrong town year after year.

TAX ALERTS: Would you like to receive an email alert that an installment is due? Sign up through the link provided on the town website.

In person Collection Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-12:30 pm and Tuesday 8:00-3:30 pm.

Catherine B. Vikstrom, Tax Collector
Ann Virbickas, Assistant to Tax Collector



REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Our office in Town Hall is open the first
and third Tuesday of every month
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Theresa Angell, Republican Registrar
Denise Valeri, Democratic Registrar



VETERANS' NEWS

2023 VA Benefit Payment Rates Increase: The Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for VA disability compensation benefits programs became effective on December 1, 2022. The 8.7% COLA increase is for the calendar year 2023. Veterans and beneficiaries receiving VA disability compensation will notice an increase in their monthly payments, starting January 1, 2023. This annual increase impacts disability benefits, clothing allowance, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), as well as other VA assistance programs. If you do not see a difference in the amount you receive today, you should contact the VA regional office at 860-666-7342555 to discuss or set up an appointment. The office is located at 555 Willard Ave, Newington, CT 06111, and is open Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4pm.

Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act: The Department of Veterans Affairs announced it will begin processing PACT Act benefits claims for eligible terminally ill Veterans.

While VA does not have the authorities or capabilities to begin fully processing PACT Act claims for all other Veterans until Jan. 1, 2023, VA was able to expedite processing for terminally ill Veterans to Dec. 12. This ensures terminally ill Veterans will receive their earned benefits and health care on the earliest possible date. "These Veterans have stepped up to serve our country in the times when we needed them most - and now it's our job to step up for them," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "It's the right thing to do to get these heroes the world-class health care and benefits they've earned as soon as possible, and that's exactly what we're going to do." Jan. 1, 2023, VA will continue to prioritize the processing of PACT Act claims for terminally ill Veterans. At that point, VA will also prioritize PACT Act claims filed by Veterans with cancer, Veterans experiencing homelessness, Veterans older than 85 years old, Veterans experiencing financial hardship and Medal of Honor and Purple Heart recipients. Visit va.gov/PACT for more information. If Veterans, their families, caregivers or survivors have questions about PACT Act and wish to speak with someone to help, call 1-800-MyVA411 at any time.

The Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282 | S. 344): This is a major initiative by veterans groups that would allow combat-injured veterans to receive both DoD retirement pay and VA disability pay without a dollar-for-dollar offset. It has grown to 227 co-sponsors in the House of Representatives and 58 in the Senate as of this writing. Reaching 290 in the House remains the goal. If you get a chance, please write or call your representatives to support this effort.

Veterans Memorial Commission (Update): The commission continues to meet monthly at Town Hall. On January 25, 2023, we will meet at 11 AM on the Town Green to review the architectural planning and lay out plywood images to gain a perspective of the project. All are welcome to join us.

Flag Etiquette: Please remember to display your flags with the dignity and honor they deserve. Flags should be lighted if left flying overnight. They should never touch the ground and no flag should be raised above them. Some flags around town are in poor shape. Please remove and/or replace them.

Flag Disposal: Please call or email me below if you would like to properly dispose of your flag. I will pick them up or you can leave them with Anne Marie at Town Hall and I will collect them.

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

SHEPAUG VALLEY SCHOOL



Region 12 Schools

I am thrilled to join Region 12 as the new Superintendent of schools. One can feel the energy and excitement throughout the district. As we embark on the new year, it is a pleasure to share that teachers are reporting that schools are recapturing the feeling of the pre-pandemic years. The richness of deep discussion is returning to our classrooms along with those audible "aha" moments as teams of students unlock new discoveries during hands-on learning experiences. As a Superintendent, I am keen to listen closely for the sounds of learning as I visit schools, and there is a crescendo of re-energized learning that is audible in all corners of Region 12.

The holiday season was particularly joyous in Region 12, and our entire school community shared fun and festivities. Shepaug's choral and band holiday concerts delighted audiences that nearly mirrored pre-Covid attendance numbers. Burnham Chorus students performed at the town's tree-lighting event with songs for families and community members. Shepaug students held the annual Holiday Bazaar, transforming the mall into a winter wonderland. The Agriscience program hosted its first annual holiday sale. Students sold trees, cemetery boxes, wreaths, hot cocoa, poinsettias, and baked goods. Don't miss next year's sale, as it promises to be even bigger and better!

In addition to seasonal songs and sales, I found the District's commitment to community service particularly inspiring. Elementary schools held dress-down days, coat drives, and food collections to raise money and collect much-needed resources for those in need. Burnham students joined elementary students across the state in a pajama day to help fund pediatric cancer treatments at CT Children's Hospital and donated \$185 to the cause. Shepaug held a school-wide event called Shepaug Cares, where students engaged in service projects that they had been designing through the advisory program. Projects included making cards for the armed services, creating blankets for animals in shelters, crafting decorations for senior living centers, and making sandwiches for those in need, in addition to many other projects.

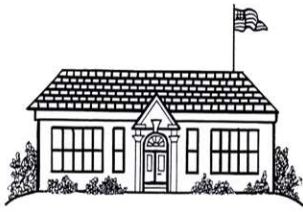
During this holiday season, our elementary students also learned about cultures and holidays from around the globe. For example, this year, Burnham students explored the traditions of Hanukkah through literature, art, music, and interactive activities.

There is no question that Burnham's vibrant and joyful environment, motivated students, inspiring teachers, and stellar Principal are the ingredients to the school's success. The tradition of excellence continues as Burnham rates as the #5 elementary school in Litchfield County and one of the best in Connecticut.

We are grateful to the entire Bridgewater community for its tremendous support for Burnham School and Region 12. The commitment to exceptional education is responsible for outstanding schools that serve as the bedrock of our community while unlocking limitless opportunities for the children they educate.

Dr. Marc J. Gosselin Jr.
Superintendent of Schools





Burnham School PTO NEWS

The holiday season kicked off with the return of The Burnham School's Annual Harvest Gathering! The Burnham School PTO and Burnham families donated \$125 in Big Y Gift Cards to the Bridgewater Food Pantry and presented our Bus Drivers with beautiful gift baskets in appreciation for all they do. The holidays also saw the return of the Burnham School PTO Wreaths & Wine Event - a wonderful night of wreath making and holiday cheer. Big thanks to Sunny Meadow Farm and all of the many sponsors who helped to make this event so special. Thank you to all who attended and supported these events!

The Burnham School PTO is also excited to announce a new Enrichment Program this year for our third, fourth and fifth graders - a service learning trip to The Prospector Theater in Ridgefield, CT! The Prospector Theater is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to providing competitive and integrated employment to people with disabilities through the operation of a premium, first-run movie theater. The Prospector Theater helps their employees - 74% of which self-identify with a disability - to transform their passions into professions. Our 3-4-5 students will learn how there are unique and special things about everyone and in order to be inclusive, we must take the time to really get to know them. If any community member(s) would like to help sponsor this trip, please contact us at BurnhamSchoolPTO@gmail.com.

Stayed tuned for the following events coming up in 2023:

- Bingo Night: Get your chips and daubers ready for Bingo Night, coming soon!
- BSPTO Annual Read-A-Thon: March 2023 - Consider sponsoring a Burnham student for our main Spring fundraiser this year!

Check out the Burnham School PTO website and our Facebook page for more information on these exciting events: burnhamschoolpto.weebly.com

Other easy ways to support the Burnham School PTO today:

- Amazon: www.smile.amazon.com/ch/26-0011749
- Box Tops are still being collected and returned to the school
- Online Donation: <https://burnhamschoolpto.weebly.com/support>

Thank you for your continued support!
Kindly submitted by, The Burnham School PTO

Persbacker Family College Scholarships Available for Bridgewater Students

Apply by March 15 through Connecticut Community Foundation

WATERBURY—The Persbacker Family Scholarship Fund at Connecticut Community Foundation has college scholarships available for Bridgewater, Connecticut students for the 2023-24 academic year. Students who have resided in Bridgewater for at least six years and who have an outstanding record of community service in the town are encouraged to apply by March 15. Previous recipients who seek to renew their scholarship awards must apply by February 15.

Former Bridgewater resident Victor L. Persbacker established the scholarship fund at the Foundation to help make college more affordable for students dedicated to community service.

Interested students may apply online for the Persbacker Family Scholarship using the “special scholarship” form at conncf.org/apply-for-scholarships/.

First-time applicants are asked to provide two letters from non-school individuals attesting to their community service in Bridgewater and an essay which speaks to the service.

The Foundation awards hundreds of college scholarships each year from many different funds made possible by generous donors like Victor Persbacker. Visit www.conncf.org/scholarships to learn about them all and how to apply.



The Bridgewater Land Trust

The Bridgewater Land Trust expects to have a very busy and exciting year ahead. We are tremendously grateful for the enthusiastic support we received from our members and the community in 2022. This support has allowed us to advance our mission at a pace we didn't think possible.

The stewardship of our land and buildings will continue to be a priority. In the past two years, we have invested over \$60,000 in repairs to our barns at the Town Line Farm Preserve. We plan to implement more improvements at both farms (Town Line and Jane Pratt) that include repairing fences, continuing general maintenance and addressing the deck at the Town Line Farm Preserve. We will also be rerouting and improving our public trail on Town Line Road. Our new trail network, called Tappen Brook Trails, will be ready for hiking this spring with a formal opening and celebration scheduled for late September.

We have also been in discussion with a number of property owners interested in preserving their land. One option, called a Conservation Easement, is described in detail on the next page. There are now funds available through the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) to help with the transaction costs associated with protecting land through these types of conservation restrictions.

Our lineup of events this winter and spring includes:

- A program in February co-sponsored by the Burnham Library called "Follow The Forest," which explores how wildlife is migrating through Bridgewater and how we can help protect them.
- An art contest with Burnham students featuring forests and wildlife.
- A Townwide Cleanup on April 22nd.

Help keep our town CLEAN and GREEN!

BRIDGEWATER TOWN CLEANUP

Green Bridgewater Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 22nd (rain date is April 23). Stop by the town green between 10 AM-2 PM to pick up supplies to cleanup litter along the roads of Bridgewater. The Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA) in partnership with the Bridgewater Land Trust will provide, bags, gloves and safety vest for volunteers.

There's more - In an effort to make clean up more fun we are "littering" the town with prizes. While cleaning up your street you might be a lucky winner. More details will be shared when you pick up your supplies on the Green.

Saturday, April 22nd, 2023
10 AM to 2 PM



Questions?
Email: Jennifer@HRRRA.org or julie@bridgewaterlandtrust.org
More information about the event is available at www.HRRRA.org

The 2023 Give Local campaign will be held on April 25 - 26. For those not familiar, this on-line giving event is for all local non-profits who choose to participate. It is the perfect time to join or renew your Land Trust membership as donations are boosted by the Connecticut Community Foundation. **Plus, due to the generosity of longtime Bridgewater resident Chris Amorossi, we have a matching challenge. Chris will match donations up to \$20,000!** She is dedicating this match in memory of her late husband Butch Thompson. This is an incredible opportunity to help advance our mission. More information will follow.

If you would like to receive our monthly E-Newsletters please let me know:
julie@bridgewaterlandtrust.org

Many thanks for your continued support,
Julie Stuart, *Executive Director*
The Bridgewater Land Trust



Conservation Easements

The Bridgewater Land Trust is often asked by homeowners how to conserve their property. One way is to place the land under a conservation easement. Currently the BWLT oversees 10 easements totaling 120 acres.

What is a conservation easement?

A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust to permanently restrict use of the land in order to protect its conservation values. The landowner continues to own and manage the land in accordance to the agreed upon terms. The landowner may sell or pass on the conserved land, which retains the conservation easement forever. The land trust assumes long term responsibility for monitoring the property annually and ensures that the terms of the easement are observed.

Why conserve?

Landowners may choose to conserve their land for a variety of reasons, including to protect land from development, to enhance wildlife habitat, to continue farming for generations, and to benefit the environment and community.

How does an easement work?

There are several steps in the process these include having a survey to delineate the easement boundaries, deciding what rights the owner wishes to retain, documenting the conservation values and the current condition of the land, and obtaining an appraisal to determine the value of the relinquished development rights. This value may allow the homeowner to claim an income tax deduction and estate tax benefits if the easement is donated or sold below market value. The owner may continue to use the land as long as the terms of the easement are met. A conservation easement does not allow public access to the land. The land trust will visit the property roughly once per year to make sure the terms are met.

Landowners who chose a conservation easement have one thing in common: they love their land and want it to stay protected forever. It allows landowners to sell their land or pass it on to their heirs, without worrying about future development. It creates a lasting legacy.



Thank You To All The Bridgewater Land Trust 2022 Volunteers

BWLT Board of Directors

Ed Franklin
Russell Marcus
Jean Robinson
Joe Wilcox
Peg Toledo
Andrew Smith
Rob Shaver
Christian Feuer
Ted Alt

Colin Brown
Nick Brown
Katherine Burke
Larina Cipolla
Kathy Creighton
Jamie Curren
Marilyn Curtin
Connor Dillon
Joe Dolen
James Dowling-Ukers
Carolann Dwyer
Lanie Flanagan
Bob Flanagan
Cynthia Feuer
Sharon Gawe

Tanya Goodman
Henry Gsell
Jen Heaton-Jones
Monsie Hobbs
Kevin Hobbs
Christine Jerry
Pierce Johnson
Eliot Johnson
Jeff Jones
Frank Kelly
Lynn Kubisek
Mae Orkisz
Dennis MacDonald
Jo Mayer
Rebecca Mayerson

Tom Presby
Tyler Petrucci
Curtis Read
Ron Seger
Molly Smith
AJ Souza
Bill Stuart Jr.
Bill Stuart Sr.
Christian Stuart
Will Stuart
Decio Tenreiro
Walter Von Egidy
Susan Wilcox
Bud Wright



Est. 1926

**BURNHAM
LIBRARY**

— Where Community Connects

Burnham Library

Where Community Connects

February, March, April 2023

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

Visit us Tuesday - Friday 10:00 - 5:00 and Saturday 9:00 - 1:00

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

We are now Fine Free!

Beginning on January 1, 2023, the Burnham Library will no longer charge late fines on books and other circulating materials. Studies have shown that fines do not actually deter people from returning items late, but late fines can stop people from using the library. It is important to us that everyone in our community has the same access to our materials, resources, and services.

This doesn't mean that you don't have to return your items! The library still has due dates and will automatically extend renewals if no one else is waiting for the item. If an item is lost or damaged, a replacement fee will be added to your account.

The Fine Free movement is growing in the library world and has been adopted by many local libraries. Currently there are more than 115 fine-free libraries in Connecticut. Cheers to Fine Free in 2023! For more information, visiting burnhamlibrary.org/fine-free or stop in for a chat.

Programs and Events

Winter Reading BINGO - January 3 - February 28

Beat away the winter blues with a fun game of all-ages Reading BINGO! Stop by (or download) your BINGO card between January 3 - February 28. Fill any four spaces by reading or completing other fun activities. Turn in your card by March 4 for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon Card. That's it! Easy peasy! Winners will be chosen and contacted on March 7. Visit burnhamlibrary.org/winter-reading-bingo for more details or to download a BINGO card.

Visit your three Region 12 libraries -- Burnham Library, Minor Memorial Library, and Gunn Library -- for a variety of events, art shows, and collaborative programming. There is something for everyone!

Visit www.burnhamlibrary.org/events to register for programs and for the most update-to-date information on Burnham Library events. Email jkallay@burnhamlibrary.org for questions or further information.

10 Tips for Managing Stress and Improving our Mental Health - Thursday, Feb. 2, 6:00 - 7:00

Join Dr. Wendy Hurwitz as she gives us 10 tips to managing stress and improving our mental health. Stress happens to all of us. Up to 90% of all visits to the doctor's office are stress-related, according to Harvard. Stress can be considered as much a risk factor for disease as smoking. Whatever your age or situation, this presentation will provide 10 tips to manage stress. Everyone will earn a technique to minimize stress and maximize vitality. Registration required.

Pop-up Book & Bake Sale - Saturday, Feb. 11, 9:30 - 12:30

Drop in for the best deal in town for like-new books, DVDs, and puzzles. The Junior Friends of the Library will be on hand selling Valentine's Day treats with proceeds to benefit teen programs and services.

Follow the Forest: Help to Protect our Wildlife - Thursday, Feb. 23, 5:30 - 6:30

In collaboration with the Bridgewater Land Trust

Join host Julie Rogers from the HVA and learn how and where wildlife are migrating through Bridgewater, the barriers that hurt safe passage, and how we can protect them. Registration is required with the Bridgewater Land Trust, email julie@bridgewaterlandtrust.org

Burnham Library, cont.

Boards and Brews - Friday, Feb. 24, 6:00 - 8:00

Tabletop games, snacks, and libations are on the menu! Join friends, new and old, for a board gaming event. All levels of board gaming expertise are welcome and feel free to bring your favorite game to share. Beverage and snacks Pot Luck. Ages 21+

Hoopskirts to Flappers with the Connecticut Historical Society - Thursday, March 9, 6:00

A woman born in 1850 who lived for 80 years would have seen fashion change dramatically in her lifetime. This program will walk you through the CHS Costume and Textile collection to see how women's clothing transitioned from the iron reign of the hoopskirt to the relative freedom of the flapper dress. Registration is required.

Skills Café Burnham Library is THE place to learn a new skill!

Saturday, March 18 from 1:00 - 2:30 **Zentangle Workshop** with Kathy Philips

Explore the world of Zentangle, a spiritual art practice that enhances mindfulness and self-awareness, decreases stress, and calms the mind. Tangles are created on small 3 ½ " tiles using a special black drawing pen. No talent or experience is needed. Ages 10 and older are welcome. Registration required.

Saturday, April 22 from 1:00 - 2:00 **Beginner Knitting** with Lisa Lau and Catherine Flynn

No experience needed to learn the basics of knitting. Supplies will be provided. Registration required.

Virtual Book Discussions - All are welcome to join in the lively monthly discussion via Zoom. Email Catherine Flynn at cwflynn60@gmail.com to register or for further information. Copies of each selection will be available at the library or request curbside pick-up.

February 22 Captured: The Corporate Infiltration of American Democracy by Sheldon Whitehouse

March 22 Horse by Geraldine Brooks

April 26 The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

Art @ the Burnham Library

Visit and view during library hours

February 1 - March 18 **"Beautiful Bridgewater" Photography** by local resident, Maureen McCauley.

Opening reception, Sunday, February 5, 3:00 - 5:00.

March 21 - April 29 **New works in oils and enamels** by local resident, Walter VonEgidy. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, March 26, 3:00 - 5:00.

Youth Programs in the Susie Beris MD Youth Learning Center

Advanced registration is required with lambruso@burnhamlibrary.org. Burnham School students will be escorted to the library by a member of the BL team for after school programs. Homeschoolers are welcome! *Visit the website for a complete listing of youth events ...*

Dinos and Donuts - Saturday, Feb. 4 from 10:00 - 12:00

Join us for the 12th annual Take Your Child to the Library Day -- a nationwide celebration of children and libraries. All ages are welcome to snack on some donuts, participate in dinosaur themed activities, and borrow some books! With a special guest appearance by Trip the father of 'Tops the SBYLC mascot!! No registration needed. Email lambruso@burnhamlibrary.org for questions.

Family Playdoh Party! - Saturday, March 18 from 10:00 - 12:00

Who doesn't LOVE Playdoh? We'll provide the dough and the tools, you just need to bring your imagination. All ages invited. No registration needed.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Beginning this January, families are invited to join the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program - a nationwide challenge that encourages parents and caregivers to regularly read aloud to their children. By reading just one book a night, families can reach the 1000-book goal in three years and provide their children essential early literacy skills. The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program is free and available to all families with children between ages of birth and five years. Registration is now open. For more information, email lambruso@burnhamlibrary.org or visit our website burnhamlibrary.org/1000books.

EMERGENCY SERVICES



Bridgewater EMS Update

At the start of the New Year many of us set goals and make resolutions aimed at living life better. Diet and exercise are frequently featured in our plans. But, by the time February comes around, it is not uncommon to find that our motivation is starting to slip a bit. No matter what kind of weather is coming our way, it is certain that we will all be thinking about hearts during the month of February. After all, isn't that what Valentine's Day is all about? Why not take this opportunity to get back to those goals you set for yourself when the year began?

The leading cause of death in the United States is heart disease. The American Heart Association reports that winter holidays and cold weather bring more heart attack deaths than any other time of the year. Vigorous outdoor activity in cold weather can subject the cardiovascular system to significant stress. It is important to learn the heart attack warning signs and listen to your body. Don't wait to get help if you experience heart attack warning signs. Common heart attack warning signs include: chest pain/discomfort, lightheadedness, nausea or vomiting, jaw, neck or back pain, discomfort or pain in arm or shoulder, shortness of breath. If you experience these symptoms, call 911 without delay. For more information about heart health please visit the website of the American Heart Association at www.heart.org.

Although most of us are more than ready to stop thinking about Covid 19, now is not the time to do that. The CDC has rated the Litchfield County Covid 19 Community Level as HIGH. Danbury and New Milford Hospital have each reported a significant increase in patients infected with the virus. Cases with patients suffering from Flu and/or RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) are also surging. Doctors in Yale have referred to this surge as a "tripledeemic." Our hospitals are doing an excellent job of accommodating demand for their services. But the increase in demand for hospital beds has resulted in delayed availability for some patients. We each need to do our part in helping to lower the risk of spreading the virus. As the virus spreads it also mutates. Dr. Murray from Yale Medicine says, "If you have any symptoms, you really should not congregate with others. But if you insist, wear a mask and segregate yourself during activities such as eating, when you can't be masked." For your own sake and the well-being of your friends and loved ones it is important to make sure you are up to date on vaccinations and

boosters. It is also important to avoid contact with people who have suspected or confirmed Covid 19. Be aware that many people who are out and about thinking that they "have a cold" are actually spreading Covid 19. Do not be one of those people. Please be considerate of others. I do not think that any of us wants to be the one responsible for spreading the virus to our families, friends or neighbors.

As always, on behalf of the Bridgewater Emergency Medical Services team I want to assure you that we greatly appreciate the privilege and trust that is implicit in your willingness to call us when you have a medical emergency. You can be sure that we will always do our best to deliver you the very best care possible

Jim McNulty, NREMT
EMS Coordinator
The Bridgewater Fire Department Inc
jamesmcnulty@nremt.com



BFD Women's Auxiliary

The Bridgewater Fire Department's Women's Auxiliary meets the third (3rd) Monday of each month. The 2023 year will begin with our installation of officers on March 20th. Listed are this year's board:

- President - Ann Frattalone
- Vice-president - Courtney Wilson
- Secretary - Michelle Stietzel
- Treasurer - Carol Wilbur
- Membership - Laura Abbott
- Hospitality - Michele King

Our Scholarship Committee will meet in early May. All eligible seniors can find our scholarship forms in the Guidance office. To qualify, students must be the child of a member or be an active junior member of the Fire Department. Please complete all forms on time!!

Preparations are already beginning for our 70th Fair in 2023. We will be at the Cake Wheel and the Watering Hole. Volunteers are always welcome.

September 16th is our Annual Beer & Wine tasting.

The Auxiliary always welcomes new members, please join us as we support are wonderful Volunteer Fire Department!

Ann Frattalone
President

Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department

Hello Bridgewater,

As we enter the winter of 2023, we have been spared, so far, the cold snow and the unmentionable ice. We will see what the rest of winter brings. In February and March, ice will form on lakes, ponds, and streams. Hopefully, the ice fisherman will have a chance to catch the "big one" and the ice skaters will be able to dance. Use caution! Make sure the ice is sound and safe. Never go out alone on ice and always let others know you are out there. Dress appropriately and be prepared.

Check out CT GOV Ice Safety. It is great resource to familiarize yourself with some safety tips and guidance.

In the past couple weeks, we had some rain and windstorms. Numerous trees and roads were closed for downed power lines and unpassable conditions. Our members were out all times of the day and night to barricade roads. Please respect the road closures. We do this for your safety. If the caution tape is up or the barricade is there, find an alternate route and do not scoot under or around safety measures. You do not know if the downed power line is live or not. The Department will notify Eversource, and they do their best to restore power and clean up the mess. Our members work well with the Town Crew. We cannot say enough about them.

We have been busy at the fire house. Currently, members are painting. The floors are being redone with epoxy coatings, which is a much-needed upgrade among some other winter projects. We received some good feedback about the banner in front of the fire house and the e-mails regarding membership. A couple applications have passed across my desk and we are excited to have new members join.

On behalf of BVFD, we wish you all a safe and Happy New Year.

John Stietzel, Chief
Bridgewater Fire Department
chief@bvfd.org

GIVE LOCAL
Greater Waterbury and Litchfield Hills

April 25-26, 2023

PRESENTING SPONSOR: **ion**
BANK foundation

LEARN MORE

Historical Society News

The Captain's House

The Captain's House, now under construction, has a long and storied history. The building is named after Captain William Burnham, the benefactor who provided funds for the construction of the



The Captain's House before demolition

Burnham library and the Burnham School. It is likely that he only lived in the house for a few months in 1851 when he was four years old. The origins of the building go back to 1810. Since then, the building has passed through many owners and three locations. At various times the building was used for a farm dairy, feed storage, and tool storage. The building was donated to the Bridgewater Historical Society by Augustus and Barbara Southworth in 1956, and it was moved to its current location in 1961. In the year 2000, the interior of the Captain's house was furnished with artifacts from the Old General Store including the old Post Office front and black stove. The upstairs contained an exhibit of small tools used by the early farming community.



John Galligan, builder and the Town Crew help reconstruct the Captain's House



From The Desk of the Town Historian

Many cultures celebrate the New Year with a thorough house cleaning. When Joe was on active duty, moving house came with the change of seasons, so I wasn't a "hoarder." Now, more than 30 years later, I can see how that happens. When my father-in-law moved into assisted living, we were tasked with clearing out his house for sale. It proved to be more than we were ready for, even with the help of a handy man and his two brothers.

My father-in-law saved everything. He seemed to specialize in recycling jars and bottles. It was dangerous to open a cabinet, for the avalanche that would pour out. After two weekends of hard slog, we were finally ready for the agent to put the "for sale" sign out front. That experience taught me an important lesson- not everything is worth saving. I made a promise to myself not to "inflict" the same task on my own children when my time comes. Every month, I tackle a closet, dresser or box and clear out as much as possible. Somehow, just attacking one thing makes the job less onerous. It gives me the chance to remember times past, save a few memories and pare down the pile. Anyone out there want some John Travolta dancing shirts?

Many good wishes for this new year. Go clean a closet, but save the best memories for another day!

- Eileen Buchheit



BRIDGEWATER HILLTOP CENTER NEWS

Make the Hilltop Center Your Place to Connect with Others

The Hilltop Center is embracing the New Year with lots of new programs and activities. We want to say Thank You to our community for the continued support of our programs.

The Center offers ongoing programs as well as special monthly programs and educational presentations. Pre-registration is suggested as some programs have a limited capacity.

For the latest updates and news you will want to be on our email list. Give us a call at 860-355-3090 or email bwscseniorcenter@gmail.com and request that we add your name. Visit our website to view the current newsletter & calendar: bridgewater-ct.gov/hilltop-senior-center

UPCOMING PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPER CONCERT CLUB - Sunday, February 12 at 4:00
BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC - Tuesday, February 21, March 21 and April 18 at 1:00
BURNHAM LIBRARY PROGRAM - Tuesday, February 28 at 12:30
BINGO - Thursday, February 23, March 23 and April 20 at 1:00
GNOME POTS CRAFT - Monday, February 6 at 1:00
VALENTINE LUNCHEON & LIVE MUSIC - Thursday, February 9 at 12:00
BIRTHDAY SOCIAL - Thursday, February 16 at 1:00
GENEALOGY CLASS - Thursday, February 23 at 10:30
BINGO - Thursday, February 23 at 1:00
THE UNKNOWN GENIUS CREATIVE ABILITIES OF LEONARDO DA VINCI - Monday, February 27 at 1:00
AMERICAN COIN PICKER - Monday, March 13 at 1:00
ST. PATRICK LUNCHEON - Thursday, March 16 at 12:00
MIMI'S CUPCAKES - Monday, April 3 at 1:00

ONGOING PROGRAMS

- Body Conditioning Exercise: Monday 10:30 and Wednesday 11:30
- Social Services: Tuesday 9:00-12:00
- Computer Group: Tuesday 10:00
- Silver Needles: Tuesday 1:00
- Tai Chi: Wednesday 10:00
- Mahjong: Wednesday 1:00
- Rummikub: Friday 10:00
- Chair Yoga: Friday 10:30
- Canasta: Friday 1:00
- Breakfast Group: 1st Thursday of each month - reservation needed.
- Sunday Concert Club: One Sunday a month - check with center for dates
- 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: 4th Tuesday of each month at 12:30
- Massage: Twice a month, Wednesday at 1:00 - appointment needed.

BRIDGEWATER SENIOR VAN - The van is available weekdays for MD appointments, grocery shopping, senior center programs and special activities. The van has a limited destination distance of no more than 20 miles. Contact Ann Frattalone at 860-350-3042 at least 2 weeks in advance for an appointment. Transporting people that are well on a first come first serve basis.

Sending warm wishes and cheerful thoughts to brighten your day!

Patricia Babbage, Director

15 Our Town | February 2023



Community Caring in Bridgewater, Inc. (CCB)

Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Staying Healthy and Happy at Home

Annual Fund Raising Letter Response

Thank-you to everyone who made a contribution to CCB in response to our annual fundraising letter. The generosity of our Town residents is gratifying and greatly appreciated.

Fire Extinguisher Fire Safety Program

This Spring CCB will sponsor a fire safety program at the Fire Department. Among the areas to be covered will be deploying fire extinguishers. Safe disposal of fire extinguishers will also be covered. We will let you know the specific date once we have it on the calendar.

Emergency Assistance

If you or if you know a senior who is having issues with paying for food, utilities or other basic items, CCB has funds available to assist Bridgewater seniors who need immediate help with such purchases.

Board Members

Our current board members are Joe Buchheit, Nathaniel Cardonsky, Glen Hochstetter, Cheryl Johnson, Elizabeth MacDonald, Alex McNaughton, and Andrea Wilson. Our coordinator is Ashli Feather. If you have questions or request further information on CCB's program, please feel free to reach out to any one of us.

Contact Us

(All requests for help are handled in confidence.)

By Phone: 860-350-2194.

By Email: info@ccbridgewater.org

Literacy Volunteers On The Green

Happy New Year to our wonderful tutors, donors, a student and a dear member of our Board of Directors, each calling Bridgewater, Connecticut home!

Our winter semester is underway with renewed enthusiasm for adult literacy! Our 86 tutors are actively engaged with 185+ adult students. We are currently registering new students and planning a February new tutor training. Our 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.

Literacy programs include: English language learning, citizen preparation, family literacy, basic skills remediation in reading and writing, and offering English tutoring for families from Afghanistan and the Ukraine, settled in 2022 by Refugee Resettlement Groups in New Milford, Washington and Brookfield. Literacy Volunteers hosted a late November professional development day with 37 tutors in attendance enjoying the chance to gather in person and gain new ideas and tools to enhance their tutoring sessions. Each month, tutors meet via Zoom, connecting to share effective strategies for meaningful and relevant instruction for our adult learners.

Please consider impacting the lives of adult learners and their families by revitalizing the working lives of adults seeking English language proficiency. The next new tutor training will be held in February. 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

OUR CHURCHES



St. Marks Episcopal Church

February, March, April 2023

Sundays 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer.
Vestry meets on third Sunday of every month.
Beginning on Sunday, February 26th, the first Sunday of Lent, our new service start time is 10:00 AM.

February 22nd - ASH WEDNESDAY
Ashes will be given out - time TBA

Saturday March 11 St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner \$15 5-7 PM entertainment with Jim Moker and Jems. Take out available - reservations helpful. Call Carol Wilbur 203-648-3415 and leave message.

- April 2nd - PALM SUNDAY 10:00 AM Eucharist
- April 6th - MAUNDY THURSDAY
6 PM - Supper and Eucharist
- April 7th - GOOD FRIDAY TBA
- April 9th - EASTER SUNDAY
10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST & Coffee Hour

Date TBA (Probably April) 7th Annual Penny Auction
Doors open at 11 AM Lunch from 11:30 Numbers called at 1 PM

(Note: Because of the pandemic, we have no idea when - or even if - any of these events will take place. We are certain that the services will happen on ZOOM if not in the church but the dinner and penny auction may be canceled. To check the status, please phone the church at 860-354-8269

Bridgewater Congregational Holy Week & Easter Schedule



MAUNDY THURSDAY 4/6
7:30PM SANCTUARY



GOOD FRIDAY 4/7
TBA



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE 4/9
6AM BRIDGEWATER SENIOR CENTER



EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE 4/9
10AM SANCTUARY

We welcome you any time... "Come make a home with us." Hybrid Sunday Service and Sunday School @ 10 a.m. (virtual worship www.bwucc.org and click "Join Now"). Subscribe to our YouTube Channel @ Bridgewater Congregational Church. Worship is followed by fellowship and coffee hour in the Friendship Hall. All Are Welcome!

Coming Up At The Bridgewater Congregational Church

BWUCC Annual Tag Sale will be Saturday, April 29th 9am-3pm. Items to be donated may be dropped off for the tag sale starting Monday, April 10th. Thank you for your continued support of BWUCC!

For more information about any of these events please call the Church Office: 860-354-8283, visit us at www.bwucc.org, or email us at: office.bwucc@gmail.com

The church is located at the corner of Route 133 (Main Street) and Clapboard Road, in the center of Bridgewater. All are Welcome!

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES AT BCC

Come walk our Labyrinth: The labyrinth is located in our Meditation Garden to the right of our parking lot, and is a great place to find a moment of peace and to re-center oneself.

Community Prayer Box: BCC has a Community Prayer Box where anyone can anonymously leave a prayer request. These prayers will be lifted up in worship on Communion Sunday. The Prayer Box is located at the edge of the property, beside the stone wall on Clapboard Road.

Bridgewater Food Pantry: Many are struggling with the rise in the cost of food and other necessities, please know that the Food Pantry is available to any individual or family in Bridgewater who needs it. Contributions of non-perishable food items and grocery store gift cards are always welcome and needed. The Bridgewater Food Pantry is located in the Friendship Hall of BCC. The pantry is open during the office hours of the church, or by appointment. Please call the church office with any questions.

Alcoholics Anonymous - AA meets in the Friendship Hall every Friday night at 7 p.m.

Friendship Hall Facility Rental - available for parties, meetings, family gatherings, social clubs, and more. Full kitchen, air conditioned, handicap accessible. Call 860-354-8283 to book your event.

Local Preserve Offers Hiking, Unique Conservation Experiences to Community

BRIDGEWATER AND NEW MILFORD-Discover Sunny Valley Preserve, a unique conservation community that believes protecting the planet and feeding its growing population can go hand-in-hand.

Sunny Valley showcases 450 acres of working farmland managed sustainably alongside 1,450 acres of natural areas and over 18 miles of hiking trails for the public to enjoy. This mixed-use approach provides healthy local foods while supporting outdoor recreation and wildlife habitat, thereby helping grow the local economy.

After 47 years, TNC and Sunny Valley Preserve continue to carry out the science-based conservation vision of George Pratt, Jr., whose dairy farm continues to operate today. George's dedication to conservation motivated him to protect more than a dozen separate pieces of open or wooded lands in the area. In 1973, near the end of his life, he donated those lands to The Nature Conservancy.

The result is one of Connecticut's most exceptional protected spaces, teeming with educational opportunities, diverse plants and animals, a strong sense of community and working farms. We hope you'll find Sunny Valley just as special as we do! Learn more and plan your visit at nature.org/CT.



SPRING BULKY DROP OFF Starts Monday, April 24th

BULKY ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE TOWN GARAGE

Large dumpsters will be at the town garage located at 324 Hut Hill Road, where residents may drop off bulky household items to be disposed of from Monday April 24th through Friday April 28th from 7:30am - 3:00pm, and on Saturday April 29th from 9am-12:30pm.

One free pickup truck load or two carloads per household. Additional pickup loads will cost \$25 per load. 1-3 ton truckloads will cost \$50 per additional load, with a maximum of 3 total loads per household.

NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE WILL BE ACCEPTED!!!

What NOT to bring:

- HAZARDOUS WASTE (paint, solvents, pesticides, etc.)
- CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS
- GARBAGE - State Law prohibits the town from accepting household garbage at the Town Garage.

The following items are accepted year round at the Town Garage:

- TIRES - accepted for a fee, payable by check or cash
- APPLIANCES/ELECTRONICS (TVs, computers, refrigerators, microwaves, etc.)
- BRUSH (3 inches in diameter or less)

**We accept bulky waste from BRIDGEWATER RESIDENTS ONLY!!
There will be no pickup!**

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

Dog Park Improvements



We are pleased to report that the new wire fence at the dog park has been installed at the Bridgewater Recreation Center.

Grange Egg Hunt

Stay tuned for information on the Grange sponsored Easter Egg Hunt at the Recreation Center



Mindful Moves Yoga

Held at the Friendship Hall at Bridgewater Congregational Church.

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

Pavilion Rentals



Pavilion rentals are underway for the 2023 season and begin on April 15th. Book your gathering today! Please contact Bridgewaterpavilion@gmail.com.

Join host Julia Rogers of HVA and learn how and where wildlife are migrating through Bridgewater, the barriers that hurt safe passage and how we can help protect them.



Join Us!

FOLLOW THE FOREST

And Help Protect Our Wildlife

Thurs. Feb. 23
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Burnham Library
62 Main Street South Bridgewater, CT



Sponsored by the Burnham Library and the Bridgewater Land Trust
Questions or to register email: julle@bridgewaterlandtrust.org

The Bridgewater Recreation Commission

Dawn MacNutt- *Chairman*
Lynn Kubisek - *Secretary*
Josh Murphy
Mike Dubos
Julie Scott
Colin Brown
Charlene Sullivan
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.



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 April 5th, 2023.*

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

FEBRUARY

- 7 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Zoom
- 7 Inland Wetlands Comm. 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 15 Board of Selectmen 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 16 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 20 President's Day ***Town Hall Closed***
- 23 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 28 Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00 PM, Town Hall

MARCH

- 7 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Zoom
- 7 Inland Wetlands Comm. 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 14 Board of Selectmen 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 15 Board of Finance 4:30 PM, Town Hall
- 16 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 23 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 28 Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00 PM, Town Hall

APRIL

- 4 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Zoom
- 4 Inland Wetlands Comm. 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 7 Good Friday *** Town Hall Closed***
- 11 Board of Selectmen 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 20 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 25 Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 27 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall

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

