

OUR TOWN

BRIDGEWATER

Connecticut

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, CT

NOVEMBER 2018

INSIDE



Page

2

VOTE!



Page

8

Holiday on
The Green



Page

11

Captain Burnham
Presentation



Page

Insert

Burnham School
Vendor Fair

Message from Our First Selectman

Bridgewater is on a roll of late with lots of good news in the public sphere.

In August, the Yankee Institute ranked Bridgewater 1st among CT's 169 Towns for financial stability! The study cited how we keep operating costs low, have no pension liabilities and only \$27,030 in long-term debt (Region 12 Schools). Also, we have not had any rise in property taxes for five years.

On September 23rd the Sunday New York Times Real Estate Section featured a very favorable article on why Bridgewater is a great place to live with "natural beauty to spare." In early October the Danbury News Times also featured the town and Bistro in an extensive and positive piece. Maybe we are no longer the best kept secret in Litchfield County.

On the local front, the Bridgewater Mobil gas station, Deli, and Convenience Store has fully recovered. Route 133 has been renovated and repaved. We now have a new Resident State Trooper, Matt Bell, to manage our town police officers and keep a sharp eye and advanced radar on speeders.

Burnham School is thriving, as is our ACE program, providing both before and after hours care and enrichment for students. Megan Bennett has taken over as the new Region 12 Superintendent and is a welcome change for our school system as it begins building the Agriscience STEM Academy.

Just as the weather isn't always sunshine, I have to report that the Grange continues to be a dark cloud for the town. The State Historic Preservation Office and the CT Attorney General's office have prevailed upon us to halt our preferred demolition/rebuild option in order to explore if there is a "prudent and feasible" way to renovate the existing structure. The intervention is standard practice in a historic district on the National Registry when some level of local support for renovation is demonstrated. This process will delay any progress on resolving the Grange conundrum and result in more Town expenses. Unfortunately, our insurance company is now requiring that a chain link construction fence be erected around the condemned structure to avoid liability claims should it collapse in the near future. This improbable Grange saga has been unwinding since 2014 with more chapters likely to follow. It is hard to predict an outcome, but we will keep our residents informed when choices and financial implications become clearer.

Overall, Bridgewater is doing well as we approach the holidays and the New Year. We have weathered the tornadoes of May, the heat and rains of summer, the bears eating garbage, and the Kavanaugh hearings. We should put all that aside and be thankful for the young Christmas tree on the Green and our many other blessings.

Happy holidays!

LAND TRANSFERS

Land Transfers: July 2018

- Constance W. Huntington of Rockport, MA to Courtney E. Hora of Bridgewater, land and buildings, 322 Old Turnpike Road East, \$470,000
- John M. and Mary Ambron Liftin of NY, NY to Charles T. and Susan Kaufmann Harris of NY, NY, land and buildings, 239 Main Street South, \$2,850,000
- James D. Glinski of NY, NY to Peterson Lopes and Queli Martins of NY, NY, land and buildings, 26 Deer Pond Woods, \$942,500
- Thomas J. Allingham of Brownsville, VT to Thomas J. and Deborah C. Meek of Bridgewater, land and buildings, 119 Christian Street, \$305,180

Land Transfers: August 2018

- Scott N. Seviour of West Hollywood, CA to Michael A. Ferrera and Philip L. Ulrich of Bridgewater, land and buildings, 280 Christian Street, \$660,000

Land Transfers: September 2018

- John D. and Lisa F. Klein of Sharon, CT to Charles T. Fields of Bridgewater, land and buildings, 32 Hut Hill Road, \$480,000
- Paul S. Szymanski, Sr. of Roxbury, CT to Colin J. Szymanski of Bantam, CT, land, Botsford Hill Road, land, Bridgewater and Roxbury, \$300,000
- Corbo Associates of Roxbury, CT to Lewis and Patricia Drzal of Roxbury, CT, land, 135 Wewaka Brook Road, \$160,000

ATTEST:
Cheryl L. Pinkos, Town Clerk

Reminder:

Do not leave garbage out for bears!



Registrars of Voters

November

Monday 11-05-18 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Tuesday 11-06-18 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM

ELECTION DAY

Polls open 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Hilltop Center, 132 Hut Hill Rd.

Tuesday 11-27-18 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

December

Tuesday 12-04-18 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Tuesday 12-18-18 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

January

Tuesday 1-08-19 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Tuesday 1-29-18 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

All registration sessions will take place in the Bridgewater Town Hall, second floor, 44 Main Street South, Bridgewater, CT. For further information, please call the Registrars at (860)-354-5901 during regular office hours on the first and last Tuesday of each month between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Margaret Judith Sullivan, Democratic Registrar
Susan Patrick, Republican Registrar



November 6th
Hilltop Center
132 Hut Hill Road
6 AM to 8 PM

Office of the Tax Collector

Taxes Due: The second installment of Real Estate and Personal Property taxes is due January 1, 2019. Bills were mailed in June; NO BILLS WILL BE SENT FOR THIS INSTALLMENT. For Real Estate bills, please notify our office if the payer has changed since July. If a different bank will be paying the installment or if you will be paying the installment instead of a bank, please call or send us a note with the new information. If you purchased property after June and did not receive the bill at the closing, please contact the office and we will send a copy.

Supplemental Motor Vehicle Tax Bills: These bills are for new or replacement vehicles registered after October 1, 2017 and before September 30, 2018. The bills will be mailed in December and become due January 1, 2019.

Online Services: You may now look up and pay your bills online, and can complete your own tax payment history reports for any time period. Searches may be made by name, property location, or bill number.

Payment: Payments must be received or postmarked no later than FEBRUARY 1, 2019 to avoid an interest penalty. Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or interest.

PLEASE NOTE: If you use an online banking service, there is no actual postmark on the envelope and your payment may arrive after the due date. The effective date will be the date your payment is received in this office!

Credit Cards: The Tax Department can receive payments made by credit or debit cards. There is an additional fee paid directly to the service provider to use this service. The amount of the fee is 2.75% of the amount of the payment subject to a \$2.00 minimum fee. This service can be accessed through our website at www.bridgewaterhall.org.

NOTICE OF TAX SALE: Two delinquent properties are scheduled for Public Auction on December 18, 2018. Details of the sale may be found at: www.cttaxsales.com

TAX ALERTS: Would you like to receive an email alert regarding local tax news and a reminders of payments becoming due? Sign up through the link provided on the town website.

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.

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 8-12:30 PM and Tuesday 8-3:30 PM.

Catherine B. Vikstrom, Tax Collector
Ann Virbickas, Assistant to Tax Collector
860-355-9220



ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Personal Property

All individuals owning and operating a business in the Town of Bridgewater, including businesses that are being operated from home, are required by law to declare furniture, fixtures, tools, equipment, etc. for taxation purposes. Owners of unregistered motor vehicles or vehicles registered out of state that are here six months and one day need to apply.

Personal Property forms have been mailed out and **must be returned in our office by Thursday, November 1st.** If forms are not returned or returned late there will be a 25% penalty on the value of a business owner's personal property.

Farm Machinery, Horses or Ponies

The application for an exemption on all farm machinery, except motor vehicles as defined in Section 14-1, up to the value of \$100,000, ponies, horses which are actually and exclusively used in farming, within the provisions of Section 12-91 of the General Statutes must be filed annually by November 1st.

Applications to claim personal property and farm machinery, horses or ponies are available on the Town's website www.bridgewater townhall.org or in the Assessor's office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (860) 355-9379; we are here Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8am until 12:30pm and Tuesday 8am until 3:30pm.

Denise C. Pinter Assessor

FROM THE HISTORIAN'S DESK

The Town lost a good friend last month when Pat St. John passed away. A longtime resident, she was a fixture at Town meetings, the Tractor Parade, the Fair, and many political gatherings, accompanied by her husband, Alli Lake, and their pugs. She was a Renaissance woman.

Born Patricia Unger in Brooklyn, New York on September 20, 1945, as an infant she developed a severe infection. Fearing she might die, the doctor administered what was an overdose of antibiotic which caused severe damage to her eyes. She underwent several eye operations which were only partially successful, leaving her with a lifelong loss of vision and double vision, which she corrected through exercises. Pat attended local public schools and then went on to Erasmus High before her family moved to their summer home on Candlewood Lake year round. She then attended Danbury High and went on to Trinity and then Kentucky Wesleyan College for both her BA and Master's degrees. There she developed her love of writing and teaching.

Following an early marriage to Bob St. John, she moved to Bridgewater with her son, Chris, in 1977 and taught English and French at Derby High School. They divorced in 1988. She developed an interest in Spiritualism and the paranormal. This led to her interest in communications in all animals. Eventually, she wrote The Secret Language of Dolphins. She worked with both captive and wild dolphins in the Bahamas. From her research for this book, she segued to aspects of communication in autistic children, studying non-verbal communication in group homes. She married Alli Lake in 1990, and they founded a non-profit, MIDPOINT Research Foundation for Creative Communication. When I met Pat in 1993, she was one of the early users of EBAY. As a consignor, she attended auctions, yard sales and second hand stores searching for "treasures" to list on EBAY. That was at a time when that name was not part of everyone's vocabulary. She eventually narrowed her purchases to Meissen and fine porcelain, becoming an expert in identification and age of the pieces.

One of Pat and Alli's interests was the Renaissance Faire in Tuxedo, New York. They dressed their parts and interacted with the players there on summer and fall afternoons. The aspect of fantasy appealed to both of them. This love of fantasy influenced Pat's writing. At the time of her death, she was almost finished with her latest work of fiction, as well as a memoir called "72", her age at the time of her death. She wrote about her return to teaching, this time at Shepaug High School. Hopefully, both books will be published posthumously.

A memorial service will be held at the Bridgewater Congregational Church. Her obituary can be viewed at DanburyMemorial.com under their "Remembrances" column. Her ashes will be scattered off Cape Cod.

She will be missed.

- Eileen Buchheit



VETERANS CORNER

FY 2019 NDAA: On Monday, Aug. 13, the FY 2019 John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) was signed into law. Once the Congress completes the defense appropriations legislation, the measure will fund the policy directives and authorizations. This is one of the largest NDAA's signed in history and will provide significant funding to improve all services based on current forecasted needs!

VA Appropriations: Among a series of spending measures last week was the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) appropriations. The VA will receive its full budget for FY 2019 and partial advance funding for FY 2020 to assure continuity of veterans' health and disability, education, survivors, memorial and other benefit payments between fiscal years.

The appropriations bill is the VA's largest spending bill in history, providing more than \$197 billion for health and benefits programs-over \$86 billion in discretionary (mostly medical-related programs) and over \$110 billion in mandatory benefit payments. Visit eBenefits.va.gov for the entire bill or log into MOAA.ORG for a synopsis of salient points.

VA Mission Act: In an effort to streamline and improve access to health care, veterans service organizations rallied behind the VA MISSION Act to get the bill signed into law, making it easier for veterans to get care when and where they need it - whether within the walls of the VA health system or in their community. VA has until June 2019 to fully implement the new program and consolidate all seven VA community care programs, including the current Choice Program, into one simple and easy to access program. Log into the VA's Community Care website to keep informed.

COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment): With the fiscal year coming to a close, we will soon know the final Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for retired pay and social security benefits. The current prediction for the final COLA is 2.8 percent or roughly \$28 for every \$1,000 of retired pay you receive.

Share the Veterans Crisis Line Number to Save a Life: September is Suicide Prevention Month - which is the perfect time to share a life-saving resource: the Veterans Crisis Line. This confidential, toll-free, 24-hour-a-day hotline serves Veterans and their loved ones year-round. Reach qualified, caring responders

- by phone at 800-273-8255,
- via online chat on their website
- by text message at 838255

Survivors Pension Benefit: Sometimes referred to as Death Pension, is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to a low-income, un-remarried surviving spouse and/or unmarried child(ren) of a deceased Veteran with wartime service.

TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) & Vision Program: Now called the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP), this program will begin sometime in October. That's when military retirees will be able to begin to review online the various features and monthly premiums of dental plan options and vision options for replacing their current program set to expire after Dec. 31. Log on to eBenefits.va.gov to learn more about this major benefit!!!

Rest & Recreation (R&R): Servicemembers, retirees and their families who are planning a year-end getaway can land major discounts to Universal Orlando Resort, thanks to a new offer announced last month. Discounted four-day adult passes for two of the resort's parks, Universal Studios-Orlando and Islands of Adventure, will cost about the same as a single-day admission for regular resort customers. The tickets must be purchased at information, tickets and travel offices, or at leisure travel offices, at participating installations; get a state-by-state list of participants at <https://site.universalorlando.com/military/>.

SHEPAUG VALLEY SCHOOL



Region District 12 Updates

Watch us grow! Not only our plants, but our schools.

Walking into our classrooms, you will see creatures and students in motion. The Burnham School is full of life! Students learn about caring for animals, plants and each other. Mrs. Colella and her staff are harvesting good characters with the focus on grit. Students are persevering through problems, extending kindness and challenging themselves in all aspects of their learning.

Shepaug Valley School is proud to announce that all of the State approvals for the Agriscience/Science Lab renovations have been secured and we are moving forward with putting shovels to the ground in November. The Agriscience program is picking up momentum. Our curriculum development, recruitment efforts, and agriscience lessons are coming together to enhance the Shepaug experience. Superintendent Megan Bennett will be presenting the Shepaug updates at the end of October to the Bridgewater community. Please consider joining this community conversation to ask questions and learn more about the Agriscience program.

Our staff and students are grateful to the Bridgewater community for the wonderful start to school. The Town of Bridgewater shows its support for our students in many ways. We would like to thank our First Selectman, Curtis Read, for pitching in on gardening lessons. Both Curtis and our Second Selectman, Alan Brown, joined our students in the Walk to School Day. Additionally, thank you to our fire department for allowing the students to use the firehouse when water issues occurred at the school. A huge thank you to all of our parents who are stepping up to the Burnham PTO's Two-Hour Volunteer Pledge Challenge. Bridgewater proves that it takes a village to raise a child.



Congratulations Alison Parker National Merit Award Winner At Shepaug!

Shepaug student and Bridgewater resident Alison Parker has been named a Commended Scholar in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional promise. Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of 1.6 million students who entered the 2019 competition by taking the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).



Burnham School PTO NEWS

The school year is off to a great start. The kids and teachers have settled in nicely. The PTO has also settled in nicely and we have been busy planning some fun events that will help us raise money that will go straight to the children for enrichments and activities for them throughout the year.

The first event is the Fall Festival, which is going to be held on October 20th, from 11am to 2pm. There will be games, pumpkin painting, a bounce house, and some yummy treats. It will be a fun day out for the family. We encourage the kids to come dressed in their Halloween costumes.

The second event is The Burnham School Second Annual Vendor Fair. This will be held November 3rd from 6pm-9:30pm. There are going to be a lot of different vendors and some refreshments. Come down for a fun girl's night out and get some holiday shopping done early.

Other things to keep in mind

The Harvest Gathering will be on November 19th. Burnham School PTO is always in need of volunteers, if you would like to volunteer please reach out to us by emailing:

burnhamschoolpto@gmail.com

Help support our school by using Amazon Smile: www.smile.amazon.com/ch/26-0011749

Sign up for School Rewards at your local grocery store: Register your store cards in store or using the links:

www.stopandshop.com/aplus and www.shopriteformyschool.com

Yes, we are still collecting BOX TOPS at our school.

Kindly Submitted by,

Burnham School PTO



Bridgewater Scholarship Committee

As The Bridgewater Scholarship Committee completes its 46th year of activity, it would be appropriate to reflect on its greater good to the community.

It all began at a town meeting in March 1972 and was initially funded \$50,000 by the Harris Fund and Captain Burnham Fund. All gifts since have been private as well. We are allowed to distribute only the earnings of these funds to our applicants. That currently amounts to just over \$40,000 per year.

All full time residents of Bridgewater are eligible to apply. All who complete the process receive a check at the end of July prior to the academic year. While the need of these students is far greater than the awards we are able to offer, our students are grateful for the scholarship fund's assistance.

Recently, Dorothy Gustafson willed the Fund \$250,000 in memory of her parents Grover and Evandinia Allen. This gift along with other gifts over the past half-century, allows us to honor these people while helping the youngest among us.

As the calendar year comes to a close, please consider a tax-deductible gift to The Bridgewater Scholarship Fund. Susan Wilcox, Town Treasurer, can assist you. Or perhaps you would like to include the Fund in your Estate planning.

As with so many facets of our wonderful town, it is only possible because of people like you.

Respectfully, Larry Neary - Chairman



Burnham students visit the Town Hall



It is wonderful to see a new tree after the old one uprooted during the Spring tornado. Thank you to Scott's Nursery and Landscaping for the installation.

Blast From The Past



The Village Store in the early 1930's when owner Pete Ognen of Roxbury had a long soda fountain along the south wall where one could buy ice cream, sodas, sundries and 5-cent ice cream cones.



Additional Holiday On
The Green Activities
December 7th

St. Marks Victorian Dinner

5:30 PM

St. Marks Church

Meet and Greet with Santa

After tree lighting
Hot Cocoa and Cookies
Friendship Hall at the
Congregational Church
Hosted by the
Bridgewater Grange



Bedtime Story Reading

8:00 PM

'Twas the Night Before Christmas
The Burnham Library

Fair Trade and Local Handcrafts Shop

Open 4 PM to 8 PM

Friendship Hall at the Congregational Church

THE HISTORY OF TAPS

We have all heard the iconic strains of TAPS, but do you know the history?

It all began during the Civil War battle at Harrison's Landing. After the battle, a Union officer was still on the field after nightfall. It was very dark and Captain Elliscombe heard the moans of a wounded trooper. In the darkness, the officer could not tell if the soldier was Union or Confederate. Being a humane man, he put the soldier over his shoulder and carried him to his battalion hospital tent. As he struggled with the young man, he thought of his son who had gone south to study music before the war broke out. He had not heard from his son. Arriving at the surgeon's lighted tent, the officer discovered his burden was dead and that it was his son who had been conscripted into the Confederate forces. The officer requested a full military funeral for his son with the regimental band playing. This was all denied. One coronet player from the band offered to play the notes of music jotted on a piece of paper inside the dead son's pocket. It is said this is the first time that TAPS was ever played. We have heard these notes many times since.

"Go to sleep. Go to sleep. All is well. All is well. God is nigh, God is nigh. Sleep thee well."

And that is the history of TAPS. Well...not exactly. This story originated with Ripley's Believe it or Not and this is definitely a "Not." The story's greatest error is that there is no record of a Captain Elliscombe having served in the Army of the Potomac. There is, however, one bit of truth in this story as is true of most historic myths - TAPS was written at Harrison's Landing after the Seven Days Battles of 1862.

The musical notes were originally written as the call for lights out, not funeral music. At that time, the call for lights out was a French tune called "Extinguish Lights" that Union General Daniel Butterfield felt was too formal. He wanted something more calming to tell his men the day was over. He turned to an old tune called "Scott's Tattoo." The term tattoo back then had nothing to do with body ink, but was derived from an Old Dutch military word meaning it was time to turn off the beer taps and return to camp. A Tattoo was usually played about an hour before lights out. General Butterfield thought this Tattoo and a newer one used by the Union Army were a good starting point for a new tune. He called on his bugler, Oliver Wilcox Norton, and the two worked together to compose the new tune. Here is Norton's account of that meeting:

"One day, soon after the seven day's battles on the Peninsular, when the Army of the Potomac was lying in camp at Harrison's Landing, Gen. Daniel Butterfield sent for me, and showing me some notes on a staff written in pencil on the back of an envelope, asked me to sound them on my bugle. I did this several times, playing the music as written. He changed it somewhat, lengthening some notes and shortening others, but retaining the melody as he first gave it to me. After getting it to his satisfaction, he directed me to sound that call for "Taps" thereafter in place of the regulation call. The music was beautiful on that still summer night and was heard far beyond the limits of our Brigade. The next day I was visited by several buglers from neighboring brigades, asking for copies of the music, which I gladly furnished. I think no general order was issued from army headquarters authorizing the substitution of this for the regulation call, but as each brigade commander exercised his own discretion in such minor matters, the call was gradually taken up through the Army of the Potomac."

The new call for lights out spread among both the Union and Confederate Armies, and within a few months it was played for the first time at a military funeral for a Union cannoneer killed in action. Captain Tidball chose the tune because he thought a bugle call would be safer than the traditional rifle shots over a soldier's grave. He didn't want the enemy to consider the rifle shots an attack. General Butterfield's bugle call was officially called "Extinguish Lights" in American military manuals until 1891. Since then, TAPS has become a formal part of U.S. military funerals. The name TAPS most likely came from the three drum beats that were played at the conclusion of the lights out call. The drum "taps" became TAPS, and the name of the new tune. And now you know the real history of this well-known mainstay of military funerals.

As a reminder, don't hesitate to contact the Bridgewater Historical Society for a private tour during the winter months. We are also here to answer any historical questions about the town or its past residents. You may contact us by email: bridgewaterhistorical@yahoo.com or by phone: Audrey Wilkiki 860-354-7827 or Eileen Buchheit 860-355-2433



Library Hours:

Visit us on Tuesday 1-5,
Wednesday 9-5, Thursday 9-7,
Friday 1-5, and Saturday 9-1.

Special Closing Dates:

Closed - Saturday, November 17th
as we prepare for O Silent Night
Early Closing at Noon - Wednesday,
November 21st

Closed - Thanksgiving Day and
Friday, November 23rd

The Friends of the Library - Who are the Friends?

The Friends' mission is to help support and foster use of the library as well as provide financial assistance for programs, museum passes, library materials, and digital services. Friends' members support the library through the yearly membership campaign and special events, such as O Silent Night and Cookie Bookie Sale. Interested in becoming a member? email friends@burnhamlibrary.org

Creator in Residence - Starting January, Burnham Library will have its first Creator in Residence, Pamela Hochstetter. Pamela, an accomplished three-dimensional artist, will be using our 3D printer to explore her work. See Pamela here regularly and have a chat with her about her process and experience melding technology and art.

Crafternoon in the Fall - Knit or crochet with new or old friends, every Thursday from 12 to 1:30. Experienced instructor Anita Husebaek will help you choose a project at the first (free!) session, then \$25 per class. Students to provide their own materials. Beginners to experienced participants welcome. We will choose a start date based on an adequate number of registrants. Register with jkallay@burnhamlibrary.org or call Melinda Luke at 860.799.0839.

Art Exhibits

October - November 14th: Lori Barker of Goshen with "Extending the Edges." Her work is about the poetry that lives beneath the surface of things where mixed-media images come to life creating an altered world.

November 23rd - January: Christine Medina Vitarello of New Milford with "Mira Impressions." Pastel and oil paintings with a lively impressionistic flair.

Book Discussions - Discussions will be held on Mondays at 5:00 pm and are open to anyone who wishes to participate. Copies of the book are generally available at the Circulation Desk.

November 29th: Britt-Marie Was Here by Fredrik Backman

January 24th: Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy: Four Women Undercover in the Civil War by Karen Abbott.

Two Town Tabletop Club @ New Milford Library

2nd Saturday from 1:00 - 3:00 Teen and adult gamers join The Burnham Library on the 2nd Saturday of each month at the New Milford Library, test your gaming skills and meet new gamers along the way! Registration is not required. Questions? E-mail: cfisher@burnhamlibrary.org

Extra Life Charity Board Game Marathon

Saturday, November 3rd from 2:00 - Midnight
Extra-Life is an organization that raises money for children with serious illnesses, keeping the money local so it can help the community where it is raised. Join Chris for second a second annual board game marathon. Food and door prizes will be offered. \$10.00 donation to Extra Life is required, payable at the event OR join Burnham's team at www.extra-life.org and use the team name The Two Town Tabletop Club.

O SILENT NIGHT

Eat, Drink and Be Merry!

Saturday, November 17th from 5:30 - 8:00 pm

The Friends of the Burnham Library would like to extend an invitation to all our friends and neighbors to join us as we ring in the holiday season with a festive fundraising soiree! Enjoy catered fare and good cheer, a silent and LIVE auction as well as a Win Win Balloon Pop and Wine Basket. All proceeds to benefit the library! Zulu Nyala South African Safari will be back on the auction block. Ticket sales begin November 1st at the library, \$30 pre-event or \$35 at the door.

MORE at The Burnham Library

Traditional Gingerbread Houses with Nancy Stuart - Saturday, December 8th
ALL age workshop! Join Nancy Stuart as she leads a workshop for you to build the Gingerbread House of your dreams. Session 1: 9:30 - 10:30 & Session 2: 10:30 - 11:15. Advance registration is required. Space and supplies are limited. This program is free. Please bring a box or two of your favorite cereal for our Cereal Drive to benefit the Bridgewater Food Pantry!



Boards and Brews (and wine too) - Saturday, January 26th at 6:00. You know what pairs well with an Imperial IPA? Board Games! Join friends, new and old, for a beer and board gaming event. Come hungry and play late! All levels of board gaming expertise are welcome. Registration required. BYOB. Ages 21+

COMING IN JANUARY 2019

A "Benefic Spirit": A Year of Bridgewater and Bridgewater History.
In 1957 a news reporter noted the "benefic spirit" of Captain William Dickson Burnham that "pervades the town." Join us in a year of celebration of Bridgewater, its people, and its history.



Junior Library Programs

Registration: In order for Burnham students to be escorted from school for after school library activities, a written permission note must be submitted to the Burnham School office. All programs require advance registration with the library.

The Burnham Bunch Storytime Bubbles, books, parachutes and songs, storytime fun for the under 5 crowd. Thursday mornings from 10:30 - 11:00.

Fall/Winter session: September - December 20th. Registration is ongoing.

Winter/Spring session: January 24th - May 23rd. Registration begins November 29th.

Storytime will not be held if school is delayed or canceled due to inclement weather.

LEGO Brick Builders - Grades K-5 Come us your imagination and build with us! This program is so popular that we doubled the fun! Wednesday 11/1 and 11/15, 12/6 and 12/20, 1/3 and 1/24 from 3:30 - 4:00

Burnham Book Worms - Grade 3-5 Enjoy books, snacks, and craft with our Junior Friend, Julia Sinatra. November's discussion: Spirit Animals: Wild Born. Copies of the book are available at the Junior Library Circulation Desk. Wednesdays 11/28, 12/19, 1/23 from 3:30 - 4:00

Monthly programs for Grades 1 -5

Hands on History - Wednesday, November 7th from 3:30 - 4:30 The Institute for American Indian Studies will explore CT's indigenous peoples through hands-on activities.

DIY Spinning Boxes - Wednesday, December 5th from 3:30 - 4:30 Build a spinning box to hold your secrets.

Stop-motion Animation - Wednesday, January 30th from 3:30 - 4:30 Use LEGO Bricks to create your own stop-motion video!

Inclement Weather Reminder - If Region 12 schools are closed, the Library will have a delayed opening, if possible. It is always recommended that you call ahead to be sure the Library is in fact open. When Region 12 schools are closed, all Library programs for children are cancelled

Keep current on Library programs and services! Check us out at www.burnhamlibrary.org or Facebook Register for our weekly email or Wowbrary Newsletter which will keep you current on new items ready for circulation. Registering for a library card is easier than you think! Pre-register via our website and then you have 14 days to pop-in and pick up your card or visit us during library hours.

NEWS FROM HILLTOP CENTER

ELECTION DAY - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH . All regular programs at Hilltop will be cancelled.

VETERANS DAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH.

Due to Veterans Day being on a Sunday this year, the Bridgewater Ceremony will be held on Monday, November 12th. Joe Buchheit, retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel will again lead us in a moving tribute to all our Veterans. We would ask that you be in your seats no later than 10:45. Refreshments will be served.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS: Time to once again start thinking of Christmas baskets and of the people who are not able to be out and about during the coming holiday season. If you would like to make a monetary donation please make checks out to "BWSC Christmas Baskets". Cookies will also be needed and delivered to Hilltop Center on Tuesday, December 4th, during normal working hours, (10 - 4). We are also looking for drivers and would appreciate anyone who can volunteer to deliver these baskets December 5th, at 1:00 pm. Signup sheets will be available at the center, or email us at bwscseniorcenter@gmail.com

EXERCISE PROGRAMS: We have a variety of Exercise programs at Hilltop. Benefits of physical activity for all ages, among other things, helps maintain the ability to live independently and reduces the risk of falling. Such exercise includes the following: Line Dancing, Monday 11:00 - 12:00, \$5:00 per class, Tai Chi, Wednesday - 10:30 - 11:30, \$7:00 per class and Chair Yoga, Friday 10:30 - 11:30, \$7:00 per class.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GAMES OR CARD GAMES? We are always looking for anyone who would like to play or learn any of the following: Poker, Mahjong, Canasta and Bingo. Give Us a call if you are interested.

COMPUTER CLASSES: We have a wonderful computer class every Tuesday morning 10 - 12 for all levels.

SILVER NEEDLES - Tuesday afternoon 1 - 4. If you are interested in quilting, knitting, crocheting, sewing etc, this is for you. If you are interested in learning any of these crafts they are very willing to help you.

BREAKFAST CLUB - If breakfast is your favorite meal then join us the first Thursday of every month, at 9:00 am, all you can eat for \$5:00. Menu includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, toast, Belgian waffles, jellies, OJ, coffee and tea. This is a buffet style and you can choose whatever you want. It's also a very social time. Sign up is required. So, grab some friends and come on over!

REMINDER: Flu season is on the way and for some, already here. If you do happen to get the flu or a cold, PLEASE respect all our members by staying home until it has passed.

~~~~~  
**ALL OF US AT HILLTOP WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS  
OPPORTUNITY TO WISH EVERYONE A VERY MERRY  
CHRISTMAS, AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!**  
~~~~~

Marilyn Curtin, Senior Center Director



Community Caring in Bridgewater, Inc. (CCB)

Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Staying Healthy and Happy at Home

Autumn and Winter Projects

Now is the time to check gutters, make sure walks are clear and generally prepare for whatever winter may bring. We can help.

Board of Directors

If you are interested in helping CCB by becoming a member of our board of directors, please let us know. We are looking to expand the board by 2 or 3 individuals. Contact Cheryl Johnson, CCB's secretary: phone: 203-222-3126.

Library Programs

CCB and the Library enjoy putting on programs for seniors. Please let us know if there are topics you would like covered and we will work with the Library to arrange. We are working on a program dealing with herbs and the aging mind. Other topics that have been suggested are travel, social networking and DYI/crafting.

Senior Financial Assistance

If you are in need of financial assistance to get you over surprise expenses or extraordinary circumstances, reach out to us. All requests for help are handled in confidence.

By Phone: 860-350-2194

By Email: info@ccbridgewater.org



Become a member! Friends of the Lake is a non-profit organization that was founded in 2003 and has spent the last 13 years preserving and protecting Lake Lillinonah for our community to enjoy! Each member who joins Friends of the Lake is another voice. The more voices we have, the stronger we are! All memberships include email alerts on lake activity, invitations to FOTL events, newsletters providing water quality updates & upcoming meetings, and much more.

Please visit our website for more information: www.Friendsofthelake.org

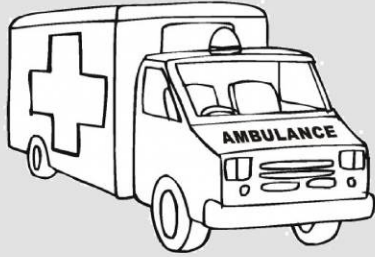


The New Milford VNA is a non-profit health care agency dedicated to providing quality home care. It only takes one call. Services include: hospice and palliative care, rehabilitation therapies, elder care management, support groups, wellness programs, private pay home care, lifeline medical alert and nurturing families. Call (860) 354-2216 or go to www.newmilfordvna.org



EMERGENCY SERVICES

Become a Volunteer with Bridgewater's Ambulance



You can help to fill an important need in your town by volunteering your time with the Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department's ambulance, providing basic emergency medical care and transportation.

You don't need a medical background or any experience. We offer the training necessary to be certified. Classes require a significant amount of time but the rewards are immeasurable.

Our ambulance is staffed by both emergency medical responders (EMR) and emergency medical technicians (EMT). The biggest difference between the two is the training and the scope of practice (what they are allowed to do). EMR's require a minimum of 60 hours of training and EMTs are required to have a minimum of 150 hours of training. Both include written and practical examinations.

The scope of practice for EMRs and EMTs reflects the amount of training for each. In general, both can provide management of airways, CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation), AEDs (automatic external defibrillation), burn and wound care, and - yes - childbirth! EMRs are limited in the use of some diagnostic tools and administration of medications, among other things.

Tuition is covered for those who make a commitment to serve on Bridgewater's ambulance.

We're building a list of people interested in the next EMT and EMR classes. If you'd like to be added to the list or have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Peter Hammond, Ambulance Coordinator
Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department
Email: peterhammond@snet.net
Home: 860-354-7373
Work: 860-354-8283

Bridgewater Fire Department Women's Auxiliary

The ladies in the Auxiliary have been busy and I need to say Thank You to the community for supporting us with your volunteer time, contributions and baked goods at the fair this year. Despite the weather we still came out on the plus side. I also want to say thank you to everyone for working and coming out to our Beer & Wine event which then piggy backed on the Town Wide Tag Sale. Both events were well received and weather was on our side, making it even more enjoyable. Finally a thank you to the firemen for their set up and clean up assistance for these events - it is very appreciated as always.

The Auxiliary meets on the third Monday every month at 7:00 in the Bridgewater Fire House unless otherwise noted. We are always looking for new members so please come and join us at any time.

The calendar for the next coming months are:

- November 19th - meeting at Firehouse
- December 10th - holiday dinner out
- January - No Meeting

Carol Wilbur, President

THANK YOU



Many thanks to all residents who supported the 67th Annual Bridgewater Fair.

In case you missed it...

Congratulations to the Bridgewater Fair Raffle Winners

- 2018 Jeep Wrangler: Paul Thurlow (of New Milford)
- 2018 Kubota: Kelly Ferguson (of Bridgewater)
- Visa GC Package: Lance Sproule (of New Milford)

OUR CHURCHES

St. Marks Episcopal Church



Every Sunday 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist.
Pancake breakfast after service on first Sunday.
On other Sundays coffee hour follows the service
All are welcome at any service or activity.

NOVEMBER

HOLIDAY BAZAAR Saturday, November 10th
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Lots of gently used household and gift items including Christmas decorations will be on sale. Our jam and bake sale will include cobbles & Cabot Cheddar Cheese. The Luncheon will feature a variety of homemade soups and sandwiches.

Sunday, November 11th, 9:30 am
Bishop Laura Ahrens will be the celebrant at our Eucharist followed by coffee hour and discussion.

DECEMBER

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS DINNER Friday,
December 7th 5:30 pm
\$15 Adults, \$8 Children 12 and under, \$45 family maximum

HOLIDAY COOKIE SALE

Pre-order a variety of homemade cookies for the Holidays by the pound. Orders must be placed by Dec. 16 and will be available for pick-up on Dec. 22 and 23. More details to follow - or call Carol Wilbur at 203-648-3415.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE December 24th
Carol Sing - 8:30 PM Eucharist Service - 9:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE December 25th
-11:00 am

JANUARY 2019

EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED

Coming up at the Bridgewater Congregational Church

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here

Local and Global Handcrafts in Bridgewater
Weekends from November 23 thru December 16 in the Friendship Hall at the Bridgewater Congregational Church. *For details see Newsletter insert.*

Christmas Tree Sale

We'll have top-of-the-line, full and fragrant 6- to 9-foot Fraser Fir Christmas Trees. The tree sale is open weekends from November 23 thru December 16, with the same hours listed above for the shop.

Services on Christmas Eve

The Bridgewater Congregational Church will host two services of Lessons and Carols for the community on Christmas Eve at 5:00 and 8:00. The 8:00 service begins with an extended prelude of special music by the church choir and guest musicians.

ONGOING

Alcoholics Anonymous
AA meets in the Parish House every Friday night at 7:00 pm

The Bridgewater Food Pantry
located in our Parish House, 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.

We welcome you any time...
Sunday Service and Sunday School at 10:00 AM
Followed by fellowship and coffee hour in the Friendship Hall

* * * * *

For more information call the Church Office: 860-354-8283 or email us at: office.bwucc@gmail.com or visit us on the web: www.bwucc.org

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



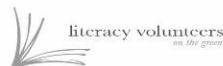
The Bridgewater Land Trust has been preserving and protecting open space and farmland in Bridgewater for the past quarter-century. This year has been marked with great success as new partnerships have resulted in more public access, improved farm facilities and a new focus on property monitoring and maintenance. Many of these partnerships have provided funding and knowledge that has helped us protect and enhance our properties.

A few examples:

- A grant from the Connecticut Community Foundation allowed us to blaze a public trail off of Town Line Road. In the future we hope to partner with our neighbors The Roxbury Land Trust to continue work on this trail - a wonderful prospect for hikers.
- The Connecticut Department of Agriculture granted us funding to repair the Town Line Preserve barn and matching funds for 6,900 feet of new fences.
- We have enlisted help from the Weantinogue Heritage Land Trust who is providing monitoring services for all of our properties. This important work was funded by the Ellen Knowles Harcourt Foundation.

The BWLT is very proud of what we have accomplished this year, especially the opening of our first trail on Town Line Road. We enjoyed celebrating that opening with you at the Fun on the Farm Day and Harvest Dinner in September. We also honored Board Member Bud Wright's permanent protection of Comanche Hill Farm - 34 acres on Stuart Road East.

Your continued support is critically important to the work we do in Bridgewater. The Bridgewater Land Trust is YOUR land trust. Thank you and enjoy the beauty of the season!



Literacy Volunteers on the Green

Literacy Volunteers on the Green provides a variety of literacy services to residents of 16 towns in Northern Fairfield and Litchfield counties. Programs include English as a second language, basic reading and writing, Family Literacy, and Preparation for the United States Citizenship Test. LVG provides relevant, individualized instruction in small groups of fewer than five learners. Its volunteer tutors are trained by the organization and provided with instructional materials. Class schedules are flexible to accommodate the work and family responsibilities of both tutors and students. For further information about tutoring, or to refer someone for our services, please call us at 860-355-0830 or visit our website www.lvg-ct.org. Literacy Volunteers on the Green, 7 Whittlesey Avenue, New Milford CT 06776.

Jacqueline Farrell, Executive Director



Stuart Family Farm Operating at Sunny Valley in Bridgewater

Sometimes, a fresh start means returning home. Bridgewater farmer Bill Stuart Jr. and his family found their new beginning when they returned to the area to operate the family farm where Stuart spent his childhood. Things aren't all the same; that's the way he wanted it.

"We wanted to have a sustainable farm of 100 percent grass-fed beef. So, we're doing strictly grazing and haymaking at all the fields. There's no corn, no use of herbicides or pesticides."

Stuart's plan worked well with what The Nature Conservancy determined was the best use of his parcel of Sunny Valley Preserve. In western Connecticut's hills, planting row crops could increase the chances of erosion. By using a rotational grazing method, the cattle are fed with minimal impacts on the land while helping sustain the ecosystem.

A graduate of the University of Connecticut's (UConn) College of Agriculture, Stuart began his career in commercial farming in Pennsylvania before continuing in the meat business in Massachusetts. While at UConn, he earned the opportunity to complete an international internship in Germany, where he mostly worked with pigs. His research and quality testing methods were unique.

"We were on the cutting edge of measuring quality traits and then having the farmers come in for feedback," Stuart said. "They could change their methods to produce the highest quality pork possible."

His eye for quality is reflected in all of Stuart's operations and often mentioned by patrons of the farm store open every weekend. Those conversations also reinforce his connection to the community of Bridgewater: one he describes as hard-working, passionate about open space and friendly towards agriculture. These are all attributes his upbringing taught him to value.

"We love interaction with the new people that we meet along the way, and as the business continues to grow, we're just looking forward to continuing to feed people in the area."



Bill and Deb Stuart of Stuart Family Farm

An affinity for the community of Bridgewater, resilience, and a sense of curiosity that motivates him to continue finding new ways to be even more sustainable are all traits that define Stuart.

"My wife and I are fortunate that we're able to do what we do. It's kind of fulfilling a dream on our end, and we wouldn't be able to do it without The Nature Conservancy and the local land trust (Bridgewater Land Trust). It was kind of a perfect situation for us to come into."

The Nature Conservancy, Sunny Valley Preserve 8 Sunny Valley
Lane New Milford, CT 06776 (860) 355-3716

UPDATES AND REMINDERS

from the Health District

It's a busy time of year, thinking about holidays, school breaks, weather...but there's something else the Newtown Health District wants you to think about - your health!

Cold and Flu season will be coming along - please be mindful - Influenza (the Flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Please be careful and take precautions.

This past year, Flu got a lot of media coverage. There were many questions about the effectiveness of the Flu shot, the timing of the flu shot and there were many respiratory illnesses in addition to the flu going around. The flu shot is one very important step you can take to help stay healthy and not get the flu. It may not be 100% effective, but any protection is important.

In addition to getting a flu shot, good health habits are another excellent way to help protect against the flu.

1. Avoid close contact - Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from also getting sick.
2. Stay home when you are sick - If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
3. Cover your mouth and nose - Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
4. Clean your hands - Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.
5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth - Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
6. Stay healthy/get healthy: Do everything you can to improve your health. The healthier you are the more resistant your body is to disease. Adopting healthy behaviors such as getting plenty of sleep, being physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, eating nutritious food and avoiding tobacco can prevent or reduce the damage done by many illnesses, including influenza.

That # 6 is a good one to work on all of the time. It will help you with many potential health issues (high blood pressure, diabetes, overweight, depression, stress). Be good to yourself and take care of your body.



Your Health Department: Health District office hours in the Bridgewater Town Hall are Monday and Wednesday from 8 am-12 noon. The Bridgewater office number is (860) 355-4467. Property files for Bridgewater are in the Bridgewater Town Hall. The main Health District office is at 3 Primrose Street in Newtown, and is open Monday thru Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm. The Newtown office number is (203) 270-4291 even though it's a different area code, it's still a local call. Our e-mail is health.district@newtown-ct.gov Please feel free to call or e-mail us any time if you have questions or concerns.



Congratulations 2018 Regional Recycling Billboard Contest Winners



Emma Pollack
1st Place, Kindergarten
Northville Elementary - New Milford



Julissa Tomaino
2018 Grand Prize Winner, Sixth Grade
New Fairfield MS - New Fairfield

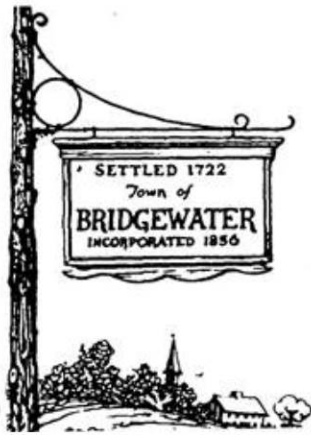


Jack Toczykowski
Honorable Mention, Second Grade
The Burnham School - Bridgewater



Joao Scheeren
1st Place, First Grade
Center Elementary - Brookfield

Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority 162 Whisconier Road, Brookfield
CT 06804 Call: 203.775.4539 Email: info@hrra.org www.hrra.org



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 January 5th, 2019.*

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 Lindblom

NOVEMBER

- 6 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 6 Inland Wetlands Commission 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 11 VETERAN'S DAY ***Town Hall Closed***
- 13 Board of Selectman 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 15 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 15 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 21 Board of Finance 5:30 PM, Town Hall
- 22-23 THANKSGIVING ***Town Hall Closed***

DECEMBER

- 4 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 4 Inland Wetlands Commission 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 11 Board of Selectman 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 20 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 20 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 24-25 CHRISTMAS ***Town Hall Closed***

JANUARY

- 31-1 NEW YEAR'S DAY ***Town Hall Closed***
- 8 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 8 Inland Wetlands Commission 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 8 Board of Selectmen 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 17 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 17 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 21 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ***Town Hall Closed***

For additional information and updates, please visit our website at www.bridgewatertownhall.org

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWS!

Sign up at
www.bridgewatertownhall.org
for all the latest news and events!

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



CALENDAR

Bridgewater Recreation News FALL/WINTER

Luminaries

If you are interested in volunteering to help put out luminaries on Main Street on Christmas Eve, or clean up on Christmas Day, please contact bridgewaterpavilion@gmail.com



Pickle Ball

Pickleball will be held during the cold weather months on Tuesday and Friday at the Burnham School Gym from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. All are welcome.

Tractor Parade Winner



Congratulations to Shannon Young and his crew for winning the Chip Planz Memorial Trophy and Best Float at the Annual Tractor Parade.

Pavilion Rentals

Thanks to all who rented the Pratt Pavilion this season. If you are interested in renting next year, please contact us early to get your desired date. Requests can be sent to: bridgewaterpavilion@gmail.com



Men's Drop In Basketball

Wednesday evenings, 7 PM
Burnham School



The Bridgewater Recreation Commission

Eric Soetbeer- *Chairman*
Roberta Allen-*Secretary*
Josh Murphy
Lynn Kubisek
Jim Moker
Brad Goldstein
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.



Local and Global Handcrafts in Bridgewater

Weekends from November 23 thru December 16 in the Friendship Hall at the Bridgewater Congregational Church.

Come visit our 12th annual Fair Trade and Made-in-Bridgewater shop this holiday season! Our International Fair-Trade Store features beautiful handcrafted items from a dozen developing nations... jewelry, scarves and accessories, baskets, housewares, cultural home accents, personal accessories, children's gifts, and Christmas ornaments. You'll want to be sure to save some of your holiday shopping for our sale because you'd have to travel way out of town to find such finely crafted artistry!

In the Handmade-in-Bridgewater collection, there is a great variety of handknit, woven and sewn items in addition to crafts in a variety of media. There are beautiful pressed flower holiday and year-round cards, picture frames and pendants from a local gardener and artist, home-baked goodies . . . and top-of-the-line, full and fragrant 6- to 9-foot Fraser Fir Christmas Trees. The Shop will be open Fridays 4-6, Saturdays 10-5, Sundays 11-5, and extended hours on November 23 (10-5) and Tree Lighting Night (4-8).

Have Your Next Event At The Friendship Hall!

The beautifully renovated Friendship Hall at the Bridgewater Congregational Church and the Church are available to rent for special occasions like birthday and anniversary celebrations, bridal and baby showers, in addition to meetings, dinners and luncheons, and more. The Friendship Hall is now air-conditioned and has a large Health Department-approved kitchen. Church membership and town residency are not required.

Call the office Monday - Friday, 10:00-12:00, at 860-354-8283 or email office.bwucc@gmail.com or visit us on the web www.bridgewaterfriendshiphall.com for more information and a tour of the buildings or to book your event.



Burnham School Second Annual Vendor Fair

November 3rd from 6pm-9:30pm
Burnham School Gym

There will be a variety of vendors and some refreshments. Come down for a fun girls' night out, and get some holiday shopping done early.

