



OUR TOWN

BRIDGEWATER

Connecticut

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, CT

NOVEMBER 2019

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Message from Our First Selectman

Last fall in my "Letter from the First Selectman" I wrote the following: "This improbable Grange saga has been unwinding since 2014 with more chapters likely to follow." Another chapter is about to unfold on Saturday, November 9th from 9am to 11am at Burnham School.

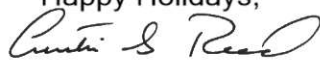
At this Public Hearing a state official and preservationists will speak and defend the idea that the old Grange building should be rehabilitated at significant expense offset marginally by possible grants and tax credits. As an alternative, I will present another option to construct a new community center/Grange on a different site, where the town owns adjoining land for parking, septic disposal, and our own water supply. We have had engineers and architects analyzing the site and how a proposed building design will work and at what estimated cost.

Many people have come up with ideas for the old Grange conundrum, but the price of indecision is that we could wallow in this limbo for even more years if we don't come to a well-supported consensus to guide the Board of Selectmen. One idea floating around is that a new community center should go up by the Hilltop Senior Center. The problem with this possibility is that we have identified that property as the ideal location for Senior Housing. Currently, an ad hoc Senior Housing Committee is actively at work on how we can construct tasteful, yet affordable, units where older residents from Bridgewater get priority.

According to recent demographic data, 48% of Bridgewater residents are age 65 and over. Also, based on past surveys, we know that many people would rather stay in town when they are ready to give up their homes that are too big or need maintaining. Bridgewater is fortunate to already have appropriate land, a plentiful drinking water supply and well drained soils for septic disposal on either side of our Hilltop Senior Center. This is an ideal spot for a senior housing community.

The center of Bridgewater is getting stronger. The Peck House renovations are complete. Burnham School is thriving. Center Street plans are approved for one way traffic with additional parking spaces. Center Street work will resume next Spring and is funded by an additional \$82,000 state grant secured earlier this year.

The latest good news for our downtown revival is the completion of the Susan Beris, MD. Youth Learning Center. Dr. Susie's generosity will be honored in a dedication ceremony at 11am on the same morning as the upcoming Grange meeting. Perhaps all this work will attract young families to Bridgewater. After all, youth is the future of our fair town.

Happy Holidays,

Curtis S. Read, First Selectman
860-354-5250

LAND TRANSFERS

Land Transfers: July 2019

No transfers were reported for this month.

Land Transfers: August 2019

- Estate of Christine Matilda Shook to Dustin L. and Tamara L. Shook of Bridgewater, land and buildings, 709 Main Street South, \$400,000

Land Transfers: September 2019

- Elizabeth Swift of Buffalo, NY to Todd Sargent of Bridgewater, land and buildings, 199 New Milford Road West, \$675,000

ATTEST:
Cheryl L. Pinkos, Town Clerk

Registrars of Voters

November

Monday 11-04-19 9:00A.M. to 5:00P.M.

Tuesday 11-05-19 6:00A.M. to 8:00P.M.

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday 11-19-19 9:00A.M. to 11:00A.M.

December

Tuesday 12-03-19 9:00A.M. to 11:00A.M.

Tuesday 12-17-19 9:00A.M. to 11:00A.M.

January

Tuesday 1-07-20 9:00A.M. to 11:00A.M.

Tuesday 1-21-20 9:00A.M. to 11:00A.M.

All registration sessions will take 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 fourth Tuesday of each month between 9:00A.M. and 11:00A.M.

Margaret Judith Sullivan, Democratic Registrar
Susan Patrick, Republican Registrar

JOB OPENING NOTICES

DIRECTOR, BRIDGEWATER SENIOR CENTER

The Director works with senior citizens to ensure that all programs and activities at the Senior Center are meaningful and successful. The Director is responsible for diverse tasks, including managing budgets, training and supervising staff and maintaining records. The Director reports to the First Selectman of the Town of Bridgewater and works with the Board of Directors of the Senior Center to organize events such as: luncheons, birthday socials, exercise programs, games, trips, fund raising events, guest speakers, health talks and information, and entertainment.

Other responsibilities include:

- Produces periodic newsletter and quarterly article for town newsletter
- Attends seminars and meetings for continuing education
- Ensures the building is neat and tidy and ready for events
- Manages building rentals for social events (weddings, etc.)
- Prepares and administers the senior center budget
- Recruits and works with volunteers and plans work assignments

Experience and Education:

Applicants should have previous experience in a supervisory role. They should also be computer literate, preferably with Microsoft Office. Knowledge of health issues relating to senior citizens is desirable. A friendly and outgoing personality is beneficial. Applicant should have at least a high school diploma and training in job related disciplines.

The Town of Bridgewater is an equal opportunity employer.

Burnham School After Care Enrichment Program (ACE) Part-time Position

As the ACE Program continues to grow, it needs more adults to help manage the program.

Applicants must be able to participate in indoor and outdoor play, and do crafts with kids in grades K-5. Previous experience working with kids is a plus. Hours are 3:00 PM -6:00 PM during the school year at the Burnham School. Flexible scheduling and great pay in a friendly work environment.

If interested, please email ACE at ACEBridgewater@gmail.com to arrange an interview.

Office of the Tax Collector

Taxes Due: The second installment of Real Estate and Personal Property taxes is due January 1, 2020. 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, 2018 and before September 30, 2019. The bills will be mailed in December and become due January 1, 2020.

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, 2020 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!

ONLINE PAYMENTS: The Tax Department can receive payments made by check transfer, credit card, or debit cards. There is an additional fee paid directly to the service provider to use this service. This service can be accessed through our website at www.bridgewater-ct.gov

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



Welcome Baskets

Last year it was decided by the Deacons of the Bridgewater Congregational Church that we would reach out to all new residents of Bridgewater telling them about our church in the hopes they may join us some Sunday.

Feeling it was a bit selfish to just talk about us, it was decided to invite St. Mark's. That started a bigger discussion. Why not invite the Library, Town Hall, Senior Center, Village Store, Community Caring, Bridgewater Chocolate, Mobil Station and anyone else we could think of to join us. Well, all joined in.

Now when someone is new to town they get a Welcome Basket with lots of useful information, a gift certificate from the Mobil Station and Bridgewater Bistro. They get Bridgewater Chocolate, jam from St. Marks and baked goods from the Bridgewater Congregational Church. Included is a historic book of Postcards of Bridgewater from the Burnham Library. Of course we include an Our Town as well. We have hand delivered 19 of these baskets since the kickoff of this program. We wish the townspeople could see the reaction we get and how this affirms that these folks have just moved into the finest little town in Connecticut.

Note: in researching this initiative following the writing of this article, we found that the Senior Center performed this service some years ago. Thank you. We will continue on with what appears to be a tradition exhibiting the goodness of the people of Bridgewater.

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. Personal Property forms have been mailed out and must be returned in our office by Friday, 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 Personal Property of up to \$100,000 on all farm machinery, (except motor vehicles as defined in Section 14-1) and the \$1,000 exemption on horses or ponies 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-ct.gov 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

Bridgewater is becoming a "Bike Friendly Community"

The town's varied terrain, ridges and beautiful vistas make it a destination for bicycle riders of every type from distance racers to families. According to regional surveys and our own eyes, recreational biking continues to grow in popularity. Bridgewater is encouraging this sport and has taken advantage of state grants to improve Center Street and downtown partly due to inclusion of "bike friendly" elements.

The state grants will total \$107,000 when work is completed next year. It includes a bike parking area (pictured) next to Town Hall where a kiosk with a large detailed map of suggested family oriented bike routes will be displayed. There will also be some bike racks and a stone memorial bench for changing shoes and equipment.

Bridgewater will become better known as a biking destination which could, in turn, attract more young families and active adults to see what Bridgewater offers and perhaps move here.



Bridgewater Tractor Parade

The 2019 Bridgewater Tractor Parade held on Labor Day weekend was a smashing success with over 50 tractors participating. The top award for best float in memory of Chip Planz went to Shannon Young and his crew and float called "One Lane Bridge Bar N Grill".

VETERAN'S NEWS



Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019: Passed and signed into law, however, the new VA Secretary Wilkie issued a blanket stay that stopped all processing of all benefit claims by Blue Water Navy veterans. Earlier this week, the military community reached out directly to President Trump to ask him to use his executive powers to overrule Secretary Wilkie and lift the stay. As Chief Executive, charged with faithfully executing the nation's laws, President Trump has the authority and the responsibility to change the Secretary's decision and allow VA to begin processing Blue Water Navy claims. Please add your voice in support of Blue Water Navy veterans by using the prepared email, or draft your own, to ask President Trump to lift the stay and end their wait. You can find a prepared draft at www.moaa.org or www.dav.com.

Pending VA Cases: Have you received a Statement of the Case (SOC) or Supplemental Statement of the Case (SSOC) from the VA? You may be able to opt in to the new Appeals Improvement Modernization of 2017 (AMA) framework. There is a video at www.dav.org that explains the process and will debunk some myths associated with appeals.

VBA is Hiring! Looking for a great new rewarding career? Help the VA to provide benefits and services to Veterans and their families. They have openings all over the country and new ones pop up all the time. Log into VBA on USAJOBS.COM for more information.

Change to VA Log On: To improve your experience with VA, they're consolidating and transitioning eBenefits to VA.gov. This transition will be in phases, and has already begun for certain online transactions, such as disability benefits claim status, Post-9/11 GI Bill Statement of Benefits, and information on how to request your military service records. They are currently working on the migration of other features to include the ability to apply for VA Disability Compensation and updating direct deposit information for Compensation and Pension payments. If you access any features on eBenefits that have transitioned to VA.gov, or are in the process of transitioning, you will either be directed to VA.gov or provided with information on how the feature is now available on VA.gov. They are also working on providing additional ways to login and access information on eBenefits by using a MyHealthVet or ID.me login credential. If you use DS Logon to access eBenefits, please update your cell and/or landline phone number(s) and the most current email address on file.

TRICARE Open Season and Federal Benefits Open Season. TRICARE Open Season applies to anyone enrolled in or eligible for a TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select health plan. Federal Benefits Open Season is for enrollment in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). Both the TRICARE and FEDVIP open seasons begin on November 11 and end on December 9. Enrollment choices made during this period will take effect on January 1, 2020.



If you have a mental health crisis or know of a veteran who is in crisis, please contact the Veterans Crisis Line, 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, to Chat, or Text 838255.

Joe Buchheit, LTC-USA (Ret)
VA Liaison, Bridgewater
8603552433
townofbridgewaterva@gmail.com.

SHEPAUG VALLEY SCHOOL



Region District 12 Updates

On September 3rd, nearly 450 students walked through the doors of the newly renovated Shepaug building. The campus has been transformed with the addition of new science labs and the agriscience program. Forty-seven students proudly began the highly anticipated agriscience program. This exceeded our expectations for the first cohort to join our school. Our agriscience students will focus on environmental sustainability while pushing the limits of agricultural processes and engineering. They will experience drones with infrared scanners to determine field health, organic farming practices, virtual horse riding, as well as state-of-the-art stables and riding ring.

We are excited to welcome Mr. Michael Croft who has returned to Shepaug as the assistant principal. Mr. Croft's vision for unifying the community as well as celebrating our school's success align with the direction our district is moving. Mr. Croft joins Principal Kim Gallo in leading Shepaug to bring educational opportunities and rigor to all students.

Burnham School continues to grow and thrive under the guidance of Principal Cathy Colella and her staff. This year, a tuition-in waitlist was created for Burnham School because of the high demand. The waitlist is a testament to the school, the children and the community.

Our students and the learning garden will continue to bloom in Bridgewater. Burnham students will work with our agriscience students at Shepaug as well as continuing their relationship with the master gardeners at UCONN.

Superintendent Megan Bennett will continue her community conversations this year. The talks will shift from Shaping Shepaug to Designing the Shepaug Experience. The goal of the community conversations is to provide a school system that reflects the vision of our communities.

Region 12 is proud to continue its electronic communication platforms. Mr. Ben Allen will continue the Region in Review, website updates, and social media updates. We ask all community and family members to follow us on Twitter @ShepaugRSD12, FaceBook Shepaug Regional School District 12, Instagram @region12schools, and our website www.region-12.org.

A special thank you to the Bridgewater community for your patience and support of our schools during the construction project and agriscience program startup. It is our hope that the community will now return to see the changes to our beautiful Shepaug campus. Our school district is only successful when we are united. Thank you for your partnership.

Megan Bennett
Superintendent
Region 12 Schools



First Day Friendships at Burnham



Shepaug Agriscience Program welcomes new students from six towns.



Burnham School PTO NEWS

The Burnham School PTO kicked off the school year with the Bridgewater Tractor Parade. Our "Walk-A-Thon Training In-Progress" themed float earned The Burnham School the "Best Embodiment of Bridgewater" Award!

The 2019-2020 school year is off to a great start with many exciting events and enrichment programs planned, including our first annual Walk-A-Thon fundraiser on November 1st, followed by our Annual Fall Festival celebration on November 3rd. The Burnham School Read-A-Thon will be back this winter so stay tuned for more information and consider sponsoring a bookworm, err, student!

We would also like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mrs. Stultz, a staff member of Region-12 and our After Care Enrichment Program (ACE), who passed away suddenly in early October. Mrs. Stultz

was involved in the ACE program from the very beginning and became an integral part of our community. We are forever grateful to Mrs. Stultz for her kindness, patience, and sincere dedication to our students. ACE will be creating a project together to honor her memory.

Kindly Submitted by,
Greg Bura
Burnham School PTO



Burnham's award winning float



Burnham School children getting ready for Walk To School Day



FROM THE DESK OF THE TOWN HISTORIAN

It isn't often that you'd think of Bridgewater and the famous - or infamous- P.T. Barnum, but there is a connection. When the town of Southville was being cleared to make way for the new Lake Lillinonah, remaining buildings were torn down and the timbers burned. One of those homes was owned by the "Barnum Boys", brothers who claimed to be relatives of P.T. Barnum. Those brothers, men who lived away from most of their neighbors, had decided to build a boat - in their basement. You might have guessed - it was too big, and too sturdy, to get it out of the cellar. And their house was too strong to be knocked down by the wreckers. It had been built with wooden pegged timbers and plaster walls. The solution? The wrecking crew put containers of kerosene into the boat and set fire to the house. People came from all over Bridgewater to watch the inferno, but P.T. Barnum wasn't among them.

- Eileen Buccheit

THE BRIDGEWATER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Veteran's Day is held in high regard in our home. For three generations, men in our family served in time of war - World War I, World War II and in Viet Nam. In thinking about this holiday, it came to mind how similar our town is to the Army "family".

When I married my husband, we went from our honeymoon to his first military assignment at Fort Eustis, Virginia. He had taken ROTC classes and many of his friends were going to Fort Eustis as well. It made it seem familiar somehow for him. For me, it was all very strange. There was the whole rank thing to figure out, as well as the geography of the base. In short order it all became clear. In short order, too, came the understanding that this was my new "family". "Hail and Farewell" ceremonies were held often, as new people came and old friends went on to new assignments. New arrivals were greeted with a prepared dinner to start them out. When someone fell ill, neighbors did the same and offered child care to help the parents through that difficult time.

And Bridgewater? Early on, the late Bernadette Allingham took me into her circle of friends and made me feel part of the community. After a few town meetings, strangers came up to me and quickly became friends. And this last winter, when I had a bad fall, food and encouragement appeared at our doorstep on a regular basis - as well as prayers from the Congregational Church, even though we are not members, but friends. So it would seem that we exchanged one "family" for another. Each one holds a special place in our hearts.



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 Wilkicki 860-354-7827 or Eileen Buchheit 860-355-2433

Meet Alice Rothschild

With the opening of the Dr. Susan Beris M.D. Youth Learning Center, we'd like to take some time to focus on the founder of the Junior Library, Alice Rothschild. This text is taken from a permanent exhibit that will be found in the new Dr. Susan Beris M.D. Youth Learning Center.

Alice Rothschild was born Alice Edgerton, in Columbiana, OH in 1894. Her time at a Quaker school established a love of learning that could only be fulfilled through the vigorous consumption of books. Later in life, she noted that "I didn't have a conventional education. I knew how to get a hold of books. I read as much as I could read." Indeed, this attitude informed her entire life and career.

Alice found her calling as a teacher at progressive schools in New York City, settling at the Dalton School. Driven by a mission to expand the knowledge and education of children, she worked with a group of other teachers to establish a school in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Never one to rest on her laurels, Alice moved to a small Connecticut town in 1962, to work as a teacher and librarian, a job that she viewed as being inextricably linked. It was here in Bridgewater that Alice spent the rest of her life.

First on her list was to expand the one shelf of children's books into a more substantial collection. Rothschild was passionate about literature and the one shelf nestled in the adult collection was not acceptable. She pointedly said that "[t]he children deserve more than this and they need more than this."

The dream of a children's library would be realized. The one shelf would be transformed (with help of the visionary) into a whole room complete with custom built shelves, comfy furnishings and a plush rug. Free from the expectations of the Adult Library, Rothschild created spaces for children to read and learn. During her tenure circulation hit record numbers. Bridgewater became the highest circulating library, per-capita in the state.

After retirement, Rothschild remained active in the community and an avid reader. Although she stopped driving, friends brought her to events, and Burnham Library staff and volunteers continued to bring books to her home. When Alice Rothschild passed in 1998, the Burnham Library Board of Trustees unanimously agreed that there wasn't a more fitting honor than to dedicate the Junior Library in her memory.

Mrs. Rothschild was an advocate for change and progress. The transformation of the space that she conceived of into the Dr. Susan Beris M.D. Youth Learning Center, is a testament to her vision. This metamorphosis wouldn't be possible without the generosity of Dr. Susie Beris. Dr. Susie's love of children has manifested itself in an amazing gift that continues to grow the vision of Burnham Library's first children's librarian.


Submitted by Chris Fisher



New in Bridgewater

Mindful Moves Yoga LLC

At Friendship Hall, Bridgewater Congregational Church



Life is a balance of holding on and letting go - rumi
Awaken the body and soul through Yoga with Tanya
All Levels Welcome!
Classes held on Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays
Questions? Contact Tanya at yoga.mindfulmoves@gmail.com



**BURNHAM
LIBRARY**

Where Community Connects

BURNHAM LIBRARY NEWS

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 2018 & JANUARY 2020

Library Hours:

Visit us on Tuesday 1-5, Wednesday 9-6,
Thursday 9-6, Friday 1-5 and Saturday 9-1.

Special Closing Dates and Hours: Friday, November 15th open from 9-1 Closed -
Saturday, November 16th as we prepare for O Silent Night Early Closing at Noon -
Wednesday, November 27 Closed - Thanksgiving Day and Friday, November 29

Keep up-to-date with all our Library Happenings at www.burnhamlibrary.org or visit us on Facebook!

O SILENT NIGHT - Eat, Drink and Be Merry! • Saturday, November 16th from 5:00 - 7:00

The Friends of the 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. The evening will feature a silent and LIVE auction as well as a Win-Win Balloon Pop and a wine basket raffle, with all proceeds benefiting the Library. This year's LIVE auction includes a Trip to Tuscany for two, a 2-night Ultimate Pro Sports Fan Getaway, and a 3-night New Orleans Jazz and Dining Excursion! Also on the auction block: a custom Mark Boccuzzi sign, A Year of Desserts, 12 Months of Pizza (wine and beer, too), and much more! This annual event is the primary fundraiser for The Friends of the Library which finances library programs, museum passes, digital products and streaming services, capital improvements and other library essentials. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Library November 1st, \$35 pre-event or \$40 at the door. Donations and sponsorships are welcome by November 1st.

Art Exhibits

October - November 13 • "Faces" a collection of human and animal portraits by Litchfield County resident, Chandra Rogers. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, October 13th from 2:00 - 4:00.
November 20 - December 31 • Tara Finneran of Bridgewater
January 1 - February 29 - Lee Skalkos

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

December 5 • Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver

January 23 • Becoming Dr. Seuss: Theodor Geisel and the Making of an American Imagination by Brian Jay Jones.

Artists' Salon - 2nd Wednesday of the month • 6:30-8:30

Visual artist of ALL persuasions are invited to join professional Artist and Expressive Art facilitator, and current Burnham Library Maker-in-Residence, Pamela Hochstetter for a monthly Artists' Salon. The purpose of these meetings is to draw artists out of their studios and to hang out with other artists from the Litchfield/Fairfield County area. Artists will discuss projects and experiences, let down, relax and have fun. These events are FREE. In lieu of a fee, please bring a beverage or snack to share. More info email pamelahochstetter@gmail.com

Silent Responsibility - Remembering George & Jane Pratt • Saturday, November 23 from 4:00-5:30

Join the Burnham Library in collaboration with the Bridgewater Land Trust for a reception in honor of George and Jane Pratt whose legacy is still evident in this small town. The Pratts were noted as having a "silent responsibility" which led to the protection and preservation of large tracts of Bridgewater and New Milford as well as other philanthropic activities. Come share refreshments and a story about The Pratts and the work they did.

Gingerbread House Workshops for all ages!

Gingerbread House Workshop Happy Hour - Thursday, December 5 from 6:30 - 8:00

Why let the kids have all the fun or all the candy! Deck out your own gingerbread house with frosting and toppings. Light bites and a signature cocktail or BYOB. The winning gingerbread house will receive a \$40 gift card for the Bridgewater Bistro. Suggested donation. Registration required. Space and supplies are limited. 21+

Burnham Library, cont.

Family Gingerbread House Workshop with Nancy Stuart - Saturday, December 7 Our favorite holiday tradition is back! Join Nancy Stuart as she leads a workshop for families and children to build the Gingerbread House of their dreams. Session 1: 9:30 - 10:30 & Session 2: 10:45 - 11:30 Advance registration is required. Space and supplies are limited. This free program includes a freshly baked house, candy and decorating supplies and holiday fun! Please bring a box or two of your favorite cereal for our Cereal Drive to benefit the Bridgewater Food Pantry! Additional houses for home crafting can be pre-ordered for pick-up the day of the event, \$10 each.

Boards and Brews - Friday, January 17 at 6:00 Tabletop games, potluck, 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. Registration requested. Potluck and BYOB. Ages 21+

Youth Programs in the Susie Beris MD Youth Learning Center

Registration: Advance registration is required with the Library at cfisher@burnhamlibrary.org. 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.

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 19th. Registration is ongoing. Winter/Spring session: January 16th - May 21st. Registration begins December 19th. 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 10/3 and 10/24, 11/7 and 11/21, 12/5 and 12/19, 1/2 and 1/23 from 3:30 - 4:00

Burnham Book Worms - Grade 3-5 Enjoy books, snacks, and an activity with our Junior Friend, Julia Sinatra. November's meeting will introduce our December title, Because of Mr. Terupt. The following months you will discuss The Invention of Hugo Cabret and A Tale Dark and Grimm. Copies of the book are available at YLC circulation desk. Wednesdays 11/13, 12/11, 1/8 from 3:30 - 4:00

Board Game Bunch - Grades 3-5 Come and learn new and exciting board games with Chris! Wednesday 10/16, 11/20, 12/18, 1/15 from 3:30 - 4:30

Monthly programs for Grades 1-5 - Leaf Jar Candle Holders • Thursday, November 14 from 3:30 - 4:30 Create a beautiful candle holder, just in time for Thanksgiving!

Candy Science Explosion - Friday, December 13 from 3:30 - 4:30 Do you like candy? Do you like science? Join us for some sweet science fun!

Escape the Library - Wednesday, January 17 from 3:30 - 4:30 Can you solve the riddles and clues to escape the library before it's too late?

Susan Beris MD Youth Learning Center

Opening and Dedication Ceremony Saturday, November 9 from 11:30 - 12:30

Please join us for the GRAND REVEAL of the new Susan Beris MD Youth Learning Center. The transformation is over! Come see what the library has to offer to the community and celebrate the generosity and spirit of Bridgewater resident and pediatrician, Dr. Susie Beris.



NEWS FROM HILLTOP CENTER

VETERANS DAY - MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Please join us for our Veterans Day Ceremony. Bridgewater resident, Joe Buchheit, retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel will again lead us in a moving tribute to all our veterans. First Selectman Curtis Read will give an address and our guest speaker, Brigid Carney, will give a talk on what it's like growing up in a military family. Our very own Hilltop Singers will do their usual wonderful rendition of some of our favorite military music. We would ask that you be in your seats no later than 10:45 am. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Time to once again start thinking about Christmas baskets. While we think of our own family lists let's remember to include a little something for the seniors who are not able to be out and about during the holiday season. If you would like to make a monetary donation please make checks out to "BWSC Christmas Baskets". Cookies will also be needed, date of delivery to be announced. We would appreciate anyone who can volunteer to deliver these baskets in early December. Signup sheets will be available at the Senior Center.

AGING MASTERY PROGRAM:

The Aging Mastery Program (AMP) is delivered over 11 weekly meetings lasting an hour and a half each session. AMP incorporates evidence-informed materials, expert speakers, group discussion, peer support and a small reward to give participants the skills and tools to achieve measurable improvements. Preliminary results have shown that older adults in the program significantly increased their: social connectedness, physical activity levels, healthy eating habits, use of advanced planning, participation in evidence-based programs and adoption of several other healthy behaviors. The program encourages mastery of sustainable behaviors that will lead to improved health, stronger financial security, and overall well-being. We are planning to start this program in January possibly on an early Monday afternoon. Sign up is required.

BRIDGEWATER SENIOR VAN

THE VAN IS AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS FOR DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS, GROCERY SHOPPING AND SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, such as the town fishing derby. Availability is on a first come, first serve basis but we make every effort to meet your needs. Our drivers are: MICHELE KING, ALAN DINHO, MATT DEVITO AND ANN FRATTALONE. The van has a limited destination distance of no more than 20 miles. Please contact the Senior Van Director - Ann Frattalone at 860-350-3042 at least 2 weeks in advance for your appointments. If anyone would like to come to any event at the senior center and would prefer not to drive, please call us and we will make arrangements for the van to pick you up.

Hilltop Center is available for private parties; if you are interested or have any questions, please give us a call or stop by.

CHRISTMAS SHOW:

"MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS" at the Spinning Wheel restaurant in Redding, CT is a joyful celebration of the holiday season. It features a gourmet menu followed by a high energy holiday-themed show of music, magic and comedy for holiday revelers of all ages! Van available for first 10 people who sign up. Adults: \$59.

EXERCISE PROGRAMS:

Line Dancing - Monday - 11 - 12
Tai Chi - Wednesday - 10:30 - 11:30
Chair Yoga - Friday - 10:30 - 11:30

Please check the calendar available at Hilltop for all other programs and events!



*WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY
SEASON AND A HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR.*



Community Caring in Bridgewater, Inc. (CCB)

Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Staying Healthy and Happy at Home

Our Mission

Founded in 2007, CCB's mission is to provide a coordinated referral system of services and support for the 400+ households with at least one resident who is age 50 or over in Bridgewater, Connecticut. Our goal is to make it possible for seniors and their families to stay in their homes and fully enjoy life here while having access to the care and resources needed as they grow older. Our principal services are to (a) coordinate chores/household services referrals that are requested by seniors and provide, to the extent possible, volunteers to perform basic household services; (b) act as a repository for community information, services and programs for seniors; (c) coordinate medical referral efforts with the local medical institutions servicing our community; and (d) provide financial assistance when need is apparent. There is no membership fee required for our services.

Autumn and Winter Projects

We can help with routine fall and winter projects and can provide referrals for more involved projects or service requests.

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



Friends of the Lake

Lake Drawdown: Beginning on November 2, 2019 FirstLight will conduct a drawdown of Lake Lillinonah at the Shepaug Dam to conduct its maintenance and inspection

activities. The normal summer operating range of the station is from 200'-195.5' and the drawdown will target an elevation of 191'. The drawdown will lower lake levels to minimum pond levels and return to normal operating elevations on November 11, 2019. All homeowners are also urged to remove structures, boatlifts, and docks from Lake Lillinonah to prevent ice or flood damage from occurring during the winter months. Any and all work planned to occur along the shoreline requires prior permitting from FirstLight.

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



Bridgewater EMS Update Fall/Winter 2019

On behalf of The Bridgewater Fire Department I want to thank all of you who helped make our Bridgewater Country Fair a big success. The weather for the Fair was much better this year than it has been for the past few. In fact, this was the first time in 3 years that the Firemen's Parade was not cancelled due to poor weather. We have received many compliments from Fair guests. The members of The Fire Department know very well that it is the generous support from the people who volunteer their time and effort that makes the Fair such a wonderful experience. We are very grateful for your support and honored to serve you.

There is a rumor that Fall and Winter will be paying us a visit soon. This time of year brings us many opportunities to enjoy our Town and the beautiful countryside. It also presents us with a number of environmental changes that can result in accidents and injuries. While they present us with impressively painted views, fallen leaves can also play a role in causing accidents from slipping on the road, trails, walkways and other surfaces. Not long after the leaves finish falling we will likely be seeing some ice, sleet and snow. Please be mindful of these seasonal hazards and take precautions to avoid injuries. But, know that if you do suffer an injury and you need assistance your Bridgewater Volunteer EMTs are prepared to come to your aid. Just call 911 if you need our help.

This is probably a good time to remind everyone that Volunteers are critically important to all of us in Bridgewater. When you call 911 seeking emergency medical assistance in our town that call is dispatched to our Bridgewater Emergency Medical volunteers. Our EMS volunteers are trained and certified to provide excellent medical care in emergency situations. The Emergency Medical Technicians and Emergency Medical Responders respond from their homes, workplaces or wherever they may be when their assistance is needed. Our volunteers answer calls for help 24 hours a day 7 days a week. We have good reason to be grateful and proud that we have people willing to provide this service to us.

We need more volunteers to help support our Emergency Medical Service in Bridgewater. If you are in Town during the day or during the night, your help is needed. Please give serious consideration to joining us. We will help you obtain the training required and we will support you as you develop your skills. In Connecticut you must be at least 14 years of age before you can be certified to assist in EMS. But, once you reach that age everyone who is able to qualify is welcome. When our patients ask us how much we get paid we usually say something like, "We are your neighbors. We volunteer because we care about our neighbors. That's Bridgewater. Isn't it?" Then the smile on their faces and the look in their eyes actually answers the question about the pay. If you have questions or would like more information to help you consider joining our team, please contact me. I will be happy to help.

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

Bridgewater Fire Department Women's Auxiliary

Once again we need to say Thank You to our community for your outpouring of support of our events year after year. The weather has been on our side this year with the Fair, the Beer & Wine event and the Town Wide Tag Sale. The community really stepped up and baked a tremendous amount of goodies for the fair which made a wonderful impact of full shelves that many were trying to win - multiple times! Plus, for those unable to bake, we are very thankful for the generous donations you sent in the mail to us.

I also need to say Thank You to all the firemen and our auxiliary members that assist in various different ways throughout the year. These events would not be possible without their help and assistance. From putting on all the oil cloths at the fair & working in multiple booths, moving picnic tables at the pavilion, hauling ice, organizing and taking back recyclables, setting up tables, checking ID's, bracelets, clean up, etc. your help does not go unnoticed. A special thanks needs to go to John Nejaime for his assistance with the Beer & Wine as it keeps growing in attendance due to a well run show! Plus, thank you to Jim Moker and the Jems for their entertainment.

The Auxiliary is always looking for new members; please contact any member if you would like to join us. Our next meeting: November 18 at 7:30pm - Election of Officers for 2020

Have a Wonderful Holiday Season!
Carol Wilbur, President

OUR CHURCHES

St. Marks Episcopal Church



NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY

Every Sunday 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist.
Coffee hour follows the service every Sunday.
Vestry meets on third Sunday of every month

Saturday November 9th - 9 AM - 2 PM

Christmas Bazaar

Tag Sale, Bake Sale, & Jam Sale
Coffee & donuts 9-12, Lunch 12-2

Friday, December 6th - 5:30 PM

Victorian Christmas Dinner and Open House

\$15 adults, \$8 children, \$45 family maximum

Holiday Cookie Sale Preorder a variety of homemade cookies for the holidays by the pound. Orders must be placed by Dec. 16th and will be available for pick-up on Dec. 22 & 23. More details to follow or call Carol Wilbur at 203-648-3415.

Tuesday, December 24th

Carol Sing - 8:30 PM

Christmas Eve Service - 9:00 PM

Wednesday, December 25th

Christmas Service - 9:30 AM

Saturday, January 18, 2020 - 6 PM

Dinner in Marrakech

\$12 adults, \$6 children \$40 family maximum

Some services in November may be morning prayer.
The Christmas services are subject to change -
for the latest see the Town Calendar by mid-December

Have Your Next Event Here!

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 Tuesdays through Thursdays, 9:00-2:00, at 860-354-8283 or email office.bwucc@gmail.com for information and a tour of the buildings or to book your event.

The Bridgewater Congregational Church

Come meet our Interim Minister!

Reverend Daniel B. England is an ordained UCC minister who has just completed his ministry at North Church Woodbury as their Interim Senior Minister during May and June, while Sandy Koenig was on Sabbatical. Previously, he has served Interims at the First Congregational Church of Old Greenwich, Litchfield, Fairfield and Green's Farms, Connecticut where he is a member. He holds Masters Degrees in theology from Princeton Theological Seminary and Cambridge University in England. Daniel has also recently served on the Fairfield West Association's Committee on Ministry, where he was Chairman for 6 years. A speechwriter and senior editor for many years at major corporations, when not occupied with an interim position, he writes for magazines, has published a book on immigration and is writing a book, A Reader's Guide to the Gospel of Mark. He has four grown children, and two English Cream dachshunds named Bentley and (wait for it...) Studebaker. He and his wife live in Fairfield, CT.

Christmas Eve Service

The Bridgewater Congregational Church will host a service of Lessons and Carols for the community on Christmas Eve at 6:30. The service will begin with an extended prelude of special music by the church choir and guest musicians. Visit our website or Facebook page for more information!

ONGOING

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

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.

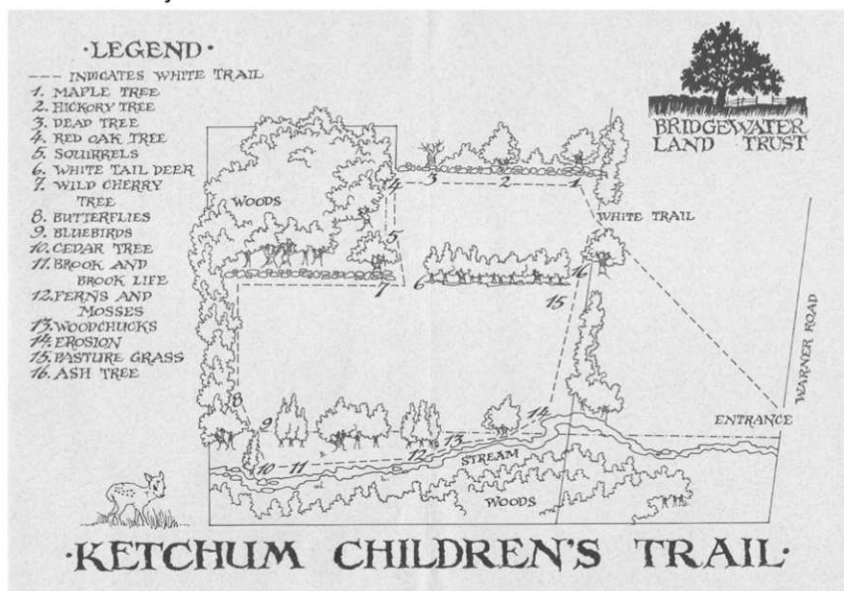
All Good Wishes for Christmas.

The Bridgewater Land Trust Fall/Winter 2019



Before winter sets in, we were able to complete the season's final maintenance on our public trails - the Town Line Farm Preserve Trail and the Ketchum Childrens Trail. We added a loop to the Townline Trail and did some much needed cleanup and remarking of the Ketchum Trail. There may still be a few weeks to enjoy a hike.

The Land Trust is partnering with the Burnham Library on a program called "Silent Responsibility - Remembering George & Jane Pratt". This event will be held on Saturday, November 23 from 4:00–5:30pm. The Pratts were noted as having a "silent responsibility" which led to the protection and preservation of large tracts of Bridgewater and New Milford as well as other philanthropic activities. Come share refreshments and a story about The Pratts and the work they did.

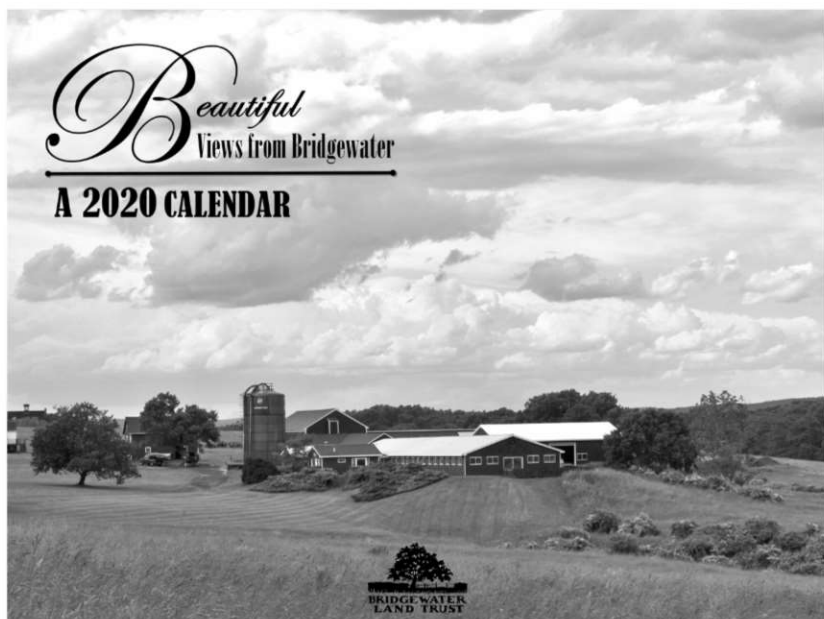


We are also publishing a "Views from Bridgewater" 2020 wall calendar featuring photography by resident Joe Dolen. Check out our website for details.

We look forward to some fun and interesting events in the planning phase for fall of 2020.

Please consider joining our Land Trust for 2020. Those membership dollars are crucial to the operation of the trust and preservation of our beautiful Bridgewater. The Bridgewater Land Trust is an approved 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Visit us at our website bridgewaterlandtrust.org or our Facebook page.

Dawn Burdick, Administrator,
Bridgewater Land Trust
860-354-9219



"Views From Bridgewater" a 2020 8 1/2 x 11 wall calendar will be available by the Bridgewater Land Trust. Thank you to Joe Dolen for donating his wonderful photographs.



Literacy volunteers
on the green

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. or further information about tutoring, or to refer someone for our services, please call us at (860) 355-0830, or email us at info@lvg-ct.org. Literacy Volunteers on the Green, 7 Whittlesey Avenue, New Milford, CT 06776.

Lynn Davies, Executive Director

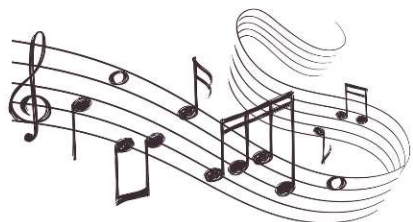


MUSIC AT PROMISEK

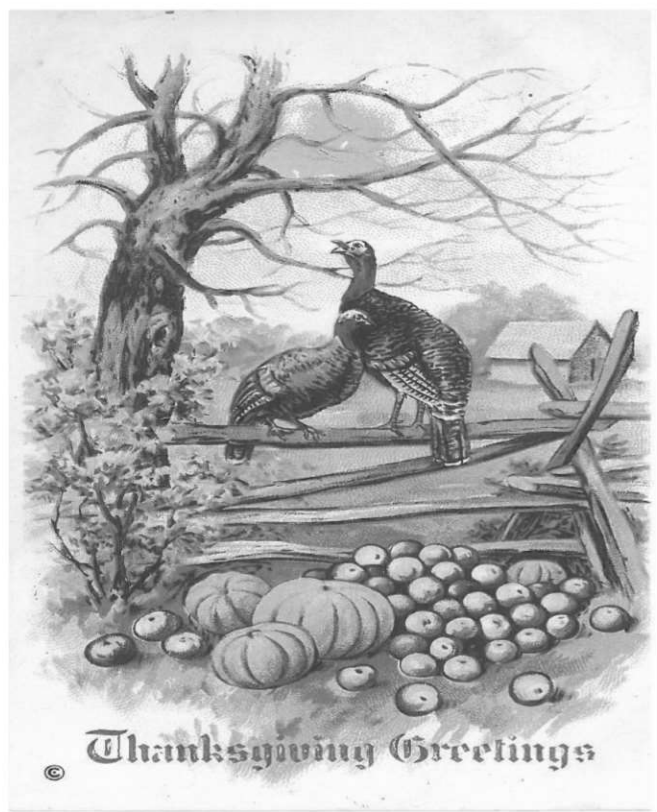
Katie Lansdale Bach
Workshop concert

Sunday January 16th, 3:00 PM

More info at 860-488-0556



Sunday, November 3



Beatrix Farrand, 1943.
Beatrix Farrand Society Archives

The Beatrix Farrand Garden at Promisek

*Who was she and a brief
history of the garden*

Beatrix Farrand is considered one of the most important 20th-century American landscape architects. Her work encompasses more than 200 known private gardens, estates,

and institutions, in the United States and elsewhere.

Beatrix Cadwalader Jones was born in 1872 into a family of socially prominent New Yorkers, who maintained a summer home called Reef Point in Bar Harbor, Maine. She had a close relationship with writer Edith Wharton, her paternal aunt. In the early 1890s she received private tutoring in landscape design from Charles Sprague Sargent, director of Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum in what is now the Jamaica Plains neighborhood of Boston, Massachusetts. After establishing her office in New York City in 1896, she rapidly achieved recognition in her self-styled profession as a landscape gardener. In the 1898 publication *Noted Women the World Over*, she is described as "an authority on forestry, as well as a skilled landscape architect. She has received satisfactory recognition and due patronage, though she has not long practiced her profession". The following year Farrand worked with Frederick Olmsted, Jr., Warren Manning, and others, to found the American Society of Landscape Architects.

By 1900, Jones was noted as an example of the 'gifts' women could bring to the practice of landscape architecture. In 1913 Jones married Max Farrand, and maintained offices in New Haven, Connecticut; New York City; and Bar Harbor. In 1921 Beatrix Farrand designed a formal garden on this property for Dr. Frederick Peterson, a noted New York neurologist, who entertained family, friends and clients on his country estate, which he called Three Rivers Farm. Farrand, a founding member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, had a major impact on garden design of her era.

By the time the 300-acre tract was acquired in 1978 by Promisek, all traces of the garden's former glory had been buried under years of overgrowth. In 1992 Roxbury resident and garden historian Pamela Edwards rediscovered the historic value of the walled garden, and a restoration began using the plan found in the Farrand archives at the University of California at Berkeley. In subsequent years through 2008, Kristin Havill served as Garden Conservator, following Farrand's design as closely as possible while adapting the garden to changing conditions.

Source: www.promisek.org

Persbacker Family Scholarships Awarded

The Persbacker Family Scholarship Fund at Connecticut Community Foundation has awarded college scholarships of \$3,500 to six Bridgewater residents for the 2019-20 academic year.

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

Kathleen Sinatra, a 2017 graduate of Shepaug Valley School in Washington, Connecticut, has received the Persbacker Family Fund Scholarship for three consecutive years, totaling nearly \$9,000. A junior at Union College in Schenectady, New York, majoring in political science and Spanish and Hispanic studies, Sinatra devoted most of her community service in Bridgewater to the Burnham Library. She said, "My parents always taught me the importance of giving back, which was what initially pushed me toward community service, but what kept me involved was the connections I made. Now in college, I still try to be involved in town community events, such as large library fundraisers and the town fair."

At Union, Sinatra is a campus tour guide and a student representative on the school's Diversity Liaison Committee. She and 16 other students have published a book titled *Generation Now: Millennials Call for Social Change* and she has begun research on the impact and value of a humanities degree. This past winter she served as an intern with [New York] Congressman Paul Tonko's office. In the fall, she plans to study abroad in Seville, Spain. "I am incredibly grateful to the Persbacker Family Fund for providing me with scholarships that have allowed me to attend Union," Sinatra said. "Without having attended Union, I know that I would not have had the opportunity to study in Washington, D.C., for a term, start research as a first-year student, or study abroad in Spain."

Former Bridgewater resident Victor L. Persbacker established the scholarship fund at the Foundation with the intention of making college more affordable for students dedicated to community service.

The Persbacker Fund has awarded scholarships totaling over \$220,000 since its inception in 2004. In addition to Sinatra, this year's recipients of the scholarships are:

Mason Gsell (Louisiana State University) - \$3,500
Katherine Klein (Boston College) - \$3,500
Lars Vikstrom (Ithaca College) - \$3,500
Dakota Wilson (Northeastern Junior College) - \$3,500
Hunter Wilson (University of Northwestern Ohio) - \$3,500

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

Established in 1923, Connecticut Community Foundation fosters creative partnerships that build rewarding lives and thriving communities in 21 towns in Greater Waterbury and the Litchfield Hills. The Foundation provides leadership in addressing the region's critical issues, strengthens local nonprofit organizations through grants and technical assistance programs, and works with individuals, families and corporations to administer charitable funds. Learn more at www.conncf.org.



Bridgewater's Recycling Guide

What's IN?

What's OUT?

PAPER

- Cardboard & boxboard
- Food & beverage cartons
- Junk mail
- Magazines & newspaper inserts
- Newsprint
- Office paper
- Pizza boxes

GLASS

- Beverage bottles & jars
- Food bottles & jars

METAL

- Aerosol containers (food grade only)
- Aluminum foil
- Cans & bottles
- Foil containers
- Metal lids from cans & bottles

PLASTIC

- Plastic bottles (with or without caps attached)
- Plastic containers, tubs & lids
- Plastic one-use cups (no lids, no straws)

- Gift wrap & gift bags
- Ice cream containers
- Paper cups (hot & cold)
- Shredded paper
- Take-out food containers
- Tissue paper

- Ceramic mugs & plates
- Drinking glasses

- Aerosol containers (deodorizers, cleaners, pesticides, etc.)
- Foil tops from yogurt containers
- Paint cans
- Pots & Pans
- Small pieces of scrap metal
- Spiral wound containers

- Loose bottle caps
- Plastic bags & wrap *
- Plastic plates, bowls & utensils
- Prescription bottles
- Single-use coffee containers
- Styrofoam cups, containers & packaging peanuts
- Water filters

Connecticut has a universal list of what belongs in your recycling bin and what doesn't. All items should be **empty, rinsed, clean and open**. Do **not** shred, box, bag or bundle material. Please use this guide to help you recycle RIGHT!

Use the recycling search tool on the HRRR home page for items not listed.

Learn more about where you can recycle clean dry plastic bags, shredded paper and other items such as electronic waste, mattresses, paint and thermostats. Yes they all can be recycled (**not** in your curb side bin!) but know where and how by visiting www.HRRR.org.

Sign-up for a free composting class or use the town's food scrap drop-off at the Bridgewater Town Garage. Food Scraps are sent the New Milford Farms and made into compost.

Discover the best practices for the disposal of medical waste, construction and demolition debris, bulky furniture, appliances, textiles and more at www.HRRR.org.

Did you know that your regular household garbage is sent to the Bridgeport waste-to-energy plant to be incinerated and made into energy? However, bulky waste and construction and demolition debris are all sent to out of state landfills.

Visit us to learn more at www.HRRR.org

Thank you,
Jennifer Heaton-Jones,
HRRR Executive Director

* Plastic bags can be recycled separately at the Bridgewater Town Garage or a retail store. They do **NOT** go in the mixed recycling bin. Learn more and why at www.HRRR.org

The Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRR) is a regional, governmental, waste management and recycling authority serving 11 municipalities in Western Connecticut including Bethel, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Danbury, Kent, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield and Sherman.

www.hrrr.org | 203.775.4539 | jennifer@hrrr.org





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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, 2020.*

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

- 5 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 5 Inland Wetlands Commission 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 11 Veteran's Day ***Town Hall Closed***
- 11 Veteran's Day Ceremony 10:30 AM, Senior Center
- 12 Board of Selectman 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 20 Board of Finance 5:30 PM, Town Hall
- 21 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 21 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 26 Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 28-29 Thanksgiving ***Town Hall Closed***

DECEMBER

- 3 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 3 Inland Wetlands Commission 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 6 Tree Lighting 7:00 PM, Town Green
- 10 Board of Selectman 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 17 Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 19 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 19 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 25 Christmas ***Town Hall Closed***

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day ***Town Hall Closed***
- 7 Lake Authority 7:30 PM, Brookfield Town Hall
- 7 Inland Wetlands Commission 7:30 PM, Town Hall
- 14 Board of Selectmen 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 16 Planning & Zoning 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 18 Board of Finance 5:30 PM, Town Hall
- 21 Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 23 Recreation Commission 7:00 PM, Town Hall
- 23 Board of Trustees 7:00 PM, Town Hall

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



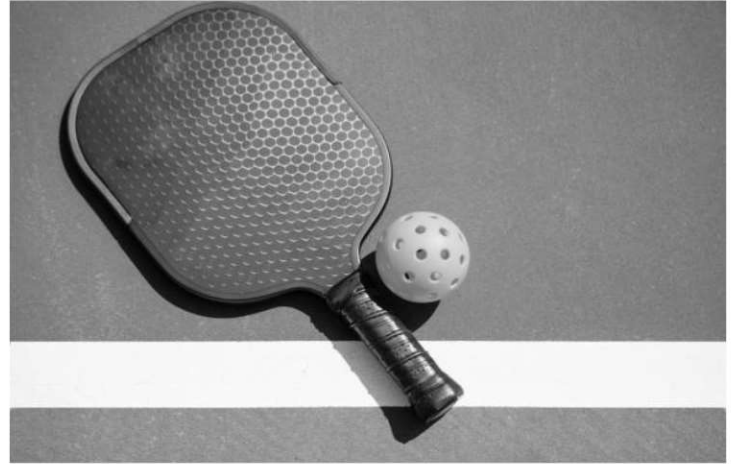
TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 31st BRIDGEWATER TOWN CENTER

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



Pickleball

Tuesdays and Fridays at the Burnham
School gym from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Enter through the back gym door.



Men's Drop In Basketball

Wednesday Evenings
Burnham School Gym
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

*Thank
you!*

Thank you for all the pavilion rentals;
book yours early for next year.

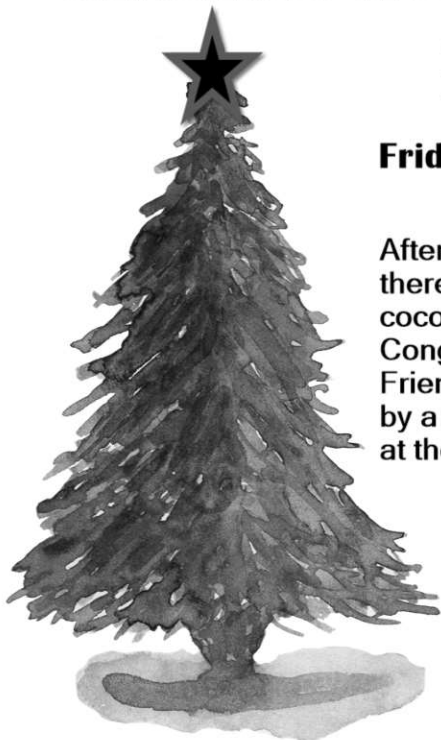
The Bridgewater Recreation Commission

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.

Bridgewater Holiday Guide

Christmas Tree Lighting



Bridgewater Town Green

**Friday, December 6th
7:00 PM**

After the tree lighting there will be cookies and cocoa with Santa at the Congregational Church Friendship Hall, followed by a story read by Carl Dill at the Burnham Library.

Local and Global Handcrafts in Bridgewater

Weekends from November 29th thru December 21st in the Friendship Hall at the Bridgewater Congregational Church. Come visit our 13th 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 (and whimsical!) pressed flower holiday and year-round cards and bookmarks 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 29th (10-5) and Tree Lighting Night (4-8). Visit our website at www.bwucc.org to read about our events and outreach programs!

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 29th through December 21st, with the same hours listed above for the shop

St. Mark's Christmas Bazaar

Saturday November 9th - 9 AM - 2 PM Tag Sale, Bake Sale, & Jam Sale Coffee & donuts 9-12, Lunch 12-2 Friday,

Victorian Christmas Dinner and Open House

December 6th - 5:30 PM at St. Marks
\$15 adults, \$8 children, \$45 family maximum

Holiday Cookie Sale

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





GOOD TIDINGS
of
**COMFORT &
JOY**



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FUNDRAISING SOIREE

O SILENT NIGHT

.....

SATURDAY, NOV 16 • 5:00 - 7:00

SILENT AUCTION • WIN-WIN BALLOON POP

LIVE AUCTION

Featuring

TRIP TO TUSCANY • ULTIMATE SPORTS FAN GETAWAY
NEW ORLEANS JAZZ AND DINING EXCURSION

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