

Dear Bethel

First Selectman's Update

November 3rd, 2023



Empowerment & Education

The staff from The Center for Empowerment and Education paid us a visit this week and we had a great discussion about interpersonal violence. Last year The Center helped 1873 Bethel residents and another 343 who were in crisis! The Center is really committed to preventing interpersonal violence through education and they are a huge resource for Bethel. If you are a man, woman or child and need help, or if you want to help others, check out The Center at <https://thecenterct.org>. Everyone deserves to live a life free from violence.

Road Condition Software

The town finished an evaluation of new software that will help us objectively rate the condition of our roads. The new program will help the town prioritize roads, save time, and get more from our road budget! Drop by one of my office hours and I will show you how it works.

Election Day: Tuesday Nov. 7th

From our awesome Voter Registrars regarding the Town election next week on Tuesday, November 7th: If you need to vote by absentee ballot, you can still visit the Town Clerk's office on Monday. If you would like to vote and have not registered, you can register and vote at the Town Hall in the Voter Registrar's office on election day while the polls are open. You will need an ID with an address in Bethel or an ID with something that confirms residence in Bethel. (Lease, utility bill, bank statement, etc.) Polls are open from 6 am to 8 pm. Visit <https://bethel-ct.gov/elections> for more information on polling locations.

St. Thomas' Church Holiday Fair

St. Thomas' Church at 95 Greenwood Ave. is also hosting a Holiday Fair tomorrow from 9 am to 3 pm. Baked goods, food, gifts, and much more!

Cultural Alliance of Western CT

The Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut has a mission to promote positive change through the arts. They are hosting a 3-day workshop in Danbury from Friday, January 19th at 4 pm to Sunday, January 21st at 5 pm that will teach participants how to work with others, think outside the box, and plan effectively to create small-scale projects that can make a difference in our community. The best projects go forward with the help of the Cultural Alliance. They are looking for participants from Bethel. There are a few scholarships available to cover the \$35 fee. If interested, email firstselectman@bethel-ct.com

Holiday Recycling

Some of us may be getting an early start on decorating for Christmas. If you are throwing away old lights, HRRRA wants to remind us that broken holiday lights and old lithium-ion batteries can go to our Electronic Waste Collection at our transfer station.

Bethel Library Survey

The Bethel Public Library is looking to the future and we want the community's help. Please click the link to the library' Strategic Plan survey. By completing this survey, you are helping the library plan for the future: <https://www.bethellibrary.org/strategic-plan>

Senior Center Holiday Shoppe

The Bethel Senior Center "Holiday Shoppe" is open on Tomorrow, November 4th from 9 am to 3 pm. Tag sale items, crafts, baked goods, raffles, quilts, crocheted items, food and private vendors. The Senior Center is accessible from the parking lot behind Town Hall.

Bethel Wildcat Football

You don't have to have kids in school to catch a home football game. Bethel High School takes on Stratford at home tonight and New Fairfield next Friday, November 10th. Both games are at DeSantis Field at 7 pm. Remember, you are a Bethel Wildcat too!

EV Charging Feedback

Thank you for all the feedback regarding EV charging! Remember, the town only charges enough to cover the cost of electricity and fees for the units. I will have my next office hours on Wednesday, November 15th at Town Hall from 7 am to 8 am in the First Selectman Office.

Cornhole Tournament

Michael's Tap Room in Stony Hill is hosting the Connecticut Cornhole Tournament on Sunday, November 5th from 1 pm to 4 pm to support Ben's Bells. It's a fun, family event! Learn more at <https://bensbells.org/cornhole>

Town Hall Closed: Veteran's Day

Town Hall will be closed on Friday, November 10th in observance of Veterans Day. The 2023 Veterans Day ceremony will take place at the Bethel Veterans Monument in front of Town Hall on Saturday, November 11th at 10:45 am. It is a short ceremony, but a meaningful way to recognize our veterans.

The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong

The Bethel High School Players presents "The One-Act Play That Goes Wrong" on Friday, November 3 and Saturday November 4th at 7pm in BHS Auditorium. Visit <https://www.bhstheaterboosters.com> for tickets.

Sports Shout Outs

Congrats to the Bethel Marching Wildcats and Guard who are State Champions again and are competing in the Nationals next weekend! Way to go! A big shout out to the Bethel HS Boys Soccer team on their 2023 South Western Conference Championship win! It's the first since 2015. Check out what victory looks like <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HiCp9XhT1W0&t=10s>

Don't forget daylight saving time ends at 2 am on Sunday, November 5th. Set your clocks back an hour to standard time. Have a great weekend!

