

Dear Bethel

First Selectman's Update

November 24th, 2023



Local Non-Profits

We had a meeting this week with Bethel Social Services to discuss how the Town of Bethel supports numerous non-profits in the area that serve Bethel residents. If you have been helped by a local non-profit and think they deserve support, please let us know at firstselectman@bethel-ct.gov.

404 Error: Update Your Bookmarks

If you've bookmarked any part of the Town of Bethel's previous website, remember to bookmark the page on the new website to avoid the dreaded "404 error."

Diaper & Wipes Drive

When stopping by the Town Hall between now and December 20th, please consider a diaper or baby wipes donation for pregnant homeless mothers in Fairfield County. This is a fantastic capstone project for one of our BHS Seniors.

Compost Thanksgiving Leftovers!

For those who use the Bethel Transfer Station, when Thanksgiving leftovers go bad, you can dispose of them at the Transfer Station for a \$1.00 per 5 gal pail. Unlike composting at home, you can include meats and poultry, including bones. You can use your own 5 gal pail or purchase one at the transfer station. Learn more at <https://hrra.org/organics-food-scrap-bethel>

Drive-By Pot Roast Dinner

The First Congregational Church of Bethel is hosting the annual "Drive-by Pot Roast Dinner" on Saturday, December 2nd between 4 pm and 6 pm. Orders must be in by Wednesday, Nov 29th. Dinners are \$25 each and feature pot roast and gravy, mashed potatoes, peas, red cabbage, salad, roll, and dessert. Don't miss this delicious opportunity! Contact David at doskandy@comcast.net or text him at 203-733-9072. Or call Lillian at 203-748-6112.

No Shave November

The Bethel PD has extended their "No Shave November" into December to raise money for the Scotty Fund. The catch...they only have until December 1st to raise \$5k! Visit the "BPD Beards for Scotty" GoFundMe page at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/bpd-beards-for-scotty>. This is a great way to support the Scotty Fund and our Bethel PD!

Land Trust @ Broken Symmetry

On Wednesday, November 29th, from 4PM - 9PM, Broken Symmetry will be donating 10% of all sales and collecting monetary donations for the Bethel Land Trust (BLT) to replace vandalized trees on the Franc Preserve. The BLT has done an incredible job protecting and preserving Bethel's natural spaces since 1977! The BLT is a volunteer run, independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, so donations are tax deductible. Learn more at <https://bethellandtrust.org/>

St. Mary's Christmas Craft Fair

Looking for some really great Christmas crafts, St. Mary School hosts their Annual Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday December 2nd from 9 am to 3 pm at 24 Dodgingtown Rd. Santa will be there too!

Youth Commission Volunteer

We are looking for a student volunteer to serve on the Youth Commission. The student would act as an ex officio advisor to the commission and serve a two-year term. Email firstselectman@bethel-ct.gov

Swearing-In Ceremony

Our newly elected officials will take their oaths of office on Monday, December 4th at the Bethel Middle School at 7:00 pm. The public is welcome to attend. We would like to have an idea of how many will attend, so please RSVP to firstselectman@bethel-ct.gov

Special Town Meeting

Mark your calendars for an important evening on December 5th at the Town Hall in Meeting Room A. At 6:30 pm we will begin with a special town meeting to vote on the sale of 20 Trowbridge Drive in Francis J Clark Park. At 6:40 pm we will have a public hearing regarding changes to the Transfer Station fee schedule to charge \$0.25 per pound for furniture items, charge a fee between \$25.00 and \$35.00 for the disposal of couches, and set the food scrap drop-off fee at \$1.00. At 6:50 pm there is a hearing regarding a proposed water rate increase for Bethel Water Department customers of 8.5% per year for FY 25 thru FY 29.

Seussical Jr. the Musical

ERA Productions and Bethel Parks and Recreation presents "Seussical Jr. the Musical" on Friday, December 8th at 7 pm and Saturday December 9th at 2 pm and 7 pm at Bethel High School. Visit <https://ticketpeak.co/bethelparkandrec> for tickets or call 203-794-8531

Hanukkah @ PT Barnum Square

Hanukkah, also known as "The Festival of Lights," begins on the evening of Thursday, December 7th. Mark your calendars for the annual lighting of the menorah in PT Barnum Square. More to follow next week.

Bethel Run at Turkey Trot

Congratulations to the Bethel Run on their 100% finish at the Bethel Turkey Trot! Even a bigger congrats to the members of the team who reported remarkable health benefits from the experience. Look for another sign-up opportunity through Bethel Parks and Rec in the spring!

Thank you Bethel Land Trust

A big shoutout to Josh Adams and his crew of volunteers and Bethel Land Trust members for the decorations on our lamp posts downtown. Once again you have brightened our holidays!

Have a great weekend!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.