

# Dear Bethel

First Selectman's Update

October 18th, 2024



## Senior Homelessness

Town leaders met this week to discuss homelessness among seniors in town. While you may not notice homelessness in Bethel, some of our most vulnerable friends and neighbors have become homeless. If we are aware of seniors facing a loss of housing, our Social Services and Senior Center may be able to help. Please look out for those in town who may be struggling and consider speaking with our Director of Social services. Visit <https://bethel-ct.gov/social-services>.

## EV Chargers

The Board of Selectmen voted to move forward with a proposal to replace our current electric vehicle chargers in the Depot Place parking lot and the train station lot and add three new locations: the Municipal Center, the Library, and Bethel High School. Stay tuned for more details.

## Police Commission

Among the topics at the Police Commission meeting this week speeding is a concern of many residents. The commission and the Bethel Police Department are definitely taking speeding seriously. In fact, our officers made 436 traffic stops in September! The Police Commission meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 6 pm at the Bethel Police Department in the Community Room. Find agendas and minutes from all meetings at <https://bethel-ct.gov/meetings>.

## Early Voting

Early voting for the November 5th election begins Monday, October 21st in Town Hall Meeting Room A. Hours between October 21st and 31st and November 1st and 3rd are from 10 am to 6 pm and are extended to 8 am to 8 pm on October 29th and October 31st. Look for our Election Day link at [Election Day link](#) at or visit [MyVote.CT.gov](http://MyVote.CT.gov)

## EDC Team Bethel

The Town of Bethel Economic Development Commission is putting together a team of business owners to participate in the Main Street Accelerator program through [CT Main Street Center](#). The program will help local teams execute and fund small-scale projects that will make incremental positive change to their downtown. The Bethel EDC team project goal is to "boost brand awareness and attract commerce and tourism in downtown Bethel." Visit <https://ctmainstreet.org/what-we-do/education-training/main-street-accelerator/> to learn more. If interested, please email [eddirector@bethel-ct.gov](mailto:eddirector@bethel-ct.gov) by Monday, October 21st.

## Public Hearings

P & Z public hearings: On Tuesday, October 22nd at 7:00 pm at Town Hall in Conference Room D, the Planning & Zoning Commission will continue public hearings for 32 Henry Street. (Special permit to construct a modular building) and 9 Putnam Park Road (6 units of 8-30g Affordable Housing). Learn more at <https://bethel-ct.gov/2024-zoning>.

## Monday Night Book Club

With the weather turning colder – well not this weekend – but when it gets colder, don't forget the programs at the Bethel Public Library! The Classics Book Group is meeting Monday, October 21st from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm to discuss *The Tempest*. Murder plots, romance, magic, betrayal, love, and forgiveness. Visit <https://www.eventkeeper.com/mars/xpages/B/BETH/EL/EK.cfm> to register.

## WorkspaceCT Halloween

Halloween festivities begin this weekend! Enjoy WorkspaceCT's Haunted Pirate Ship Theatre, pumpkin painting, and cookie decorating tomorrow, Saturday, Oct. 19th from 5:00-6:00pm. Only \$5/person or \$15/family. Costumes encouraged! Sign up now at <https://www.workspacect.org/event-details/haunted-pirate-theatre-extravaganza-for-families>. Also coming up at WorkspaceCT: Fall cookie making for all ages on Thursday, Oct. 24th (evening). Learn more here: <https://www.workspacect.org/event-details/fall-cookie-making-all-ages-2>

## Ice Cream Social at the BTC

The Bethel Teen Center will be hosting an Ice Cream Social/Open House on Friday, October 25th from 6:30 pm to 8 pm for kids between 7th and 12th grade that live in Bethel. 6th graders interested in visiting the Teen Center and Open Gym on the last Friday of each month are also welcome. Meet the staff, take a tour, and learn about the types of after school activities and special events we offer. Parents are welcome. If you have any questions, please feel free to email [Teencenter@bethel-CT.gov](mailto:Teencenter@bethel-CT.gov).

## Shoutouts

A shoutout to the Bethel and Brookfield football teams! The rivalry teams are raising money at the Bethel vs Weston game tonight to help Ashville, NC residents in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene. Come out and support the Wildcats and help them raise more than Brookfield!

Congrats to the BHS Boys Soccer for their undefeated season and the #1 spot in the SWC tournament!

A shoutout to the Lady Wildcats who are the Colonial Division Champions and in the #2 spot for the SWC tournament!

Bethel Boys Cross Country are SWC Champions! The last time BHS took the championship was 1982. Way to go!

Congratulations to Stony Hill Volunteer Fire Company who are celebrating their 75th anniversary this weekend! Learn more about how you can join this amazing organization at <https://www.stonyhillfiredepartment.com/membership>.

The amount of time and effort our Voter Registrars, Town Clerk, and their staff put into preparation for the upcoming election is staggering! Thank you for all you do!

**Have a great weekend!**

