

Dear Bethel

First Selectman's Update

October 4th, 2024



Payne Rd. Closure

Starting Monday, October 7th through Friday, October 11th, Payne Road will be closed from 9 am to 2 pm between Shelter Rock Rd. and Newtown Rd./Rt 6 for pole work by Eversource. Shelter Rock Rd is open as a detour.

That may be FEMA knocking

FEMA Individual Assistance teams have coordinated with our Emergency Management Director and will be going door to door in neighborhoods impacted by the August 18th storm tomorrow, October 5th and Sunday, October 6th and may extend into next week if needed. They will be assisting residents who had damage to sign up for Federal Assistance. FEMA employees will have an ID badge and will be wearing blue FEMA vests. Call Bethel PD if you need to verify their identity.

Filing with FEMA

Impacted by the flooding event? Check out the banner at www.bethel-ct.gov for info and to file your application with FEMA. Disaster Recovery Centers are also open for Bethel residents at Southbury Town Hall (501 Main Street South, Southbury) and Our Lady of Fatima Church (229 Danbury Road, Wilton). Hours are Monday through Friday from 8 am to 6 pm, Saturdays from 8 am to 4 pm, and Sundays from 10 am to 2 pm. So far 40 Bethel residents have registered with FEMA and over \$122,000 in assistance has been awarded.

DPH Visits Bethel

The Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health and her staff were in Bethel this week to connect with local leaders regarding some of the issues facing Bethel. Among the topics discussed, West Nile Virus, tuberculosis (TB), and risk of eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) infection. We also appreciate her support with our water system improvements!

Quarterly Taxes

From the Tax Collector: We are collecting quarterly tax payments. If residents would like to drop off the payment, visit the Town Hall or the Newtown Savings bank branches in Stony Hill or Dolan Plaza during normal business hours.

Parking and TOD

Planning and Zoning is having a special meeting on Tuesday, October 8th at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall General Purpose Room. There will be a brief presentation on recommendations for traffic, parking, and walking improvements downtown area, followed by a brief question and answer period. There will also be a review of and discussion with the public on the Transit Oriented Development Zone. View the agenda at: <https://bethel-ct.gov/2024-zoning>.

Charter Revision

The Charter Revision Commission will meet on Wednesday, October 9th in the Town Hall General Purpose Room. In addition to powers that state laws grant the town, the town has powers specifically granted by our Charter which determine how our town operates. The commission is reviewing concepts recommended by the Board of Selectmen, such as spending limits that require a town referendum, a 4-year term for the Board of Selectmen, and how appointed officials are removed from boards and commissions. They will also be looking at the charter and may consider additional changes, including changes to the number of positions on boards. Come watch the meeting or learn more at www.bethel-ct.gov/2024-crc.

Navigating Senior Care

Concerned about care and services available for seniors? SYNERGY Home Care and Bethel Social Services are hosting a Panel discussion on "Navigating Senior Care" on Thursday, October 10th at 4 pm in Town Hall Meeting Room D. 203-794-8537 or email alworth-khazadianm@bethel-ct.gov.

Household Waste Drop-Off

Don't miss Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day for Bethel residents tomorrow, October 5th at New Milford John Pettibone School. Check out what you can and can't dispose of at <https://hrra.org/household-hazardous-waste>.

WorkspaceCT Adult Classes

Not your parents' adult education classes! WorkspaceCT was created to enhance learning and create educational opportunities in Western CT, and their adult programs are fantastic! Don't miss their first comedy night on tomorrow, October 5th with CT comedian Kareem Blue (21 and over only). If that's not your thing, check out their other opportunities – cooking, sewing, and a local band night to benefit the Danbury Animal Welfare Society (DAWS), at <https://www.workspacect.org/adult-programs-events>

Big Band Brunch

This Sunday, October 6th from 12 pm to 2 pm, join Bethel music students, parents and teachers for the "Big Band Brunch" at La Zingara. Reservations are filling up fast! Call (203) 744-7500 for yours. A percentage of proceeds will benefit the music program at Bethel High School.

Bethel Women's Club Big Night

Spots are still available for the Bethel Women's Club "Big Night" fundraiser on Tuesday, October 15th from 6 pm to 10 pm at La Zingara Restaurant. They support many local causes, including The Center for Empowerment, veteran housing, local food pantries, Bethel Social Services and local students with scholarships. There will be a buffet dinner from 6 to 8pm, live music, and prizes. Only \$55 per person! For reservations/tickets call Susan at 203-792-1233.

Kind Works

Support the opening of Kind Works in Bethel and be a part of their first custom mural which will be installed at their Bethel studio by sponsoring a tile(s) with your name on it! Donations will be accepted through November 13th and their volunteers will install the mural in January. Learn more about this and other events at www.kind-works.org/events.

Shoutouts

Shout out to the first round of sponsors for the Folds of Honor Veterans Day 5k Run/Walk on November 10th: Ace Tire and Auto, BMW of Ridgefield, Caraluzzi's, Greenwood Features, Lesser Evil, Snap Fitness, Tim Martin Group, Whitlock's Restaurant, and Rejuvenate Dental Arts! Thank you for your support of the families of our veterans! Sponsors and participants visit www.foh.org/VeteransDay5k.

A shout out to the Bethel XC team on the 9 and 1 season! Keep it up!

Shout out to Brookfield for hosting our Bethel Unified Athletes this week!

Have a great weekend!

