

BETHANY BULLETIN

VOL.17, ISSUE 5

www.bethanyct.gov

May 2026

Town Hall & Public Works/Recycling Center will be **CLOSED**

Monday, May 25th in Observance of the Memorial Day Holiday.

No trash pickup on Monday the 25th. All pick up dates will be delayed one day.

From the First Selectman's Desk

Dear Bethany Friends and Neighbors,

I am pleased to share the May update from Town Hall and to highlight several important events, initiatives and reminders. Our community continues to thrive because of your engagement, and I encourage you to stay informed and involved in the opportunities our town offers.



Your Vote, Your Voice

May features two vital opportunities to shape our town's fiscal landscape:

· **Amity Budget Referendum:** The referendum will be held on **Tuesday, May 5, 2026**, with polls open between **6:00 am and 8:00 pm**. The Amity Regional School District budget represents the largest portion of Bethany's overall expenditures. Last year only 5.2% of our eligible voters participated. I strongly encourage all residents to make their voices heard. Let us work together to increase voter turnout this year!

· **Annual Town Meeting:** Please mark your calendars for **Monday, May 18, 2026**. This is our annual Town Meeting and our community's forum to vote on the **2026-2027 fiscal year budget**. The Board of Finance has worked diligently to ensure this budget is fair, balanced, and responsible. We will also address important capital expenditures, proposed fees and a new tax relief ordinance for eligible veterans.

Safety and Stewardship on Our Roads

Bethany's rural character is one of its greatest assets. It is defined by our beautiful horses and vibrant outdoor culture. I would like to remind both riders and motorists of the importance of safe and courteous road sharing:

· **For our Riders:** Horse riders are reminded to follow traffic rules, remain on the right side of the road, maintain a walking pace, ride single-file when appropriate and utilize reflective gear during low-light hours.

· **For our Drivers:** Our drivers are asked to slow down well in advance of a horse and rider, give horses ample space, avoid loud noises like honking, playing loud music or revving engines as these can easily spook a horse and follow any hand signals from riders.

Thank you for showing courtesy, patience and awareness to all.

· **Safety for ATVs, Electric Bikes and Quads:** Please remember that it is illegal to ride ATVs, quads, and motorized bikes on town roads, town property and Land Trust property. These vehicles may only be operated on your own property or on other private property with that owner's written permission. These rules are in place for everyone's safety and to protect our shared open spaces. Please call Troop I at (203) 393-4200 if you have any concerns or questions.

Community Improvements & New Initiatives

· **Extended Recycling Hours:** We listened! I am pleased to announce that, beginning on **May 5, 2026**, the Bethany Recycling Center will remain open until **7:00 pm on Tuesdays**, through the end of August. This change was made in direct response to resident feedback requesting expanded access for those who work or are unable to visit during current hours. We will monitor usage during the extended hours to help guide future scheduling decisions.

· **Hidden Brook Preserve:** Enjoy the beauty of Bethany at our new walking trail parking area located at Hidden Brook Preserve, 101 Russell Road. This new parking area allows access to a network of Town owned and Land Trust properties. This project is a testament to the hard work of our Department of Public Works, Jim Rosson and the Land Trust.

· **Call for Artists:** One of Bethany's best kept secrets is the vast community of local artists, writers, playwrights, musicians, photographers, sculptors, potters and actors tucked quietly away among our population. We are launching the **Bethany Arts and Culture Council** to celebrate our town's incredible local talent. The Council will support and implement projects and events that create or enhance

Continued on pg.2

*Submit stories, events, calendar dates, press releases, inquiries, advertisements, etc. to Deyonelle Patterson at BethanyBulletin@bethanyct.gov. Please hand deliver or mail all advertisements' payments and make checks payable to the Town Clerk's office located at
40 Peck Road, Bethany, CT 06524.
Deadline is the 15th of the previous month.*

collaboration between artists in the fields of visual arts, literature and performing arts, the community and our Town. If you would be interested in getting involved or being on the Council, I want to hear from you.

John Pellicano – Bethany’s Citizen of the Year

Congratulations to John Pellicano on being named Citizen of the Year. He will be honored on June 6, 2026 at the Spaghetti Supper. John has spent over 30 years giving back to our community. He has volunteered with our library, the boy scouts, the Lions Club and so much more. We are lucky to have someone like John living here!

Thank you for making Bethany such a wonderful place to live. I look forward to seeing you at Town Hall and out on the trails! Please do not hesitate to stop by Town Hall to say hello. My door is always open to you. I can be reached at (203) 393-2100 or at cgoldberg@bethanyct.gov.

Carol R. Goldberg

**IN HONOR OF MEMORIAL DAY
AND OUR BETHANY
VETERANS**

With deep respect and gratitude for your contribution to our nation, the Town of Bethany pays tribute to all past and present Bethany veterans. We thank you for your patriotism, bravery, and all the sacrifices you have made to help keep America free.



Mr. William Sawdon was inadvertently left out of the Vietnam Era Tribute to our Troops in the Bethany Bulletin, April 2026 edition. We gratefully acknowledge Mr. Sawdon and thank him for his service.

Attention Residents

Public Works now has a new phone system and one local number. Hear recycling information, report road and tree issues, and make a bulky waste appointment all at the same number. 203-393-1555.

Check It Out !

May 2026 - Clark Memorial Library
bethanylibrary.org/event-calendar

Great Give – May 6th & 7th

The Great Give is back on May 6 and 7. This annual 36-hour event raises money and awareness for many causes important to our region. Donations to this event go directly to the Library and are enhanced by matching funds from the Community Foundation and other generous sponsors. We are focusing this Great Give campaign on much needed renovations to our upstairs windows.

Arts@Clark!

Artist Reception- May 16th, 2-3:30

Join us for Hamden Artist, **Jane Weiner’s** exhibits of abstract Acrylic Paint Fluid Art Pouring as well as floral and garden mosaics made from China plates, stones and ceramic, and Cheshire Artist **Edward Rogan’s** collection of hand-crafted jewelry and mosaic artwork crafted from the glass shards and buttons discarded from the Ball and Socket factory in Cheshire that operated from 1850-1992.

During the reception Jane will demonstrate acrylic paint pouring and allow visitors to participate!

Passport to Connecticut Libraries

Remember to turn in your Passport by May 11th to be entered in the statewide raffle for a 200.00 gift card.

NEW: Our Maker Studio is open **Tues – Thurs 3:00 – 5:00** for Teens & Tweens – come see what it has to offer for our patrons who are 10 years and up.

NEW: Intro to D&D

Every other Thursday, 3:30 – 5:30

Players will take part in short, “one-shot” modules using premade characters in order to learn the basics of the game system. Call the Library or check the website for additional information.

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped us honor our donors on April 25th – it was a wonderful day of celebrating all that they contribute to the entire Bethany community!

Library Hours

Tues/Wed/Thurs: 10:30 AM -7:00 PM
Fri/Sat: 10:30 AM -5:00 PM



From the Superintendent of School's Desk

Dear Bethany Community,

As we approach the final stretch of the 2025–2026 school year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for all we have accomplished together at Bethany Community School. This time of year brings both celebration and reflection, and it highlights the strength of our school community.



Throughout the year, our students have shown resilience, curiosity, and growth. Classrooms have been filled with meaningful learning, creativity, and collaboration. These successes are no accident. They are the result of a school environment intentionally designed to support every child. At the center of that environment is our exceptional staff.

Teacher Appreciation Week in May provides an opportunity to recognize the educators who inspire our students each day. However, the success of BCS extends far beyond any single role. Our strength lies in the collective efforts of a dedicated team committed to ensuring every student feels safe, supported, and valued.

Our teachers create engaging and thoughtful learning experiences while building relationships that foster confidence and a love of learning. Paraeducators provide essential support, helping ensure all students can access the

curriculum in meaningful ways. Our office staff, custodians, cafeteria workers, and specialists contribute daily to a welcoming and well-functioning school environment. Counselors, behaviorists, our nurse and administrators work together to support the whole child, ensuring both academic and social-emotional needs are met.

What truly sets BCS apart is this shared commitment. Every staff member contributes to a culture rooted in respect, inclusion, and care. Their work, often behind the scenes, has a lasting impact on our students and our community.

May also brings opportunities to celebrate student talent. The BCS Night of the Arts on May 14th is always a highlight, showcasing visual arts, music, poetry, and more. I would like to extend special thanks to Mrs. Julie Rogers, our art teacher, and Mr. Chad Fortune, our music teacher, for the countless hours they dedicate to planning this event. Their efforts provide students with meaningful opportunities to express themselves and share their creativity with the community.

As families begin to plan for summer, please note that the last day of school is Tuesday, June 16th. While the end of the year is near, there is still much to look forward to.

As always, I welcome your questions, ideas, and feedback as we continue working together to ensure every child thrives at BCS. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Regards,
Mrs. Byrd

BETHANY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FAMILY FUN DAY – RUSSELL HOMESTEAD

SUNDAY MAY 17TH – 10AM TO 1 PM

20 ROUND HILL ROAD, BETHANY, CT 06524

TOURS
ANIMALS
CANDLE MAKING
SCARECROW MAKING
JOIN US ON A HAYRIDE!



HAPPY 80TH Birthday BETHANY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CARNIVAL!

We invite you to come join us May 28-30 to celebrate the 80th birthday of the Bethany Athletic Association Carnival

Our beloved carnival started in 1946 and has been an annual tradition ever since. We hope you can join this celebration, starting May 28 - 30, to say a Happy Birthday to this long-standing tradition





BETHANY LAND TRUST

Great Give 2026: Help Preserve Precious Forest Land

The Bethany Land Trust is participating in the Great Give® 2025, a community-wide giving event benefiting Greater New Haven's nonprofits. It runs over two days from Wednesday, May 6th at 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 7th.

Why your Support Matters

In 2025, our collaboration with the Town of Bethany resulted in the creation of the Simpson Preserve, a 50.88 parcel owned by the town.

This year, we plan to complete the acquisition of a parcel for which we have been negotiating for almost two years and will continue to identify and explore the possibility of preserving other open space in the region. When an opportunity arises, we want to be ready to act swiftly with access to the funds needed for an acquisition. The generous support of our members and donors helps make this possible

In addition, we continue our stewardship activities, trail maintenance, monthly trail hikes and community outreach with our educational programs.

How You Can Help

Your dollars will be crucial in our efforts to preserve open space by accessing the Land Trust's Great Give® page here: <https://www.thegreatgive.org/organizations/bethany-land-trust-inc>.

Exciting News for Outdoor Enthusiasts

Land Trust Unveils Two New Loop Hiking Trails

After a couple of years of planning, the Land Trust has opened two brand-new loop hiking trails designed to connect a variety of preserves and open spaces across Bethany and neighboring towns. Using existing trails, these thoughtfully planned loops—the 4.4-mile Southern Blue Loop Trail and the 4.2-mile Northern Green Loop Trail—offer hikers a unique opportunity to explore scenic landscapes while enjoying convenient access and clearly marked routes. For more information, visit our website.

Blue Loop Trail Hike Sunday May 3rd, 1-4 PM

After a couple of years of planning, the Land Trust has opened two brand-new loop hiking trails designed to connect a variety of preserves and open spaces across Bethany and neighboring towns. The 4.4-mile Blue Loop Trail, located in the southern part of town connects the Bethany Farms parcels with several others. A shorter loop will be available for those choosing not to do the 4.4-mile loop. Complete this hike and you've halfway to the Loop Hike Hall of Fame.

To register: contact Bob Harrison by April 10th via cell at 203-506-5888 or bjh51box@gmail.com

Parking: We will meet at the new Hidden Brook Parking Area at 101 Russell Road in Bethany at 1:00 PM.

Bob Harrison, Bethany Land Trust Trails Chair

AMITY BUDGET REFERENDUM

The Amity Budget Referendum is Tuesday, May 5, 2026. The polling place for Bethany is Town Hall, 40 Peck Road, and will be open for in-person voting from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Applications for Absentee Ballots are available in the Town Clerk's office. The applications can be returned in-person, by mail, or placed in the drop box outside of Town Hall.

If you have completed an absentee ballot application, your ballot will be mailed to you. For your ballot to be counted, it needs to be received at Town Hall by 8:00 PM on Referendum Day, May 5, 2026. Return your ballot via mail or drop your ballot in the secure drop box next to the flagpole outside the main entrance to Town Hall.

For any questions about voter registration, please contact the Registrar of Voters at 203-393-2100 x1121 or registrar@bethanyct.gov and any questions about absentee ballot applications please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 203-393-2100 x4000 or townclerk@bethanyct.gov

Hidden Brook Parking Area on Russell Road Now Open

Following considerable efforts by the Town with help from the Bethany Land Trust, the Hidden Brook Parking Area at 101 Russell Road is now open. From this parking area, hikers can access a trail leading into the Hidden Brook Preserve, which has paths that connect to the adjacent Carrington Preserve owned by the Town.

Acquired by the town through the Land Acquisition Fund, this 3.1-acre parcel underwent the demolition of a deteriorated structure, removal of accumulated debris, and elimination of invasive species, all done by the town. Then, the Land Trust trail crew facilitated further site clearing, established property boundaries, and developed the design for the parking area. The town completed the grading and applied millings to create the parking lot surface.

If you are looking for a place to park to access trails, including a 4.4-mile loop trail, through several open space parcels in that part of Bethany, the Hidden Brook Parking Area is great place to start.



Bethany Seniority

By Robin Glowa

May 2026

"Sweet May hath come to love us." — Heinrich Heine

BETHANY SENIOR BUS TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE FRIDAYS 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS ONLY

To reserve call 203-393-2100 x1324

(First time riders must call 203-393-2100 x1124 or 1113 to register before making reservations)

Additional ride service is available with the Greater New Haven Transit District

ENCOMPASS program call 203-393-2100 x1113 for more details

SENIOR LUNCH!

Senior Lunch is held every Wednesday at Noon at Bethany Town Hall. Reservations Required by the Wednesday prior by calling 203-393-2100 x1124 \$9.00 per person.

(Please pay in exact cash when you arrive)

MAY ENTREES:

MAY 6TH: CINNAMON FRENCH TOAST

AT&T CELEBRATION at 11:00 AM

MAY 13TH: OVEN ROASTED GINGER COD

THUR., MAY 21ST: SOUP, SANDWICH, & SWEETS

CONCERT-LAKEVIEW LODGE -11:00 AM

MAY 27TH: NO LUNCH SERVED

FREE FRIDAY CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL

FRI., MAY 15th 11:00 AM Bethany SR Room
"GREEN BOOK"

This classic American story explores themes of race, class and friendship. Don't miss this Oscar winner based on a true story. Starring Viggo Mortenson and Mahershala Ali.

Next Film: Friday, June 12th - **"JOHNNY TREMAIN"**

AT & T CELEBRATION

Bring Your Tech and Learn to Avoid Scams!

Co-hosted by Bethany Senior Services and AT&T

May 6th 11:00 AM BETHANY SR ROOM

RSVP was April 24 -seats may still be available

Call 203-393-2100 x1124

COLONIAL TEA PARTY for Bethany Senior Ladies

Hosted by Bethany Senior Services

Join us for tea, treats, and a tribute to America's 250th !

Monday, May 4th 11:00 AM BETHANY SR ROOM

Seats may still be available-Call 203-393-2100 x1124

NEED HELP UNDERSTANDING & USING YOUR DEVICES?

Are you struggling to keep up with today's technology?

Bethany Senior Services is here to help!

Join us for "Education with Emily"

Monday, May 11th 10:30 AM Bethany Senior Room

This Session: **PROTECTING PERSONAL INFO**

ONLINE

RSVP by May 5 203-393-2100 x1113

NEXT SESSION: Monday, June 15th: INTRO TO SOCIAL

MEDIA

VISION CLINIC FOR OLDER ADULTS

Co-hosted by Bethany Senior Services and the Bethany Lions Club

Monday, May 18 10 AM - NOON CTR STATION

Appointments by reservation only

please call 203-393-2100 x1124 or 1113

CANASTA CLUB May 5th & May 19th

11 AM Bethany Senior Room

SENIOR ART CLASS

MAY 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th 11 AM

Bethany Senior Room

Learn how to work with watercolor to create beautiful artwork. No experience necessary. All materials supplied. \$9 per class paid directly to instructor Mary Lou Narowski

Call to reserve your seat 203-393-2100 x1124

SAVE THE DATES!

SENIOR SUMMER PARTY

Tuesday, June 30, 2026 NOON-2:00 PM

LAKEVIEW LODGE

\$13.00 per person RSVP by Thursday, June 11th

203-393-2100 x1124

FREE WILDLIFE EDUCATION PROGRAM

"Connecticut Raptors"

presented by Bethany Senior Services & Blue Moon Raptors

Friday, June 26th 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Bethany Town Hall Gym

All seats must be reserved by calling 203-393-2100 x1124

FREE WILDLIFE EDUCATION PROGRAM

"Connecticut Raptors"

presented by Bethany Senior Services & Blue Moon Raptors

Friday, June 26th 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Bethany Town Hall Gym

All seats must be reserved by calling 203-393-2100 x1124

Sustainable Bethany

No. 65. Letter from Sustainable Bethany.

Renewable vs. Fossil Fuels: Price and Reliability Comparison

Renewable energy is criticized for its dependence on weather conditions—what happens when there's no sun/wind? Are renewables cost-effective and reliable enough to meet our energy demands? The economic case for renewable energy is undeniable. Solar/wind are now the cheapest sources of electricity. However, perceived reliability is a technological challenge: grid-operators must maintain constant power during calm, cloudy days. Battery storage is improving and costs falling. Renewables' greatest economic advantage is zero fuel costs once installed. Solar/wind electricity are free natural resources not subject to price manipulation, supply shocks, or geopolitical disruption. Conversely, natural gas/oil pricing is unpredictable and vulnerable to geopolitics. Wild supply and cost fluctuations have occurred three times this decade; Pandemic, the East-European and Middle East Wars. The constraint isn't whether renewables provide reliable power, but the speed and cost of deploying supportive infrastructure e.g., batteries, transmission lines, smart grid technology. Adopting renewable energy isn't primarily an environmental choice, it's an economic necessity.

Recommended Reading: The New Global Possible by Ani Dasgupta. In 1984, The World Resources Institute invited experts to evaluate threatened world resources. A bold landmark action plan resulted, "The Global Possible." 40-years later, Dasgupta revisits the work asking key questions – how to align countries on climate action and harness technological innovation to protect nature. Dasgupta concludes that sustainable progress is achievable showing potent advances in renewable energy, circular economic practices, and nature-based solutions, with examples of citizens, governments and businesses innovating to effect change. He argues that with coordinated global effort and creative innovation, we can build an equitable future without sacrificing economic prosperity for environmental protection.

May night skies: Rare "double" full moon. Flower and Blue moons book end this month.

May 1st. Flower-Moon: first full moon named for spring blossoms, also called Corn Planting Moon.

May 31st. Blue-Moon: second full moon also "micromoon," appearing smaller because it's at an orbital far point from Earth (apogee).

May 18th–19th. Beautiful Planetary Parade. Striking visual "gathering" of planets shortly (30 minutes) after sunset. Jupiter above the moon and Venus below. Nearby Stars: The "Twin" stars of Gemini, Castor and Pollux, visible high above this planetary trio.

May 5-morning May 6th. The Eta Aquariid Meteor Shower (debris from Halley's Comet), peaks with 10-30 meteors/hour before dawn. A bright waning gibbous moon may wash out some the fainter "shooting stars."

The Astronomical Society of New Haven hosts public observing events.

May 22nd. Silver Sands State Park (Milford). Public observing, 7:00-9:45 p.m.

May 23rd. Young's Park (Branford): Public observing, 7:00 p.m.

Gale Ridge, Co-Chair Sustainable Bethany
Eric Frieden, Michael Kaloyanidas, contributors
sustainablebethany@gmail.com

BETHANY LIONS UPDATE

PLASTIC BAG/FILM RECYCLING PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who has collected their plastic bags and film and brought it to Recycling! The amount of plastic collected has grown steadily since we began the program a year ago. Our first Trex bench will be installed at Peck Pond this month. The Lions partnered with the Bethany Land Trust on this project and they have also been awarded a Trex bench.

Please remember – all plastic must be clean, dry and free of any food residue. No trash, no paper, no hard plastic please.

BETHANY LIONS FLEA MARKET – OPENING DAY

MAY 2nd

The first Flea Market of the year means Spring is really here! We are looking forward to seeing all our vendors and our shoppers.

Note – the May 2nd Flea Market will close an hour early, at noon, due to the set up requirements of a large swap meet to be held at the airport on May 3rd.

BETHANY LIONS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY – MONDAY, MAY 25th

The Lions Memorial Day Parade will kickoff the Bethany Celebrates America's 250th events. We are looking for veterans, sports teams, scouts, and other groups who would like to march and town businesses, owners of antique and convertible vehicles, etc. that would like to be in the parade. Please contact Janet Brunwin at brunwin@sbcglobal.net.

After the parade there will be a ceremony to honor war veterans at Town Hall.

Historical Society – Upcoming Events

Great Give

May 6th -7th Online fundraising event – Please donate

Veggie Plant Sale

Sat., May 9th 10 AM -1 PM Historical Society, 512 Amity Road

Family Fun Day

Sun., May 17th 10 AM -1 PM Russell Homestead, 20 Round Hill Rd.

Historical Society Plant Sale

Sat. May 9th 10 AM - 1 PM

512 Amity Road Veggie and flower plants



BETHANY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: **JOHN PELLICANO**

The Bethany Democratic Town Committee is proud to announce John Pellicano as this year's Citizen of the Year, honoring his decades of service, and his unwavering commitment to our town.

Many Bethany residents know John from his role in spearheading Rid Litter Day. When the Bethany Girl Scout Troop was unable to continue to run the event in 2019, John stepped in. Since that time, he has handled organizing, fundraising, publicity, purchasing of supplies and staffing for the event – as well as collecting many bags of litter himself.

John has been making a difference in Bethany since he and his family moved here 31 years ago. John quickly joined the Clark Memorial Library Board and is its longest serving member. For many years, he took care of everything and anything that was broken. A former Board President recalls that when a repair was needed, John would have it fixed before the Board could get a second estimate.

In addition, John volunteered for a number of years with the Boy Scouts, teaching and helping with outings, especially cycling events. He was a member of the Land Trust for several years and still helps with clearing trails. He has been a vital presence at the Bethany DTC Annual Spaghetti Dinner for over ten years, arriving before cooking starts and staying until the last dish is washed.

Although John joined the Lions in 2023, he has already begun making significant contributions. He helps run the flea market from 5:30am to 10am, has become involved in organizing the Memorial Day Parade, and he currently serves as the Lions 2nd Vice President.

Whether supporting local events or lending his expertise to community initiatives, John is known for being the person who quietly steps in to help — no spotlight required.

The Citizen of the Year award recognizes individuals who make Bethany stronger through service, character, and commitment. John's contributions — both visible and behind the scenes — have enriched our community in lasting ways.

John's example reminds us that communities flourish when people give generously of their time, talent, and heart. Please join us in honoring John Pellicano, Bethany's 2026 Citizen of the Year, at the Bethany DTC Spaghetti Supper on June 6, 2026, 6pm at Bethany Town Hall. Tickets are available online at www.BethanyDems.com or call 203-772-5648.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS:

Regional Water Authority's HazWaste Central will be holding a satellite collection event in Bethany to safely dispose of your household hazardous waste.

Date: Saturday May 16th

Time 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Location: Bethany Recycling Center

For more information on acceptable materials, visit <https://www.rwater.com/hazwaste>. Pre-registration is encouraged.



An All-Ages Music, Art, & Community Spot

10 Selden Street

Woodbridge, CT

www.10selden.org

UPCOMING EVENTS- MAY

Friday, May 1st- Deadlocked Productions Presents: Live Metal Bands.

\$15 | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

Saturday, May 2nd- Mayday Metal Melee Featuring: Values, Iron Gate, Provenance, Choke Out, Chaintwist, Anklepick, Agonized and More.

\$20 | All Ages | Doors at 3:00pm | Show at 4:00

Friday, May 8th- Live Rock Bands Featuring: TBA.

\$12 | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

Friday, May 15th- Live Hard Rock / Metal Featuring: Ironrift & TBA.

\$15 | All Ages | Doors at 6:30pm | Show at 7:00

Saturday, May 16th- Live Punk / Emo Featuring: Cardboard Dream House, Darynia, Kyle McGrath and TBA.

\$12 General Admission | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

Friday, May 29th- Live Rock Bands Featuring: Crike, & TBA.

\$12 | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

Saturday, May 30th- Live Metal Bands Featuring: Trench and TBA.

\$12 General Admission | All Ages | Doors at 7pm | Show at 7:30

\$4.00 Cans of Monster Ultra and Original all month long! | Coffee, Tea and Food Specials Every Weekend!

Help the Bethany Historical Society
by donating to us during

The Great Give
May 6-7, 2026

Let's all work towards a better
Bethany Community



Visit the Great Give website, select Bethany
Historical Society, and donate generously.

Thank you

From the Assessor's Office

Applications for tax credits for homeowners over 65 years of age and those totally disabled will be taken in the Assessor's office between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm beginning February 1, 2026, thru May 15, 2026.

ELDERLY HOMEOWNERS & DISABILITY PROGRAM- This is a real estate tax credit program for homeowners who are at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2025, and meet certain income guidelines. Those guidelines require that annual income for single people, including Social Security benefits, should not exceed \$46,300. Married couples can be eligible if their income, including Social Security benefits, does not exceed \$56,500. Applicants should bring all proof of their 2025 income including a copy of their 2025 Income Tax Return, if filing, and proof of Social Security income (Form 1099). Also, applicant must own and reside at the property for which tax relief is sought or must hold tenancy for life use of the property and be liable for the tax bill. This must be the applicant's principal or legal residence.

Those Homeowners who are disabled, and don't qualify for the elderly homeowner's program because they are under the age of 65 can apply. One must provide proof of their disability award letter from the Social Security Administration. Also, the same income guidelines must be met.

Previous participants in either of these two programs will be required to re-file their applications bi-annually and will be notified by mail of this refiling requirement. New applicants who think they qualify for this tax relief should inquire at the Assessor's Office. In addition to this State property tax relief program, the Town of Bethany has adopted a local option property tax relief program at the February 7, 2000, Special Town Meeting. Those applicants who qualify for the State of Connecticut property tax relief program will also receive the Town of Bethany benefit. Those taxpayers who are already on the program and are required to refile, will be notified by mail.

ADDITIONAL VETERANS AND LOCAL VETERANS EXEMPTION- The additional veteran's and local veteran's exemptions are available to qualified veterans who meet certain income requirements. These two programs provide an increase in assessment reduction beyond the standard veteran exemption. The deadline for filing applications is September 30, 2026. Applicants must meet an income requirement of not more than \$46,300 if single, and \$56,500 if married to qualify for the State of Connecticut Additional Veteran's Program. The income limit for the Town of Bethany Local Option Additional Veterans Exemption is \$71,300 for single applicants and \$81,500 for married applicants. Income includes adjusted gross income plus any other income, including Social Security benefits. Income is based upon the 2025 calendar year. Federal

Income Tax return and/or proof of all income must be presented to the Assessor's office which is open Monday through Friday 8:30 am and 4:00 pm. Please remember that all proof of income, including Social Security benefits (Form SSA-1099) for the 2025 calendar year, must be submitted by September 30, 2026, or the application cannot be processed.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Assessor's Office with any questions or concerns regarding these programs.

Dated 15th day of December 2025.

Betsy Quist – Assessor for the Town of Bethany

RECYCLING CENTER NEWS GAS CYLINDERS

Bethany residents now have a convenient and responsible way to dispose of small, pressurized gas cylinders through The Cylinder Collective (TCC) Stewardship Program. This industry-funded initiative operates at local recycle centers, providing free and accessible disposal options while addressing environmental and municipal concerns.

What It Does: The TCC program embodies Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), shifting cylinder management from municipalities to manufacturers. This program reduces environmental impact while alleviating the disposal burden on our town budget.

What You Can Bring: The program accepts small residential cylinders, including butane, isobutane, helium, propylene (MAP), and propane cylinders under 20 lbs. used for camping, torches, and balloon inflation. *Importantly, cylinders don't need to be empty*—simply bring them as-is.

What's Not Accepted: Industrial and commercial cylinders, 20-pound BBQ tanks, and cylinders containing carbon dioxide, oxygen, refrigerants, acetylene, hydrogen, and other specialized gases are prohibited. Fire extinguishers, lighters, vapes, and nitrous oxide cylinders are also excluded.

Our Cylinder Collection site is at the Recycle Center; cylinders go into the blue barrel located in the Tire Disposal Trailer.

If there are topics that you would like to see addressed, let us know at BethanySWARC@gmail.com

Recycle Center Hours: Tues. – Sat. 7:30AM to 3:00PM
755 Amity Road

Christ Church

It's back! The Annual Humungous Tag Sale at Christ Episcopal Church, 526 Amity Rd., Bethany (Rt. 63 at the blinking light) will be held on Saturday, May 9 from 9 am- 2 pm. You'll find bargains on home goods and decor, delicious baked items, books, plants, "twice as nice" clothes, and much more, plus enjoy lunch from our grill.

Save the date and don't miss it!

Parks & Recreation Update

**Nicolle D. Vigneron, Director and
Jennifer Galik, Chairwoman**

Baking with Mrs. Babbitz: June 17-19 from 9 AM–12 PM

Looking for something sweet to fill those first days of summer break? Beloved BCS staff member Mrs. Babbitz is serving up a hands-on baking workshop this June! Kids will learn kitchen safety, how to follow simple recipes, and the joy of baking—all while making delicious treats to take home. Perfect for families looking for fun, learning, and care before camp season begins. Spaces fill up fast, so don't wait to sign up for this batter-than-ever experience!

Summer Camp: Get ready for another season of sunshine, laughter, and adventure—summer camp registration is open on MyRec and spots are filling up fast! Our camp team is busy planning a summer packed with outdoor activities, teamwork, and community spirit.

Camp runs **9 AM–3 PM for \$265 per week, with before and after care** available for an additional fee. Each week will be bursting with games, crafts, special events, outdoor fun, and new friendships—everything that makes summer unforgettable.

Wrap Up Summer with Two Specialty Camp Weeks! As

August winds down, we're turning up the fun with two exciting specialty weeks your campers won't want to miss! From **August 17–21**, join us for "Unwind Summer Camp"—a week designed to soak up every last drop of summer joy. Kids will enjoy field trips to the Shelton Sports Center, scenic hikes with ice cream rewards, and plenty of relaxed, laughter-filled activities to close out the season on a high note.

Then, from **August 24–28**, Parks & Recreation teams up with My Productions CT for a creative and delicious week of fun! Campers will dive into pizza making, ice cream parties, and other tasty hands-on experiences that blend food, friends, and summer excitement.

Space is very limited for these two special sessions, so be sure to register early—you won't want to miss out on these unforgettable summer finales!

Save the Date: Join us for our Summer Camp Open House on May 28th, from 3:30–6:30 PM to meet our team and learn more! ✨

For full details and registration links, visit bethanyct.myrec.com.

It Happened in Bethany

By Linda Wooster

Joni Barnett – Longtime Bethany Resident and Pioneer in Women's Athletics

Joni Barnett moved from Chicago to Connecticut in the late 1950s and made Bethany her home for over 50 years. She was hired to coach synchronized swimming at Southern Connecticut State College and spent several summers teaching swimming at Peck Pond. She was hired in the same capacity at Yale in 1969, with the first class of women admitted to the University. Soon after, she was appointed Director of Women's Physical Education, and by 1973 was named Director of Phys. Ed for all undergraduates, the first woman to hold that position at any co-educational university in America.

In 1972, Title IX, the federal law was passed, requiring that no person be "denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity—including athletics." Since Yale College began admitting women only in 1969, by the mid-1970s women's varsity programs were still very new and often under-resourced compared with men's teams.

On March 3, 1976, 19 members of the Yale women's crew team marched into Barnett's office. The women had written "Title IX" in bold blue marker on their chests and backs. They stripped off their Yale sweatshirts and stood naked in protest at being denied equal facilities compared with the men's crew team.

The women were protesting specifically that they had no locker room or showers at the Yale boathouse in Derby, CT, and after grueling practice in cold conditions had to wait on the bus in wet clothes while the men showered. The team read a prepared statement criticizing the unequal treatment and calling attention to their mistreatment under Title IX.

A reporter and photographer from The New York Times were present, which ensured that the protest received national coverage almost immediately. Within days, pressure on the university resulted in agreement to improve facilities, including installing a temporary trailer with showers for women rowers.

By the spring of 1977, Yale had completed a \$250,000 renovation to its boathouse, adding a women's locker room, showers, and separate boat storage, addressing at least the most glaring facility inequities.

Barnett is recognized as a pioneer for women's athletics at Yale, playing a major role in expanding opportunities for female student-athletes at a time of major institutional change. By the end of the 1970s, Yale offered 13 varsity sports for women.

In 1979, she became Associate Director of Athletics for Physical Education and Recreation. In 1983, she was appointed Director of Yale's Office of Community and State Relations. Barnett was awarded Yale's Kiphuth Medal in 1998 for her contributions to the University.



Bethany Celebrates the United States Semiquincentennial, 1776-2026

June 13, 2026:

*Red, White and Blue Bethany 5K at 9am!
-Race starts at the Old Schoolhouse at BCS!
(Use QR code below to register!)

Behind Town Hall you can find

Olmo Bagels from 8:30am-11:30am
BVFD Food Concession from 11am-2pm
CT Ice Cream Tour Truck from 11am-2pm
Music in the Gazebo from 10am-2pm
Bethany Lions Club sponsoring Ali the
Balloon Guy & a face painter!
Bethany Parks & Rec will have games!

**Interested in volunteering?

Email Amy Lestinsky at alestinsky@yahoo.com

**Stay in the know on all events by visiting:
<https://bethanyct.gov/america250>

*Clark Memorial Library, 538 Amity Rd, will be hosting
the following from 10:30am-5pm:

-the 2026 Bethany Celebrates America 250th quilt

-the 1976 Bethany Bicentennial quilt

-the Three Sisters Boundary Rock

-special "Arts @ Clark!" exhibit by the
Bethany Quilt & Friendship Group

Open houses from 12pm-3pm

-First Church of Christ Congregational, 511 Amity Rd.

-current meetinghouse was built in 1831 & a lot of stories
were generated there since then: pranks (think bells &
organ pipes, revivals, community events (the first town
meetings) & a lot of changes to the building & how it is
used. Come and hear about some of our favorites!

-Christ Episcopal Church, 526 Amity Rd.

-tours of Christ Church in the Cemetery, in the Church &
the Parish Hall

-there will be a written history available for all to read!

-Bethany Historical Society, 512 Amity Rd.

**Stay in the know on all 250th events by visiting: <https://bethanyct.gov/america250>

June 14, 2026:

**Bethany Land Trust Hike: 10am-12pm
Three Sisters Preserve, 1154 Amity Rd
(To register: contact Bob Harrison at
203-506-5888 or bjh51box@gmail.com)
(Use QR code below for more information!)

**Bethany Historical Society Old
Cemetery Tour: 1pm-3pm
Old Bethany Burying Ground, 89 Meyers Rd
(Use QR code below for more information!)

Participate in the Bethany Celebrates America's 250th Passport Program sponsored by the Bethany Economic Development Commission!

*Collect stickers from participating
businesses, places and events!
(Use QR Code below for more information!)



Bethany Land Trust Hike!

Red, White & Blue Bethany 5K!

Old Cemetery Tour!

Bethany EDC Passport!

Bethany First Church
Strawberry Festival

Saturday, June 6, 2026 • 10 AM–3 PM
511 Amity Rd., Bethany CT • Rain or Shine



Join us for a Berry Good Time!

Enjoy our famous homemade strawberry shortcake.

Browse local artisans and vendors.

Delicious Food & Kids' Activities

 **Pre-order your shortcake** 

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Town of Bethany Monthly Meeting Schedule

May 4th	Housing Advisory Committee	7:00 PM
May 6th	Board of Selectmen	6:30 PM
May 6th	Planning & Zoning Commission	7:00 PM
May 11th	Amity Board of Education	6:30 PM
May 11th	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00 PM
May 12th	Board of Finance	7:00 PM
May 13th	Bethany Board of Education	6:30 PM
May 13th	Economic Development Commission	6:30 PM
May 14th	Conservation Commission	7:30 PM
May 18th	Annual Town Meeting	7:00 PM
May 19th	250th Committee	7:00 PM
May 19th	Inland Wetlands Commission	7:30 PM
May 20th	Board of Selectmen	6:30 PM
May 21st	Cemetery Commission	7:00 PM
May 27th	Parks & Recreation Commission	6:30 PM

Meetings may change: Check Bethanyct.gov/virtual-bulletin-board for up-to-date information.



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Bethany Community Garden

Beds Available – 2026 Growing Year!

Rent a raised bed in the Bethany Community Garden for \$25 per year (\$15/year for seniors).

Email: bethanyctcommunitygarden@gmail.com for more information and check us out on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BethanyConnecticutCommunityGarden>



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