



2016/2017 CAPITAL BUDGET REFERENDUM

The date of the 2016/2017 Capital Budget Referendum is Tuesday, July 19, from the hours of 6:00am through 8:00pm. District 1 voters will vote at Huckleberry Hill School and District 2 voters will vote at Brookfield High School. The appropriation of \$2,835,000 will fund the costs of the Town and School improvements comprising a portion of the Town's Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2016/2017. You can review the Town's Capital Projects list on the Town's [website](#). A postcard reminder

from the Pennysaver will arrive at your home the Thursday before the Referendum. Please mark your calendar and remember to vote!

SELECTMEN "MEET AND GREET"

Meet the Selectmen will be held on the last Saturday of each month. Our next "Meet and Greet" is July 30 from 9:00am to 10:30am at Jestors Coffee located at 331 Federal Road. We plan on choosing different locations in town for the Meet and Greet each month. Please feel free to stop by with any questions you may have or to let us know what's on your mind.

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

The next regular Board of Selectmen Meeting will be held on July 11 at 7:30pm in Meeting Room 133 at Town Hall. You may view the attachments to the meeting packet on the Town's [website](#) using the Video on Demand link. The meeting will be live streamed on the Town's [website](#) and posted the following day on the home page in Video on Demand. We continue to work on improving access by indexing the video to agenda items so that viewers can easily go directly to the section of the meeting they are interested in seeing.

The Board of Selectmen meetings can now be viewed on TV Channel 194 in addition to the Video on Demand, and are scheduled to be on TV Channel 194 every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7:00pm. We have also started to index the meetings to the agenda so it is easier for residents to quickly go to the section of the agenda they wish to see. Please see Channel 194 broadcast schedule at the following link:

<http://www.brookfield.k12.ct.us/district/channel-194/pages/schedule>.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

The Board of Selectmen has scheduled a Special Town Meeting prior to the regular BOS meeting on July 11 at 7:00pm in Meeting Room 133 regarding an appropriation of \$500,000 to be totally funded (100%) from the DECD STEAP Grant in addition to funds previously appropriated for said project. The Special Town Meeting notice and attachments are filed at the Town Clerk's Office and on the Town's [website](#) under News and Announcements and/or legal notices.

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The Connecticut Siting Council (CSC) has scheduled a Public Hearing at Town Hall on August 2 at 7:00pm (public comment session) in Meeting Room 133 on Homeland's proposed 150' tall facility to be located behind the firehouse. The hearing will be on an application from Homeland Tower, LLC and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility proposed to be located at 100 Pocono Road. You can read the Hearing Notice for additional information on the Town's [website](#).

Verizon is a co-applicant on this project. Homeland Towers will be floating a balloon at the proposed tower site that day from 8:00am - 6:00pm, weather permitting. We will also conduct a field visit at the site with CSC members at 2:00pm so they may have the opportunity to visit the site first hand and ask our engineer/consultants any questions.

NEW TOWN FACEBOOK PAGE

The town has created a new Facebook page to inform residents of what is going on in town: click [here](#) to check it out. This page is informational only and any political posts, offensive remarks or off topic comments will be removed from the page. As the page evolves we will be adding additional news items of interest to the residents.

BROOKFIELD ARTS COMMISSION

The Arts Commission invites you to a "Closing Night" reception of the current exhibit "Here Come the Brides" on Thursday, July 14 at 7:30pm in the Lobby at Town Hall. Refreshments will be served as well as other surprises. Bring your friends and enjoy this truly unique display of Wedding Gowns worn by several Brookfield residents. Several of the brides will be on hand to share their stories. The exhibit will run through Friday, July 15.

BROOKFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION'S COMMUNITY SERVICE CAMP

We have had a busy week! The camp made cards for Children's Hospitals, sent packages overseas to the military, knitted hats for The Samaritan Health Center in Danbury, made lap blankets and Hearts of Hope for Ann's Place, mulched and weeded the community gardens for the Lion's Club, made dog chew toys for DAWS, and held a bake sale with all proceeds going to the Food Pantry, raising \$472.39.

Steve Dunn
First Selectman
Brookfield, CT

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Tax Assessor News

Revaluation 2016:

[http://www.brookfieldct.gov/Pages/BrookfieldCT_Assessor/revaluation.](http://www.brookfieldct.gov/Pages/BrookfieldCT_Assessor/revaluation)

Tax Collector News

The first installment of Real Estate and Personal Property taxes due on the Grand List of 2015 is due and payable as of July 1, 2016. All motor vehicle taxes are also due. If you believe your Motor Vehicle bill is incorrect, please contact the Assessor's office at (203)775-7302 or visit their [website](#) page for more information.

Taxes not paid by August 1, 2016 will become delinquent and interest will be charged from the due date of July 1, 2016 at the rate of 1 1/2% per month - minimum interest charged is \$2.00. Failure to receive a bill does not exempt you from the tax or the penalty. There is a \$20.00 service charge for all returned checks.

Visit the Town of Brookfield [website](#) to pay online by either Credit Card (MasterCard, Visa, or Discover are accepted) or ECheck. A convenience fee is charged for this service. You may also view your tax bills online at www.brookfieldct.gov

A self-addressed, stamped envelope must be enclosed if you wish a receipt. Taxes

are payable at Brookfield Town Hall, 100 Pocono Road or by mail addressed to TAX COLLECTOR, P.O. BOX 508, BROOKFIELD, CT 06804-0508.

Payments made by electronic checks from your bank account are sometimes delayed. The money will be removed from the account for processing but the bank may not get the check in the mail as you have requested. If the payment is received after the grace period, the Tax Collector must look at the post mark to determine if the payment is to be considered on time. If there is no post mark then the Tax Collector must consider the payment as late. CT State Statute 12-146 clearly states, "No tax or installment therefor shall be construed to be delinquent under the provision of this section if the envelope containing the amount due as such tax is payable, bears a postmark showing a date within the time allowed by state statute for the payment of such tax or installment" The law does not refer to check dates or banking records so US Postmark is the only legal writing tax collectors can accept. If you need to make payment this way, please give the bank plenty of time for processing. Also make sure the tax bill information is clearly written on the check so that we credit the correct account.

If you have any questions, please call 203-775-7304.

Our office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm, Thursday 8:00am to 6:00pm.

To sign up for an email reminder, please go to the Tax Collector's website page at www.brookfieldct.gov.

Public Works News



The Paving Program is in full swing. A complete list can be found on the town [website](#) under the Department of Public Works.

Brookfield Police Department News

Our canine, Bruno, has retired from the Police Department. He was an invaluable contribution to this Department. Thanks to the generosity of the Malkins, long-time Brookfield residents, the Department has been able to purchase and train another dog to continue our K9 Unit.



Over the past month, there have been two severe accidents at the intersections of North/South Obtuse and Rt. 133. Some adjustments have been made to improve the sight lines and to enhance the presence of the stop sign. However, at this intersection it is critical

to stop completely and ensure that there are no vehicles coming east or west on Rt. 133.

Anonymously drop off your unused prescription medications 24/7 at the Police Department's drop box.

Like us on [Facebook](#) and Follow us on [Twitter](#).

Town Clerk News

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

The legal voters of the Town of Brookfield and those entitled to vote therein, are hereby warned and notified that a referendum will be held on July 19, 2016, between the hours of 6:00am and 8:00pm, to vote on the following question:
"SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$2,835,000 TO FUND THE COSTS OF THE 2016-17 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE BONDS OR NOTES AND TEMPORARY NOTES OF THE TOWN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,835,000 TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?"

District 1 voters will vote at Huckleberry Hill School.

District 2 voters will vote at Brookfield High School.

In addition, property owners, 18 years of age and a United States Citizen, with an assessment of not less than \$1,000.00, pursuant to the property tax assessment provisions of Section 7-6 of the Connecticut General Statutes, shall vote at Brookfield High School.

Absentee Ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's Office on June 28, 2016. Copies of the Explanatory Text are available in the office of the Town Clerk. Voting machines shall be used.

Absentee Ballots will be counted at the Brookfield Town Hall.

Top Dog Contest

Our top dog will be announced the first week in July.

Keep watch on the website for the announcement.

Library News

The library will be closed the morning of July 18 for staff training. Ready, Set, Read for Ages 3+ is canceled for that day. Other programs (Cooking with Chef J and the mystery book group) will meet as scheduled. The library will open at 12:30pm on Monday, July 18.

We Need YOU To Help Us Make Our Makerspace Great!

This spring, we received a grant from the Brookfield Education Foundation to create a Mobile Makerspace. We have equipment and supplies such as a 3D printer, multiple regular and embroidery sewing machines, Arduinio microcomputers, and a MacBook Pro.

Do you love to sew or embroider? Have experience programming Arduinos? Are you a PhotoShop wiz? Know the ins and outs of 3D printing? We're going to be offering classes and open time using all of this equipment, and we're looking for volunteers to share their expertise and enthusiasm. If you are interested in helping in any capacity, please contact Jennifer at jdoyon@brookfieldlibrary.org or 203-775-6241. We are also seeking fabric donations to use with our sewing machines.

July concert: Sambeleza Latin Jazz

Sunday, July 31, 4:00pm on the lawn

Free ice cream available from 3:30pm to 4:00pm

The concert will be held in the Community Room in the event of rain or excessive heat.

Adult Programs: Click here for details and to register:

<http://www.brookfieldlibrary.org/event-calendars/adult-events-calendar>

Summertime DIY for Adults at The Brookfield Library:

Herbal Reed Diffuser with Ebris Urban of Grounded Holistic Wellness, Monday, July 11, 6:30 - 8:00pm.

Cigar Box Planter, Tuesday, July 26, 6:30 - 8:00pm.

Color Your World - Adult Coloring: Friday, July 15, 2:00 - 4:00pm.

Book Discussions:

- Book 'Em Mystery Discussion: Don't Ever Get Old by Daniel Friedman, Monday, July 18, 12:30pm.
- Brookfield Reads Book Discussion: The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend by Katarina Bivald, Tuesday, July 18, 1:00pm.
- Nonfiction: Something Must Be Done About Prince Edward County by Kristen Green Tuesday, July 5, at 6:30pm.

Movie Matinees: Free showings, popcorn & soda:

My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2: Saturday, July 2 at 2:00pm. Rated PG-13, 94 minutes.

Eye in the Sky: Saturday, July 30 at 2:00pm. Rated R, 103 minutes.

Programs for Teens (Grades 6-12): Click here for details and to register:

<http://www.brookfieldlibrary.org/event-calendars/teen-events-calendar>.

Code Club Continues! Every Wednesday at 3:00pm. Grades 4-12.

Create your own games and websites, and learn technology skills along the way! We have 8 laptops available for use. When registering, please indicate if you need to use one of ours or if you will bring your own.

Also:

- Random Fandom - Superheroes!, Tuesday, July 12
- Cooking with Chef J, Monday, July 18
- Teen Mystery Party, Wednesday, July 20
- Teen Paint Night, Monday, July 25
- Live Action Pac-Man, Thursday, July 28

Programs for Kids:

Click here for ages, details and to register: <http://www.brookfieldlibrary.org/event-calendars/kids-events-calendar>.

The Frisbee Show: Tuesday, July 12, 6:30 - 7:45pm, Grades K-5

Two-time World Champion Freestyle winner Todd Brodeur demonstrates basic tricks, catches and combinations.

Animal Embassy: Athletes of the Animal Kingdom, Tuesday, July 26, 3:30 - 4:00pm.

With this interactive, educational and entertaining program, families will encounter a diversity of creatures with amazing athletic skills.

Also:

- Read to Therapy Dogs - Every Wednesday in July
- Kid's Crafternoons for K-5 - Every Thursday in July
- Write On! Journaling Session, Thursday, July 7
- Kid's Afternoon @ the Movies: Zootopia, Friday, July 8 and Kung Fu Panda 3, Friday, July 22
- Brookfield Builders, Saturday, July 9
- Cooking with Chef J, Monday, July 11
- Games in Motion, Monday, July 11
- Boot Camp, Wednesday, July 13
- Science Explorers, Tuesday, July 19
- Kid's Improv Club, Monday, July 25!
- Kid's Yoga, Wednesday, July 27

Land Use News

Brookfield Village, which will be located at 800, 802 and 804 Federal Road & 7 Station Road, is scheduled to begin demolition of the current buildings within the next six weeks.

The Renaissance, a project that will be located at 777 & 763 Federal Road, was approved by the Wetlands and Zoning Commissions this past month. The project will have commercial on the first floor and residential on the 2 floors above with parking under the building.

Health Department News

Blue-Green Algae Concern on Brookfield's Lakes

The recent bout of very warm weather and the lack of rain have resulted in an early bloom of Blue-Green algae on Brookfield's lakes. This has caused considerable concern, particularly among lake shore residents and those seeking relief from the heat at public beaches.

There has been increasing news each summer about these algae blooms and the closing of some popular beaches in Connecticut due to the fact that some of these algae produce harmful substances called "cytotoxins." Perhaps the most widely known of these algae blooms is the so-called "Red Tide" found off of Southern beaches in Spring and early Summer.

The Blue-Green algae blooms, which have been found on Lake Candlewood and Lake Zoar, appear as a green or blue-green scum on the surface of the water and may extend several feet below the surface. The algae clings to boats, docks, rocks and the shoreline. ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE of Blue-green algae actually produce harmful substances or "toxins." These Cytotoxins may produce skin irritation on contact or, if released into the air by boat propellers, water skiers or the wind, may cause lung irritation and breathing difficulties. They may also cause abdominal problems if taken in orally.

The appearance of these blooms is dependent on heat, humidity, stagnation and the concentration of nutrients such as Nitrates and Phosphates, which are the direct result of human habitation. Nitrates leech into the soil from septic systems, while phosphates result from lawn and yard runoff, as the result of expanding fertilizer use.

Along with the production of Nitrates, potentially harmful fecal bacteria such as E. coli may leech into the soils from septic systems, particularly failed or failing systems. The Brookfield Health Department has been working arduously to reduce the number of such failing systems, particularly along the shoreline of our beautiful lakes and rivers. Rigorous adherence to the State Sub-surface Septic System regulations is not only a benefit, but an absolute necessity, to preserving the health of Brookfield residents and visitors.

The Candlewood Lake Authority has willingly accepted the daunting task of testing for Blue-green algae toxins and for harmful E. coli bacteria. With 60-plus small shoreline communities on Candlewood alone, their efforts (and finances) are spread thin. E. coli testing will continue to be done weekly at the Town Beach (Cadigan Park) and at the Candlewood Shores beach. Testing for Blue-green algae toxins is much more expensive and will be carried out at the Town Beach. Other private shoreline communities should consult their association leadership about individual location testing. Despite the widespread presence of Blue-green algae on Candlewood Lake in June, testing has revealed an extremely LOW to NO level of harmful toxins in these blooms. The Public will be kept informed of any significant concerns and Beach closures may take place if the levels of toxins in the algae reach a potentially harmful level.

Brookfield Conservation Commission

The Brookfield Conservation Commission held a CT Trail Day event on June 4, 2016. It was a letterboxing and Arbor Day event at the Gurski Homestead and Williams

Park that was well attended.

Brookfield Conservation Commission has received a \$10,000 matching grant from the CT Trust for Historic Preservation to create a Master Plan for the Gurski Homestead. This will include surveys and/or meetings to gather input from residents.

Brookfield Farmers Market

Brookfield Farmers Market



July 8 to October 28

BUY LOCAL

Fridays 3pm to 6:30pm

Brookfield Town Hall
100 Pocono Road

For More Information: BrookfieldFarmersMarket@gmail.com