

BROOKFIELD SPOTLIGHT



Message from your First Selectman

April 2019

Traffic Impact on Route 133 – Bridge over Lake Lillinonah for the next six months

The State DOT has begun work to replace the bridge deck, improve drainage, pave, make steel repairs, and paint. There are five scheduled bridge closure periods on select weekends between May and October. The town will be notified two weeks in advance and the dates will be posted on the [town website](#). The bridge will be open the weekend of the Bridgewater Fair.

Forming Ad-Hoc Committee – Looking for Members

The Board of Selectmen on April 1 will discuss forming an Ad-Hoc Center School Use Committee to determine the best use of the Center Elementary School building, and possibly the Brookfield Library building, once the New School Project is underway and Center will no longer be used as a school.

National Volunteer Week Established in 1974 by Presidential Proclamation

April 7 - 13 is a time to celebrate people doing extraordinary things through service. We thank our Brookfield volunteers who generously participate in town government on boards and commissions; support our youth and adult sports activities; work with local non-profits; and serve as EMT's and firemen. If you are interested in volunteering your time and talent, please call the First Selectman's Office at 203-775-7301.

0% Interest Free Loan Program

The Town is offering 0% interest payment-deferred loans to assist qualified Brookfield homeowners for roof and siding replacements. Please call the First Selectman's Office or Lisa Low & Associates at 203-888-5624 for further information or an application.

Steve Dunn
First Selectman



Important Alerts

Public works

The residential brush yard will open for the season on Saturday, April 6, and will be open every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. through December 7, excluding the following holiday weekends; April 20, May 25, July 6, August 31 and November 30. Permits are available at the site at the time you are dumping, or at the Department of Public Works office at Town Hall. Please have a valid ID showing you are a Brookfield resident. The yard is located on Pocono Road behind the



Mark Your Calendar

Board of Selectmen Meeting

Monday, April 1, at 7 p.m.

In Meeting Room 133 in Town Hall. You can view the agenda and attachments to the meeting packet on the [town's website](#).

Finance Budget Public Hearing

April 2, 7 p.m.

FY 2019-2020 Town and School Budget Operating and Capital Projects, Brookfield High School Auditorium. Copies of the proposed budget are available at the Town Clerk's office and the [town website](#).

Fire House.

Assessors

Attention all commercial building owners: In April we will mail you an income and expense form for the 2018 grand list. The form will also be available on our website after April 1. Income and expense forms are due in our office no later than June 1, or there will be a 10% penalty.

Veterans

If you were age 65 or older as of December 31, 2018, or are a veteran who served during wartime, you may be eligible for a state or town tax benefit. If you already receive benefits, you should have received the paperwork. If you have not, please visit our office. Remember that when you apply we will need a copy of your tax return and proof of all your income, including Social Security. Applications are due by May 15.

Streetscape

Freeman Company was awarded the engineering design contract for Phase 3, in which we will build a pocket park in front of the old Hearth Restaurant, add sidewalks along Old Route 7 to Laurel Hill Road, and a pedestrian crosswalk to the Still River Greenway Trail. The town also is applying for a grant for Phase 4, which will run from the Agora Restaurant 1,800 feet north to Newbury Village.

Tax Collector

Real Estate Intent to Lien Notices will be sent out in April for taxes that are still outstanding for the January 1 and July 1, 2018 billing due dates. If you have any questions, call the Tax Collectors office at 203-775-7304.

Farmers Market

When the weather turns warmer, The Farmers Market will return on Fridays from 3 – 6 p.m. at Town Hall. Stop by the horses at 100 Pocono Road starting June 21 to get your fresh vegetables and other great products. There will be new vendors, returning vendors, and live music.

Parks & Rec

Get your baskets ready for this year's 24th annual Egg Hunt on Saturday April 13, at Town Hall. For more information check out

Special Town Meeting

Still River Greenway Grant and FY 2019 – 2020 Capital Projects
April 4, 7 p.m.

- 1st Item - To consider and vote on an appropriation of \$207,355 using CT DOT Community Connectivity Grant funds (100%) for the Still River Greenway 2,500 trail extension for access to the Brookfield Municipal Center and parking.
- 2nd Item - To discuss the FY 2019 -2020 Capital Projects and vote to set date of Referendum on May 21, 2019.

Coffee with the Community

Saturday, April 27, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. at Bagelman, 14 Candlewood Lake Road. We encourage you to stop by with any questions or concerns. This event is scheduled on the last Saturday of each month.

Town Hall will be closed

Friday, April 19

For Good Friday and Town Hall offices normally open until 6 p.m. every Thursday will close at 4 p.m. on April 18.

Brookfield Film Festival

April 5 - April 7

For more information, click [Event Flyer Here.](#)

Library

The Brookfield Library plans for kids and teens during Spring Break!

On Wednesday, April 17 from 1 - 2 p.m. kids can see "**Living Dragons with Riverside Reptiles.**" Meet many different species of lizards: geckos that can climb glass, skinks with bright blue tongues, a legless lizard, a cousin of the Komodo Dragon, and a lizard with an impressive beard. Meet these and many more as we venture into the realm of living dragons.

No registration required.

Have you ever noticed the crazy amounts of Oreo flavors out there? There are the original Oreo chocolate sandwich cookies, Golden Oreos, Lemon Oreos, Red Velvet Oreos, Cinnamon Bun Oreos, Peanut Butter Oreos, Mint Oreos and Birthday Cake Oreos. Teens, put your taste skills to the test in our first ever **Oreo Taste Test Challenge** on Wednesday, April 17 from 3 - 4 p.m. (For Grades 6-12; [Registration required.](#))

the [flyer here](#).



New School Project- Next Steps

With the approval of the New School Project, we now have several key items to complete prior to the actual construction of the new school. We are excited to begin these next steps, including the State Grant Application, School Design, and Center Elementary School Repurposing Plans.

3 Important Things from the March 20 Board of Education Meeting

To view the entire meeting on-demand, click: <https://youtu.be/sdJKHPFwQXQ>

1. The board received wonderful news that Whisconier Middle School's Unified Sports program has been recognized as Rookie of the Year, an award given to the best new unified sports program in the state of Connecticut!
2. The board congratulated Brookfield Odyssey of the Mind students, who recently qualified for the World Final Competition! Of the 10 Brookfield teams, seven qualified and are headed to Michigan to represent the state this spring. The board approved their trip to the World Finals and would like to encourage residents to contribute to their fundraising efforts. <https://youtu.be/sdJKHPFwQXQ?t=3051>
3. The board celebrated several remarkable reports that highlight the operational, administrative, and academic achievements of the past year. The 2017-2018 Next-Generation Accountability Report shows a marked improvement on several indicators, such as showing no gap exists, which speaks to the strong curriculum work and instruction being provided. The full report can be found at <https://bit.ly/2OlgIzo>. The 2018-2019 financial audit has closed with a completely clean report with no findings or recommendations. The CAFR can be found at: https://www.brookfieldct.gov/.../brookfield_fy_2018_financial...

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Town Events and Activities

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