

# BROOKFIELD SPOTLIGHT



## Message from your First Selectman

March 2020

**Coronavirus Response:** There has been widespread concern on how to address the Coronavirus. I want to assure you that we are following all steps outlined in the town Emergency Management plan, and following established protocols in the robust plan outlining how the town, state and Federal Government respond to emergencies. We are closely monitoring the news and will update residents as often as necessary. Please see the full update on our Health Department page on the town [website](#).

**Town Budget:** The town's budget process for 2020-21 is underway. The Board of Selectmen held numerous budget workshop meetings in mid-February deliberating on my recommended budget. The board will finalize it, then forward to the Board of Finance with a March 3 presentation as noted below.

**Steve Dunn**  
First Selectman



## Mark Your Calendar

### **Board of Selectmen FY 2020-21 Budget Presentation**

March 3 - 7 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Budget Presentation  
to Board of Finance  
Meeting Room 209 - Town Hall

### **Board of Finance FY 2020-21 Budget Public Hearing**

April 7 - 7 p.m.

BOF Public Hearing for FY 2020-21 Town  
and School Budget  
Brookfield High School Auditorium

### **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Brookfield Film Festival**

April 3 - 5



## Important Alerts

### **Assessors**

If you are 65 or older as of December 31, 2019 or are a veteran who served during wartime, you may be eligible for a state or town tax benefit. If you are already receiving benefits, you should have received the paperwork. If you have not, please visit our office. If you have never applied before, you can find the paperwork online or we have applications in the office. Please remember that when applying, we will need a copy of your tax return and proof of all your income including social security. If you have any questions, please call our office at 203-775-7302.

**Brookfield Food Pantry**

Brookfield Theatre for the Arts

For more information,  
click [Event Flyer Here](#). Proceeds from the  
film festival fund scholarships for  
Brookfield High School seniors pursuing a  
degree in the Arts.

### Coffee with the Selectmen

March 28, from 9-10:30 a.m.  
Jesters Coffee, 331 Federal Road  
We encourage you to stop by with any  
questions or comments.



### Town Clerk

Democratic and Republican Candidates  
for the Presidential Preference Primary can  
be found [here](#).



### Public Works

As spring approaches we are preparing  
our Residential Yard Refuse Disposal  
Center for its opening on April 4. The  
center will be open every Saturday from  
8:30 am to 4 p.m. through the spring,  
summer and fall -- with the exception of  
certain holiday weekends. The center is  
located behind the firehouse on Pocono  
Road. Additional information can be  
obtained through the Department of Public  
Works or by clicking on the following this  
[link](#).



### Parks & Rec

Register today for our Annual Egg Hunts  
coming up on Friday, April 3 and Saturday,  
April 4. Details available [here](#).

Sports programs for ages 2-4 are being  
offered this spring in cooperation with U.S.  
Sports Institute. Full details available  
[here](#).

The Brookfield Food Pantry, located in  
Town Hall, is open to any Brookfield  
resident in need of food. Eligibility is  
determined by an intake meeting with  
Brookfield Social Services, 203-775-7312.

The pantry is supported completely by  
donations. We are grateful to the  
Brookfield community for its continuing  
generosity to help their neighbors in need!  
For questions about donations, or how you  
can help, please contact the pantry  
manager at  
[brookfieldfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:brookfieldfoodpantry@gmail.com).

There are many ways you can donate,  
without having to leave your home! If you  
are on Facebook, check out our [page](#),  
where we post current needs and other  
information. We also have an [Amazon  
Wish List](#), where donors can shop online  
and have food sent directly to the pantry.

Non-perishable donations may be left in  
the drop box in front of the pantry or at the  
Brookfield Senior Center. We also have  
drop boxes at Brookfield ShopRite and the  
Brookfield Library.

Thank you for your generosity!

### Economic Development

The Economic Development Commission,  
First Selectman Steve Dunn, Selectman  
Harry Shaker and others welcomed  
Express Laundry co-owner Frank Galizia  
and his family to their new location at 626  
Federal Road. At the ribbon cutting  
ceremony, Galizia said, "We hope to fill a  
need and be a productive member of the  
Brookfield business community that has  
made it an easy and pleasant experience.  
Welcome to Brookfield's Federal Road  
Express Laundry Center  
– a new way of doing laundry."

### Health Department

The Brookfield Health Department wants  
you to know that Sunday, March 8 is  
International Women's Day. This reminds  
us of the importance of women's health,

Red Cross First Aid and CPR classes, Train for a 5k, a D.E.E.P Boating Safety Course and the Eight Pieces of Brocade (Qi Gong) are just a few of the upcoming adult programs, which you can register for today. Details on all winter programs available [here](#). Spring and Summer program information will be released in early April.

Like us on [Facebook](#) to receive timely updates on program information, upcoming events, weather-related cancellations and more.

and the diseases and disorders that affect them. Women are twice as likely to die from Coronary Artery disease as Breast Cancer. Coronary Artery disease is much more prevalent in women than in men of the same age and ethnicity. So during the month of March, women of all ages are encouraged to have a mammogram and pap smear, get your blood pressure and heart checked, and maintain a reasonable weight. For further information, please check out the link [here](#).



## Police Department

This year the Brookfield Police Department is hosting a Penguin Plunge event, called "Plunge Candlewood," in support of Special Olympics. It's scheduled on Sunday, March 15, at the Brookfield Town beach. If you, your family and friends would like to sign up, please visit the [website](#). It is \$50 per participant. Participants are encouraged to raise money for their plunge and donate to CT Special Olympics.



Please help spread the word to family and friends. We would love to have your support!



## Library

In March, as always, we have something for everyone! Join us for our annual *Read Across America Day* celebration on March 7 from 10 a.m. to noon. There will also be an all-ages *Irish Music and Magic Show* on March 14 at 2 p.m., to get you in the spirit for St. Patrick's Day!

The Art Gallery will feature exotic wildlife photography by Norwalk residents Pat Duncan and Jud Perkins in an exhibit entitled *Feathers, Fins and Scaly Skin*, which will run from March 2-31. The artists will hold a reception on March 15 at 3 p.m.

Teens can participate in a Pop-Tart Building Challenge on March 4 at 3:30 p.m., and share their playlists on March 11 at 5 p.m. during *That's My Jam!*

March 11 is a busy day here at the Library: the popular *Platform to Employment* returns at 2 p.m., and there will be an informational program on March 11 at 6:30 p.m. on the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment and *The Right to Vote*. Other events include a gardening program on March 19, and a Smart Driver Program offered by AARP on March 28. Please visit our [website](#) for details on all of our other offerings of book clubs, children's and teen programs, tech and language classes, adult coloring and Mahjong.



Erika Haynes, with the Connecticut School Finance Project, presented *School Finance 101: How Connecticut's School Funding System Impacts the Community*, on February 24, in the Brookfield High School Auditorium. Erika regularly presents to boards of Education, Finance and Selectmen, parent and community groups explaining school finance and town, state and federal budgets. Brookfield residents and surrounding community members attended this enlightening presentation.

**New School Project Update:** With the new school project in the initial stages of the Design Development Phase, the footprint of the building (schematic design) is now established and approved by the Board of Education and Board of Selectmen. The architects, school administration and faculty continue to collaborate to ensure that the interior design is student-centered and aligned with the K-5 curriculum learning plans that have been in development for the past two years. The town-hired construction manager will work with the architects and Municipal Building Committee to ensure the new school is within the scope of the budget, including the recent increase to enrollment projections. We anticipate contractor bidding for the project to begin in late fall 2020, with groundbreaking in the spring of 2021. The project remains on budget and on schedule.

## Stay in the know!



### **Town Boards and Commissions**

Visit our website regularly for updates and schedule of upcoming meetings.

[Visit our website](#)

### **Town Events and Activities**

Follow town department social media pages for all that is going on around town!

[Click to Connect](#)