



October 2017



Still River Greenway

We are proud to announce that the Towns of Brookfield and New Milford have agreed to explore the feasibility of joining Brookfield's Still River Greenway with New Milford's Still River Greenway. Brookfield is forming a committee to evaluate the proposed path being presented by New Milford's Bike and Trail Committee to connect our trails.

The new walks along the river have proven to be immensely popular. A recent survey in Brookfield showed 900 people using the Greenway on Saturdays and Sundays, which we expect to increase over time. The Greenways allow residents to walk, exercise their dogs and give their children a place to ride bikes safely. With the ongoing revitalization of both downtowns, this seems to be an excellent time to join our Greenways.

We will be applying for grants to pay for building of the new Greenway. We ask that any residents of Brookfield who would like to be a part of this joint committee apply to First Selectman Dunn's office in Brookfield. New Milford's Bike and Trail Committee is always open to additional help and comment.

Affordable Housing

Although there seems to be some confusion about how and when the moratorium application process started, the Town began the moratorium application in July 2016, and the moratorium was finally approved in July 2017. Funding for costs associated with the application were first approved through the budget process. As many of you are aware, we were granted the moratorium to stop any additional building of affordable housing, and any future applications will be subject to the town's zoning laws. However, there are four applications submitted before the moratorium took effect, which are undergoing review with our land use boards. We do not believe these proposals as submitted are appropriate for Brookfield, so we will continue to oppose these developments.

Town Center

Construction has reached the west side of Federal Road, with the project on time and under budget. We expect to complete Phase I by the middle of November.

We have a preliminary design for Phase II and plan to start construction next summer. Phase II is fully funded with \$865,000 in grants that have been awarded,

matched with \$475,000 in town money.

Zoning Regulation rewrite

We have been working for the past year on the zoning regulation rewrite. Next month, we will be submitting the draft rewrite to our boards for their initial review. The team working on the re-write includes the Chairmen of our Zoning Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. We anticipate that the draft zoning laws will move quickly into the adoption stage.

Board of Selectmen Meeting

The next regular Board of selectmen meeting is on Monday, October 2, at Brookfield Town Hall, Meeting Room 133. You may view the attachments to the meeting packet at www.brookfieldct.gov using the Board Meetings link. The meeting is live streamed and posted the following day on the home page in the Board Meetings link.

Special Town Meeting

The Special Town Meeting that was scheduled on October 2 has been CANCELLED. At the Board of Selectmen Meeting on Monday, October 2, the BOS will vote to reschedule the Special Town Meeting on Monday, October 16 at 7 p.m. in Meeting Room 133, to discuss and act upon a resolution approving and authorizing the purchase by the Water Pollution Control Authority of an industrial condominium for office and storage use known as Unit 1, Building A, 53 Commerce Road in Brookfield.

Selectmen "Meet and Greet"

Meet the Selectmen events are held on the last Saturday of each month. Our next Meet and Greet is Saturday, October 28, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. at O'Donovan's Brookfield Market at 273 Whisconier Road. Please feel free to stop by with any questions, or to let us know what's on your mind.

For more news, announcements and activities, please sign up for Brookfield Matters on the Town's [website](#).

Steve Dunn
First Selectman
Brookfield, CT

[In This Issue](#)

[Town Clerk](#)

[Economic & Community Development](#)

[Tax Assessor](#)

[Senior Center](#)

[Social Services](#)

[Tax Collector](#)

[Public Works](#)

[Brookfield Police Departmentews](#)

[Health Department](#)

[Brookfield Library](#)

[Brookfield CARES](#)

[Brookfield Historical Society](#)

Town Clerk

Absentee Ballots for the November 7 Municipal Election will be available October 6 in the Town Clerk's office.

The application needed to receive an Absentee Ballot is available in our office and on our [website](#) under forms and Documents.

Economic & Community Development



Eversource has completed moving its wires over the new poles. Charter is scheduled to move its cable off the old poles to the new, followed by Frontier. The granite curbing and new driveway aprons have been installed on the east side of Federal Road from the Shell Gas Station to the northern boundary of Phase 1, which is 839 Federal Road. Work has started on Station Road, Superior Service and the Mobil Gas Station north to the Agora Restaurant.

The project is moving along as scheduled.

Tax Assessor

Attention all Business Owners:

If you are new to town and haven't registered your business, please stop by our office. If you recently closed your business in town, you will need a letter of dissolution from the state, an affidavit of business closing/moving/sold (page one of the personal property form), and a copy of your termination of trade name certificate from the Town Clerk. We recently mailed out personal property forms to all registered businesses in town. The forms are due back to our office on or before November 1, 2017.

If you have unregistered vehicles including (but not limited to) ATVs, golf carts, snowmobiles, tractors, off road construction vehicles, and vehicles registered in another state but garaged in Brookfield, you need to fill out a personal property form. If you are unsure if you need to fill out a form, call the office.

The forms are located on the town [website](#) in the Assessor's section under the personal property tab and downloadable forms or you can stop by our office. If you have any questions, please call the Assessor's office, 203-775-7302.

Senior Center

Annual Enrollment for Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage Plans begins October 15 and ends December 7. By now everyone should have received a letter from their Medicare D Plan or Medicare Advantage plan informing you of changes for the coming year. Please read those carefully to see premium and co-pay changes, as well as any changes to the medications the plan may cover. Even if the plan looks good to you for next year, you may want to meet with our volunteer experts to find out if there is a better plan for 2018 that can save you money. Please come to the very informative presentation by our veteran volunteer, Peter Cronin, on October 6 at 10 a.m. He will explain the new Medicare plans premiums and co-pays, and the coverage gap, better known as the donut hole. You can also sign up for a one-on-one appointment to look at your specific plans at that time, or by calling the Senior Center at 203-775-5308.

The Low Vision Support Group began last month. Although we have only five people enrolled, we are off to a good start. Those who came learned about the Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind and the Lions' Low-Vision Centers, which not only help with fitting you for devices that can make sight a little better, but also can help you set up your home for ultimate functionality and to address mobility issues. We will continue to provide this information to new members as we grow, and will be talking about many more helpful services, current treatments available, new studies, and technology that can make a difference in your life. As if all that weren't enough, we will also enjoy the comradery of others who have similar situations, which is so helpful for sharing ideas and supporting each other in a positive way with the struggles we face every day. We are looking for more members. Please come and see how the group can benefit you! Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 11 (always the second

Wednesday of the month) from 10 - 11a.m. in the Senior Center. Hope to see you!

Social Services

CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP)

We continue taking applications for CEAP for those who heat their homes with oil or other deliverable fuels, and new applicants who use any source of heat. Qualifying income is no more than \$34,366.28 for an individual and \$44,940.52 for a couple. Asset limits are \$12,000 for renters and \$15,000 for homeowners. Please make an appointment and bring the following:

1. current income information- this includes: Social Security (can use bank statement deposit), employment (one month's pay-stubs), unemployment (claim form from the DOL) and self-employment (you will need to have a 2016 tax return and current ledger of self-employment income)
2. current bank statements from all bank accounts
3. electric bill (even if you don't heat with electricity)

You will also need the names, dates of birth and Social Security numbers of all persons over the age of 18 that live in your home (whether or not they are immediate family members).

If you have any questions concerning what to bring and to set up an appointment for assistance, please contact the Social Services office, 203-775-7312.



LEARN ENGLISH

Speaking, Reading, Writing and Listening



Brookfield Social Services, in partnership with Literacy Volunteers on the Green, New Milford, is starting an English Language Learners program at the Brookfield Senior Center.

**Registration : Thursday, October 5
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Brookfield Senior Center**

**Classes: Thursday evenings, starting October 12
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Brookfield Senior Center.**

Contact:

**Amy Diezemann, Program Coordinator
Brookfield Senior and Social Services
(203) 775-5308
adiezemann@brookfieldct.gov**

Program Mission

Our mission is to help individuals maintain and improve their quality of life through mastery of the English language. We will do this by promoting English literacy among individuals in Brookfield and surrounding areas in order to help them become independent readers, writers, listeners, and speakers of English through classes as well as natural, authentic, real-life activities and experiences. Won't you share in our vision?

Waterline Assessment Bills

Reminder: All Waterline Assessment bills are due October 1, 2017. Payments must be received or U.S. postmarked no later than November 1, 2017 to avoid an interest penalty. Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the assessment or interest.

Delinquent Motor Vehicle and Personal Property Taxes

All 2014 Grand List bills and older have been forwarded to Tax Serv, our Collection Agency. Letters have been sent out regarding these delinquencies. You may call Tax Serv at 1-866-497-2427 to make a payment. If you have any questions you may call Tax Serv or our office, 203-775-7304.

Online Payments and Phone Payments

We are now using a new vendor for processing payments online and by phone. This vendor allows you to set up automatic payments with the online system and will also send you reminders if you elect these options.

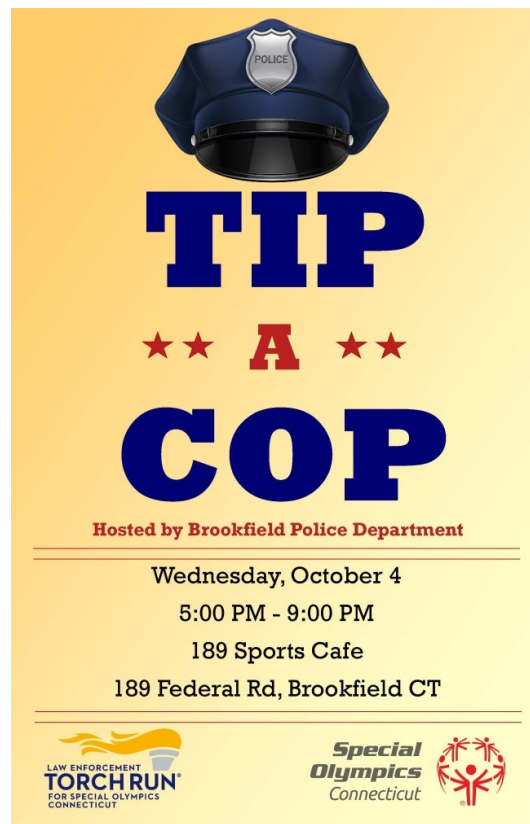
In addition, you can also process payments through a Voice Response System. The phone number is 1-877-271-5230. There are fees associated with using both these services.

Public Works

The Department of Public Works Facilities Division completed the replacement of the two original boilers at the Police Department in September. The energy efficiency has been improved from 75% to 87%. The replacement of the original boiler at the Town Hall was completed in late September.

Brookfield Police Department

Join us for Tip A Cop on Wednesday, October 4 from 5 - to 9 p.m. at 189 Sports Café. Brookfield Police officers and staff will be serving you and collecting donations for Special Olympics Connecticut. Your donation will support athletes in your community.



The Brookfield Police Department hosts car seat fittings on the first and third Wednesday of every month from 8 a.m to noon by appointment. Please call 203-740-4192 or email carseats@brookfieldct.gov to schedule your appointment. Brookfield residency is not required. You can learn more about the program and access the form to complete and bring to your appointment by clicking [here](#).



Like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) to receive news and information from the Department.

Health Department

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The Brookfield Health Department joins the American Cancer Society, the Susan G. Koman Foundation and the National Breast Cancer Foundation in celebrating National Breast Cancer Awareness month.

Breast cancer starts when cells in the breast begin to grow out of control. These cells usually form a tumor that can often be seen on an x-ray or felt as a lump. The tumor is malignant (cancer) if the cells can grow into (invade) surrounding tissues or spread (metastasize) to distant areas of the body. Breast cancer occurs almost entirely in women (One in eight women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime). Approximately 5% of men can get breast cancer, too!

The American Cancer Society's estimates for breast cancer in the U.S. for

2017 are:

- 252,710 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women.
- 63,410 new cases of carcinoma in situ (CIS) will be diagnosed (CIS is non-invasive and is the earliest form of breast cancer).
- 40,610 women will die from breast cancer.
- Knowing how your breasts normally look and feel is an important part of breast health. Finding breast cancer as early as possible gives you a better chance of successful treatment. However, knowing what to look for does not take the place of having regular mammograms and other screening tests. Screening tests can help find breast cancer in its early stages, even before any symptoms appear.

The most common symptom of breast cancer is a new lump or mass. A painless, hard mass that has irregular edges is more likely to be cancer, but breast cancers can be tender, soft, or rounded and can even be painful. For this reason, it is important to have any new breast mass or lump or breast change checked by a health care provider experienced in diagnosing breast diseases.

Other possible symptoms of breast cancer include:

- Swelling of all or part of a breast (even if no distinct lump is felt)
- Skin irritation or dimpling
- Breast or nipple pain
- Nipple retraction (turning inward)
- Redness, scaliness, or thickening of the nipple or breast skin
- Nipple discharge (other than breast milk)

Sometimes a breast cancer can spread to lymph nodes under the arm or around the collar bone and cause a lump or swelling there, even before the original tumor in the breast tissue is large enough to be felt. Swollen lymph nodes should also be checked by a health care provider.

Although any of these symptoms can be caused by things other than breast cancer, if you have them, they should be reported to a health care provider to identify the cause.

Because mammograms do not find every breast cancer, it is important for you to be aware of changes in your breasts and to know the signs and symptoms of breast cancer. So do yourself a favor during the month of October:

- Begin monthly self-exams
- Make an appointment for a breast exam by a professional, and
- Schedule a mammogram if over 40 years of age.
- If you have been diagnosed with dense breasts, your doctor may recommend another imaging technique.

And remember - most breast cancers can be cured if found early enough!

Brookfield Library

Thank you to everyone who answered our library survey! We had 1,036 responses.

Reminder: The Library is closed on Monday, October 9 for Columbus Day.

The First Public Information session for the New Library Building Project is scheduled on Thursday, October 12 at 7 p.m. at the Brookfield High School Auditorium. There will be a presentation from the architect and an opportunity to ask questions. Please plan to attend.

Please go to our [website](#) to see all of our events for October.

Instagram Scavenger Hunt

Join us on Brookfield Day, Saturday, October 14 at 9 a.m. Grab your family, friends, and mobile device for our first town-wide Scavenger Hunt. Form your team, drop by the library to pick up your clues, and spend the day snapping as many photos as you can and posting them to Instagram. Teams of all ages are welcome, but make sure your group includes a car and driver to find the clues all over Brookfield.

You can pre-register online or register at the library on the day of the event. Pick up the clues at the library between 9 and 10 a.m. then join us for an end of the hunt celebration and prizes from 4:30 - 5 p.m.

Movie Matinee: *The Big Sick* on Saturday, October 7 at 2 p.m. Directed by Michael Showalter and starring Kumail Nanjiani, Zoe Kazan, and Holly Hunter. Pakistan-born comedian Nanjiani and grad student Emily Gardner fall in love but struggle as their cultures clash. When Emily contracts a mysterious illness, Kumail finds himself forced to face her feisty parents, his family's expectations, and his true feelings. Rated R, 120 minutes. Free showing, popcorn & soda.

Adult Events Calendar: <https://www.brookfieldlibrary.org/event-calendars/adult-events-calendar/>.

Teen Events: <https://www.brookfieldlibrary.org/event-calendars/teen-events-calendar/>.

Events for kids: <https://www.brookfieldlibrary.org/event-calendars/kids-events-calendar/>.

Story times: <https://www.brookfieldlibrary.org/event-calendars/kids-events-calendar/storytimes-calendar/>

Brookfield CARES



BROOKFIELD CARES

Promoting social and emotional wellness in our community.

Brookfield Cares presented at each back to school open house night. The Brookfield Cares handout has been posted to our [website](#). Brookfield Cares is planning an event in November, so please check the [website](#) for upcoming details.

The hope and support group continues to meet every Monday night from 7-9 p.m. at 103 Mill Plain Road, Danbury.

C.A.R.E.S. Hope & Support Group

Meetings every Monday
7:00 PM — 9:00 PM

New Location:

C.A.R.E.S. Office
103 Mill Plain Rd
Danbury, CT 06811

Staff can be reached day or night by calling: 855-406-0246

Receive information and resources about everything from how to enhance family communication, to information about community health concerns by subscribing to our [newsletter](#).

We want to hear from you! Brookfield Cares is always open to suggestions from you. Feel free to send us an email at info@brookfield-cares.org or click [here](#) to submit an idea or suggestion.

Anonymously drop off your prescription and non-prescription medications 24/7 in the drop box located in the Brookfield Police Department's Lobby.

Historical Society

Lecture on the U.S. Military Space Program Monday, October 2 at 7:30 p.m.

The Brookfield Historical Society will host a presentation on the History of the U.S. Military Space Program given by Joseph Beal of Brookfield. The presentation will take place at the Brookfield Museum located at 165 Whisconier Road (Intersection of Routes 25 and 133 in Brookfield Center).

Beal will discuss the U.S. military space program following World War II, and the subsequent space race with the Soviet Union. He will also highlight several military space based programs deployed during the late 20th century. He will discuss our current Global Positioning System (GPS), Cape Canaveral Air Station, and Vandenberg Air Force Base. These are the major military satellite launch facilities in the U.S. Beal will conclude with possible future scenarios for military space.

Prior to entering the private sector, Beal completed a 22-year career in the U.S. Air Force holding numerous leadership positions in the military's space programs. Today he is the head of the Wells Fargo Equipment Finance Business Risk Management Program as well as the Commander of the Brookfield VFW Post.

The program is free and complimentary refreshments will be available.

VFW POST 10201

The Brookfield Veterans of Foreign War Post 10201 is calling all area veterans to attend an Open House on Saturday, October 7, from 10:30 a.m. - noon. It will take place at the Brookfield Museum, located at 165 Whisconier Road.

Joseph Beal, Post Commander, encourages all former service members to come out and meet other fellow veterans. The Open House will provide an opportunity to obtain information on the Veterans Administration, the VFW organization, and other local veterans assistance agencies. This social event is open to all veterans, whether a VFW member or not. Complimentary refreshments will be available.

Newsletter header photography by Joe Dolen. Copyright 2012.