



From the First Selectman

As winter winds on, my hope is that more of our residents are able to be vaccinated against the COVID-19. Only as we get the majority of our residents inoculated will we be able to return to our normal lives.

At Town Hall, we continue to adjust our policies for being open to the public based on current infection rates and hospitalizations. After a period of substantial increases in both, we had closed the Town Hall, except for appointments. Now, with those numbers coming down substantially, we have opened the doors again with our COVID protocol of social distancing, masks, a sign-in sheet and temperature checks.

For those of you who have not signed up for our **"News and Announcements"** on our website, please do.

Throughout this pandemic, we have kept residents informed on the latest news concerning COVID-19 and vaccination opportunities via our **"News and Announcements"** by posting updates on this website. Once posted, you will receive an e-mail notifying you of the post.

Recently we endeavored to make sure our seniors age 75 and older were able to sign up for vaccine appointments. Many thanks to Lucille Paige, First Selectman's Aide and Erin Reilly, Agent for the elderly for their work in helping our seniors.

Hopefully, by the time of the printing of this article, our senior's ages 65-74 yrs. for the most part have been vaccinated. For everyone else, let's hope we can get the majority vaccinated by mid to late summer.

Once again, we are working through the process of crafting a budget for the upcoming year. As usual, we will have challenges to overcome. The Region 6 budget continues to be our largest expense amounting for as much as 70% of our total expenses. This coming year, it is anticipated that our portion of the schools' budget will be \$8,734,837, - 50.47% of the total \$17,307,418 budget. This continuing trend is in large part due to Morris and Warren losing student population at a faster pace than Goshen.

On the town side, we continue to do everything we can to hold expenses down. This past year we entered into a cooperative agreement with Region 6, Litchfield Public Schools, the town of Morris and Woodridge Lake Sewer District for the purchase of health insurance for our employees. Current year, we were able to have savings from last year and next year, our savings will remain the same. This is a marked change from the usual 5-6% annual increases many are paying. As for the rest of our budget, every effort will be made to limit our expenses as much as possible, however having kept the mill rate at 19.6 for the past four (4) years, the likelihood of being able to hold it another year is small.

Best,

Bob Valentine

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department strives to help improve the appearance and maintenance of roads and town property. This could not be done without the hard work of the public works department staff.

BRUSH

The Public Works Department **does NOT pick up brush** that is placed to the curbside. It is the responsibility of the homeowner to dispose of any brush on their property. Open burning permits for brush may be obtained by a property owner at the Selectmen's Office during office hours only.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Currently, the Public Works Department is working with the Town Engineer on the projects to be undertaken for the 2021 season. We will be continuing the work of our 10 year pavement maintenance program and a number of additional roads are to be crack and chip sealed in late spring, this work will be concentrated in the southeast corner of the Town. Other road reconstruction and repaving projects will be taking place throughout Town including reconstruction of School Hill Rd., Sucker Brook Rd., Sunset Dr. and multiple drainage and pavement projects.



Westside Road February 2021 Blizzard.

NEW STONE WALL ORDINANCE

Town ordinance Title 73, Ordinance Concerning Highway Boundary Stone Walls has been enacted. The ordinance is posted on the Town website ordinance page for review. A permit must be applied for at the Public Works Department (permit is also available for download on the public works page of the Town website) prior to performing any work on, the relocation of, or the removal of a highway boundary wall lining Town roadways within the limits of Goshen. If you have any questions, or would like to apply for a permit please contact the Public Works Department at 860-491-6029 or by e-mail at publicworks@goshenct.gov.

DRIVEWAY ORDINANCE AND PIPE MAINTENANCE

Title 18, the Town of Goshen Driveway Ordinance concerning the construction of driveways including temporary access driveways on Town roadways. The ordinance also covers the maintenance of driveways. A permit must be applied for at the office of Public Works prior to the start of construction of a new driveway, or the repaving, re-grading or drainage improvements being performed to an existing driveway if any of the proposed work is to take place in the Town right-of-way. A cash bond will need to be posted by the property owner or contractor performing the work, the bond amount will be calculated at the time of application based upon the probable cost of the work to be performed in the right-of-way. There is no permit fee for a driveway application. Please see Ordinance Title 18 for more information or contact Public Works at 860-491-6029 or by email at publicworks@goshenct.gov with questions or to apply for a permit.

Additionally the ordinance requires property owners with a cross pipe under their driveway or other drainage system to maintain it in a functional condition. Thank you for your cooperation in this important maintenance matter.

**BASKETBALL STAND AND OTHER
RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT**

As spring approaches please be reminded roadways and rights-of-way can be dangerous places and are not playgrounds. Recreational equipment left in the roads and rights-of-way creates a safety hazard for all. The Town cannot be responsible for any damage to this property, and you may be held liable in the case of an accident caused by such equipment.

WORK ZONE SAFETY

We are quickly approaching to that time of the year when we will be out performing more improvement projects on the Town roadways and the entire Public Works Department would very much appreciate your giving them as much room as possible while they are performing their work in the roadways. Any work site the Public Works Department is working at is considered a **WORK ZONE** and fines will be **DOUBLED** per state law. Please drive carefully and slowly thru all construction zones. Additionally, visibility to the rear in the large trucks is very poor. **PLEASE STAY BACK AND ASSUME THAT THE DRIVER DOES NOT SEE YOU.** The drivers make every effort to be as careful as possible; however, they are primarily focused on their work, not on the traffic.

BRUSH

The Public Works Department does NOT pick up brush that is placed to the curbside. It is the responsibility of the homeowner to dispose of any brush on their property. Open burning permits for brush only may be obtained by a property owner at the Selectmen's Office during office hours only.

SWEEPING TOWN ROADS

The Public Works Department primarily uses Magic Salt in place of sand during winter storm events. This product lessens the need to spread sand on roads, therefore reducing the amount of sweeping required in the spring. Public Works will be out sweeping target areas only in April/May with a sweeper rented thru the Northwest Hills Council of Government's Public Works Equipment Cooperative.

RECYCLING AND REFUSE TOTES

Please make effort to keep your trash and recycling totes off of the roadway pavement and instead place them on the shoulder of the roadway for safety.

Property Tax Credit available to Elderly and Totally Disabled Homeowners

Goshen homeowners who were 65 or older by December 31, 2020 or who are 100% Social Security Disabled may be eligible for credit on their property tax.

- The property must be their principal residence and they must have owned the home on or before October 1, 2020.
- The total income including Social Security must be less than \$37,600 for single homeowners and \$45,800 for married homeowners.
- Proof of income must be provided and if the applicant files an income tax return and/or received an SSA-1099 from Social Security, a copy must be included with the application.

Applications are available from the Assessor's Office and must be filed by **May 15, 2021**. If eligible, credit will be applied to the July 2021 tax bill.

Please call or email so we can assist you with the application process.

Office hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

(860) 491-2115 x 230 taxassessor@goshenct.gov

*****Note to current recipients of the Elderly and Disabled Homeowners Property Tax Credit.*****

If you are a current recipient of this program, the reapplication filing requirement has been suspended. You will automatically maintain your benefit for the next biennial cycle and the Assessor's Office will contact you when a new application is needed.

Town of Goshen Recreation Department

February 19, 2021

The Recreation Commission would like to extend a heartfelt “Thank you!” and our best wishes, to exiting Recreation Director Colleen Kinkade. Colleen has recently taken a position in the town of Litchfield as Recreation Director. Her constant enthusiasm and high energy will be missed by many here in Goshen. During her time in Goshen, Colleen provided our residents young and old alike, with a variety of programs and activities, from after-school art and sports programs to summer concerts and senior trips and luncheons. There was something for everyone throughout the year. During our summer months, you could always find Colleen at Camp Cochipianee where she ran our town’s summer camp. Colleen’s dedication to summer camp was exemplified this past year. Goshen was one of the only towns in our area to have a summer camp during this pandemic. With determination and support from many in our town government, she was able to develop a summer camp program that gave campers a live camp experience, while meeting or exceeding town and state Covid 19 safety guidelines. On a personal note, It has been a pleasure to serve on the Recreation Commission along side Colleen. We will miss her greatly.

At this moment, the Board of Selectmen have formed a hiring committee with the Recreation Commission and are currently in the process of searching for our next Recreation Director. We look forward to this next chapter in recreation and are committed to continuing to provide a wide variety of excellent programming for years to come. Thank you to all of those who are helping out as we continue in this process. Thank you also, to all who enjoy the Recreation Department’s programs for your patience, as we work diligently to fill this position.

Sincerely yours,

Don Patterson

Chair Person/Recreation Commission

Electronics & Shred Smart recycling

April 3, 2021 - 9am - 12pm

Location: (Goshen Town Hall Parking Lot)



Mattress recycling

April 3, 2021 - 9am - 12pm

Location: (Goshen Center School Parking Lot)

Do you have unwanted or leftover paint for recycling – go to www.paintcare.org or call (855)-724-6809 for local Drop Off Sites

Paint is not accepted at our recycling events.

For any questions on events please call the Recycling Coordinator (860) 618-5468 x 240



GOSHEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Goshen Historical Society is located at 21 Old Middle Street and the building is open April to October each year. Now closed due to pandemic. Various programs are held over the summer months. The building is open on **Tuesday's** from 10:00 A.M. to noon from **April to October** and by appointments.

The **officers for the 2020-2021** year are:

President - Henrietta C. Horvay, Vice President Marcia Barker, Secretary Theresa Walla Kelly, Treasurer Cynthia Harmon, Curator Henrietta C. Horvay, Assistant Curator Walter M. Horvay, Directors: James P. O'Leary, Edward Bloes, Steven Romano, Suzette Barker and John Burek.

The Historical Society is a volunteer organization, but needs the support of the citizens of Goshen and other people with an interest in Goshen to keep this organization active for the community.

We ARE PART OF THE GIVE LOCAL campaign which will be held on APRIL 20 & 21, 2021 with the CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION. HOPE YOU WILL HELP SUPPORT OUR ORGANIZATION.

Program for 2021

**TENTATIVE IF PANDEMIC IS GONE
AUGUST 14, 2021 SATURDAY
Belated Anniversary Party
1:00 TO 3:00 P.M.**

All our events are posted on our **SIGN BOARD**. It is placed in front of the building before each event.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF MEMBERS:
PLEASE JOIN OUR ORGANIZATION TO CONTINUE THE PRESERVATION OF
THE HISTORY OF GOSHEN. ALL ARE WELCOME.**

NEW TOWN CITIZENS

IF YOU ARE A NEW CITIZEN OF GOSHEN AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT THE TOWN, YOU CAN PURCHASE A HISTORY OF GOSHEN, "A TOWN ABOVE ALL OTHERS", FROM THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BY CALLING HENRIETTA HORVAY, AT 860-491-3129. I WILL ARRANGE FOR YOU TO PURCHASE THE BOOK.

Goshen Public Library



42B North Street

Goshen, CT 06756

(860)491-3234

Spring 2021

Library Hours

Monday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Tuesday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 Wednesday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 Thursday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Great Decisions

Foreign Policy Association
Mondays at 4PM on Zoom

(March 8 and 22, April 5 and 19)

Topics Include: China in Africa, The Two
 Koreas, Role of the WHO, and End of
 Globalization?

Protect the Planet with Didgeridoo Down Under

Thursday April 1 at 7PM
 In honor of Earth Day join in the fun and
 learn what you can do to protect the planet
 through music and science!

Outreach

Unable to visit the library? We'll come to
 you if you are ill or unable to drive. Call 860-
 491-3234 to arrange outreach services.

Mark Albertson on Zoom

The 160th Anniversary of Abraham

Lincoln's Inaugural Address

Tuesday, March 16 at 4PM

George Washington's Farewell Address, 1796

Monday, April 12 at 4PM

The Call of Kilimanjaro with Jeff Belanger

Thursday, March 18 at 7PM on Zoom

Get ready to climb 19,341 feet to the summit
 of Mt. Kilimanjaro – one of the famed Seven
 Summits – the roof of Africa. Based on his
 memoir, The Call of Kilimanjaro, author,
 adventurer, and TV host Jeff Belanger takes
 you on a breathtaking multimedia journey of
 Tanzania that's spiritual, motivational, and
 uplifting.

Please call to register for all programs
860-491-3234 or email
frontdesk@goshenpublib.org

GIVE LOCAL

Greater Waterbury &
Litchfield Hills!

Give Local April 20 and 21, 2021

Hosted by Connecticut Community Foundation and sponsored by Ion Bank Foundation for the eighth consecutive year, Give Local Greater Waterbury and Litchfield Hills will return in April to benefit the vital work of hundreds of nonprofit organizations in our region.

Please save the date and think of us!

“How do you ...?”

Hoopla, Kanopy, and RBDigital
Come for in person tutorials about our online offerings. Bring your smart phone, your tablet, and/or your laptop. Bring your password to add apps from your online store and let us help you learn more about what the Library offers.

Please call us to set up a one on one appointment via Zoom or in person.

Building Story Bridges in Goshen

Goshen is an interesting place to live. Our people make it that way. Did you ever wonder about a neighbor's story? Do you have an interesting story to tell?

The Friends of Goshen Library has great news! We have been awarded a Bridging Divides grant from the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation for a program that links High School students with Community Members. The grant will run Spring of 2021 through the Wamogo Regional High School After-School Enrichment Program. Students will learn interviewing skills while Community Members will work with professional Storytellers to fine-tune their own oral history. A series of video conferences will link student-adult partners and result in a series of story videos that will be available on the library's website.

Would you like to share your story?
Do you know a high school student or recent graduate who might be interested in participating as an interviewer?

“The more you read
the more things you know.
The more that you learn
the more places you'll go.”
-Dr. Seuss



During this season of Lent, the Church of Christ Congregational will be putting together a prayer wall as a place that all are invited to come to God in prayer again and again, weaving your prayers in with those of our larger community. Woven together, our prayers form the shape of an ampersand, an ancient symbol that, used here, represents God's holy "and." When we feel helpless and hopeless, God's holy "and" encourages us to lift our weary eyes to search for more. Within the ampersand, our prayers are held together and transformed into beauty.

How to take part: The prayer wall is located on the "muffin hut" which is the gazebo type structure to the right of the church. On a prayer strip (provided at the prayer wall and also at the Church office and Goshen Community Care office), write a word or phrase to represent your prayer to God. Then weave it inside the ampersand shape, adding it to the prayers of our larger community. We invite you to offer as many prayers as you need, returning to this wall as often as possible.

“Goshen Housing Plan Committee Formed to Guide Community in Developing Five-Year Affordable Housing Plan”

Recently, Goshen applied for and won a CT Department of Housing (DOH) \$15,000 grant to help underwrite the cost of developing a Five-year Affordable Housing Plan for the Town of Goshen. Under State law, each Town must have such a plan in place by Spring 2022.

“Affordable housing” is based on the idea that housing costs including rent or mortgage payments plus essential costs like utilities should not exceed 30% of a household’s income. When the average cost of housing in an area rises to the point that this is no longer possible by individuals and families making modest incomes, then many of those members of the workforce that a Town needs to be successful are forced to live elsewhere. This hurts the ability of the area to offer the range of services needed to maintain quality of life and to sustain itself economically.

The Affordable Housing Plan is a community-based effort, like the Plan of Conservation and Development, for the Town to specify how it intends to increase the number of housing units that are affordable by individuals and families making 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) or less. For Goshen in 2020, 80% AMI is \$82,080. Many of those we count on such as teachers, the trades, caregivers, and more fall in this income range.

To guide the effort to develop this Plan, First Selectman, Bob Valentine, has formed an Affordable Housing Plan Committee. The Committee is made up of our Town Planner (Martin Connor), and members of the Board of Selectmen (Bob Valentine and Mark Harris), Planning and Zoning (Don Wilkes and Cynthia Barrett), the Economic Development Commission (Bill Commerford and Clint Thorn), and the Goshen Housing Trust (Josephine Jones and Chris Sanders).

Early planning by the Committee has included discussion of retaining a professional planning firm to facilitate community meetings on the subject, and the production, in conjunction with 7 other Northwest Corner Towns, of a video to help understanding how the issue has been address by our neighbors.

The Affordable Housing Plan Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30pm via ZOOM. The meetings are open to the public, of course, and the Committee invites and welcomes public participation in this important process. Thank you.

The Goshen Housing Plan Committee is beginning work on a plan to address the housing needs of current and future residents and workers in our town. As a resident of Goshen, your input will be crucial to the Plan. Please participate in the first opportunity for input by taking the Resident Housing Needs Survey by going to this website:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/GoshenHousing

Please take the survey by March 30th. If you need a paper copy of the survey, please call Town Hall.



Wildlife: Opossum facts

America's only marsupial mammal (giving birth to relatively undeveloped young which are carried in a pouch), the only species found here in Connecticut is the Virginia opossum. It is often simply referred to as "an opossum", and in North America they are commonly referred to as "possums". The opossum is about the size of a house cat and its lifespan is unusually short for a mammal of its size, usually only one to two years in the wild and as long as four or more years in captivity. Opossums are excellent tree climbers and spend much of their time aloft. They are aided in this by sharp claws, which dig into bark, and by a long prehensile (gripping) tail that can be used as an extra limb. Opossums nest in tree holes or in dens made by other animals.



When threatened or harmed, they will "play possum", mimicking the appearance and smell of a sick or dead animal. This physiological response is involuntary (like fainting), rather than a conscious act. In the case of baby opossums, however, the brain does not always react this way at the appropriate moment, and therefore they often fail to "play dead" when threatened. When an opossum is "playing possum", the animal's lips are drawn back, the teeth are bared, saliva foams around the mouth, the eyes close or half-close, and a foul-smelling fluid is secreted from the anal glands. The stiff, curled form can be prodded, turned over, and even carried away without reaction. The animal will typically regain consciousness after a period of a few minutes to four hours, a process that begins with a slight twitching of the ears.

Opossums are not aggressive: their open-mouth, defensive hissing is merely a bluff to look vicious. People often mistake the open-mouth hissing and drooling behavior of opossums as a sign of rabies. In fact, rabies is extremely rare in opossums, perhaps because they have a much lower body temperature compared to other warm-blooded animals.

Opossums are definitely good to have in your backyard. Compared to other types of wildlife, they are very helpful. Opossums not only play an essential role in the ecosystem, but they can also be a valuable asset to your garden. As omnivores, opossums consume a variety of foods. This includes the beetles, slugs, and snails which damage garden plants. These nocturnal creatures also consume plant matter.



In general, the opossum prefers fallen or rotting vegetation to fresh. Cleaning up dropped fruits and vegetables, which can harbor disease, is another benefit to having these creatures around.

One of the biggest benefits of opossums is their ability to control ticks. As meticulous groomers, opossums consume about 95 percent of the ticks which hitch a ride on their mammalian bodies. It's estimated that a single opossum eliminates over 5,000 ticks from the environment each year. In many areas of the United States, tick populations have been increasing. These pests are carriers of Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. As ticks have become more numerous, so have the incidents of tick-borne diseases. Horticultural activities, such as weeding, put gardeners at increased risk.

Some additional possum benefits:

- Opossums hunt, kill, and eat mice, rats, and snakes (including poisonous ones). Opossums are scavengers and clean up dead animal carcasses.
- Opossums have a natural resistance to rabies and botulism, so they aren't likely to spread these diseases.
- Opossums are immune to the toxins in bee and scorpion stings.
- Opossums don't dig deep holes, but they will occupy burrows of other animals.

Unfortunately, there are also some disadvantages to having the helpful opossum hanging around your home and garden. Consider these additional opossum facts before enticing them to stay:

- As scavengers, opossums will gladly consume pet food left outdoors. They have excellent memories and return night after night to finish up leftover pet food.
- They can have fleas and drop flea larvae and eggs in your yard and garden.
- Opossums are opportunists who will gladly shelter in your home, garage, or outbuildings. They will help themselves to the kitchen scraps in your compost pile or bags of garbage set out for trash collection.
- Opossums are carriers of equine protozoal myeloencephalitis or EPM. Grass, hay, and grain contaminated by opossum feces can transmit this incurable disease to horses.

EARTH FILMS FOR THE SPRING

The Mission 4/1 Earth Committee of the Church of Christ Congregational, Goshen will continue to have film discussions via ZOOM until we can meet again. At the time of this printing, we do not know when we can resume our in person film gatherings. To sign up and find film availability for the ZOOM discussions, contact Lynn Fulkerson at lbfulkerson@optonline.net or call 860 491-3215

Film discussions start at 7 PM the third Wednesday of each month.

MARCH 17: The film is a Public Broadcasting special, *The Plastic Problem*. Over 9 billion metric tons of plastic have been produced since 1950. Where has it all gone? In the illuminating documentary *The Plastic Problem*, the PBS News Hour explores the scourge of plastic remnants in our oceans and lakes, their points of origin, and their ultimate impact to the health of both sea life and humans. The film also profiles the people and industries who are doing their part to curb this unnecessary waste, including representatives from soft drink and asphalt companies.

APRIL 14: Douglas Tallamy, author of *Nature's Best Hope*, will discuss simple steps that each of us can- and must- take to reverse declining biodiversity and will explain why we, ourselves, are nature's best hope.

MAY 19: *Kiss the Ground* reveals that, by regenerating the world's soils, we can completely and rapidly stabilize Earth's climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies. Using compelling graphics and visuals, along with striking NASA and NOAA footage, the film artfully illustrates how, by drawing down atmospheric carbon, soil is the one answer to the climate puzzle.

VOLUNTEERS - LINE UP NOW

The Goshen Green Garden, our own Community Garden, would love to "use" YOU. If you are interested in helping harvest and/or deliver produce to local food banks, LET US KNOW. As a Massachusetts Native American chef said, "...we grow food for people to eat, not to spoil in the field.

" For information on how to help, contact Janet Hooper at jmachooper@optonline.net





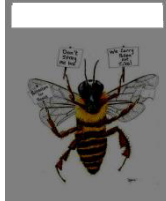
NO MOW MAY

There is a movement afoot and it's called ***NO MOW MAY***.
Our fragile pollinator population will thank you for learning about it!

No Mow May promotes pollinator friendly habitat and awareness in a very simple and easy way.

**JUST DON'T MOW YOUR LAWN FOR THE MONTH OF MAY!
SIMPLE....RIGHT?**

Long grass allows for a greater variety of flowers to grow, some of them rare plants. They attract and feed pollinators!



BEES AND OTHER POLLINATORS INCREASE

Research has shown that by not mowing your lawn at the beginning of the season for 4 weeks the bee abundance increases fivefold and the diversity increases by threefold.

Early emerging pollinators need reliable food sources. The movement dubbed ***No Mow May*** is taking "root" in many parts of this country and the world.

AND YOU WILL SAVE TIME, GAS AND FERTILIZER TOO!

It's a simple way to help feed wildlife in the area on a multitude of levels, directly for bees and insects and indirectly for the wildlife that eats the pollinators.

Just wait until the 1st of June. You will have plenty of mowing for the rest of the season.

So take a break and give the bees a breakfast too!

Contact the Church of Christ if you would like a ***No Mow May***
yard sign Phone: 860 491-2793



The Goshen Business Circle welcomes all the new residents to our Town! We are glad to have you and want to share a little about what the GBC has to offer.

Our mission is to support Goshen's network of entrepreneurs, professionals, and tradesmen while promoting economic growth and preserving the rural landscape. We look forward to getting acquainted and invite you to support our local businesses.

Please visit our website and directory to find out more about our members and events around town.

www.goshenbusinesscircle.com

Contact the GBC if you want to promote your business in Goshen and would like to become a member.

info@goshenbusinesscircle.com



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Litchfield
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**61 Sharon Turnpike
Goshen
860-491-1090**

www.ejmurphyrealty.com

***NOW IS THE TIME TO SUPPORT OUR
LOCAL BUSINESSES.....JOIN***



Goshen Business Circle



**The Goshen
Good Neighbor Fund, Inc.**
P.O. Box 492 Goshen, CT 06756-0492
Established in 1977 Helping Goshen Residents in Emergency Need

2020 has been a challenging year for many people due to Covid-19. The Goshen Good Neighbor Fund, Inc. helped 8 individuals/families in need of emergency financial need this year. The total assistance for the year was \$12,293.91 ranging from \$345 to \$5,100 depending on the need and the emergency. We helped to pay for special medical equipment, car repairs, house rebuilding, expenses associated with staying close to specialty hospital while a loved one was in for treatment, utilities including electricity and heating fuel. The recipients were very grateful for our assistance during this difficult time, providing them with peace and love during an uncertain time in their life.

Fundraising this year was put on hold and we were unable to produce our 2021 Calendar, however, we did bring in \$260 in 2020 calendar sales. We have been blessed to receive 96 donations, many of them very generous from our loyal and dedicated contributors, including 14 matching gifts/online Benevity donations, along with contributions from Amazon Smile, the Archdiocese of Hartford AAA, Give Local CT Community Foundation, Goshen Running Club, Goshen Wine and Spirits, the Network for Good (Facebook), the Northwest CT Community Foundation, St Thomas of Villanova Church of the St Louis de Montfort Parish with their textile bin, and the United Way, for a total of \$36,583.

The overall year net/change from December 31, 2019 (\$82,711) to December 31, 2020 (\$108,506) was \$25,795 making it an extraordinary year not only for those in need, but in allowing us to build funds for the future needs of our Goshen neighbors.

Thank you for your dedication to our organization and your monetary contributions. Your consideration has helped to make Goshen the wonderful community it is.

Email: goshengoodneighborfund@gmail.com

Once again we will be participating in this annual online fundraising campaign sponsored by the Connecticut Community Foundation and Ion Bank. Please support our organization and the many Goshen and area nonprofits as your means allow...



If you find yourself doing some early spring housecleaning and have items you no longer use....

St. Thomas of Villanova Church of the St. Louis de Montfort Parish, in Goshen has a Clothing Collection Shed located next to the rectory which accepts the following items: clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, towels and bed linens, curtains, and stuffed toys.

Donations are tax deductible and there are slips in the box attached to the shed. Goods should be placed in a plastic bag and tied prior to being placed in the shed. St. Thomas of Villanova Church receives money for items that are in good condition, based on the number of bags (average 11lbs per bag). don't over stuff your bags making them hard to carry.

The church's Finance Council has designated that 100% of the funds received are given to support ***The Goshen Good Neighbor Fund, Inc.*** We are extremely appreciative of this act of generosity!

Goshen Good Neighbor Fund Board:

Kit Wright, President 860-491-2419; Cate Corwin, Treasurer Email: goshengoodneighborfund@gmail.com; Marcia Barker, Secretary 860-491-2368; Susan Breakell 860-307-0611; Erin Hubbard 860-491-2176; Allen Kinsella 860-491-3720; Dan Kobylenski 860-491-0101; Andrea Loomis 860-491-5103; Laurie Sweet 860-307-9462; Lisa Tillmann 860-491-5472; Julia Turtoro 860-806-2283; Art Witkowski 860-491-3350; Lu-Ann Zbinden 860-491-3399.



Goshen Community Care and Hospice Inc.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

PO Box 202, Goshen, CT 06756, 860-491-HOPE (4673)

goshencommunitycare@gmail.com, <https://goshencc-h.org>

Welcome Erin!

New Coordinator

We are thrilled to have Erin Reilly as our new coordinator at Goshen Community Care and Hospice! Erin brings her deep community knowledge, passion for Goshen and genuine people skills to this position. She is a familiar face around Goshen, serving as an EMT, secretary at Goshen Fire Company, Recreation Commission member and community volunteer.



Erin with her girls, Brooke and Rita

Erin is eager to get to know Goshen's older residents and serve the needs of the community. Please reach out to her and say hello!

Update on annual Light Up A Life event

Now available via video recording



Thank you to all who supported our Light Up A Life event. This year more than ever, we recognize the importance of continuing our annual celebration. Although we were unable to gather in person, we can connect virtually and remember those special people who are no longer with us.

We invite you to visit our website (<https://goshencc-h.org>) or Facebook page to view a video recording of our special program featuring a reflection, musical offering, and the reading of the names of people who once lit up our lives.

What's New

While our normal operations are somewhat restricted, our team has been actively serving the needs of Goshen's more seasoned residents! With the partnership of the New Goshenette, we have been able to deliver monthly lunches (save the date—upcoming lunches will be on 3/9 and 4/13). Also, volunteers have brought themed gifts to residents to celebrate Halloween, Winter Holidays and Valentine's Day. Be sure to reach out to us to be added to our outreach list!

Ornament Still Available!

These beautiful hand-crafted Woodbury Pewter ornaments are available for \$15 each. They can be ordered by calling Erin at 860-491-4673. Thank you to all who have supported this fundraiser, especially our friends at Goshen Wine & Spirits, Torrington Savings Bank, Union Savings Bank, and Goshen Town Hall for their support in selling them.



Save the Date!

Goshen Community Care and Hospice will participate in Give Local Greater Waterbury and the Litchfield Hills on April 20-21. This is a great opportunity to support our work as all Give Local donations will be boosted by bonus funds provided by campaign sponsors!



Goshen Community Care and Hospice

Assists the residents of Goshen, without charge, by providing services in time of need so that all residents may live in dignity, safety and comfort. Some of our services include: outreach, monthly lunch and social, medical loan closet, bereavement support, and hospice/end of life support. If you are in need or know a Goshen resident who is, please call us at 860-491-HOPE (4673) or email us at goshencommunitycare@gmail.com. All requests are handled with the utmost discretion and confidentiality.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION SPRING UPDATE

THE GOSHEN EDC DURING THE PANDEMIC

In December 2020, the EDC voted and approved a set of six “Key Objectives” that will guide our Commission as we work to improve the business climate of the Town of Goshen, in keeping with the needs and desires of our community.

A Summary of Our Key Objectives:

1. Collect information about both local businesses and citizen’s views of local business needs (see more about the COVID Survey below);
2. Develop a long-range plan that balances potential priorities with realistic ways in which to achieve them;
3. Establish a joint branding and marketing program for Goshen Businesses;
4. Explore ways to ensure Goshen has access to emerging technologies to support home-based and commercial businesses;
5. Recommend other possible needed infrastructure investment and Development and;
6. Recommend actions to attract and retain young individuals and families for a viable workforce and essential services.

This past years’ difficult situation has not stopped us from continuing to collect data, speak to other Town commissions and boards, in order to guide the EDC as we develop plans to achieve the desired business climate. Our recent “EDC COVID Survey” had questions not only for those who operate a business in Goshen, but also for residents to offer your perception of the Goshen business climate

If your email is registered with the Town of Goshen, you will have received a link to the Survey. If you are a member of the Goshen Business Circle, you also received an email link. And, if you are a registered business in Goshen, you will (or may have already) received a letter in the post with the Survey. Lastly, if you visited the Town Hall over the past month, paper copies of the Survey were there for you.

As the results from the official Survey are tabulated, the EDC will begin the discussion and formulation of suggestions to send as *possible* options and recommendations to our Goshen Selectmen.

Meanwhile, the EDC will continue to seek information and consider recommendations from both businesses and our residents, as to how Goshen might better serve our many and varied businesses--and therefore benefit our residents as well.

If you would like to contact us, here is the easiest way to leave a message on our EDC Web Page that is on the Goshen Government Website:

1. Type in: "goshenct.gov" in your browser
2. Click on "Government" in the top right-hand side
3. Click on "all boards" on the lower righthand corner
- 4 Click on "Economic Development Committee"
5. Click on "Contact the EDC" on the upper left corner.
6. Leave us a question or some helpful suggestions!

All the best,
Anne Green
Chair





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Sell My Home?

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It's a great time to sell!

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the next step

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dave@daveluzi.com
www.daveluzi.com

Heather Turri
860-605-5056
hturrirealtor@gmail.com
www.heatherturri.com



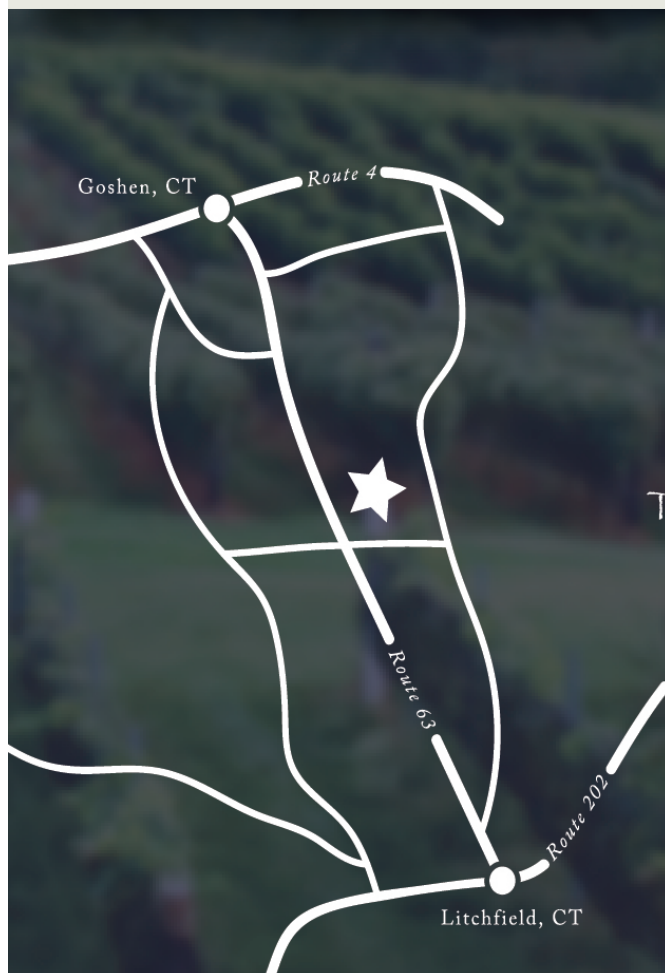
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As a resident of Goshen and Woodridge Lake I fully understand the unique characteristics that each home offers in our beautiful town. I offer multiple insurance options, local service, and very competitive rates.

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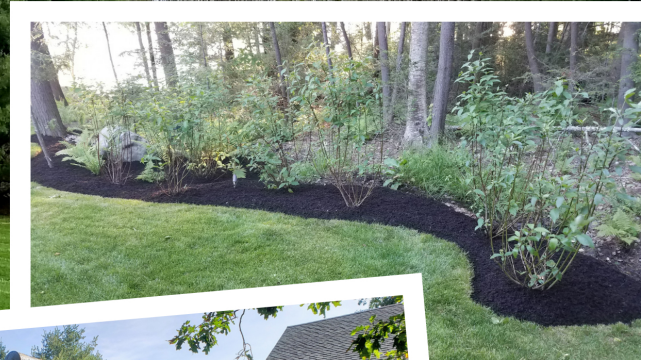
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- **Vacation Homes**
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TROOP 35 GOSHEN, CT. BSA

As I drive by the ice-skating rink at Goshen Center School, it's nice to see that a project by Eagle Scout Jackson Ives is being well used. On one evening I counted eight people enjoying the benches and refurbished warming shed that Jackson organized and rebuilt. Skate on!

In February we had our annual Wood Duck Box inspection. It was an Eagle project by Colby Pitcher, who worked with CT DEEP and built new nesting boxes and installed them around waterways in Goshen. Every winter we hike to these nesting boxes and inspect for eggs and other signs of use. Our findings are reported to the CT DEEP and that information is used to help track Wood Duck migration.

Outings and adventures: Our plans to hike to the top of Mt. Washington are still on track for August. In January we had an outing to the Millerton gun club where we practiced gun safety and target shooting -it was a great Saturday-but cold. We just had an amazing meeting! Carol Watson, Lead Nuclear Medicine Technologist, with 17 years' experience working at Sharon Hospital, came and gave a demonstration on how nuclear science works within the medical field, including the dangers and benefits of radiation. We are practicing for the annual Klondike Derby. It is where the Scouts test their skills and knowledge against other troops in CT. Last year we took first place!!!!

Big News: We are planning on having our annual Steak Dinner fundraiser. It will be Saturday May 15th. Because of the Covid Virus, we are making changes to our normal program. This year it will be held at the Goshen Fairgrounds from 4:00-7:00 PM. We are working with Torrington Area health to come up with a program that will be safe and enjoyable for all. So far, our plans are custom cooked steaks to order, our famous homemade clam chowder, baked potato, salad, corn on the cob, dessert, and a drink. The meals will be prepared in a "to go" type container. No table waiters this year. We are planning to have some outside and inside tables available for use. Tickets will be sold online this year with limited tickets sold at the door. Tickets are \$20. The ticket price increase is minimal compared to our increase in expenses. Currently, we are still working out all the details. Please see a Scout for updated information. We will be posting information on the Goshen Business Circle website under the Community events calendar www.GoshenBusinessCircle.com Hopefully, by then all this snow will be gone and it will be a beautiful evening. Looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones.

Our Meetings are on Wednesday evenings. If you are interested in seeing what Scouting has to offer, please contact Mr. Krukar at jkrugar@yahoo.com or call 860-491-3634

Farmers Market 2020: Distanced Together

In 2020, for the 15th consecutive summer, the Goshen Farmers Market was open for business, providing our community with locally grown produce supplied by small-scale farmers and artisans. The mission of the Goshen Farmers Market (GFM) has always been to connect our farmers directly to their customers and provide the community with food security while promoting sustainable practices of food production and distribution. Since food is an essential service, the GFM Board considered our opening this past year as an important service to our community.

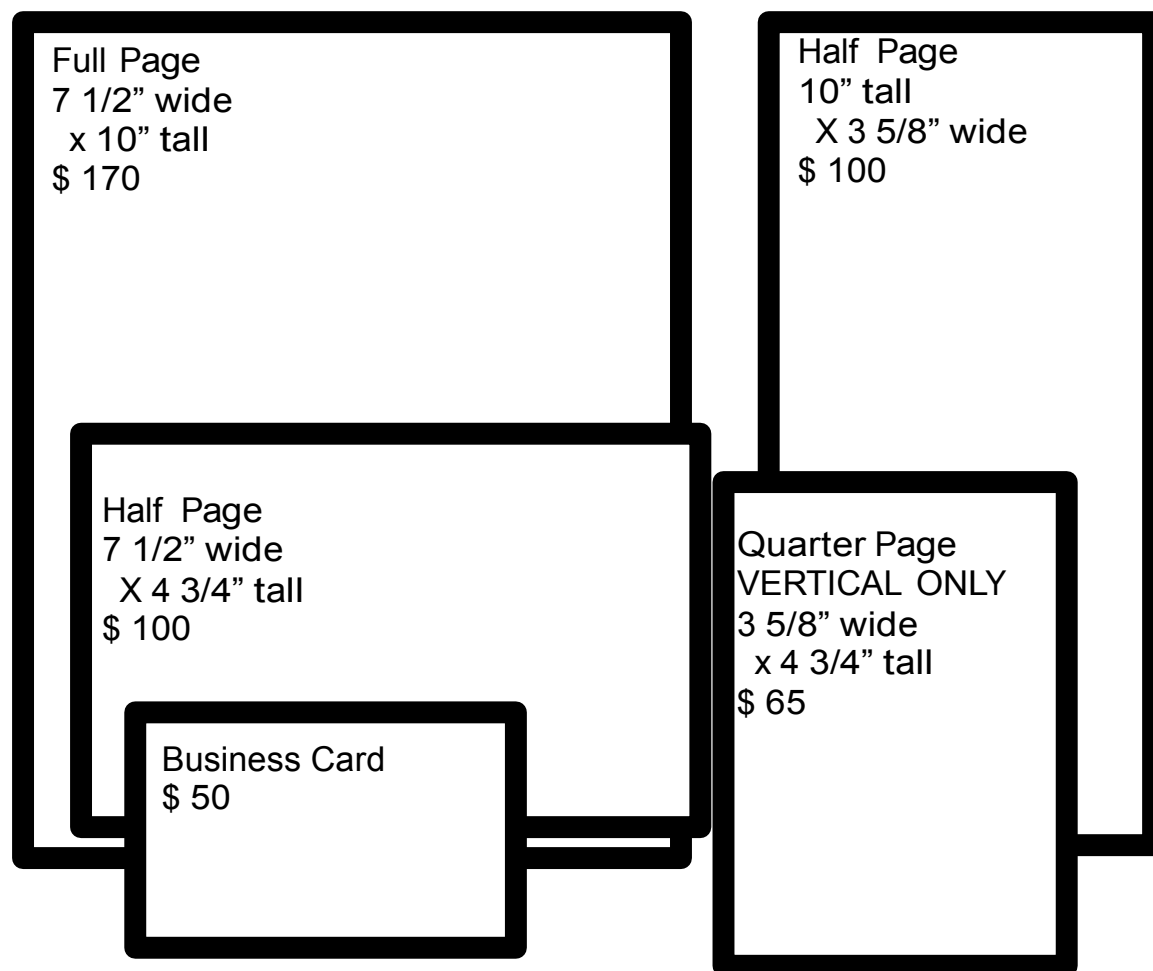
The market was able to put in place pandemic policies to responsibly bring together farmers and our patrons once again. Despite the lockdown, market vendors and customers all cooperated to create a safe selling environment, following concurrent State of Connecticut recommendations. The season ran from the fourth of July to Columbus Day, and was considered a win for both farmers and customers alike. Catherine Vlasto, a long-time friend of the market said, “As a patron, it was wonderful to know that I can get great quality food at an affordable price ... (and) getting good food for my family has been one way to improve immunity and wellbeing.”

The market director, Laurann Szpak, commented “The market had one of its most successful seasons in spite of the Covid-19 virus and its impact on so many facets of our daily lives. The overall need and maybe even desire to ‘shop local’ and support small community businesses and organizations to keep them afloat seems to have carried over to our market.” She added that the Market Board thanks all the loyal patrons for supporting the GFM and its important mission.

While the pandemic prevented extensive dining out last summer, several market goers pointed out that the market’s bounty of fresh vegetables made it more interesting to create meals at home. Maureen Mosca said she looked forward to “being out to support the local vendors as well as talk about favorite recipes” for seasonal produce available. Noting this value of the market, Kristin Kraus said her family discovered new produce to create new seasonal favorites, and that “in a time when we were preparing more of our own meals than is typical due to Covid (this) was priceless.”

The season wound down in October, but the GFM continued to work on their mission of enhancing local food security through a donation this winter in the amount of \$1000.00 to the Goshen Community Care & Hospice. It is intended for the express purpose of funding the Goshen Food Pantry as the pandemic wears on. “This gift is from all of us: vendors, customers and supporters to help fortify the great community of Goshen,” market leader Anne Kelly noted.

According to Szpak, the market will be back again July 2021 with updated Covid-19 protocols based on current state and local guidelines and is “looking forward to the upcoming season to provide the best of locally grown and handmade products in a safe and accessible environment.”



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Center - 2 page spread: \$355

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TOWN PHONE DIRECTORY

To reach an extension, call the number listed below.

You will be asked to dial the extension listed below. If the person you are calling is unable to answer their phone, you will be able to leave a message in the individual's voice mail.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EXT</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
Animal Control Officer		(860) 485-9165		
Baldwin, Bill	Fire Marshal	(860) 601-8940		Cell phone (No office hours)
Breor, Barbara	Town Clerk	(860) 491-3647	224	Mon-Thurs 9-12 & 1-4 & Fri 9-1
Clinton, Lori	Registrar of Voters	(860) 491-2308	236	1st & 3rd Tues 9-noon
Connor, Marty	Enforcement Officer	(860) 491-2308	232	Tues & Thurs 7:30am-9:45am
Doherty, Nadine	Library Aide	(860) 491-3234		Library Phone Number
Gregoire, Paula	Library Aide	(860) 491-3234		Library Phone Number
Hall, Barry	Fire Chief	(860) 491-2526		
Harlow, Garret	Public Works Supervisor	(860) 491-6029		Mon-Friday 7:00 - 3:00
Harris, Mark	Selectman	(860) 491-9095		Home number
Howard, Nanci	Registrar of Voters	(860) 491-2308	236	1st & 3rd Tues 9-noon
Hussman, Lucy	Assessor	(860) 491-2115		Tues & Wed 9-12 & 1-4
Jurchert Derungs, Rebecca	Tax Collector	(860) 491-3275		Tues 9-12 & Wed 1-4
Vacant	Recreation Director	(860) 491-2249		Mon-Thurs 8:30-4 & Fri 9-12
Kinsella, Dexter	Selectman	(860) 491-3364		Home number
Leclair, Denise	Assessment Clerk	(860) 491-2115		Tues & Wed 9-12 & 1-4
Malanca, Kate	Data Entry Clerk	(860) 491-2308	223	Mon & Wed 8:30-4
Malanca, Kate	Library Aide	(860) 491-3234		Library Phone Number
Paige, Lucille	First Selectman's Aide	(860) 491-2308	239	Tues, Wed & Thursday
Perry, Virginia	Selectman's Admin. Asst.	(860) 491-2308	228	Mon-Thurs 8:30-4 & Fri 8:30-12
Steinmayer, Lynn	Library Director	(860) 491-3234		Library Phone Number
Strazza, Ryan	Children Coordinator	(860) 491-3234		Library Phone Number
Valentine, Robert	First Selectman	(860) 491-2308	221	Mon-Thurs 8:30-4 & Fri 8:30-12
Zibell, Chris	Building Official	(860) 491-2308	231	Tues & Thurs 7:30am-10am
OTHER PHONE NUMBERS (OWNED BY TOWN)				
Camp Cochepianee	291 Beach St.	(860) 491-3367		
Goshen Firehouse	181 Sharon Tpke.	(860) 491-2526	or	(860) 491-3855 (General calls)
Goshen Library FAX	42B North St.	(860) 491-0100		
Public Works	38 Torrington Rd.	P: (860) 491-6029		F: (860) 491-6036
Town Hall FAX	42A North St.	(860) 491-6028		
OTHER PHONE NUMBERS (NOT OWNED BY TOWN)				
Goshen Community Care & Hospice		(860) 491-4673		
Goshen Fairgrounds		(860) 491-3655		
Goshen Post Office		(860) 491-2733		
State Police - Canaan		(800) 497-0403		
U.S.A. Hauling - Recycling		(860) 379-1662		

REVISED 2021

TOWN OF GOSHEN
RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING PICKUP SCHEDULE
MONDAY PICKUP
TUESDAY PICKUP
Electronic Recycling Day – April 3 rd & October 2 nd , 9am-12pm
Mattress Recycling Day – April 3 rd & October 2 nd , 9am-12pm
Shred- it Day – April 3 rd & October 2 nd , 9am-12pm
QUESTIONS?
Call the recycling contractor:
USA Hauling & Recycling
860-379-1662
Household Hazardous Waste Days: TBD
Refer to the Town of Goshen website for dates & details
Free pickup of Tires and Scrap Metal 1st Friday of the Month You must call to schedule a pickup
USA Hauling & Recycling 860-379-1662

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