

Winter 2020

# Goshen Town Topics

42A North Street, Goshen, CT 06756 • 860-491-2308 • [www.goshenct.gov](http://www.goshenct.gov)

## *From the First Selectman*

As we close in on the waning days of 2020, it is difficult not to breathe a sigh of relief. Now that three (3) pharmaceutical companies have vaccines in the final stages of approval, hopefully we will be that much closer to seeing the end of this terrible pandemic – COVID-19.

As predicted, a second surge of COVID-19 infections are spreading across the globe. In Goshen, we have been fortunate since the beginning to not have had as many infections as other places, up until now. November saw a substantial spike in cases locally. As of the writing of this article, the day before Thanksgiving, we have had 18 confirmed cases of COVID-19 for the month of November, contrast that with the fact that since the beginning of the pandemic in March, our total cases have been 44. It's hard to tell why, but clearly our luck seems to have run out. Perhaps to a certain extent, many of us have succumbed to COVID "fatigue" and have let our guard down. Whatever the reason, we all need to redouble our efforts to guard against further spread of this terrible virus. Frankly, very simple and achievable things such as wearing face masks and frequent hand washing will slow the spread.

At Town Hall and in the Library, we are still open to the public, for the time being, albeit with protocols in place. To limit the potential spread of the virus to Town employees, temperature checks, sign-in contact list, and hand sanitizers are required to enter the building.

November 16<sup>th</sup>, Goshen made history by holding the first-ever Hybrid Town meeting in our 271 year history. At that meeting held in the gymnasium of the Goshen Center School, there were 23 individuals in attendance, 45 via "zoom" meeting and one by phone. There were 12 items on the agenda including "Approval of the Annual Report" and the "Audit Report", resolutions allowing the Board of Selectmen to apply for and expend grants and election of members to the Inland and Wetlands, Recreation and Economic Development Commissions. All of this was done in less time than it took everyone who attended, to sign in. Certainly a tribute to the "can do attitude" that exemplifies the "Goshen spirit".

Stay well and be safe.

Best,



Bob Valentine

## PRESS RELEASE

TOWN OF GOSHEN  
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Taxpayers wishing to appeal assessments on the October 1, 2020 Real Estate and/or Personal Property List, or the 2019 Supplemental Motor Vehicle List, must make a written request to the Board of Assessment Appeals for a hearing. This written request must be submitted on the prescribed form and received by the Board of Assessment Appeals, Goshen Town Hall, 42A North Street, Goshen, CT, 06756 no later than **February 20, 2021**.

Forms to be used for filing appeals can be found on the Town of Goshen website [www.goshenct.gov/board-of-assessment-appeals](http://www.goshenct.gov/board-of-assessment-appeals). Taxpayers wishing to obtain a form by mail may call 860-491-2115. A separate form is required for each property being appealed.

The Board of Assessment Appeals will notify taxpayers in writing of the date, time, and place of their hearing. Hearings will be held in mid-March at a time and place to be determined.

When completing the required form, taxpayers are strongly urged to name an agent to act on their behalf in the event they cannot keep the scheduled appointment.

An appeal cannot be heard unless the required written request is received by the Board of Assessment Appeals on or before **February 20, 2021**.

**Reminder**  
**Real Estate & Personal Property**  
**Taxes Due January 1, 2021**

**REMINDER 2<sup>ND</sup> INSTALLMENT DUE ON PROPERTY TAXES**  
**Last day to pay without penalty: Monday, February 1, 2021**

Normal office Hours: Tuesdays from 9:00 – Noon and Wednesdays 1:00 – 4:00. The Tax Collector's Office will be open on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, from 1pm-4pm.

Pursuant to Sec. 12-145 of the Connecticut statutes, the undersigned Tax Collector of the Town of Goshen gives notice that she will be ready to receive second installment of Real Estate and Personal Property taxes due January 1, 2021 at the Tax Collector's office located in the Goshen Town Hall, 42A North St, Goshen, CT.

Payments must be **received or postmarked** by February 1<sup>st</sup> to **avoid interest**.

On February 2<sup>nd</sup> interest will be charged from January 1, 2021 at the rate of 1.5% for each month elapsing from the due date (3%), with a minimum interest charge of \$2.00. Sec. 12-146

Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the taxpayer of his/her responsibility for the payment of taxes or delinquent charges. Sec. 12-130.

You may also pay online at <http://www.goshenct.gov>,

There are convenience fees

- Credit Cards: Point & Pay charges a 2.5% convenience fee, \$2.00 min.
- Debit Cards: Point & Pay charges flat fee of \$3.95 for payment processing.
- E-checks/ACH payments: Point & Pay charges fee of \$2.00 if the payment is less than or equal to \$10,000.00 and \$10.00 for each payment that is greater than \$10,000.00.

**Email Reminders – Taxes Due**

Sign up for Tax Collector notices – you will receive reminder notices in December & June of upcoming due dates for taxes.

**Never forget that January installment again.**

[www.goshenct.gov](http://www.goshenct.gov) & subscribe for e-alerts on home page,  
Select Tax Collector's Office & any other desired news/alerts

**Did you pay OFF your mortgage??**

**Are you paying off your mortgage before the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment is due??**

**Contact the Tax Office to notify us. The banks do NOT notify the Tax Office**

If you have any questions, please contact us at (860) 491-3275 ext. 226 or  
[taxcollector@goshenct.gov](mailto:taxcollector@goshenct.gov)

## **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.

### **!!PARKING BAN!!**

There is a **Parking Ban on Town Roads** during winter weather storm events between **November 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>**. (Town Ordinance Title 17, [www.goshenct.gov](http://www.goshenct.gov) ). Vehicles and trailers left on the roads during these times **may be towed at the owner's expense**.

### **\*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](mailto:publicworks@goshenct.gov).

## **CAPITAL AND ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

The past construction season was again a busy one for the public works department. In addition to working on many road projects over the spring and summer months. The Public Works Department staff replaced two large drainage pipes including 100' of a large drainage pipe running under West Hyerdale Drive that would often flood due to being undersized. The project also included planned storm water quality upgrades. Public Works will continue the process of planning for next year's improvement projects and beyond through the winter months for the coming construction season.



Sennebogen 718 Grapple Saw Boom



Albach Diamante 2000 Wood Chipper

Ash Removal Work with Specialized  
Equipment – Town Hill Rd.



## **WINTER SEASON SAFETY**

**Please make every effort to keep your trash and recycling totes off of the edge of the roadways for the safety of roadway users and to allow for the plowing of roads during storms.**

Although the Public Works Department is careful about their surroundings while plowing and treating the roads, please be aware when you are in proximity of these working vehicles, especially due to their limited rear-view vision. Rear view blind spots can extend back 100' on a truck, please give us sufficient room to work and assume the driver does not see you! We all thank you for your cooperation on this important matter of safety.

Any job site the Public Works Department is working at is considered a **WORK ZONE** and **FINES** will be **DOUBLED**. This includes crews cutting vegetation along the roadsides. Please drive slowly and cautiously by these areas. If possible, please find an alternate route until work is completed.

## **WINTER SAND FOR RESIDENTS**

Winter sand is available after November 1<sup>st</sup> to Goshen residents in small quantities at the Public Works facility. Sand is located in the bin next to the red barn at 38 Torrington Road. Be warned the area is under monitor.

## **MAILBOX DAMAGE**

The Public Works Department is not responsible for damage to one's mailbox unless one of our vehicles direct impact causes damage to the mailbox. **Should snow or debris damage the mailbox as a result of plowing, the Public Works Department is not responsible for replacement or repair.**

## **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. Additionally, this ordinance 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](mailto:publicworks@goshenct.gov) with questions or to apply for a permit.

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

## The Economic Challenges We Face

As a small, rural town, Goshen already shares workforce challenges with other rural communities in Connecticut and elsewhere. A report by the US Congressional Joint Economic Development Committee, cites three common challenges:

- **Automation, Artificial Intelligence, and other Technologies Will Hit Rural Areas Hard**  
The way people work is changing. Companies will increasingly rely on automation and new technologies instead of human workers. A study done by the Brookings Institution finds that the jobs most vulnerable to this trend are most likely found in rural areas. One approach to counter this is to encourage entrepreneurial businesses to create local jobs for those who choose to stay or settle in small towns.
- **Lack of Access to Broadband Internet**  
A lack of reliable high bandwidth internet connectivity limits or excludes a rural area from the growing number of remote work opportunities becoming common in the digital economy. It also limits the ability for local businesses to market their goods and services online and for the workforce to find jobs outside of the community.
- **Keeping Local Talent Local**  
There is a tendency for a Town's young to leave rural communities for urban areas to pursue career opportunities not available closer to home. Other young workers are unlikely to move into an area without others their age. The resulting "outmigration" impacts the tax base, the town infrastructure, and schools. Property values come under pressure, making it harder for older residents to move out.

The impact of these trends was already visible in our empty storefronts, declining student population, and our aging population before the COVID pandemic hit in early 2020. Clearly, COVID has added its impact to these trends and the long-term nature of the combined economic impact is not clear.

Many businesses have had to shut down for lengthy periods. Many have operated at reduced levels of business due to health restrictions and/or changed customer buying patterns. Some have shut their doors forever or may be forced to do so in coming months.

Many residents have lost their jobs temporarily or longer term. Some have been forced to work reduced hours. Many have been required to work from home. Schools have gone virtual or hybrid, impacting the ability of some working parents to continue their jobs. This transition has been difficult but some of these changes may become the "norm" going forward, even when COVID is no longer a concern. A recent survey by *Salesforce Research* indicates 69% of workers believe the pandemic will permanently change their work. 48% worry about losing their current job post-pandemic.

The Goshen Economic Development Commission was formed a year ago to consider the economic issues facing Goshen, research options to deal with them, and to advise the Board of Selectmen on actions that could help to keep our town economically strong and the wonderful place to live that it has always been. As a part of this effort, the EDC is preparing a survey of the Town's residents including both those who are in business here, and those residents who depend on the business services available. Our hope is to gain more insight into the impact of these trends and the COVID pandemic on our town as a part of fulfilling our EDC mission. The survey will be anonymous so respondents may be more open with their responses. The results will be compiled and published for all to review.

You will start to hear about the survey over the next month and we expect to begin accepting responses in the early part of the New Year. We hope that you will consider sharing your experience as a businessperson and/or as a resident of our town.

Chris Sanders  
EDC Commissioner

## Citizens Advisory Committee for Recycling and Trash (RATs)

**CAN I RECYCLE IT****IN THE SINGLE STREAM BIN**

The answer is a few clicks away –  
<http://www.recyclect.com/> and get the real scoop:

Pizza Box – **Yes** (no food residue or liner)

Drink Boxes- **Yes**

Shredded Paper – **NO**

Plastic Bags and films – **NO** (see below)

**They jam the sorting machinery**

Light Bulbs LED & Incandescent – **NO** - These bulbs do not contain mercury or other hazardous materials – they go in the trash

CFL Bulbs – **NO** – They contain mercury-Lowe's accepts for recycling

**Recycle Beyond the Bag – Recycle Plastic Film**

You may have heard that plastic bags are recyclable, but did you know that plastic film is, too? Return to Retail is the process.

Plastic bags and film **cannot** be recycled in our curbside bin at home. Instead, it must be taken to a drop-off location, to be collected for recycling.

Plastic film, such as produce bags, dry cleaning bags, the wrap around paper towels and diapers, and more, can be recycled along with plastic bags.

Due to the ever-changing conditions, stores may discontinue their programs for collection of plastic bags/wraps without notice. As of November 15, 2020, they all had the bins available

**Local Retailers with Plastic Film recycling bins****PriceRite**

695 Main Street, Torrington, CT 908-527-3300  
 Inside Main Entrance

**Lowe's**

420 Winsted Road, Torrington, CT 860-618-4273  
 Inside Main Entrance

**Big Y**

504 Winsted Road, Torrington, CT 860-489-0246  
 Inside Main Entrance

**Market 32**

990 Torrington St, Torrington, CT 860-496-5051  
 Inside Bottle Room

**Target**

1922 East Main St, Torrington, CT 860-618-4007  
 Near Restrooms

For examples of all the clean, dry, empty plastic bags, film and many other resources see <https://www.goshenct.gov/recycling-trash>

The RATs committee would like to thank all our neighbors for the great work we are doing to protect our environment - Keep it up

<https://www.goshenct.gov/recycling-trash>

# Goshen Public Library



42B North Street

Goshen, CT 06756

(860)491-3234

Winter 2020-21

[www.goshenpublib.org](http://www.goshenpublib.org)

## 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.

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## **Great Decisions 2021**

This foreign policy discussion group will start in January and run through 8 classes based on a book assembled by the Foreign Policy Association: Global Supply Chains and National Security; Persian Gulf Security Issues; Brexit and the European Union; Struggles Over the Melting Arctic; China's Role in Africa; The Korean Peninsula; Roles of International Organizations in a Global Pandemic; and The end of globalization?

This is a group that meets at 4PM on alternate weeks from January to April. Dates can be found on the Town calendar. Alternate Mondays starting January 11. These meetings will be via Zoom, with the possibility of having hybrid sessions later in the Spring.

If you would like to be a part of a discussion group but cannot come at 4PM on Mondays, please email [director@goshenpublib.org](mailto:director@goshenpublib.org) and we will see about a second group.

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## 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.

## Curbside Pick-Up

If you know exactly what you want, you can log onto our online catalog and place a reserve on a book. If you want to just email: [frontdesk@goshenpublib.org](mailto:frontdesk@goshenpublib.org) and ask for a book or DVD you can do that as well. Or please call – 860-491-3234 and ask for us to set aside some books. We can prepare a bag of books, magazines, and DVDs if you want a surprise! We can also include coloring pages and puzzles that we will start in 2021.

**We have a weekly email newsletter that comes out on Wednesday afternoons – please go to our web site and fill in the box asking to be added to the e-newsletter list or contact [frontdesk@goshenpublib.org](mailto:frontdesk@goshenpublib.org) to get signed up for it!**

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**In these times of COVID-19 when we are uncertain of what will be available in person, remember that we do have many options on our website!**

**Have you checked out any eBooks or downloadable Audiobooks recently?**

## **Online Offerings**

Through our association with OverDrive, we offer eBooks and audiobooks. Follow the link from our web page and if you have any questions

call Max between noon and 6PM –  
**860-937-8264**

## **Kanopy**

Online movies: independent films, documentaries, and foreign films. This is offered through the website. Use your library card to access wonderful things.



**Hoopla**

Streaming movies, eBooks and downloadable audiobooks. Click on the link provided on our website and use your library card to sign in!

**RBDigital**

Streaming TV Channels like Acorn TV, Spanish Soap Opera, School Test Prep, and Great Courses. RBDigital also has access to eBooks and downloadable Audio Books.

**Perhaps you'll get a New Tablet/Device for the Holidays...****Do you need help getting started with the library applications?**

Bring your email address, password, fully charged device ID and password, and we will try to help you get OverDrive and OneClickDigital.

**Come in or Zoom with us for some 1-on-1 help.**

**Please call ahead to make sure we have someone available to help  
860-491-3234**

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**Children's Programs:**

Please check the website and Facebook for programs. Remember each month there are craft bags to go.

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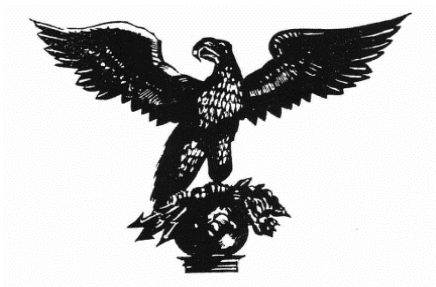
**Friends of the Goshen Public Library**

We are so lucky to have a group like the Friends of Goshen Public Library and right now they could use your support. If you can help by giving time to our book sale effort or if you have any ideas that you may have to make us a better library, please come to the Friends meeting the first Tuesday of the month at 5PM or drop some change in the Friends Jar on the circulation desk!



# GOSHEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



### PURPOSE

To discover, procure, and preserve whatever may relate to civil military, literary and ecclesiastical history and biography in general, and especially with reference to the TOWN OF GOSHEN; to investigate and preserve such traditions as now exist only in memory of aged persons, to procure and maintain collections in archaeology, art and the natural history of GOSHEN and the surrounding country, and in general, to encourage study, research, particularly that relating to local history, biography, antiquities and natural history and to disseminate information relative thereto.

Permanent exhibits include, furniture, glass, china, pewter, paintings, quilts, Indian artifacts minerals, shells, Lucas ledgers, and items pertaining to Goshen's early industries.

Programs which are open to the public cover a wide variety of topics of historical interest and are planned each season from June throughout August. The museum is normally open April to October but in 2020 we were closed due to COVID-19.

Our events this coming year will help paint the north side of the building. See how beautiful the other three sides of the building looks with the donation from members, GIVE LOCAL and our normal Wine Tasting. Hope, you can help in a little way, by joining our organization or by giving to the GIVE LOCAL CAMPAIGN in APRIL/MAY.

WE WISH TO THANK ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS FOR ENABLING US TO PAINT THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE BUILDING, THIS YEAR.

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### APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SUSTAINING MEMBER      DONATION \$25.00/ PER YEAR

MAIL TO:

GOSHEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 457

GOSHEN, CT 06756

**WE NEED**

**YOUR SUPPORT**

**HOPE TO OPEN**

**IN MAY 2021**

**Re: Sequence of Events for Construction of Dwelling, Addition, Pool or Accessory Building in the Town of Goshen**

Winter is on its way and many residents are planning winter and early spring projects. Please be advised that dwellings, additions, barns, garages, decks and **EVEN “COVER-IT TYPE SHEDS” ALL REQUIRE ZONING PERMITS.** The Zoning Regulations, Town Ordinances and Land Use applications are all available online at [www.goshenct.gov](http://www.goshenct.gov). For your convenience, the Town of Goshen has adopted online permitting for the submittal of land use permit applications. Paper applications will no longer be accepted. To use the PermitLink online permitting program, you must first create a login account. Once your login account is created, you can use it for all land use and building permit-related applications you may wish to submit.

Here is a summary of the various steps involved for obtaining the required approvals:

1. For a new house have a soil scientist flag any wetlands on the lot and have an engineer/surveyor develop a site plan that shows the proposed house, driveway, sewer line or septic system, well location and any wetlands or watercourses located by the soil scientist. Contact Torrington Area Health District at (860) 489-0436 for a list of soil scientists.
2. For a new house obtain approval from the Torrington Area Health District for the proposed septic system and well location. Lots inside the Woodridge Lake Sewer District and RA-1 Zone, require approval from the Torrington Area Health District for the proposed well and a Sewer Connection Permit from the Woodridge Lake Sewer District Administrator, (860) 491-3474. If there is a septic system on your lot, the Health District must approve all additions, decks, and accessory buildings. The Health District has a separate pool application permit that must be obtained for all new swimming pools. Contact Richard Rossi, Sanitarian, at Torrington Area Health District at (860) 489-0436.
3. Obtain an Inland Wetlands Permit from the Goshen Inland Wetlands Commission for any work proposed within 100' of a wetlands or watercourse (the regulated inland wetlands areas.) The Commission regulates construction, filling, and removal of materials within the regulated wetlands and watercourse area. Contact Martin Connor, Town Planner, Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer on Tuesday or Thursday mornings between 7:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. at 491-2308 ext. 232. The Inland Wetlands Commission meets the first Thursday each month at 7:15 pm, Goshen Town Hall. Applications should be submitted one week prior to a meeting.
4. Obtain a driveway permit from the Highway Supervisor, Garrett Harlow at (860) 491-6029 for all new driveways and repairs to driveways. The Town's driveway regulations are contained in the Town's driveway ordinance that was recently revised. Mr. Harlow also assigns addresses on new houses.
5. Obtain a Zoning Permit from Martin Connor, Town Planner/Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer, for proposed houses, additions, decks and accessory buildings including “cover-it” garages. The required zoning setbacks for the WL - Woodridge Lake Zone are 20' front and rear and 20' on the sides (75' from the lake.) Lots in the RA-2 and RA 5 Zones are 50' front and rear, 30' setback on the sides (75' from Tyler Lake, Dog Pond and Westside Pond.) The RA-1 Zone requires a 50' front and rear yard setback and 20' on the sides. Pools, decks and accessory buildings all require Zoning and Building permits and must meet the minimum zoning setback requirements. Maintenance sheds under 150 square feet can be built in all zones no closer than 10' from side and rear property lines (Woodridge Lake Deed Restrictions require a minimum of 20'.)
6. Obtain a Building Permit from Chris Zibell, Building Official. (860) 491-2308 ext. 231. Please use the Town's new on-line building permit application system. Mr. Zibell is available on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Martin J. Connor, AICP  
Goshen Town Planner/Zoning and Wetlands  
Enforcement Officer



# Goshen

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

parkandrec@goshenct.gov

Colleen Kinkade, Recreation Director

860-601-6089 (cell)



These are the Recreation Director's Office Hours.  
If the she is not at a program outside of these office  
hours or otherwise noted, she will be in the office

**Recreation Department Office Hours:**

- Monday: 11:00am-3:00pm
- Tuesday: 9:00am-12:00pm
- Wednesday: 11:00am-3:00pm
- Thursday: 11:00am-3:00pm
- Friday: 9:00am-12:00pm

**Goshen is Great/Town Above All Others**  
Shirts are available for \$7! In kids and adult sizes!  
GSN Bumper stickers are also available for \$1.  
Goshen and Big A\*\* Bears!







LOOKING FOR REC EVENTS & PROGRAMS?

## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

Don't wait for the Town Topics to come out every season...  
go right online to our website and see all the events and  
programs the Rec Department has to offer!!  
Create a household account to stay in the know!

**WWW.GOSHENREC.COM**



LET'S MAKE THIS SEASON MERRY AND BRIGHT!

# DONATE A GIFT CARD

TO A GOSHEN FAMILY IN NEED

Grab a gift card option on the tree and return to the Goshen Rec Dept  
by December 18, 2020 at 12pm.

**These gift cards will help Goshen Families during the Holidays.**

Questions? Contact Colleen at [parkandrec@goshenct.gov](mailto:parkandrec@goshenct.gov) or 860-491-2249

## About the Birds and the Bees (well, maybe not the birds)



This past summer and early fall, while driving around Litchfield and neighboring towns, you may have noticed people at the roadside taking pictures of wild flowers, or striding through a grassy field in pursuit of a butterfly or bumblebee. Chances are pretty good that these individuals were volunteers collecting critical data for the Litchfield Pollinator Pathway Project. Picture from [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org)

Four organizations, including Litchfield H.S., Litchfield Garden Club, Litchfield Land Trust, and the White Memorial Conservation Center, are joining forces to identify pollinator-friendly habitat and food sources for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects. Part of the study is to determine the corridors or pathways that these pollinators use and need to survive and thrive, and to establish, maintain and protect these critical habitats.

People are becoming increasingly aware of just how important pollinators are to the natural world. They are vital to helping create the habitats and ecosystems that many animals rely on for food and shelter. They are critical to the agricultural industry and facilitate the reproduction of 90% of the world's flowering plants.

And so, many volunteers spent untold hours collecting information. Cell phone in hand, they took photos of the flowers being used by the pollinators (hopefully with the bee, butterfly, flower fly etc. posing nicely) as well as photos of the immediate area. Other data about the pollinators sighted and the habitat they were found in was included and uploaded to a central database/map to be used for study in the project.

Many CT towns are participating in the project, and those who are not currently enrolled are invited to participate as well. More information can be found at <https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/litchfield>.

Goshen landowners can get involved in their own backyards- literally. There are a number of things homeowners can do to help in this cause.

### What you can do about pollinator declines

The decline of many pollinating insects, including many species of bees, is linked to a suite of stressors. Degradation and/or outright loss of habitat, careless use of pesticides, parasites and pathogens and the effects of global climate change. No one stressor has been implicated as the "smoking gun" in the declines of pollinating insects but scientists believe that the cumulative effect of all these stressors has created a situation where these animals cannot thrive.

While global climate change is a complex phenomenon, and parasites and pathogens are problems not easily solved by the average homeowner, there are things that we can do! The average homeowner can take steps in their own backyard to address pesticide and habitat loss issues. Here are some things you can do starting today!

- **Minimize pesticide use around your home and gardens.** Pesticides not only kill pests, they kill many other beneficial insects including the bees that pollinate your flowers. Learn about organic lawn care practices and gardening on CT Department of Energy and Environmental protection's website.

- **Mow less lawn.** A maintained lawn, while looking appealing to us humans, is really just a food desert to pollinators. Turf grasses are typically maintained at a schedule that doesn't allow for flowers to form. Mow less often and you will be surprised at the diversity of flowers, such as wild asters and jewelweed that will emerge from your soil!
- **Provide food in the form of native flowers.** Our pollinating insects evolved together with the plants they pollinate. Always choose (or encourage) plants that are native to the northeastern United States. While commercially produced seed mixes may seem like a great idea, they often contain species that are not truly native to Connecticut. Inquire with your local nursery about native plants they carry.
- **Encourage a variety of plants around your yard that will flower throughout the growing season.** This will provide nectar and pollen for pollinators year-round, therefore they will not have to travel as far to get the resources they need to be successful. There are many online resources out there to help you choose native plants for your yard, including the CT Agricultural Experiment Station's website.
- **Provide nesting habitat in your yard.** Leave bare patches of soil (free of mulch) that receive sun. This will provide nesting opportunities for the 70% of native bees that create burrows in the soil to nest in. Also, leaving areas of your yard "wild" and unmanicured will provide dead hollow stems for the other 30% of native bees that nest in cavities in dead wood and brush piles. The Xerces Society has wonderful online resources for landscaping your backyard with pollinators and other beneficial insects in mind.





**The Goshen  
Good Neighbor Fund, Inc.  
P.O. Box 492 Goshen, CT 06756**

*We are grateful for your support....*

As we continue to experience the ravages of this most unusual 2020, The Board of Directors wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the donations small and large made by residents and individuals, local businesses, our church communities, grant monies received from local agencies, matching corporate gift programs, regional and state charitable organizations and special event fundraising events sponsored by local individuals, proprietors and civic councils. We are humbled by your ongoing generosity to help ensure perpetuation of our mission to support our neighbors especially during very strenuous and difficult days.

**History and Mission**

The Goshen Good Neighbor Fund, Inc. was formally established as a nonprofit 501c (3) corporation in 1977 by a group of Goshen Connecticut residents who came together to raise funds for a Goshen family that was experiencing a financial emergency. Through this small group's efforts, fundraising initiatives, and desire to have funds on hand to assist other residents of Goshen who might find themselves in similar financial emergency circumstances, **The Goshen Good Neighbor Fund, Inc. (GGNF)** has been perpetuated since that time.

*Peace and Comfort to All this Holiday Season....*

*Marcia Barker, Secretary 860-4912368  
Sue Breakell 860-307-0611  
Erin Hubbard 860-491-2176  
Allen Kinsella, Vice President 860-491-3720  
Dan Kobylenski, 860-491-0101  
Andrea Loomis, 860-806-1887  
Cate Corwin, Treasurer, Email: [goshengoodneighborfund@gmail.com](mailto:goshengoodneighborfund@gmail.com)*

*Laurie Sweet, 860-307-9462  
Lisa Tillmann, 860-491-5472  
Julia Turtoro, 860-806-2283  
Art Witkowski 860-491-3350  
Kit Wright, President 860-491-2419  
Lu-Ann Zbinden, 860-491-3399*

Please note: Gifts to The Goshen Good Neighbor Fund are tax deductible based on the Fund's 501 c 3 Public charity status. No exchange of goods, services or property is provided by The Goshen Good Neighbor Fund, Inc. in relation to charitable gifts.





Let Us Celebrate ... anyway!

As we move toward the end of the year - and what a year it has been - we approach the Holiday season with optimism. We are making the effort to celebrate in little ways. Many residents adjusted to working at home and adjusted their work environments. Home renovations and decorating has been on the rise as COVID-19 set in. Families are making the most of special meals and special occasions, albeit in smaller groups. And the holidays will still include festive food and drink. There is always something to celebrate, and we in Goshen celebrate our businesses that deserve all our support and respect for courageously moving through these difficult times.

Many of our Goshen Business Circle adapted and quickly pivoted to face the pandemic and meet the needs of their customers. Online sales, remote visits, touchless and safe interaction protected their companies. It is admirable to observe how new ways were created to do business.

The GBC continues to promote, educate, and support our local businesses bringing them together to form a strong and energized network. YOU CAN HELP support our local businesses- Be sure to go to the GBC website: [www.goshenbusinesscircle.com](http://www.goshenbusinesscircle.com) for your holiday gift giving ideas and local services. This year, we are adding a "Give Local" to our "Shop Local" campaign with a convenient way to give to your favorite non-profit in Goshen.

In the coming year, we can cheer on a new business, Goshen Hometown Pizza which will open in the Village Marketplace. Resmi Rizvani, a Goshen resident and former owner of a successful business in Litchfield, will now offer take-out pizza, salads, burgers and more.

Our artist community grows ever stronger with the addition of sculptor Peter Woytuk, well-known for his abstract animals, birds and those amazing bulls seated in Kent. His new studio will be located on Rte. 4 across from Tyler Lake.

To end the year on a hopeful note, we may all have to reflect a bit. Focus on what worked in your business and your life and do more of it. We will continue to communicate to GBC members via email and Zoom meetings and will feature online seminars and workshops to help local businesses move forward with their goals. We are looking ahead to resuming in-person meetings in 2021. Meanwhile, all of us are striving to adapt and we continue to learn together. Let us celebrate, no matter what.

**Happy New Year and Stay Safe!**



## **Support your local Goshen businesses!**

**Go to our business directory for gift ideas for family and friends in our very own Town.**

**[WWW.GOSHENBUSINESSCIRCLE.COM](http://WWW.GOSHENBUSINESSCIRCLE.COM)**

**Businesses and shops throughout Goshen will be alive with food, fun and activities throughout the Holiday season. Many offer online shopping, delivery, and curbside pickup.**

**Goshen can be proud that we have worked together through these difficult times.**

### **WE WANT TO SUPPORT YOU!**

**Have a business? Want to be added to the GBC directory?**

**Contact [info@goshenbusinesscircle.com](mailto:info@goshenbusinesscircle.com)**

**BRINGING LOCAL BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY  
TOGETHER**

### DO YOUR KIDS NEED HELP WITH WINTER ACTIVITIES OR SPORTS?

The Shane Kinsella Fund is accepting applications from Goshen families for financial aid for children's needs, such as ski lessons, winter sports equipment, or other projects. The Fund has provided more than \$5,000 this year to Goshen families for expenses related to camp, swim lessons and college.

The Fund Committee meets on the first Thursday of every month. Applications for fund money can be obtained from the Goshen Town Hall or on the Town website.

A big thank you to everyone who donated to or participated in the *virtual* Shane Run/Walk this year. We sincerely hope we can be back on the road next April for this annual event. The Shane Morehouse Kinsella Children's Fund was established in memory of Shane who died of SIDs in 2008. In his spirit, it now seeks to support all the children of our beloved town.

The Fund, administered through the Town of Goshen, would welcome any tax-deductible donations in Shane's memory. (Checks should be made out to Town of Goshen, SMK Fund) THANK YOU.



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### BOY SCOUTS PUT THE GARDEN TO BED

On a chilly but sunny day in October, more than a dozen Scouts from Troup 35 joined community gardeners at the Goshen Green Garden to wrap up the harvest year. The boys (and some parents) spread woodchips, hauled compost, spread hay, pulled weeds, and had fun. Without their assistance our garden would not be prepared for its spring opening. This year the "Garden of Feedin'" contributed more than 750 pounds of fresh vegetables to food banks in Torrington as well as "drive through" pick-ups for Seniors in Goshen. Despite Covid (or perhaps more because of Covid), the gardeners are committed to continue to grow and help feed those in need.

We are blessed to have this community resource in Goshen.



**\*\*Always Free Gift Wrapping, Case discounts (State Min pricing Applies)**



**Special Orders & Price Matching (advertised prices start Dec 1st\*)**

## Winter Sales

Pricing Subject to Small Monthly Change\*

As the year comes to a conclusion, we would like to continue to thank our customers for their support over this challenging year. Hope the holiday season brings much needed joy to all. The store is stocked more than ever, a busy year has allowed us to continue to lower prices on major brands. If there is anything you need please reach out and ask, our inventory is catered to our customer base and we are willing to carry anything if available and offer a great price.

Stay safe and enjoy the coming winter months.

Best Wishes- Greg Brick Jr

### SPIRITS

- Tito's 1.75L \$30.99
- Goose 750s 29.99
- Smirnoff 1.75 19.99
- Glenfiddich 12yr 750ml - 44.99
- Grand Marnier 750's - \$34.99, Cointreau 35.99
- Fireball 1.75 \$31.99
- Woodford 750s' \$35.99
- Baileys 1.75 \$49.99 & 750s - \$29.99
- Bulleit 750s' \$29.99
- Many More Brands @ State min pricing

### WINE

- Woodbridge 1.5's \$12.99
- Bota 3L \$19.99 Black Box 3L \$20.99 Barefoot 3L 19.99
- Bogle Wines \$9.99
- Mark west - \$9.99
- Mionetto Prosecco \$13.99
- Apothic Red \$9.99
- Cavit PG 1.5L \$11.99
- KJ Chard \$11.99
- Veuve Clicquot \$48.99
- Cristal OB - \$ 259.99
- Many more value and high end wine at great pricing!

**Free Delivery!!!**

**Please Call ahead  
for weekend orders**

Follow our facebook page for monthly updates, specials and upcoming tastings & Holiday Hours

Increased Craft Beer Selection!

Lowest Keg Pricing Around!

Goshenwine.org is being updated to December Super Sale  
include pricing for most items in the store!

**Josh Cabernet**

Making it easier for curbside &  
Delivery orders.

**\$11.69 a bottle**

Per Bottle 10% Below State Min

**Gift Packs**

**Eggnogg, Beaujolais other  
seasonal favorites in Stock**



860-491-2078 Goshenwine.org

Goshenwineandspirits@gmail.com

Monday through Saturday 9:30-8 Sundays 10:30-5

Open 9 to 6 Christmas Eve & 9 to 8 New Years Eve

Closed Christmas, New years





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## Coffee-Tea-Etc.

Coffee roasters

Goshen, CT

[www.coffee-tea-etc.com](http://www.coffee-tea-etc.com)



860-491-9920



Remember your friends and family this holiday season with a Goshen gift, organic and fair trade certified.

Select a basket and the items, we'll put it together, we can send it, with a gift card. Or, pick single items of freshly roasted coffee, tea, hot chocolate mix, cocoa, chai masala, for your loved ones or yourself.

ORDER ONLINE FOR CURBSIDE PICKUP OR SHIP



**SHOP LOCALLY**



**GoshenOil.com KlebeFuel.com**



# Town of Goshen

## BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ALERTS



### How to sign up for Notifications from Town Boards and Commissions at [www.goshenct.gov](http://www.goshenct.gov):

1. Click on **SUBSCRIBE TO E-ALERTS**.
2. Enter your **Email Address**. And then again to confirm it is correct.
3. Click on any news, announcements alerts and notifications you would like to receive from any of the Town boards and commissions.
  - a. **Town News and Announcements** are found under **News and Announcements Update**.
4. Scroll to the bottom of the page.
5. Click the **box for "I am not a robot"**
6. Click **Subscribe Me**.

Once you're signed up you will then receive all notifications from those boards and commissions you have asked to be notified from by the email you have entered.





# Town of Goshen

## EMERGENCY

## NOTIFICATIONS



### How to sign up for Blackboard

**Emergency Notifications for the Town of Goshen** at [www.goshenct.gov](http://www.goshenct.gov):

1. Toggle your cursor over **How Do I?**
2. Click on **Emergency Notifications**
  - a. You will be directed to the Town of Goshen Blackboard page
3. Click on **Sign Me Up!** Next to Login, if you have never registered for Blackboard Emergency Notifications before.
4. Follow the prompts by clicking **Continue**.
5. Make sure to put in the correct email address. You will be sent a confirmation email. **Go to your email and click on the link to activate your account.**
6. Fill out the **security questions**.
7. Then **log in** with your email address and password you chose.
8. Prompts will ask how you want to be notified by clicking on **Add Address, Add Another Email, Add Phone**.
9. Click **Next** and **ONLY CLICK TOWN OF GOSHEN** for the Emergency Notifications.
10. Click **Next** and then **Done**. You will now be notified of any Town Emergencies.

Once you're signed up...that's it!!

You can update any information by logging in through [www.goshenct.gov](http://www.goshenct.gov)





## TROOP 35 GOSHEN, CT. BSA

WOW, what an unbelievable year!!!. We hope everyone is taking precautions with this world pandemic. We had to make a lot of changes to our normal schedule and routine. We had to cancel our annual steak dinner – a major fund raiser for us! The Goshen fair was canceled- were we sell food items at our Fair food booth since 1987. Items like our world famous egg sandwiches!! One cancellation that hurt the most was canceling our veteran's pasta dinner. It hurt because we look forward to say THANK YOU! And to honor all the veterans that make it possible to live free.

We would like to thank everyone that showed up to our one and only fund raiser this year. . On Labor Day weekend, Nodines let us use their Food trailer in the mornings to sell egg sandwiches on the lawn of the Congregational church. The turnout was far more than we had expected!!! Thank you. These fund raisers enables us to buy gear and to go on some great high adventure outings.

Outings and Adventures: We just had our annual Beast Feast- the scouts make and cook all the meals. Items like -Chocolate dump cake, trash can turkey, jambalaya, mountain man breakfast in a dutch oven- I think everyone gains weight. Over Christmas vacation we will spend the weekend in a cabin in the woods in Norfolk. No running water, No Beds, No Electric, No cell phones! We are still planning on hiking and backpacking in August, a week-long trip in the White Mountains, where we will summit Mount Washington.

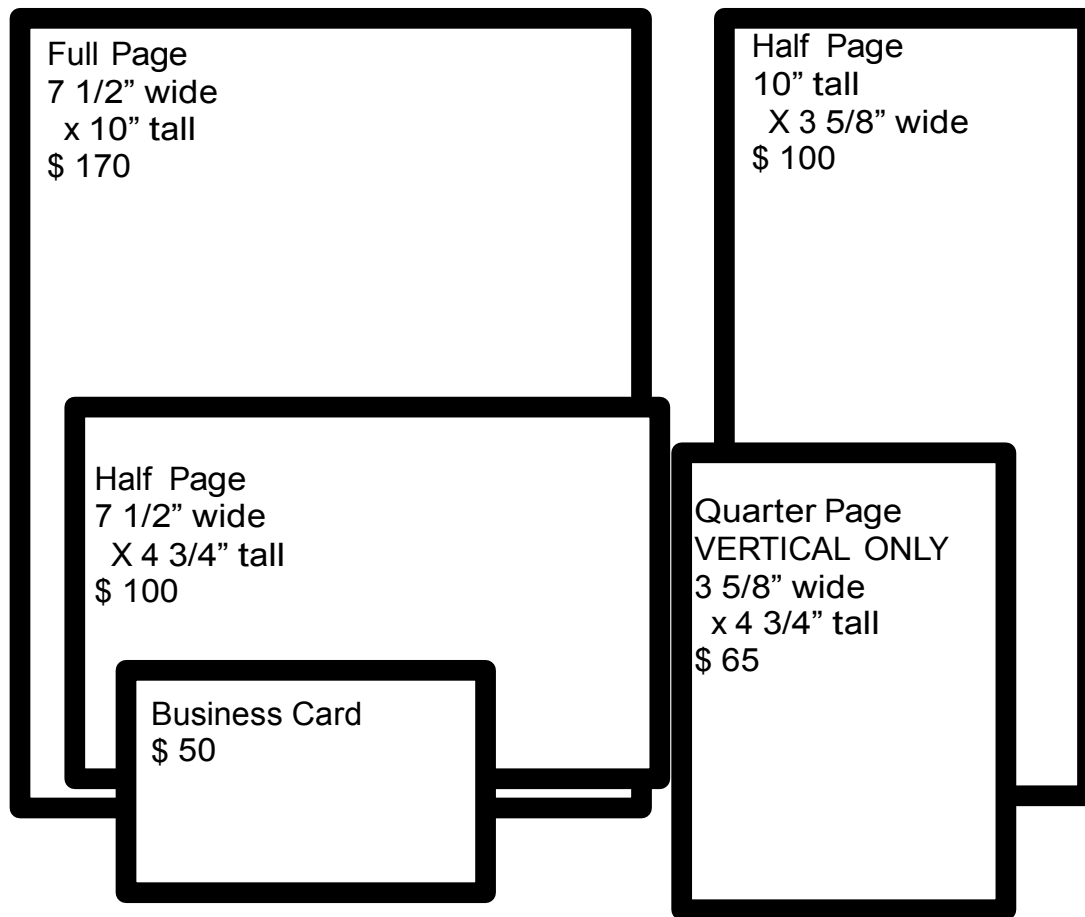
Service projects: We just completed helping the Goshen Garden club do their fall clean up. Hudson Sebranek refurbished the FROG on Rt. 7 in Cornwall

Eagle Scout projects: Jacob Magill built two picnic tables and two benches for the Harwington Conservation area. Billy Heckler is in the process of building a float for the Harwington VFW.

Ceremonies: Chris Joray is trying to have his Eagle Ceremony in December if Covid restrictions allow

As you can see, our scouts are not only from Goshen, but from surrounding area towns as well, Troop 35 has a long history and reputation of having one of the best scout programs in the area – if not the state. We think it's because of our hard working volunteer adults and outstanding support from our community that makes this program so great. !!!

We hope that in the months to follow and in the New Year things get back to some sort of normalcy. 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](mailto:jkrugar@yahoo.com) or 860-491-3634



PLEASE NOTE:

Regular - 2 page spread: \$340

Center - 2 page spread: \$355


**ADVERTISING RATES FOR**

***Town Topics***

**ALL ARTWORK MUST BE CAMERA READY**

Payment is required with advertising order

Town of Goshen  
Town Topics Advertising  
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vperry@goshenct.gov  
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	TOWN PHONE DIRECTORY			
	<b>To reach an extension, call the number listed below.</b>			
	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.			
NAME	TITLE	PHONE	EXT	HOURS
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	Children's Coordinator	(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
Kinkade, Colleen	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
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
<b>OTHER PHONE NUMBERS (OWNED BY TOWN)</b>				
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		
<b>OTHER PHONE NUMBERS (NOT OWNED BY TOWN)</b>				
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		



# Happy Holidays

**Town of Goshen**  
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