



Town of Bethel Newsletter December 2014



Santa Express

**Published by Rita Sheehan,
Bethel Town Clerk**

P.O. Box 300, 3454 Route 55
White Lake, NY 12786
(845) 583-4350 x11

E-mail: bethelclerk@hvc.rr.com

Web: www.town.bethel.ny.us

Facebook: Town of Bethel New York

Meeting Schedule:

- Dec. 9th Planning Board
- Dec. 10th Town Board
- Dec. 15th Zoning Board
- Dec. 18th Bethelites
- Dec. 18th Veterans
- Jan 7th Town Board

Town Agendas:

[http://town.bethel.ny.us/
Agendas and Minutes.ht
ml](http://town.bethel.ny.us/Agendas%20and%20Minutes.html)

**All Town Depts.
Closed:
November 27 & 28,
December 25th and
January 1st**

Santa Express Coming to Bethel - December 13th

4th Annual Santa Express is coming to Town on Saturday, December 13th. The caravan of characters will depart Eldred and travel along Route 55 East into Kauneonga Lake arriving at 5:30. Once in Kauneonga Lake the characters will roam around the park greeting spectators and singing carols before continuing onto Route 55 East towards Liberty. Find them on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/santaexpress?fref=ts>

Catskill Trail Keeper

<http://www.trailkeeper.org/>

Find beautiful outdoor trails that you can hike, bike or even horseback ride. While you're out, check out the shops, lodgings, and attractions of Sullivan County.



Annual Tree Lighting

Town of Bethel annual tree lighting will be held on Friday, December 5th at 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Town of Bethel and Kauneonga Lake Ladies Auxiliary. Mrs. Claus will arrive by fire truck to hand out candy canes. Caroling, hot cocoa and donuts.

Heating Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

Local Office: 845-807-0142

Family Services, Sunset Lake Rd, Liberty or if you are 60 years of age or older you may also apply at Office for the Aging, Government Center, Monticello, NY. To find out if you may be eligible, visit myBenefits.ny.gov to use the HEAP Pre-screening Eligibility Tool.



Adopting a new dog for the Holidays? Make sure you license your pet with your Town Clerk. <http://town.bethel.ny.us/AnimalControl.html> For more information.

Community Events



Happy Hanukkah

Bethel Business Association

P.O. Box 435, White Lake, NY 12786

E-Mail: bethelnybba@gmail.com

Website: www.bethelbusiness.com

Facebook: Bethel Business Association

Please join their Holiday Mixer

Mon., Dec. 8th 5:30–8:00 pm

River Edge Restaurant, 951 Rt. 17B,

Mongaup Valley, NY 12762. Lite Fare,

Cash Bar. No cover for two with paid membership. Guests welcome (\$10.00).

Bring non-perishable food items for "Stock the Pantry Campaign"

Please RSVP by December 5th to bethelnybba@gmail.com

Top 10 Cookie-Baking Tips

- 1) Use the best quality ingredients--they'll produce the tastiest cookies
- 2) Always use large-size eggs, unsalted butter and nuts, and pure extracts of vanilla or almond
- 3) Successful baking relies on the correct ratio of ingredients, so be sure to [measure accurately](#)
- 4) Most cookie recipes call for [all-purpose flour](#). For the best results, lightly spoon flour into a dry measuring cup and level with a knife. Do not sift unless the recipe specifically says to do so
- 5) Unless you are baking with non-stick pans and cookie sheets, use parchment paper for stick-free baking and easy clean-up
- 6) Chill dough for [cut-out cookies](#), and soften it up at room temperature for a few minutes before rolling out
- 7) Leave at least two inches of space between cookies so they don't spread into each other
- 8) Adjust baking times to achieve the cookie texture you crave. A little less time produces chewier cookies; a little more time makes them crispy
- 9) Bake [bar cookies](#) in the pan size indicated in the recipe
- 10) Cool cookies completely before decorating

Bethel Woods Holiday Market

December 6th & 7th 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Local artisans and specialty vendors. Winter wonderland fun, hot cider and food, children's arts and crafts, photo with Santa. On Saturday live reading of The Polar Express. Free admission and parking.

Annual Children's Christmas Party

Town of Bethel Fire Companies are hosting a Christmas party for the youth of Bethel at the Kauneonga Lake Fire House, State Route 55, Kauneonga Lake, NY. Ages Newborn – 12 years of age. December 13th Noon until 3:00 pm. Refreshments will be served Santa Claus will be present

Burning Regulations Correction

I incorrectly mentioned that burning leaves is an acceptable practice. It was brought to my attention that burning leaves is illegal throughout all of New York State. For updated regulations on leaf disposal check-out this link.

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/46613.html>

Assessor Update/Correction

Enhanced STAR Renewal

Applications are sent out directly from the Bethel Assessor's Office in late December. Anyone turning 65 in 2015 must apply for the Enhanced STAR by March 1st (income eligible).

Valley Brook Farm
by Jane Irene Lemon

Written in memory of her father, John Torry Scott
(appeared in the 150th anniversary journal
for the Town of Bethel).
Valley Brook Farm was located on Happy Avenue.

My Father tilled old Sullivan's soil,
And felled tall trees on slope and hill,
His homespun garments, but a foil.
That swathed a man of iron will.
His echoing ax, he gaily swung
Among the solitude,
And crashing thundering down were flung,
Tall hemlocks of the woods,
With dog and gun and powder horn,
He through the forest roamed,
And many a toothsome deer he brought,
To his primeval home.
And thus, he lived an outdoor life,
With sight of wild flower, bird and bee,
With yoke of oxen and a wife
And children climbing round his knee.

Bethel Town Board as of January 1, 2015

Daniel Sturm
Town Supervisor
Term Expires: 12/31/2015

Vicky Simpson
Town Councilwoman
Term Expires: 12/31/2015

Lillian Hendrickson
Town Councilwoman
Term Expires: 12/31/2017

Bernard Cohen
Town Councilman
Term Expires: 12/31/2015

Dawn Ryder
Town Councilwoman
Term Expires: 12/31/2017

Pause and notice the beauty around you. Be thankful for the sweet and simple things that enrich your life.

Red Barn Flea Market, 353 Airport Road, Mongaup Valley, NY 12762. Merchandise wanted to be sold and money donated to the Smallwood-Mongaup Valley Fire Co. Open all year. Accepting tools, knick knacks, household merchandise, curtains, pots, pans, etc. 583-6366

Disaster and Emergency Preparedness

American Red Cross Disaster and Emergency Preparedness:

http://www.nyredcross.org/?nd=be_ready_cross_ready

The Town of Bethel Website now has an Emergency Information page with links and contact phone numbers.

http://town.bethel.ny.us/Emergency_Information.html

[Kenoza Lake News: Facebook/Website](http://www.kenozalakeumc.org)

<http://www.kenozalakeumc.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/KenozaLakeUnitedMethodistChurch>



Bethel First Meeting
Tuesday, December 2nd 7 pm at the Duggan Community Center.
2015 Planning & Project Maintenance Discussion. All Volunteers and ideas are welcome.
RSVP: 845-583-7488 or 583-4808

Debra Gabriel, Bethel Tax Collector
P.O. Box 561
White Lake, NY 12786

845-583-4350 ext. 18

E-mail: betheltaxcollector@hvc.rr.com
www.taxlookup.net/bethel

Facebook: [Town of Bethel Tax Collector](#)
2015 Tax Collector's Office Hours:

January

Monday through Thursday 1 pm–6 pm
Fridays 8 a.m.–6 p.m.

Saturdays in January only:

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st 10 a.m.– 3 p.m.

Sunday, January 25th 11 a.m.– 4 p.m.

February

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 1 pm–6 pm

March

Monday and Tuesday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Closed Sundays expect where noted and Holidays

Last day to receive payment in person is March 31st until 4 p.m. Otherwise, must be postmarked on March 31st to be accepted by the Town of Bethel.

Fold Fest For Felines and Dogs

At the Catskill Distilling Company
Sunday, December 14th 1 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Donations go to – Catskill Animal Rescue, Inc.

Come on out for a really good folkling time for a great cause!
Dancing Cat Distillery and Saloon on FB for more info
845-583-3141 –
www.dancingcatsaloon.com

Driver Safety Class

Crossroads Agency
5013 Route 52
Jeffersonville, NY 12748

December 9th & 10th
6pm to 9pm (each evening)
Students under 50 years of age \$35., students over 50 years of age \$25. Pre-registration requested. Community Driver Safety Programs 845-583-7971.
Course is sponsored by Crossroads Agency, Sullivan County Office of the Aging RSVP and Community Driver Safety Programs, Inc.

December Park and Recreation News

Recreation Center: Dr. Duggan School, 3460 Route 55, White Lake, NY 12786

E-Mail: Bethelnyparksandrec@gmail.com

Phone: 845-583-5360 (leave a message)

Fax: 845-583-4710

Website: www.town.bethel.ny.us

Facebook: Town of Bethel Parks and Recreation

NYC Bus Trip: The Town of Bethel Parks and Recreation Annual NYC Bus Trip will be on **Tuesday, Dec. 30th**. **Seats till available. Payment is due at registration.** Enjoy a day in the city to do your own thing during the holiday season. Coach bus leaves Duggan School parking lot in White Lake at 7:30 AM. Drop off area is on 8th Avenue between 49th and 51st Streets. The bus will meet back in that area at 6 PM. **Cost of the trip: \$25 for adults, \$5 for Town of Bethel Youth (up to age 21).** A bus driver's tip of \$1/youth and \$2/adult is collected prior to boarding the bus in the morning. No registrations will be accepted after Dec. 12th. Lack of participation may result in the cancelation of the bus trip. The trip may be canceled due to lack of participation or inclement weather (payments will be refunded in these cases). For more information call 583-5360 or bethelnyparkandrec@gmail.com.

Ski Program: The Town of Bethel Ski Program will begin in January. For more information call 583-5360 or e-mail bethelnyparksandrec@gmail.com **Like** Town of Bethel Parks and Recreation on **Facebook** for up to date information and cancelations due to inclement weather.

Ongoing Fitness Program date changes:

No Saturday Zumba or Healthy Lifestyle classes at this time.

Tuesday Zumba and TaeKwonDo classes will not be held on December 23rd or 30th.

Kick-it Off classes will not be held on December 25th or January 1st

Bethel Recreation Center will be closed from Dec. 23rd through Jan 2nd

Bethel Girl Scouts News

Ornament Making and Caroling: All girls interested in joining Girl Scouts (Grades K-12) as well as current Bethel Girl Scouts are invited to the Bethel Recreation Center on Monday, December 1st at 6:30 PM to make natural ornaments for the Town of Bethel Christmas Tree, than join us on Friday, December 5th at 6:45 PM at the triangle in Kauneonga Lake to put the ornaments on the tree before the Town Tree Lighting at 7 PM. Hot chocolate and doughnuts will be served in the Kauneonga Lake firehouse and the scouts will lead the caroling before the lighting of the tree.

The Polar Express PJ Night: On Saturday, Dec. 13th (after the Santa Express visits Kauneonga Lake), all Bethel Girl Scouts in Grades K-12, are invited to the Bethel Recreation Center at 7 PM for a showing of *The Polar Express*. Come in your pajamas and bring a blanket. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served. Sponsored by Senior Troop 699.

Troop Information: There are a few troops in the Bethel area. Brownies (Grades 2 and 3) and Seniors (Grades 9 and 10) meet every other Monday night. Cadettes (Grades 6 to 8) meet on Friday evenings. Girls in all grades are welcome to join scouting. Troop leaders are needed for Daisies (Grades K-1) and Juniors (Grades 4 and 5); a working parent troop is an option as well (parents take turns running a meeting). Bethel troops are part of the Jeffersonville Callicoon Bethel service unit and the Girl Scout Heart of the Hudson Council (www.gshh.org). All girls in grades K-12 who live in the Bethel or surrounding areas are encourage to join (no matter what school you attend). Membership in GSUSA is \$15 per year. Troop dues vary. Cookie sales begin in February. Contact Cathy McFadden, Bethel recruiter, at 583-8224 or csplash6@aol.com for more information.