

Town of Bethlehem
Selectmen's Office
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Bethlehem, CT 06751-0160
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To Our Bethlehem Neighbors:

September 2, 2020

This is our eighth correspondence since the COVID-19 Virus has caused us all to change our lives and lifestyles.

As we move into September and the fall season we find the Bethlehem Fair and Garlic Festival have cancelled their big events. The Christmastown Festival will be much different this year with outside activity only.

Tropical storm Isaias visited us and left many without power for up to seven days. Our frustration with Eversource was our inability to get information as to when a make safe crew would be available so we could open roads and at least provide emergency vehicle access to our homes.

Through the efforts of our Emergency Management Director, Mike Devine, we were able to obtain bottled water and meals ready to eat (MRE's) through the State. During that time we went through approximately 4 pallets of water and almost 500 MRE's.

Our Thanks to the Fire Department for setting up shop in their driveway for water, MRE's and providing a hose to fill non potable containers. Thanks to the Ambulance as well for setting up a charging station.

We also thank our Highway crew for the long hours they put in during the storm event in trying to provide access to our houses.

The Woodcreek Road project is underway and we look forward to its completion sometime this month. The original completion date has slipped somewhat, some due to the storm and some due to extra drainage work that will be beneficial.

Chip sealing has been completed with excess stone sweeping being completed soon.

The new fire truck was delivered in late August and is now in service. We expect to put the truck it replaced out to bid for sale soon.

With respect to the Virus, the last case reported to us from TAHD was on June 15, 2 ½ months ago. Let's keep it that way.

On September 2, 2020, we finally got DOT approval to go to bid for the long awaited sidewalk project.

From the Town Clerk's Office:

November 3, 2020 Election Information & Absentee Ballot Option:

The Secretary of the State's office has announced that applications for absentee ballots will be mailed out to every eligible voter in the Bethlehem. If you choose to vote absentee, you must fill out the application and return it to the Town Clerk by mail or drop into the secure ballot box outside of Town Hall located at 36 Main Street South, Bethlehem. Ballots become available beginning October 2nd and will be mailed to anyone who has submitted the application. I encourage you to return your ballot by using the secure drop box located in front of Town Hall rather than the mail. Ballots must be returned by the close of polls on Election Day, prior to 8:00 p.m. on November 3rd in order to be counted. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Town Clerk's Office.

Town Hall will remain open by appointment and masks are required.

Be Well, Stay Safe, Leonard J. Assard, First Selectman

