

BUSINESS, LIFESTYLE, NEWS

‘DAY OF GIVING’ GROWS AT PEABODY FARM

BY ANNE MARIE TOBIN | September 27, 2021



Newhall Fields Community Farms and Bridgewell are partnering together for a "Day of Giving" on Tuesday, Oct. 5. Volunteers will be harvesting the farm's fall crops and learning about the important services the two organizations provide to the local community.

PEABODY — Bridgewell and Newhall Fields Community Farms are partnering together for a "Day of Giving" on Tuesday, Oct. 5.

The theme of the event is "Give back. Give time. Give a gift." A team of approximately 40 Bridgewell staff members, volunteers, and clients, along with about a dozen farm volunteers, will be on hand to help to not only spread their organizations' missions, but to dig and get their hands dirty, helping to harvest some of the many varieties of organic produce grown on the farm.

The event will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Tillie's Farm, located at 189 Lynn St. in Peabody. The rain date is Oct. 7.

"We are really excited to host this event, as we know the more we work with local organizations, the better we get to know the people in our communities," said Newhall Outreach Coordinator Emily Cooper. "Having the opportunity to work with people of all abilities is a truly wholesome experience, not only for the individuals, but to further the work we do every day on this property to give people the healthy, organic foods they deserve but may not have access to."

Bridgewell's Chief Development Officer Erik Langhoff said this is the second time his organization has participated in a similar event; the last one was held in the spring of 2019 at Citizens Inn.

"It's our first year partnering with Newhall and we are excited about being able to have an outdoor event that will allow people who may have different comfort levels with COVID," he said. "We had intended (for) it to become an annual event and honestly, we feel that the fall is the perfect time to do this, as there is a good amount of work to be done in the fall. We'll have people from substance-abuse and autism programs so we will have people of varying ability levels who will be able to help with the harvest."

Bridgewell provides a unique range of social and human services, which empower people with life challenges to live safe, self-directed and productive lives. Bridgewell's programs include community housing, outpatient treatment, recovery services, education, and employment training.

Newhall strengthens the community by creating access to healthy, local food through sustainable agriculture, volunteer-powered farming, and outdoor education.

Cooper said there are plenty of added benefits when people come together at events like this.

"Working together, side by side in the community gives us chances to pick up conversations and dialogue that you can build on for the future," she said. "I know we have a pretty big Bridgewell invitation list and we hope to have plenty of volunteers from the farm, so this will be a great event for all involved to learn about what Bridgewell and Newhall Fields do and spread awareness about our two organizations, and also to help pitch in and help us with our harvesting. We are excited to welcome Bridgewell staff and clients, as well as local partners and community members, to tend and harvest food and also care for the land."

Langhoff said he hopes the event will shine a spotlight on Newhall Fields.

"Everybody knows Tillie's but not everybody knows about the great work Newhall Fields is doing," he said. "So it's good for the farm, and we get the added benefit of helping a service project that really is therapeutic for our clients. We hope to participate with Newhall in the future on a more regular basis. Things like this are an important aspect of giving back, especially when it comes to recovery,"

Several sponsorship opportunities are still available, with four sponsorship levels ranging from \$500-\$5,000. In-kind sponsorship opportunities are also available. To sign up as a sponsor, go to Bridgewell's website at www.bridgewell.org and fill in the sponsorship forms. Checks should be made payable to Bridgewell and mailed, along with the form to Bridgewell, % Development & Marketing Department, 10 Dearborn Road, Peabody MA 01960.

Those unable to volunteer are asked to consider donating blood at Bridgewell's American Red Cross Blood Drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 5. Langhoff said that time slots are still available. To register, go to www.Bridgewell.org/DayofGiving.

To learn more about the Day of Giving, contact Bridgewell Institutional Giving Manager Brian Gosselin at bjgosselin@bridgewell.org or 339-883-2112, or Langhoff at elanghoff@bridgewell.org or 339-883-2163.



Anne Marie Tobin

Anne Marie Tobin is a sports reporter for the Item and sports editor of the Lynnfield and weeklies. She also serves as the associate editor of North Shore Golf magazine. Anne Marie joined the Weekly News staff in 2014 and Essex Media Group in 2016. A seven-time Massachusetts state amateur women's golf champion and member of the Massachusetts Golf Association Hall of Fame, Tobin is graduate of Mount Holyoke College and Suffolk University Law School. She practiced law for 30 years before becoming a sports reporter. Follow her on Twitter at: [@WeeklyNewsNow](https://twitter.com/WeeklyNewsNow).

Anne Marie Tobin can be reached at atobin@itemlive.com

The Volvo XC90 Is Luxurious

The reviews are outstanding. See why the Volvo XC90 is turning heads

Luxury Auto

