

Julie Turner

2016 Citizen of the Year - Julie Turner

Meredith McCulloch, Kim Siebert and Julie Turner launched *The Bedford Citizen*, a free online community-oriented news service in 2012. As co-founder, managing editor, photographer and writer, Julie has helped put Bedford on the map with *The Bedford Citizen*. The trio recognized a need in the Town for a reliable, consistent source of news and feature articles. As it now heads into its fifth year of operation, *The Bedford Citizen* is widely recognized as THE source for news regarding Bedford town government, local organizations and businesses, people and events. Julie seems to have a sixth-sense for “being at the right place at the right time” to capture a newsworthy event.

A ‘certified’ local access studio producer since 1989, Julie is also known to the Bedford TV audience as co-host of “Bedford Common” a monthly program featuring interviews with local officials and residents involved in interesting projects. Before *The Bedford Citizen* became a reality, “Bedford Common” was a major source of news for the Town. Julie continues to interview townspeople and focus on current issues of concern to residents. In addition to her on-air presence, she also serves on the board of Bedford TV (Community Access Television).

Julie has been a force for promoting the arts in Town. She served on the Bedford Center for the Arts (BCA) for many years, promoting the local talent and public appreciation for the arts. She helped to launch the Photo Group, a program that carries the BCA mantle forward under new leadership. She’s a fine photographer herself, always having her camera with her to capture “Bedford in Action.”

Not to be overlooked among Julie’s many town-focused activities are her years of leadership of the annual First Parish Plant and Craft Fair on the Bedford Common each May. For many townspeople, the Fair is an eagerly awaiting event that launches the spring and summer season and provides a venue for many talented artists and crafters to display their work.

Within the larger community, Julie is one of Bedford’s representatives on the Emerson Hospital Board of Corporators and has served in various volunteer positions for the Emerson Auxiliary. She is a member of the Friends of the Bedford Free Public Library, and served as a Library Trustee for fifteen years. Julie is also a long time member of the Bedford Historical Society and has served as director. She also was a member of the League for Women voters.

In many other unpublicized areas, Julie is a “behind the scenes” force in promoting interest and enthusiasm for upcoming town events. For many years, she has devoted her considerable energies and talents toward making Bedford a Town in which we are all proud and delighted to live.