Julie McCay Turner



Julie McCay Turner - Image (c) Bob Bass, 2016 all rights reserved

Emerging software platforms and internet technology removed the prohibitive expense of printing and distribution for fledgling news organizations, making it possible for Meredith McCulloch, Kim Siebert, and me to create *The Bedford Citizen*, a new, specifically-local news source for Bedford in July 2012.

A narrow focus could seem limiting, but *The Citizen* has posted thousands of stories since 2012, garnering more than two and a half million page views as counted by Google Analytics. We trust that these stories tell a robust story about Bedford and about our readers.

The Bedford Citizen will celebrate its 7th birthday on July 1, 2019. While 'hope sprang eternal' in 2012, The Bedford Citizen has become a bit like Margery Williams's Velveteen Rabbit, and is now firmly integrated into the life of the town.

The response of the community, our writers, and our readers has been more than gratifying, providing the support to keep *The Citizen* vibrant as we move toward sustainability.

We trust that you, our readers, will continue to 'be there'— to share story ideas, to help discern ways *The Citizen* can best serve our community, or possibly add your skills to the team.

But, most of all, thank you for your help in making *The Bedford Citizen* real.