



# Kent Newsletter

Friends and neighbors,

Spring is finally ushering in - but taking its time based on plunging temperatures we witnessed yesterday. As a precaution, I'm plastering this month's newsletter in springtime vibes (including Daffodils from last year's Kent Daffodil Days) to ward off the possibility of an April Fool's Day snowfall.

There's a lot to share in this newsletter (including some great vaccine news), so let's dive right in!

Remember...

...take a breath,  
...give folks a minute,  
...assume some positive intent.

Stay well,

*Jean*

## COVID 19 Updates



**Updates on infection rates and testing:** State trends are continuing to rise across New England. Our daily case rate, based on a rolling two-week average for the previous two weeks, is down from 35.9 for the previous period, to 30.8. This represents 12 positive cases. This indicates that we are not out of the woods yet, and need to stay vigilant.

**Wear A Mask  
Wash Your Hands  
Watch Your Distance**

**Easing of restrictions:** With the easing of travel restrictions, and spring break right around the corner, we know people are going to begin traveling again. The Connecticut Department of Public Health continues to urge the state's residents and those who are traveling to the state to continue to be cautious and follow the latest travel-related guidance from the state and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. If you are planning out of state travel, please visit the [CT Travel Advisory page](#) to read the latest recommendations.

**COVID19 Test Site:** The COVID testing site at the Transfer Station continues to provide free testing every Monday from 3:00p-7:00p. We have confirmed that the site will stay open through at least the end of April. *Special SHOUT OUT to the Kent Emergency Management*





and 17. When signing up for an appointment for this age group, make sure you are making an appointment for the Pfizer vaccine.

Are you homebound and want to be vaccinated? Click the link below to an application for homebound citizens.

<https://dphsubmissions.ct.gov/homebound>

**Assistance/COVID19 grants:** Are you an artist? The Craft Emergency Relief Funds (CERF+) grant program provides funding to individual artists to safeguard their studios, protect their careers and prepare for emergencies. Click the link below for more information: <https://cerfplus.org/get-ready/get-ready-grants/>

## I've been vaccinated - now what?

I've been getting many questions about wearing masks and social distancing once you've been vaccinated.

The CDC has just released updated guidance on post-vaccine activity. Click the image for more information.

When in public, continue to take the same precautions of wearing a mask, keeping at least 6' distance, and wash your hands frequently.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO ONCE YOU HAVE BEEN FULLY VACCINATED

### Activity

Visit inside a home or private setting without a mask with other fully vaccinated people of any age	✓
Visit inside a home or private setting without a mask with one household of unvaccinated people who are not at risk for severe illness	✓
Travel domestically without a pre- or post-travel test	✓
Travel domestically without quarantining after travel	✓
Travel internationally without a pre-travel test depending on destination	✓
Travel internationally without quarantining after travel	✓
Visit indoors, without a mask, with people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19	✗
Attend medium or large gatherings	✗

## Upcoming Dates of Interest

**Sunday, April 4th | Transfer station is open on Easter | 8:00a - 3:30p**

**Saturday, April 24th | Shredding Event | 9:00a-1:00p | Kent Transfer Station**

**Saturday, May 8th | Household Hazardous Waste Event | 9:00a-2:00p | Newtown Public Works**

**Friday, May 7th | Town Budget Hearing | 7:00p | TBA**

**Friday, May 21st | Annual Town Budget Meeting | 7:00p | TBA**

*Always visit the [Town website calendar](#) for a complete schedule of meetings*

## Town Government



**Transfer Station Glass Recycling Pilot Program:** The program is off to a very successful start. Transfer Station users have been quick to start separating out their glass and placing it in the new container. Remember - All glass should be "topless" when tossing it in. Metal and plastic caps go in the co-mingle, and corks go in the "CORX" mailbox!

**Public Trash Bin reminder:** As our village heads into spring and we transition to seeing a lot more visitors, please remember, the trash and recycling bins out around the village are provided as a convenience to the public for garbage and recycling generated when patronizing the shops and businesses around town. They are intended for your to-go coffee cup; they are not intended to be used for residential garbage dumping. If you are a resident, please make arrangements for your household garbage and recycling, either by hiring a curbside hauler, or contacting the Town Hall to purchase a Transfer Station permit.



*Sharing congratulations to  
Jennifer Dubray  
in her new position as Town Assessor,  
and a heartfelt Bon Voyage to  
Lesly Ferris  
as she wraps up 22 years of service.  
You both have so much to be proud of!*

## Civic Engagement

There are many ways to engage in a civic way at the local level and have your voice heard! Submitting written testimony to support or oppose a bill, or volunteering to sit on a subcommittee to help shape the future of municipal government.

**Park & Rec Director search subcommittee:** The Board of Selectmen is seeking a volunteer at-large member for a subcommittee to review and make recommendations for moving forward with the Park & Rec Director position. If you are interested, email Joyce Kearns or call the First Selectman's office at 927.4627

**The 2021 Legislative Session is well under way, and there are many bills that are worth following. Here are a few bills I'm watching:**

- **H.B. 6442** | AN ACT CONCERNING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO BROADBAND.
- **H.B. 5429** | AN ACT CONCERNING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, VISION ZERO COUNCIL, SPEED LIMITS IN MUNICIPALITIES, FINES AND CHARGES FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS, THE GREENWAYS COMMEMORATIVE ACCOUNT AND MAINTENANCE WORK ZONE AND SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY ENFORCEMENT.
- **H.B. 6413** | AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF A MUNICIPAL ENERGY SECURITY AUTHORITY.
- **H.B. 6456** | AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO PROTECT SENIOR CITIZENS FROM FRAUD.
- **H.B. 6485** | AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT HYDROGEN AND ELECTRIC AUTOMOBILE PURCHASE REBATE.
- **S.B. 817** | AN ACT CONCERNING SENIOR CENTERS.
- **S.B. 1037** | AN ACT CONCERNING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.
- **H.J. 41** | RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT NO-EXCUSE ABSENTEE VOTING.

If you see a bill you are passionate about, and think you'd like to submit written testimony, click the "Public Hearing Testimony" button on the bill's webpage and you will see all written submitted testimony. Reading other's testimony is a great place to find inspiration, proper formatting for submitting your own written testimony.

## Happenings Around Town

**Kent Center School Kindergarten Pre-Registration is open**

If you have a child who is five (5) years of age on or before December 31, 2021, now is the time to pre-register them for





the 2021-2022 school year. Contact [Meghan Robb](#) or [Mary Cox](#) via email or phone 860.927.3537, with the following information: your name, current mailing and/or street address, your phone number, your email address your child's name and date of birth. [Click to view and download the letter from Principal Michelle Mott.](#)

**[Kent Chamber of Commerce Community Activities page:](#)**  
Looking for one place to see what community activities are happening in town? This page is a great resource!

## Did You Know?

**Never judge a book by its cover.**

**It may not be a big building, but it sure does attract A LOT of people. In 2019, the library had roughly 45,000 visits.**

**I was astonished by this number!**



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visit our website: [www.townofkentct.org](http://www.townofkentct.org)

