



Kent Newsletter

Issue 6 | June 2022

Friends and neighbors,

It's hard to believe it is June already. May was busy:

- the town passed the budget, keeping the mil rate flat at 18.57;
- the citizens of Kent gave pollinators more time to help our environment by participating in No Mow May;
- The Board of Selectmen passed a resolution to fly the Pride flag at Town Hall for the month of June;
- Kent Park & Recreation kicked off T-ball and baseball for the first time in three years, and solidified a first-ever partnership with Club Getaway as the new location of Camp Kent.

As you'll see by this month's packed newsletter, June is lining up to be just as busy.

At the beginning of the pandemic, a level of anxiety began to emerge as we all faced the frustration of the intense disruptions happening before our eyes, and out of our control. This anxiety was manifesting in increased negativity on social media, and often in personal interactions. Everyone was on edge.

One late night when I was wrapping up a newsletter in those early days, my son was heading out to meet up with friends. As I've done for most of both my kids lives, I instinctively shouted "*Be safe, be smart, be kind!*" as he went out the door.

I went back to my newsletter, and after a few moments, reflected on what I had said so many times to them. Did they dismiss it with a dismissive eyeroll, or did they take the message with them into the world, as a sort of token to protect them? I hoped the latter. As I came to the end of my newsletter message, that thought came back to me, and the closing salutation you see each month is what resulted.

As we all continue to navigate and understand the recent shootings happening across the country, I hope you will read the below and take it with you out into your worlds.

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

Stay well,

Jean C. Speck
First Selectman
Town of Kent, Connecticut

Upcoming Dates of Interest

Wednesday, June 8 | Conservation Commission Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Thursday, June 9 | Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Wednesday, June 15 | Board of Finance Regular Meeting | 6:00p
Thursday, June 16 | Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting | 6:30p | zoom
Monday, June 20 | Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Wednesday, June 22 | BoS Special meeting | 4:30p | zoom
Wednesday, June 22 | Affordable Housing Plan Public Forum | 7:00p | zoom
Monday, June 27 | Inland Wetlands Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Thursday June 30 | POCD Informational Forum | 7:00 | zoom

Visit the [Town website calendar](#) for details about Town of Kent events and a complete schedule of meetings and locations/Zoom links

Civic Engagement

The Park and Recreation Commission has an opening for an Alternate member. If you are interested in joining the Commission as an Alternate please send a letter including why you are interested in the position and any background that may be applicable. Letters should be emailed to parkandrec@townofkent.org. We ask that all letters be submitted by June 13th, 2022. Thank you so much for your interest and please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Broadband Connectivity Survey: We are excited to partner with the [Connecticut Conference of Municipalities](#) (CCM) to promote the 2022 CCM Broadband Connectivity Survey! Your input will help guide federal investments (each state will receive a minimum of \$100 million!) in more reliable internet access for Connecticut's residents. Please complete this very brief survey from your home network today!

Link to survey: <https://tinyurl.com/MunicipalBroadbandSurvey>

CCM supports member towns like Kent with advocacy, education, guidance and support for initiatives and legislation that small towns would not have the resources to provide on their own.



Housing Plan Public Forum: The Kent Housing Plan Steering Committee is holding its **next community feedback forum** on **Wednesday, June 22th at 7pm via Zoom**. The Committee will present **specific goals and strategies that have been developed to meet Kent's housing needs** and will be polling attendees to hear which goals and strategies they support. To register for the forum and get your zoom link for this meeting, please click on the flyer.

Job Opportunities: There are often opportunities for employment with Kent Town governments. We now have a tab on our homepage called "[Employment Opportunities](#)" where you will find all of our job postings.

Additionally, we've been asked to share the following opportunities:

- The Housatonic Valley Association has openings for their River Information & Outreach (RIO) program, which is a summer program where teams travel to the Housatonic River areas along Route 7 to answer questions and promote sustainable site use to visitors. Click this [link](#) for more information.
- The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection has opportunities at Macedonia Brook State Park Lake Waramaug State Park and Kent Falls for seasonal park staff. Visit the [State employment website](#), and in the filter tool choose "Kent."

Park & Rec email list: Jared Kuzcenski, Kent's new Park & Recreation Director, has hit the ground running! As he works to build new programming and activities, he will be sending out Park & Rec News - if you would like to stay informed about Park & Rec, please click the button below to join the mailing list. And check out the new [Park and Rec page](#) on the Town of Kent website.

Subscribe to the Kent Park & Rec email list

Happenings Around Town



Kent Volunteer Fire Department's 109th Fireman's Ball: Saturday, June 11, 6-11pm. It's a fun evening and a wonderful way to support the Fire Department! Tickets and complete information are on the [KVFD website](#).

Kent Art Association: President's Show, June 5-25, Thursday-Sundays. Opening reception: Friday, June 10, 6-8pm.

21st Annual Gem, Jewelry, and Mineral Show: June 11, 9am, at the [Connecticut Antique Machinery Association](#). Sponsored by the CT Antique Machinery Association and the Danbury Mineralogical Society to benefit the Connecticut Museum of Mining And Mineral Science.

2nd Saturdays 2022 at the Kent Barns: June 11, 10am. May thru October on the 2nd Saturday of each month, the Kent Barns are bustling with seasonal markets, unique events, and fun activities.

The Kent Singers present Handel's Messiah: Sunday, June 12, 3pm, at St. John's Episcopal Church in New Milford. Purchase tickets in advance [here](#).



The Eric Sloane Museum is honoring more than 50 years of the museum with an all-day celebration on July 2nd with live music, historical demonstrations, guest speakers, food, and much more.

Save The Date!

Kent Memorial Library has programs throughout the month for all ages, including a weekly Music and Rhyme program for children age birth to three. Check their [website calendar](#) for complete event information. The [Annual Kent Memorial Library Book Sale](#) is open and runs through October 23rd; Saturdays and Sundays, 10:00a-5:00p / holiday Mondays and Fridays, noon-5:00p.

Saturday at 2:00p - Children's Workshop on Native Species: stop by for an afternoon of stories, discussion and planting. Details and registration are on the [KML website](#).

Housatonic Valley Association's Inaugural EXPLORE-A-THON is taking place the entire month of June! Hike and explore the 2,000 sq. miles of the Housatonic Valley Watershed in June to support HVA's mission, and win some great prizes. Check out their [flyer](#) for more info and register on their website, [hvatoday.org](#).

Kent Farmer's Market is now open for the season at their new location at the Kent Land Trust Field on Fridays from 3:00-6:00. Look for a myriad of local farm and maker offerings. Visit their [website](#) for a complete list of vendors.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Kent Lions Club is hosting a blood drive at the Kent Community House from 11:00a - 4:00p. Visit the [ARC website](#) to make an appointment.

Town Updates

Park & Recreation:

- **Camp Kent summer day camp:** Camp Kent registration is open! spaces are limited so reserve your space soon. Visit our [website](#) to register:
- **Commission Alternate:** the commission is seeking to fill an alternate seat on the commission. Please contact us with a letter of interest to parkandrec@townofkentct.org by June 13th

Primary Care: We continue to work with Community Health & Wellness Center "B.E.T.T.Y." (Bringing Exceptional Treatment To You) medical unit to town.

Plan of Conservation and Development: the Planning and Zoning Commission and the POCD subcommittee will hold an informational forum June 30th via zoom to hear comments from the public on the draft Plan of Conservation and Development. Details and the draft document can be found on the [town website](#).

Affordable Housing Plan: The steering committee will hold their next community forum in the next few weeks - date and time will be published in a News Worth Sharing.

Birch Hill: There continues to be no updates regarding the proposed 85-bed substance use disorder treatment facility on the property at 46 Maple Street. The Town of Kent continues to monitor developments.

Cell Tower Construction: The tower has gone up, and Homeland Towers anticipates completion within the next few months. Plan documents can be found on the [Docket 488 page](#) on the Connecticut Siting Council website.

Federal Tribal Recognition: The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, March 29th to receive a report from special council on the status of the Schaghticoke Indian Tribe petition for federal acknowledgement. Minutes and a recording of the meeting can be found on the [Town of Kent website](#) under 'Minutes and Agendas'. All supporting information for [Petition #401 Schaghticoke Indian Tribe \(SIT, CT\)](#), including instructions on how to submit comments, can be viewed on the U.S. Department of the Interior Indian Affairs website.

Streetscape: The Mather Corporation is due to begin construction on Phase I of the Streetscape project this summer. Once we have more timeline information, we will share information here and on our website.

Did You Know?



...there is a Seed Library at Kent

Memorial Library? The public can take weeds and donate seeds for their use. What an incredible way to share your gardens with the

community! <https://www.kentmemoriallibrary.org/kent-seed-library/>

COVID-19 Updates

COVID-19 Community Level in Litchfield County is MEDIUM. We have seen an easing locally in cases of the last three weeks. Residents are encouraged to keep an eye on community levels through the [CDC website](#), both locally and in areas you may be traveling to. Wear a mask if recommended, including people with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19.

Home test kits and masks are available to Kent residents at the Town Hall. Masks are in the front lobby and kits can be picked up in the First Selectman's Office. Please take advantage of drive-through testing at the Transfer Station and continue to stay smart when protecting your health and others.

COVID-19 Testing at the Kent Transfer Station Continues:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00p-6:00p

COVID-19 Information:

[CDC COVID-19 website](#) | [CT Vaccine Portal](#) | [State of Connecticut Coronavirus Information](#) | [State of Connecticut COVID-19 Data Tracker](#) | [Town of Kent Testing Information](#)

Quick Links

[Town Of Kent](#) | [Discover Litchfield Hills](#) | [Housatonic Valley Association](#) | [Kent Affordable Housing](#) | [Kent Chamber of Commerce](#) | [Kent Center School](#) | [Kent Community Fund](#) | [Kent Emergency Management](#) | [Kent Historical Society](#) | [Kent Land Trust](#) | [Kent Memorial Library](#) | [Kent Park & Rec](#) | [Kent Volunteer Fire Dept](#) | [Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy](#) | [NW Hills Council of Governments](#) | [Region 1 Schools](#)

Join the Town of Kent's Newsletter listserv and stay informed. Fill out a [form](#) to join, or sign up via text by texting "KENT" to 42828.

visit our website: www.townofkentct.org



Town of Kent | PO Box 678, Kent, CT 06757

[Unsubscribe](mailto:unsubscribe@townofkentct.org) firstselectman@townofkentct.org

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by firstselectman@townofkentct.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!