



Kent Newsletter

Issue 7 | July 2022



Friends and neighbors,

Summer 2022 in Kent is in full swing - the village is busy with visitors, last night saw incredible weather for the first concert of the Summer Concert Series at the Kent Land Trust fields; the first session of the re-imagined Camp Kent - at its new location at Club Getaway - is providing families with an affordable and fun local day camp option.

Even in the summer months, your Town government is still hard at work. One example is the ARPA Needs Assessment Committee. They have worked for a year to assess the needs of the community in response to and to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. They presented their recommendations at the last BoS meeting, and the board ratified their recommendation to distribute \$400,000 of the ARPA funding through a grant program to help community members respond and recover from the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Town Treasurer Barbara Herbst is the program administrator, and an application process was launched on July 1st for those eligible to receive funding.

Please visit the [ARPA funding page](#) on our website for details and applications, or click the banners below to download an application. Application forms are also available at Town Hall, outside the Treasurer's office on the 2nd floor. **Deadline to submit applications is August 31st, 2022.**

Questions can be emailed to arpa@townofkentct.org



There is so much to do in Kent and all over Connecticut this summer. The newsletter is packed with activities all around town. Too hot to be outside? Visit one of the many museums across the state for free through the [CT Summer At The Museum Program](#) where kids are admitted for free to museums across Connecticut.

(and don't forget the famous [Kent Sidewalk Sale Days](#), August 4-7!)

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

Monday, July 11 | Board of Education Special Meeting | 6:45p
Monday, July 11 | Park & Recreation Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Tuesday, July 12 | Zoning Board of Appeals Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Wednesday, July 13 | Special BoS Meeting | 4:00p | zoom
Wednesday, July 13 | Conservation Commission Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Thursday, July 14 | Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Wednesday, July 20 | Board of Finance Regular Meeting | 6:00p
Monday, July 25 | Inland Wetlands Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom

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

Civic Engagement

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!

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.

[Broadband Survey](#)

Eversource First Thursdays: Through the end of this calendar year, join Eversource on the first Thursday of each month to learn about their energy efficiency programs and offerings in Connecticut.

[Register for 1st Thursdays](#)

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.

Happenings Around Town



KENT PARKS AND RECREATION
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
THE KENT LAND TRUST, AND
KENT LIONS CLUB
PRESENTS

2022 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

THURSDAYS
6-7:30 PM
PARKING OPENS AT 5:30 PM
KENT LAND TRUST FIELD ON ROUTE 7

THE LINE UP:
7.7 Blue Martini Revue
7.14 The Joint Chiefs
7.21 On The Trail with Ellen Carlson
7.28 The Regulators
8.4 Wanda Houston & the HBH Band
8.11 Kenn Morr

PLEASE SUPPORT KENT'S FOOD BANK
BY BRINGING A NON-PERISHABLE
ITEM FOR COLLECTION AT THE EVENT

RAIN CANCELS

Park and walk in with your blankets, chairs, and picnics. NOTE: No dogs or trash.
Please prepare accordingly and pack out what you bring in.

FOR UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CHECK THE KENT LAND TRUST
FACEBOOK & WEBSITE WWW.KENTLANDTRUST.ORG AND PHONE 840-488-9185

2022 Summer Concert Series: Through a partnership with Kent Land Trust and Kent Park & Recreation, experience live music every Thursday through August 11th at the Land Trust field just south of the village. More information is on the [Town of Kent website](#)

2nd Saturdays 2022 at the Kent Barns: May thru October on the 2nd Saturday of each month, the Kent Barns will be bustling with seasonal markets, unique events, and fun activities. More information is on their [website](#).

Outdoor Movie Nights! 8:30p, behind the library. July 28: Fantastic Mr. Fox | August 25: Stand By Me.

Registration is required. [Click here](#) for more information and to register. Sponsored by the Kent Memorial Library and House of Books

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 July 9th | Estate Planning For Everyone, Actually: Estate planning professionals will help you protect yourself, your loved ones and answer all your questions on estate planning. Register on the [Kent Memorial Library website](#).

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.

High Watch Recovery Center's Sprint for Sobriety 5K Run/ Walk is August 28th from 8:00a-noon. [Click here](#) for more information and to register. The event is in collaboration with the Eastern Dutchess Road Runners Club.

Town Updates



Park & Recreation:

- **Camp Kent summer day camp:** Camp Kent is up and running at its new home: Club Getaway! A few spots are still available for some sessions. Visit their [website](#) to register.
- **Code Wiz Coding Camp:** Park & Rec is partnering with Code Wiz for a virtual coding camp. Visit the [Park & Rec page](#) for details.
- **Summer Mountain Bike Camp:** These 3-day mini camps are packed with plenty of mountain biking fun! Visit the [Park & Rec page](#) for details.
- **Slamma Jamma Basketball Camp:** all things basketball! Visit the [Park & Rec page](#) for details.



Social Services: Each school year, Social Services runs their Back To School program, which helps families purchase needed school supplies, backpacks, clothes and shoes to start the new school year with everything they need. Our community is always so incredibly generous and our new Social Services Director Samantha Hasenflue is making it easy to help: she's teamed up with website [SignUp Genius](#), for donations. Just choose from the list of items you'd like to support - from pencils to post-its to personal items - and click through to submit what you'd like to support.

Monetary donations are also needed and greatly appreciated. Checks may be mailed to: Social Services Back To School Program, PO Box 678, Kent, CT 06757

Tax Collector: A reminder from the Tax Collector - tax bills have gone out and are due in the month of July. NEW as of July 1, The Tax Collector's office can now accept and process credit card payments in the office.

Planning & Zoning: Plan of Conservation and Development: the Planning and Zoning Commission and the POCD subcommittee held 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 held a second community forum on June 22nd. To view the recording and presentations, visit the [Steering Committee page](#) on the Town website. Using the data collected, discussion and public feedback, the committee will begin to draft a plan.

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 Town has submitted comments on [Petition #401 Schaghticoke Indian Tribe \(SIT, CT\)](#).

Streetscape Village Improvements Phase I: The Mather Corporation is planning to begin construction on Phase I of the Streetscape project in early August, beginning on Bridge Street to take advantage of decreased foot traffic due to schools being out for the summer months, and increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic on North Main Street during the busier summer shopping season. Once Bridge Street is completed, they will begin the North Main Street section beginning at the northern end of the village working south. We will share information - and any changes - as the workplan details are finalized.

Did You Know?

...that you can - and really should - report your bear sightings? The Wildlife Division of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Wildlife Protection is conducting a long-term study of the state's growing black bear population. Some bears have been marked with ear tags and GPS collars as part of their research. Sighting reports provide important insight about the distribution and



abundance of bears throughout the state, while also providing information about any conflicts or concerns.

Report bear and other wildlife sightings on the [DEEP website](#), and check out [a map of current sightings for black bears, bobcats, and moose](#) in the State. Please share this information (and [my personal bear story](#) from last summer, with DEEP tips for how to keep the balance with bears) - it's important we have a true number of just how many bears are in our community!

COVID-19 Updates

The COVID-19 vaccine is now available for children 6 months & older. The CDC recommends COVID-19 vaccines for everyone 6 months and older and boosters for everyone 5 years and older, if eligible. Use [CDC's COVID-19 booster tool](#) to learn if and when children and teens can get boosters to stay up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines.

The COVID-19 Community Level in Litchfield County continues to be MEDIUM. 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 continue to be 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](#)

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Join the Park & Recreation
email list serv

You can also join the Town of Kent's Newsletter listserv via text by simply texting "KENT" to 42828.

visit our website: www.townofkentct.org



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

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