



Kent Newsletter

Issue 9 | September 2022

Friends and Neighbors,

September is a bittersweet month for me. Growing up in New England, the shift in the weather, landscape, and wildlife always reminds me of the fleeting, fragile beauty of our world. As a first responder for 25 years, September also represents the sacrifices so many made on September 11th, 2001 - in a different way, it too is a reminder of the fragility of life. *(we will honor those lost with a small ceremony beginning around 8:30a on Sunday - I hope you will join us outside at Town Hall.)*

Before we get to the newsletter, a quick reminder: As construction of the Streetscape Project continues towards the center of the village, all businesses remain open - let's remember to support our local economy!

And 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

Thursday, Sept 8 | Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Monday, Sept 12 | Region One Board of Ed Regular Meeting | 6:30p
Tuesday, Sept 13 | Zoning Board of Appeals Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Wednesday, Sept 14 | Conservation Commission Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Thursday, Sept 15 | Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting | 6:30p | zoom
Wednesday, Sept 21 | Board of Finance Regular Meeting | 6:00p | town hall
Monday, Sept 19 | Inland Wetlands Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Monday, Sept 19 | Park & Recreation Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Wednesday, Sept 28 | Region One ABC Committee 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

Election Day is Tuesday, November 8th: Register to vote or check your registration status with the Registrars of Voters on the [CT Secretary of State website](#).



Swift House Survey Extended! The Swift House Task Force is looking for community feedback to guide them in making recommendations back to the Board of Selectmen as to the future of the Swift House, located next to the Veteran's Memorial, at the corner of Maple Street and Swifts Lane.

For a brief history of the Swift House, please visit the [Swift House Task Force](#) page on the Town website and click below to take the survey.

[Swift House 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. Today's webinar: *Heat Pumps 101 for Residents*.

[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

Quiz Night 2022! September 24, 7pm at the Kent Firehouse. This super fun Kent tradition is a fundraiser for the Kent Memorial Library. Form a team of four and give it a name! \$50 per team with preregistration or \$60 at the door. Registration is the [KML website](#). Must be 18 years of age or above to attend.

2nd Saturdays at the Kent Barns: May thru October on the 2nd Saturday of each month, the Kent Barns is bustling with seasonal markets, unique events, and fun activities. More information is on their [website](#). The next one is this Saturday, Sept 10!

Summer Concert Series Continues! Shows that had to be canceled over the summer are now on a revised schedule. Information is available on the [Town website](#).

Kent Memorial Library has programs throughout the month for all ages, including a weekly Music and Rhyme program for children age birth to three and Chess Mondays (NEW!) at 3pm. 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.

Kent Farmer's Market is bustling at their 2022 location at the Kent Land Trust Field! On Fridays from 3:00-6:00p, look for a myriad of local farm and maker offerings. Visit their [website](#) for a complete list of vendors.

Town Updates

Park & Recreation has launched a new online registration portal. Check it out on the [Park & Rec website](#). It's recommended that users create an account to stay in touch and register for Park and Rec activities.

Land Use: With election season in full swing, residents should be aware of Planning and Zoning

regulations regarding temporary signage:

- **pursuant section 8130.18 - Signs Allowed Without a Permit:** "Temporary signs for public, political or charitable purposes provided such signs shall not be located in the road right-of-way, shall be in place for no more than 30 days and shall be removed within 3 days after the event."

Planning & Zoning: Plan of Conservation and Development: The Planning and Zoning Commission and the Plan of Conservation and Development subcommittee continue to work 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 has published a draft plan for public comment. The public comment period is now closed and the plan will be presented at an upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting. To view the recording and presentations, visit the [Steering Committee page](#) on the Town website.

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 is working on implementation of the tower. They anticipate completion within the next couple of months. Plan documents can be found on the [Docket 488 page](#) on the Connecticut Siting Council website. progress continues.

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

Streetscape Village Improvements Phase I: The Mather Corporation has begun construction on Phase I of the Streetscape project. Weekly updates are sent out separately to this email list.

Do You Know...

...about the Green Energy Initiative? On October 15, Kent will be hosting a major presentation on recent advances in clean, renewable energy. The free forum will describe long term strategies by which Kent's homeowners, renters, businesses, and municipal facilities can individually and collectively move away from the carbon-intensive energy sources that are responsible for greenhouse gases and global warming to sustainable, secure, affordable, and 'net zero' future. [Read more...](#)

Please register to attend on the [Kent Memorial Library website](#). Presented by the Kent Conservation Commission and Kent Memorial Library.



COVID-19 Updates

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.

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.

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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"KENT" to 42828.

visit our website: www.townofkentct.org



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