



ADDITIONAL TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES FOR KENT RESIDENTS...

The Warren Parks and Recreation Department 2018 Trip Schedule is here! Based on availability, trips are open to Kent residents.

Warren Parks & Recreation 2019 Day Trippers "Out & About Series"

Saturday, February 9th - The Westminster Kennel Club Meet & Compete - Featuring the Agility Preliminaries & AKC Meet the Breeds.

Saturday, March 16th - Museum Mile - NYC

A great day of culture in the greatest city on Earth! Enjoy time on your own at the world renown Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), or the amazing Guggenheim Museum or the fabulous American Museum of Natural History. Visit one, two or all three! Don't forget to allow for a stroll in nearby Central Park.

Sunday, April 7th - New York Botanical Gardens - Orchid Show and Little Italy.

Saturday, April 27th - West Point Dress Parade - An amazing spectacle of honor and pride. Enjoy the procession of cadets of the United States Military Academy in full dress uniform, complete with pomp and circumstance. A delicious full buffet lunch at Hotel Thayer and a tour of West Point.

Additional trips for 2019 including information and cost will be posted on the Warren Parks and Recreation page on the Warren town website www.warrenct.org. To get further information and to register for any of these trips contact the Warren Parks and Recreation office 860-868-7881 ext.113.

HELP US BE GREEN. If you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, please contact Kent Social Services. If you would like to receive the **SENIORTIMES** via e-mail, please send an email to socialservices@townofkentct.org.

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Editor reserves the right to edit submissions for content and space

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Issue

23

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2019

Important Numbers:

First Selectman

860-927-4627

Town Clerk

860-927-3433

Tax Collector

860-927-3269

Park & Recreation

860-927-1003

Kent Affordable

Housing

860-927-5022

Kent Memorial Library

860-927-3761

Kent Senior Center

860-927-2055

Social Services &

Municipal Agent for the

Elderly

860-927-1586

Probate Court

860-927-3729

Registrar of Voters

860-927-1953

FISH

860-927-4627

Meals on Wheels

800-994-9422

NW Transit

866-906-RIDE

CHORE Services

860-435-9177

State Representative

64th District

800-842-8267

State Senator

30th District

800-240-1421

Templeton Farm Senior

Apartments

860-927-4000

SENIORTIMES

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR KENT SENIORS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Social Security 2019 Increase: The 2.8 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 62 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2019.

Income Tax Preparation Assistance: (Sites are open late January/early February, 2019) AARP Foundation Tax Aide offers free tax preparation help to anyone age 50 or older that cannot afford a tax preparation service. IRS –certified volunteers, provide one-on-one tax preparation assistance at area locations. If you would like to make an appointment contact Sullivan Senior Center, 88 East Albert Street, Torrington, telephone 860-489-2211. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program offers free tax help for low-to moderate-income (under \$50,000) people who cannot prepare their own tax returns. Volunteers, sponsored by various organizations, receive training to help prepare basic tax returns. Call to schedule an appointment. Community Action Agency of Western CT, 66 North Street, Danbury, 203-744-4700. WESTCONN VITA, 181 White Street, Danbury, CT, 203-797-4511. Danbury-VITA, Inc., 152 Deer Hill Avenue, Suite 105, Danbury, 203-826-9517.

Long-Term Care Ombudsmen Program: Works to improve the quality of life and care of residents in nursing homes, residential care homes, and assisted living communities within Connecticut. Receives and looks into complaints and assists residents in resolving problems. Educates residents and families about their rights. Provides information about long-term care programs and services. Empowers and supports residents and families to discuss concerns with nursing home staff. Advocates for improvements in state and federal laws and regulations. Represents residents' interest before governmental agencies. Identifies and seeks to remedy gaps in facility, government, or community services. Respects the privacy and confidentiality of residents. To contact the Long-Term Care Ombudsmen call 203-597-4181.



Senior Bus Outings

January 22, 2019: **West Farms Mall**, West Hartford. Join us for shopping to use those holiday gift cards or buy that gift you didn't receive during the holidays or just to get some exercise, walking the mall. The Northwest Connecticut Transit District bus will leave Kent Town Hall at 10 a.m. Cost is \$1/person plus the cost of lunch on your own at the mall. Seating is limited, and reservations are required by calling 860-927-1003.

February 21, 2019: **Connecticut Flower Show** – "April in Paris" – at the Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford. The Northwest Connecticut Transit District bus will leave Kent Town Hall at 9:30 a.m., stopping for lunch before going to the Flower Show. Cost is \$17/person plus the cost of lunch. Seating is limited, and reservations are required by calling 860-927-1003.

Please note the outings would be canceled in the event of inclement weather.



Town Business & Reminders

Energy Assistance Program: Kent Social Services is now scheduling appointments for the CT Energy Assistance Program (EA). Kent Social Services serves as a voluntary intake site for all Kent residents that qualify for EA. Application review and final approval is completed by Community Action Agency of Western CT. During the winter months, this program assists with the purchase of heating fuel including oil, propane, kerosene, electric, wood, and wood pellets. EA has specific gross income and asset limit requirements. Since the entire household benefits from this program, income and asset verification will be required for all adult household members. For example, this year's gross income guidelines are: Household size 1/ Max income \$35,116.00; Household size 2/Max income \$45,920.00; Household size 3/\$56,725.00; etc. To determine if your household qualifies for this program or to schedule an appointment, contact Leah Pullaro, Kent Social Services 860-927-1586.

Adult Men's League Basketball: Kent Park and Recreation sponsors the program Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. at Kent Center School gymnasium, 9 Judd Avenue. Free. The program will meet January 9, 16, 30 and February 13, 20, 27. Call 860-927-1003 for more information.

Real Estate Tax Relief: In 2012, the Town Meeting of Kent voted a resolution for a Tax Relief Program for Elderly and Disabled Homeowners (Sec. 18-9). In brief, those homeowners who are 65 years or older, totally disabled, or part of the Circuit Breaker Program may defer their real estate taxes on their primary residence. The Town will later collect these back taxes when the property is sold and/or is part of an estate settlement. Property owners with a reverse mortgage are not eligible. Applications for deferred tax relief shall be filed with the Assessor between February 1 and May 1. Applications are available in the Tax Assessor's office 860-927-3160. *Submitted by Kent resident Bill Bachrach.*

Kent Senior Center

1 Swifts Lane



Weather Closings at Senior Center: The Kent Senior Center Nutrition Program will be closed and Meals on Wheels Program will not be delivered when the Torrington Schools are closed due to inclement weather this winter. Listen to WZBG 97.3 or watch Channel 3 WFSB TV.

Senior Lunch Program: lunch is served *year around* on Monday and Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. at the Center (see monthly menu pages elsewhere in this newsletter). Suggested donation is \$4/person. Advanced reservations required by calling 860-927-2055. **New Year's Luncheon:** Ring in the new year January 9 with your friends and neighbors or make a new friend. Lunch menu, which is served at 12:30 p.m., is roast beef au jus, twice baked potato, peas and mushrooms, eclair. Suggested donation is \$4/person, and reservations are required by calling 860-927-2055 by January 4. The Elderly Nutrition Meal Program at the Kent Senior Center will be closed December 24 through 31, reopening January 2, 2019. **Valentine's Luncheon:** Join friends and neighbors for the Valentine's Luncheon February 13 at the Senior Center. Lunch menu, which is served at 12:30 p.m., is fruit cup, baked ziti, broccoli slaw, garlic bread stick, tuxedo layer cake. Suggested donation is \$4/person, and reservations are required by calling 860-927-2055 by February 7.

Adult Coloring Program: Adult coloring for senior citizens meets monthly on the second Monday, 2-4 p.m., at the Kent Senior Center, 16 Swifts Lane. Coloring materials are provided. The program is hosted by the Kent Memorial Library, Templeton Farms and the Town of Kent.

Bridge Group: Kent seniors are invited to join the Bridge Group Thursday afternoons, 1:15-4, at the Kent Senior Center, 16 Swifts Lane. All level players, including beginners, are welcome.

Senior Art Group: Kent Park and Recreation will host the senior art group Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Kent Senior Center, Swifts Lane. Participants bring their own supplies. There is no charge to join this group. For more information, call Park and Recreation at 860-927-1003.



Meals on Wheels Available for Kent Residents

A dedicated group of ten Kent volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels (MOW) on Mondays and Wednesdays of each week. The program is open to all homebound seniors regardless of income who are sixty years of age or older – with a doctor's recommendation. Spouses and disabled dependents of an eligible senior are also eligible for MOW.

In addition to a hot meal delivered each Monday and Wednesday, extra meals (frozen and cold) for the remainder of the week are also delivered by the volunteers. The meals come through the Litchfield Hills Northwest Elderly Nutrition Program in Torrington.

Registration for the Meals on Wheels program is handled by the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging. The toll-free number is 1-800-994-9422. The suggested donation is \$5 a day.

Call MOW staff in Torrington at 1 860 482-4151 or Leah Pullaro at 860-927-1586 for further information. *Submitted by Kent resident Catherine Bachrach*