



Kent Newsletter

Issue 10 | October 2022

Friends and Neighbors,

October is an incredibly busy time for our town! *Shoppers and leaf-peepers and bikers oh my!!*

But there is even more happening this month:

- **A Green Energy Event**
- **Cornhole Tournaments**
- **A Roundtable to help save critical services at Sharon Hospital**

To save one more item in your inboxes, I'm including the weekly Streetscape update here: *We are in the homestretch!* This week will begin the Northbound side of North Main Street from the intersection to the railroad tracks. Demo has begun today in front of Swyft restaurant and will continue to the railroad tracks, with the curbing install followed by the pouring of concrete and finish work.

Town Tree Warden Bruce Bennett contacted me last week with some great news - Kent Greenhouse will be donating the replacement trees that had to come down for the project! **Big thanks to Michael and the entire team at Kent Greenhouse for their generosity and community spirit!**

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

Wednesday, Oct 12 | Conservation Commission Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Thursday, Oct 13 | Planning and Zoning Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Monday, Oct 17 | Park & Recreation Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Wednesday, Oct 19 | Board of Finance Regular Meeting | 6:00p | town hall
Thursday, Oct 20 | Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting | 6:30p | zoom
Monday, Oct 24 | Inland Wetlands Regular Meeting | 7:00p | zoom
Wednesday, Oct 26 | 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

SAVE SHARON HOSPITAL

Upcoming Roundtable Event:
Learn what's happening at Sharon Hospital from the doctors themselves. Speakers include Dr. Howard Mortman and Dr. David Kurish. Attend one or attend them all! No reservations needed.

**Kent, Connecticut:
Wednesday, October 12 at 6:30pm**
St. Andrew's Parish, 1 N Main St



Dr. Howard Mortman, Sharon Hospital since 1988
Dr. David Kurish, Sharon Hospital since 1988, previously at Sharon Hospital for over 40 years

Save Sharon Hospital, Inc. is a nonprofit community organization composed of volunteers and healthcare professionals from the Northeast Center and the neighboring New York area who are concerned about the continued quality and availability of healthcare in our region. We are committed to supporting the full range of services at Sharon Hospital.

www.savesharonhospital.org

TONIGHT!! Save Sharon Hospital Community Roundtable tonight, 6:30p at St. Andrews Parish: Come learn about the upcoming Office of Health Strategy public hearing regarding Nuvance's plan to discontinue Maternity and ICU services at Sharon Hospital. Hear from physicians Dr. Howard Mortman and Dr. David Kurish. Information on how to provide testimony at the public hearing will be shared as well. **Have your voice be heard!**

Election Day is Tuesday, November 8th: Register to vote or check your registration status on the [CT Secretary of State website](#). Read information about voting, absentee ballots and the ballot question to change the State Constitution to allow for early voting on the [State Election](#)

[Voting Information page](#) of our website.

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 Conservation Commission Green Energy Initiative, Saturday, October 15th at 3:00p, Kent School Mattison Auditorium: The People's Action for Clean Energy (PACE) will present information on recent advances in clean, renewable energy. This 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.



Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County
is offering Flu Vaccines to anyone 18 years or older.
Protect yourself and the ones you love...
Get vaccinated against the flu!

CLINIC Location and Time:
Kent Town Hall
41 Kent Green Blvd., Kent, CT
Friday, October 28th
10:00am-12:00pm



Participating Insurances:
Aetna, Anthem BCBS, Connecticare, Harvard Pilgrim, Medicare, UHC Medicare, Meritain.

Self Pay:
\$30 Regular Dose
\$80 High Dose (over 65)
Cash or Check

• Stay home if you are sick
• Please cover a mask



For more information, please call 860-379-8561

Flu Clinic Friday October 28, 10:00a - 12:00 @ Town Hall: The Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County is offering flu vaccines to anyone 18 years and older. Participating insurances: Aetna, Anthem BCBS, Connecticare, Harvard Pilgrim, Medicare, UHC Medicare, Meritain. Self pay: \$30 (regular dose)/\$80 (high dose, over 65). Cash or check. Please call: 860-379-8561 with questions. No registration necessary. [Please fill out and bring form.](#)

Summer Concert Series Continues! Shows that had to be rescheduled 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 still going on at the Kent Land Trust Field! Fridays from 3:00-6:00p, look for a myriad of local farm and maker offerings....and, through October, weekly Cornhole tournaments! Visit their [website](#) for a complete list of vendors.

Touch A Trade: Saturday, October 22, 10:00a at the Eric Sloane Museum. This FREE event will offer youth and adults alike the opportunity to safely participate in trades, crafts, and self-sufficiency skills with their own hands. **Tom Bodett**, founder of **HatchSpace**, popular NPR storyteller, and of Motel 6 fame, will host the event. **Touch a Trade** is an initiative of Hudson Valley Preservation, based in Kent, with a mission to support the development of the next generation of trades and craftspeople. [More information and to register.](#)

46th Annual Kent Pumpkin Run is Sunday, October 30. The five mile run/ walk travels along one of the most scenic courses in Connecticut. And the Kids Fun Run is back! Participants are encouraged to bring non-perishable donations to support [The Kent Food Bank](#). Donations can also be dropped off at the Heron American Craft Gallery (16 North Main Street, Kent) anytime. [More information and to register.](#)

Town Updates

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



Kent Senior Center

please contact Social Services Director Samantha Hasanflue via [email](#) or by calling her office at 860.927.1586.

Kent Senior Center: The Town's Social Services Department is hosting a number of activities and events for seniors. [Please check out their newsletter on the Town of Kent website.](#)

Social Services: A number of Social Services programs are supported by the work of Kent's amazing volunteers. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities to serve your community,

Planning & Zoning - Plan of Conservation and Development: The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on November 10th to hear comments from the public on the draft POCD. The draft document can be found on the [Town website](#).

Affordable Housing Plan: The steering committee has completed their charge and the Town of Kent Housing Plan was approved by the Board of Selectmen and submitted to the State Office of Policy and Management. The approved plan is available on the [Steering Committee page](#) on the Town website.

Birch Hill: Plans are currently under review with the Land Use and Building departments to renovate the property into the proposed 85-bed substance use disorder treatment facility 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 final 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: no further updates on [Petition #401 Schaghticoke Indian Tribe \(SIT, CT\)](#).

Do You Know...

Governor Lamont has announced that farmers in all eight Connecticut counties are now eligible for federal disaster assistance due to drought. [Read more.](#) Farmer operators interested in applying for assistance must contact the local [Farm Service Agency office](#) for their region. Farmers have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for assistance.

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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Join the Park & Recreation email
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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



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