

Issue
24
March/April
2019

SENIORTIMES

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR KENT SENIORS

Good Things to Know:

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

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.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day: The Northwest Corner Prevention Network in partnership with the Kent Resident State Trooper and state police at Troop B will host Prescription Drug Take-Back Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kent Town Hall, 41 Kent Green Boulevard, Kent and Troop B barracks, Route 7 in North Canaan. Prevention Network representatives will hand out free lockbags designed to safeguard prescription medications in homes, as well as literature and other promotional materials. The event, held nationally twice yearly, provides families and community members with a free, safe and confidential way to dispose of unused and unwanted prescription drugs and medications. For more information, contact Lesly Ferris, 860-927-1003.

FISH (Friends in Service Here): FISH recently welcomed the addition of three new drivers! This organization is reaching out to all users to follow its guidelines and make this valuable volunteer transportation program for Kent residents work more effectively and meet the increase in requests for rides.

1. All requests for rides must be made through calls to the First Selectman's office at 860-927-4627. Please do not call drivers and schedulers directly. Please do not request specific drivers.

2. Rides within Kent are for medical appointments, shopping and other needs, such as hair appointments, trips to the Food Bank, etc. Rides outside of Kent are for medical appointments only.

3. Please call for a ride at least three days in advance of your appointment, or earlier, if possible. Rides are not provided on weekends or when Town Hall is closed.



ADDITIONAL TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES FOR KENT RESIDENTS...

The Warren Parks and Recreation Department 2019 Trip Schedule is here! Based on availability, trips are open to Kent residents.



DAY TRIPPERS
Out & About
SERIES

MARCH 16	Museum Mile - NYC
APRIL 6	NY Botanical Gardens or Bronx Zoo - NYC
APRIL 14	White Sox vs Yankees - Yankee Stadium
MAY 19	Astros vs Red Sox - Fenway Park
JUNE 23	Astros vs Yankees and Old Timers Day
JULY 4	James Taylor - Tanglewood
AUG 3	Red Sox vs Yankees - Yankee Stadium
AUG 24	Whale Watch or New England Aquarium
SEPT 15	Dodgers vs Mets - Citi Field
SEPT 18	Big E - Springfield, MA
SEPT 28 - 29	Amish Experience - Lancaster, PA
OCT 19	Stockbridge Experience - Stockbridge, MA
NOV 10	9/11 Memorial and Museum - NYC
DEC 5	Christmas in Newport - Rhode Island
DEC 18	Christmas Spectacular / Radio City - NYC

warrenct.org

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.

Editor:

Leah Pullaro, Kent Social Services
860-927-1586
socialservices@townofkentct.org

Editor reserves the right to edit submissions for content and space

The editor wishes to acknowledge the printing of this newsletter by Kent School. Thank you, Kent School, for your donation.



Goodspeed Opera House Trips

The Region One Recreation Directors announce 2019 Goodspeed Opera House Theatre trips, including lunch at Gelston House, open to residents of Region One towns:

The Music Man: May 8: Harold Hill and Marian the Librarian march into their first appearance at Goodspeed in a rousing new production of this great American musical.

Because of Winn Dixie: July 10: The beloved, award-winning novel about a quirky community learning to get along now sings for the first time in this new uplifting musical.

Billy Elliot: October 9: Celebrate the idea of being yourself in the Goodspeed premiere of this powerful dance-filled story. The outing includes transportation via the Northwest Connecticut Transit District bus, lunch at Gelston House and ticket to the 2 p.m. performance.

The bus will pick-up at Sharon Town Hall and Kent Town Hall (times to be announced). The cost is \$95/person. Seating is limited and reservations are required by calling Matt Andrulis Mette, 860-364-1400 or Lesly Ferris, 860-927-1003. Please note the outings would be canceled in the event of inclement weather.



Town Business & Reminders

Energy Assistance Program (EA): Kent Social Services serves as a voluntary intake site for all Kent residents that qualify for EA. 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. To determine if your household qualifies for this program or to schedule an appointment, contact Leah Pullaro, Kent Social Services 860-927-1586.

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.*

Renter's Rebate Program: If you are a senior 65+ or a person with a disability, and pay rent for an apartment, a cooperative, congregate housing, subsidized housing, or for a rooming house, you may be eligible for this program. *The application period is April 1 to October 1, 2019.* The rebate amount you may receive is based on a graduated income scale and the amount of rent and utility payments you made in the PRIOR year (2018). Income limits: single person \$36,000.00; married couple \$43,900. Those that apply must meet at least one of the following criteria: Individual or spouse must be 65 years of age or older as of December 31, 2018. Renter must be 50 years of age or older and the surviving spouse of a renter who at the time of death had qualified and was entitled to this program (provided the couple was living together at the time of death). Renter must be 18 years of age or older who is permanently and totally disabled under Social Security Disability guidelines. All Renters must have resided in the State of Connecticut for at least one year at any given time. To schedule an appointment, contact Leah Pullaro, Kent Social Services 860-927-1586.

Elderly and Totally Disabled Homeowners Program: Applications taken in the Assessor's Office from February 1, 2019 to May 15, 2019. Homeowner, or their spouse, has to be 65 years old as of December 31, 2018 and be the owner (or have life use) of the property as of October 1, 2018. If you are Social Security Totally Disabled there is no age requirement. Bring proof of income for the calendar year 2018. This includes a signed copy of your federal income tax return and the SSA-1099 Social Security form. If you do not have to file an income tax return, please bring all documents provided for 2018 income (interest, dividends, pensions, etc.). Income limits are \$36,000 for unmarried and \$43,900 for married for 2018. Income is your adjusted gross income PLUS untaxed social security benefits. Veterans who are receiving an exemption under section 12-81 of the CT General Statutes may also be eligible for an additional exemption provided the same income levels are met as outlined above. The Assessor's Office is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00AM -12:00PM and 1:00PM to 4:00PM. If there are any questions you can contact the Assessor's Office at 860-927-3160.

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.

St. Patrick's Day Luncheon: Kent Seniors are invited to a St. Patrick's Day luncheon Wednesday, March 13 at noon at the Kent Senior Center, Swifts Lane. Menu is corned beef, cabbage, boiled potatoes, carrots, Irish soda bread, and bread pudding w/topping. Wear your green! **Easter Luncheon:** An Easter Luncheon for senior citizens is Wednesday, April 17 at noon at the Kent Senior Center, Swifts Lane. Menu is glazed ham, au gratin potatoes, roasted squash, pineapple rings and carrot cake. Suggested donation for both luncheons are \$4/person. Advanced reservations required by calling 860-927-2055.

Monthly Wellness and Blood Pressure Clinics: Free screenings are available at Kent Senior Center on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:00p.m. This service is provided by New Milford VNA. *Salisbury VNA, beginning March 20th at 1:00p.m., offers a free blood pressure screening on the third Wednesday of each month at Kent Station Pharmacy.*

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.

Kent Senior Center continued:

Friday Senior Lunches Resume March 22nd

The Friday Senior Lunch program, offered in partnership with Kent, Marvelwood and South Kent Schools and Kent restaurants, resumes March 22nd at noon at the Kent Senior Center, Swifts Lane. The cost is \$2/person. Reservations are not required. The center will open at 11:30 a.m., and lunch is served at noon. For more information, call Lesly Ferris, 860-927-1003.

Special Guest: State Representative Maria Horn (D-64) will be guest speaker at the March 29th Friday Senior Lunch. Bring your questions and concerns and join us for lunch!

.....
Save the Date:

Free Summer Concert Series Returns

Kent Park and Recreation presents free "Concerts on the Lawn" June 27, July 18, July 25 and August 1, 6-8 p.m., on the front lawn at Kent Town Hall, 41 Kent Green Boulevard. New this year – July 11 concert at Kent Common Park, Swifts Lane. The inclement weather site is the Kent Community House. Bands will be announced. The concerts are free. Participants are welcome to bring a lawn chair or blanket and picnic dinner. For more information, call 860-927-1003.