

Issue
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SENIORTIMES

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR KENT SENIORS

Kent Nursing Association Merges with Kent Community Fund

The 75 year-old non-profit Kent Nursing Association recently merged with the Kent Community Fund. The KNA was incorporated in 1943, during World War II, by six women leaders in Kent – Dr. Josephine Evarts, Miriam Butterworth, Dorothy Gawel, Nina Page, Doris Woodin and Elizabeth Woodward. Dr. Evarts was a tireless Kent physician whose early and determined leadership spurred on the group's organization. In the KNA's early years, the Kent Grange donated a car for the use of a public health nurse employed by the organization. The nurse, always a Kent resident, made house calls and provided nursing services to children at Kent Center School. In 1966, Mary Ellen Nelson, the nurse at the time, made 1,396 house calls and treated 400 children at KCS.

With the advent of Medicare and more complicated billing requirements, in the early 1970s the KNA no longer employed a nurse to serve Kent. Instead, it used its funds to secure needed home healthcare and wellness care for Kent residents who did not have adequate insurance or financial resources through reimbursements to staffed visiting nurse associations in nearby towns.

"KNA's mission in recent years was to support local visiting nurse agencies so that Kent patients could receive skilled nursing visits regardless of income or insurance," said Patricia Lawrence, long-time KNA board president. "KNA also supported flu and blood pressure clinics and many educational presentations by VNA staff members. Rest assured that focus will continue under the KCF banner. The KNA board thanks the Town of Kent and its residents for supporting the organization over the last 75 years."

The Kent Community Fund was established in 2006 "to help individuals living in Kent meet emergency needs and to support community charitable programs serving Kent residents." The founding board members were Catherine Bachrach, Tony DiPentima, George Jacobsen, Jim Palmer, Lorry Schiesel, Judy Sheridan and Joe Speranzo.

The all-volunteer organization, which receives no government funding, works closely with the Town of Kent's social services director, Leah Pullaro, and representatives of other service agencies to provide assistance to residents in need, including payment of fuel and utility bills, medical and dental care, home and auto repairs and other emergencies. The fund also supports the Kent Food Bank and provides scholarships

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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
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



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.

- September 8th Red Sox vs. Astros.
- September 16th Stockbridge Experience.
- October 13th - 14th Vermont Leaf Peeping.
- November 11th Broadway your Way.
- November 21st Thanksgiving Eve Balloons, NYC.
- December 1 – 2 Vintage Christmas, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.
- December 12th 'Christmas Spectacular', Radio City Music Hall.

Additional information and cost, as available, 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.

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.



Bereavement Program A Journey from Grief to Healing & Hope

When:

Wednesday's Sept 19, 2018- October 24, 2018, 6:00-7:30 pm.

Where:

St Thomas of Villanova Church Route 63 North, Goshen, CT

Cost:

FREE Pre-Registration is encouraged to assure adequate amount of materials.

Sponsored by:

The Jeff and Diane Johnson Community Enhanced Fund care of the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation. Goshen Community Care & Hospice

Facilitator:

Karen Jax Giarnese, RN

To Register call:

860-491-HOPE (4673)



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.

Seasonal Flu Clinic: Seasonal flu vaccination clinic will be offered Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2018 for Kent seniors from 10 to 11 a.m. and any age resident from 11 a.m. to noon in Kent Town Hall, first floor large meeting room. Accepted insurance plans will be announced. Registration forms and related information packet are available at the Kent Senior Center, Swifts Lane, and in the Kent Town Hall lobby. The clinic is sponsored by the New Milford Visiting Nurse Association and Kent Community Fund in conjunction with the Town of Kent. For more information, call Lesly Ferris at 860-927-1003.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day: The Northwest Corner Prevention Network in partnership with State Police Troop B, Troop L, and the Town of Kent will host a Community Prescription Drug Take-Back Saturday, Oct. 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Troop B Barracks, Canaan, and Kent Town Hall, 41 Kent Green Boulevard, Kent. The Prevention Network will hand out free Lockmed Lockbags designed to safeguard prescription medications. The event, held twice yearly, provides families and community members with a free, safe and confidential way to dispose of unused and unwanted prescription drugs and medications. Questions about the Take-Back Day may be directed to ncpncoalition@gmail.com or call Lesly, 860-488-4126.

Kent Senior Center

1 Swifts Lane



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.

Friday Senior Lunch Program: Begins September 14, 2018. The center opens at 11:30 a.m., and the meal is served at noon. The program is offered in conjunction with Kent, Marvelwood, and South Kent Schools and Kent restaurants. The cost is \$2/person. Reservations are not necessary.

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.

Merge continued: for the Kent Park and Recreation's summer camp and after-school program at Kent Center School. Through the generosity of local donors, more than \$270,000 has been provided since 2006, helping more than 230 Kent residents each year.

KNA board members Patricia Lawrence and Hal Kamm have joined Catherine Bachrach, Jim Blacketter, Ruth Epstein, Ruth Greenberg, Ted Hoffman, Lorry Schiesel and Joe Speranzo on the KCF board of directors. Ruth Epstein serves as the board president.

The work of both organizations will continue under the KCF umbrella with an expanded mission to assist and improve the community's health and welfare through the utilization of its resources and...identify and financially support families living in Kent to help them meet their healthcare needs and financial emergencies. "With this merger, Kent's residents will be even better served for their healthcare needs, as well as all other aspects of quality of life," noted Ruth Epstein. "This is a win-win situation for all of us."

A community-wide reception to celebrate the merger of the Kent Nursing Association and Kent Community Fund is scheduled for Friday, September 28, at 4 p.m. in the St. Andrew's Church parish hall at the corner of routes 7 and Route 341 in Kent. All are welcome to attend.

Memory Garden Annual Planting



Kent senior citizens are invited Friday, Sept. 21 at 1:15 p.m. to plant a bulb in honor of a loved one or friend in the Memory Garden, Kent Common Park, Swifts Lane. Bulbs will be provided.

The garden, dedicated in September 2013, was created by Kent Social Services Director Leah Pullaro and Park and Recreation director Lesly Ferris as a way for town seniors to honor and remember family and friends.

For more information, call 860-927-1003.

