

Town of Fairfield, Connecticut

Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** The Town of Fairfield proudly honors Gerald “Gerry” Speno for his outstanding years as manager for FairTV, the Town’s Education and Government Access Channels; and
- WHEREAS:** Media in all its forms – from print to screen – have always interested Gerry. Most of his fascinating career has been on the front end developing projects, building interest and supporting their growth. In the 1970s when he lived in New York, Gerry spun records in a SOHO disco. In 1972, he copyrighted the term “Mediaphile” which means a student of the medium and appreciation of the audio arts; and
- WHEREAS:** Gerry worked as Associate Curator of Video Art at the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse. The Museum worked with George Stoney, better known as the Father of Public Access Television who helped shape the federal laws that brought about public access TV. One of the first shows Gerry worked on was a museum-wide installation piece conceived by John Lennon and Yoko Ono. He also worked with the NY State Council on the Arts in developing an audience for the form; and
- WHEREAS:** Gerry would live in many places, including LA where he worked at Waiver Theatre with one of its producers, a creator of Law & Order. He was also Technical Director at the LA Improv where he redesigned and built a new showroom and was a Union prop maker at the studios. Gerry was the art director on Emilio Estevez’s first film and produced a future Oscar winner’s first film. Additionally, Gerry worked in field production for the Financial News Network (now MSNBC) in Santa Monica as well as for CBS; and
- WHEREAS:** In the 1980s, Gerry returned to New York and met his beautiful wife, Mary Alice, a talented film editor who later received her Masters at Fairfield University to teach. In the 1990s, Gerry and Mary Alice proudly raised two children, Matthew, a HBO Producer, and William, an independent film editor; and
- WHEREAS:** Wanting to serve his community and help provide more public access to town meetings and events, Gerry helped get FairTV off the ground and has been its driving force ever since. As FairTV manager since 2010, Gerry has committed so much of his time, going above and beyond and being intricately involved in every aspect of FairTV; and
- WHEREAS:** As he nears retirement at the end of this month, the Town of Fairfield thanks and appreciates Gerry for his outstanding years of dedication and hard work that have been instrumental in FairTV’s success.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brenda L. Kupchick, First Selectwoman of the Town of Fairfield, do hereby proclaim Monday, June 19, 2023 as

GERRY SPENO DAY

in the Town of Fairfield and encourage all citizens to be grateful to Gerry for his impeccable service to the Town of Fairfield and wish he and his family good health and happiness.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Town of Fairfield to hereby be affixed this 19th day of June, 2023.

Brenda L. Kupchick
First Selectwoman