

Town of Fairfield News

9/10/2021 - 9.10 TOWN UPDATE



Dear Fairfielders,

As summer winds down and we enter into the fall season, Fairfield welcomed thousands of our students back to school last week. It was so much fun to be invited to join Riverfield Principal Brenda Anziano, Superintendent Mike Cummings and Riverfield staff to greet students on their first day back. Riverfield students and staff took part in celebrating Mr. Gelsi for being named P.E. Teacher of the Year on opening day. The display of community, that I witnessed at Riverfield and so many times in all our schools through the years, was another reminder of why Fairfield is such a special town.

I want to wish all Fairfield students, parents, teachers and staff a successful and happy school year!



STORM IDA AND FAIRFIELD

FLOODING

Last week, our Town endured significant flash flooding, following severe

thunderstorms from the remnants of Hurricane Ida. My heart goes out to those in our community who suffered extensive damage to their homes and businesses from the storm.

As we continue to clean up the aftermath, I want to recognize and thank all of our emergency crews who worked around the clock assisting our residents. During the storm, our First Responders were literally rescuing residents from flooded homes and cars. They are Fairfield's heroes.

Last Thursday morning, in the aftermath of the storm, I visited areas of Town that had the most significant flooding, most notably areas along Rooster River and Mill Plain Road. We had homes with as much as 6+ feet of water in their basements. The Fire Department deployed community outreach units to these neighborhoods and provided guidance to homeowners and businesses, directing them to recovery resources.

Rooster River continues to cause major flooding to many areas in our community. It is the reason I felt it was important to include the Town's Phase I Rooster River Mitigation Plan for \$3,250,000 million on my priority list for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) federal funding. I also included another \$1,420,000 to mitigate flooding in our downtown business district. The Town is continuing to assess facilities around Town. If you require assistance from a Town Department please utilize the Request for Service on our website: <https://www.fairfieldct.org/311/request/add>.

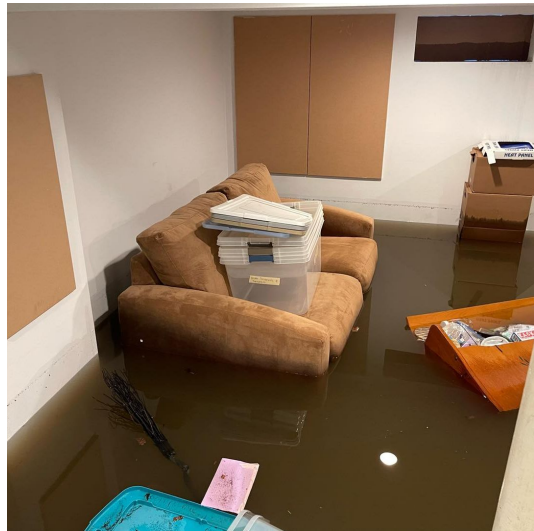
PRELIMINARY DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

The Town of Fairfield is working with the State Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to seek Federal Aid for residents and businesses damaged as a result of Storm Ida. The first step in that process is to determine if statewide damage reaches the Federal threshold for a Presidential Disaster Declaration. It should be noted that the threshold for uninsured losses is very high: approximately \$3.5M for Fairfield County and \$5.5M Statewide and both thresholds must be met to qualify for Federal Aid.

Our Town's Emergency Management Director and his team have estimated damages and expenses for the Town, as well as residential and business damage, and will submit those estimates to the State. If the thresholds are met, property and business owners will be contacted to get more detailed information. In the meantime, all residents and business owners who experienced uninsured losses due to Storm Ida are encouraged to document those losses through photos of damage and receipts for repairs or replacements. Updates on Federal Assistance will be

shared when our application is reviewed.

Look for updates on our Town's Federal Assistance in both my newsletter and on our Town's [website](#) under "Town of Fairfield News".



Since my last newsletter, per the Governor's Order, I ordered the flags at half-mast in honor of the 13 brave American service members, who paid the ultimate price while trying to rescue Americans and our Afghan allies in Afghanistan. This week, I ordered the flags at half-mast for CT State Trooper Brian Mohl, who lost his life in the line of duty during the storm.



COVID-19 UPDATES

I am encouraged that our community is taking the necessary steps to curb the impact of the COVID-19 Delta Variant, as we've seen recent improvements in the [CDC's](#) and [State's](#) categorizations of Fairfield County and the Town. There has been some leveling in various indicators, and I appreciate our residents continued efforts to help limit the spread of the virus.

Vaccination remains the most effective tool to limit the spread and severe consequences of COVID-19. Of Connecticut's new COVID-19 cases in the last 7 days, nearly 70% were unvaccinated. In addition, this week's [State data](#) indicates that those who are unvaccinated are at 5 times higher risk of being infected with COVID-19, 5 times higher risk of being hospitalized with COVID-19, and 10 times higher risk of dying from COVID-19. Currently 70.62% of Fairfield's population has had at least one dose of vaccine, with 66.38% being fully vaccinated. COVID-19 vaccination is widely available and I encourage all those eligible to get vaccinated as soon as possible. You can find the closest locations by texting you Zip Code to GETVAX and additional local vaccination clinics will be held as detailed below.

VACCINE CLINICS

The Fire Department and the Health Department are working together with CT DPH

to host vaccination clinics at the Reef Road and Jennings Road Fire Stations on the following dates:

Fire Station 1 (Reef Road): First dose: 9/18/21 10 AM- 4 PM, Second dose: 10/9/21 10 AM- 4 PM

Fire Station 2 (Jennings Road): First dose: 9/19/21 10 AM- 4 PM, Second dose: 10/10/21 10 AM- 4 PM

Please check the Fire and Health Departments' websites and social media in a few days for directions for how to sign up.

Also, both Fairfield Warde and Fairfield Ludlowe High Schools are working with the Health Department and CT DPH to host vaccination clinics for eligible high school and middle school staff and students in the next few weeks. Once the dates are confirmed, information will be sent out through the schools and will be posted online.

The Health Department will be offering COVID-19 booster doses, for those eligible, once the final guidance has been issued by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). This should happen within the next month.

TOWN GOVERNMENT

CHARTER REVISION

When I gave my first State of the Town address in January of 2020, just 60 days after I was sworn into office, I shared with our community that Charter reform was long overdue. The [Town Charter](#) is our own version of a constitution by which most aspects of our Town Government is guided. Our Town hasn't had a Charter revision since 2006, and it is generally recommended that it be done roughly every 10 years. On August 30, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved a [resolution](#) to establish a Charter Revision Commission. (You can watch the Board of Selectmen meeting where this was discussed [here](#).) The Charter Revision Commission will work over the next year to listen to the public, boards, commissions and departments and craft proposals based on those discussions, that will be considered by the Board of Selectman for approval and then placed on the ballot for residents to vote on in November 2022. As this process unfolds, I encourage all our citizens to participate in this fundamentally important process.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING

On July 19, I hosted an informational workshop to present my proposed list of

projects to utilize the \$24.8 million in federal funding coming to Fairfield. You can watch my presentation, the public comments, and the follow up Q&A from the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Representative Town Meeting [here](#). The goal in selecting these projects was to have an impact on a large cross section in our community and address some long overdue infrastructure projects. We looked at the Town's capital improvement plan to identify shovel ready projects that qualified under the federal guidelines, as well as new ideas to help those impacted by COVID-19. On August 16, I did a follow-up meeting with the Board of Selectmen on the American Recovery Rescue Plan Act funding proposal. You can view that meeting [here](#). Last night, the Board of Finance discussed ARPA funding. You can watch the meeting [here](#).

The Board of Selectmen is scheduled to vote September 20th, Board of Finance September 21, and Representative Town Meeting September 27.

MATTRESS RECYCLING EVENT

Getting ready to dispose of an old mattress or box spring? You can arrange to have your item recycled for a useful second life by dropping it off at a free, [Town-wide mattress collection](#) event to be held on Saturday, September 18 from 9 am to 1 pm at Veteran's Park, 909 Reef Road.

The event is sponsored by the Sustainable Fairfield Task Force (SFTF) in cooperation with the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC), a nonprofit organization formed by the mattress industry to operate recycling programs in states that have enacted mattress recycling laws.

Any mattress, no matter when it was purchased, can be brought to the event for no-cost recycling, assuming it is not damaged, heavily soiled or posing other health or safety risks.



Mattress Recycling Event

September 18, 2021
9 am - 1 pm
Veteran's Park | 909 Reef Road

For more information visit
www.fairfieldct.org



NEW FACES IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

It's always a privilege to administer the oath of office to new officers joining the

Fairfield Police Department. On Wednesday, I swore in Mia Barrow & Bridget Melsenti, who started training at the police academy on Thursday.



CUDDLE BEAR FUNDRAISER UPDATE | POLICE DEPARTMENT

A special thank you as well to Usborne Books & More who matched all of the donations!!!

Jaclyn launched this fundraiser with a goal of filling each squad car in town with hope (and hugs!) with a Cuddle Bear book and plush! Each set will go directly to a child in the local area. Officers can provide additional comfort to children experiencing difficult times through a story about being loved and a bear that they can hold onto when they are going through a hard and scary time. These sets were also available to officers to give to children that they meet while on patrol. Sometimes it can be the

little things that mean the most, and the cuddles and hugs from Cuddle Bear can help little ones manage their big feelings.

Thank you to Jaclyn Brunetto and all who contributed to the Cuddle Bear Fundraiser! Jaclyn and her family delivered 120 books and bears on Tuesday!



Pictured is Jaclyn and her children Emmie and Milo with several Fairfield Police Officers

COMMUNITY NEWS

SHU GRAND OPENING

Last week, the Sacred Heart University Community Theatre, an 100-year-old iconic and cultural landmark in the heart of our downtown, held its official grand opening, after two years of renovations and revitalization. I want to offer my sincerest gratitude to Dr. Petillo, President of Sacred Heart University, and the Kleban family for their generous contribution to the Town of Fairfield. The University assumed a 10-year lease with Kleban Properties to create a premier, non-profit cinema arts, live performance and education venue at the former Community Theatre. It is so exciting to see a place that was an important part of my childhood, returned to its former glory and welcome talent and guests from all over the country. I encourage everyone to see a show and enjoy all this beautiful venue has to offer.



Photography by **Tracy Deer-Mirek**, Associate Director of Visual Communications & Photography - Marketing & Communications | Sacred Heart University

OVERDOSE AWARENESS

On Overdose Awareness Day, recognized as August 31, we remembered those loved ones lost to overdoses and recommitted to ending the stigma of drug-related deaths. As a Town, we must do our part in reducing the toll of overdose in our community, which sadly claimed the lives of 1,372 Connecticut residents in [2020](#) and 38 in Fairfield the past six years.

[Fairfield CARES](#), in conjunction with the Fairfield Health Department and Police Department, hosted its fourth annual Overdose Awareness Vigil on Sherman Green to remember those lives and the affected families and friends.



Overdose Awareness Month



An opioid overdose can happen for a variety of reasons, including if you:


- Take an opioid to get high
- Take an extra dose of a prescription opioid or take it too often (either accidentally or on purpose)
- Mix an opioid with other medicines, illegal drugs, or alcohol.
- Take an opioid medicine that was prescribed for someone else.



UNUSUAL SLEEPINESS OR NOT ABLE TO AWAKEN



BREATHING WILL BE SLOW OR ABSENT



SLOW HEARTBEAT OR LOW BLOOD PRESSURE

The Following Signs and Symptoms May Indicate an Opioid Overdose Emergency



SKIN FEELS COLD AND CLAMMY



PUPILS ARE TINY



NAILS AND LIPS ARE BLUE



Overdose Awareness Month



What Do Opioids Do to the Brain?



Opioids are medications that act on opioid receptors in both the spinal cord and brain to **reduce the intensity of pain-signal perception.**

Opioids **release large amounts of dopamine throughout the body.** This release can strongly reinforce the act of taking the drug, **making the user want to repeat the experience.**

Some Examples of Opioids Are:

Vicodin
Hydrocodone
OxyContin

Morphine
Codeine
Fentanyl

STATE REPRESENTATIVE LAURA DEVLIN HOLDS PUBLIC LISTENING FORUM ON JUVENILE CRIME

Fairfield, along with many towns across the State has been experiencing car thefts, valuables stolen from motor vehicles, and other acts committed mostly by juveniles. For many homeowners and property owners, these crimes are personal; their cars, garage, or home are being violated, and sometimes the crimes rise to more dangerous acts of violence. That is why State Representative Laura Devlin (R-134) will be holding an expert panel discussion with members of local enforcement, state prosecutors, and public defenders for a community conversation on the issue of juvenile crime.

Pre-registration is required, to ensure seating. Please register [here](#). To submit a question to be read to the panel, please go [here](#).



hosted by

State Representative Laura Devlin

You're invited to attend this forum with local experts, share your thoughts and ask questions. **Masks are required for this event.**

The discussion will include:

**Fairfield First Selectwoman Brenda Kupchick
SHU Public Safety Director Gary MacNamara
Fairfield Chief of Police Robert Kalamaras
Fairfield Detective George Buckmir
Fairfield Detective Beth Leetch
State's Attorney Joe Corradino
Assistant State's Attorney John Capozzi
Public Defender Joseph Bruckmann**

***Register in advance and/or submit questions at:
RepDevlin.com/CrimeForum***

For more information, please contact Catherine Thomas at 203-206-0022 or catherine.thomas@cga.ct.gov

This Juvenile Crime 'Listening' Forum is an important opportunity to hear the public's concerns, experiences, and questions on this serious issue. Rep. Devlin has assembled the expert panel as a way to provide background on these issues, but will spend the majority of the forum listening to concerned Fairfielders.

After the Forum, State Rep. Devlin will use resident's input to help craft policy with her legislative colleagues, which will hopefully address the current juvenile crime crisis.

Anyone who has additional questions regarding the Crime Forum, should call State Rep. Devlin at her State Capitol office at 1.800.842.1423 or email her office at Laura.Devlin@housegop.ct.gov.

HIGH HOLY DAYS & ANTI-SEMITISM

Between the Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the 10 days of Atonement, which are an opportunity for repentance, reflection and change. The high holidays are the most religious time for Jewish people throughout the world. There has been a steady rise of anti-Semitism throughout our state and country, and I felt this is an appropriate time to highlight.

#1 According to the just released, most recent FBI hate crime statistics from 2020, 59.1% of all hate crimes motivated by religion, were directed at Jews. Jews make up only about 2% of the US population.

#2 In CT, the most recent hate crime statistics for our state, released in 2018, almost 70% of all hate crimes which were motivated by religion were directed at Jews. Jews made up just about 3.5% of the CT population.

#3 According to the American Jewish Committee's 2020 State of Antisemitism in America Report, a survey of both Jews and the American general public, there is a significant difference in awareness of antisemitism between Jews and the general public. Almost 90% of American Jews believe that antisemitism is a problem. However, nearly half of all US adults are not even familiar with the term antisemitism, 21% saying that they never heard the term and 25% saying that they are unsure of what it means.

I joined 41 other mayors and first selectpeople in Connecticut, along with 700 municipal officials across the country, to sign onto the joint initiative by the American Jewish Committee and the US Conference of Mayors to speak out against antisemitism, by declaring it incompatible with fundamental democratic values.

I hope our Jewish neighbors had a happy New Year and I wish you an easy fast this Yom Kippur.

Fairfielders, it's hard to believe that tomorrow will mark 20 years since our lives were forever changed by the terrorist attacks on our country. While those acts shattered steel, they did not shatter American resolve. This weekend and every day, we remember the Americans who perished in those attacks and their families, including the First Responders and the citizens who either risked or lost their lives to save their fellow countrymen on that fateful day.

Every year, Fairfielders gather at the Fire Station on Reef Road for a ceremony to reflect on our shared history that We Will Never Forget. Residents who would like to attend should arrive at 8:45AM for the 9:00AM ceremony.

The SHU Community Theatre will be hosting a free program of [remembrance](#) at 12:30 PM.

*Please join
First Selectwoman, Brenda Kupchick,
Fire Chief, Denis McCarthy and
Police Chief, Robert Kalamaras
in a ceremony
remembering all those who perished on September 11th*

**Fairfield's Annual
9/11 Remembrance Ceremony**

Saturday, September 11, 2021
9:00 a.m.
Fire Headquarters, 140 Reef Road



I hope you have a safe and enjoyable weekend.



Brenda L. Kupchick
Fairfield First Selectwoman

FAIRFIELD COVID RESOURCE PAGE

Scrolling below you can find additional events, information and resources organized by the following categories:

Community Events
Town Events
August/September Updates
Town Services
Community Resources

COMMUNITY EVENTS

END OF BEACH SEASON SCHEDULE

As of Monday, August 9th, there are no lifeguards on duty at Sasco, Southport, and South Pine Creek Beaches.



Jennings and Penfield Beaches and Lake Mohegan – Will be staffed with lifeguards daily through Sunday August 29th. Then again on Labor Day weekend (Sept 4th – Sept 6th).

Beaches may have reduced swim areas. Please be sure to obey the lifeguards and to swim in permitted areas only.

Parking attendants will remain on duty through Monday, September 6th.

FAIRFIELD FARMER'S MARKET

The [Fairfield Farmer's Market](#) will be open on Sundays from 10-2 PM until October 2nd.

The Greenfield Hill Farmer's Market will be open Saturdays from 10-1 PM. For more information [click here](#).



VETERANS STAND DOWN 2021

Stand Downs are typically one- to-three day events providing supplies and services to homeless Veterans, such as food, shelter, clothing, health screenings and VA Social Security benefits counseling. Our community's will take place at **Port 5 National Association of Navy Veterans 69 Brewer Street, Bridgeport, CT**

06805 on September 24 from 8AM-2PM. For more information [click here](#).



KIWANI'S CLUB OF FAIRFIELD CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Please come out and support our community- either with a great day of golf, a sponsorship or even a raffle prize on September 27. For more details click [here](#) or email Richard Miller at spearfh2@gmail.com



UPCOMING TOWN EVENTS

DIY Night at Penfield Pavilion – September 23 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm

- <https://www.fairfieldct.org/DIY-Night>

Phantoms of Penfield at Penfield Pavilion – October 28 at 8:00pm

- <https://www.fairfieldct.org/Phantoms-of-Penfield>

Hole in One Fore Hunger at Carl J. Dickman Par 3 Golf Course – November 6 from 9:00am – 1:00pm

Christmas Tree Lighting on Town Hall Green – December 3 at 7:00pm (choir begins at 6:00pm)

Echoes of Sinatra at Penfield Pavilion – December 4 at 7:00pm

- <https://www.fairfieldct.org/Echoes-of-Sinatra>

Holiday Breakfast at Fairfield Ludlowe High School – December 11 at 10:00am

PARKS AND RECREATION WEBSITE

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER UPDATES

FAIRFIELD PARKS & RECREATION 2021 FALL BROCHURE

Check out some of the programs and events coming up this Fall ... [HERE](#)



INVASIVE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY FOUND IN FAIRFIELD

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) in cooperation with USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) informed my office that there has been a detection of nymphs of the spotted lanternfly (SLF) on Ailantus (Tree of Heaven) in Southport. In 2020, multiple adult populations of SLF were found in Greenwich, New Canaan, Stamford and most recently Norwalk. To read a recent article on the discovery in Fairfield, [click here](#).

For further information, and guidance on what to do if you see the spotted lanternfly, [click here](#).



ROAD CONSTRUCTION AT THE TRANSFER STATION

Construction is underway on Richard White Way from 7 AM - 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Residents should expect delays, and when possible, plan trips to the transfer station Mondays and Saturdays. Next week the water and gas companies will be relocating their utilities and the pile driver will be driving steel sheets at the WWTP, to protect the neighborhood from flooding. Neighbors should expect to feel some vibration from this work.



BIRD FEEDING HALT FOR SUMMER

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection recommends that you remove birdfeeders and bird food from **late March through November**, due to increased reports of black bear sightings in heavily populated residential areas -- 24 specific sightings in Fairfield.



Anyone who sees a bear in Fairfield can contact animal control at 203-254-4857. If the animal is behaving aggressively or refusing to leave a residential area, people should call the police department at 203-254-4800. For a list of simple steps to avoid conflicts and problems with black bears, click [here](#).

TOWN SERVICES

ABSENTEE VOTING

If you will not be able to make it to the polls on Election Day – November 2, 2021 -

you may vote absentee by mail. Absentee Voting is permitted in the State of Connecticut for any of the following reasons:

- physical disability
- illness
- absence from the Town during all of the hours of voting
- religious tenets which forbid secular activity on Election Day
- Pursuant to Senate Bill 1202, of the June Special Session 2021, COVID-19 may be used as a valid reason for requesting a ballot for any election held before November 3, 2021**



Connecticut does not participate in Early Voting. In order to vote absentee, you must meet one of the criteria listed above.

Absentee voting in Connecticut is a **two-step** process. A completed and signed [Absentee Ballot Application](#) or [Spanish Absentee Ballot Application](#) must be filed with the Town Clerk before a ballot is issued. Absentee ballots will be mailed starting October 1st.

Applications may be filed in person, by mail, or by e-mail. If **filed by e-mail, the original, signed application must be returned with the ballot, or by mail**, to the Town Clerk's Office, 611 Old Post Road, Fairfield 06824 by Election Day for the ballot to be counted.

RENTERS REBATE PROGRAM

The Assessors Office is now accepting applications for the Renters Rebate Program. Applications are accepted between 9am and 4pm. The deadline to apply is **October 1, 2021**. Generally applicants need to be 65 years of age as of December 31, 2020 or be disabled, have income not exceeding \$37,600 if single or \$45,800 if married and have resided in Connecticut for one year prior to applying. Details can be found on the Assessors website here <https://www.fairfieldct.org/rentersrebate> or on the State of Connecticut's site here <https://www.fairfieldct.org/rentersrebate>.

CPR/AED TRAINING FOR THE LAY PERSON



If you are interested in CPR/AED training, please contact the Fairfield Regional Fire

School at frfs@fairfieldct.org or call (203) 254-4708.

FAIRFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The **Fairfield Public Main Library** building is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am - 5pm and Tuesday & Thursday 9am – 7pm. **Fairfield Woods Branch Library** is open



Monday & Wednesday 9am - 7pm and Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am – 5pm. Both Main and Woods are open Saturdays 1pm – 5pm. Facemasks are required for everyone (ages 2+) in both Fairfield Public Library buildings at all times. This update is in accordance with the Town of Fairfield Health Department and the recommendation of the CT Department of Public Health.

Please do not bring food into the library at this time. Study Rooms and Meeting Rooms are not available.

Information services are available in person, by phone (203) 256-3160, email at eref@fplct.org and text messaging (text askfplct to 833-232-4100). Learn more about our services at fairfieldpubliclibrary.org where we continue to offer 24/7 access to a digital collection of books, music, magazines, movies and databases. Visit the [Library Event Calendar](#) to find a wide and varied assortment of Library Programs.

We are excited to be moving forward with robust Fall programming for Children's, Teens, and Adults. There will be a mix of in-person and remote events. The in-person events will be held in rooms with half capacity. Masks will be required for all attendees over 2. If anything changes, we will pivot to all remote. Please check our calendar or contact us directly

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TEEN NEWS - The downUNDER After School Teen Program at Fairfield Woods Branch Library is back with crafts, activities, games, trivia, and more. The program is open to Grades 6 and up from 2:50pm to 4:45pm when school is in session. Space is limited and registration is required. Participants must register for each day they plan to attend.

VISITING THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT - All individuals ages 2 and up are required to wear a mask while in the Library at all times. Children's Department visits should be kept to 30 minutes, for quick browsing and the borrowing of materials. Play areas and toys are unavailable at this time. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times and our youngest patrons must be kept in the immediate vicinity of their caregiver (preferably in a stroller or carrier). We now offer in-person outdoor library programming, while continuing to host virtual programs.



SOCIAL SERVICES

The hardest part to getting help is reaching out to make the call to the Social Services office. We are here to help. Please call us at 203-256-3170 Monday through Friday between 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM for more information about financial assistance programs.

Utility Shut-Offs are Currently Set to Resume this month. It's time to get signed up now for shut-off protection and energy assistance. Please look through the programs below to register or call Social Services for more information at 203-256-3170.

UniteCT – Rent, and/or Electric Utility Payments - For tenants and all eligible electric utility customers affected by the pandemic: **Up to \$1,500 toward last six months of electric bills.** Up to \$15,000 in rental assistance. www.bit.ly/UniteCT.

CEAP (Connecticut Energy Assistance Program) - Available to all heating customers (electric heat, gas heat, oil, kerosene, coal and other deliverable fuels). **Up to \$1,015 basis benefit.** Contact 2-1-1 United Way for a referral to nearest Community Action Agency for help applying for CEAP.

Protection from Shut-Off Due to Medical Condition - Customer's doctor can access utility internet portal at request of patient to certify that patient or family member has "serious illness" or "life threatening condition." Utility customers may be required to enter into payment agreements with the utilities, but during the protected period, cannot be threatened with shut-off for nonpayment.

Contact your utility directly for **Arrearage Forgiveness Programs; COVID-19**

Payment Plan; Reasonable Repayment Plan; Matching Payment Plan; and Financial “Hardship” (Winter Shut-Off Protection).

[Click here](#) to read the newly released **Connecticut Healthy Aging Data Report**, which details older adult health in every Connecticut Community, including Fairfield. From the distribution of disease and disability to the impact of gender on health disparities to data on community engagement, housing and transportation, the report is a valuable guide for community leaders, agencies, planners, and residents to understand the older people living in our cities and towns. Funded by [Tufts Health Plan Foundation](#), the first-of-its-kind report reveals individual community strengths and challenges to inform targeted interventions and planning.

Fairfield has approximately 9,822 residents age 65 or older. Compared to state average rates, Fairfield’s older residents fared better on some healthy aging indicators with lower rates of obesity, asthma, hypertension, depression, anxiety disorder - just to list a few. We are more likely to be nonsmokers and to take the health promotion step of meeting the CDC guidelines for aerobic physical activity. Check out the report for more information, and to learn about the categories where we need improvement. Visit HealthyAgingDataReports.org to learn more. To go directly to Fairfield’s profile, [click here](#).

Pequot Library: We're Here, We Care – Pequot Library is open for browsing and select programming. We are open for browsing! Visit Monday-Friday, 10AM-6PM, Saturday 10AM-4PM, and Sunday 12AM-4PM (weekend hours after Labor Day). Drop in during browsing hours to check out items from our circulating selection, see our latest exhibit in the Perkin Gallery, or view treasures from our Special Collections.



PEQUOT
LIBRARY

Masks and physical distancing are requested from anyone in the Library.

Monday – Friday:

10:00 a.m.– 6:00 p.m.

Saturday:

September (after Labor Day) – June: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

July – August: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sunday:

September (after Labor Day) – June: 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

July – September (before Labor Day):

Outside of browsing hours, enjoy digital programs like story times, author talks, book clubs, and more! Get details on our [website](#) and social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#). Sign up for Pequot Library's [Digital Digest eNewsletter](#) or contact our [Chief Librarian](#) for personalized book recommendations.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Behind in your rent or mortgage?

Are you behind in your rent or mortgage? Operation Hope may be able to help. Please contact Brenda at 203-292-5588 x225 or email her at blobdell@operationhopect.org. All inquiries are confidential – they are there to help!

Struggling to make ends meet?

Reminder: Operation Hope's Food Pantry is here to serve all Fairfield residents. We are open at 636 Old Post Road Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 to 12:00 and Thursday from 4:00 to 6:00. Please let them help you with groceries and other basic necessities!

Operation Hope Food Pantry

Operation Hope has in-person openings for meal servers this summer to help our neighbors in need. All meals are served at our Community Kitchen at 50 Nichols Street, Fairfield, next to the police station. Servers must be 18+. Lunch and dinner are served Monday through Friday. The commitment can be once a week for the entire summer or for a portion. If interested, send us an email at info@operationhopect.org. Please indicate your level of commitment, as well as your preference for lunch or dinner.

SEEKING SUMMER & DINNER VOLUNTEERS



Community Kitchen



GET INVOLVED! TOWN BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

You can also visit our Boards and Commissions page to learn more about roles and responsibilities: <https://fairfieldct.org/boards>

Interested in giving back to our community? Want to have a voice in shaping Fairfield? The Town relies on the hard work of citizen volunteers who are appointed to provide guidance and governance on various Boards and Commissions. The list of vacancies for Boards and Commissions are on the Town Website. Be sure to check back often as the list is updated as positions become available: <https://fairfieldct.org/vacancies>

To learn about the application process, please click here: <https://fairfieldct.org/appointmentprocess>

EMERGENCY ALERTS | WHEN IT MATTERS MOST

Get alerted about emergencies and other important community news from the Town of Fairfield, CT by signing up for the Fairfield Alert system. This system enables us to quickly provide you with critical information in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons, evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods and other emergency situations.

You will receive time-sensitive messages wherever you specify, such as your home, mobile or business phones, email address, text messages and more. You pick where, you pick how!

If you were previously registered with us on the CodeRed system, you must sign-up again by following the instructions below, in order to continue receiving Emergency and Community alerts from the Town of Fairfield.

[How to sign up? Click here.](#)

PREVIOUS UPDATES:

[August 27](#)

[August 13](#)

[July 30](#)

[July 16](#)

[July 2](#)

[June 18](#)

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