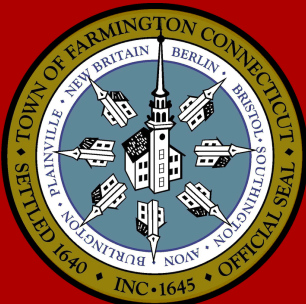


Town of Farmington

FY 2019-2020 Annual Report

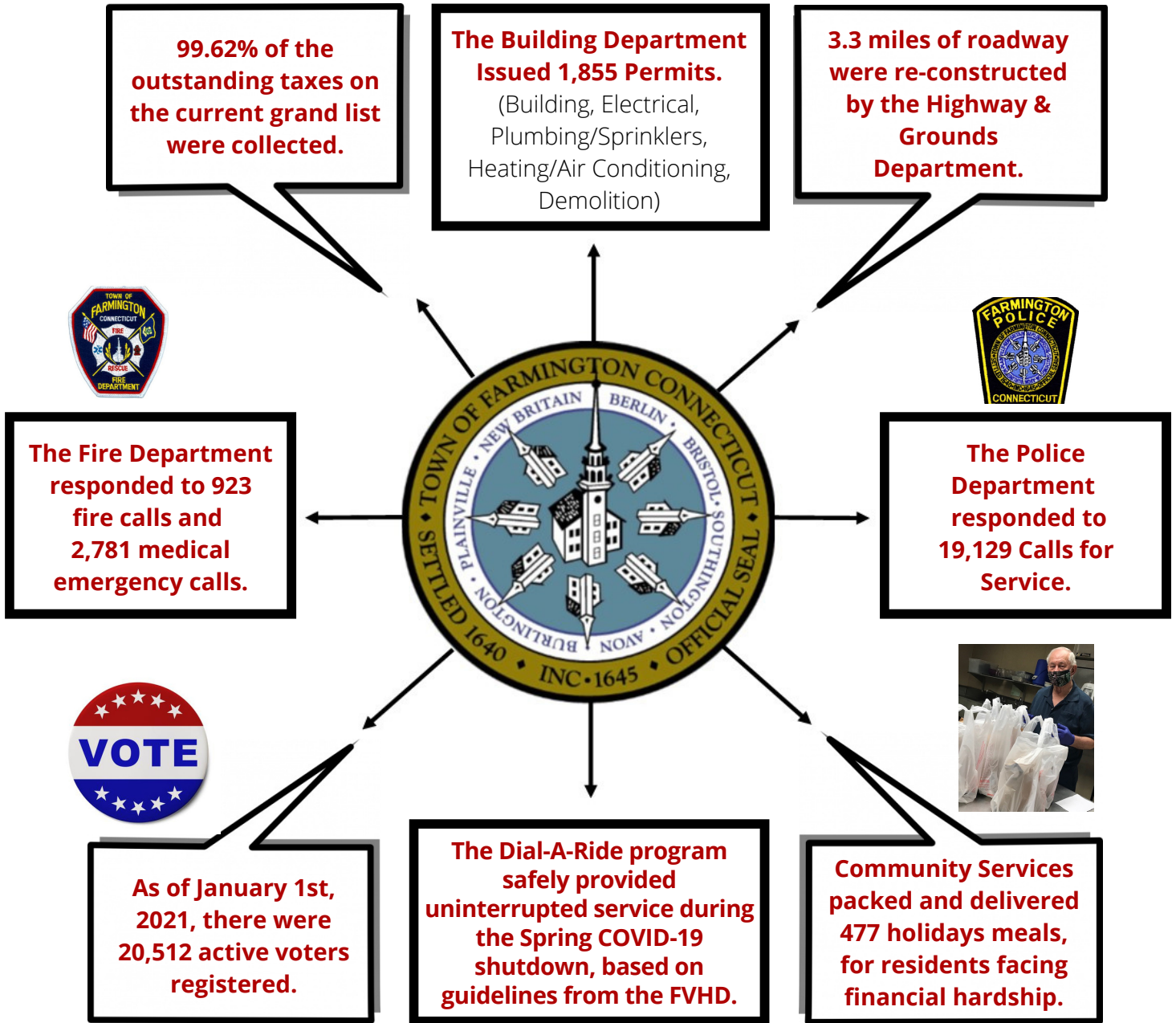


Town of Farmington
1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032
Phone: 860-675-2300
www.farmington-ct.org

Cover Picture Photo Credit:
"Tribute to the FHS Class of 2020"
Created and Captured by: Trish Guglielmo

Farmington at a Glance - FY 2019 - 2020

"Farmington continues to be an economic leader in the Hartford region. Of the almost 40 towns and cities in the Metro Hartford region, Farmington has the third lowest mill rate of 27.97, is in the top 10% of municipalities with the lowest mill rates in the state, and has maintained a AAA Bond Rating."



FARMINGTON GREEN EFFORTS



Tons of Materials Recycled:
Combined Materials = 2,251.87 Tons
Leaves = 2,992.29 Tons
Brush and Wood Products = 673.30 Tons
Mattresses and Boxsprings = 872

Farmington Responds to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Page 4

In early 2020, news outlets began reporting on a new virus, originating in Wuhan, China, called the Novel Coronavirus, or COVID-19 virus. By the end of January, the Farmington Valley Health District had prepared a [COVID-19 fact sheet](#), to educate Farmington Valley residents on the virus, even though the risk of contracting it was still very low. As a result, in March, when the virus turned into a world-wide pandemic and started spreading rapidly through the country, the state of Connecticut and eventually the Town of Farmington, our Town Representatives, Employees and First Responders took immediate action. At the end of the fiscal year, some COVID-19 restrictions had been lifted, but there was still much to learn about the virus and how to address it and "slow the spread" moving forward.

MARCH 2020

- On Wednesday, March 11th, COVID-19 was declared a world-wide pandemic. A [COVID-19 Updates](#) page was created on the Town of Farmington's website, for timely communication of the latest COVID-19 information.
- On Friday, March 13th, Farmington Public Schools closed to in-person learning.
- On Monday, March 16th, the Town of Farmington declared a State of Emergency.
- Changes were made to the [Explore Farmington](#) website, for direct communication with Farmington businesses and residents, regarding COVID-19 closings.
- All town facilities closed to the public, except for the Town Clerk's Office, which remained open by appointment only.
- All non-mandated public meetings were cancelled. When possible, regularly scheduled meetings were conducted online.

APRIL 2020

- The first of many "Farmington Hometown Rallies" took place at 7:00 pm, on Friday, April 17th. Farmington churches rang their bells, Fire and Police stations sounded their sirens, and residents stepped outside and made some noise, in town-wide showings of solidarity and support for essential, frontline workers.
- On Tuesday, April 21st, the Farmington Town Council unanimously approved a Tax Deferment program, for eligible taxpayers and businesses, adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Town services continued uninterrupted, since the start of the pandemic. Town Hall employees and agencies adapted to COVID-19 closings with online, phone, email and drive-thru services.

MAY 2020

- On Tuesday, May 12th, a Town Council public meeting was held through Zoom, and the Council adopted the FY 2020-2021 Town of Farmington Budget, with a 0% tax increase.
- Governor Lamont announced that schools would be closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Distance learning continued at all academic levels, in the Farmington Public Schools.
- Due to uncertainty regarding the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Farmington High School Building Project was temporarily paused.
- On Wednesday, May 20th, the Governor's first phase of reopening Connecticut businesses began. Eligible phase 1 businesses included: restaurants, offices, retail stores, outdoor museums, and zoos.
- Memorial Day Parades were cancelled, but a ceremony, honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to our nation, aired on the [Town of Farmington website](#), and on local Comcast and Frontier channels.

JUNE 2020

- Farmington Community Services (FCS) and the Farmington High School (FHS) Music Department teamed up to create a special concert of uplifting "songs of hope," for local seniors, dealing with isolation, due to the pandemic. The concert aired Sunday, June 14th, across every CT iHeartRadio station, and featured songs and compositions recorded by FHS students.
- On Wednesday, June 17th, the Governor's second phase of reopening CT businesses began. Eligible phase 2 businesses included: hotels, indoor dining, indoor recreation facilities, personal service providers, and sports and fitness facilities.
- On Monday, June 22nd, the Farmington Library started lobby pick-up and expanded services.
- On Monday, June 29th, the Farmington Tax Office re-opened for in-person payment of taxes.

Farmington Responds to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Page 5

"Our community has done a great job of working together and adjusting to many of the challenges to everyday life that COVID-19 has brought. We have rung bells, held remote birthdays, worn masks, socially distanced, and generally supported each other in a manner that should make us all proud."

C.J. Thomas, Town Council Chair



JOIN THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR A

FARMINGTON HOMETOWN RALLY



The Town Council has asked the various churches in the town to ring their church bells. We are asking all of Farmington to go outside on their front lawns and clap, ring bells, and cheer in recognition of our first responders, health care providers and all others who are keeping us safe!

THANK YOU

THE LIONS CLUB OF UNIONVILLE RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY DURING COVID-19.



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Town of Farmington Department Directory



Animal Control	860-675-2440
Assessor	860-675-2370
Building	860-675-2315
Board of Education	860-673-8270
Community Center	860-675-2490
Economic Development	860-675-2395
Engineering	860-675-2305
Finance - Accounts Payable	860-675-2339
Finance - Main	860-675-2335
Finance - Payroll	860-675-2337
Finance - Purchasing	860-675-2335
Fire & Rescue Services	860-675-2322
Fire Marshal	860-675-2320
General Info.	860-675-2300
Highway & Grounds	860-675-2550
Housing Authority	860-675-2390
Library	860-673-6791
Plan & Zoning	860-675-2325
Police (Routine)	860-675-2400
Police (TDD)	860-673-2527
Probate Court	860-675-2360
Public Works	860-675-2330
Recorded Info.	860-675-2301
Recreation	860-675-2540
Registrar of Voters	860-675-2367
Senior Center	860-675-2490
Social Services (Sec. VIII)	860-675-2390
Tax Collector	860-675-2340
Town Clerk	860-675-2380
Town Hall (TDD)	860-675-2314
Town Manager	860-675-2350
Water Pollution Control	860-675-2545
Youth Services	860-675-2390

Town Council Chair's Message

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The Town Council is pleased to provide you with the Annual Report for the Town of Farmington for the July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 fiscal year. As you read through the report, you may note the wide range of important services that we provide our citizens and business community. On behalf of the entire Town Council, I want to express the pride we have in our community, schools, and our Town employees. We hope that you find this report useful and informative.

On January 14, 2020, I was sworn in as the new Town Council Chair, with six other members of the Town Council. I am sure that I speak for each member in saying thank you for putting your trust in us and we will do our best to earn it over our two-year term.

One of the first items of business was for the Town Council to approve the 2020-2022 Strategic Plan. This document outlines our agenda and lists our goals. The Strategic Plan is a living document, intended to be modified, amended, and updated to reflect the needs and interests of our community. It is our guide for the decisions and actions we will make throughout our term.

The year 2020 began with hope and optimism. We all joined together in the goal of doing our best to make Farmington a better place in which to live and work. In February 2020, the Farmington High School Building Committee (FHSBC) presented its recommendation to the Town Council for a new High School building. The Town Council unanimously agreed with its recommendation and set the net municipal budget for this project at \$105M-\$110M. The selected option is a comprehensive solution to meet the long-term needs of Farmington High School, and addresses the risk of losing accreditation, ADA compliance concerns, and security issues.

After we settled our budget deliberations in March, COVID-19 disrupted both our budget, as well as our project planning. The Town Council placed the FHSBC "on pause" and dramatically changed the budget to avoid raising taxes in light of the new economic environment.

Our Town staff continues to adjust to new workplace guidelines and rules. They navigated work from home, social distancing and sanitizing, while continuing to offer the top rate services we rely on. The Board of Education shifted their teaching and learning methods to remote or online. They have been able to pivot and continue to provide the outstanding education for which Farmington is known.

Wearing a mask, social distancing, washing our hands, going to school remotely, working from home, and a ban on social and recreational gatherings were the new "normal" in the Spring of 2020. We are fortunate to have such a wealth of outdoor options for solitary recreation.

As we end fiscal year 2019-2020, all eyes of our nation are focused on the need for reforms due to racial injustices. The Town Council is committed to forming a Racial Equality Task Force which will help us move forward and become a more inclusive and caring community. Work in the area will continue throughout 2020 and beyond.

As of June 30, 2020, Farmington is still fighting the spread of COVID-19. There is hope that a vaccine will be available in early 2021 and the world will be back to some sort of "normalcy" by mid- 2021.

Farmington is a great place to live, work, play, and prosper. While we were challenged with COVID-19 throughout the second half of FY 2019-2020, Farmington residents remained strong, considerate, and positive. We have all been through so much these past few months, and I am appreciative of how well we have handled it.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at thomastcj@farmington-ct.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Be Well,
C.J. Thomas
Town Council Chair



Town Council members on a Zoom Meeting



The Town of Farmington 2019-2020 Annual Report will provide with you details of the accomplishments achieved by elected and appointed officials, as well as Town of Farmington employees, during the Fiscal Year of July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

The Town of Farmington Strategic Plan, Goal # 4, and the Survey of Town Residents indicated an important priority: operate with balanced budgets, supported by stable equitable revenues, collected from varied public and private sources. The Town made significant advances in this area.

At the close of the 2020 fiscal year, Farmington continues to be in a strong financial position with one of the highest tax collection rates in the State. We have continued to maintain our Aaa bond rating from Moody's and equivalent ratings from other agencies, which allows the Town to borrow money at favorable rates. The Grand List also saw growth this year and is an indication of the strong economy in Farmington.

The Town of Farmington Strategic Plan, Goal #2, and the Survey of Town Residents indicated that improving the ease of the traffic situation within Farmington, without disturbing the character of the community, is another priority.

Farmington has seen a surge in the number of infrastructure improvement projects in Town, over the last few years. This is due, in part, to the Town Council's deliberate effort to increase capital spending to improve our Town-wide infrastructure. Town staff has also been successful in securing state-wide grants for infrastructure improvements.

Following is a summary of projects that the Public Works Department has undertaken, during the year:

- The Highway Division has undertaken extensive road construction projects during the year. The Highway Division preps all roads for paving, which includes rebuilding catch basins, adding new catch basin tops, coordinating traffic control, and loam and seeding of disturbed areas.
- As part of the Town's annual roadway overlay program, 3.3 miles of roadway were reconstructed. The following roads were paved in the 2019-2020 paving season: Judson Lane, Hyde Road, Wells Drive, Fable Lane, Laurel Lane, Harvest Lane, Corporate Avenue, Executive Drive and Johnson Avenue were paved this year, for a total of 3.32 miles of roadway.
- The Intersection Improvements at Route 177, New Britain Avenue and Mill Street were completed. This project was funded by 80% federal monies, 10 % state monies and 10% Town funds.
- The Engineer Division completed design of the sidewalk replacement for Route 10, to the Highland Park Plaza.
- The Brickyard Road Pavement Rehabilitation Project, from Wildwood to the Avon Town line, was complete.
- The comprehensive upgrade to the Town's Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) is complete. The new wastewater plant is a state-of-the-art facility that will treat wastewater efficiently, for the next 25 years, while providing economic growth opportunities for the Town.

The Town of Farmington Strategic Plan, Goal #3, and the Survey of Town Residents also indicated that Economic Development was an important priority. The Town of Farmington continues to succeed in this area. Throughout the past year, Farmington maintained its strong commercial base, attracted notable businesses, and moved forward on some key development projects.

Economic Status

Farmington continues to be an economic leader in the Hartford region. Of the almost 40 towns and cities in the Metro Hartford region, Farmington has the third lowest mill rate of 27.97. Farmington is in the top 10% of municipalities with the lowest mill rates in the state.

Farmington's commercial base contributes 32.8% of the total taxes and the residential base is 67.2%. These ratios indicate a vibrant business community, whose contribution to the tax base takes much burden away from the residential community.

As of December 31, 2019, the unemployment rate in Farmington was 2.4%, while Connecticut's unemployment rate was 3.2%.

We welcomed several new businesses, or redevelopments, in Fiscal Year 2019-2020:

1. **Anthology of Farmington**
2. **Five Corner's Retail Plaza, housing four new businesses**
3. **The redevelopment of the former Stonewell Restaurant**
4. **The redevelopment of the former Apricots Restaurant**
5. **Toro Loco Restaurant**
6. **CT Surgical Center**
7. **Image First Commercial Laundry, completed a 4 million dollar expansion**
8. **Collinsville Savings Bank**
9. **The Trunk Show/Retail Shop**

COVID-19 Pandemic

In early March of 2020, the Town of Farmington began providing updates on COVID-19, to residents. At that time, the Town was hopeful for the best, but began to proactively plan for the potential spread of COVID-19. By mid-March, the Town of Farmington had declared a State of Emergency. Throughout March and April, the Town navigated and addressed the emerging, sometimes overwhelming, issues related to COVID-19. I was committed to the following: providing regular updates on COVID-19 to our residents and keeping services running to support our residents and businesses. Most importantly, I was committed to doing everything we could to keep our residents, businesses, and workforce safe. In April, with the rapid escalation of COVID-19 cases in the state, Governor Lamont issued numerous executive orders to help slow the spread of the virus.

These executive orders authorized restrictions on all businesses, closed schools, and most services like salons and indoor restaurant dining. The Town's budget process was also altered by executive order, in response to the threat of the virus. Everyday life was put on pause, to flatten the curve of COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths. Wearing a mask, social distancing, going to school remotely, working from home, and a ban on social and recreational gatherings were the new normal in the Spring of 2020. We were living through a worldwide pandemic and most residents were feeling uncertainty, fear, and anxiety, as there were still so many unknowns about the COVID-19 virus.

The Farmington community came together, adjusting to many of the challenges to everyday life that COVID-19 brought us. We rang bells in support of first responders and health care workers, held remote birthdays, had parades to cheer on and thank our essential workers, celebrated events virtually and we all became Zoom experts.

By late May, the Governor began announcing the first phase of reopening Connecticut businesses. In mid-June, eligible businesses slowly began to reopen. Even though businesses were able to reopen, they did so with numerous social distancing and safety protocols in place, which were required by law. Everyone remained hopeful that restrictions would continue to be relaxed during the remaining summer months and everyone has worked hard to flatten the curve of the virus, to stop the spread of this deadly disease.

In conclusion, as of June 30, 2020, Farmington and the entire world is still fighting the spread of COVID-19. There is hope that a vaccine will be available in early 2021 and that the world will be back to some sort of normal by mid- 2021. This is just a brief overview of the COVID-19 pandemic. Included in the Annual Report is a separate COVID-19 section, with more information.

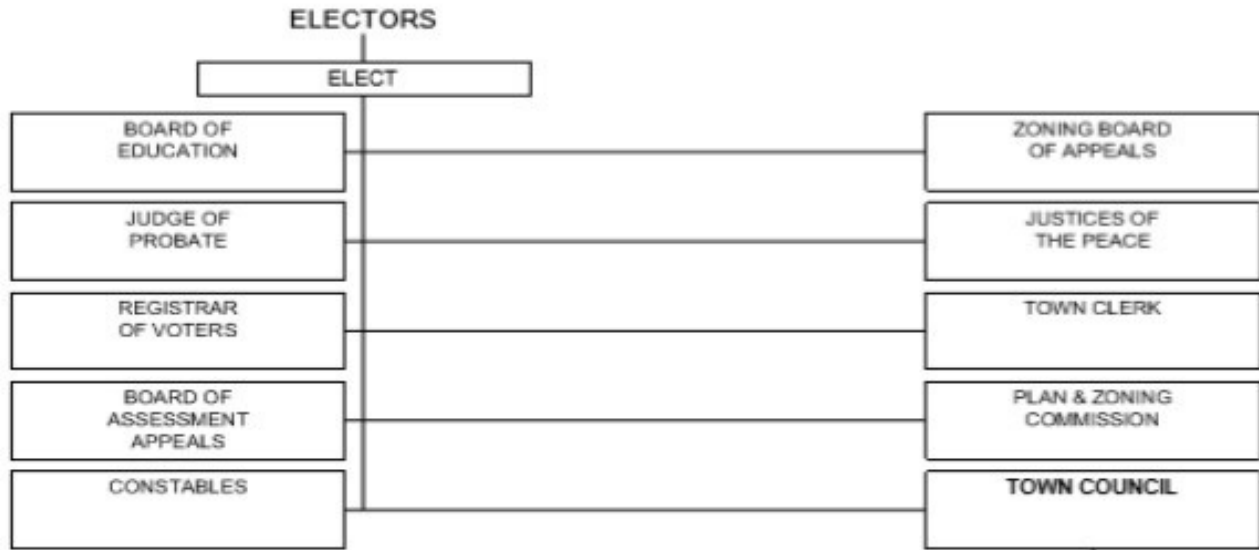
As always, working with the residents of the Town of Farmington continues to be a satisfying experience. I want to express my appreciation to the community for your partnership, cooperation, and patience, as we continue to address the emerging issues related to COVID-19.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to give me a call at 860-675-2350 or email me at BlonskiK@farmington-ct.org.

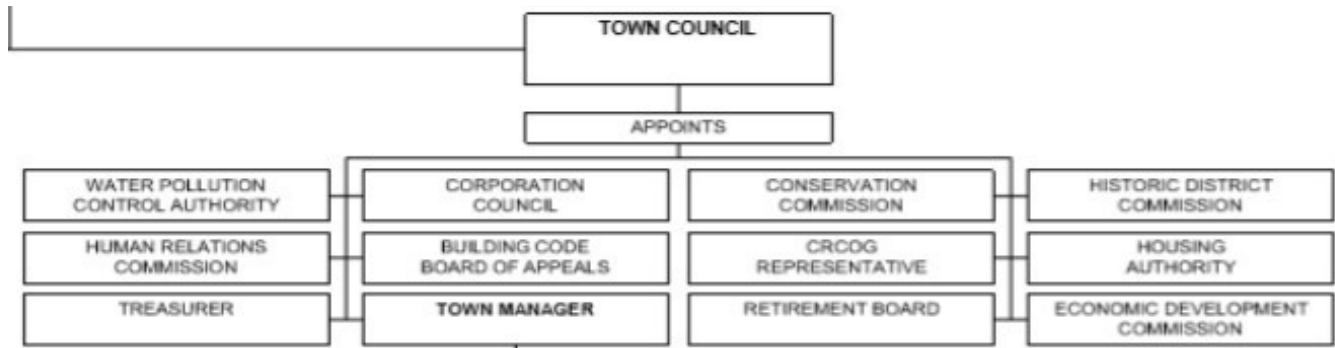
Sincerely,
Kathleen Blonski
Town Manager

Organizational Chart - Town of Farmington

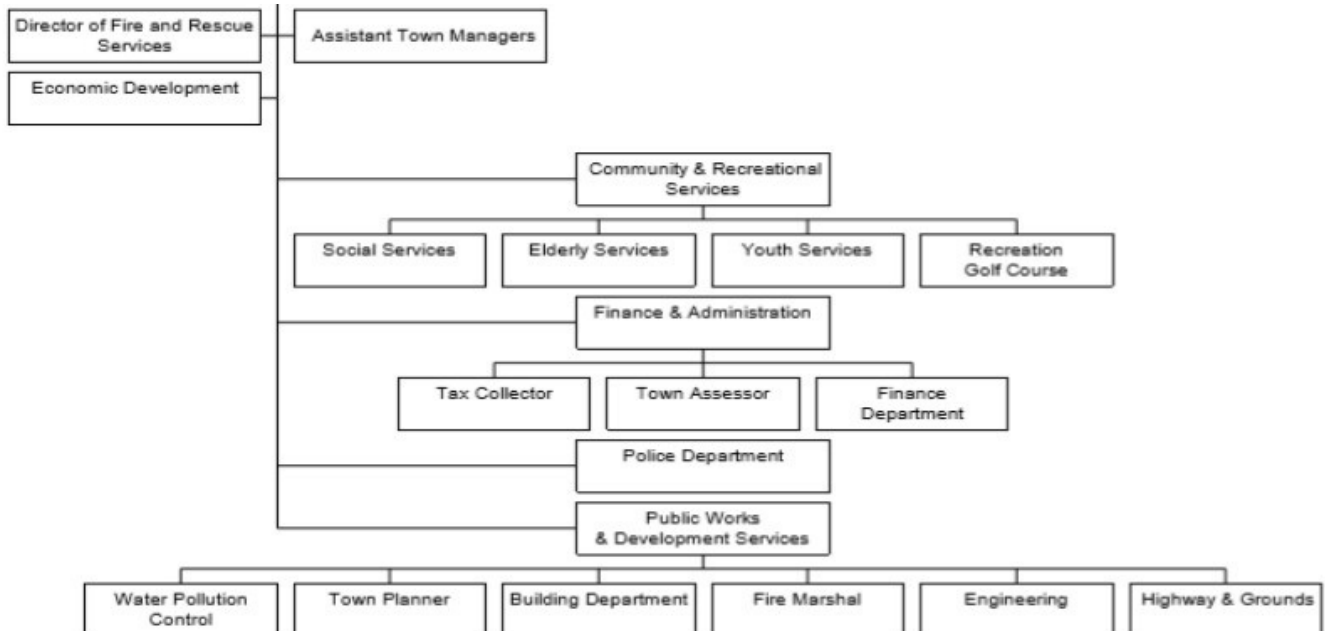
Residents/Electors Elect the Following Positions:



Town Council Appoints the Following Positions:



The Town Manager Appoints the Following Positions:



Day-Lewis Museum

158 Main St. (rear), Farmington, CT 06032

Phone: 860-678-1645

The Day-Lewis Museum of Indian Artifacts, owned by Yale and operated by the Farmington Historical Society.



Farmington Historical Society Office

71 Main St., Farmington, CT 06032

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1645

Farmington, CT 06034

Phone: 860-678-1645

Website: farmingtonhistoricalsociety-ct.org

Founded in 1954 to study and teach Farmington history, the Historical Society collects and preserves documents and artifacts related to local history. The Society maintains two 18th century cottages, located at 138 and 140 Main Street, Farmington. One of the cottages serves as the Society headquarters, where meetings are held, as well as exhibits and the annual tag sale. The Society also maintains the 1790 Stone Schoolhouse, at 93 Coppermine Road (intersection of Red Oak Hill Road).



Farmington Memorial Town Forest

The Farmington Memorial Town Forest was established in 1926, as a memorial to the men and women who served in the First World War. The Forest consists of 266 acres, between Red Oak Hill Road and Plainville Avenue (Rt. 177). Mr. Harry C. Ney, of Farmington, contributed 188 acres, and other parcels were acquired from a neighboring owner. The Forest is owned by the Town of Farmington.

~continued in next column ~

Farmington Memorial Town Forest

At a Special Town Meeting on May 20, 1926, it was established that the Forest be supervised and controlled by a quasi/Town Board of Trustees. The Board, seven in number, decided that use of the Forest be for passive recreation, such as hiking and bird watching, with no hunting, fires or vehicle trespass. As time passed, it was found necessary to manage the Forest in a constructive manner, so a professional forester was asked to draw up a forest management plan, analyzing tree stands, recommending harvest where appropriate, conducting oversight of harvests, conducting replanting and regeneration of desirable tree species and conducting surveillance of the six blocks in the plan. Mel Harder of East Hartland, CT is our forester, and has been for many years.



Hill-Stead Museum

35 Mountain Rd., Farmington, CT 06032

Phone: 860-677-4787

Website: hillstead.org

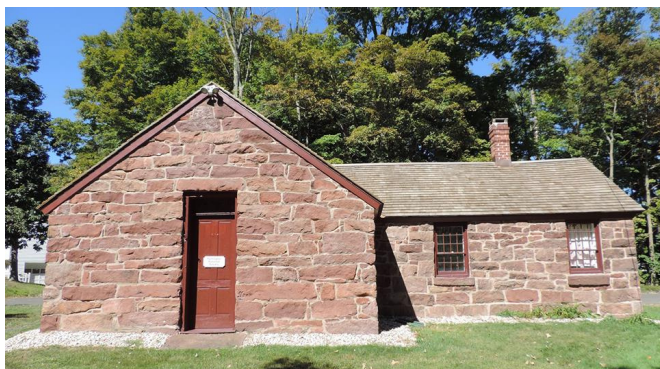
Hill-Stead Museum, designated a National Historic Landmark in 1991, is an outstanding example of Colonial Revival domestic architecture, set on 152 acres of fields and woodlands. The Museum houses outstanding works by Monet, Manet, Degas, Cassatt and Whistler, which are shown with the furnishings and decorative arts, as they were when the Pope and Riddle families were in residence (1901-1946). The main house is complimented by a Sunken Garden, with period plantings restored after the original Beatrix Farrand design.

Hill-Stead Museum is located off route I-84, at exit 39. Follow route 4 to the second light; turn left onto route 10 South. At the next light, turn left onto Mountain Road. The Museum entrance is at 35 Mountain Road. For more information, or a calendar of events, please call (860) 677-4787 or email hillstead@hillstead.org.



Lewis Walpole Library
154 Main Street, Farmington, CT 06032
Website: walpole.library.yale.edu
Phone: 860-677-2140

The Lewis Walpole Library is a non-circulating research library, for English eighteenth-century studies. It was bequeathed to Yale by W.S. Lewis, who devoted his life to collecting the letters and works of Horace Walpole, 1717-1797, and to editing the Yale Edition of Horace Walpole's Correspondence. The library is located in a colonial frame house built in 1784, to which new wings have been added. Almost every aspect of the eighteenth century is covered by the library's holdings, including the most extensive collection of English 18th-century satirical prints, in the United States. Drawings, paintings, and memorabilia from Strawberry Hill, Horace Walpole's Gothic Revival villa, enrich the print and manuscript sources. The manuscript holdings are strong in the 18th-century history of diplomatic relations, particularly between Great Britain and Poland, Germany, and Russia. The staff currently provides information by telephone and through the mail and e-mail. The library provides photocopying services. Researchers may also request that items from the Library be sent either to the Beinecke Library or the British Art Center for consultation.



Old Stone Schoolhouse
93 Coppermine Rd. (at Red Oak Hill Rd.)
Unionville, CT 06085
Phone: 860-678-1645

The Old Stone (West District) Schoolhouse is a museum of local history operated by the Farmington Historical Society.



Stanley-Whitman House
37 High St., Farmington, CT 06032
Website: stanleywhitman.org
Phone: 860-677-9222

The Stanley-Whitman House was built by Deacon John Stanley in 1720, and opened as a museum in 1935. The House was named a National Historic Landmark in 1961 and remains one of the best-known examples of early New England framed architecture. Recently restored, the house embodies the styles of both the 17th and 18th centuries. Constructed around the massive central chimney, the House features an overhanging second story, with four pendant drops across the front. A lean-to, added across the back in the middle 1700's, gives it the traditional New England saltbox shape. The Stanley-Whitman House preserves and interprets the history and culture of 18th-century Farmington. Adults and children enjoy open-hearth cooking, candle-making, spinning, weaving, and other colonial activities, during special events.



Unionville Museum
15 School St., Unionville, CT 06085
Website: unionvillemuseum.org
Phone: 860-673-2231

Housed in a restored Andrew Carnegie free public library building (the original West End Library), built circa 1917, the Unionville Museum opened in 1984, on the 150th anniversary of the federal government's official "naming" of Unionville. Through its collection and carefully researched thematic exhibits, the Unionville Museum brings together and celebrates the people, places and events that make Unionville unique. The Museum presents three exhibits a year, prints an annual historic calendar, sponsors annual vintage car parades, co-sponsors eight public summer band concerts, in the nearby gazebo, and participates in other community activities.

Town of Farmington

Town Council

C.J. Thomas, Chair
Joseph Capodiferro
Brian Connolly
Christopher Fagan
Edward Giannaros
Peter Mastrobattista
Gary Palumbo

Board of Education

Ellen Siuta, Chair
Elizabeth Fitzsimmons, Vice-Chair
Christine Arnold
William Beckert
Sylvie Binette
Kristi Brouker
Sarah Healey
Beth Kintner
Andrea Sobinski

Board of Assessment Appeals

Christopher M. Mathieu, Chair
Patty Buttero
Matthew Hutvagner
John Simoneau
Mark Simpson
Ronald White

Constables

Geno Avenoso
Peter Bagdigan
Diane Rogers

Registrar of Voters

Barbara Brenneman
Edward Leary

Town of Farmington

Town Clerk

Paula B. Ray

Town Plan & Zoning Commission

Barbara Brenneman, Chair
Patrick A. Carrier
Michael Grabulis
Matthew Pogson
Inez St. James
Marcie Schwartz
Scott Halstead, Alternate
John Vibert, Alternate
Keith Vibert, Alternate

Zoning Board of Appeals

Kerry Callahan, Chair
Johnny Carrier
Ronald Llewellyn
Sara Nadim
Robert Phillips
Jon L. Schoenhorn
John Brockelman, Alternate
Harry Marsh, Alternate
Steven Walsh, Alternate

State and Federal Officials

U.S. Senate

Richard Blumenthal
Christopher Murphy

U.S. Representative

Jahana Hayes (5th District)

State Senator

Derek Slap (5th District)
Gennaro Bizzarro (6th District)

State Representative

Tammy Exum (19th District)
Mike Demicco (21st District)

Town Council Appointed Officials

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Building Code of Appeals

Swapna Das
George Santos
Ned Statchen
Vacant
Vacant

Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission

Robert Hannon, Chair
Robert C. Isner, Vice Chair
David Fox
Mark Simpson
Ned Statchen
Jay Tulin
Guy Wolf
Richard Berlandy, Alternate
Emily Bryk, Alternate

Economic Development Commission

Phillip Chabot
Daniel E. Kleinman
Rob Phillips
Robert Reeve
Bill Wadsworth
Vacant
Vacant

Farmington Historic District Commission

John Bombara, Chair
James Calciano
Dorothy Haviland
Holly Holden
Jaye O'Leary
Elizabeth Gemski, Alternate
John Renehan, Alternate
Ted Sanford, Alternate

Unionville Historic District Commission

Lisa Johnson, Chair
John Brockelman
Robert Hoffman
Sherryl Horton
Howard Martin
Barbara Marsh, Alternate
Matthew Ross, Alternate
Vacant, Alternate

Town Historian

Lisa Johnson

Housing Authority

John DeMeo
Gregory Hall
Sally Hatzenbuhler
Christian Hoheb
Cynthia Mason
Justin Pagano

Human Relations Commission

Jay Tulin, Chair
Andrew Arboe
Kay Higgins
Donna S. Mambrino
Christine Mergenthaler
Zalman Nakhimovsky
Lisa Pawlik

Land Acquisition Committee

Brian F.X. Connolly
Peter Mastrobattista
Evan Cowles
Ned T. Statchen
Richard Kramer
William Wadsworth
Guy Wolf

Retirement Board

Peter Mastrobattista, Chair
Joshua Allen
Robert Brochu
Kyle Cunningham
Steven Egan
Robert Huelin
Robert Ingvertsen
Geoffrey Porter
Joan Valenti
David Wlodkowski
Michael Ziebka

Town Manager

Kathleen A. Blonski

Veterans Memorial Committee

Paul J. Krause, Chair
Tyson Belanger
Justin Bernier
James Hayes
Theodore C. Jones
Paula Ray

Water Pollution Control Authority

Peter Bagdigian, Chair
Philip Cordeiro
Kevin Ray
Jennifer Wynn
Vacant

Town Manager Appointed Officials

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Assistant Town Managers

Kathryn Krajewski
Erica Robertson

Building Official

Christopher Foryan

Chief of Police

Paul Melanson

Director of Community & Recreational Services

Nancy Parent

Director of Fire & Rescue Services

Steven Hoffmann

Director of Finance & Administration

Joseph Swetcky

Director of Public Works & Development Services

Russell Arnold, Jr.

Economic Development

Rose Ponte

Fire Marshal

Michael Gulino

Highway & Grounds Superintendent

Scott Zenke

Tax Collector

Samantha Pletscher

Town Planner

Shannon Rutherford (Acting)

Water Pollution Control Plant Superintendent

Mark Batorski

Other Municipal Officials

Director of Health

Jennifer Kertanis, Farmington Valley Health District

Library Director

Christopher Lindquist

Fire Chiefs

Gary Petersen, East Farms
Michael Grabulis, Farmington
Rich Higley, Sr., Tunxis Hose

School District Leadership:

Superintendent of Schools

Kathleen C. Greider

Assistant Superintendents

Alicia Bowman
Kimberly Wynne

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Veronica Ruzek

Director of Special Services

Dr. Laurie Singer

School Information 2019-2020

Farmington High School

Dr. Scott Hurwitz, Principal

Irving A. Robbins Middle School

Nilda Irizarry, Principal

West Woods Upper Elementary School

Dr. Katie Blore, Principal

East Farms School

Renee St. Hilaire, Principal

Noah Wallace School

Carrie Huber, Principal

Union School

Caitlin Eckler, Principal

West District School

Kelly Sanders, Principal

Demographic and Economic Statistics

Population				
1980	1990	2000	2010	2019 (as of 7/1)
16,407	20,608	23,641	25,340	25,497

Age Distribution by Percent					
0-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+
5%	12%	11%	24%	30%	19%

Employment Data (2019)	
Employed	14,004
Unemployed	403
Unemployment Rate	2.8%

Educational Attainment (2015-2019)	
High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+	95.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+,	59.7%

Median household income (in 2019 dollars): \$93,053

Education (2019-2020 School Year)	
Average Class Size	20 Students per Teacher
Percent of Further Education— Post-Graduate Plans	96%

Real Estate	
Owner-occupied housing unit rate (2015-2019)	73.0%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units (2015-2019)	\$332,000
Subsidized Housing (2018)	875

Transportation	
Number of Interchanges with I-84	3
Distance to Bradley Airport	20 miles

2019 Annual Wages Employment and Industry Totals

Year	Industry	Units	Annual Average Employment	Total Annual Wages	Annual Average Employment Wages and Industries
2019	Total - All Industries	1,392	32,136	\$2,859,308,520	\$88,975.25
	Agric., Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	*	*	*	*
	Construction	80	1,180	\$118,784,670	\$100,650.76
	Manufacturing	35	2,406	\$188,539,714	\$78,373.17
	Wholesale Trade	82	1,082	\$100,847,409	\$93,211.81
	Retail Trade	168	3,105	\$91,940,819	\$29,614.54
	Transportation & Warehousing	17	155	\$7,449,662	\$48,036.51
	Information	36	520	\$50,726,939	\$97,583.08
	Finance & Insurance	165	3,645	\$438,795,333	\$120,388.31
	Real Estate and Rental & Leasing	47	349	\$37,530,940	\$107,461.53
	Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	199	1,970	\$192,815,802	\$97,896.75
	Management of Companies & Enterprises	24	3,025	\$721,386,559	\$238,481.47
	Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt. & Remed. Services	93	1,309	\$66,268,056	\$50,641.07
	Educational Services	*	*	*	*
	Health Care & Social Assistance	146	4,234	\$253,290,324	\$59,824.12
	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	23	401	\$9,995,370	\$24,920.93
	Accommodation & Food Services	81	1,577	\$37,779,027	\$23,953.73
	Other Services (except Public Administration)	150	609	\$24,212,927	\$39,763.94
	Unclassified establishment	*	*	*	*

2019 Major Employers

Employer	Type of Business	Approximate # of Employees
Allied World Assurance Co	Insurance Agencies & Brokerages	350
American Red Cross	Other Individual & Family Services	388
ConnectiCare Inc	Insurance Agencies & Brokerages	700
Connecticut Spring & Stamping	Metal Crown/Closure/Metal Stamping	350
Institute For Regenerative Health (UConn)	Ambulatory Surgical & Emergency Center	5000
Macy's	Department Store	500
Moore Medical LLC	Medical, Dental, Hospital Equipment	175
Nordstrom	Department Store	300
Otis Elevator Co	Building Equipment Contractors	800
Prohealth Physicians Inc	Offices Of Physicians	250
Stanley Access Technologies	Electrical Equipment/Component Mftng.	280
Trumpf Medical Systems Inc	Industrial Machinery/Equipment Wholesalers	500
Tunxis Community College	Junior College	500
UConn Health Center	Administrative/General Mgmt. Consulting	1355
United Technologies Corp	Search Detection/Navigation Instruments	550
UTC Fire & Security	Communications Equipment Manufacturing	200

Summary of Town Council Actions

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Town Council Members

Front Row (L to R):

Brian Connolly

Paula Ray - Town Clerk

C.J. Thomas - Chair

Kathy Blonski - Town Manager

Peter Mastrobattista

Back Row (L to R):

Edward Giannaros

Christopher Fagan

Gary Palumbo

Joseph Capodiferro

Summary of Town Council Actions: July 1st, 2019 - June 30th, 2020

JULY 2019

- Waived the bidding requirements under Section 55-1 to complete the landscaping and installation of plantings, paver edging, and maintenance in the island at the intersection of Rt 4 and Rt 10, at a cost of \$31,574.04.
- Awarded Bid #289, Brickyard Road Pavement Rehabilitation Project, to Tilcon Connecticut, Inc., of New Britain, CT, at a contract cost of \$707,334.50, subject to Capital Region Council of Governments and State of Connecticut review.
- Extended the contract for the purchase of treated road salt, for the 2019-2020 Winter season, with DRVN Enterprises, Inc., of Wethersfield, CT, at a purchase price of \$73.50 per ton.
- Awarded a contract for the purchase of one 2020 International Model HV5007 Heavy Duty Cab and Chassis, to Nutmeg International Trucks, Inc., of Hartford, CT, at a purchase price of \$98,992.98.
- Awarded Bid # 281, Transportation and Disposal of Sewage Sludge, to H.I. Stone of Southbury, CT, at a contract cost of \$74.00 per wet ton.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign a contract extension, between the Town of Farmington and Waste Material Trucking Company (WMTC) of Farmington, CT, to provide for the curbside collection of municipal solid waste, recyclables, and bulky waste, for a three-year period, beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.

SEPTEMBER 2019

- That \$199,000 be appropriated from the General Fund balance, to the Farmington High School Planning and Design account, in the Capital Projects Fund, for expenses related to the work of the Farmington High School Building Committee.

- That \$256,000 be transferred from the Teacher's Retirement Contribution account in the FY 2019-2020 Adopted Budget, to the Farmington High School Planning and Design account, in the Capital Projects Fund, for expenses related the work of the Farmington High School Building Committee.
- Approved the acquisition of property owned by the Estate of Joseph J. & Stella W. Mitchell, located at 9485 Mountain Road (approximately 0.23 Acres), for no consideration, in exchange for taxes due (estimated to be approximately \$3,955 as of September 2019).
- Awarded a contract for the purchase and installation of one SH Flatbed Dump Body and Tarco Spreader, to Equipment Service of Hartford, CT, at a purchase price of \$85,842.00.
- Ratified the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Farmington and the International Association of Firefighters, Local #3103, for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021.

OCTOBER 2019

- Authorized the Town Manager to sign a three-year Contract for Paramedic/ALS Ambulance Service, with American Medical Response (AMR), in effect from November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2022.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign a contract with Simple Recycling.
- Approved Property Tax Refunds.

NOVEMBER 2019

- The Town Manager reported that Niche.com had given the Town of Farmington an A+ overall grade and A+ for the schools. There were only 15 communities in Connecticut to receive A+ grades in both categories.

Summary of Town Council Actions *continued*

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NOVEMBER 2019

- Awarded a contract to upgrade the Police Radio/Dispatch Communication System, to Motorola Solutions, Inc., of Woodcliff Lake, NJ, at a total contract price of \$544,101.78.
- Approved the proposed contract between the Farmington Education Association (FEA) and the Board of Education.

DECEMBER 2019

- The Town Manager was given a Town Proclamation, for 25 years of service with the Town of Farmington.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign and grant an easement to Eversource Energy, to allow access to their property, from Hamilton Way.
- Adopted a resolution for the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, in support of the Homeland Security Grant.

JANUARY 2020

- Awarded Bid #294, "Batterson Park Pump Station Upgrade," at a contract cost of \$1,899,695.00.
- The Superintendent of Schools was given a Town Proclamation, for being recognized as Connecticut's Superintendent of the Year.
- Approved the Capital Improvement Policy, Debt Management Policy and the Town's Reserve Policy.
- Approved the Town's Strategic Plan.

FEBRUARY 2020

- Set range of net municipal cost of \$105,000,000 to \$110,000,000, for the Farmington High School Building project.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign a grant application, for a Small Cities Community Development Grant.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign the 184 and 199 Town Farm Lease Agreement(s), between the Phillips Family and the Town of Farmington.
- Held a Public Hearing on the Town's Capital Budget.

MARCH 2020

- Public Hearing on the Town Manager's Recommended Operating Budget.
- Accepted the Annual Report.
- Approved the purchase of property owned by William L. Wollenberg, III and Paul A. Wollenberg, located at 8489 Meadow Road (approximately 11.38 Acres), for a price of \$108,000.
- Toured various town facilities to learn about capital needs.
- Town Manager gave an update on the Town's response to COVID-19.

APRIL 2020

- The Town Council held its first on-line zoom meeting, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- A Zoom public hearing was held on the Town Council Proposed Budget.
- Approved a resolution pertaining to a modified calendar for the FY 2020-2021 Town of Farmington Budget, based on the Governor's orders related to COVID-19.
- Authorized the Town Manager to file and execute an application for State financial assistance, with the State of Connecticut Department of Housing, for an Affordable Housing Planning Grant.
- Approved the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy and Grievance Procedure.
- Approved the Fair Housing Resolution, for the Town of Farmington and authorized the Town Manager to sign and distribute said resolution.
- Adopted the Affirmative Action Plan, for the Town of Farmington.
- Adopted the Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Statement, for the Town of Farmington and authorized the Town Manager to sign and distribute said resolution.
- Adopted the Fair Housing Policy Statement for the Town of Farmington and authorized the Town Manager to sign and distribute said resolution.
- Approved the Adoption of a Tax Deferment Program, pursuant to the Governor of the State of Connecticut's Executive Orders Number 7S and 7W.

MAY 2020

- Amended the Town Council's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget and then Adopted the Town Council's Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.
- Set the Property Tax Rate and Solid Waste Special Service Charge, for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.
- Approved the transfer of uncollectible property taxes to the Suspense Tax Book.
- The Town Manager updated the Town Council on COVID-19 and the Phase One reopening plan, for the State of Connecticut.

JUNE 2020

- The Chair asked for a moment of silence, in memory of George Floyd, and announced that the Town would be forming a Committee for a conversation on racism, social injustice and the reputations of police departments nationwide.
- Approved the Tax Abatement granted to MCCA, Inc., of Danbury, CT, for the property known as 1-6 Winthrop Drive, an income restricted/affordable housing complex, to be continued under the ownership of WINTHROP 1-6, LLC.
- Approved a one-year extension of the Volunteer Firefighter Contract, due to expire on June 30, 2020.

"The Assessor is required by Connecticut Law to list and value all real estate at 70% of value, as of the last revaluation. Farmington's most recent revaluation, of all real property, was effective as of October 1, 2017, and real estate assessments are based on market value as of that date."



Top 10 Taxpayers

Name	Net Assessment	% of Net Grand List (Rounded)
West Farms Mall	\$154,172,020	4.17%
Dunn-Sager Affiliates	\$68,180,498	1.84%
C L & P	\$52,075,820	1.41%
United Technologies	\$34,040,380	0.92%
Delfino, William, Et Al	\$28,026,080	0.76%
JPMCC 2007-CIBC19 Farm Springs Road LLC	\$26,559,920	0.72%
Trumpf Inc.	\$25,225,260	0.68%
Farmington CT Senior Prop LLC	\$21,531,140	0.58%
West Farms Associates	\$20,976,540	0.57%
Price Reit Inc	\$20,952,120	0.57%
Total	\$451,739,778	12.22%

West Farms Mall Complex	Assessment
West Farms Mall LLC	\$154,172,020
West Farms Mall Associates	\$20,976,540
Nordstrom Inc	\$4,915,050
J C Penney Corp Inc.	\$890,130
Tiffany & Co.	\$1,211,500
All ofther Retail	\$16,926,110
Total West Farms Mall	\$199,091,350

- Motor vehicles are assessed each year at 70 percent of the average retail value, utilizing the October issue of NADA. Personal property is also assessed annually, based on acquisition cost and depreciation schedules.
- The Assessors' Office is responsible for approximately 11,240 real estate parcels, 24,190 regular motor vehicle accounts, and 1,549 personal property accounts. In addition, there were 3,914 accounts on the 2018 supplemental motor vehicle list.
- Assessor David Gardner was sworn in July 22, 2019, succeeding Acting Assessor Edward Hybner.
- Real estate comprises approximately 87.24% of the total taxable grand list with residential properties at 61.39% and commercial (also including industrial, public utility, use assessment and apartment buildings) at 25.85%. Personal property and motor vehicles account for roughly half each of the remaining 12.76% of the net taxable grand list. The assessment department completed the 2019 grand list January 31, 2020.
- There are exemptions available for veterans, among others, as well as tax relief for the elderly or disabled. Some of these have income limits and require an application every two years.



Commercial Base:
33.2%



Residential Base:
66.8%

Assessment Records and GIS Available on Town Website

Assessment data is available online, through the assessor's web page, using the "Land Records Search" link. The information is updated automatically overnight and represents a work in progress, as the records are being updated in preparation for the next grand list.


Grand List as of October 1, 2019

TOWN OF FARMINGTON TAXABLE GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2019 AS REVISED BY THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS			
	GROSS	EXEMPTIONS	NET
REAL ESTATE	\$3,223,858,930	\$1,635,250	\$3,222,223,680
PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$335,790,904	\$97,978,994	\$237,811,910
MOTOR VEHICLE	\$241,119,457	\$1,187,970	\$239,931,487
NET TAXABLE GRAND LIST AFTER EXEMPTIONS	\$3,800,769,291	\$100,802,214	\$3,699,967,077

Department of Public Works

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"The Department of Public Works is comprised of seven divisions: Building, Engineering, Fire Marshal, Highway & Grounds, Planning and Zoning, Water Pollution Control, and Westwoods Golf Course maintenance."



Building Division

The Building Division is responsible for the protection of persons in all public and private structures, through its inspection programs. Building Department Staff inspects and confirms on-site work, in order to monitor compliance with regulations. Areas of inspection include general construction, electric, plumbing, heating/air-conditioning, and fire safety. Staff also reviews specifications and engineering data for special structural, mechanical, energy, and fire suppression systems.

The intent of the Building Code is to ensure public safety, health, and welfare, as it is affected by building construction, structural strength, adequate egress facilities, sanitary equipment, light and ventilation, and fire safety; and to secure safety for life and property of all hazards incidental to the design, erection, removal, demolition, use and occupancy of buildings.

The Building Division approved the following permits for either new construction or renovation projects:

Residential: 1,476 permits, fees **\$304,310**, including **17** new home permits

Commercial: 379 permits, fees **\$329,605**

Engineering Division

The Engineering Division's mission is to design, review, and inspect public works projects, to ensure public safety, and improve and maintain the quality of life. It also provides technical support to all Town government departments, boards, commissions and the general public.

The Engineering Division is responsible for the development of engineering designs, specifications, bid documents, as well as contract administration and inspection for various public improvements, including - drainage infrastructure, roadway reconstruction, sanitary sewer installation and repair, and improvements to parks and other public-owned land. This includes surveying, plan development, as well as contract administration and inspection.

Engineering Division *continued*

Highlights of projects processed through the Engineering Division over the course of the past fiscal year include:

- **South Road/UConn-Route 4 Traffic Study:** The traffic study is complete and the final recommendations of the study will be presented to the Town Council at a meeting, in the near future.
- **Project #51-269 Intersection Improvements, Route 177 at New Britain Avenue and Mill Street:** The project is now complete, and there are a few minor punch list items, including the crosswalk lights for the rails to trails, lights flashing constantly. The contractor has removed the computer boards and will replace them when the new ones are delivered. This project is funded by 80% federal monies, 10% state monies, and 10% Town monies.
- **Town Hall Parking Lot Reconstruction:** The parking lot project is complete.
- **Route 10 Sidewalk Replacement Project:** The Engineering Division completed design of the sidewalk replacement for Route 10, from Route 4 to the Colt Highway cutoff, at CVS. The project costs are estimated to be approximately \$1,875,000, with \$875,000 coming from Connectivity Grant and CIP Funding and \$1,000,000 submitted to CRCOG, through the LOTCIP program, on May 27, 2020.
- **Wells Acres Sewer System Replacement:** This project is complete.
- **Brickyard Road Pavement Rehabilitation Project:** This project is complete. The Engineering Division has applied for a LOCIP Grant for the second phase of this project, Wildwood to the Avon Town Line. The project was designed in house and is estimated to have a construction cost of \$1,020,000. Applications were submitted to CRCOG on May 27, 2020.

Engineering Division *continued*

- **Two Mile Road/South Road/Colt Highway Roundabout:** The Engineering Division worked with Metro Realty, for a public/private partnership, to design the roundabout and submit it to CT DOT, for approval for construction. Review is currently underway by CT DOT. This project is 100% funded by CRCOG, through the LOTCIP program. The design is paid for by Metro Realty. The new medical building on Munson Road will create additional delays at the intersection, and this project will alleviate those delays.

The Engineering Division also provided staff support for the Green Efforts Committee, the Bicycle Advisory Committee, Traffic Review Board, Water Pollution Control Authority, and various other committees and local groups.

Engineering Staff reviews and inspects improvements such as drainage, sanitary sewer, and pavement, constructed by private developers. In addition, Engineering Staff located town infrastructure, including storm and sanitary sewer lines, for over 2,900 Call-Before-You-Dig requests, for sanitary and storm sewers. 75 Excavation Permits and 31 Traffic Obstruction permits were also issued by the Engineering Division. Additionally, the Engineering Division reviewed 10 new proposed plans, submitted to the Town Planning and Zoning Commission.

The Engineering Division Geographic Information System (GIS) parcel project maintains and updates the changes to more than 8,933 parcels; such as splits, combines, boundary changes, the addition of subdivisions. The data is used to update the Assessor's Parcel Maps.

The Engineering Division utilizes this data to provide mapping support for Town departments and committees, including bus mapping for the Board of Education, mapping for elections, as well as map support for the police and fire departments. In addition, we continue to update and maintain GIS mapping of the Town storm drainage discharge, as required by the State and Federal Mandate for Storm Water Phase II Permitting and yearly reporting.

Fire Marshal

The following services were provided by the Fire Marshal's Office, during the period of July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020:

- 339 new projects were reviewed for fire code compliance.
- 7 fire incidents were investigated for cause and origin.
- 1 miscellaneous investigation was conducted.
- 28 fire protection systems tests were witnessed.
- 505 code compliance and follow-up inspections were conducted.
- There was 1 blasting permit and 11 blasts were witnessed.
- There were 2 fireworks displays.
- 26 complaints and code questions visits were conducted.
- Public education programs were presented for children in all nursery schools and elementary schools (grades K-5).
- Approximately 2,100 people were taught fire safety programs, using the Fire Prevention Safety Trailer.
- In addition, 2 Fire Safety presentations were given at Touchpoints of Farmington, at their request.
- 65 burn permits were issued.
- 27 tent permits were ordered and inspected.
- 43 fire watches were ordered.
- The Fire Marshal attended 64 hours of continuing education credits and attended a 16-hour seminar, for the International Arson Association Investigators.

Calls by Situation Found - FY 2019-2020

Fires	
Structure	14
Vehicle	5
Others	21
Total Fires:	40

Fire Marshal *continued*

Rescue/Emergency	
Medical Treatment	2,445
False Alarms	293
Mutual Aid Given	42
Hazardous Condition Calls	162
All Other Calls	489
Total All Calls:	3,471
Total Fire Dollar Loss:	\$372,000

Casualty Summary	Civilian	Fire Service
Fire Related Injuries	0	3
Fire Related Deaths	0	0

Highway and Grounds

The mission of the Highway and Grounds Division is the construction and maintenance of the Town's roadways and parks. These duties include seasonal maintenance, such as plowing snow, leaf collection, and highway and park construction. This Division also handles waste collection, recycling and tree maintenance.

Road Overlay Program: The following roads were paved in the 2019-2020 paving season: Judson Lane, Hyde Road, Wells Drive, Fable Lane, Laurel Lane, Harvest Lane, Corporate Avenue, Executive Drive and Johnson Avenue were paved this year, for a total of 3.32 miles of roadway. Also reconstructed and paved the Backage Road roundabout. During the quarter, crews completed top-soiling and seeding from the paved roads and finalized the projects for the Winter.

Highway and Grounds *continued*

Catch Basins: 1,116 catch basins were cleaned.

Trees: Through the use of Town forces and outside contractors, approximately 92 dead or diseased trees were removed from Town-owned properties and right-of-ways.

Leaf Collection: Starting on November 4th, five Town crews collected approximately 11,745 cubic yards of leaves throughout town. Leaves were taken to the Compost and Recycling areas and processed for Town resident use; as organic compost, which can be picked up at Tunxis Mead Park.

Winter Maintenance: 4 storms amounting to 25.5 inches of snow/ice fell on Farmington. The Highway and Grounds Division of Public Works plowed 15,233 miles of roads and spread 964.03 tons of salt, to keep Town roads clear and safe.

Recycling: Recycling efforts continued throughout the year, used motor oil and vehicle batteries were collected at the Highway and Grounds Garage, located at 544 New Britain Avenue. The used motor oil is used to heat the Highway Garage.

Tons of Materials Recycled (FY 2019- 2020):

- **Combined: Scrap Metal, Commingled Containers, Magazines, Newspapers & Corrugated Cardboard = 2,251.87 Tons**
- **Leaves = 2,992.29 Tons**
- **Brush and Wood Products = 673.30 Tons**
- **Mattresses and Boxsprings = 872**



Planning and Zoning

- Number of Zoning Permits Issued: 97
- Number of Zoning Registration Forms Issued: 19
- Number of Certificates of Zoning Compliance Issued: 24
- TPZ Applications Processed + Reviewed: 99
- ZBA Applications Processed + Reviewed: 5
- IWC/CC Applications Processed + Reviewed: 42
- Upland Review Applications Processed + Reviewed: 7
- Historic District Commission Applications Processed + Reviewed: 21
- Zoning Violation Complaints Responded To: 142
- Temporary Outdoor Dining Permits: 5 Restaurants

The Town Planning and Zoning Commission continues to be led by Chairperson Barbara Brenneman. Mark DeVoe was hired as the new Town Planner and began July 2019.

The Planning Department and the Economic Development Department have worked collaboratively on several projects which will benefit Farmington. These include:

- Approval of a new medical office building at the corner of Middle Road and Munson Road.
- Expansion of the Winding Trails office building at 50 Winding Trails Drive.
- Approval to expand the Tanbark Trail subdivision off of Plainville Avenue.
- Re-approval of Old Mill Commons development, at 19 Perry Street.
- Approval of Morin Tree Service facility, for storage and maintenance of equipment, allowing this business to remain in Farmington.
- Approval to construct new Ion Bank branch at 79 Main Street, Unionville.
- Approval of a new retail, personal service, restaurant use building, at 54, 56, 58 Farmington Avenue.
- Approval of the four-lot expansion of the Main Gate subdivision off Main Street.
- Approval of the expansion of Miss Porter's cafeteria building at 60 Main Street.
- Approval of the Carrier Holdings four-lot subdivision of 7 Coppermine Road.
- Re-approval of the Bridgehampton Subdivision off River Road.
- Re-approval of the New Horizons expansion at Bliss Memorial Road.
- Approval of the expansion of Educational Playcare at 360 Colt Highway.

Additionally, the Planning Department has provided development services in the following areas:

- Oversee construction/redevelopment of the former GEM Manufacturing building, at 155 Scott Swamp Road, to accommodate a Thomaston Savings branch bank, self-storage, retail and fitness uses.
- Oversee expansion of the Image First building, at 1838 New Britain Avenue, to facilitate the growth of their commercial laundering operations.
- Oversee construction of the Collinsville Savings Society branch bank at Post Office Square.
- Oversee construction of the medical office facilities at 55 South Rd. and 599 Farmington Ave.
- Oversee construction of numerous residential new construction and expansions.
- Numerous staff consultations with developers and property owners, regarding development and redevelopment opportunities in Farmington.

These projects will continue to foster a much stronger sense of place in Farmington and will be notable additions to the grand list. It is interesting to note the number of redevelopment and expansion opportunities presented within the 2019-2020 fiscal year. With the limited availability of undeveloped land in Farmington, the Planning Department's ability to creatively work with owners and tenants to facilitate expansions or redevelopment of underutilized property will continue to be critical. Facilitating redevelopment and preserving Farmington's historical character will be key components of Farmington's future planning efforts.

In addition to the development opportunities realized last year, the staff and TPZ worked hard on a critical text amendment to the Zoning Regulations – the addition of the Midpoint Development District (MDD). The MDD is a floating zone which can be applied to land within the central portion of the Route 4 corridor, with frontage on the Farmington River. The purpose of this district is to encourage variety, connectivity and flexibility in land use and development, providing a connection between Unionville Center and Farmington Center.

During the recent pandemic, Town Staff developed a streamlined review and approval process, allowing for outdoor restaurant dining, in response to the Phase I Reopening Plan, issued by the Governor. The process, which was approved by the Town Planning and Zoning Commission, allows for temporary approval of outdoor dining by staff, eliminating the need for formal review and approval, by the Town Planning and Zoning Commission. To date, five restaurants have capitalized on this opportunity.

Additional items that members of the Planning Division continue to oversee include:

- Working on the Town's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) requirements, to ensure compliance with the state DEEP permit.
- Coordination of the streetlight maintenance, including repairs, replacements and inventory.

Water Pollution Control Facility

The comprehensive upgrade to the Town's Water Pollution Control Facility was completed in late 2019. This upgrade included new Headworks, Grit Removal, Four Primary Settling Tanks, Aeration Tank 3 & Aeration Tank 1 and 2 retrofiting, Final Settling Tank 3 and Final Settling Tank 1 and 2 retrofiting, UV Disinfection, Solids Transfer, and Dewatering. The upgraded facility's capacity has increased from 5.65 MGD to 6.30 MGD and has design peak of 18.97 MGD.

The facility will help improve effluent quality by removing nitrogen and phosphorus and will treat our wastewater more reliably and efficiently. The Ultraviolet Disinfection System is now in use and has eliminated the use of chemicals previously used to disinfect treated effluent. New instrumentation and control allows data collection and trending for all plant processes, allowing for process optimization and enhancement.

The comprehensive upgrade also included energy cost saving projects, which include improvements to pump station instrumentation and control, heating control systems, energy efficient lighting, and emergency back-up power systems, for the seventeen pump stations within town.

This year, the facility was inspected by the CT DEEP, which covered the entire plant, laboratory and all EPA/DEP Reporting. There were no violations or citations and it was stated that the facility was running well and was clean. A couple of recommendations were already implemented.



The following projects are currently in progress at the WPCF:

- **Continued upgrades to the WPCF SCADA system and programming improvements-** These changes will help optimize process control and operations at the WPCF & pump stations.
- **Biological Phosphorus Removal-** Management and operations have been working on Bio-P and VFA's (Volatile Fatty Acids) production in order to reduce chemical costs for phosphorus removal.
- **Process Control Fine Tuning and Nitrogen Reduction -** Ongoing optimization of the plant processes to ensure maximum nutrient removal. Ongoing data collection with carbon addition and data trending.
- **WPCF Management has been working with NIC Systems on increased data collection and trending software -** This will help streamline the equipment records for maintenance and assist in process control.
- **Laboratory Procedures Update -** Updated Standard Operating Procedures to keep up with the most current laboratory methods approved by the EPA.
- **Landscaping and Brush Clean Up -** Fallen trees and unkept areas around the plant were cleaned up and removed.
- **Plant-Wide Repairs and Improvements -** Replacement, repairs, and improvements to the physical buildings and equipment that were not affected by the construction continues.
- **WPCF Safety Program -** Ongoing improvements expanded training and equipment.
- **Operator Licenses and Cross Training -** All operators that have been at the plant a year or longer have passed their Class II Operator exam and have been cross trained in Laboratory Procedures.

Water Pollution Control Facility *continued*

The following projects are currently in progress, throughout the existing collection system, to address aging pump stations, and infiltration and inflow issues:

- **The Batterson Park Pump Station Upgrade** began in March 2020. Baltazar Contractor was awarded the bid and began installing the bypass on April 24th, 2020. Work is ongoing and is scheduled to be completed in the Fall of 2020.
- **Sewer and manhole repairs and ongoing projects** on Lydias Way, Brookshire, Pine Tree Schilling, Bella, Silversmith, Shady Lane, and East Gate. Structural repairs of inverts and risers are being completed as needed.
- **Epoxy lining in manholes** by Savy and Sons to prevent corrosion. These repairs and preventative maintenance are ongoing at the Hillstead and the Batterson Park Pump Station Upgrade.
- **Motorola I & C upgrades** are completed at Harlan Road Pump Station, Devonwood Pump Station, and South Road Pump Station. Tunxis Pump station is currently being installed.
- **Sewer and Storm drain lines** around town were inspected with our line camera for condition of lines and presence of roots.
- **Chemical Root Control** - Pipes in the Farmington Hatters/Maple Street area have been treated to prevent root intrusion. This is an ongoing maintenance program.
- **South Road** - New Crispin air release valve was installed on the top of the force main; this will help with pump cavitation and total gpm.
- **Centerbrook Pump Station** - Pump #1 was rebuilt; new capacitors and motor relays were installed at the station.
- **Patrick Flood Pump Station** - New soft start was installed at the station, in September of 2019.
- **UCONN Pump Station** - KSB pump had a new seal installed and control cable. Wet well was cleaned, currently budgeting for new pump, drive, and VFD.
- **Westfarms Pump Station** - Critical spare pump was ordered, new volute and impeller was installed. New windows were installed on soft start panels.
- **Collection System Data Management** - Database improvements are complete and are used to record and organize collection system cleaning and Right of Way maintenance.
- **Manhole grouting Town Wide** - Stop inflow and infiltration, project is ongoing.
- **Sewer Line Cleaning** - The WPCF crews are in the process of cleaning and inspecting all Town sewer lines. This includes clearing of many overgrown sewer rights-of-way.
- **FOG (fats, oils, and grease) Management Program** - Inspections of all establishments in town were completed early this year (2020). WPCA and town staff have implemented changes to the Town Code to prevent the discharge of FOG into the sanitary sewer system. This program is for the food services within town (restaurants, schools, businesses) to control and alleviate FOG within the collection system. This will reduce sanitary sewer back-ups and operational difficulties at the WPCF. Individual registrations were collected, and facility inspections made. Cleaning records are requested quarterly from each facility.
- **Energy cost saving projects** - These include improvements to pump station instrumentation and control, heating control systems, and energy efficient lighting, emergency back-up power systems, for the seventeen pump stations within town.
- **Avon Flow and Crocus Lane flow meters** that provide daily flow information, from Avon to the Farmington WPCF, were calibrated in August 2019 and are scheduled for their annual calibration in July 2020.

"The Farmington Economic Development Department and its Commissioners (EDC) are dedicated to promoting business growth and vibrancy in our town, while maintaining the proud character of our community."



Growth Continues in Farmington, During Uncertain Times

Throughout the past year, Farmington maintained and grew its commercial base. While the last quarter of the year was a time of uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Farmington businesses adapted, innovated and persevered. In the upcoming year, the Economic Development Department will assist businesses as they address the consequences of the pandemic, and respond to the ever-changing business landscape.

2019-2020 Accomplishments at a glance:

- Major projects were completed during the past year, and this is reflected in the growth of the grand list by \$30,739,282.
- Significant development projects are currently in the due diligence and planning stages. It is anticipated that they will be before Planning and Zoning, within the next six months.
- Our economic data continues to prove that we are an economic leader in the region.
- Modifications were made to the Explore Farmington website, allowing us to immediately and effectively communicate and engage the community, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Continual improvement keeps the site current and visually pleasing.
- A new website was created for the Economic Development Department's section of the town's website. Choosefarmington.com was launched, with live drone video footage, and contains information that developers and businesses need to make relocation decisions. Colors, fonts and messaging coordinates with the Explore Farmington website.
- The Explore Farmington Communication Initiative increased engagement in the community as evidenced by increased event attendance, increased followers and "likes" on our social media campaigns, increased clicks, and increased email open rates.
- Progress was made in our quest to determine the extent of Brownfield's contamination on the Parson's lot. Testing was conducted in the Summer of 2020 and results will be available in early Fall 2020.
- Ion Bank signed on as a 2-year exclusive sponsor for the Explore Farmington Communications Initiative.

- Peoples United Bank renewed their sponsorship of the Business Breakfast Series. The Economic Development Commission hosted three business breakfasts with over 200 attendees per breakfast.
- The Economic Development Department hosted a small business resource workshop aimed at assisting small businesses in town. We partnered with Chelsea O'Donnell, owner of Journey Communications, to present the changing landscape of social media promotions. 40 small business owners attended the breakfast workshop.

Farmington Remains the Economic Leader in the Hartford Region

- Of the 28 towns and cities in the Metro Hartford region, Farmington has the third lowest mill rate of 27.97.
- The grand list grew by .838% for an increase of \$30,739,282. The net taxable grand list will generate approximately \$859,000 in new revenue at the current 27.18 mill rate.
- Farmington's commercial base contributes 32.8% of the total taxes and the residential base is 67.2%. These ratios indicate a vibrant business community whose contribution to the tax base takes much burden away from the residential community.
- AAA Bond Rating was maintained.

Awards and Recognitions

- The Town of Farmington was awarded the Best Practice designation in Economic Development and Land Use, by Connecticut Economic Development Association.
- Niche.com voted Farmington the 7th best place to live in CT, with an overall grade of A+.
- In 2020, US News ranked Farmington High School 12th in Connecticut and 556th, in the National Rankings.
- Jackson Labs was awarded the 2020 Regional Health Care and Life Sciences Award, in the research company category, for their work with Mouse Genome Informatics and Expanded COVID-19 Testing Capacity. The Town of Farmington, along with the Central Chamber of Commerce and Metro Hartford Alliance, nominated Jackson Labs for this award.

2019 Board of Education

Chris Fagan, Chair
Christine Arnold, Vice-Chair/Secretary
William Beckert
Mark Blore
Kristi Brouker
Elizabeth Fitzsimmons
Mecheal Hamilton
Ellen Siuta
Andrea Sobinski

2020 Board of Education

Ellen Siuta, Chair
Elizabeth Fitzsimmons, Vice-Chair/Secretary
Christine Arnold
William Beckert
Slvia Binette
Kristi Brouker
Sarah Healey
Beth Kintner
Andrea Sobinski

District Leadership

Kathleen C. Greider, Superintendent of Schools
Kimberly Wynne, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum
Alicia Bowman, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations
Veronica Ruzek, Director of Curriculum
Laurie Singer, Director of Special Services

School Information 2019-2020

School

Farmington High School
Irving A. Robbins Middle School
West Woods Upper Elementary School
East Farms School
Noah Wallace School
Union School
West District School

Principal

Dr. Scott Hurwitz
Nilda Irizarry
Dr. Katherine Blore
Renee St. Hilaire
Dr. Carrie Huber
Caitlin Eckler
Kelly Sanders



Superintendent's Message

The 2020 Annual Report for the Farmington Public Schools reflects a focused commitment to excellence in education. We believe that all students are capable of acquiring the knowledge, skills and dispositions needed for productive, ethical and responsible citizenship in an evolving world community. We are an innovative learning organization deeply committed to continuous improvement. Thus, collaborative interactions among students, educators, parents and families emphasize the importance of clear expectations, rigorous standards-led curriculum, inspired instruction, personal effort and engaged relationships leading to high levels of achievement for all learners.

We are a mission-driven school district. The mission of the Farmington Public Schools is to enable all students to achieve academic and personal excellence, exhibit persistent effort and live as resourceful, inquiring and contributing global citizens. In turn, this report summarizes our student achievement results and outcomes, important partnerships and accomplishments from the 2019-2020 school year aligned to our mission. It is important to note that several accountability measures are not included in the 2020 Annual Report due to the COVID-19 school closure that took place from March-June, 2020.

As a school district community, we are proud of our purposeful improvement efforts and our strong partnerships with students, families and our community. On behalf of the Farmington Board of Education, I am pleased to present this report to the citizens of Farmington.

Kathleen C. Greider
Superintendent of Schools

DISTRICT GOALS 2019-2020

1. All students will demonstrate performance standards in **critical thinking and reasoning** and meet rigorous *core academic content** standards by accessing, interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating ideas and information, drawing evidence-based conclusions, synthesizing new learning with prior knowledge and reflecting critically on learning.
2. All students will demonstrate performance standards in **collaboration and communication** and meet rigorous *core academic content** standards by participating effectively in a variety of teams, actively listening and responding to the ideas of others, sharing responsibility for outcomes, articulating ideas clearly in multiple formats and using technology tools to enhance communication.
3. All students will demonstrate performance standards in **problem solving and innovation** and meet rigorous *core academic content** standards by identifying problems, analyzing data, asking questions, utilizing a variety of resources, thinking flexibly, making connections and seeking practical, innovative, and entrepreneurial solutions.
4. All students will demonstrate performance standards in **self-direction and resourcefulness** and meet rigorous *core academic content** standards by exploring interests, taking initiative, setting learning goals, demonstrating persistent effort, adapting to change with resiliency and exhibiting ethical leadership and responsible citizenship.

Adopted March 2015

*Farmington's Core Academic Content Areas include English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, World Language, Health, Physical Education, Wellness and Music, Fine and Applied Arts.

For a more detailed report summarizing specific student indicators for each goal and for every grade for the 2019-2020 school year, please visit the Farmington Public Schools' website www.fpsct.org and check the *District and School Reports* link.

Investing in Our Students

Farmington Board of Education Budget 2019-2020

Salaries	\$45,299,265
Benefits	\$10,575,402
Services	\$9,343,859
Supplies	\$1,862,863
Equipment	\$398,550
Dues & Fees	\$228,665
Total	\$67,708,605

Farmington ranked 145 out of 169 in cost of special education services.

Farmington ranked 158 out of 169 in the amount spent per pupil on purchased services.

Farmington ranked 143 out of 169 towns in school-based administration.

Farmington ranked 120 out of 169 in the amount spent per pupil on employee benefits.

Farmington ranked 157 out of 169 towns in general administration.



Farmington's Vision of the Graduate



Collaboration and Communication



Self-Direction and Resourcefulness



Problem Solving and Innovation



Critical Thinking and Reasoning

A Year of Achievements

Impressive rankings for Farmington High School (FHS)—U.S. News & World Report ranked FHS #12 on their list of Best High Schools in Connecticut.

Sixty-six percent of FHS seniors were accepted at colleges ranked most, highly or very competitive. Ninety-four percent of the Class of 2019 continued to college or military service.

FHS had three National Merit Program Finalists, three National Merit Semi-Finalists, nine National Merit Commended Students, and sixty-five AP Scholars in 2019. FHS had seventy-three AP Honors with Distinction, thirty-five AP Honors students and twenty AP National Scholars.

Thirty FHS students participated in the New England Math Competitions throughout the year. Our students were awarded second place in our region.

A Year of Achievements

FHS had 17 students recognized by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) as part of their "Aspirations in Computing" awards. This is the highest number of NCWIT awardees of any school in the state



The Voice received the Crown Award for the first time ever- the highest recognition that Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) offers its publications and is separate from its annual Medalist Critique. The awards are given by Crown Judges who are comprised of recognized journalism advisers, professional journalists, and online media and photography specialists. As was said in the congratulatory letter, the award "indicates the publication [the students] produced ranks among the best in student journalism.

West Woods Wildcats raised over \$1200 for Unicef during the 2019 fall season.



IAR's Equity Leadership Group presented at the 2019 Identity and Education Conference, "Empowering Our Communities and Beyond" sponsored by Fairfield University Graduate School of Education and Applied Professions; Connecticut Writing Project, and Fairfield Warde Voices for Equity.



Student Achievement—Standardized Testing

Prior achievement results can be found on the Board of Education's website (www.fpsct.org) under District and School Reports.

***No data available due to lack of testing with the COVID pandemic.**

Farmington Board of Education

Board of Education Committees

Personnel and Negotiations Committee

Contract negotiations, collective bargaining.

2019

Mark Blore, Chair
Mecheal Hamilton and Andrea Sobinski

2020

Andrea Sobinski, Chair
Liz Fitzsimmons and Sarah Healey

Policy Committee

*Develops and revises policy upon recommendation of the Board.
Recommends Board action, as needed.*

Christine Arnold, Chair
William Beckert and Mark Blore

William Beckert, Chair
Christine Arnold and Sylvie Binette

Curriculum Committee

New course approval, program revisions, annual curriculum reports.

Mecheal Hamilton, Chair
Christine Arnold and Liz Fitzsimmons

Liz Fitzsimmons, Chair
Christine Arnold and Andrea Sobinski

Communications/Public Relations Committee

Communications to the public, newsletters.

Ellen Siuta, Chair
William Beckert and Kristi Brouker

Beth Kintner, Chair
William Beckert and Kristi Brouker

Liaisons to Organizations and Representatives to Administrative/Community Committees

2019

CREC—**Rep Christopher Fagan**
Superintendent's Interscholastic Athletics Advisory Committee—**Rep Kristi Brouker**
Farmington FOCUS—**Rep Bill Beckert**
Green Efforts—**Rep Andrea Sobinski**
Farmington Chamber of Commerce—**Rep Mecheal Hamilton**
Farmington Public School Foundation—**Rep Christine Arnold**
Health & Wellness Committee—**Rep Ellen Siuta**
Cafeteria Ad Hoc Committee—**Rep Liz Fitzsimmons**
FHS Building Committee—**Rep Mecheal Hamilton**

2020

CREC—**Rep Ellen Siuta**
Superintendent's Interscholastic Athletics Advisory Committee—**Rep Bill Beckert**
Farmington FOCUS—**Rep Beth Kintner**
Green Efforts—**Rep Sylvie Binette**
Farmington Chamber of Commerce—**Rep Sarah Healey**
Farmington Public School Foundation—**Rep Liz Fitzsimmons**
Health & Wellness Committee—**Rep Andrea Sobinski**
Cafeteria Advisory Committee—**Rep Christine Arnold**
FHS Building Committee—**Rep Beth Kintner**
FHS School-to-Career—**Rep Kristi Brouker**



Farmington Board of Education

Congratulations to our Administrators and Staff



Kathy Greider was selected as Superintendent of the Year.

Nilda Irizarry was recognized as the CAS Outstanding First Year Principal for 2020-2021.

Amy Miller and Meghan Jones wrote an article about the work of the 100H team that was published in the New York Times learning network in October 2019.



Tim Barron was recognized as a Presidential Scholars teacher.

Denise Martin was named "Administrative Assistant of the Year" by Connecticut Association of Schools.

Mr. Patrick Keegan was recognized by the Mathematical Association (MAA) as one of the ten nationally recognized recipients of the 2019-2020 Edyth May Sliffle Award for Distinguished Mathematics Teaching.



Summer Learning Academy

Farmington's Summer Learning Academy provides educational programs that extend and accelerate learning for the community's students. This summer, a total of 377 students participated in a variety of programs including elementary, upper elementary, and middle school academic acceleration and remediation courses. Farmington Continuing Education offered a Strings Virtual Experience and other online youth enrichment courses and experiences. For high school students, there were credit-bearing courses in selected subject areas. The Extended Care and Learning program, which provides child care during the school year for students, offered an EXCL Summer Care program at Irving Robbins Middle School, adapted to follow COVID-19 regulations.

Farmington Public School Foundation

The Farmington Public School Foundation (FPSF) is an independent, section 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides funds for programs and projects that excite and engage students, empower the creativity of teachers and support the goals and mission of the Farmington school district.

2019: Strumming Along: a flex program where students can take music during homeroom and increase their knowledge of music through learning chord progressions and singing.

2019: Mindful Space: a dedicated space for students suffering from anxiety or other life stressors can have access to 21st century strategies to help regulate themselves. This mindful space would allow students to take a focused break and collect their thoughts and emotions and most importantly allow them to remain in school and return back to class.

2019: Elementary Band Pre-Tech Program: allowing students who are in free/reduced lunch program to participate in the band program.

2019: Exploring Benefits of Sensory Play (Sensory Garden): developing a contained space where our student population can safely explore the five senses and engage with the natural environment around them. This space will greatly benefit those students with special needs, specifically sensory processing difficulties, as it will provide a therapeutic atmosphere for sensory experiences.

2019: The Peace Place: a space to better support and promote more independence in the area of self-regulation in our students. Two dedicated spaces for students to learn and practice skills that would be integrated into the classroom.

2019: Water for Ghana: after learning about the problems of access to clean water and current filtration systems, students will develop a solar-powered filtration design that could help people in the most remote areas of Ghana.

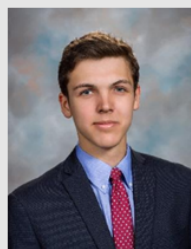
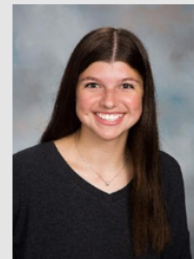
2019: Lessons from the American Revolution: students will plan and carry out a multi-part service project for our community. Students are required to learn about and incorporate design skills, be information and media literate, and develop and market a product for a large audience based on the American Revolution.

Student Achievement—Recognizing Excellence

We applaud the diverse talents and fine efforts of Farmington’s students. This year the Farmington community—businesses and many families of former Farmington students—have generously donated \$88,350 in scholarships and awards to our scholars, leaders, musicians, athletes, artists, mathematicians, scientists, writers, linguists, and community volunteers. Academic and leadership awards are listed here. Congratulations to all of our many scholarship winners from the Class of 2020 and to our outstanding students from all of the Farmington Public Schools.

Class of 2020

- **2020 United States Presidential Scholar**— Brandon Demkowicz
- **National Merit Scholarship Finalists**—Brandon Demkowicz, Jordan Song, Luke Varghese
- **2020 National Merit Commended Students**—Leah Bolles, Priscilla Jia, Rafaela Kottou, Karen Ru, Sophia Shack, Maha Siddiqui, Akhilesh Tumu, Katrina Wiegmann, Thanish Yalamanchili
- **Superintendent’s Award**—Sia Goel
- **Board of Education Student Leadership Awards**—Amanda Rodrigues, Matthew Adamski
- **FHS Principal’s Award**—Kayla Baron
- **FHS Salutatorian**—Rafaela Kottou
- **FHS Valedictorian**—Brandon Demkowicz
- **FHS Scholar Artist**—Mealear Tan
- **FHS Scholar-Musician**—Su Yim (Lillian)
- **FHS Scholar-Athletes**—Sarah Hennig, Shrey Sharma
- **CIAC Award of Excellence**—Jacob Conrad, Tyler Cortland, Ava Ferrari, Michael Gregory, Carolyn Ives, Nicole Sabio
- **Outstanding Achievement in Math**—Rafaela Kottou
- **Outstanding Students in Health/PE & Wellness**—Mitchell Guglielmo, Amanda Rodrigues
- **Outstanding Achievement in Computer Science**—Sanmati Choudhary
- **Outstanding Student in Physics**—Timothy Stephenson
- **Outstanding Student in Environmental Science**—Sophia Shack
- **Outstanding Student in History**—Sarah Hennig
- **Outstanding Student in Social Studies**—Brandon Demkowicz
- **Outstanding Student in Spanish Award**—Nitya Shah
- **Outstanding Student in French Award**—Sara Holt
- **DAR Good Citizenship Award**— Sia Goel



A Year of Achievements

2020 Teacher of the Year 2020 Staff Member of the Year



Farmington's Teacher of the Year, Rose Kay, was announced at the annual convocation meeting held on August 26, 2020. On being recognized as Farmington's Teacher of the Year, Ms. Kay stated, "I feel truly blessed and honored to have been selected as Farmington's Teacher of the Year. I also feel extremely humbled because it is through my work with all the amazing colleagues, support staff, and administrators that have helped shape me to be successful. I would like to thank all the amazing teachers and staff at Union School, as well as my fellow SLC colleagues and paraprofessionals. Their support, dedication, and collaboration encourage and motivate me to be better at what I do every day. I am truly inspired by my amazing students. They are the reason I am here, to celebrate each and every success, whether big or small. I feel fortunate to be part their educational journey." Ms. Kay has taught in Farmington for six years.



Farmington's first Staff Member of the Year, Ms. Katherine Merlini, was also announced at the annual convocation meeting held on August 26, 2020. Union School Principal Caitlin Eckler states, "Kate is a truly dedicated instructor. In her time at Union School she has worked to integrate the Farmington EXCL pre-school program into Union School activities and learning in every way possible. Her students and their families feel like a part of our community. She is always positive and is a strong advocate for the social and emotional learning needs of young children."

Ms. Merlini has served as a dedicated staff member in the Farmington Public Schools for thirteen years.

Congratulations to Farmington High School's outstanding athletes:

- **Field Hockey qualified for the state Class M tournament,**
- **Boys Soccer were semi finalists in the state Class LL tournament, ranking in the top 10 in the CT coaches poll.**
- **Girls Soccer were quarter finalists in the class LL state tournament.**
- **Girls Volleyball qualified for the state Class L tournament**
- **Ice Hockey won the CCC tournament, and were on track to win the league championship.**

** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and schools closures, both Winter and Spring seasons were not completed.*

Congratulations to Irving A. Robbins Middle School scholar-leaders:

Scholar-Leaders

Cara Szczepanski &
Preston McNulty Socha

Superintendent's Award

Leah Glaspey

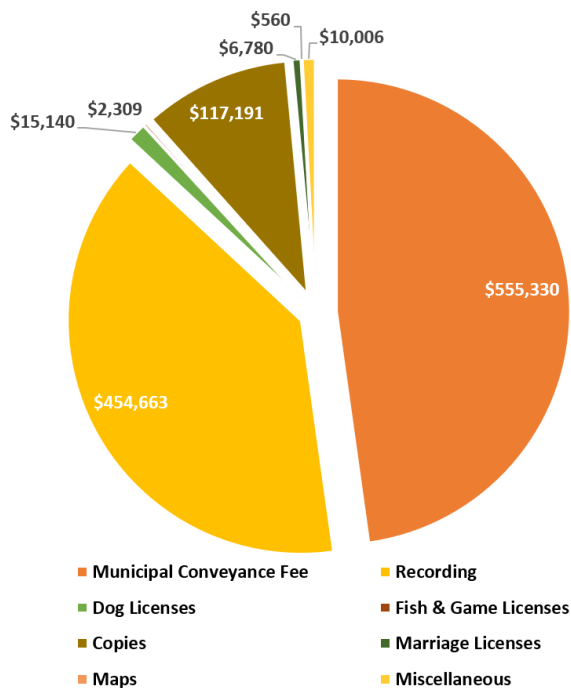


"The mission of the Town Clerk's office is to accurately maintain the records of the Town of Farmington, in a manner that allows easy access for the public and other Town of Farmington Departments."

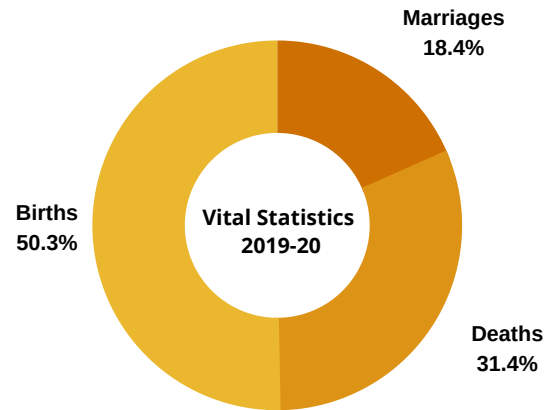
The Town Clerk is the Records Manager, Clerk of the Council, Registrar of Vital Statistics and Freedom of Information Liaison for the Town of Farmington, providing assistance to all Town of Farmington Departments.

The Town Clerk's Department processes, indexes and records all land transactions, including deeds, mortgages, liens, and maps; all vital statistics of births, marriages and deaths; and official documents, including Town Council Minutes, Town Meeting Minutes, veteran discharges, and election results. The Town Clerk's Department is responsible for election processes, including pre- and post-election responsibilities and the issuing of all absentee ballots. The Town Clerk's office processes licenses for fish and game, dogs, marriages and various permits.

During the **2019-2020 fiscal year**, revenue totaling **\$3,932,740** was collected in the Town Clerk's Office and remitted as follows: **\$2,770,761** in conveyance taxes to the State of Connecticut and the following to the Town Treasurer, for fees and local conveyance tax:



Total to Town Treasurer: \$1,161,979



Births: 171 Farmington residents
Deaths: 295 Farmington residents
Marriages: 148 Farmington residents

*The numbers regarding vital statistics are approximate because further information is still being received from other Connecticut municipalities.

2021 Dates of Interest	
April 19	Annual Town Meeting
April 20	Absentee Ballots available at the Town Clerk's Office for the Budget Referendum
April 29	Budget Referendum
June 1	Register all dogs for the 2021-2022 year
June 30	Last day to register a dog without a penalty fee
September 30	Last day for Veterans to file discharge papers with the Town Clerk to receive abatement for the next tax year
October 1	Regular Absentee Ballots become available for the Municipal Election
November 2	Municipal Election

"The Tax Collector's office is responsible for the billing and collection of real estate, business/personal property, motor vehicle (regular and supplemental) taxes, sewer usage and waste collection charges and special assessments."

The collection results for the 2019-2020 fiscal year are as follows:

	Collectible	Collected	Refunds	Outstanding
Current taxes	\$102,763,137	\$102,615,191	\$233,744	\$381,690
Back taxes	\$466,371	\$307,593	\$22,726	\$181,504
Current sewer usage	\$4,855,757	\$4,659,920	\$30,355	\$226,192
Current waste collection charges	\$1,685,642	\$1,685,932	\$16,329	\$16,039
Back sewer usage and waste collection	\$359,196	\$340,028	\$725	\$19,893
SUB TOTAL	\$110,130,103	\$109,608,664	\$303,879	\$825,318
Current interest and fees	-	\$160,246	\$3	-
Current sewer/waste interest and fees	-	\$79,695	\$17	-
Back tax interest and fees	-	\$96,614	\$32	-
Back special service interest and fees	-	\$38,850	\$0	-
SUB TOTAL		\$109,984,069	\$303,931	
Sewer Assessments	\$34,465	\$33,811	-	\$654
Interest on assessments	-	\$79	-	-
General fund collections	-	\$1,357,878	-	-
Advanced payments – taxes	-	\$959,499	-	-
Advanced payments – sewer/waste	-	\$260,906	-	-
TOTAL COLLECTIONS		\$112,596,242		

- 99.62 % of the outstanding taxes on the current grand list were collected.
- 96.30 % of the sewer usage and waste collection were collected.

Updated technology has greatly improved our ability to allow Farmington taxpayers and the general public, access to tax information at any time, day or night.

This has greatly reduced routine inquiries and allowed us to redirect our focus on collections. We look forward to future advances that will offer even more convenience to our taxpayers.

Faced with an ever-changing economic climate, Farmington taxpayers continue to meet their fiscal responsibilities and support town services.

The screenshot shows the website for the Town of Farmington, Connecticut, specifically the Tax Collector's Office. The page includes a navigation menu with options like 'ABOUT US', 'COMMUNITY', 'DEPARTMENTS', 'GOVERNMENT', and 'HOW DO I...'. The main content area is titled 'TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE' and features a 'General billing information' section. This section states that tax bills are mailed at the end of June each year and provides details on due dates for real estate and business/personal property taxes (due July 1st), motor vehicle taxes and special service charges (due July 1st), and motor vehicle supplemental taxes (due January 1st). It also mentions that the second installment of real estate and business/personal property taxes is due January 1st. There is a link for 'INCOME TAX INFORMATION' and a 'VIEW / PAY YOUR BILL' button at the bottom. A sidebar on the right lists staff members: Pletscher, Samantha (Tax Collector) and Rollins, Dwight (Assistant Tax Collector). There is also a 'NEWS' section at the bottom right.

Registrars of Voters

"The entire Town of Farmington is in the 5th U.S. Congressional District. Farmington incorporates all of the 21st State Representative District and a segment of the 19th. Portions of Farmington are included in the 5th and 6th State Senate Districts."



Farmington has two local voting districts, four polling locations, and seven precincts as follows:

- **District 1, Precincts 1,2,3,4**
Polling Location: Irving Robbins School
- **District 1, Precinct 5**
Polling Location: West Woods School
- **District 2, Precinct 6**
Polling Location: Community/Senior Center
- **District 2, Precinct 7**
Polling Location: Farmington High School

To register to vote in Farmington, one must meet these requirements:

- **Be a United States Citizen,**
- **Be a resident of Farmington,**
- **Be 17 years of age, turning 18 by Nov 2, 2021,**
- **Be completely released of confinement and parole if a past felon.**

If you wish to check the status of your voter registration, you may use the "look up tool" at the web site of the CT Secretary of the State:

www.sots.ct.gov.

If you need to register or change your current registration, you may do so at the website:

www.voterregistration.ct.gov.

ELECTION DATA

The voter turnout in recent voting opportunities were as follows:

Date	Number of Votes Cast	% Of Eligible Voters
Town Election-Nov 5 2019	6,825	35.3%
Presidential-November 2020	16,304	79.9%
State-November 2018	12,835	66.4%
Budget Vote May 2020	0	COVID-19
Budget Vote-May 2019	1,273	6.5%

Farmington Registrars are:

Edward J. Leary (R) - 860-675-2378

Barbara Brenneman (D) - 860-675-2379

If you have questions, please call one of the numbers above.

Community and Recreational Services

Page 39

"The Community and Recreational Services Department continues its mission to manage resources, provide wholesome programming and coordinate opportunities to achieve creative solutions for a healthy community."



The department provides programming in three essential areas: supportive services, recreational activities and community engagement.

The Community and Recreational Services Division is organized into seven divisions: Housing, Transportation, Recreation, Westwood Golf Course, Youth, Senior, and Social Services. The department also provides staff leadership to Human Relations, Housing Authority, Juvenile Review Board, Fair Rent Commission, Local Interagency Service Team (L.I.S.T) and FOCUS, the Local Prevention Council for teenage substance abuse prevention. Additionally, the department serves as a staff liaison for several community groups, including: Farmington Food Pantry, Farmington Community Chest, Unionville Improvement Association, Services for the Elderly and numerous sport leagues and organizations.

The department provides administrative oversight for:

1. The Staples Homestead, which houses the offices of the Fire Administration and Community Services;
2. The Youth Annex Buildings, which house the drop-in teen center and numerous Recreation programs, as well as the Board of Education's alternative high school;
3. The Community & Senior Center;
4. The Stonehouse, which houses three affordable housing units;
5. 8 and 10 Mountain Road, which house four affordable housing units;
6. 184 Town Farm Road, which is the town-owned affordable house; and
7. Maple Village Senior Housing Complex.

All seven divisions of the Community and Recreational Services Department provide supportive services and recreational activities to community residents. In a typical year, thousands of events are scheduled at the Senior Center, dozens of summer camps and recreational activities are offered, and hundreds of residents enjoy community gatherings, like the summer concerts and outdoor movies.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, however, our community enhancement services were redesigned to provide support and relief to Farmington residents. The Community & Recreational Services team worked continuously to reach out to affected members of the community and meet the needs of the unemployed, the isolated, and the essential.

Transportation: Our Dial-A-Ride program provided uninterrupted service during the shutdown in the Spring, adapting guidelines based on recommendations from the Farmington Valley Health District. By limiting rides to one person per van, for essential services only (medical, grocery stores, banks), the program was able to expand service to members and non-members, for necessary appointments and trips in neighboring towns. Collection of membership fees was delayed to be as inclusive as possible and ensure all senior residents access to medical care and nutritional services.

Social Services: The Supportive Services division experienced an increase in community need, during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Participation in both the Back-to-School Program and Holiday Programs rose more than 25%, benefiting over 250 Farmington students. Through a collaborative effort with the Farmington Police Department, Fire Departments and Certified Emergency Response Team, Community Services packed and delivered 477 holiday meals, totaling more than 11,000 pounds of food, for residents facing financial hardship. The division's newest event, the Little Shopper's Program, invited 50 local children to "shop" for gifts for their families in its inaugural year. This event benefited from donations by local restaurants, the Farmington Polo Club, and the time and efforts of dozens of volunteers. Community support and individual contributions truly came together to make the holidays wonderful for many families in need.

As the events of the Spring and Summer unfolded, staff from all divisions of Community Services assisted the supportive services staff in assessing community need. Hundreds of calls were made to check on elderly residents in isolation and those who may have been adversely affected by the shutdown. Casework was provided virtually to families, youths, individuals and the elderly. Again this year, the Farmington Community Chest generously allocated \$15,000 to the direct aid fund, that our supportive service staff administers. This funding was instrumental in assisting residents facing housing and emergency needs. Currently, supportive services staff are working with over 500 households needing assistance, from a simple food pantry application to complex case management oversight.

Supportive Services Staff continue to collaborate with the Farmington Food Pantry, through approval of clients, operations guidance, and support to individuals and families, during shopping hours. Since March of 2020, Community Services staff and volunteers have personally packed and delivered food packages to provide for low-income residents in isolation or quarantine who rely on food pantry support. Throughout the year, our staff has provided almost 200 hours of oversight and assistance.

Though the Department could not host Community Service Days this Spring, volunteers were engaged in one-on-one safe activities like grocery shopping, running errands, and virtual visiting with seniors and disabled residents in town. More than 50 new volunteers were recruited throughout the shutdown, providing over 300 hours of community service.

Youth Services: Staff in the Youth Services Division work with parents, schools, police and the community to provide support and services to promote positive youth development.

The drop-in Teen Center continues to be a hub of activity for our local youth. Teen Center activity continued as needed, throughout the pandemic, following guidelines set forth by the State of Connecticut and Farmington Valley Health Department. Recognizing that social isolation and distance learning has a profound effect on the mental health of young people, youth services staff met with at-risk teens in outdoor settings to provide counseling whenever possible.

The Farmington Juvenile Review Board (JRB) provides first time offenders a non-judicial process, in lieu of going to court. Eighteen youths were diverted from court and referred for services that included substance abuse treatment, counseling and community service. Farmington Community Services was again awarded a grant from the Connecticut Youth Services Association for the JRB to provide clinical support services to clients. This continues to allow us to better service youths in crisis and to spend critical time with youthful clients and their families.

The Farmington Community Chest generously granted funds again this year to provide children from low-income families an opportunity to attend summer camp. Though some camps were non-operational, youth services was proud to be able to send children of essential workers to safe, recreational camps, for the summer months.



Senior Services: The Community & Senior Center welcomed a new Senior Center Coordinator this fiscal year, whose commitment to progressing the programming and services of the center is evident. The Senior Center provides a variety of health and wellness activities for its members, promoting lifelong learning, social interaction, and mental and emotional well-being.

The closure of the Senior Center, in March, marked a new challenge for staff. Senior citizens are particularly at risk from both the health dangers of COVID-19 and the damaging effects of loneliness and isolation. The Senior Center staff communicated weekly with members, emailed exercise videos, and offered resources for connecting online and over the phone. Staff coordinated Zoom meetings, for social groups like woodworking and Bible study, and even led virtual wellness and exercise for residents. In collaboration with the High School music department, community services staff coordinated an iHeart Radio show dedicated to local seniors, with "songs of hope," recorded by Farmington students.

Supportive services staff connected with local organizations to obtain masks for area seniors, during the shortage, and distributed them to senior housing complexes and individual residences.

Though closed, the center continued to partner with AARP for senior tax preparation and the local VNA to host a flu shot clinic. The intergenerational program, funded through the North Central Area Agency on Aging, paused in-person activities in the Spring, but continued connections virtually, between senior citizens and high school students, with the "Senior Buddies" program.

The Community Services Department continues to provide financial support for Meals on Wheels and Congregate Meal recipients, allotting more than \$30,000 to Services for the Elderly, for operation of these programs.

Recreation: The Recreation Division provides wholesome programming for youth and adults, promoting health and wellness for Farmington residents. New activities and classes are added every year to engage members of the community. The end of 2019 saw an increase in registrations, following a successful summer camp season.

When activities ceased in the Spring, the recreation staff quickly began work on alternative ways to offer wellness activities and a sense of community. The Recreation Division connected with residents through social media, email, and virtual workshops. Dance classes, sports drills and more were offered through YouTube videos and online meeting services.

Rather than canceling the annual Spring Egg Hunt, which typically attracts over 500 residents, community services staff collaborated with the Farmington Fire and Police Departments to launch a “Bunny Hop” parade, driving the Spring Bunny through Farmington and Unionville, in a fire truck, to registered addresses. It took over 12 hours to complete the trip, to more than 250 residences, greeting smiling, quarantined faces, well into the night.

Following all guidelines set by the State of Connecticut and the Farmington Valley Health Department, the Recreation Division offered a limited summer camp schedule to residents, beginning in July. With full enrollments and community collaboration, the staff and children participating in Farmington Recreation Camps enjoyed a fun, safe summer experience, with no reported cases of COVID-19 infection.

Following Phase 2 guidelines, community services staff carefully orchestrated the outdoor Summer Concert Series, on the Staples House green. With the help of community sponsors and volunteers from CERT, concertgoers enjoyed live music from the safety of their own 15-ft circles, painted on the lawn. Six concerts were offered, free of charge, to residents, throughout the summer.



Housing (Housing Authority): The Housing Authority, created by Ordinance 65, effective May 1972, was implemented, to further affordable housing opportunities, within the Town of Farmington. It also investigates alternative solutions and initiatives regarding affordable housing.

The Housing Authority met six times throughout the year, discussing issues of affordable housing, the federal Section VIII rental subsidy program, the Cooperative Ownership Program and Maple Village.

In order to increase its affordable housing stock, the Town of Farmington began a program in 1981, known as the Plan for Cooperative Ownership. To make the purchase of single-family homes more affordable to homebuyers, of low to moderate income, the Town of Farmington rented land lots to individuals who qualified under selection criteria.

The Executive Director of the Housing Authority, who is also the Director of Community & Recreational Services, is responsible for the administration of Maple Village, a 40-unit elderly housing complex, located in Unionville, on Maple Avenue Extension. The complex, built in 1975, houses individuals over the age of 62 and disabled adults.

The yearly Management Plan (budget) for Maple Village was approved. The Housing Authority continued to participate in the state’s Rental Assistance Program, for elderly tenants, in Authority-operated housing. The Town receives a state grant for resident coordinator services, which allows us to provide assessment, case management and program coordination. The coordinator(s) provided over 300 visits to residents, under this program.

Additionally, the Authority administers 90 HUD Section VIII vouchers, which provide rental subsidies for individuals who qualify, with low income. The program is classified as a High Performer.

The town owns seven affordable rental units of different sizes. The units are financially maintained, through the rental funds.

The Authority also maintains landlord/tenant disputes, including complaints and/or rent increases.

Westwoods Golf Course: Westwoods Golf Course is a short and enjoyable 18-hole course, designed to demand accuracy and consistency. The Town-owned facility features a 30-stall driving range and practice green, and is a welcoming course for golfers of all levels.

Westwoods continues to provide quality lessons for our youth, as well as adults and families. This past season was particularly successful, offering a recreational outlet for isolating members of the community. Westwoods staff efficiently modified operations to follow the health and safety guidelines, set forth by the State of CT and Farmington Valley Health Department. Residents and non-residents enjoyed safe, spaced-out play, grab-and-go refreshments, and additional sanitation stations. Westwoods Golf Course went into the Summer promising to end the season, beyond our expectations.



Farmington Food Pantry

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"Since 2006, the Farmington Food Pantry has been sponsored by, and located in, Amistad Hall, on the campus of The First Church of Christ, in Farmington, CT. The Pantry is funded solely through donations and staffed entirely by volunteers."



The Farmington Food Pantry, Inc. is a 501©(3) tax-exempt organization, operating at Amistad Hall, on the campus of First Church of Christ, Farmington. Our mission is to provide a "respectful, empowering environment, where supplemental food and personal care items are available to individuals who need assistance, in Farmington." The Pantry is funded solely through donations and staffed entirely by volunteers.

The Pantry was founded in 2006, on a "Client Choice" model and all clients are pre-qualified by social workers from the Farmington Community & Recreational Services department. During 2019-2020, 218 Farmington families were approved to shop at the pantry.

The pantry continues to serve an increasing need in our community. From July 2019 - July 2020, the pantry distributed over 92,814 pounds of food, during more than 2,173 client visits, and the all-volunteer staff logged in over 2,835 hours of service, processing food drives, stocking shelves, and staffing shopping days. The Pantry enjoys generous monetary support, from the Farmington Community Chest, fresh produce from several farms in town, and meaningful partnerships, with First Church of Christ, Farmington and the Farmington Community & Recreational Services department.



**During 2019-2020,
218 Farmington families
were approved to shop
at the pantry.**

During the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) health emergency of 2020, we are doing everything we can to serve our community and continue our mission of providing supplemental food, to those in need, in Farmington. We are following the guidelines set by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as working closely with the Farmington Valley Health District and the Farmington Community & Recreational Services staff. The Farmington Community & Recreational Services staff has provided much needed assistance and guidance to the pantry, often coordinating with Dial-A-Ride, to pick up and deliver bags for elderly or housebound clients.



The Farmington Community & Recreational Services staff has also implemented a service to distribute pre-packaged bags of food, delivered by the pantry, to Staples House, for residents who find themselves in an emergency food situation.

In response to the pandemic, our Client Choice format changed in mid-March, to optimize the safety of our clients and volunteers. For now, pre-packed food bags are distributed to clients, through a curbside drive-up pantry, staffed by dedicated pantry volunteers. Consequently, we are currently receiving and purchasing nearly 100% of our food from Foodshare and other wholesale and retail sources, and can no longer accept food donations, due to volunteer and facility limitations. The pantry was able to make this transition, to a model that involves purchasing such a large percentage of our food, because of the generous monetary donations received from Farmington residents, via the secure and convenient Pay Pal link on our website (www.farmingtonfoodpantryct.com). These donations have truly made a meaningful difference, in the lives of our food insecure Farmington neighbors, and are crucial to our mission of ending hunger in Farmington.

The pantry looks forward to the time when we can resume normal operating procedures, but will continue to keep the safety of our clients, volunteers and donors at the forefront of all re-opening decisions. Thank you to the Farmington community, for helping us safely help our neighbors in need. Together we can, and will, end hunger in Farmington!



Fire Department

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"The Town of Farmington Fire Department includes the East Farmington, East Farmington Station #2 (Oakland Gardens), Farmington, Tunxis Hose, and Southwest Fire Stations, which provide Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services, throughout the Town of Farmington."

The Fire Department is a "combination department," which means that it is staffed by a combination of approximately 118 Volunteer Fire Fighters, 2 Part-Time Firefighters and 9 Career Firefighters. **During Fiscal Year 2019-2020, the Fire Department responded to 923 fire and 2,781 medical emergencies, for a total of 3,704 calls for service; down 380 calls from the previous fiscal year.**



This year, we have experienced an event that has not had a societal impact of this magnitude, in this country, for over 100 years. The current COVID-19 pandemic impacted the United States in early 2020, and we have been navigating through it ever since. As a community, we have worked together and leaned on each other to ensure we get through this healthy and safe. As an emergency service organization, we had to ensure we provided the essential services to the community, while protecting our firefighters. From the beginning, the Town of Farmington Fire Department was extremely proactive, with the immediate adoption of policies and procedures, to protect our first responders.

This also included securing much-needed PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), when responding to the various calls for service, while contending with COVID-19. We were able to secure a federal grant, to assist in the purchase of PPE, as well as what was supplied to us from the State of Connecticut. We were able to maintain a stable supply, through optimizing techniques that ensured we always had protection in place and readily available.



We also conducted various fire apparatus parades for birthdays, graduations, anniversaries and many other events, to bring smiles to our community members, through this difficult time. As we continue to navigate through this pandemic, we continue to ensure we keep our firefighters and community safe. Together we will get through this!

The Fire Department is always actively recruiting volunteers, due to the vital role they have in the emergency services that we provide, to the community. Anyone who lives or works in Farmington, is at least 18 years of age and has a high school diploma or GED, can apply to be a Volunteer Firefighter. Non-Farmington residents may apply, if they live within 5 miles of a fire station, or if they work in Town and have written permission, from their employer, to respond to emergencies, during work hours. The fire department will provide all equipment and training associated with being a volunteer firefighter, as well as incentives.

The Fire Department is also actively recruiting Fire Cadets. The Fire Cadet Program is designed to encourage residents, between 14 and 17 years of age, to become familiar with the responsibilities of volunteer firefighters. It provides a facet to demonstrate to young people the importance of service to the community, through involvement in the Volunteer Fire Department, and to develop a working knowledge of First Aid, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, and the safe working practices associated with the fire service. We currently have 8 cadets, who meet regularly under the supervision of a Cadet Coordinator and Cadet Advisors. These cadets are the foundation of our organization and will soon be regular firefighters within the community.



The Fire Department apparatus fleet consists of 5 engines, 2 Engine/Tankers, 1 Engine/Rescue, 1 Heavy Rescue, 1 Ladder/Platform, 5 medical units, 1 Brush Truck, 1 Gator, 3 Water Rescue Trailers and 3 utility vehicles. This year, the addition of 3 utility vehicles provided an enhancement of quick incident command at fire scenes, rapid EMS deployment, personnel transportation and duty officer assignment rotations. These vehicles were implemented to enhance the level of service provided to the community. Last year's budget approved the purchase of a new ladder. While COVID-19 has stalled the awarding of the bid, we are still looking forward to having the new apparatus in service, for 2021. The Town of Farmington Fire Department maintains an Apparatus Replacement Plan, which rotates its larger apparatus, every 20 -25 years, and the utility fire apparatus, every 10 years. This plan is reviewed yearly, to ensure it still represents apparatus needed, to service the town.

The Fire Department is in the process of completing a communication upgrade, for all mobile and portable radios. A majority of the radios in service are over 20 years old and considered obsolete, which ultimately means they are not repairable by our vendor, as well as not reliable for use, by our firefighters. The need to replace our obsolete communications equipment, as well as increase the number available, to ensure all firefighters operating on the fire ground have access to a radio, is paramount to firefighter safety. An Assistance to Firefighters FEMA grant application was submitted, to assist in the upgrade and alleviate a large portion of the financial burden. We are awaiting word on if the grant has been awarded to us, which is a highly-competitive process, nationwide.

The Fire Department continues to issue quarterly newsletters, to ensure residents and businesses in Farmington are aware of what is occurring, in the Town of Farmington Fire Department. We have spotlighted members from throughout the department, so the community can see who we are and where we come from. As a primarily volunteer Fire Department, it is important that we recognize the work and dedication our firefighters provide, to the Town of Farmington. We continue to highlight topics of interest, as well as notable incidents that have occurred, within the community. As a public safety organization, we want to ensure transparency with residents, so they are aware of the topics within the Fire Department.



American Heart Association
life is why™

The Fire Department provides instruction on American Heart Association courses, for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid. More than 350,000 cardiac arrests occur outside the hospital, each year. Instructors within the department provide Community CPR instruction quarterly, at no charge, in the Yates Room located at the Farmington Police Department. These courses are instrumental in teaching members of the public the necessary skills to recognize a cardiac arrest, get emergency care on the way quickly and provide CPR, until a high level of medical care arrives. These courses also incorporate the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The use of an AED, within three to five minutes after a collapse, greatly increases the chance of survival. For every minute that passes without CPR or defibrillation, the chance of survival of a victim decreases by 7 to 10 percent. The Town of Farmington is a HEARTSafe Community, which is a community that has documented the "Chain of Survival" links, to address cardiac emergencies, for its citizens. These links include early access to emergency care, early CPR, early defibrillation, and early advanced care. The Town of Farmington Fire Department is also available to instruct at businesses, schools and daycares, in order to ensure this vital training is maintained, within our community. Please contact us, if you are interested.

Please visit your local fire station or call or email Steve Hoffmann, Director of Fire and Rescue Services, at 860-675-2322 or HoffmannS@Farmington-CT.org, for more information about becoming a volunteer, or to inquire about any of the services offered by the Town of Farmington Fire Department.

Police Department

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"The Farmington Police Department took a proactive response to the COVID-19 crisis, in accordance with guidelines and best practices established by federal, state, and local health officials."

During the initial outbreak of COVID-19, Chief Melanson and his command staff quickly drafted and implemented a cohort or "squad" style schedule, which minimized potential employee exposure. Procedures such as daily symptom screening, personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements, additional facility and equipment cleaning procedures, and steps to reduce potential exposure were also utilized to keep employees and the community safe. The emergency schedule combined with the safety precautions, resulted in no COVID-19 cases, within the ranks of the Farmington Police Department, to date.

During the pandemic's quarantine period, the Farmington Police Department (FPD) participated in numerous celebratory drive-by parades. Our typical partnerships with the community, such as officers in our schools (SROs) and events like Coffee with a Cop, FUNCOPS, and Touch-a-Truck, were hampered by the pandemic and we wanted to remain connected with our community. These parades were just as beneficial for our officers as they were for the people we were celebrating.



Farmington Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers were kept busy during COVID-19, assisting at the Region 3 PPE Distribution location, in West Hartford. Farmington CERT's Emergency Canteen was requested by the Incident Management Team, to assist in feeding volunteers and members of the Connecticut National Guard, from mid-April to mid-August, while they distributed PPE to healthcare facilities, emergency services, businesses, and municipalities.

This service allowed for a more efficient process of PPE distribution and provided safe and healthy nutrition to the volunteers and guardsmen, while they distributed the essential supplies. **If anyone is interested in more information on CERT, or you wish to volunteer, please visit our webpage:**

www.farmington-ct.org/departments/police-department



As the weather grew warmer and outdoor adventures became a much-needed break from isolation, FPD increased patrols of our town parks and river access points, to ensure that our beautiful natural resources were enjoyed safely and responsibly.

Since 2013, the Farmington Police Department has employed Community Service Officers (CSOs) to supplement patrol, and specifically concentrate on these areas of town. CSOs worked diligently to enforce town ordinances, maintain cleanliness, and ensure the safety and well-being of everyone enjoying the Rails to Trails, Tunxis Mead, and various other locations throughout town.

“The Board of Trustees, the staff and I look forward to meeting your educational, informational and recreational needs and to fostering a shared sense of purpose for the benefit of all those in the community.”

Message from the Director

Service. Experiences. Resources. Our brand encapsulates what you can expect from the Farmington Libraries, whether you visit us in person, or more likely, due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic since March 2020 and its continued threat, online. As we look back on the events of the past year, the pandemic will always loom large in our collective consciousness. Still, it is good to know that in time, the world will recover and we will all learn lessons about our own resiliency and the goodwill and communal spirit of others, as well as our ability to adapt to new realities.

Having arrived just a few short months ago in July 2020, I was already impressed by the resourcefulness and “can do” spirit of the staff of the Farmington Libraries, as they quickly pivoted from providing in-person programs and services to mostly-remote services in this new reality, including contactless curbside pickup and “grab-and-go” services both at the Main Library and the Barney Library. Clearly, we are not first responders, and in the grand scheme of things brought on by the pandemic, the role libraries play in this increasingly online world may not be foremost in the minds of most people, but I am continually inspired by our staff and by my library colleagues in the ways libraries have responded to the current crisis. I was gratified to learn that the staff of the Farmington Libraries put some of the technology and equipment in the Makerspace at the Main Library to work this past spring in order to make 300 facial frames, for the medical staff at the UConn Health Center in Farmington, using our 3D printers. We also assisted the staff at Trinity Health so they were able to create their own Personal Protective Equipment.

Within a week of our closing to the public due to the pandemic on March 13th, the staff of the Farmington Libraries, under the direction of Interim Director Richard Conroy, had a plan in place to serve the library and information needs of Farmington residents remotely, including email and phone support, as well as a staffing plan that allowed some staff to work exclusively from home, while some staff worked inside the Libraries in order to maintain our buildings and collections in a secure and safe – and socially distant – manner, aligning our initial Phase 1 services with Governor Lamont’s state man

We began to offer curbside pickup at both the Main Library and the Barney Library on May 28th, allowing residents to call ahead or email us with holds requests for materials that were already checked out to them for pickup outside the Library. We began offering limited “grab-and-go” access to the lobby areas at the Main Library and the Barney Library on June 22nd, as part of our Phase 2 services. A total of 24,262 physical items were checked out during this time period. Clearly, our patrons also took advantage of the eBooks, streaming videos and other electronic resources available through the Libraries and the inability to easily access our physical collections due to the pandemic. Usage of our eBooks alone rose from 4,186 electronic books checked out in July-August 2019 to 7,396 electronic books checked out in July-August 2020, a 77% increase.

We also began allowing patrons to use some of our public computers by appointment for one hour at a time, a service which we are continuing to provide. Of course, we took all of the necessary precautions that we needed to take in making sure all staff had adequate Personal Protection Equipment or PPE, that we had plexiglass barriers in place at each of our service desks, and that copious amounts of hand sanitizer and alcohol-based disposable wipes were on hand in order to keep the public and staff healthy and safe. We also initiated a 5-day quarantine for all of the items that were borrowed prior to the Libraries closing on March 13th that were out on loan, based on the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the American Library Association (ALA) and other national and state agencies.

We extended the loans for all of the items that were checked out through June and we kept our book returns open so that patrons could return them without having to come inside the Libraries. We also suspended all overdue fines from March 1st through October 4th, 2020, so that no fines would accrue during this period.

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The children's, teen and adult services staff also pivoted due to COVID-19 and began offering all of the Summer Reading Programs they had planned by going virtual and engaging children, teens and adults via Zoom and other online platforms. In all, 21,088 people attended programs at the Libraries from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. Of that total, 12,537 adult caregivers and children attended programs offered by the children's staff at the Main Library and the Barney Library. Combined, our children's and teen staff sponsored 617 programs for children and teens, during FY 2019 – 2020.

We are continuing to acquire the latest books and materials for all ages and make them available for loan, and we are offering 24/7 access to a growing array of electronic resources available through our website so that residents can pursue recreational reading, research local history, find up-to-date health and wellness information, read online newspapers and magazines, and to enable students to work on homework assignments and reports during the school year. We are also continuing to offer virtual programs for children, teens and adults via Zoom and other online platforms, as well as make-and-take programs in order to engage kids at home in STEM-related activities.

As the coming year unfolds, we will continue to work with our Board of Trustees, the Board of the Farmington Village Green and Library Association (FVLGA), the Town of Farmington, the state of Connecticut, the Farmington Valley Health District (FVHD) and other state and local agencies in order to keep residents informed about our programs and services and respond appropriately to the changing health conditions.

In the meantime, the Board of Trustees, the staff and I look forward to meeting your educational, informational and recreational needs and to fostering a shared sense of purpose, for the benefit of all those in the community. See you online and at the Libraries!

Respectfully,

Christopher J. Lindquist
Executive Director

***"Bad libraries build collections,
good libraries build services, great
libraries build communities."
~Professor R. David Lankes***

Here are some highlights of the programs and services offered by each of our departments this past year, including during the time we needed to limit our services during the Spring and Summer, due to COVID-19:

Information and Teen Services **Caroline Ford, Assistant Library Director and Director of Adult, Teen & Branch Services**

Adult Programs

- Librarian-led Maker Programs such as Coffee and Canvas, Homemade Soap Making and Origami Paper Folding filled up very quickly. Other Maker Programs included How to Make a Mason Jar Lantern, Design-Painted Silk Scarves, Create T-shirt Tie-Dye Bags, Sewing Potholders and How to Etch Glass using our circuit maker were also a big hit.
- Our Master Class Series was also a success: local artisans and crafters came to the library to teach classes about embossing, felting, calligraphy, bread and jam making.
- 41 Adults joined our 2020 Adult Summer Reading Program. Avid Farmington readers reviewed 57 books and completed 222 tasks, such as taking a walk or attending an online museum tour, for a chance to win one of the five prizes from local businesses.
- A wide variety of thought-provoking and creative programs were created for our adult patrons, including lectures on architecture, grief recovery, developing culinary skills, research about the paranormal, WWII spies and a three-part genealogy series. Interactive wellness classes such as the Human Library, Meditation and Gentle Stretching were also offered. We also screened a number of classic films as part of our beloved film series Afternoon at the Bijou.
- The library partnered with the Lewis Walpole Library for a lecture about Horace Walpole and W.S. Lewis and with the Farmington Garden Club for a Winter Garden Program.
- Adult Services supported 20 library-led and patron-led book discussion groups.
- We also supported blood drives in partnership with the American Red Cross and food collection projects working with the Farmington Food Bank. In addition, we partnered with the Farmington Valley Visiting Nurses Association (FVNA) to offer bi-weekly blood pressure clinics, as well as the annual flu shot clinic at the Main Library.

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- Our very popular Richard P. Garmany Music Series concerts this past year included the band BlueGrass, a performance by students and teachers from the Hartt School of Music, pianist David Eberly, the Scottish folk band North Sea Gas, and the Celtic group Pender and McMarrow.
- The COVID-19 pandemic did not stop the Adult Services Department from helping patrons access and use Overdrive, Hoopla or the JobNow resume service, either in-person and via Zoom. Indeed, many of our online resources have experienced significant increases in usage due to COVID-19 and the need to access the Libraries remotely.
- We held a number of successful online book discussions, Trivia Nights, painting classes, Take and Make Crafts for adults, as well as a spelling bee.
- The Adult Information Services staff answered hundreds of email inquiries, as well as phone calls. During the time since March 2020, the Libraries were closed to the public, and we will continue to provide the best, most effective customer service to our patrons as we possibly can.



Teen Services

- In December, the Teen Services Department held its fourth annual inter-town trivia tournament. Teens from Avon, Simsbury, Farmington and West Hartford competed in multiple rounds of Star Wars trivia, made crafts, ate snacks, and had their photos taken at our green-screen photo booth.
- At the beginning of the coronavirus quarantine in March, we launched a social media based "Stuck-at-Home Challenge" in order to engage teens and families. We challenged the community to text us pictures of themselves going on walks, reading books, making crafts and more over a 9-week period. Over the 9-week period, the Farmington community completed over 250 challenges.
- Teen Services also launched a new format for our Teen Summer Reading Challenge. This format used Google forms in order to streamline the challenge submission process. Despite the pandemic, 100 teens participated in the challenge this past summer.
- Our "Teen Take-Home Crafts" series was the most successful teen program series this past Summer. Each of our seven craft programs was filled to capacity, with an approximately 95% pick-up rate for the craft supplies.



Farmington Room Highlights:

The Farmington Room is a special place; it houses our local history and genealogy collections. Many treasures can be found there, such as the Amistad Letters, books from the original Farmington Library, local family genealogies, photographs and yearbooks.

- Special collections include the Klauser Photograph Collection, the Bickford Files, the Julius Gay Collection and the Farmington Library Oral History Project.
- We also hold a microfilm collection of The Farmington Valley Herald [1901-86] and digitized collections of Farmington Homes, Farmington World War II Veterans Project and the local photograph collection Farmington Scrapbook.

Children's Services

Erica Bajrami, Director of Children's Services

The Farmington Libraries Kids' Place is a hub of activity serving the educational, cultural, and recreational needs of the Farmington community and beyond for children ages birth through Grade 6, their caregivers, and individuals who work with children. The staff continually monitors the needs of the community to develop engaging children's programming and develop the department's collections; this practice proved especially important this past Spring. Here are a few Kids' Place highlights from this past year:

Summer Reading Programs

This past year Summer Reading participants were asked to track how many days they read rather than keep track of minutes, promoting a daily reading habit. A new online Summer reading tracker called ReadSquared allowed participants to not only log in daily reading, but also unlock games, create characters, watch NASA videos, and earn prizes. Over 670 participants signed up in just the first week of Summer vacation! Additionally, a Toddler/Preschool Summer Activities Log was created, featuring activities for families that strengthen early literacy and fine motor skills. In total, there were 877 participants in the Summer literacy programs!



Children's Programs

Children's Services Librarian, Laura DiLullo, joined the Children's Services team this past year, bringing with her experience in education and marketing. She developed new programming for older children including Tween Time, Tween STEAM, and Girls Who Code. Additional new programs were unveiled to complement the department's extensive programming schedule, including Baby Storytime, Yoga Storytime, Toddler Learn & Play, Busy Bags Bonanza, Picture Book Theater, and Homeschool Connection.

The Children's Librarian and staff also collaborated with Teen Services Assistant Anna Downing on three programs: Tween Iron Chef, a Mindfulness and Meditation workshop, and an Escape Room – which received rave reviews.

Other staff-led special events included Haunted Candy Houses & Gingerbread Houses, the Toddler Drive-In, and Noon Year's Eve, as well as a Winter Reading BINGO program. In addition to staff-led programming, there was also a full lineup of performers and presenters which really packed the house, including The Creature Teacher's Rainforest Animal Show, Nappy's Puppets, Goats 'n' Jammies Storytime, and a visit from the Snow Sisters (from the movie Frozen). A big thank you to the Friends of the Library for supporting all of the wonderful programs this year!

With Spring and the impact of COVID-19, the Children's Services staff had to pivot and quickly restructure how services and programs were offered and delivered to best meet the needs of our patrons. While the library was closed, staff recorded videos for children of all ages, sent home Storytime at Home packets, launched a new Dial-a-Story service, and hosted several virtual events. A new Facebook page for Children's Services (@flkidsplace) was created to increase communication and connection with the community. Despite the unexpected closure, the department hosted 580 programs in the 2019-2020 year with total attendance of more than 12,000 people!

Outreach Services

Outreach services provided an opportunity for the library to extend services beyond the library buildings and into the community. The Children's Librarian and staff scheduled regular visits to local preschools and daycares for storytimes, coordinated student volunteer opportunities at the library with special education teachers, and attended curriculum nights and other special events at local public schools.

Collection Development

The Farmington Library Kids' Space is known for its extensive materials collection and inspiring space. This year new items added to the collection included Wonderbooks (hardcover books with built-in audio components) as well as Early Childhood and STEM kits, which feature books and developmentally appropriate manipulatives organized by theme. New games and activities were added to the Tween Space, and a Children's Art Gallery was unveiled where children's artwork hang in frames on a rotating basis. During the library's closure this past Spring, staff created dozens of full-color flyers featuring books organized by popular topics so patrons could "browse" while the children's room was closed to the public and curbside pickup of materials was initiated.

Lending Services & Collection Management

Karen Cerasoli, Manager of Lending Services

- We welcomed 153,184 visitors to the Main Library and 14,112 visitors to the Barney Library during Fiscal Year 2020 (167,295 total visitors), and we loaned 202,366 items out this past year. This equates to about 8 items per capita, based on a population of approximately 25,500 people.
- In February 2020 we made most of the passes in our Museum Pass Program available for loan printable from home in order to make it easier for patrons to attend the museum of their choice without having to pick them up at the Libraries.
- The Farmington Libraries also created a new brand and logo design that includes a blend of blue and green colors surrounding the "F" for Farmington inside an oval shape. This brand is now reflected on all of our print and online communications materials and related collateral.
- We issued 1,142 new library cards this past year, including more than 130 cards that were issued online while we were closed due to COVID-19. The new cards enabled patrons to use our online services, including our electronic databases and attend our virtual programs for children, teens and adults.
- The Lending Services staff worked with staff in the Children's Services Department to create new categories for some of our children's books and Sprout Back Packs, making it easier for patrons to search for and find these materials.
- We also assisted our Adult Services Department by offering knitting classes for our patrons, thanks to the skills and talents of Jodi Lewanda, one of our Lending Services staff members.

Technology Services

It was a challenging year in terms of carrying out our normal Makerspace and Studio activities this past year since we lost nearly two entire seasons of programming due to COVID-19 and its impact on our services. Still, we offered a number of engaging activities on the technology side of our services this past year, including:

- Summer Virtual Reality (VR) Travel Program - A Travel and Vacation focused series of VR that offered a prize for repeat attendees.
- 63 new trainings July 2019-March 2020, which included new equipment training, either to a new individual or to someone being trained on a new piece of equipment roughly once every 4 days.
- 177 total uses of equipment – about 1/3 (35.5%) of our equipment uses this past year were new trainings!

- We printed 300 facial frames for the UConn Health Center and provided assistance to Trinity Health during the early part of the pandemic closure in April-May 2020 using our 3D printers.
- We provided equipment to help the Libraries transition to virtual programs, including cameras, lighting equipment, helping with set-ups and other tech-related needs.
- We also modified our public computer stations to allow for social distancing and appropriate sanitization procedures.

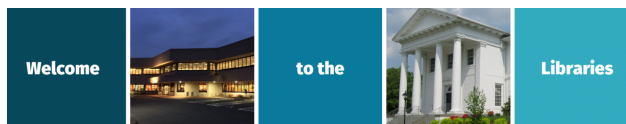


Barney Library

Caroline Ford, Assistant Library Director and Director of Adult, Teen & Branch Services

Small but mighty, the Barney Library in Farmington Village provides more customized customer service in a relaxed atmosphere for all who enter its doors. The Barney Library is beloved as a quiet place to read, relax or meet with friends, as well as for its historic building and its intimate gathering spaces.

- Winter Children's programs offered at the Barney Library this past year included Messy Mondays, Movers and Groovers and Lego Saturdays. COVID-19 did not stop the Children's Department from offering Take and Make Activities such as Make a Shark, Create Your Own Fireflies and a Make a Turtle Backpack Ornament.
- This past Summer, children were also invited to explore outside the Barney Library for two Story Walks. Participants walked around and read "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," by Eric Carle and "Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt," by Kate Messner.
- Some of the adults who visited attended our librarian-led Novel Ideas book discussion group, an afternoon tea author series, and our staff-led Crafternoons.
- People also visited the Barney Library in order to attend musical performances by groups such as the Hartford Flute Ensemble, singer-songwriter Sheri Miller, Celtic favorites The Kerry Boys, and to learn about the Woodstock Music Festival in August 1969.
- Barney Library staff also provided reader's advisory, information and reference services and outreach to our homebound patrons this past year.



*"Preventing Disease, Promoting Health, Protecting Against Health Threats -
The Farmington Valley Health District is the local health department
for the Town of Farmington."*



The Farmington Valley Health District (FVHD) has had a year unlike any other in their history, addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.

In early 2020, news outlets began reporting on a new virus, originating in Wuhan, China, called the Novel Coronavirus, or COVID-19 virus. By the end of January, the Farmington Valley Health District had prepared a COVID-19 fact sheet, to educate Farmington Valley residents on the virus, even though the risk of contracting it was still very low.

In March, as the virus began to spread throughout the country, the state, and eventually the Town of Farmington, the FVHD was instrumental in guiding the Town of Farmington's efforts to combat the spread of the virus and to better understand its physical and mental effects.

On March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was declared a worldwide pandemic and on March 16, 2020, the Town of Farmington declared a State of Emergency. The FVHD provided the following invaluable resources:

- Guidance on Emergency Orders, issued by Governor Lamont, on mask wearing, quarantining, eliminating/limiting social gatherings, closing and reopening of schools and businesses, travel advisories, etc.
- Educational information on the virus, and safety guidelines to follow like wearing a mask, washing hands frequently and thoroughly, and maintaining social distance of at least six feet.
- Information on where to get tested for the virus and the quarantine, isolation and contact tracing guidelines to follow.
- Regular reporting of local community and congregate COVID-19 cases and other data.

The COVID-19 pandemic, and the monumental efforts of the FVHD to address it and keep local residents safe and informed, continued long after the end of this fiscal year. As a result, the FVHD was not able to submit their traditional summaries of permits issued or inspections and site visits conducted.

The Town of Farmington would like to thank and recognize the FVHD staff, for their herculean efforts to keep us safe and informed, while continuing to provide the same high level of service we've come to expect.

- Jennifer C. Kertanis, MPH, Director of Health
- Dianne Harding, R.S., Chief Sanitarian
- Patricia Gigliotti, R.S., Senior Sanitarian
- Kristin Kula, R.S., Registered Sanitarian
- Melissa Marquis, R.N., M.S., Public Health Emergency Response Specialist
- Kirsten Carew, MPH, Epidemiologist
- Jason Brown, R.S., Food Program Coordinator
- Mary Creaser, Environmental Health Inspector
- Miranda Arnold, Environmental Health Inspector
- Deidra James, Environmental Health Inspector
- Justine Ginsberg, R.N., Community Health Coordinator
- Leesa Philippon, RGH Coordinator
- Samantha Carter, Administrative Assistant


**Thank you for all that you do
to keep us healthy and safe.**



Services for the Elderly

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"Services for the Elderly of Farmington, Inc. is a nonprofit agency whose mission is: To assist older citizens with maintaining their desired home lifestyle relative to meals, transportation, socialization, home medical equipment and maintenance."



Services for the Elderly was established in 1965 by two Farmington women, Hope Emery and Dorothy Sinclair, who saw the need to help the seniors in our community. Our small nonprofit provides Meals On Wheels, Congregate Meals, Medical Transportation, Friendly Shopping, a Medical Equipment Program, "It's Good To Get Out" and "Forget-Me-Not" programs and an A.A.R.P. Tax Assistance program. This organization works with over 150 volunteers who generously give up their time to make a difference in the life of a senior. 2019-2020 staff included a full time Executive Director, a part time Program Assistant working 14 hours a week, and a Transportation Coordinator working 4 hours a week. Services for the Elderly is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors from all areas of town. Our programs are financially supported primarily through United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut, the Town of Farmington, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, Farmington Community Chest, Farmington Bank Community Foundation, the Unionville Lions Club, Meals On Wheels of America, Allstate, service groups, churches, businesses, fundraising events and individuals.

Several fundraisers were planned throughout the year to include the Subaru "Share The Love" Event, beginning in November, our annual appeal in November, "March for Meals" in March and "Birdies for Charity," through the Travelers Championship in June. Additionally, we had planned a "Then & Now" Fashion Show fundraiser that was to be held May 3, 2020. Unfortunately, this fundraiser had to be postponed due to the pandemic. Each of these fundraisers help support our various programs, aimed at assisting the aging in our community. Although our organization faced many challenges due to COVID-19, we remain committed to providing seniors essential services that have been a staple in the community for more than 50 years.

The following services were provided in the fiscal year 2019-2020:

Meals On Wheels Program:

13,214 meals were delivered Monday through Friday by our committed volunteers who also delivered a birthday bag on their special day. Each client received a hot meal and a cold bag meal each day of their delivery. Our delivery format was altered for the protection of our homebound in early March. At this time, we switched to delivering 7 days-worth of food on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. We also implemented "Reassurance Calls" to assist in providing additional socialization and safety checks to our clients.

Congregate Meal Program:

2,040 meals were served by Services for the Elderly volunteers on Mondays and Fridays, throughout the year. This program was altered in March to provide an alternative Congregate "Grab & Go" meal, at no cost to our participants, during the pandemic. Our clients that would normally drive to the Community/Senior Center for a "sit down" style meal, were able to pick up a meal in a "drive-through" format. For the seniors who would normally receive transportation to the meal, Services for the Elderly volunteers delivered these meals to their homes. These meals not only provided nutrition but allowed for socialization and identified individuals that needed additional support services during COVID-19.

Medical Transportation Program:

590 rides were given to clients to medical, dental or lab work appointments this year. Unfortunately, in early March, we had to temporarily suspend our Medical Transportation program to adhere to CDC and State COVID-19 socially distancing guidelines. The safety of our clients is first and foremost.

Friendly Shopping Program:

301 grocery shopping trips were made by SFE volunteers that have been matched with clients to obtain the necessary staples for their kitchens.

"It's Good To Get Out"/Forget-Me-Not" Programs:

Seniors went on 10 various fieldtrips that were coordinated and privately funded through the "It's Good To Get Out" program. This program allows women over 65 who live alone and are not able to drive to experience many adventures and create friendships. The "Forget-Me-Not" program delivered over 600 special gifts to 80 seniors throughout the year. These gifts included Thanksgiving baskets delivered to homebound seniors made with donations from Highland Park Market and area Farmington health agencies and local stores, care packages and "Thinking of You" cards. We also delivered holiday greens made and donated by the Farmington Garden Club. Birthday bags also made a special delivery to our Meals On Wheels clients on their special days. We are grateful to the Farmington Community Chest for providing funding for these special packages to remind seniors that they are thought of throughout the year. This year we added "Reassurance Calls" to our Meals On Wheels clients who have been more socially isolated during the pandemic.

Three volunteers called each of our Meals On Wheels clients at regular intervals. These calls provided socially distant companionship, identified needs and allowed for additional safety checks. Over 130 donated handmade cloth facemasks were also provided to our clients and volunteers.

Services for the Elderly of Farmington
321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT 06085
860-673-1441/services@farmingtonseniors.org/
www.farmingtonseniors.org

Job Bank Program: 92 individuals requested information from our Job Bank. This list connects people and agencies, that for compensation, will perform various tasks for the elderly in our community. This may include companion and homemakers, cleaning services, repair persons and much more.

Tax Assistance Program: 219 tax returns were filed by A.A.R.P. trained volunteers assisting 266 clients. This year we were challenged with how to continue to provide the tax assistance service to our senior clients who are not computer savvy. Services for the Elderly worked with the Farmington Valley Health Department, A.A.R.P. and the Town of Farmington to develop a pilot program during the pandemic. Each client was temperature checked and provided a socially distant, private, tented area outside to meet with the tax advisor. The clients then waited in their air-conditioned cars for their taxes to be completed. This pilot program not only afforded our seniors the ability to have their taxes done at no charge, but maintained strict safety protocols to, again, protect our loved seniors. Thank you to Jeff Bellingham and his team of dedicated A.A.R.P. tax advisors for their hard work!

Senior Sense Newsletter: Services for the Elderly of Farmington's Senior Sense newsletters were circulated to 11,201 Farmington and Unionville residents in November 2019. This newsletter allows Services for the Elderly to communicate our programs and services, as well as essential contact information to our community.

Medical Equipment Program: For the Fiscal year of 2019-2020, Services for the Elderly loaned out 1,019 pieces of donated essential medical equipment to individuals in the Farmington Valley and Greater Hartford area. We were also able to give out countless packages of disposable personal hygiene products to individuals in need. Services for the Elderly is a partner with Orphan Grain Train and has helped to donate over 500 medical assistive items nationally and worldwide. We continue to adhere to strict procedures to maintain safety of our clients, both donating and borrowing equipment.

We are grateful to the Town of Farmington for providing financial assistance over the year to our Meals On Wheels and Congregate Meal programs. This assistance allowed for residents, regardless of their financial status, to obtain essential nutrition to maintain good health, as our clients remain at home.

2019-20 Highlights

- November 2019 through January 2020, our organization participated in the Subaru "Share the Love" Event with the assistance of Mitchell Subaru, who has been another great community partner.
- In December, our seniors were fortunate to attend the Rotary Christmas party that was held at the Farmington Gardens. Holiday spirit filled the air!
- In January, Services for the Elderly partnered with Brookdale Gables to provide a delicious birthday cake for our Congregate meal birthdays each month.
- In February, our Congregate participants enjoyed a wonderful Valentines celebration.
- Although our March for Meals campaign was heavily impacted by the pandemic, we know our community was banded together to continue to provide meals to our seniors.
- In March we were also able to begin an alternative Congregate "Grab & Go" meal to our participants, at no cost.
- In June, we worked to provide an alternative, outdoor tax preparation pilot program with A.A.R.P. at no cost to our participants. Services for the Elderly, also, participated in the Travelers Championship "Birdies for Charity" in June 2020.



Although we have had to alter our programs to protect our most vulnerable population during the pandemic, Services for the Elderly of Farmington is committed to assisting the aging in our community. We will continue to provide supportive basic need services to those looking to remain at home.

Nicole Bardeck, R.N., B.S.N. Executive Director

"The Farmington Land Trust's mission is to protect open space, in perpetuity, through acquisition, stewardship, education and advocacy. The Land Trust has pursued this goal since its founding in 1971 as a private, non-profit organization, qualifying under section 501(c)(3) of federal tax code."

Support for the Land Trust comes from town residents dedicated to the preservation of open space. Thanks to the generosity of its donors, the Land Trust now protects over 300 acres of fields, forests, wetlands, scenic vistas, historic sites and wildlife habitat from development. These 66 parcels will remain as open space forever, enriching the quality of life for Farmington residents, for generations to come. We appreciate the foresight of the donors of these properties and the continued commitment of our contributors to the future of Farmington.

The Land trust is governed by a board of fifteen directors, elected by its membership at the Annual Meeting in April. Over 330 Land Trust member households and businesses offer invaluable financial and volunteer support for maintaining and preserving the properties under the Land Trust's protection and for acquiring additional open space.



Officers for 2019-2020:

Richard Kramer, President;
Evan Cowles and Cate Grady-Benson, Vice-Presidents;
Doug Pelham, Treasurer;
Jon Estrellado, Assistant Treasurer; and
Diane Tucker, Secretary.

Directors: Jim Calciano, Peter Dorpalen, Bob Hannon, Nina Hayes, Francie Brown Holmes, Steve Nelson, Sallie Norris, Steve Silk and Jennifer Villa.

Sadly, board member Sallie Norris passed away in December. She was a great friend and ally to the Land Trust who will be greatly missed. Her board vacancy was filled by Lisa Johnson.

In August, Liz Dolphin joined our staff as the fifth executive director of the FLT, replacing Bruce Edgren, who resigned in June. The Land Trust office is located in the Canal House at 128 Garden Street.

Farmington Land Trust board meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm, currently via Zoom, except for the month of April, when our Annual Member Meeting is held. **Contact information:**

Farmington Land Trust, Inc.
PO Box 1, Farmington, CT 06034
(860) 674-8545
office@farmingtonlandtrust.org
www.farmingtonlandtrust.org

The Land Trust's 2019 Party in the Pasture fundraiser was held on September 19th, at The Wilcox-Bushley Homestead, at 119 Coppermine Road. One hundred and fifty celebrants gathered for wine, music and a fresh harvest dinner to celebrate the lives of Mary Bushley and Ruth Bushley Childs and kick off fundraising for the Homestead's restoration. The following Saturday, a community-wide event Celebrated the Great Outdoors at the Homestead.

During 2019-2020, the Land Trust continued collaborating with the CCSU Biology Department for various projects and research on our properties. The trail at the Mountain Spring Nature Trail was improved with the construction of several Bog Bridges. The Land Trust continued to present numerous educational and outdoor events each month on one or more of its properties, including: Outdoor Yoga on Main, Hikes to Will Warren's Den, and Canoeing down the Farmington River, as well as presentations on Bees and the Forest Floor. While the pandemic halted in-person events in 2020, we were able to hold our Annual Meeting via Zoom in May.

Richard Kramer and Evan Cowles serve as Land Trust representatives to the Town Land Acquisition Committee, which recommends the purchase of properties by the Town for open space and municipal use, continuing the strong collaboration between the FLT and the Town to Save the Land of Farmington.

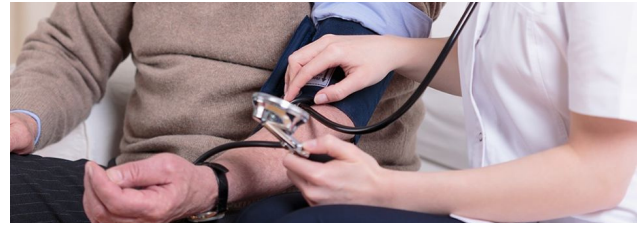
Farmington Valley Visiting Nurse Association

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"The Farmington Valley VNA, Inc. has closed one of the most tumultuous years ever experienced, from a healthcare standpoint. At the close of FY 2020, we continue to find ourselves and our communities searching for answers to an unprecedented healthcare crisis."

To date, much remains unknown regarding the COVID-19 SARS virus. How to live safely amidst a world of risk continues to be addressed daily. As new guidelines for healthy living continue to evolve, the Farmington Valley VNA remains steadfast in our mission to provide the communities of the Farmington Valley with the best care, the right care and the care that you need. Our goals throughout this year remain that we will be your advocate and educator. We will continue into the next year to educate ourselves at the very latest clinical research findings, so that, as members of Farmington venture out and try to recapture old routines, they will know how to do so safely.

Despite a global Pandemic that left many delaying health care treatments, our Home Care and Hospice service showed an almost 25% increase in volume. Our VNA was able to obtain the proper Personal Protective Equipment so that we could reassure patients that it was safe to allow us into their homes. We are proud to report that there was no occurrence of disease transmission due to our contacts in the community. No-cost health assessments continue to be available, and our volume doubled from the prior year. The number of residents that came to vaccination clinics rose from the prior year, and we were able to give 128 free vaccines utilizing the support funding from the Town of Farmington. Now more than ever before, this type of healthcare initiative will be vital as we move into a new world of unknown respiratory viruses. The Farmington Valley VNA is also planning, getting ready to provide drive-through vaccination clinics to the public. We are partnering with the Health District so that when other vaccinations become available, we will be ready to serve the residents of Farmington quickly and safely.



The utilization of our Agency as a home care provider increased in Farmington this past year. We made almost 3000 skilled nursing and physical therapy visits. We know that moving forward, we need to be prepared to offer virtual visits as well as in person visits as some patients may not always need to have a home visit, as opposed to a face to face visit with their nurse. So much of the healthcare services of today need to show flexibility in the way care is provided, and we are poised to do in the future, even when we do not fully know what the future will bring. The Community Programs continue to show increased participation in health care services.

Participation in routine blood pressure and blood glucose testing has increased from the prior year reaching over 560 assessments made; these health assessments provide vital data that enable our nurses to do proper health education, giving residents the ability to correct problems before they become full-blown illnesses. We were able to provide 7 educational sessions to the Westerleigh Congregate Housing residents, prior to being limited by the Coronavirus and we have begun offering virtual webinars so that learning in the community can continue even with Social Distancing guidelines in place.

The Farmington Valley VNA will continue to work together, with our partners at the Department of Social Services, the Senior Center and the Farmington Valley Health District to be ready to face the challenges of today as well as tomorrow. We are a preferred provider working closely with the University of CT John Dempsey Hospital and we work well to meet the needs of the residents of Farmington. It is our mission and goals to always be there when you need us most.

IT'S FLU SEASON

An annual flu vaccine is the best way to help protect against flu.

Schedule an appointment at the FVNA clinic today!

For additional information about the Farmington Valley VNA and its programs, please call: 860-651-3539, or visit our website: www.farmingtonvalleyvna.org.

"The Farmington Community Chest (FCC) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1931 to improve the health, wellbeing, and community life of all residents of Farmington through funding various organizations and initiatives."



In the past fiscal year, FCC raised over \$124,000 from individuals, businesses, our annual fundraising event and our yearly contribution, from our major contributor, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.



These funds then went directly to support nonprofit organizations that are in line with our current funding priorities of basic human needs, educational programming and community enhancements. Over the last year, particularly in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, our dollars had a significant impact on programs that serve our community. The Farmington Fuel Bank provided over \$5,000 in fuel assistance, a grant of \$11,000 was awarded for summer camp scholarships for school-age children, and direct aid was provided to qualifying families in our neighborhoods. Additional funding was provided to the Farmington Food Pantry, totaling over \$16,000, to support their COVID-19 relief efforts and increased food purchases. Additional COVID relief funding was also granted to Services for the Elderly to provide grab-and-go meals for seniors in isolation. Farmington Youth Services was awarded \$5,000 for their Fun Cops Program to build positive relationships between at-risk youth and law enforcement. And finally, the Farmington Senior Center received a \$7,000 grant to improve and expand the fitness and wellness center for our town's senior population. New Horizons Village received funds for two vehicles for staff to respond to emergencies throughout their 26 acres. Lastly, FCC joined forces with The Olive Bar & George's Pizza to provide meals for our hardworking medical professionals at UCONN Hospital.



Due to the risks associated with coronavirus, FCC's annual Farmington Cares Day had to be postponed, but the \$4,000 budgeted for its service projects was redirected to organizations providing groceries and essential needs for those most affected by the state shutdown.

For 89 years, the Farmington Community Chest has supported and strengthened our community. We are proud of our positive impact on the quality of life for all residents and look forward to growing with our community as we continue to seek opportunities to financially support our town's evolving needs.

In November, the Farmington Community Chest will start its annual donation drive. Letters will be mailed requesting donations so that we can continue in our tradition of supporting local nonprofits that provide quality services and programs directly impacting the wellness of our community. Please consider donating.

Donations can be made on our website, www.farmingtoncommunitychest.com, as well as through AmazonSmile, while doing your online shopping this holiday season. Farmington Community Chest is also an option during the United Way Campaign and through employer matching gift programs.

This is another wonderful way to show your support for Farmington Community Chest and the many organizations that receive support through FCC. Please join us in strengthening our community!