



COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS

December 2022 Newsletter

www.meridencona.wordpress.com

Activities in December

Thurs 1st: CON Holiday Party

Sat 3rd: Christmas in the Village

Thurs 15th Action 13

Westiders

Lewis Ave

Fri 9th-Sun 11th: Yule Fest

Wed 21st: Dutch Hill

ECHO

Lower Eastside

Hillside Gardens

Thurs 29th: South Meriden

Glen Hills

Crown Village

Stage Coach Riders

6pm Hunters Ambulance

1pm-4:30pm Main St South Meriden

6:30pm Immanuel Lutheran Church

Colony St Downtown

Cancelled

6:30pm Tom's Place

Meriden Police Dept Tip Lines

If you have any information or tips regarding crime, narcotics, or shootings you can report them anonymously to the Meriden Police Department by either calling or emailing the following:

Major Crime Tips: Telephone (203) 630-6253 Email: mpdtips@meridenct.gov

Narcotic Tips: Telephone (203) 630-6273 Email: mnarcoticsunit@meridenct.gov

Council of Neighborhoods Holiday Party Thurs Dec 1st

Our holiday party was held on Thurs Dec 1st. Great get together to start off celebrating the holiday season with our friends in the Neighborhood Associations and with the Meriden Police Dept command staff including LT Cardona and the NI Unit Officers. Thanks to Councilor Ray Ouellet, State Rep Michael Quinn and State Rep elect Jack Fazzino for attending and spending the evening with us. Happy Holidays everyone!

Christmas in the Village Sat Dec 3rd 1pm-4:30pm

Held on Main St in South Meriden. Free fun family event. Event includes pictures with Santa, entertainment, children's craft tent, horse and carriage rides, food and beverages and much more. Event is planned and sponsored by South Meriden Festivals LLC.

Yule Fest Dec 9 to Dec 11 on Colony St

Yule Fest will take place from Dec 9th to Dec 11th on Colony St. Yule Fest Market opens Fri Dec 9th from 3pm to 7pm inside 24 Colony St. Sat Dec 10th 11am to 5pm. There will be outdoor family activities, music, local on street performers, food trucks, vendors will be inside and outside 24 Colony St. Mr and Mrs Claus will be coming to town via train. Sun Dec 11th from 11am to 3pm. Vendors will be inside 24 Colony St selling a variety of items. Event is planned and hosted by Meriden Yule Fest Committee.

Meriden Little Free Libraries

Meriden Little Free Libraries will be at Christmas in the Village on Sat Dec 3. They will be giving away a large collection of winter and holiday themed books along with a wide variety of books for children, young adults and adults. Feel free to bring any books you would like donate and take a book or two for winter reading.

CT FoodShare Mobile Pantry

CT Foodshare in collaboration with New Opportunities will be sponsoring a pop up food pantry at the corner of Center St and Miller St Thursday December 8th from 1pm-2pm. The pop up food pantry will be scheduled every other Thursday moving forward. Please remember to bring reusable bags or mini carts to carry groceries in.

Tis the Season for a Senior

Let us bring some holiday spirit to a senior. As the holidays are approaching and times are quite difficult many of our seniors, especially with the pandemic, are alone and isolated. Please consider donating an unwrapped present for Meriden Seniors by December 12. Presents can be dropped off at the Meriden Senior Center, Meriden Board of Education, or the Mayor's Office at City Hall. If you have any questions please contact Natalie Gill Social Services Worker by calling 203-630-4273 by emailing ngill@meridenct.gov.

New Opportunities: Energy Assistance Applications

New Opportunities is announcing that the 2023 Heating Assistance Program for Meriden, Wallingford, Berlin and Southington residents is now open. Please call (203) 235-0278 to schedule an appointment to apply for the program. Also, if someone has a shut off notice from Eversource, they may "walk-in" (no appointment necessary) to New

Opportunities so their staff can mediate with Eversource and work toward a solution to have the service tuned back on.

City of Meriden Leaf Collection

The Highway Division collects leaves free-of-charge for City residents starting November 8 lasting until mid-December or until the first snowfall. Additionally, the City does not collect leaves in the spring. Residents do not have to make any appointments, they only have to place their leaves at curbside. Please note that only leaves in biodegradable bags will be collected and the use of duct tape is not permitted.



News from the Meriden Department of Health and Human Services – December 2022

165 Miller Street * 203-630-4226 * www.meridenhealth.com

COVID-19 & Flu (Influenza)

One Visit, Two Vaccines!

Our office continues to hold **appointment only** flu shot and Moderna COVID-19 booster clinics. Our two December clinics will be on Tuesday, December 6th and December 22nd 4:00 – 6:00 PM at 165 Miller Street. To make an appointment please call our clinic at (203) 630-4234.

COVID-19 Vaccination

All of the COVID-19 clinics below are also on the city COVID-19 webpage (Spanish flyers available on the website): <https://www.meridenct.gov/covid-19-information/>

Meriden Department of Health and Human Services

One Visit, Two Vaccines!

**APPOINTMENT ONLY FLU AND COVID-19
BOOSTER VACCINATION CLINICS**

165 Miller Street
November 22
December 6, 27
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Flu Shots:

- Child doses are FREE for Meriden children 18 and under.
- We accept Medicare, Medicaid, Aetna, Connecticare and Cigna insurances.
- \$20 for self-pay (\$30 for Flublok), cash or check accepted

COVID-19 Moderna Booster - No Cost:

- Available for those 6 years and older
- Please bring your vaccine card with you to your appointment

To make an appointment, please call our clinic
at (203) 630-4234



A full list of clinics available in Connecticut can be found at <https://www.vaccines.gov/>. Search by zip code and type of vaccine desired.

Homebound Visits

Are you homebound and in need of a COVID-19 vaccine or booster? Community Health Center is providing homebound vaccinations. You will need to fill out an online form. [CLICK HERE](#) for the form.

Or, call us at (203) 630-4221 and we can fill out the form for you over the phone. Community Health Center will then contact you to schedule the visit.

If you only need a ride to get a COVID-19 shot, you should not complete this form. You should click on this [Transportation Resources](#) link for help finding a ride.

Public Health Education

Virtual Narcan Training

Please join us in partnership with Rushford for our monthly virtual Community Narcan Training! Trainings in 2023 will be offered on:

- January 4, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM
- February 1, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM
- March 1, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM
- April 5, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM
- May 2, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM
- June 7, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM
- July 5, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM
- August 2, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM
- September 6, 2023 9:00 – 10:00 AM
- October 4, 2023 5:30 – 6:30 PM
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FREE COMMUNITY NARCAN TRAINING

LEARN WHAT AN OVERDOSE LOOKS LIKE AND HOW TO REVERSE THEM

This group Narcan training is an essential part of overdose prevention education. You will learn:

- Signs & symptoms of an overdose
- What Narcan is and how to administer it
- Good Samaritan laws
- Local resources and support

FREE Narcan Kit for those who attend

Trainings are FREE and open to all Meriden residents and individuals who work in Meriden.

Staff can also provide a group training for your organization or business. Contact Elizabeth or Kelsey for more information.

To register please contact:
Elizabeth DeMerchant
edemerchant@meridenct.gov
Kelsey Ludington
kel.ludington@hhhealth.org

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YOU NARCAN SAVE LIVES! Hartford HealthCare

Participants will receive a Narcan kit, CPR face shield, medication disposal bag, medication lock box, and more! Please register for this training by emailing Kelsey Ludington at Kelsey.Ludington@hhhealth.org or calling (203) 630-5357 or Elizabeth DeMerchant at edemerchant@meridenct.gov or calling (203) 630-4288.

We can also provide virtual trainings for your organization or business; contact Elizabeth or Kelsey for more information.

Youth Services

Youth Mini Grants

Our Youth Services Office is pleased to announce that mini-grants are available for youth-developed and led projects that will benefit the Meriden community.

Up to 20 mini-grants of \$500 are available. The proposal must be written by youth under the advisement of an adult at a recognized organization that serves Meriden. All awarded projects must be completed and a final report submitted by June 3, 2023.



Applications are accepted throughout the 2022-2023 fiscal year until all funds are expended. The application is available for download at www.meridenhealth.com, Youth Services webpage, or by emailing Elizabeth DeMerchant, Public Health Educator, at edemerchant@meridenct.gov. Reports of previously funded projects can be found on the website as well. Please call Elizabeth at (203) 630-4288 with any questions.

Environmental Health

Radon Kits

Radon is an odorless and invisible gas. High levels of Radon have been linked to causing Lung Cancer. In fact, the Surgeon General has declared radon as the second leading cause of lung cancer. Radon is naturally occurring; it is produced from decaying uranium and can enter your home through cracks in the foundation, chimney, or dirt basement floors.

Once detected, property owners can reduce the levels of Radon by increasing ventilation, sealing all cracks in foundations and chimneys or by installing a radon mitigation system.

The City of Meriden, Department of Health and Human Services has a limited supply of free radon kits to Meriden residents.

To reserve your Radon Test kit please call 203-630-4226 x3 Environmental Health.

School Readiness

Meriden School Readiness provides affordable, quality child care slots for 3 and 4 year old children living in Meriden. Programs provide children with a School Readiness experience that can assure they will enter kindergarten ready to learn.

If you are interested in learning more, please call Rhonda Knight, School Readiness Coordinator, at (203) 630-4222 or email her at rknight@meridenct.gov. Or, you can fill out the Google form on our website and we will contact you: <https://www.meridenct.gov/city-services/social-services/meriden-school-readiness/>.

Meriden Senior Center

For a full list of happenings at the Meriden Senior Center, please visit our website www.meridenhealth.com, click on Senior Center on the left. The Meriden Senior Center is located at 22 West Main Street; parking is available on Hanover Street. Please call the Senior Center at (203) 237-0066.

Senior Center Mini-Bus Transportation Program

Rides are available for Meriden residents aged 55 and over, as well as rides to medical appointments for people with disabilities under age 55. Applications for passengers are available in the Mini-Bus Office.

- Due to high rider demand, if your ride is not pre-scheduled there will be no additional trips scheduled for that day. Only trips on the schedule will be made. If you need to cancel your reservation, please call the Dispatcher beginning at 8:00am.
- Please schedule medical trips at least three (3) days in advance. Riders can only be transported to one medical appointment per day.

Rides are free; funds come from the City of Meriden, the CT DOT, and the Agency on Aging of South Central CT. Donations are gratefully accepted. Please see the schedule below for scheduled shopping trips through the Mini-Bus program. Please note that there is a two (2) bag limit for shopping trips.

Elderly Nutrition Program

\$3.00 Suggested Donation for seniors 60 and Up- \$6.00 Fee for Non-Seniors

No loose change will be accepted

Ordering: Sign up for your meal by noon the day before.

**Please make sure you arrive no later than 11:25 AM for your lunch ticket to assure a smooth and prompt lunch service. Thank You!*

Cancelling: We need you to contact the kitchen at 203-630-4704 to cancel your order ASAP. This will help us reduce the number of wasted meals.

A "Form 5" **must be** filled out when you come for your first lunch and updated yearly after that.