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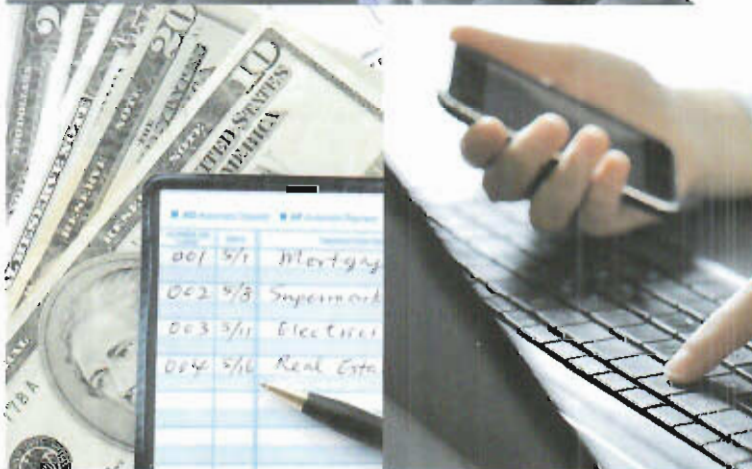


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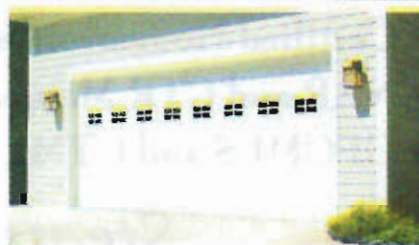
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Bounded by water for more than 14 miles of coastline, Stratford boasts a diverse ecology, a tradition in the arts linked to the home of William Shakespeare, and an industrial history crucial to America.

Stratford was founded in 1639.

It is bounded to the south by the Long Island Sound, to the east by the Housatonic River.

The Great Meadows Marsh has been designated an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society, and an annual festival has been started to celebrate Stratford as a destination for bird watchers.

Also on the banks of the Housatonic, not far north of the engine plant, is the former Shakespeare Festival Theatre. Dark for some two decades, the replica of the Globe Theatre in Stratford-on-Avon, England, once hosted internationally known actors performing the Bard's work. New efforts are afoot to bring life back to the stage.

Farther north, near the Shelton line, Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation builds helicopters on land near where Igor Sikorsky perfected rotary-winged aircraft more than seven decades ago.



QUICK FACTS

Official Website

Information on the town and municipal services can be found online at townofstratford.com.

Location

Stratford is in Fairfield County. The line between Fairfield and New Haven counties is the Housatonic River, which separates Stratford and Milford.

Post Office

The Stratford Post Office is at 411 Barnum Ave. Cut-off.

ZIP Code

There are two: 06614 and 06615.

Area

Stratford covers 18.7 square miles.

Population

As of 2013 the population was 52,112.

Median income

According to townofstratford.com, \$66,162.

2017

STRATFORD!

Published annually by HAN Network.

Copies are also available at real estate offices, town hall and Chamber of Commerce.

For additional copies, call 203-926-2080.

Contents are online at stratfordanswerbook.com.

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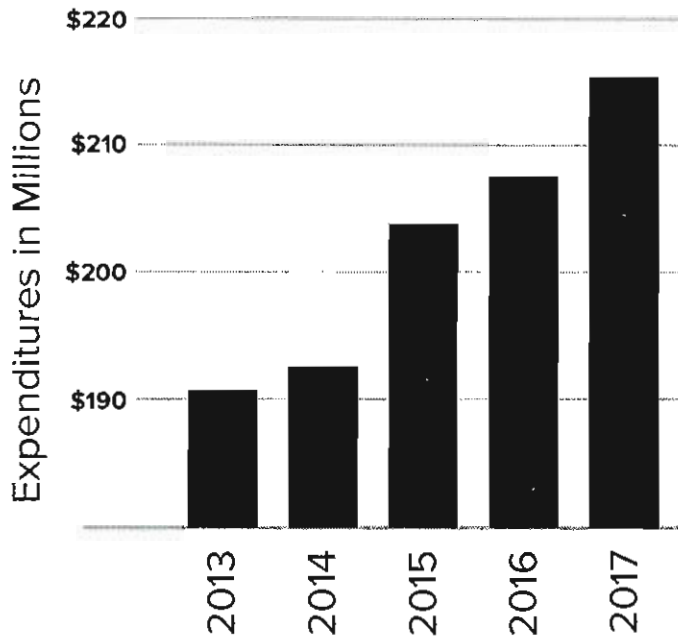
Please send updates, ideas, or corrections to:
answerbook@hersamacorn.com



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Municipal budget

The approved operating budget for FY 2017 was \$215,344,250.

Mill rate

The mill rate, or the amount per \$1,000 of the assessed value of a residence owed in property taxes, is 38.91 for FY 2017.

Bond rating

Standard & Poor's rated Stratford a AA/Stable, while Moody's rated the town A1.

Grand list

A New England term, the grand list is the town's tax base and represents all taxable property in town. It is compiled every Oct. 1. Stratford's grand list, as of Oct. 2016, was \$4,463,738,354.

Paying taxes

The tax assessor's office is responsible for determining the assessed value of your house. Stratford's assessor is Melinda Fonda. She can be reached at 203-385-4025 or taxassessor@townofstratford.com. Regular office hours at Town Hall are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Property taxes are due in two installments, July 1 and Jan. 1, and may be paid at the tax collector's office in Town Hall, or mailed to the address on the bill. Taxes may be paid within 30 days of the due date without penalty. You may also pay online at townofstratford.com.

Vehicle and personal property taxes are due in one installment on July 1.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve you of the responsibility of paying any taxes, penalties, or interest due.

The office may be reached at 203-385-4030 or taxcollector@townofstratford.com.

Failure to pay taxes on time will result in a 1.5% interest fee each month on the installment balance. This works out to 18% annually. In addition, before the end of each fiscal year, real estate liens are filed against all properties on which there is a delinquent real estate tax.

Tax breaks

There are tax break programs for the elderly, the disabled, and veterans. For details, check with the assessor's office at 203-385-4025.

Home assessed value

To find the assessed value of your home, you may call assessor's office at 203-385-4025 or you may visit the assessor's office and look at the field card for your property. The field card lists the particulars in figuring the valuation of your home. In Connecticut, an assessment is equal to 70% of the fair market value as established by the assessor.

Property revaluation

State law requires a revaluation every five years. Stratford is completing its latest revaluation. Information will be posted at townofstratford.com and be published in The Stratford Star.

Assessment Appeals

If you feel the assessed value of your home is unfair, your first step is to call the tax assessor's office to review the assessment for any possible inaccuracies. If none are found and you still consider the assessment unfair you may apply to appear before a scheduled hearing of the Board of Assessment Appeals. The board meets annually in March to hear appeals.

Board of Assessment Appeals members

Regular members, appointed to a 4-year term by Town Council, are:

Richard Brown
Thomas McAlarney
Michael Henrick
Alternate Members:

Prez Palmer
Ann Alice Baker
Kenneth Caserta

Additional (temporary) members, 2-year term (year of and year after revaluation)

Robyn Greenspan
There is one vacancy

Committee rosters are at townofstratford.com.

Car taxes

Car taxes are based on 70% of book value.

The Department of Motor Vehicles maintains vehicle ownership records, which it forwards to the town assessor's office to determine the tax roll for cars owned by Stratford residents. DMV will continue sending ownership reports to the town until a vehicle's license plates are turned in. To remove a car from the tax roll, cancel your registration and return the plates to the DMV office in Bridgeport and take the DMV return receipt to the assessor's office.

Back taxes and motor vehicle registrations

Back taxes must be paid prior to registering a motor vehicle. The outstanding charges must be paid at the Tax Collector's office in Town Hall. The registration renewal will then be stamped with a release.

Information is available at 203-385-4030.

Metro North Railroad station

A Metro-North station is located on Main Street in Stratford Center. Metro-North trains stop there on a line from New Haven to Grand Central Terminal in New York City. Schedules can be found at mta.info.

Permit parking is available, along with a limited number of daily parking, on both the New Haven/Eastbound side and the New York/Westbound side of the station.

Parkers must have a permit or pay the daily fee between the hours of 6 a.m. and noon Monday through Friday.

Parking is free of charge weekdays after noon and all day on weekends and municipal holidays.

The daily fee for non-permit parking is \$5. There are two pay stations on the eastbound side and two pay stations on the westbound side.

If the lot is full, a number of daily parking spaces are available in a lot off Main Street across from Academy Hill about 1/2 mile south of the station. Spaces fill early each day.

You may park overnight at the station at your own risk. The charge is the normal daily price of \$5.

Overnight parkers are encouraged to park close to the station, near a light if possible, and to contact management at 203-381-2051 with the make/model of the vehicle and contact information.

Railroad station parking permits

Information can be obtained by writing to Stratford Railroad Station Parking, Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main St., Stratford, CT 06615; call 203-381-2051 or email railroad@townofstratford.com.

Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority

Stratford and the coastal Fairfield County corridor are linked by the Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority, 1 Cross St, Bridgeport, CT 06610, 203-336-7070.

Business

Chamber of Commerce

The Bridgeport Regional Business Council is comprised of five affiliates: the Bridgeport, Stratford and Trumbull Chambers of Commerce, Leadership Greater Bridgeport and the Women's Leadership Council and has approximately 1,000 investor members.

The primary mission of the Business Council is to pursue economic development of the region that will lead to increased jobs and tax base growth. The goal is to create a business environment receptive to expansion of current businesses and attraction of new businesses to the area. Executive Director Mary Dean can be reached at 203-335-3800, ext. 118, or dean@brbc.org.

Better Business Bureau

With an office in Wallingford, the Better Business Bureau provides reports on businesses, charity groups and organizations. It can help resolve consumer disputes with businesses, and promotes ethical business standards. Complaints can be made online at Connecticut.bbb.org, by calling 269-2700.

The Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection will investigate cases where consumers feel they were cheated or defrauded. You may call the hotline at 800-842-2649, visit online at state.ct.us/dcp, or send written complaints to 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, 06106.



Recreation Department

468 Birdseye Street, Stratford, CT 06615

203-385-4052

Fax: 203-381-2072 • Youth Programs: 203-385-4129

Email: recreation@townofstratford.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/STFDREC

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John Harkins
Mayor



Patricia Patusky
Superintendent



Bunnell student's 'doodle' best in Connecticut

Harrison honored by Google, classmates for inclusionary artwork

By Melvin Mason

Sarah Harrison's artistry is impressive in the eyes of many. And it's been honored by a world famous technology company.

Harrison, a sophomore at Bunnell High School, is the Connecticut winner of Google's Doodle 4 Google contest. Her winning artwork was unveiled at an assembly featuring her fellow BHS sophomores and her parents, Keith and Lisa Harrison. Loud applause accompanied Harrison as she went on stage to be honored by Google representatives Morgan Price and Mackenzie Thomas.

"It doesn't feel real," said Harrison, 15, smiling broadly after the assembly. "I woke up this morning and thought, 'Oh, my God, it's happening today. It's really amazing.' I never thought I would make it this far."

The 15-year-old's doodle, created for the theme "What I see for the future ...," shows a group of people of different faiths and orientations with symbols spelling out "Google." Her aim was to encourage people to get along in a time when many people are divided.

"I wanted to emphasize the importance of community and generalized happiness among people," she said.

The Doodle 4 Google competition gives students from kindergarten through 12th grade across the country the opportunity to have their artwork featured on Google's home page. A panel of judges, including Olympic gold medalist Simone Biles and Grammy Award-winning artist Sia, selected winners for each state or territory, choosing from more than 4,200 entries.



Bunnell High student Sarah Harrison, center, is the Connecticut winner of the Doodle 4 Google contest. She is pictured with her artwork and her parents, Keith and Lisa. — Melvin Mason photo

"This year's Doodle 4 Google competition was aimed at getting students to think about the future they want to create, and their submissions were nothing short of inspiring," said William Floyd, head of external affairs for Google. "Sarah's work specifically stood out, and we were encouraged to see her represent values like inclusion and tolerance in her art."

Harrison won an Android tablet and a T-shirt featuring her doodle.

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Riders form a Fourth Watch

Motorcycle Club is family, work and club in that order

By Melvin Mason

Stratford's first responders who enjoy hitting the road on motorcycles have formed a new organization that will allow them to serve the community even while off duty.

A group of Stratford police officers and firefighters are members of the Fourth Watch Motorcycle Club.

The motorcycle club, open to police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and members of the military, was founded in March 2011 in New Jersey to honor Port Authority Police Officer David Lemange, who died at the World Trade Center during the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The group rides to remember those who have dedicated their lives to serving and protecting the country. Fourth Watch Motorcycle Club chapters are in existence in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Florida.

Seven local public servants established the Stratford chapter in May 2015.

Fourth Watch Vice President Brian McCarthy, a Stratford Police officer, said the group gathers to ride together, to support first responders and to perform community service projects. McCarthy has been riding motorcycles for more than 30 years and likes to hang out with his buddies on rides.

"I just got into it as a kid. It's in your blood. It's something you enjoy doing," McCarthy said. "We go out as often as possible."

Brian Johnson, a Stratford firefighter and Fourth Watch member, said the group is a bunch of like-minded individuals who enjoy the times together on their two-wheeled machines.



Members of the Stratford chapter of the Fourth Watch Motorcycle Club.

— Contributed photo

"We're people who love to ride a motorcycle and the camaraderie," he said. "It's just hanging out with the guys. It's family, work and the club in that order."

While Johnson did mention "hanging out with the guys," women are also welcome to take part in their rides and to join the chapter.

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203-385-4055

Stratford Senior Services
Raymond E. Baldwin Center
1000 West Broad Street, Stratford, CT
www.townofstratford.com/seniorservices

Voter registration

To register to vote in Stratford you must be at least 18 years old by Election Day, a U.S. citizen, and a bona fide resident of the town. The deadline to register is 14 days prior to an election. You may enroll in a party or switch parties if already registered. Those who are 17 years old but will turn 18 before the next election may register and may vote in party primaries during an election year.

Voters may register by mail or at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Unaffiliated voters cannot vote in Democratic or Republican primaries. One must be a member of the party holding the primary. Contact the Republican Town Committee or Democratic Town Committee to join a party.

Elections

Stratford elects a mayor every four years. The next election is 2017. Town Council members are elected every two years.

State legislators, representatives and senators, are elected every two years. The next regular election is in 2018.

Registrars of voters

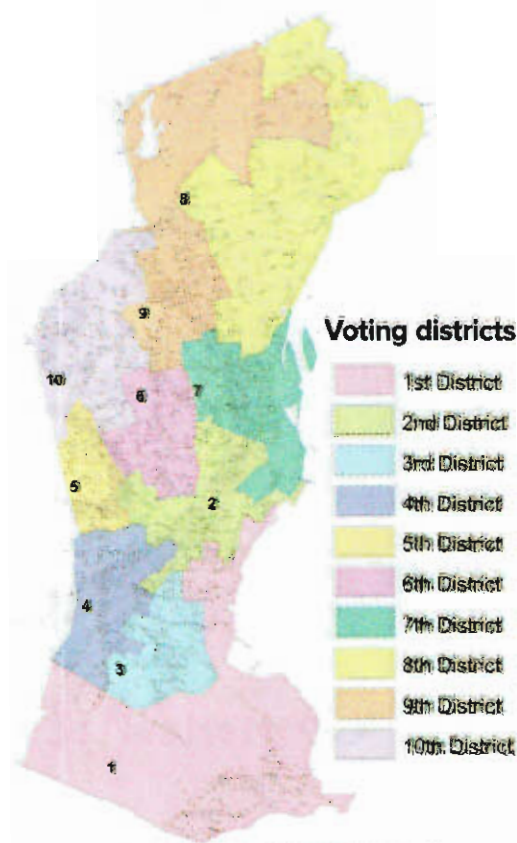
Louis DeCilio, the Republican registrar, and Richard Marcone the Democratic registrar, share an office in Town Hall, 2275 Main St. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Both can be reached at 203-385-4048 or registrars@townofstratford.org.

VOTER STATISTICS

34,695 total active voters
11,805 active Democrats
6,563 active Republicans
15,992 active unaffiliated voters
335 voters classified as "other"

Absentee ballots

To obtain an absentee ballot pick up an application at the town clerk or registrars' office in the Town Hall, or it may be mailed to you at any address. After you return the application, it will be processed and the absentee ballot will be sent to you two to four weeks before the actual election.



Visit dir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx
to find your polling location

Stratford Library

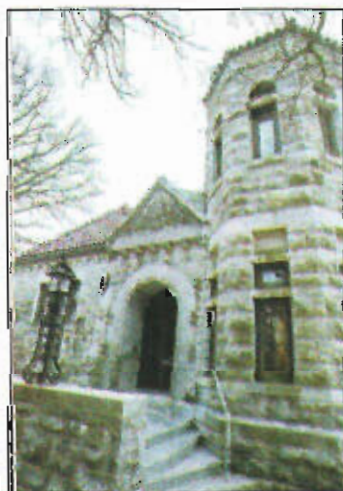
Stratford Public Library | stratfordlibrary.org
2203 Main St. | (203) 385-4160

The Library is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 pm (October through mid-May).

Visit the Library website at www.stratfordlibrary.org to view the calendar of events and to sign up for eNewsletters. Print newsletters are available at the Library, as well as a variety of program fliers and information.

Adult programs

The Library hosts book discussions at Books Over Coffee, Books on Tap at Sitting Duck Tavern and Monday Morning Buzz. Sunday Afternoon Talks and Lifelong Learners feature local experts. Throwback Thursdays feature games, trivia and crafts. Summer programs include Summer Reading for Adults and live theater performances. Other programs include Monday Movie Matinees, SCORE Small Business workshops, computer classes, Coloring and Coffee, Technology Sandboxes, free concerts, financial talks, health and cooking programs.



Audra Napolitano photo

Teen programs

Teen Services offers Youth Review Board for middle and high school students who love to read, review and recommend books; Creative Writing Workshop for teens who love to write and share their creativity in prose, poetry, photography and art; an Anime Club for teens who enjoy Manga, Anime, gaming and drawing.

A Testing and Education Resource Center is available for students preparing for SAT's. Call 203-385-4167 for more information.

Children's programs

The Children's Department offers a variety of programs. There are weekly music and storytime programs for babies, toddlers and preschoolers. For elementary school age children there are craft programs, book discussion groups, computer classes, and special events. Kids of all ages can participate in a Summer Reader Program. For more information, call 203-385-4165.

Career Center

Use the computers in the Library's Career Center, visit www.stratfordlibrary.org to use the Jobnow service, participate in computer classes to brush up your skills and visit the CT Works Career Coach during one of its monthly visits to the Stratford Library. Call 203-385-4164 for more information.

Online Services

The Library is available online 24/7 at www.stratfordlibrary.org to conduct research, renew books, place items on hold, download free eBooks, stream music, view movies, and 'how to' videos, read magazines on your mobile device and more.

Stratford public schools website: stratfordk12.org

Elementary schools

Stratford has seven public elementary schools.

Wilcoxson Elementary School, 600 Wilcoxson Ave., 203-385-4196.

Eli Whitney Elementary School, 1130 Huntington Road

Second Hill Lane Elementary School, 65 Second Hill Lane, 203-385-4292.

Nichols Elementary School, 396 Nichols Ave., 203-385-4294.

Lordship Elementary School, 254 Crown St., 203-385-4170.

Franklin Elementary School, 1895 Barnum Ave., 203-385-4190.

Chapel Street Elementary School, 380 Chapel St., 203-385-4192.

For all schools except Nichols and Wilcoxson classes are 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Nichols and Wilcoxson Schools classes are 8:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Middle schools

David Wooster Middle School, 150 Lincoln St. 203-385-4275.

Flood Middle School, 490 Chapel St., 203-385-4280.

Hours for both schools are 8:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Public high schools

Stratford High School, 45 North Parade, 203-385-4230.

Frank Scott Bunnell High School, 1 Bulldog Blvd., 203-385-4250.

High school hours are 7:40 a.m. to 2:10 p.m.

Stratford Board of Education

Stratford Board of Education, 1000 East Broadway, 203-381-2016.

Dr. Janet Robinson is Superintendent of Schools. She can be reached at 203-385-4209, or robinsonj@stratfordk12.org

The 7-member Board of Education oversees and maintains Stratford's public schools.

The Stratford Board of Education meets the fourth Monday of every month at its offices, 1000 East Broadway.

Board of Education members

Chairman James Feehan (R)feehan.j.boe@stratfordk12.org

Leonard Petruccioli (R)petruccioli.l.boe@stratfordk12.org

Theresa Sheehy (R)sheehy.t.boe@stratfordk12.org

Christian Barnaby (R)barnaby.c.boe@stratfordk12.org

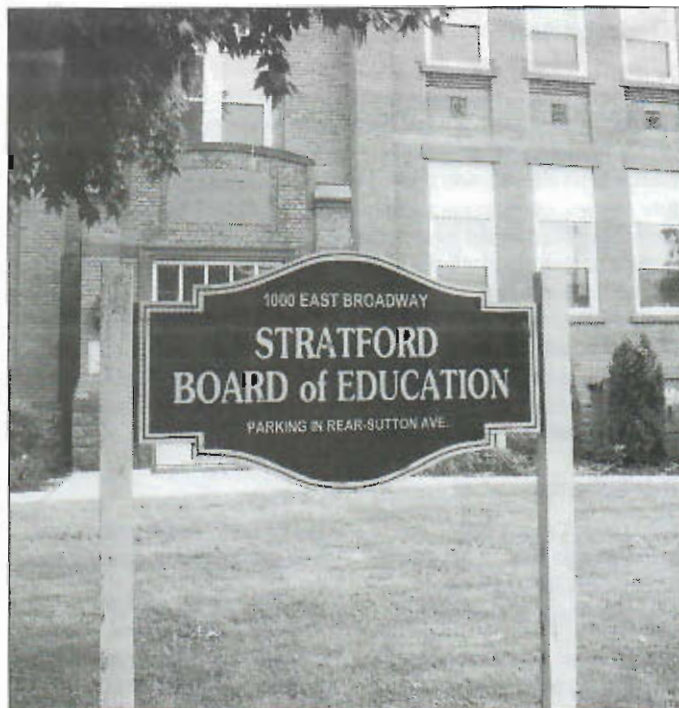
Maria Buturla (R)buturla.m.boe@stratfordk12.org

Susan Lance (R)lance.s.boe@stratfordk12.org

Eric Lazaro (D)lazaroe.boe@stratfordk12.org

STRATFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS ITEMIZED ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURES

	Fy 16-17	Fy 17-18
Salaries	\$47,879,799	\$ 50,990,010
Benefits	\$16,775,961	\$18,262,871
Classroom Support	\$2,492,347	\$3,189,025
Plant Operations	\$3,781,713	\$4,157,849
Transportation- General	\$1,903,000	\$2,047,540
Transportation-Special Education	\$2,573,892	\$2,997,488
Special Education & Pupil Services	\$22,449,884	\$26,196,407
General Services*	\$2,058,579	\$2,183,294
Contingency	\$258,119	\$473,444
Total	\$106,795,002	\$110,497,927



Stratford Academy

Stratford Academy, 719 Birdseye St., is a magnet elementary school to which students must apply. It is home to the Victoria Soto School (203.375.2206) for kindergarten through 2nd grade and Johnson House (203-385-4180) for 3rd through 6th grades.

Parochial schools

St. Mark School, 500 Wigwam Lane, was honored as a national Blue Ribbon School in 2009. Information is available at 203-375-4291 or stmarkschool.org.

St. James School is located at 1 Monument Place. Information can be obtained at 203-375-5994 or stjamesstratford.org.

Special education

Special education traditionally serves children and young adults who are physically handicapped or learning disabled. Stratford schools provide comprehensive programming for students who require special education support.

If your child has not yet started school and you suspect he or she may have a disability, you may request an evaluation in writing to the director of pupil services. If your child is already in school, you may call the principal or guidance counselor.

Stratford SEPTA brings together parents, families, teachers, school administrators, students, and friends who are interested in special education and children with special needs. Stratford SEPTA meets the second Wednesday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Stratford Parents' Place at Johnson House of Stratford Academy, 719 Birdseye St.

Information can be found at stratfordsepta.org or the "Stratford Septa" page on Facebook, or e-mail info@stratfordsepta.org.

Stratford Parents' Place

Stratford Parents' Place is a family resource center based in Johnson Place is a cooperative project of Stratford Community Services and the Stratford Public Schools.

Hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Information is available at 203-381-6992 or online.

Kindergarten

The Stratford Public Schools offers a full-day kindergarten program in every elementary school including Stratford Academy. Because there are a limited number of kindergarten classrooms in some schools, students may be assigned to a school outside their designated attendance zone. These students may potentially return to their attendance zone in a future grade. However, concerns regarding enrollment may necessitate placement at a different school or require that your child remain at the school where they attend kindergarten.

Contact Clarence Zachery, Chief Operating Officer, at 203-386-3149 or email zacheryc@stratfordk12.org if you have questions regarding registration or placement. Contact Linda Gejda, Assistant Superintendent, at 203-381-2016 or email gejda@stratfordk12.org for curriculum related questions.

Pre schools

ABC Child Care, 2740 Broadbridge Ave., 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. 203-378-8888, www.abcchildcarecenter.com.

ABCD Head Start at the South End Community Center, 19 Bates St., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 203-386-9040, Serving low to middle income families.

ABCD Head Start at Holy Name of Jesus, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 203-385-1127, Serving low to middle income families.

Affordable and Loving Child Care, 95 Vermont Ave., 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. 203-378-8012.

Briarfield Day School, 287-291 Kenyon St., 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 203-378-6770.

Cheyenne's Day Care Learning Center II, 2224 Barnum Ave., 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. 203-522-4388.

Creative Start Learning Center, 2189 Barnum Ave., 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. 203-612-7717.

Franklin Preschools*, 1895 Barnum Ave., 8:50 a.m. to 3 p.m. 203-381-2061.

Grace Childcare Center, 150 Chapel St., call for hours, 203-381-0188, www.gracechildcarecenter.org.

Helen King Reynolds Private School, 868 East Broadway, call for hours, 203-375-1687, www.helenkingreynolds.com

Honey Bear Learning Center*, 1498 North Ave., 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 203-375-1866,

honeybearinfo@att.net, www.honeybearlearningcenter.com.

Lordship Learning Tree Preschool & Daycare, 179 Prospect Dr., 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 203-381-0333.

Our Lady of Grace Preschool, 497 Second Hill Lane, call for hours, 203-375-6610.

St. James Preschool, 50 Harvey Place, call for hours, 203-375-5994.

St. Mark Preschool, 500 Wigwam Lane, call for hours, 203-375-4291.

Sterling House Preschool*, 2283 Main St., call for hours, 203-378-2606.

Stratford Academy Preschool*, 719 Birdseye St., 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., 203-381-2061.

Stratford Baptist Preschool, 131 Huntington Rd., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 203-380-2755.

Stratford Early Learning Service, Second Hill Lane School, call for hours, 203-381-2030.

Stratford United Methodist Preschool, 2600 Main St., call for hours, 203-386-1818.

Stratford YMCA Preschool Program*, 3045 Main St., 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. 203-375-5844.

Sunny Days Preschool, 61 California St., 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., 203-381-9031.

* NAEYC Accredited

School Readiness Council

The Stratford School Readiness and Child Care Advisory Council, also known as SRACCAC, is the voice for early care and education in the Town of Stratford. The SRACCAC fosters joint planning and action between the Town government and the Stratford Public Schools on behalf of all Stratford children birth through age 8. Advisory to the mayor and superintendent of schools, the council is comprised of early childhood professionals, community organizations including the Stratford Library Association, public school personnel, Town department representatives and parents.

It formed in July of 1998 as one of the requirements of Stratford's School Readiness grant from the State Department to provide preschool scholarships for eligible 3- and 4-year-olds. The William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund (GMF) has provided funding for the planning and action work of the SRACCAC since 2002. At that time, Stratford was selected along with 48 other communities throughout the state to improve the lives of its youngest children by expanding the supply of high quality early care and education; increasing the quality of early childhood education; building strong connections between early care and elementary education; and improving students' social, emotional and academic performance. This work continues today.

Residents interested in early care and education may participate. For more information call (203) 381-2061.

Community Centers

Sterling House

Sterling House is a multi-service community center located at 2283 Main St.

Sterling House serves more than 13,000 children, teenagers and adults per year through a variety of services including child development services, community services, positive youth development services and adult programs to the residents of Stratford and the Greater Bridgeport area. The mission of Sterling House is to foster the physical, social, emotional, artistic and intellectual growth of the communities it serves.

Information is available at sterlinghousecc.org or 203-378-2806.

South End Community Center

The South End Community Center, 19 Bates St., celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2009.

The center hosts child care, education, camps and cultural activities.

The South End Community Council works with center staff, offering hands-on support for programs and services, soliciting funding, and participating on community-wide panels and committees, as well as lobbying for initiatives that address a variety of community issues.

Food pantries

Sterling House Community Center and the South End Community Center both have food pantries. Contact them for schedule information.

Stratford Arts Commission

The Arts Commission is responsible for "promotion, development and acceptance of artistic and cultural activities," including an annual festival on the grounds of the Shakespeare Theatre

Square One Theatre Company

Square One Theatre Company is the only full-time, resident theatre currently producing in the Town of Stratford. Square One's website, squareonetheatre.com, features information about current productions, a 'Hall of Fame' for actors and video clips from memorable productions, as well as a past productions gallery. To join the mailing list, send your email address or call us at 203.375.8778.

Stratford Community Band

The Stratford Community Concert Band was founded in 1961, providing area musicians of all ages and skill levels with a place to rehearse and perform together. Current members range in age from middle-schoolers to middle-agers, to seniors, and represent a wide variety of professions. The common bond has always been a love of music.

There are no auditions for membership and there are no fees for music or rehearsals. The only requirements for continuing membership are average performing ability on a standard band instrument and reasonable regularity in attending rehearsals.

Rehearsals are Tuesday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 at Baldwin Center. To inquire about membership, please contact info@stratfordcommunityband.org.

More information can be found online at www.stratfordcommunityband.org.



Melvin Mason photo

Shakespeare Theatre

The Shakespeare Theatre on Elm Street, a replica of the Globe in England, is a now-dark venue. Efforts are under way to reopen the theater.

The 14 acre property is used for outdoor productions and festivals.

EVENTS & FESTIVAL DATES

Restaurant Week.....	April 23-29
Main Street Festival.....	June 3
Fourth of July Fireworks at Short Beach.....	June 30
	(Rain date July 5)
Blues on the Beach at Short Beach.....	July 29
Latin Music Festival at Paradise Green.....	September 10
Pumpkin Festival at Boothe Park.....	October 21
Holiday Festival at Town Hall.....	November 28

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Stratford Health Department

The Health Department, located at 468 Birdseye St., deals with beaches, child health, education, prevention and pandemic preparedness.

It offers information on health issues such as radon, lead paint, wellness initiatives, Raymark waste, rabies and recalls.

The department can be reached at 203-385-4090.

Medical Reserve Corps

The Stratford-Trumbull-Monroe Medical Reserve Corps is a group of volunteers that assists in medical emergencies, such as pandemics. Members have assisted at flu clinics to prepare for an actual emergency.

Its roster includes doctors, nurses, other medical professionals and non-medical personnel.

Information is available from the Stratford Health Department, 203-385-4090 or aboissevain@townofstratford.com.

Child abuse

In an emergency, with a child in immediate danger, call 911.

If it's not an immediate emergency situation contact Community Services 203-385-4095.

Child health care assistance

Information on School-Based Health Centers is available from the Health Department, 203-381-6922

Lyme disease

Lyme disease, spread by deer ticks, is prevalent. Take precautions when going in the woods and fields. Use insect repellent, dress in light-colored clothing, roll pant cuffs into socks, wear long sleeves and a hat. Inspect pets that roam daily.

Insect repellents that contain DEET are quite effective against ticks. Follow the label instructions for use and application. Products containing 15% or less DEET are recommended for children, but products containing DEET should not be used on infants.

If you notice a tick bite or any bite around which a redness forms in the shape of a bull's-eye target, or if you have flu-like symptoms, see a doctor immediately. Another tick-borne disease that is becoming more of a problem in this area is ehrlichiosis. Spread through the bite of an infected deer tick, symptoms include fever, headache, chills, malaise, muscle and joint pain, nausea, and vomiting. Acute weight loss, low platelet count, and a low white blood cell count can also occur.

Information is available from the Stratford Health Department at 203-385-4090 or townofstratford.com, or at LymeDiseaseAssociation.org.

Industrial waste

Call the Health Department at 203-385-4090.

If it's related to water, call the Water Pollution Control facility, 203-385-4065.

Seniors

Baldwin Senior Center

Located at 1000 West Broad Street in Stratford, Connecticut. Provides a place for social connection, learning and a healthy, active lifestyle for people 55 and older. Presentations on health and wellness, finances and safety, fitness classes and lessons in crafts, language and the arts are held daily. A schedule of events and the newsletter, the Baldwin Beacon, is posted on the Town of Stratford website. Lunch is served daily at 11:45 am, reservations are required two days in advance by calling 203-377-4991. A coffee shop on the first floor serving a continental breakfast is open weekdays from 9 am to 11 am and offers free wireless. The Baldwin Center is open Monday-Friday, from 8:30 am-4:00 pm.

C.A.R.E.S. is a social model activities day program for older adults who are frail, have a cognitive impairment or in need of some extra assistance. Monday-Friday from 9:30 am-2:30 pm.

Social Services Program- The Social Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent assists Stratford residents 60 years of age and older with applying for Energy Assistance, Renters Rebate, SNAP, Medicare/Medicaid and other entitlements.

Outreach Program- The Outreach Coordinator makes visits to homebound older adults, coordinates home care needs, housing and plans programs at Stratford Housing authority sites.

Transportation Program- Available to persons 60 and over who no longer have a drivers license or those who are under 60, no longer have a drivers license and are receiving Social Security Disability.

Lifelong Learners

Stratford Senior Services and the Stratford Library collaborate on programs that are free and open to the public, held at either the library or Baldwin Center.

Commission on Aging

The Commission on Aging studies the needs of the elderly including housing, economic, employment, health and recreation, both public and private. It also looks at integration of public and private resources and makes recommendations to the Town Council.

Elder help

Atria Stratford, 6911 Main St., hosts a support group for family caregivers of individuals with memory loss, confusion, Alzheimer's disease and dementia, whether in health care facilities or at home. Support group leader Janet Girard can be reached at 203-380-0006 for more information.

Senior Services offers help through the Family Caregiver Support Program. A consultant's office is open at Baldwin Center Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Judy Hampel can be reached at jhampel@townofstratford.com or 203-385-4055.

Information can also be found at townofstratford.com by clicking "departments," then "senior services."

The Senior Services outreach coordinator makes home visits to older adults, plans programs at the housing sites and coordinates intergenerational programs.

C.A.R.E.S. is a social model activities program for older adults who are frail or in need of some extra assistance. This Monday-Friday program starts at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m.

Information is available at 203-385-4055.

Long-term care facilities

Lord Chamberlain Manor is at 7003 Main St., 203-375-5894.

Atria Stratford is at, 6911 Main St., 203-380-0006.

Map on pages 18-19

**GOVERNMENT
AND MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS**

1. Town Hall
2. Department of Public Works
3. Animal Control
4. Baldwin Center
5. Birdseye Municipal Complex
6. Board of Education Offices
7. Fire Headquarters
8. Lordship Fire Station
9. Oronoque Fire Station
10. Police Headquarters
11. Post Office
12. Putney Fire Station
13. Recycling Center
14. South End Community Center
15. Sterling House
16. Stratford Library
17. Water Pollution Control

**HISTORIC AND
CULTURAL SITES**

18. Frank Deluca Field/Softball Hall of Fame
19. Judson House
20. National Helicopter Museum
21. Perry House
22. Shakespeare Theatre
23. Stratford Center Historic District
24. Stratford Point Lighthouse
25. Sikorsky Aircraft

RECREATION

26. Birdseye Boat Launch
27. Booth Memorial Park
28. Longbrook Park
29. Mill River Country Club
30. Oronoque Country Club
31. Paradise Green
32. Roosevelt Forest
33. Short Beach Park
34. Long Beach Park

SCHOOLS

35. Chapel Street Elementary
36. Eli Whitney Elementary
37. Franklin Elementary
38. Lordship Elementary
39. Nichols Elementary
40. Second Hill Lane Elementary
41. Stratford Academy
42. Wilcoxson Elementary
43. David Wooster Middle School
44. Harry B. Flood Middle School
45. Bunnell High School
46. Stratford High School
47. St. James School
48. St. Mark School

TRANSPORTATION

49. Stratford Train Station
50. Sikorsky Memorial Airport

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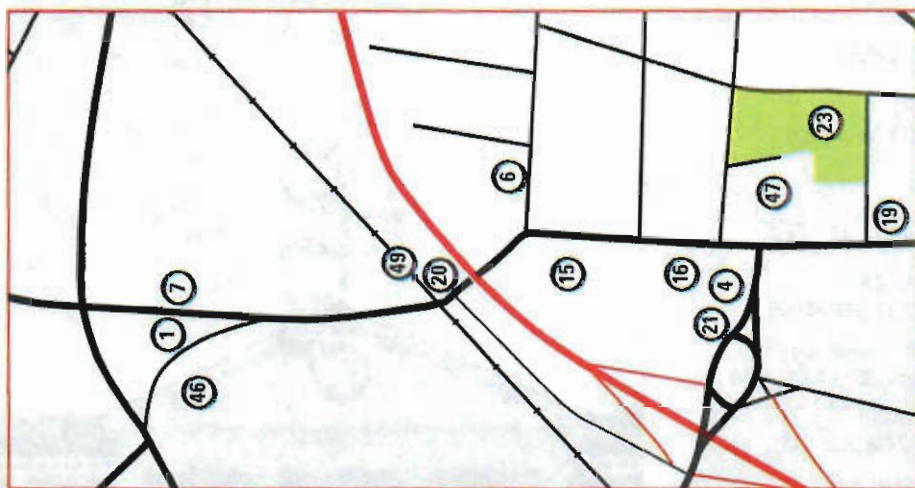
203-377-8601 ext. 3

BreezyPointAutoRepairInc.com

Stratford

Points of Interest





MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor John Harkins (R)
mayor@townofstratford.com - 203-385-4001

Town Council:

Council Chair: Beth Daponte (D)
bdaponte@townofstratford.com - 203-386-9655

First District: Beth Daponte (D)
bdaponte@townofstratford.com - 203-386-9655

Second District: Scott Farrington-Posner (D)
sfarringtonposner@townofstratford.com - 203-581-0974

Third District: Wali Kadeem (D)
wkadeem@townofstratford.com - 203-572-0171

Fourth District: David L. Harden (D)
dharden@townofstratford.com - 203-209-6427

Fifth District: Gregory Cann (D)
gcann@townofstratford.com - 860-880-2266

Sixth District: Philip L. Young (D)
pyoung@townofstratford.com - 203-502-1458

Seventh District: Marianne E. Antezzo (R)
mantezzo@townofstratford.com - 203-375-0077

Eighth District: J. Vincent Chase (R)
vchase@townofstratford.com - 203-375-2063

Ninth District: Alan Llewelyn (R)
allewelyn@townofstratford.com - 203-386-1925

Tenth District: Tina M. Manus (D)
tmanus@townofstratford.com - 203-543-0995

Council Clerk: Carol Cabral
ccabral@townofstratford.com - 203-385-4035



Audra Napolitano photo

Stratford chief executive

Republican John A. Harkins was elected mayor for a second term in 2013. The next election will be in 2017. Harkins has decided to not run for a third term in 2017.

Mayoral history

Stratford only adopted a mayoral form of government in 2005. The first mayor was Democrat James R. Miron. Prior to a charter revision, Stratford operated with a town manager and Town Council.

Town Council

The Town Council remains the legislative body of Stratford, meeting the second Monday of each month at Town Hall. It has 10 members, each representing a geographic district. Council members serve 2-year terms. The next council election will be in 2017.

Town Hall

Town Hall is located at 2725 Main St. It houses the Mayor's office, Council Chambers, the town attorney's office, Planning, zoning and building departments.

Public Works is located at 550 Patterson Ave.

Community Services and the Health Department, along with recreational facilities, can be found at the Birdseye Municipal Complex, 468 Birdseye St.

State senatorial district

Republican Kevin Kelly of the 21st District represents part of Stratford, as well as parts of Shelton, Monroe and Seymour. In Hartford Kelly has a Website at <http://ctsenaterepublicans.com/home-kelly>, and can be reached in the Senate Republican Office, LOB Room 3400, Hartford, CT 06106, 1-800-842-1421, or KevinKelly@cga.ct.gov.

Democrat Ed Gomes. represents southern Stratford. He can be reached at gomes@senatedems.ct.gov or 1-800-842-1420, and has an office in the LOB Room 3800, Hartford, CT 06106.

State House district

The 120th District is represented by Laura Hoydick. In Hartford she is in the House Republican Office, LOB Room 4200, Hartford, CT 06106, and can be reached at 1-800-842-1423 or Laura.Hoydick@housegop.ct.gov. She has a website at rephoydick.com.

Rep. Joe Gresko, a Democrat, represents the 121st District, which encompasses southern Stratford. His office in Hartford is located in Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT 06106, and he can be reached at 1-800-842-8267 or Joseph.Gresko@cga.ct.gov. His website is housedems.ct.gov/Gresko.

Northern Stratford is represented by Ben McGorty of the 122nd District. In Hartford he is in the House Republican Office, LOB Room 4200, Hartford, CT 06106, and can be reached at 1-800-842-1423 or ben.mcgorty@housegop.ct.gov. His website is cthousegop.com/ben-mcgorty.

Connecticut senators

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Democrat, may be reached at 30 Lewis Street, Suite 101, Hartford, CT 06103; 860-258-6940/800-334-5341, or G55 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510, 202-224-2823; Website: blumenthal.senate.gov.

Sen. Chris Murphy, a Democrat, may be reached at One Constitution Plaza, 7th Floor, Hartford, CT 06103; 860-549-8463, or SD-B40A Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510, 202-224-4041; Website: murphy.senate.gov.

Representative in Congress

Democrat Rosa DeLauro represents Stratford in Congress. Stratford is in Connecticut's Third Congressional District.

Among her offices in Connecticut is a main district office at 59 Elm St., New Haven, 203-562-3718.

Stratford residents may also call 203-378-9005.

DeLauro also has office hours at the Valley Regional Planning Agency, 12 Main St., Derby, on the first and third Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Information is available at 203-735-5005.

In Washington, she is at 2262 Rayburn HOB, Washington, DC, 20515, and can be reached there at 202-225-3661.

Her Website is delauro.house.gov.

Governor

Democrat Dannel Malloy was elected governor in 2010 and re-elected in 2014. His current term runs until 2018.

Gov. Dannel Malloy may be reached at State Capitol, 210 Capitol Ave., Hartford, 06106, 860-566-4840, Governor.Malloy@po.state.ct.us.

Town meeting scheduling

The Freedom of Information Act requires that all town commissions and board meetings be open to the public. The schedule for a board's regular meetings must be filed each year with the town clerk.

Special meetings may be called up to 24 hours in advance. Emergency meetings may be held without notice; however the board must file its minutes, including the reason for the emergency, at the town clerk's office within 72 hours of the meeting. For information on Freedom of Information requirements for boards, commissions, and ad hoc committees, visit townofstratford.com. Meetings are posted in the town clerk's office, council clerk's office and at townofstratford.com.

Private meetings

Generally, all meetings involving a quorum (three members of a five-person board, four of a six-member board) must be open to the public. However, Connecticut statutes allow a commission to close a meeting to the public if it is discussing personnel matters, litigation strategy or contract negotiations.

To close a meeting and enter into executive session, the board must take a vote and the meeting's closure must be supported by two-thirds of those present and voting. The commission cannot take any action while in an executive session. It must return to open session before voting on any items.

If you feel a commission held an illegal private meeting you may file a complaint with the state Freedom of Information office (860-566-5682), 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, 06106.



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Board and commission appointees

Some are elected, some appointed.

Applications can be downloaded from the Boards and Commissions section at townofstratford.com.

Information is also available from local political town committees.

Conservation Commission

The commission promotes the development and conservation of natural resources, including water, within Stratford.

It researches land use, coordinates activities and requests that the Town Council acquire land, and suggests uses to the mayor and Zoning Commission.

The commission also keeps an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including open marshlands, swamps and other wetlands, to determine the proper use of such areas.

Economic development Commission

The Economic Development Commission works to facilitate business and promote Stratford.

Committee rosters are at townofstratford.com.

Planning and zoning districts

Each planning or zoning district unites two Town Council Districts. District I is council districts 1 and 2, District II is council districts 3 and 4, and so forth.

Zoning decision appeals

Cases can be considered by the Board of Zoning Appeals

Board of Zoning Appeals members

Jeanne Collier (D)

Emma Brooks (D)

John M. Dempsey (R) - Chair

IV. Shawn Kelemen (R)

Fred Hyatt (R)

Alternates - 3-Year Term of Office - Appointed by Council

Thomas A. Grege (R)

Richard Fredette (R)

Kenneth Seckas (R)

Unethical behavior reporting

Any suspicious behavior by town officials or employees may be reported to the Ethics Commission. The code and complaint forms can be found at www.townofstratford.com, as well as the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall and the Stratford Library.

Shellfish Commission

The Shellfish Commission is responsible for protecting the natural growth of shellfish in waters under the control of Stratford, and oversee the preservation of natural areas and restoration of beds that have been destroyed.

Historic District

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Historic District is an area roughly bordered by I-95, the Housatonic River, East Broadway, Ferry Boulevard, Birdseye Street and Main Street. It includes historic sites such as Judson House, the William Booth House, the Old Episcopal Burying Ground and the First Congregational Church.

Historic District Commission

The commission's job is "To promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinct characteristics of buildings and places associated with the history of or indicative of a period or style of architecture of the town, State or nation."

Short Beach Commission

The Short Beach Commission determines the boundaries and develops rules and regulations for public and private use of Short Beach, subject to the approval of the Town Council. The commission needs to recommend any work at the beach, which must then be approved by the Town Council.

**Full lists of board and
commission members
and contact information
can be found at:
www.townofstratford.com**

Probate

Probate Court

Probate Courts have jurisdiction over; Wills and the administration of estates; testamentary and living trusts; determining title to real and personal property; construing the meaning of wills and trusts; appointing guardians for the mentally handicapped; appointing conservators of the person and the estate of incapable individuals; committing those suffering from mental illness, alcoholism, or drug addiction to an appropriate facility; removing unfit parents as guardians of their children; terminating the parental rights of parents who cannot fulfill their parental responsibilities; granting adoptions; granting name changes; other matters.

Although probate courts throughout the state were combined and regionalized in 2010, Stratford continues to have its own Probate Court.

Stratford's Probate Court is located at the Birdseye Municipal Complex, 468 Birdseye St. The phone number is 203-385-4023.

Judge Kurt M. Ahlberg presides over Stratford's Probate Court.

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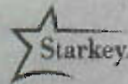
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Recreation programs

Programs and schedules are posted on the Recreation page at townofstratford.com/recreation and stratfordstar.com.

Registration for programs must be made in advance of the first session. Fees must accompany all registrations.

Registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. To be sure of a place in the program early registration is urged. In some cases, late registration will be accepted if space is still available; however, program fees are not pro-rated. Late registering persons must pay the full registration fee.

There is a \$5 non-resident fee for classes which accept non-residents.

Forms can be mailed to Stratford Recreation Dept., 468 Birdseye Street, Stratford, CT 06615. Make checks payable to the Town of Stratford. Registration can also be done online.

Recreation programs are no longer automatically canceled when schools are closed. A decision on programs will be made by 4 p.m. Visit stratfordstar.com, listen to WICC or watch WTNH or Channel for cancellations or call the Recreation Department at 203-385-4129 after 4 p.m.

A senior citizens discount for those 62 and older is 50% for most programs.

Scholarships are available for some programs. Applications are available at the Recreation Department office at Short Beach, and applicants must submit their most current income tax return form. Requests must be submitted four weeks prior to a program, and by May 15 for camps.

Family rates for multiple classes, and second- and third-child discounts are also available for most programs.

Public beaches

There are two public beach parks along Stratford's 14 miles of coastline.

Short Beach Park, located at 1 Dorne Drive, is a 30 acre beach-front property located at the mouth of the Housatonic River and Long Island Sound.

Short Beach includes picnic areas, a calisthenics course, a playground, a skate park, a golf course, softball fields, and courts for basketball, paddleball, tennis, and volleyball. There is a concession stand, showers and indoor restrooms. Short Beach hosts a variety of events and live music during the Summer. A permit is required for parking from May 31 until Labor Day.

Long Beach, located at the end of Oak Bluff Road in the Lordship section of Stratford, is approximately 1.5 miles in length. Long Beach is Stratford's coastal barrier beach lying between the waters of Long Island Sound and the Lewis Gut.

Long Beach is considered an "unimproved" beach. There are no food concessions or permanent restroom facilities. A permit is required for parking from May 31 until Labor Day.

Picnic area

Reservations are required and may be made through the Recreation Department beginning March 1 each. Fee payment and bond must accompany application. A bond equal to the fee must accompany payment and will be returned if the area is left in good condition. Fees can be found at townofstratford.com.

A bond must accompany the fee for pig roasts.

No raindates will be issued. Weekend is considered to be Saturday and Sunday.

If a picnic reservation is canceled 30 days in advance a full refund will be received minus a \$10 administration fee. Cancellations within 29 days or less will result in a refund of their bond only.



Beach parking

Resident Stickers are mailed in your Motor Vehicle tax bill and are good for two years. Stickers may also be obtained at Stratford Recreation Dept., 468 Birdseye Street. Residents must show a car registration or tax bill and driver license. Non residents may purchase seasonal passes for \$150.

Non resident parking is \$20 per day.

Public golf course

Built in 1988, the Short Beach Golf Course is a Scottish links-style par-3 course constructed along the Long Island Sound at the mouth of the Housatonic River. It features large elevated greens and tees with many bunkers and four water hazards.

Everyone must wear soft spikes or sneakers. There are no exceptions. Pull carts and clubs are available to rent.

Golf IDs are required for resident fees. ID cards can be obtained during regular golf course hours.

Golfers may make tee time reservations daily beginning Mondays at 10 a.m. starting in April by calling 203-381-2070. They may also make reservations online at townofstratford.com/recreation.

All names must be given to hold spots with a telephone number for two golfers. Golfers have until Thursday at 10 a.m. to cancel without penalty.

A twosome may sign up for a tee time and openings in a group will be filled whenever possible to make foursomes. Tee times can be held by a single player, but openings will be filled to make a foursome.

Groups must arrive 15 minutes before tee time. Failure to do so may result in losing your tee time.

When golfers are lined up to make reservations, the cashier will schedule tee times from two people in line, then will accept a reservation from someone on the phone.

The limit is one tee time reservation per person per day, and that person must be a member of the group for which the reservation is made.

Golf lessons & Leagues

The Short Beach Golf Course Union Academy offers lessons for players ages 9-12. Students will receive instruction, course time and be entered in the Stratford Junior Open.

Information on ladies', men's, mixed and junior leagues can be found at the town Website.

Parks & Recreation

Tennis

Tennis permits may be obtained at the Recreation office at Short Beach Park, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and tennis permits will become effective April 15. Call 385-4053 one week in advance for tennis permits.

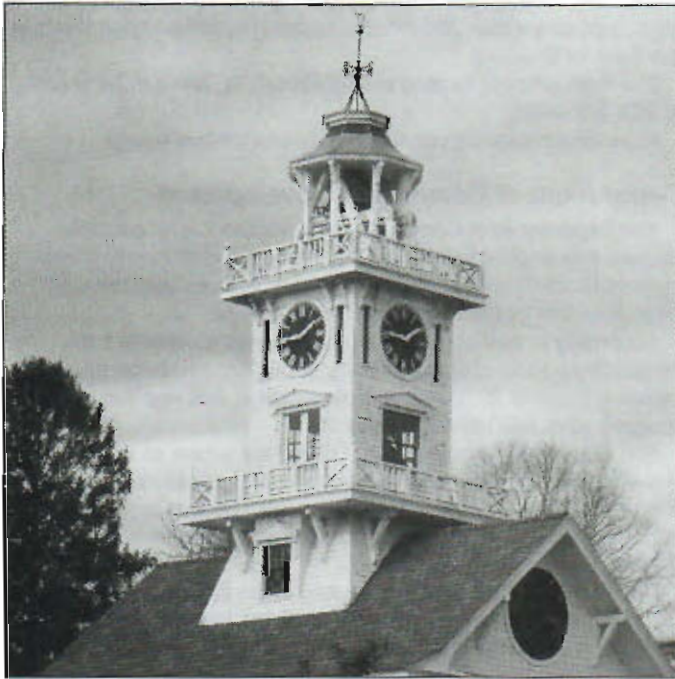
There are courts at most schools and other locations.

The Women's Doubles League plays on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. at Flood Courts. Sessions are held May to June and July to August. Registration is at the Recreation Office at Short Beach two weeks prior to the start of each session.

The Stratford Tennis Association schedules events throughout town. Information and forms are at the Recreation Office at Short Beach Park.

Facility rental

The Recreation Department schedules school buildings for use after 3 p.m. and on weekends. Non-profit groups interested in using schools may download the Building Use Form at townofstratford.com and return it to the Recreation Department. Insurance naming the town as an additional insured is required.



Boothe Park

Boothe Memorial Park & Museum sits on 32 acres in the north end of Stratford near the Housatonic River. The estate of the Boothe family for many generations, it was willed to the town in 1949 for the public to enjoy.

The park, located at 5800 Main St, Putney, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The grounds are open free of charge year round and is the home to various volunteer clubs and organizations.

Sites at the park are available to rent for group functions. Information and reservations are available at 203-385-4052.

Tours of the historic buildings are offered and guided tours for school groups can be arranged by calling 203-381-2046.

Weddings can be scheduled in the Putney Chapel by calling 203-381-2046.

Information can be found at boothememorialpark.org.

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2016: Multi-Million Dollar Producer.

2015: Top 15 Company/Statewide, #13 in Closed Sales, Gold Star Award Winner for Closed Production.

2014: #8 Company/Statewide in Closed Sales, Gold Star Award Winner.

2013: #1 Office Wide for Closed Sales, also #8 Company Wide/Statewide Closed Sales.

2012: #14 Company Wide for Closed Units.

2011: #13 Company Wide/Statewide for Closed Sales, also #1 for Closed Units and Closed Dollar Volume Trumbull Office.

2010: #1 Closed Units and #1 Closed Dollar Volume Trumbull Office, also 2010 Company Wide/Statewide #6 Closed Units, Gold Star Top Producer for the entire company.

2009: #1 Total Closed Units and Closed Sales for the Trumbull Office, Gold Star Top Producer. #3 Company Wide/Statewide Closed Units.

2008: #2 Trumbull Office for Closed Units, Gold Star Award winner. Statewide: #7 (700 agents) for Closed Sales.

2007: #1 Trumbull Office for Closed Units and #2 for Closed Volume, Gold Star Award winner. Statewide: #6 (700 agents) for Closed Sales.

2006: In the Trumbull Office: #1 Closed Units and #2 in Closed Dollar Volume, Gold Star Award winner. #14 Company Wide (700 agents) in Closed Units.

2005: Prestigious Silver Star Award winner.

2004: Bronze Star Award.

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Community Services

The Town of Stratford Community Services is the local Youth Service Bureau, offering counseling for children, adolescents and families, support groups for youth and parents, a Juvenile Review Board, Adventure Challenge at Stratford Academy, In The Spotlight summer youth musical production, Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid and Question, Persuade, Refer Suicide prevention workshops. In addition, Stratford Community Services is an Energy Assistance Application Site for Stratford residents under age 60 and provides information and referral for basic needs.

All counseling and social services are strictly confidential. Counseling fees are based on a sliding scale and no one is refused services for inability to pay, according to townofstratford.com.

Emergency coverage is provided 24 hours a day in cooperation with Council of Churches, Youth in Crisis, Infoline 211 and Careline (1-800-842-2288) for child abuse and family crisis situations.

The office, at 468 Birdseye Street, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Evening hours are available by appointment.

Staff can be reached at 203-385-4095 or communityservices@townofstratford.com.

Parent resources

Child care is available before and after school. There are parent-teacher groups and guides to dealing with issues such as the Internet.

Stratford Parents' Place (SPP), Family Resource Center, is a program of the Stratford Public Schools, located at Stratford Academy/Johnson House, 719 Birdseye St. 203-381-6992.

Youth and Family Advisory Board

The Stratford Youth and Family Advisory Board is a youth-adult partnership that serves as a catalyst for community level action and change. The mission is to mobilize youth and community partners to create a safe, healthy and drug-free environment where youth and families thrive, taking a strength based approach. In addition to being advisory to the Mayor, it serves as the Local Prevention Council, as the Advisory Board to Community Services, the local Youth service Bureau, and as a newly funded Drug Free Communities Coalition. The Coalition's goals are to increase community collaboration and reduce underage drinking and marijuana use among Stratford youth, ages 12-18.

For more information about the Coalition, visit us on the web at www.townofstratford.com/YAFAB

The Coalition welcomes anyone that wants to get involved. If you are interested in joining the Youth and Family Advisory Board or help with their efforts, contact Anna Gasinski by e-mail, agasinski@townofstratford.com or by phone, 203-385-4095.

South End Community Center

The South End Community Center, located at 19 Bates Street, provides after school programs for children in Kindergarten to Grade 6, a Summer Soiree Enrichment program for children K-6, and the Center is an ABCD Head Start program site. In cooperation with South End Community Council, the Center offers a Back-To-School clothing drive, Coat Closet program, Community Food Pantry, and the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (V.I.T.A.).

For more information, you may contact the South End Community Center at 203-377-0689 or tysims@townofstratford.com.

Continuing education

Stratford offers adult education and alternative programs to help those who need basic skills such as English, or a graduate equivalency diploma.

Information is available at stratfordk12.org/Continuing_Education.asp.

CARE

Citizens Addressing Racial Equity examines diversity and issues related to race in Stratford. CARE is a citizen coalition sponsored by the Office of Mayor John A. Harkins in cooperation with the Stratford Youth and Family Advisory Board, Stratford Clergy Association, The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, Inc. and The Stratford Library Association. More information can be found at www.stratfordcare.com.

Stratford Housing Authority

The mission of the Stratford Housing Authority is to provide affordable housing to low and moderate income families and senior citizens.

The Authority owns and manages 514 family and elderly apartments, and, through the Federal Housing Choice Voucher Program, assists another 280 families residing in private apartments in the Town of Stratford.

The main office is located at 295 Everett St., and can be reached at 203-375-4483.

More information can be found at www.stratfordha.org/

Department of Community Development

The Department of Community Development is responsible for securing, implementing and managing the Community Development Block Grant Funds that Stratford receives from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.

According to its Website, the town receives an annual entitlement from HUD of approximately \$700,000 and begins its planning process for its annual action plan in January. The town's program runs July 1 through June 30.

The Community Development Office also serves as the Fair Housing Office for the Town of Stratford, and provides information to tenants, landlords, homebuyers, prospective tenants and homebuyers, and others about their rights and responsibilities in the lease or purchase of housing.

Community Development is located in the Birdseye Municipal Complex, 468 Birdseye St., Room 112. Hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Department of Community Development can be reached at 203-385-4028.

Federal tax help

The South End Community Council, in collaboration with the South End Community Center, Internal Revenue Service and other agencies prepare income taxes for individuals and families who earn no more than \$52,000 annually. In addition, financial education is offered such as, establishing checking and savings accounts, repair their credit, and assist those who qualify with claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit on their returns. The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (V.I.T.A.) program will help eligible residents.

Appointments are required. For more information regarding the V.I.T.A. program and volunteer opportunities, contact the South End Community Center at 203-377-0689.

Stratford YMCA

The Stratford YMCA, 3045 Main St., offers swimming, art, daycare, preschool, yoga, health and fitness, martial arts and special events. There are membership dues and program fees. Call 375-5844 for more information. Program information also is available at cccymca.org.

Boy/Girl Scouts

Boy Scouts of America Connecticut Yankee Council, 203-876-6868. Visit online at ctyankee.org.

Girl Scout Council of Southwestern Connecticut, 203-762-5557. Visit online at gscswct.org;

SEMS Explorer Post

Older teens can learn more about emergency medicine by joining SEMS Explorer Post 4911. Anyone interested in joining the Explorer Post may visit SEMS Explorer Post, e-mail emsadmin@stratfordems.org or call 203-385-4060. For more information visit stratfordems.org

Music

Several orchestras are nearby: Greater Bridgeport Symphony (bridgeportsymphony.org), Stamford Symphony Orchestra (203-325-1407/stamfordsymphony.org), Norwalk Symphony (203-847-8844/norwalksymphony.org), and Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra (203-438-3889/ridgefieldsymphony.org). There is also the Fairfield-based Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestra, (203-459-4249, gbyo.org).

The Stratford Community Concert Band has been giving free concerts for the Town for over 50 years. (203) 378-9154 – www.stratfordcommunityband.org/home.html

Youth sports

Stratford offers numerous youth sports leagues. Information is posted in the Stratford Star, and available through schools, the Recreation Department and community centers.

The Stratford Youth Sports Association (SYSA) is an unincorporated group formed to promote positive youth development through sports. The SYSA provides a forum for youth sports leagues and other representatives to discuss ideas and concerns, and to develop and implement solutions to shared problems and is working to raise standards in youth sports.

Information is available from Senior Program/Athletic Director Bill O'Brien at Sterling House, bobrien@sterlinghousecc.org or 203-378-2606, ext. 106. For information about coaches' clinics, contact Tammy Trojanowski with the Stratford Community Services at ttrajanowski@townofstratford.com or at 203-385-4095.

Community Garden

Soundkeeper and the Town of Stratford collaborate on the Community Garden at Pirhala Farm, located on Connors Lane, where residents can lease plots to raise their own vegetables.

Information on renting plots is posted at townofstratford.com or soundkeeper.org. About 75 garden plots are open for rental.

Plots are 4 feet x40 feet or 8 feet x20 feet and cost \$20 per year for residents, \$25 for non-residents, \$15 for seniors and low income residents and \$20 for seniors and low income non-residents.

\$10 'Share the Harvest' plots are also available in which 50% of the harvest must be shared with the local food bank



Farmers' Market

Yes. In addition to privately run stands operated by Stratford farmers, the state and Stratford Health Department coordinate the Stratford Farmers' Market Mondays from late June through late October.

The market is located at Paradise Green and is open from 1 to 6 p.m. each Monday during the season.

Lordship Improvement Association

The Lordship Improvement Association (LIA), P.O. Box 313, Stratford, CT 06615, has worked since 1924 to preserve and enhance the unique qualities and character of the Lordship waterfront community. The organization protects land for its natural, recreational, scenic, historical, and productive value through preservation of open space, conservation, education, and environmental protection initiatives.

In addition, it acts as trustee for all residents of Lordship, paying municipal taxes and maintaining the property and scenic vistas of the Park Boulevard bluffs, protecting access to Long Island Sound and its beaches, encouraging waterfront community activities, smart growth, prudent land development, and improving the aesthetic beauty of Lordship.

All Lordship residents are encouraged to become members through tax deductible donations. LIA is a 501(c)(3) public charity, recognized by the IRS.

Volunteers are invited to work on several committees, including Finance/Development, Publicity/Communication, Environment/Education and Beautification/Parks.

For more information contact Richard Diedrichsen at MrDPilgrim@aol.com.

The LIA Board of Governors consists of:
 Richard P. Diedrichsen, President
 Dennis Tomsheck, Associate President
 Jim Warren, Secretary
 Susan Birge, Treasurer
 Kevin C. Kelly, Burgess
 Tom Halverson, Lordship Historian

Property deeds

Deeds are open to the public and are available for review in the town clerk's office.

Birth, marriage and death records

The general public is allowed to peruse marriage and death record indexes and can obtain copies. Restrictions may apply. Birth certificates are confidential. Certified copies of birth certificates will be issued only to the person in question or, in the case of a minor, their parents or other designated persons.

Wedding officiation

A justice of the peace may officiate at a wedding within the state, and federal judges may officiate at weddings anywhere. A list is available from the Town Clerk's office or page at townofstratford.com.

Marriage licenses

Marriage licenses must be obtained in the town or city where the marriage will occur. No blood test is required. Both parties must appear, present a photo ID, and swear an oath. The license costs \$30 and is good for 65 days. Visit the town clerk's office or call 203-385-4020 for details.

The requirements for entering a same sex marriage are the same for an opposite-sex marriage. For details, go to Connecticut Public Health section at ct.gov.

Notary public

A notary public is someone legally empowered to witness signatures, certify documents and take depositions and affidavits. Every bank has one on staff. Some real estate agents are notary publics, as are some public officials. One is available weekly at the Stratford Library. Some may charge a small fee to notarize a document.

Business advertising signs

Check first with Planning & Zoning, 203-385-4017.

Signage and promotion

Permission to put signs on town property, including Paradise Green and the West Broad Street Green, can be obtained from Planning & Zoning, 385-4017.

Town green use

Groups interested in using Paradise Green, West Broad Green, Academy Hill or another town facility or park (except Roosevelt Forest) should contact the Recreation Department. Applications may be downloaded.

Carnival permits

For amusement and ride permits, call Building Inspections, 203-385-4010.

Food permits must be obtained from the Health Department, 203-385-4090.

The fire marshal, 203-385-4073, and police should also be contacted.

Bazaar permits can be obtained from the Building Inspector, 203-385-4010.

Town field use

First get a permit from the Recreation Department, 203-385-4053.

Non-residential park use

Stickers are available from the Recreation Department, 203-385-4053.

Hunting and fishing licenses

Hunting licenses require completion of a course. Check the DEEP section at ct.gov.

Licenses can be purchased at the Town Clerk's office in Town Hall, 203-385-4020, or most local sporting goods stores.

Bidding on a town jobs

Reply to the legal request for bids. Information is available from Purchasing, 203-385-4044.

Blasting permits

Blasting permits are available from the Fire Marshal, 203-385-4073.

Clock parties

First get a permit from the police, 203-385-4158.

Raffles and Bingo nights

Call the police for information and permits, 203-385-4130.

Child dental assistance

The Health Department, 203-385-4090, can explain programs. Coun

Counseling

Call Community Services, 203-385-4095.

Financial assistance

Emergency assistance may be available from Social Services, 203-385-4092.

If emergency housing is needed, police may be able to help. Call 203-385-4100.

Information on Temporary Assistance to Families is available from Community Services, 203-385-4095.

Employment assistance

Employment training and opportunities for youths can be set up through Community Services, 203-385-4095.

Seniors can get help from Senior Services, 203-385-4050.

Food assistance

Food Stamps information is available from Community Services, 203-385-4095.

Public housing

The Stratford Housing Authority, which is independent from the town, oversees it. It can be reached at 203-375-4483.

Utility assistance

Contact Senior Services, 203-385-4050, or Community Services, 203-385-4095.

Welfare claims

Call Social Services, 203-385-4092.

Americans with Disabilities Act services

Call the Town Clerk, 203-385-4020.

Mosquito control

Conservation, 203-385-4006, handles mosquito control. The state also does testing in late summer, monitoring for West Nile Virus. Updates are then posted by the Health Department.

Teen working papers

Contact the Board of Education, 203-385-4210.

Clam harvesting

A shellfish license can be obtained from the Town Clerk, 203-385-4020.

Electric company

Stratford is covered by United Illuminating. Information can be found at uinet.com.

Gas company

Stratford is covered by Southern Connecticut Gas. Information can be found at soconngas.com.

Motor vehicle department

The nearest motor vehicle department office is in Bridgeport at 95 Sylvan Avenue. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday; and 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday. There are no safety inspections or VIN verifications.

For more information, call 800-842-8222, or access the DMV Website at ct.gov/dmv.

Landmarks

Perry House

The yellow house at the bottom of Exit 32 off I-95, on West Broad Street, Perry House is the oldest house in Stratford.

The Perry House Foundation was established in 2004 to oversee the restoration of the house and to ensure its continuing role in welcoming visitors, teaching history, and participating in the life of the community well into the future.

Information can be found at perryhousestratford.org.

Roosevelt Forest

Located at the end of Peters Lane, off of James Farm Road, Roosevelt Forest is the only town-owned forest in Connecticut. Use is restricted to Stratford residents and guests. Valid town beach/park stickers must be on all vehicles entering the park.

Information can be found at www.rooseveltforest.info.

Merritt Parkway

The Merritt Parkway, opened in 1938, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

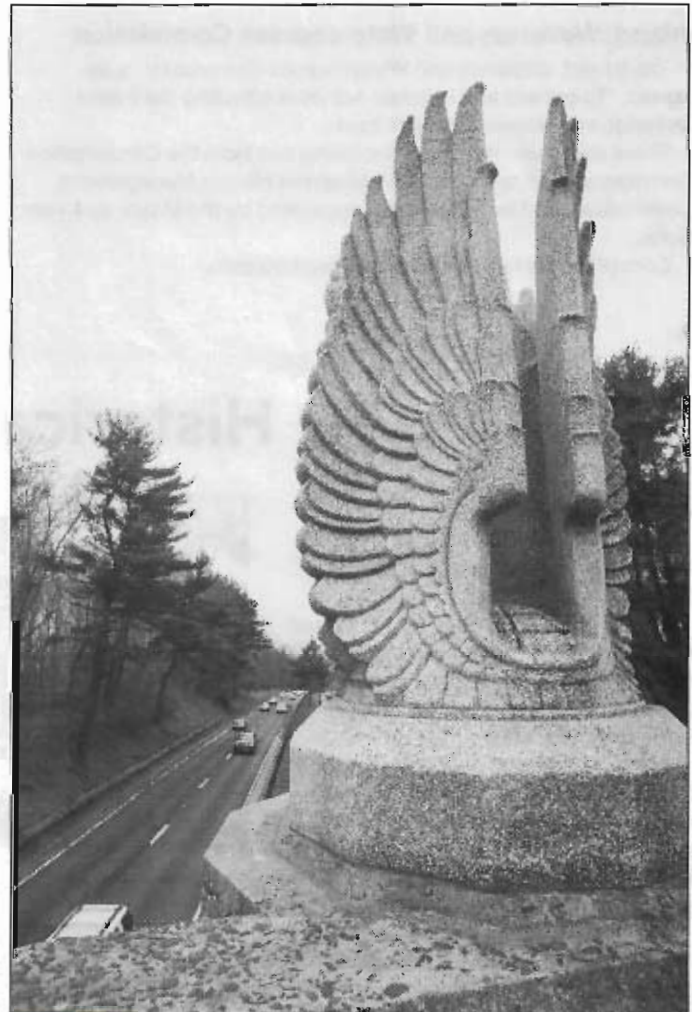
The Merritt Parkway Conservancy, dedicated to its historic preservation, operates a museum in the Ryders Landing Shopping Center, 6580 Main St. (Exit 53). Information can be found at merrittparkway.org.

National Helicopter Museum

The National Helicopter Museum is located at the Stratford east-bound railroad station, 2480 Main St.

The museum is seasonal, and is open from late May until the middle of October. Regular hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Special tours can be arranged by contacting the staff at 203-375-5766 or 203-767-1123. Information can also be found at nationalhelicoptermuseum.org



Audra Napolitano photo

The Waterfront Harbor Management Commission shapes policy regarding waterfront use and development, boating and boating facilities. It operates a pump-out boat and maintains the Birdseye boat launch.

In addition to townofstratford.com, the commission has a Website at stratfordwaterfront.org.

Harbormaster

Ross Hatfield, is harbormaster, appointed by the governor. Tim Brennan is deputy harbormaster.

Boat launch permit

Permits are required for this all Stratford municipal boat launching ramps. Permits run May 1 to April 30.

Resident fees for unlimited use during a calendar year are \$25, non-resident sticker is \$125, a commercial permit is \$150.

Launching ramp permits may be obtained Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4 pm and Saturday from 8 am to 2 pm at the Recreation Department, Birdseye Complex, 468 Birdseye Street starting in late April.

Day passes are available at Stratford Recreation Department, 468 Birdseye Street. They cost \$30 for residents or non-residents.

Rack storage

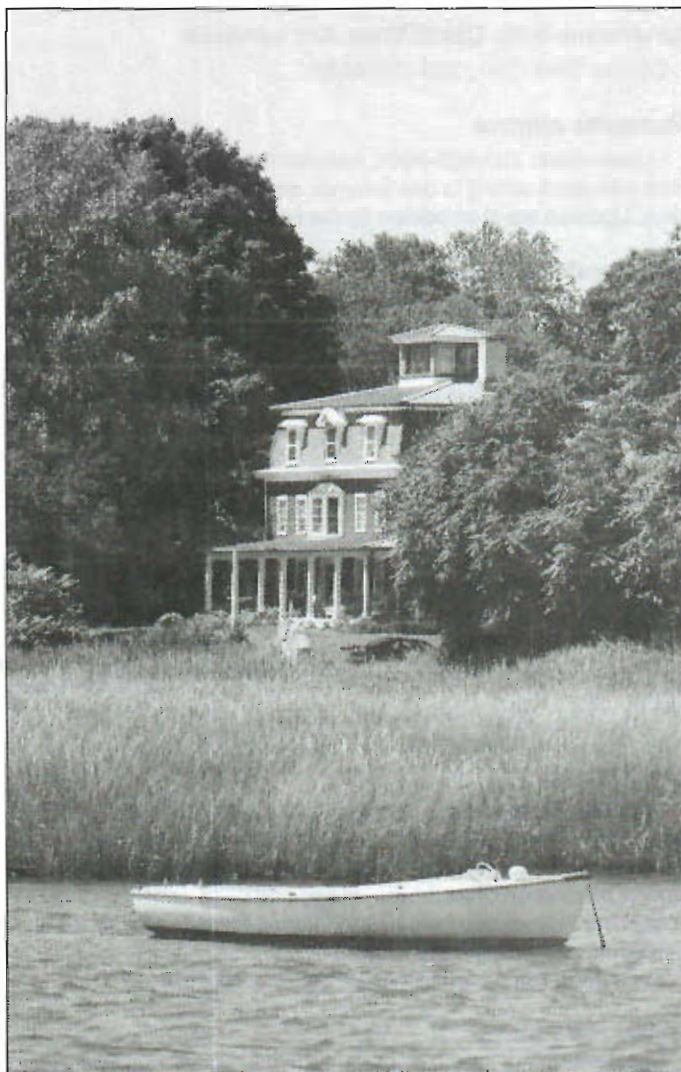
Rack storage for non-motorized vessels is available at the Birdseye Boat Launch for an annual fee of \$50.

Inland, Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

The Inland, Wetlands and Watercourses Commission is assigned, "To protect and regulate activities affecting the inland, wetlands and watercourses" in town.

There are seven members, including two from the Conservation Commission and one from the Waterfront Harbor Management Commission, and two alternates, appointed by the Mayor to 4-year terms.

Committee rosters are at townofstratford.com.



Audra Napolitano photo

Historical Society

Judson House

Judson House, 967 Academy Hill, is the home of the Stratford Historical Society.

Built circa 1750 by Capt. David Judson on the site of his great-grandfather's 1639 stone house, Judson House displays Georgian architecture with its broken scroll pediment entry.

It is furnished with period pieces of Stratford origin. The paneled "west room" contains an early piano which belonged to William Samuel Johnson, a Stratford resident, framer of the U.S. Constitution and the second president of Columbia University.

Adjacent to the Judson House is the Catharine Bunnell Mitchell Museum, with permanent exhibits of Stratford history and changing gallery exhibits featuring items from the collections of the Stratford Historical Society.



Judson House and the Catharine B. Mitchell Museum are open from the first Sunday in June through October, Wednesday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m., last entry at 3 p.m. School tours may be scheduled for May, June, September and October.

A genealogy library is located in the office area of the museum and is available to the public Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. year round. Genealogical requests may be made by telephone, e-mail, U.S. mail and in person.

The Stratford Historical Society is open year round Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Information can be obtained by mail at Stratford Historical Society, Box 382, Stratford, CT 06615-0382.

Membership Information can be found at stratfordhistoricalsociety.org.

Stratford Police Department

The Stratford Police Department is at 900 Longbrook Ave. A substation is located on Gregory Circle.

The department handles criminal investigations and accidents, patrols the streets of Stratford and offers a host of other services for residents.

The department is led by Chief Patrick Ridenhour and consists of 112 sworn officers broken down into the following rank structure: 1 Chief, 1 Deputy Chief, 4 Captains, 9 Lieutenants, 11 Sergeants, 2 Corporals, 15 Detectives, 71 Patrol Officers and 4 Clerical Staff.

Call 203-385-4100 for routine calls.

Police reports

The records office is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. It is closed weekends and holidays.

911

Only emergency calls should be made to 911, such as to report a fire, medical crisis, or police emergencies like a home intruder or other life-threatening situation. People should not call for road conditions or routine services such as reporting barking dogs.

When someone calls 911 from a land line within Stratford, the phone rings in the emergency dispatch center. They will dispatch the police, ambulance and fire department as needed.

If calling from 911 from a cell phone, immediately state what town and agency is needed (for example, "Stratford fire"). Cell calls are routed to the nearest tower, then to the 911 center in that town.

Direct routine police calls to 203-385-4100 and routine fire calls to 203-385-4070.

Emergency room

The nearest emergency rooms are at Bridgeport Hospital, 267 Grant Street, Bridgeport, and St. Vincent's Medical Center, 2800 Main Street, Bridgeport.

Medical emergencies / Stratford EMS

Stratford EMS headquarters is located at 2712 Main Street, across the street from Town Hall and next to fire headquarters.

Stratford EMS provides the town with continuous emergency service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. SEMS provides both basic and advanced life support (Paramedic) ambulances and intercept vehicles. SEMS also has a Special Operations Division skilled at handling large scale incidents, a medical bike unit and an Honor Guard.

All EMTs must pass the same tests and achieve the same certification, and must be re-certified every two to three years, depending on experience.

EMT-Bs (basic) and EMT-Is (intermediate) are both members of Stratford EMS. EMT-Is can perform more advanced lifesaving techniques.

In 1996, Stratford EMS became the first service in New England to have volunteer paramedics.

Anyone interested in becoming a member may visit www.stratfordems.org, e-mail emsadmin@stratfordems.org or call 203-385-4060. A volunteer application can be found on the website as well as current paid job openings.

For more information visit stratfordems.org

Ambulance tours

Tours can be set up by calling 203-385-4060.



Audra Napolitano photo

Stratford Fire Department

The Stratford Fire Department operates four fire houses.

Headquarters, home of Company 1, is at 2750 Main St. and can be reached at 203-381-2083.

Company 2, located on Huntington Road, can be reached at 203-385-4074.

Company 3, 20 Prospect Drive, Lordship, can be reached at 203-385-4076.

Company 4 mans the Oronoque Fire Station, 200 Oronoque Lane, 203-385-4079.

Stratford is a career fire department. Firefighters are members of International Association of Firefighters Local 998.

Information on the department can be found under Government and Departments at townofstratford.com.

In addition to structure, brush, and vehicle fires, firefighters are trained to respond to motor vehicle accidents; water, ice, and confined space rescues; hazardous materials incidents; carbon monoxide emergencies; and a variety of other technical rescues.

Stratford firefighters are also the first responders to medical emergencies.

Local property taxes pay for fire coverage and each homeowner pays a special assessment depending on which district they live in.

The Town Council in 2010 approved a system for billing insurance companies for rescue services. Residents will not receive bills.

The chief's office can be reached at 203-385-40770.

Building inspections

The Fire Marshal's Office inspects all buildings, excluding one- and two-family homes, reviews plans for new construction and renovations, and performs inspections during construction. The fire marshal also responds to hazardous material spills, investigates the cause of all fires in town, issues blasting permits and handles blasting complaints. The fire marshal must also be present at all fireworks displays, both public and private.

Fire safety programs

The fire marshal's office, along with the fire department, offer fire prevention programs to nursery and elementary schools. There are also programs for older students. The fire marshal's office offers information on home escape plans, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguisher operation.

Stratford Fire Marshal Brian Lampart can be reached at 203-385-4073 or blampart@townofstratford.com.

Transfer station

The transfer station is open weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon.

The transfer station is closed all holidays except the day after Thanksgiving.

Stratford residents (proof such as a Connecticut driver's license, automobile registration or Stratford parks sticker is required) may take waste to the transfer station.

Every month a resident may take 250 pounds of waste to the station. A charge of \$95 per ton (\$9.50 per 200 pounds) is applied to anything in excess of 250 pounds per month.

Refuse, recycling (including cardboard), large items (including appliances), metal, brush and yard waste, and used motor oil are all accepted at the transfer station.

Items not accepted are hazardous materials, demolition materials, tree branches more than 12 inches in diameter and paint.

Municipal garbage collection

The Public Works Department collects trash from 20,000 homes and 5,000 businesses.

The town picks up garbage once per week.

According to its Website, the department collects more the 18,000 tons of trash, 5,000 tons of yard waste and 4,500 tons of recyclables.

The town also operates a transfer station on Watson Boulevard (off Lordship Boulevard behind the Ramada Inn). More than 9,000 tons of waste are deposited there each year.

The sanitation department is off New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Notices of schedule changes are posted and published in the Stratford Star.

Pickups are held as scheduled on Martin Luther King Day, Lincoln's Birthday, President's Day, Good Friday, Columbus Day and Veterans Day.

The Transfer station is closed all of those holidays. It is open the day after Thanksgiving.

Garbage must be placed in standard 32-gallon cans with handles and covers, or in plastic garbage bags with ties.

Refuse in 45-gallon cans will not be collected.

The combined weight of the container and the refuse shall not exceed 75 pounds.

Public Works will not collect household garbage or recycling contained in paper or cardboard boxes, loose garbage, liquid waste, human or animal waste, ashes, paint in cans, drained oil or hazardous material, any item too large to be contained in a regulation garbage can or bag, and yard waste contained in plastic bags.

Recycling

Recyclables are collected every other week on the same day trash is picked up. Recyclables must be unsold and placed in a standard blue recycling container.

Single-stream recycling became official in town in 2011. Residents don't have to separate items by bin anymore.

Materials that may be recycled under this method include non-food-contaminated pizza boxes, paperback and hardcover books, aluminum foil, rinsed food containers, large toys, beverage crates, telephone books, window glass and more.

What can't be recycled are any hazardous materials or items like batteries, clothing, material contaminated by food, and major appliances. People should also not leave out items for pickup that don't fit in their bins.

Bulk item pick up

Residents must make an appointment to have bulk items picked up. Appointments can be made by calling the Stratford Department of Public Works at 203-385-4080.

Each household may make one appointment per year for the collection period of May through October.

All bulk items to be collected must be placed at the curb in an organized fashion by 7 a.m. on the scheduled date of appointment. Metal items must be separated from other materials.

Bulk collection items include furniture, mattresses and box springs, appliances (remove doors from refrigerators and freezers), carpeting, large metal items (a maximum of 8 feet in length) and fencing.

Unacceptable items will not be collected. They are household garbage (small items that would normally fit into weekly trash; cardboard); brush, leaves or branches; hazardous materials or paint; recyclable materials; demolition material (asphalt shingles, sheetrock, concrete, tile, brick or any other masonry debris); tires; vehicles; oil tanks; and stumps.

Residents will be responsible for removing any unacceptable items from the curb and may be subject to fines imposed by the Health Department for failure to comply.

Items that can fit in a vehicle may be taken to the transfer station on Weston Boulevard during regular hours.

Yard waste

Public Works conducts seasonal yard waste collection, with pick-up every other week on the day after recycling collection.

Grass, leaves and shrubbery clippings must be contained in brown kraft yard waste bags or loosely in cans.

Branches no larger than an inch in diameter and four feet in length will be collected if tied in bundles.

Leaves and yard waste for town collection must be in either paper recyclable leaf bags or 32-gallon garbage cans for collection on the day after recycling.

Refuse or yard waste in 45 gallon cans will not be collected. The standard 32-gallon can is the maximum size accepted.

Bagged or contained leaves will be picked up curbside once every two weeks until Dec. 11. Loose leaves will not be picked up at curbside. Residents who place anything at curbside, except as allowed, are subject to a fine.

There is also a leaf drop-off area at the Dorne Drive landfill.

Leaves must not be deposited on town greens, parks or school property.

Information is available from the Highway Department at Public Works, 203-385-4080.

Hazardous waste

The town schedules collections. Notices are posted in the print and online editions of the Stratford Star, and at townofstratford.com

Building permits

The Office of the Building Official is responsible for the enforcement of all construction and building codes in the Town of Stratford.

Building permits are required for new construction, additions, renovations, demolition, trade work, signs and pre-fab structures.

Inspections must be done at each phase of construction: footing, underground plumbing, frame, rough wiring and plumbing, and insulation and certificate of occupancy.

Brian Donovan is the town Building Official, he can be reached at 203-385-4010.

Land use

The Planning and Zoning Office has the primary responsibility for managing land use in Stratford. The office handles applications for zoning compliance (building permits); zone changes; waivers; land subdivision; coastal site plan reviews; erosion and sedimentation control, and special case approvals. The office is involved in long-range planning and also handles liquor permit applications and motor vehicle locations.

The town's zoning regulations are available online at townofstratford.com.

Staff members are located in rooms 113 and 118 of Town Hall, 2725 Main St.

John Rusatsky, the zoning enforcement officer, is the contact for zoning information, building permits and complaints.

Planning & Zoning Administrator Jay Habansky handles zoning approvals, applications for hearings before the planning or zoning commission, and the blight program.

The Town Planner handles subdivisions and long-range plans.

A building permit is required for the following improvements: decks, additions, interior alterations, pools, sheds, garages/carports, tank removals, roofs and re-roofs.

Fallen tree reporting

Call the Parks Department at Public Works, 203-385-4080

Tree work permits

Normal tree maintenance and clearing of dead trees do not require a permit.

Tree warden

The tree warden can be reached by calling the Parks division at Public Works, 203-385-4080.

Sidewalk damage

Call the Engineering Department, 203-385-4013.

Oil tank removal

The fire marshal (203-375-4073) oversees all tank removals. Homeowners need a permit. Permit fees are as follows: Stratford Building Department: \$60.52, Stratford Fire Department: \$50.

The work must be done by a state-licensed spill or tank removal contractor. The fire marshal has a list or you may call your oil company. When the work is done, a soil test for contamination must be performed and results distributed as outlined on the permit. There are more detailed requirements for commercial establishments.

Underground utility wires

Connecticut law requires homeowners and contractors to contact Call Before You Dig at 1-800-922-4455.

Information can be found at cbyd.com.

Sidewalk snow removal

Owners of residential and commercial properties are responsible for clearing sidewalks in a timely manner and using sand or salt as needed. Property owners are also responsible for maintaining the general condition of their sidewalks.

Snow parking policy

Residents must observe alternate side of the street parking as soon as snow begins to fall. Cars can be parked on the even side of the street on even days, the odd side on odd days, to leave room for plows to get through.

Mailboxes and plow damage

The town does not assume responsibility for replacing mailboxes or posts unless they are physically hit by plowing equipment. Mailboxes and supporting posts must be installed to withstand the rigors of snow removal, including the force of snow and slush being plowed to the roadside.

Apartments and boarders

Check with the zoning office for specific details before offering an apartment for rent or taking in boarders.

Home business permits

You will need permission from the planning and zoning commission. There are restrictions on the number of employees and hours of operations. A site plan and public hearing will also be needed prior to approval.

Open catch basins or sewer reporting

Call the Police, 203-385-4100, if it's an emergency.

Water Pollution Control can also be called, 203-385-4065.

Public sewers

Some areas of town contain public sewers, as determined by the Water Pollution Control Authority. Charges are levied by the Tax Assessor, 203-385-4025

Streetlight outages

Report defective streetlights to United Illuminating, 1-800-722-5584.

Reporting potholes, missing road signs or other problems

A link can be found under FAQ at the Department of Public Works Website, found under Government and Departments at townofstratford.com.

Road flooding

The Highway Division of Public Works should be notified at 203-385-4080.

illegal dumping reporting

Municipal issues can be reported to the Sanitation Department, 203-385-4080.

Roadside dumping can be reported to the Health Department, 203-385-4090, or Public Works, 203-385-4080.

Property neglect

Report blight to Planning & Zoning, 203-385-4017.

Dog licenses

All dogs over 6 months should be licensed through the Town Clerk. Licenses must be renewed in June annually. Town Clerk 203-385-4020 or <http://www.townofstratford.com/content/39832/39846/39945/default.aspx>

Pet immunizations

All dogs or cats over three months of age must be vaccinated against rabies. Booster shots are required at least every one to three years. Please consult with a licensed veterinarian for to determine how long your rabies vaccine is valid.

Failure to immunize your cat or dog against rabies can result in a fine of \$136.

Missing animals

Report the missing animal to Animal Control, 203-385-4068. If an animal is picked up by Animal Control, it will be at 225 Beacon Point Road. Please license and microchip pets for easy recovery. Animals can be micro-chipped for \$20.00 by making an appointment with Animal Control 203-385-4068

Distressed animals

Call Animal Control, 203-385-4068

Animal bites

Call 911 if it's a medical emergency. All bites should be reported to Animal Control, 203-385-4068

Local animal hospitals

There are five in town: Barnum Animal Hospital, 755 Barnum Ave. Cut-off, 203-378-0687; The Pet Hospital of Stratford, 1185 Linden Ave., 203-381-9488; Stratford Animal Hospital, 480 Knowlton St., 203-377-0235; Shakespeare Animal Hospital, 47 Nichols Ave., 203-378-8276; Oranoke Animal Hospital, 88 Ryders Lane Suite 8, 203-378-5229.

Emergency animal hospital

Shoreline Emergency Center, 895 Bridgeport Ave., Shelton, 929-8600, offers 24-hour emergency service.

If your pet has eaten something poisonous and you can't reach your own veterinarian right away, you can call the ASPCA Poison Control Hotline at 888-426-4435. It is staffed 24 hours, but there is a \$60 charge for services.

Roaming dogs

State law prohibits dogs from roaming on someone else's property or on any portion of a public highway when not attended by an owner and 100 percent under the owner's control. A violation can result in a fine.

Animal Control, a division of the Police Department, can be reached at 203-385-4068.

Lost cats

Please report all found cats to Stratford Animal Control at 203-385-4068. They keep a log of missing cats.

Animal Adoptions

Animals are available for adoption anytime the Animal Control Facility is open for business. Hours and adoption policy: <http://www.stratfordanimalrescue.org/hours.html>. Animals at Animal Control and other facilities may be viewed by visiting: <https://www.petfinder.com>.

Pet limit

There is no specific pet limit, as long as they do not present a general health threat, become a nuisance to others, or there are so many that it would constitute a kennel.

Illegal pets

Generally speaking, people are prohibited from having as pets animals considered "wild" by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. Call 860-424-3011 for details.

Animal/auto accidents

Call Stratford Police at 203-385-4100. It is illegal to leave the animal until help arrives.

Dead wild animals

If you find a dead wild animal near your house, call Public Works, 203-385-4080, for small animals.

Call police, 203-385-4100, to report a dead deer. It will then be picked up by public works.

Emergency wildlife number

The emergency number for the state Department of Environmental Protection, Wildlife Division, is 860-424-3333.

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