



COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS

www.meridenconna.wordpress

August 2025 Newsletter

Activities in August

Sun 3rd: Meriden’s Puerto Rican Festival

12pm-8pm Hubbard Park

Tues 5th: Meriden’s National Night Out!

5pm-8pm Hubbard Park

Thurs 7th: North Meriden
City Park

7pm Meriden Public Library

Wed 20th: Dutch Hill

CANCELLED

ECHO

Hillside Gardens

Veteran’s Assoc

Thurs 21st: Westsiders

6:30pm Immanuel Lutheran Church

Action 13

Lewis Ave

Fri 22nd: Back to School Expo

10am-1pm Meriden Green

Tues 26th: South Meriden.....note new date for meeting.....6:30pm Tom’s Place

Glen Hills

Stagecoach Riders

Crown Village

Wed 27: 1st Day of School for Meriden Public Schools

Meriden Police Dept Tip Lines

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

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

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

Meriden Police Dept: Calls for Service & Interactive Reports

The Meriden Police Dept is offering a new tool to keep residents apprised of the Department’s activities including the calls for service the police department responds to daily. The department is rolling out the first of the interactive reports which will be accessible on the City of Meriden website at:

www.meridenct.gov/city-services/police/interactive-reports

Meriden’s National Night Out: Tues Aug 5th 5pm-8pm Hubbard Park

The 20th annual National Night Out hosted by Meriden’s Council of Neighborhoods & Meriden Police Department is back on August 5th at Hubbard Park. Please join us as we celebrate the partnership of our neighborhoods and the Meriden Police Dept. The event is totally FREE which includes food & beverages, children’s activities and entertainment. There will be over 50 civic and non-profit organizations showcasing services that they provide to our community. LifeStar Medical Helicopter will land at the event! Meriden Police & Fire Depts, Hunters Ambulance, FBI, DEA. Amtrak Police, Military branches and many more will have staff, equipment and vehicles at the event. Please bring the family and enjoy the evening with us!

Meriden's Puerto Rican Festival: Sun Aug 3rd 12pm-8pm Hubbard Park

The annual Puerto Rican Festival will take place on Sun August 3rd. Come celebrate the Puerto Rican culture and enjoy all the cultural food and entertainment that is being planned throughout the day. As part of the festival scholarships are awarded annually to high school students. Bring the family and enjoy the day! Visit the Meriden Puerto Rican Festival facebook page for further information about the event.

Back to School Expo: Fri Aug 22nd 10am-1pm Meriden Green

Meriden Fire Union is holding the 22nd annual Back to School Expo. The first 800 Meriden school children between Pre-K and 8th grade to register will receive a FREE book bag filled with school supplies. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Meriden Cooling Centers

The City of Meriden has designated the Meriden Senior Center Meriden Mall and the Meriden Public Library as Cooling Centers, to those looking to beat the heat. Meriden Public Library is open Tues and Thurs 9:30am-8:30pm. Fri and Sat 9:30am-5pm. Meriden Senior Ctr (lower level: Hanover St entrance) hours are Tues Thurs and Fri 8:00am-4pm. Both locations are closed on Sundays. Meriden Mall hours are Mon-Sat 11am-8pm and Sun 12pm-6pm.

Meriden's Farmers Market

The Farmers Market opens for the season on Sat July 12th and will take place every Saturday from 830am to 12pm rain or shine at the Meriden Green from July 12th to Oct 18th. Come visit and shop for fresh fruits and vegetables. SNAP/EBT, FMNP coupons, cash and debit card will be accepted. Doubling Dollars program is back. For more information visit their website at www.meridenfarmersmarket.org.

Hubbard Park Pool Opens for the Summer Season

Hubbard Park pool is open 7 days a week from 1pm-5:30pm. Lap swim is on Mondays and Wednesdays 5:45pm-6:45pm. An annual pool pass is needed and can be obtained at the Park & Rec office. Residents: adults \$20 and children: \$10. Non residents: adults \$40 and children \$20. Seniors and Veterans \$10. For further information call 203-630-4259.

Meriden's Splash Pad Opens for the Summer Season

The Splash Pad located at City Park 42 Park Ave is open Mon to Sat 12pm-5:30pm and Sun 1pm-5:30pm. Come out with your families and enjoy the Splash Pad!

Meriden Public Schools Summer Food Service Program

The FREE Food Service Program for children 18 and under will be held from June 16 to August 15. The Program is offering free lunches at the following meal sites:

MPS Express Food Truck locations and time:

Breakfast: Meriden Green 8am-830am

Lunch: John Barry School: 1:05pm-1:35pm

Ceppa Field: 11:15am-11:35am

Meriden Green: 11:45am-12:15pm

City Park: 12:25pm-12:55pm

Washington Park: 10:45am-11:05am

School Sites:

Platt High School: June 16-August 15 Mon-Fri: breakfast: 7:15am-8:00am Lunch: 10:45am-11:15am

Lincoln Middle School: June 30-July 31 Mon-Thurs: Breakfast: 7:00am-7:30am Lunch: 10:30am-11:00am

Hanover Elementary School: June 30-Aug 1st: Mon-Fri: Breakfast: 8:00am-8:30am Lunch 11:00am-11:30am

John Barry Elementary: July 7-July 25: Breakfast 9:00am-9:30am Lunch: MPS Food Truck Stop

For more information visit: [www.meridenk12.org/summer meal program](http://www.meridenk12.org/summer%20meal%20program).

Paws Animal Rescue Fundraiser

Meriden Animal Control has an animal rescue Saving Paws that takes in cats and dogs and sometimes other domesticated animals. They care for them and get them ready to be adopted to their forever homes. They are a non-profit organization and are have some upcoming fundraisers to support the rescue. They are accepting returnable cans and bottles. If you have any returnable cans and bottles please consider to donate them to Saving Paws. You can drop them off at the animal control office at 311 Murdock Ave or the group will pick up donations at Meriden residences.

Meriden Little Free Libraries

Meriden Little Free Libraries is excited to be at National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5. We'll be giving away books, books and even more books plus a make your own book park activity for children. Stop by and say hello to our stewards who keep our libraries in tip-top shape. Summer is here and the Meriden Little Free Libraries are available for a great summer reading season! Our Libraries are jammed packed with a wonderful selection of children's books thanks to a generous donation from Read to Grow. We'd also like to thank the Charity Club of Meriden for again funding our annual Tomie dePaola book donation in September with several of his family and friends. The Meriden Rotary Club has provided funding for two special summer promotions. First is the fun "color your own puzzles" at Hubbard Park followed by July's sidewalk chalk, with all the libraries having a variety of chalk to celebrate National Sidewalk Chalk month, so let the creativity begin!



News from the Meriden Department of Health and Human Services – August 2025

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

"Like" us on Facebook for the latest updates!

Connecticut Foodshare Mobile Pantry

NEXT DATES:

Corner of Miller and Center Streets: August 14 & 28 from 1:00-2:00pm.

Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, 84 Franklin Street: August 7 & 21 from 1:15 – 2:15pm.

Bring your reusable grocery bags!

A full schedule can be found at: ctfoodshare.org/findhelp. To sign up for text alerts for schedule changes, text the word FOODSHARE to 85511.



Summer Meal Site Outreach

Staff will be at the following Summer Meal Lunch Sites hosted by the Meriden Public Schools Food and Nutrition Services! Stop by to ask questions about programs and services or just to say hello! We will have seasonal health information, free crafts for the kids, and more.

For more information about the Summer Meal Program please visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/MPSSummerMeals2025>



Washington Park (10:45 – 11:05 AM)

- August 1

Ceppa Field (11:15 – 11:35 AM)

City Park (12:25 – 12:55 PM)

- August 13

John Barry Elementary School (1:05 – 1:35 PM)

- August 6
- August 8
- August 15

Meriden Green (11:45 AM – 12:15 PM)

Public Health Clinic

Back to School Physicals

The first day of school is August 27th! We are partnering with Community Health Center, Inc. to offer back-to-school physicals at our office at 165 Miller Street. Please call (475) 231-6987 to make your appointment.

Meningococcal B Vaccine Available

Do you have a child 16 years or older? The CDC recommends the [Meningococcal B vaccine](#) as an extra layer of protection against Meningococcal Disease for teens and young adults.

Call our Public Health Clinic at (203) 630-4234 to schedule an appointment.



Public Health Education

Save a Life: Overdose Education & Naloxone Training

This training is an essential part of overdose prevention education where participants learn what an overdose looks like and how to reverse one.

You will learn:

- ➔ Signs & symptoms of an overdose
- ➔ What naloxone (Narcan®) is and how to administer it
- ➔ Local resources and support

All attendees will receive a naloxone kit, certificate of completion, and other prevention resources. Training are FREE and open to Meriden residents and organizations.

Upcoming trainings:

- August 6, 2025 5:00 – 6:00 pm
- September 2, 2025 9:00 – 10:00 am
- October 1, 2025 5:00 – 6:00 pm
- November 5, 2025 9:00 – 10:00 am
- December 3, 2025 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Trainings will be held in-person at our office (165 Miller Street).

To register please scan the QR code or call Elizabeth at (203) 630-4288.



QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Prevention Training

Join us for an in-person QPR Suicide Prevention Training on August 20, 2025 from 10:30 – 11:30am at 165 Miller Street.

You will learn:

- How to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis.
- How to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.



Participants will get a certification as a QPR Gatekeeper at the end of the training. Great to add to a resume! To register please contact Elizabeth at (203) 630-4288 or edemerchant@meridenct.gov.

COVID-19

The new strain of COVID-19 virus - NB.1.8.1 or "nimbus" – continues to be the current dominant variant in the United States. If you are traveling, consider packing a COVID-19 home test kit. We have them in our office for Meriden residents at no cost. Call 203-630-4221 with questions.

Environmental Health

Rise in Tick Bites Observed in U.S.

Data from the CDC has shown an increase in the number of emergency department visits for tick bites this summer.

Did you know if you find a tick on yourself, you could bring the tick to our office to submit for testing? Put the tick in an envelope and bring it into our office. We will send it out to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to be identified and tested for common tick-borne illnesses as a public service free of charge.

Questions? Call our Environmental Health Office Monday-Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm at (203) 630-4226.

Meriden Senior Center

Membership to the Senior Center is FREE for Meriden residents age 55 and over! The August issue of the Meriden Senior Center newsletters is [now available on our website](#).

Transportation Services

The Meriden Senior Center provides free rides to and from the Center, to in-town medical appointments, and scheduled shopping trips. Rides are available for residents age 55 and over and persons with disabilities under age 55. Please call the Mini-Bus Transportation Office at (203) 237-3338 to learn more.

Nutrition Program

A healthy, nutritious lunch is served daily for Senior Center members age 60 and over. There is a nominal fee for members age 55 to 60. Call (203) 630-4704 to learn more. The lunch menu is available in the newsletter.

Meriden Early Learning Connection (Formerly School Readiness)

Meriden Early Learning Connection (MELC) provides affordable, high-quality early education and care for children from infancy through age five who are not yet eligible for kindergarten. Our CT Early Start programs support children's growth and development, ensuring they are ready to enter kindergarten and become life-long learners.

Program Highlights

- **Age-Appropriate Classrooms:** Full- and part-day options for infants, toddlers, and preschool-aged children, tailored to each child's developmental needs.
- **Evidence-Based Curriculum:** Play-based and literacy-focused activities designed to promote school readiness.
- **Skilled Early Childhood Staff:** All staff are trained in current early childhood trends and foundational practices.

Have questions? Call Rhonda Knight at (203) 630-4222.

Upcoming Events

- Puerto Rican Festival on August 3rd from 12:00 - 8:00 PM at Hubbard Park.
- National Night Out on August 5th from 5:00 - 8:00pm at Hubbard Park.
- The Meriden Farmers Market on August 9th from 8:30am - 12:00pm at the Meriden Green.
- Meriden Pride Fest on August 16th at 328 Paddock Avenue. Staff will be there from 11:00am - 2:00pm.
- Back to School Expo on August 22nd from 10:00am - 1:00pm at the Meriden Green.
- Overdose Awareness Day on August 30th from 10:00am - 1:00pm at the Meriden Green.

Newsletters

Our office publishes 3 newsletters:

1. [Senior Center – Connections \(monthly\)](#)
2. [Seasonal Health Updates \(monthly\)](#)
3. [Harm Reduction and Opioid Response \(quarterly\)](#)