



Updates from Mayor Chess

February 27, 2026 | Issue

Welcome to our first newsletter on our new platform! We hope this will provide a better experience for you, our readers. If you have a friend or neighbor who hasn't yet signed up for our newsletter, please feel free to share this with them and invite them to sign up [here](#).

I want to thank you for your patience during yet another snowstorm this past week. I know that many are done with the snow and ready for warmer weather. I know I am! I have some great updates and information for you today, so let's dive in.

In this newsletter, you'll find

- The Mayor's Ball for All is tomorrow!
- Parking ban will be lifted on Saturday
- Sign up for important Town Alerts
- How to get involved
- Stratford Welcomes
- Stratford in the News

The Mayor's Ball for All is Tomorrow



The Mayor's
BALL FOR ALL
A Community Inaugural Celebration

Saturday, February 28 (WEATHER DATE MARCH 7)

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

The Baldwin Center, 1000 West Broad Street, Stratford

FREE

All Stratford residents are invited to attend this open house style event. Enjoy a Taste of Stratford, listen to amazing music, connect with neighbors, and hit the dance floor. This free event is open to Stratford residents of all ages.

PARKING INFORMATION

Parking will be available in the Baldwin Center parking lot. Additional parking is available at Stratford High School, 245 King Street, Stratford, with shuttle bus pick up on North Parade. Shuttle buses will run on a loop.

RESTAURANTS

Thank you to our restaurants who are generously donating their food and time!

RIVERVIEW BISTRO - meatballs

PIKLY'S RESTAURANT - pork and chicken bites, plantains

LITTLE PUB STRATFORD - pork carnitas tacos

OUTRIGGERS RESTAURANT - shrimp cocktail

JOEY C'S BOATHOUSE - pulled pork, mac-n-cheese

MARY J LOUNGE - mocktails

STATIONHOUSE RESTAURANT - sushi

FRENCHIES COFFEE BAR - coffee and cookies

Tickets will be provided for food and beverage items.

ENTERTAINMENT - The Great Room

1:30 PM **SISTER CITIES CHORUS**

1:50 PM **REMARKS FROM MAYOR DAVID CHESSE**

2:00 PM **JAZZ TRIO**

3:30 PM **DJ SETH CARLEY**

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES - The Studio

1:00 - 4:30 PM **STEAM ACTIVITIES**, South End Community Center (*all ages*)

1:30 - 2:15 PM **SING-A-LONG**, Music Together (*ages 1-7*)

2:30 - 3:30 PM **PAINTING ACTIVITY**, Stratford YMCA (*ages 5 - 14*)

FOOD | LIVE MUSIC | GAMES | CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES | DANCING

FREE. No registration required. Just come and have fun!

Parking Ban will be Lifted Saturday

The Parking Ban that was put in place on Sunday, February 22nd at 8:00 AM, requiring residents to park on the even side of the road, **will be lifted tomorrow, Saturday, February 28th at 8:00 AM.**

We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation over the past week, as our Department of Public Works cleared over 800 public roads, our schools, parks and more to keep our community safe.

**Stratford's Parking Ban
Will Be Lifted
on Sat. Feb. 28th
at 8:00 AM**



Sign Up for Important Town Alerts



GET CONNECTED

If you haven't already, sign up for Stratford's Citizen Electronic Notification System. It will provide you with voice and/or email notifications about safety and important updates from the Town sent to the community.



How to Get Involved

Come to a Neighborhood Association Meeting

We've held meetings so far in Districts 7, 3, 8, 9, and 4 and the turnout has been tremendous! Thank you to everyone who has come out to share their ideas, address concerns, and discuss solutions together. We hope to see you at the next one in your District!

Neighborhood Association Meeting Schedule

FEB. & MARCH 2026



District 2

When: Tues. March 3
from 6:00-7:30 PM

Where: Christ Church
2000 Main St.

District 6

When: Wed. March 4
from 6:00-7:30 PM

Where: David Wooster
Middle School. 150
Lincoln St.

District 5

When: Thurs. March 5
from 6:00-7:30 PM

Where: Stonybrook
Coop. 55 Singer Ct.

District 10

When: Tues. March 10
from 6:00-7:30 PM

Where: Second Hill Lane
Elementary School, 65
Second Hill Lane

District 1

When: Wed. March 11
from 6:00-7:30 PM

Where: Lordship
Elementary School
254 Crown St.

District 3

When: Tues. March 31
from 6:00-7:30 PM

Where: Stratford Academy
Johnson House
Elementary School.
719 Birdseye St.

What Neighborhood Associations are:

- Informal groups
- No invitation needed
- All community members are welcome
- Each District (there are 10) will have its own association/meetings
- You are welcome to attend meetings outside your District

What the Neighborhood Association does:

- People share concerns
- Discuss local issues
- Discuss potential solutions
- Consider ways to work together to make their communities better
- Review and discuss land use/ development plans in their neighborhood
- Has a direct connection to the Mayor's Office and Town Council

Have any questions? Please contact Erin McLaughlin from our Community Development and Engagement Office at emcloughlin@townofstratford.com

Come to Mayor Chess's Open Office Hours

Come to one of the Mayor's upcoming office hours at Town Hall!



Mayor Chess's Upcoming Office Hours

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, FROM 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 FROM 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
TUESDAY, MARCH 17 FROM 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH FROM 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

There are no agendas and no appointments necessary. It's first-come, first-served.

This is a space for casual, face-to-face conversation.



At Town Hall: 2725 Main St., 2nd Floor in the Mayor's Office

Come to the next Town Council Meeting

Stratford's next Town Council meeting is Monday, March 9th.

When:

- Public Comment is at 6:30 PM
- The Town Council Meeting is at 7:00 PM.

Where: Town Council meetings are typically held on the second Monday of the month in the Council Chambers at Town Hall.

[Learn more here](#)

Recreation Trails Master Plan Public Workshop

Stratford is developing a Trails Master Plan to create a long-term vision for the town's trail system, and we want your input!

Join us for a public workshop on Thursday, March 12th, from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM at the Baldwin Center, All Purpose Room (Floor 2), 1000 West Broad Street, Stratford, CT.

Learn about the project and share your feedback on Stratford's existing future trails.

**Stratford Recreational Trails Master Plan**

Get Involved!
Attend the Public Workshop!

**WHEN:**
Thursday, March 12th
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

**WHERE:**
Baldwin Center
All Purpose Room
Floor 2
1000 W Broad Street
Stratford, CT 06615

The Town of Stratford is developing a Recreational Trails Master Plan to create a long-term vision for the trail system. The plan will balance recreation and conservation, ensuring trails are enjoyable, accessible, and safe while protecting sensitive natural areas.

Please join us for a presentation, breakout discussion, and a chance to provide feedback on Stratford's trails.

Refreshments will be served and attendees will be entered for a chance to win a \$200 Visa gift card!

**Stay Informed!**
An online community survey is now available. Please Take the Survey!
Visit <https://www.stratfordct.gov/page/recretrails>



[Learn more here](#)

Join one of our Boards or Commissions

Government works best when as many people as possible participate and share their ideas and input. I am actively working with the Town Council to recruit additional community members to serve on Stratford's Boards and Commissions. Below are two Commissions with vacancies for any Stratford resident interested in applying. You can see the full list of Boards and Commissions [here](#).



JOIN STRATFORD'S BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Purpose & Objectives

To promote community beautification efforts throughout Stratford, including hosting an annual Home Curb Appeal Contest, Beautification Awards Program and making public recognitions.

Term:

2-year term – concurrent with Town Council Session.



[Apply here](#)



JOIN STRATFORD'S HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Purpose & Objectives

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 or indicative of the history or a period or style of architecture of the town, state, or nation.

Term:

5-Year Terms – Appointed by Mayor



[Apply here](#)



JOIN STRATFORD'S SHELLFISH COMMISSION

Purpose & Objectives

To protect the natural growth of shellfish in waters under the jurisdiction of the Town and to institute such regulations that are necessary to preserve and improve existing natural areas and reclaim those areas that have been destroyed. The Commission shall act as a liaison between the state and federal agencies in this common interest and shall disseminate information to the public on the need for preservation and protection of these natural resources.

Term:

4-Year Terms – Appointed by Mayor



JOIN STRATFORD'S SHORT BEACH PARK COMMISSION

Purpose & Objectives

The Short Beach Park Commission shall determine the boundaries and develop rules and regulations for both public and private use of Short Beach, subject to the approval of the Town Council. No work or improvements may be made or performed on any town-owned structures, buildings or land located within Short Beach without the recommendation of the Short Beach Park Commission and the appropriate Council Committees, and the approval of the Town Council.

Term:

3-Year Terms – Appointed by Town Council



[Apply here](#)

[Apply here](#)

Stratford Welcomes

The Little Gym of Stratford, CT! It's located at 475 Hawley Lane in the North Town Center!

We're so excited to welcome a fantastic new place where children can learn, grow, and have some serious fun! From parent-child movement classes for the littlest ones to gymnastics for all levels, camps, and unforgettable birthday parties, there's truly something for every child age 4 months through 12 years.



Whether families are looking for imaginative play, confidence-building activities, or a fun new local community space, The Little Gym of Stratford will be a great location for big smiles and memorable moments for kids and their families.

[Visit their website](#)

Stratford in the News

New Scholarship Established to Support Stratford Students Attending UConn | Stratford Patch

Snow piles push Stratford to the limit as crews and residents dig out | News 12

Stratford YMCA and Stratford Board of Education Partner to Ensure Every Second Grader Learns to Swim | Stratford Crier



Please also follow us on Facebook and visit our website for updates (links below!)
In service,

In Service,

David Chess, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'David Chess'.



Town of Stratford | 2725 Main Street | Stratford, CT 06615 US

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