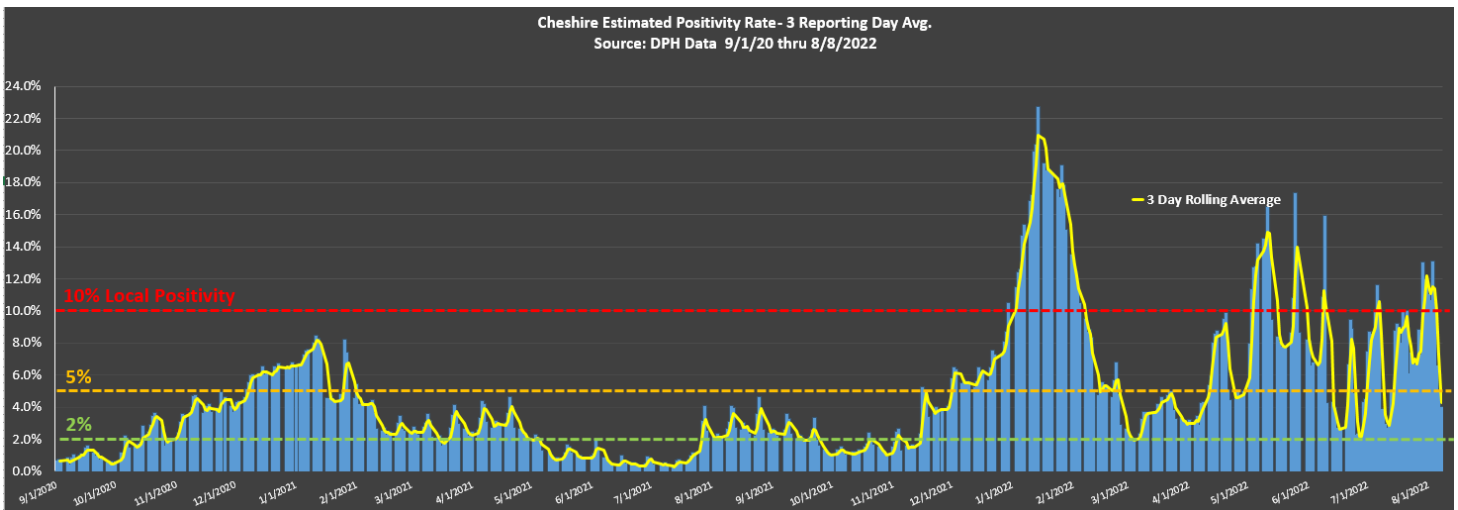


TOWN OF CHESHIRE
84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE, CT 06410
Telephone (203) 271-6660 FAX (203) 271-6639

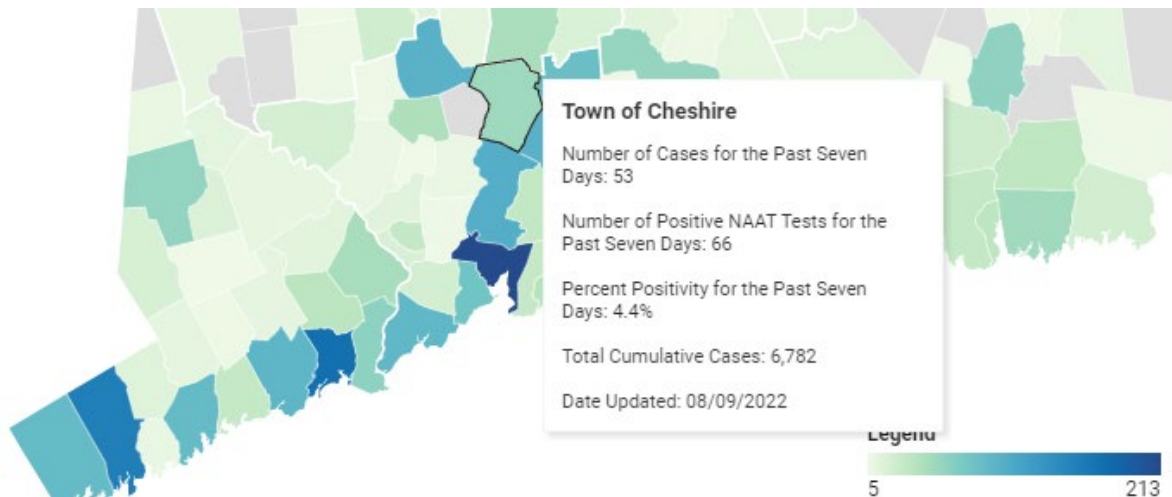
TO: Town Council
FROM: Sean M. Kimball, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Town Manager’s Report – August 2022
DATE: August 9, 2022

COVID-19 Pandemic Data

Local COVID positivity rate data has remained elevated at close to the same level as the Omicron variant spike this past winter, but also fluctuating significantly over the last few weeks. As was the case for the prior two months, the increased prevalence of at-home testing, the official reporting data we receive from DPH may be slightly skewed. As of Monday, August 8th, Cheshire’s local positivity rate stands at 4.0% (65 positives in Cheshire out of 1,644 tests and up from 2.7% last month).



Number of Cases by Connecticut Town for the Past 7 Days



COVID-19 Test Kits Available for Residents to Pick Up:

Free COVID-19 test kits remain available for Cheshire residents to pick up at both the Cheshire Public Library and Human Services Department during regular operating hours. Please bring proof of residency with you (i.e. driver's license, library card, etc.)

Cheshire Library Summer Reading Update:

This month the Cheshire Public Library is wrapping up a successful summer reading program. Total participation which included all ages: children, teens and adults was 960 which is a 42% increase from last year. Also, 84 patrons turned in "Spot the Sasquatch" booklets which provided clues to where Sasquatch could be found in businesses around town. This was an effort to help our local businesses while providing a fun activity for summer reading.

The Cheshire Public Library's AV Studio:

A reminder that the Cheshire Library's AV STUDIO, a fully equipped digital media lab for audio and video creation as well as digital conversion, is now open and proving to be popular. Technology Coordinator, Jared Goldman has provided training classes for those interested in learning how to use the equipment. The Studio can be booked for 2-hour increments by visiting our website or calling the library at (203) 272-2245.

Fraud Tip Line

As a recommended best practice from our auditors for all of their municipal clients, I am pleased to report that the Town and Cheshire Public Schools have partnered to establish a "Fraud Hotline" utilizing the firm, FraudHL. This simple system provides a confidential communication tool for Town and CPS employees to report any incidents or concerns to upper management, including but not limited to theft, misappropriation of funds, misconduct or ethics violations, safety issues, discrimination, workplace violence, etc. This new system is being rolled out early next week via department communications, email and workplace/breakroom posters.

Parks and Recreation's Fall 2022 Brochure Now Available:

The Parks and Recreation's Fall 2022 program brochure is now available and can be viewed on the Town's website at the following [link](#).

Bartlem Beats Concerts:

A reminder that the final Bartlem Beats concert of the year will be held this **Friday, August 12, 2022 at 7pm** with a performance by the Dead Man's Waltz (formerly Steal Your Peach Band), which interweaves the music of The Grateful Dead, The Allman Brothers Band and The Band. Please note the staging for this Friday's concert will be on the Bartlem South Property to simulate the future home of the planned band shell area.

Community Pool Security:

A walkthrough was held yesterday to finalize the planned security camera installations for both the outside of the facility as well as areas of the pool deck. The planned project is estimated to cost about \$9,100 for all equipment and installation of 6 camera systems.

Summer Concert Series at Mixville Park:

The Cheshire Parks and Recreation Department and Cheshire Public Library are hosting a summer concert series at Mixville Park. Final remaining date:

- **Wednesday, August 10th** (rain date August 11th) at 6:30pm – Dierdre McMorrow and Paul Pender

Limited transportation is available for Senior Center Members on a first come first serve basis. For more information and to check availability, please contact the Senior Center Dispatch office at (203) 272-0047.

Cheshire Fall Festival:

The highly anticipated annual Cheshire Fall Festival has been scheduled for Friday, September 9th and Saturday, September 10th. The celebration begins on “Food Truck Friday”, September 9th, and continues to Saturday, September 10th at Bartlem Park, in the heart of our town. For additional information and a complete schedule of events, please go to <http://cheshirefestival.com/>.

Economic Development Update:

- Jersey Mikes is officially opening tomorrow, August 10th
- Sweet Claude’s Ice Cream has a Conditional Certificate of Occupancy walkthrough scheduled for Thursday afternoon and they are hoping for an opening soon thereafter.
- The conveyance of the State property at 691 has been completed and the deed was recorded on the land records yesterday
- The Bovano property at 830 South Main Street sold to developers from Rhode Island for \$975,000
- The Cheshire Convalescent Center / Cheshire Rehab (745 Highland Avenue) – just south of the prison property sold on July 28th for \$8,881,439 to a NJ based operator
- The new trail parking area project supported by the Town Council at 55 Railroad Avenue is substantially complete, with final seeding by the contractor being finalized mid-week before officially opening. Some final fencing materials were delayed but will be installed in the coming weeks once available.

Upcoming Town Council & Committee Meetings:

Personnel Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 5pm, Room 207/209, Town Hall

Ordinance Review Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 6pm, Room 207/209, Town Hall

Planning Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 6pm, Room 207/209, Town Hall

Town Council Special Meeting

Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 7:00pm (Council Chambers, Town Hall)

