

What's New on HartfordInfo.org

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What's New on HartfordInfo.org is a periodic update announcing recent additions to HartfordInfo.org. Please feel free to forward this message to others. To be added to the distribution list send an email message through our [feedback page](#).

HartfordInfo.org, a program of the Hartford Public Library, is a gateway to information and data on issues important to those who live and work in Hartford and the region.

New Developments on HartfordInfo.org:

- **New Search Engine:** We've added a new search engine to HartfordInfo.org. Powered by Google, the new search engine covers the entire site and will make it much easier to navigate HartfordInfo.org and find what you need. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and see the Google search box in the upper right portion of the home page. *(The old search engine that used to be in the upper left of the home page can still be accessed by clicking on "Web Sites, Documents, and Articles" in the upper left portion of the home page – but remember that it is less powerful than the new Google search engine and does not search the entire site.)*
- **New Database Software:** It won't be visible to HartfordInfo.org visitors, but sometime in the next few weeks we will complete the transition to new database software from Microsoft called SQL Server. This is a major step and has required a great deal of work by our crack technology staff. SQL Server is a much more robust database software that will improve the functionality of HartfordInfo.org as it continues to grow.

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New Reports on HartfordInfo.org:

- **The Erosion of Child Care Funding for Working Families in Connecticut:** This report from Connecticut Voices for Children describes how Connecticut's current vision that all children enter kindergarten ready for school success, and the related new investments in early care and education, are being more than offset by insufficient funding, and in some cases funding cuts for related programs. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "erosion" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Redevelopment Plan for Albany Avenue/Woodland Street Project:** This document outlines the steps to revitalize a critical intersection along a major corridor in Hartford. The resulting Town Center will house retail and service businesses, restaurants and shops, providing business opportunities in Upper Albany. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "albany woodland" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Funding of Interdistrict Magnet Schools in Connecticut:** Interdistrict magnet schools have been very successful at providing a high-quality, integrated education, and there is a large demand to attend these schools, yet this has not changed the overall conditions of the Hartford schools that led to the decision of the Supreme Court in Sheff vs. O'Neill. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "interdistrict" in the Google search box and then click "Search."

- **Design Concept for Memorial Arch in Bushnell Park:** The concept for a redesign of Trinity Street and the Memorial Arch in Bushnell Park as of November, 2005. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "arch design" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Complaint Filed by the State of Connecticut Against the Federal Government Over No Child Left Behind Act:** The complaint filed in U.S. District Court against the U.S. government concerning unfunded mandates under the No Child Left Behind Act. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "nclb" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Mayor's Update, Winter 2006:** The Winter 2006 issue includes updates on public safety, homeownership, neighborhood policing, the Parkville neighborhood and more. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "winter 2006 update" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Immigrants in Connecticut: Labor Market Experiences and Health Care Access:** This profile of Connecticut's immigrants describes the size, characteristics, and needs of the state's immigrant population. Beyond the basic demographics of the foreign-born population, the report focuses on immigrants in the labor force and health care access for immigrant groups. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "immigrants health" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Superintendent's Connection - January 2006:** A newsletter of the Superintendent of Schools, Hartford Public Schools spotlighting improvements in student achievement, recognizing and announcing the nomination of Hartford Magnet Middle School as a federal Blue Ribbon School, and other news. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "connection 2006" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Sowing Prosperity: Low-Income Working Families and Connecticut's Economic Future:** Presents information about low-income workers, highlights the successful policies that are already in place to help them, and describes the work that needs to be done. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "sowing" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **New Perspectives on the Need for Affordable Housing within Connecticut:** A huge escalation in Connecticut housing prices since 2000 – four times the growth in personal income – has pushed affordable homeownership and rental housing beyond the reach of many working families and individuals, according to this statewide study from the Partnership for Strong Communities. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "need for" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Funding Gap 2005: Low-Income and Minority Students Shortchanged by Most States:** This latest edition of the annual Funding Gap report by the Education Trust shows that most states significantly shortchange low-income and minority children when it comes to funding the schools they attend. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "funding gap" in the Google search box and then click "Search."

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New Articles on HartfordInfo.org:

Through an agreement with *The Hartford Courant*, HartfordInfo.org continues to offer selected *Courant* articles as permanent additions to the web site. A few recent additions include:

- **School's Arts Theme Lures Students:** Kinsella Elementary School in the Sheldon-Charter Oak neighborhood has a curriculum which emphasizes the arts. Despite low test scores, there is now a long waiting list to get in. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "arts theme" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Colt Story Worth Repeating:** Great stories attract visitors by the thousands and millions. Here in Hartford we are sitting on one of the greatest stories in the world. It's the story of Sam Colt and his

amazing armories. Told well, these stories could triple or quadruple the number of visitors to Hartford. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "colt story" in the Google search box and then click "Search."

- **Inside the Science Center:** The Connecticut Center for Science and Exploration at Adriaen's Landing is slated to open in 2008. Museum officials are turning their attention to the critical question of what the museum will look like inside. The central theme is fairly simple: experience. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "inside science" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Albany Avenue Rising:** Tom Condon reports that Albany Avenue is making a comeback. Comparing today with 1990 or even 2000 is to see remarkable progress. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "albany rising" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Drug Summit Takes On Issue of Legalization:** Participants in a drug policy summit at Trinity College agreed wholeheartedly that addiction is a serious problem, but were divided over whether that problem is fundamentally one of health - or of crime. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "drug summit" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Sleepover Also an Eye Opener:** Lancelot Gordon was recently named as Hartford Housing Authority's permanent executive director. Gordon, a former resident of the Stowe Village housing project who holds a master's degree in city planning, decided to spend a night at Nelton Court, the city's last barracks-style public housing complex. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "sleepover" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **One Gun, 11 Victims:** Guns get passed around in Hartford. They are traded, bought and sold. In 2002, across the neighborhoods of the city's North End, one handgun, a Glock 9mm, was passed from hand to hand. By the end of the year, it would be used to shoot 11 young men. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "one gun" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **School Finance Battle Ahead:** A coalition of municipal officials and educators goes to court seeking to force Connecticut to dramatically increase spending on education and revamp the way it pays for public schools. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "battle ahead" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Rowing Crew Is a Learning Experience:** The Riverfront Recapture rowing program is over for the season, and the oars and long, narrow sculls have been cleaned and stored away. But for many team members, fond memories of their experiences linger. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "rowing" in the Google search box and then click "Search." *Room for All in the City's Future:* Stan Simpson points out the need for affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families in Hartford's development plans. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "room for all" in the Google search box and then click "Search."

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