

What's New on HartfordInfo.org

April 2006

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:

- **Tell Us What You Think!** We want to know what you think of HartfordInfo.org! Please take our quick online survey at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=239751954673>
- **Spanish Translation:** Several more portions of the web site have been translated. Nearly half of the site is now available in Spanish, and additional portions of the site will be translated in the coming months. To see the site in Spanish go to www.hartfordinfo.org and click on the "Espanol" link in the upper right corner.
- **Agreement with Hartford News:** We have recently reached an agreement with the *Hartford News*, a city-wide weekly community newspaper, to include selected articles on HartfordInfo.org. You'll soon start seeing these articles appear on the web site.

[Go to Top](#)

New Data on HartfordInfo.org:

- **Hartford Public Schools Data:** Attendance data from the Hartford Public Schools has been added to HartfordInfo.org. To access the data go to www.hartfordinfo.org and click on the blue box near the center of the home page titled "Hartford Public Schools Data." Additional data will be added in the coming months.
- **Updated Workforce Profiles:** Capital Workforce Partners recently released a 2005 update of their workforce profiles for Hartford and towns in the surrounding region. To see the profile for Hartford go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "Hartford workforce" in the Google search box and then click "Search." To see the profile for any other town in the region type the town name followed by "workforce" in the Google search box and then click "Search," or [click here](#) to go to a clickable map.

[Go to Top](#)

New Reports on HartfordInfo.org:

- **State of the City Address 2006:** Mayor Eddie Perez addresses the City Council, reviewing progress and outlining plans for the coming year in education, housing, neighborhoods, public safety and more. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "city 2006" in the Google search box and then click "Search."

- **Getting Connecticut's Fiscal Ship in Order:** This March 2006 report from Connecticut Voices for Children highlights some of the reasons why Connecticut's fiscal situation remains troubling, notwithstanding its current surplus. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "fiscal ship" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **The Burden of Asthma in New England:** This new report from the Asthma Regional Council examines the health, socioeconomic, behavioral, and environmental predictors that relate to adult and child asthma in the region. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "asthma burden" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Drug Conference White Paper:** Executive Summary of the October 2005 conference "Illicit Drugs: Burden and Policy" sponsored by the City of Hartford. The conference provided a unique opportunity for multiple stakeholders to begin a dialogue around the problem of drugs in Hartford. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "white paper" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Concept Proposals for New Britain - Hartford Busway:** This March 2006 document shows the development concept proposals for Transit Oriented Development (TOD) in the vicinity of various stops along the proposed New Britain - Hartford Busway. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "TOD" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Plasma Arc Technology: A Solution to Hartford's Landfill?** Plasma Arc technology offers a possible solution to the Hartford landfill in the North Meadows. In March, 2006, Professor Louis J. Cicero of the Plasma Applications Research Program at Georgia Tech Research Institute made a presentation in Hartford. Two Power Point presentations are included here: *Plasma Processing of Municipal Solid Waste at Coal-Fired Power Plants*, and *Engineering & Environmental Applications of Plasma Arc Technology*. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "plasma arc" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Fair Funding: Let's Find a Better Way to Finance Local Education in Connecticut:** This document reports on the study and resulting recommendations of an investigation on the issue of education funding in Connecticut, performed by the Citizens Network of the Capital Region. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "fair funding" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Federal Tax Burdens and Expenditures by State - Special Report:** The Tax Foundation's annual federal tax burden and expenditure study clarifies the geographical patterns of income redistribution that federal tax and spending policies cause each year. In fiscal year 2004, residents of Connecticut were paying 166 percent of the national average in federal taxes. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "tax burden" in the Google search box and then click "Search."

[Go to Top](#)

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. Some recent additions include:

- **At Long Last, Getting Feet On The Street:** Almost eight years since Adriaen's Landing began the now \$2 billion worth of public and private investment in downtown Hartford, there is at least one truism: Development has begotten development. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "feet on street" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Perez Tax Plan Bucks Norm:** Mayor Perez is proposing tying property taxes to a homeowner's income. Those who own and live in one-, two- and three-family properties would pay no more than 4 percent of their income on that property. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "bucks norm" in the Google search

box and then click "Search."

- **Volunteers Embrace Refugees' Needs:** Volunteers provide support services to refugees through an outreach program sponsored by Jubilee House, an education center in Hartford that offers an array of services. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "refugee needs" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Lessons From Providence:** Much has been written about the comeback of downtown Providence. Is Providence's success a model for Hartford? Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "from providence" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **State Must Do Math On Charters:** Stan Simpson writes in support of a bill that would remove the enrollment caps on charter schools and provide them funding at the same levels as the conventional public schools. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "math on charters" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **River Was Where Road Is:** In this opinion piece, Wilson H. Faude discusses the Metropolitan District Commission plans to tap a brook in Bloomfield and have it flow in Bushnell Park along the former path of the Park River. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "river was" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **A Class Struggle:** To comply with a landmark court case on educating children with learning disabilities or emotional problems, the Hartford public school system in September 2005 transferred 1,300 special education students from segregated programs to neighborhood schools. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "class struggle" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **A Lift For Low-Wage Workers:** While bankers on Wall Street enjoy a \$21.5 billion bonus season, another bonus ritual is playing out for thousands of low-wage Connecticut workers: the earned income tax credit. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "lift workers" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Breakthrough School Is Educators' Dream:** Breakthrough Magnet School will move to the newly constructed building on Brookfield Street in Hartford in spring 2006. It is the first city-run magnet school to move into digs built from the ground up just for them. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "breakthrough school" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Front Street Back In Play:** The authority in charge of the state's investment in Hartford took a key step recently, voting to move forward with an agreement for a developer to build a long-delayed retail, residential and entertainment conduit between the convention center and downtown Hartford. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "front back" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Urban Violence Drawing Attention:** In a closed-door meeting held recently at the Capitol with more than a dozen mayors, Gov. M. Jodi Rell said she was open to revising her proposed budget and address mayoral concerns about how best to curb urban violence. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "drawing attention" in the Google search box and then click "Search."
- **Replacing Schools Chief A Challenge For City:** Hartford is hustling to find a superintendent to take over for Robert Henry, whose resignation becomes effective in June. Go to www.hartfordinfo.org and type "replacing chief" in the Google search box and then click "Search."

[Go to Top](#)

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