

City Government Working For You!



Hartford Makes History! Edward Casares, Jr. is Hartford's 36th Fire Chief and the first Latino to serve in this capacity since the department was founded in 1789.



The swearing-in ceremony

was held on April 14th at City Hall. The Atrium was filled with music and proud traditions of the HFD which has achieved national recognition and the highest level of accreditation. Chief Casares is pictured here with his wife Ines, Town and City Clerk John Bazzano, and HFD Chaplains Pastor Jeff Powell and Rev. Adalberto Ortiz.

Summer is just around the corner:



The Hartford Health and Human Services Department, Recreation Division offers a multitude of safe and quality programs that focus on physical fitness, health awareness, sports, arts and

crafts, cultural activities and nutrition for residents of all ages and abilities. American Red Cross certified lifeguards are located at our four outdoor pools. Swim lessons are available for children and adults.

Several City of Hartford schools, playgrounds, agencies and organizations offer free breakfast and lunch to Hartford youngsters ages 18 and under, from June 14th - August 27th. For information, call (860) 695-8490. For other city listings and sites, call (860) 757-4880, 3-1-1 or the INFO LINE at 2-1-1, or log on to www.hartford.gov.

Please note: Most programs are open and free to Hartford residents. However, some have limited enrollment and will be filled on a first come first served basis.

Balancing the Toughest Budget Ever:



On April 19th, Mayor Eddie Perez submitted his budget for FY 2010-2011, after months of unprecedented collaboration during workshops with City Council. The recommended plan builds on the positive momentum of education, public safety and economic development.

“We have maintained an excellent fiscal rating despite the biggest ‘economic tsunami’ in our memory. While other cities eliminate services, we have managed our resources wisely to avoid a crisis,” said Mayor Perez.

“Because of the tough economy, we must turn to property taxes to absorb the cost of services. That, in addition to the phase-out of the business surcharge and the phase-in of revaluation, sadly shifts the burden to taxpayers. Every city and town is finding it harder to fund services through local property taxes--- the primary source of revenue for local governments,” added Mayor Perez.

The Mayor's recommended budget highlights include:

- An increase in our contribution to education of \$2,500,000
- Funding of one new police class and one new fire class to offset pending retirements
- A 124% over the current year to the Municipal Employees Retirement Fund (MERF) for active and retired municipal employees.
- A \$500,000 investment in the Arts job sector. Last year's Arts Stimulus Program pumped more than \$2.5 million into the local economy and created/retained 255 jobs in just six months.
- \$500,000 to implement a Parks Trainee Program for City residents.

This balanced budget closes a gap originally forecast at \$43 million. The Mayor's complete recommended budget is available online at www.hartford.gov.

***The Arts Means Jobs in Hartford:
Phase 2 of Arts Stimulus***

33 Hartford-based individual artists, small businesses, and non-profit organizations in the creative economy are the recipients of almost \$600,000 through Phase 2 of the Hartford Arts & Heritage Jobs Grant Program. Proposed by Mayor Perez, the City has partnered with the Greater Hartford Arts Council to utilize funding from the Federal Stimulus community Development Block Grant Recovery Funds. The grants build upon the Capital City's renowned reputation as an Arts Mecca by providing investment resources to Arts entrepreneurs in order to retain and create jobs and stimulate the City's overall economy. For a complete list of Phase 2 recipients, please log on to www.hartford.gov.



in UCONN Victory Parade:



Upcoming "375" Events:



May 29 & 30: Friends of Vintage Base Ball present "Decoration Day" at Colt Meadows--see The Hartford Senators play the Grand Old Game by the rules of the 1860's.



June 12th: Happy First Birthday to the CT Science Center.

One City, One Plan

May 20, 2010: P&Z Public Hearing (NEW DATE)

June 8, 2010: Effective Date of Plan Adoption



It's all about Hartford's young people! Congratulations to the Office for Young Children for another successful Family Fair. Also, kudos to the Hartford Office for Youth Services for providing such a positive community forum with "Youth 4 Change."



This is Always a Good Reminder:

IN THE CITY OF HARTFORD

For Emergencies Call



For Everything Else Call



757-9311