

Fall/Winter



Deep River News

Vol. 19, No. 3



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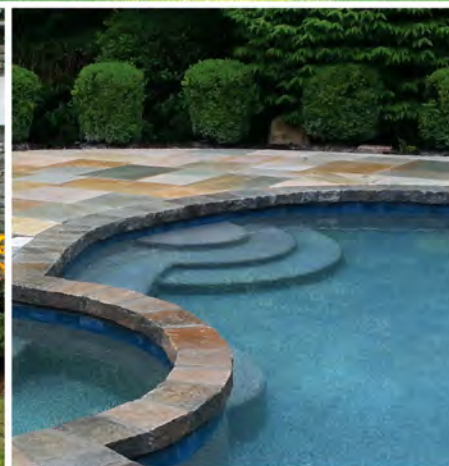
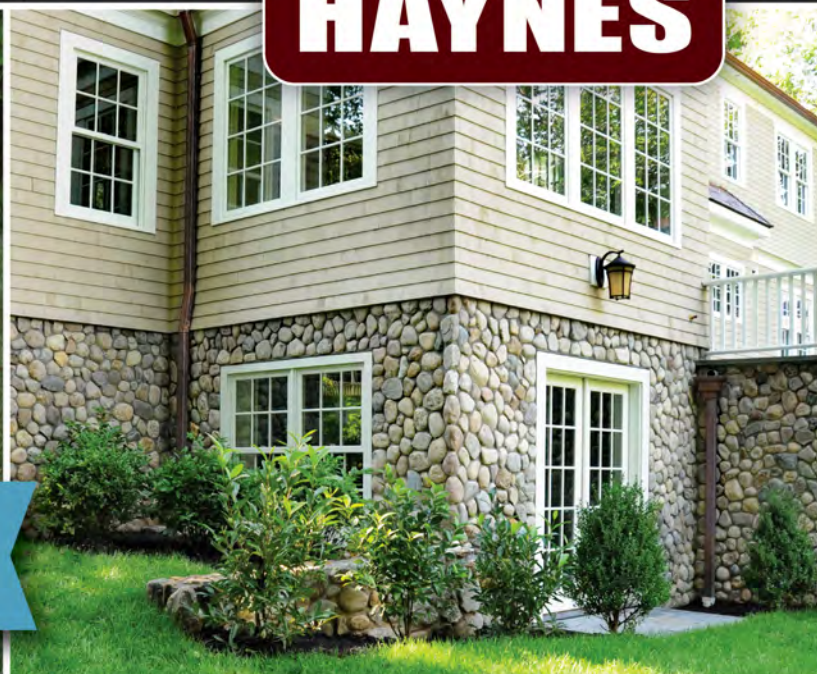
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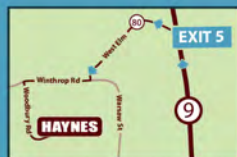
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Deep River Park & Recreation Events



Easter Egg Hunt



Summer Camp



Carnival



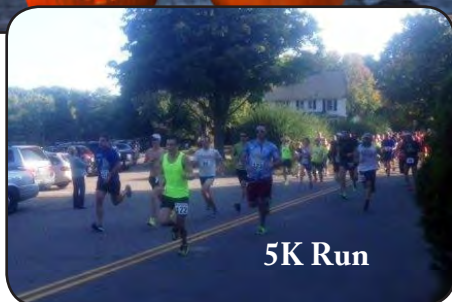
Buddy Track



Pumpkin Carving Contest



Gingerbread House Contest



5K Run



Holiday Concert

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Deep River News

Fall/Winter 2014

Richard H. Smith, First Selectman
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To submit articles or ads,
 contact the Selectman's Office
 860-526-6020 or gsopneski@deepriverct.us

www.deepriverct.us

Deep River Community Health Fund



Thank you to everyone at Shore Discount Liquors (SDL) and their very generous customers from the Deep River Food Pantry! SDL with support from the Deep River Rotary hosted their annual crowd pleasing wine tasting December 4th. Non-perishable food donations to the Deep River Food Pantry were admission. A festive evening and a whole lotta food all rolled into one. SDL has been a great supporter of the community fund and food pantry so next time you're in thank Kenny or anyone of his fine staff for the generous support they bestow up on this great town of Deep River.

Monetary and food donations are welcome anytime. Payable to the Deep River Community Health Fund and mail to 174 Main Street, Deep River, CT 06417

Stuff a Cruiser



The Deep River Resident Trooper's Office would like to thank all those who donated to our Stuff a Cruiser.



Cover Photo by:
 John R. Kollmer Sr.

Selectman's News

Main Street

First, thank you for your patience with the alternating one-lane traffic delays on Main Street. As a continuation of their water main upgrading program, the Connecticut Water Company was installing 16-inch diameter ductile steel pipe from Lafayette Avenue south to the Essex Town Line, replacing the 12-inch cast iron pipe that has served our community since the early years of the 20th Century. To minimize interruptions in water service, CWC first installed the new pipe. When that phase was complete, the CWC retraced their steps to remove and upgrade when necessary each individual service. Finally, the old roadway and its temporary asphalt patching were milled to prepare for the final paving. Compared to the work thus far, repaving the southbound lane was accomplished in the blink of an eye in just three days. Traffic, once again flowed smoothly in both directions.

The Water Company began replacing the century-old pipe in the 1990s, installing a 16" pipe along Main Street from Chester as far south as Kirtland Street in Deep River. Next summer they will close the last remaining gap, between the intersection of Main Street and Kirtland to Lafayette and Main.

Kirtland Street

On a smaller scale, the Connecticut Water Company has completed upgrading Kirtland Street service from Main to Read Streets. Eight-inch ductile pipe will increase the capacity compared to the six-inch cast iron that it replaces. Above-ground plastic pipe maintained customers' service while work was underway. Upon completion of the Connecticut Water Company's work, the Town contracted with Tilcon to reclaim the roadbed, install the asphalt binder over the full length of the construction area and completed the overlay between Main and Maple Street, next spring, remaining work will be completed and installation of the final course of class 2 asphalt will complete that section of Kirtland Street.

Tower Hill

We have completely rebuilt the section of Tower Hill Road that has suffered from washouts. To remedy the situation our Highway



Department built a large head wall. Tilcon Connecticut has reclaimed and installed a 1 ½" of class 1 binder and 1 ½" class 2 overlay. Tower Hill Lake Road needed paving only: a leveling course with an overlay of Class 2 asphalt.

Streetscape - Church Street



The sidewalk on the Church Street has been entirely the work of our Highway Department. Existing conditions confronted us with plenty of challenges. As a result of elevations, drainage and the need for a handicapped accessible ramp additional planning and work was required. As has been our experience due to teamwork, the end result was in my estimation, excellent. The Board of Selectmen has received many compliments, especially regarding that section of the Streetscape.

Streetscape -Main & Union

Planned long before Dunkin' Donut's decision to relocate, our bricks and lampposts had reached their southern terminus at Union Street. When Scott Fanning, who owns Deep River's franchise confirmed the move to 246 Main Street, we worked with him and his contractors to coordinate our work with his renovation of the property. This small triangle has been home to a wide variety of enterprises for more than half a century: to name just some: Deuce's Garage, Bartlett's Garage, Western Auto, a seafood store and finally, for many years. Don Slater's Irish Pine Antiques. I suspect that this most recent repurposing will be with us for a long time.

HVAC

Despite our program of maintenance and scheduled replacement, we are not immune from surprises. So it was with aging heating / cooling units at both the Public Library and the Elementary School. The low bid for the new units was approximately \$42,000, with installation scheduled for mid-October.



Selectman's News, cont.

DRES – Making a Good First Impression

This summer, thanks to the imagination and organizational skills of Eagle Scout candidate Bobby Hamblett, a generous donation from the PTO and the expertise of our Highway Department, we transformed The Circle at the rear entrance of the Elementary School from a nondescript patch of dirt into a small, but handsome, pocket park. This was truly a cooperative effort. Bobby and other Scouts he recruited worked with myself and the Town Crew; the PTO's contribution helped defray the cost of two Streetscape-style benches. Now, instead of plain dirt, we have a brickwork patio, and the crumbling bituminous curbing has been replaced by granite. Finally, we installed two three-inch diameter conduits for future irrigations and electricity needs.

Town Hall

Although major renovations are complete, some finish work remains. Following the example of the marvelously restored Auditorium, we are replacing the worn and ordinary with materials more in keeping with our Victorian treasure—door and window trim, wainscoting and a new look for our main conference room. The drop ceiling, dingy and institutional, is gone. In its place, sheetrock and, in addition to the fluorescent lighting we have added energy-saving, recessed, state-of-the-art LED fixtures to better illuminate the figure of Columbia, as she watches over the military men and women of World War II, as well as other displays that illustrate Deep River's history.

Sanitary Sewer Expansion

Preliminary work on the streamlined version of the proposed sewer expansion sewer system is underway. All responses to our original solicitation for bids exceeded the level of funding awarded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). For the second round of bidding, we reconfigured the bidding process by separating the major portion, a "base bid," with four alternates. That time we were successful—we received a low "base bid" of approximately \$3,600,000 from B & W Paving of Mystic. It remains our goal to complete at least two of the alternates; the USDA may provide additional funds/grants for that purpose.

A Deep River sewer system has been the topic of discussion since 1907. By the 1980's residents were prepared

(though not without contention) to approve construction. They had ample inducement: the deplorable condition of America's rivers had prompted Congress to encourage pollution remediation with generous funding. In our case, an outright grant covered nearly 90 per cent of the total cost. Current funding through the USDA is a combination of 30 per cent outright grant and 70 per cent long term, low interest loan.

Kirtland Commons

My thanks and congratulations to consultant Dale Kroop and Joann Hourigan, Director of Kirtland Commons. Their application for a \$4.2 million grant was approved by (CHAMP) Department of Housing and will fund a sorely needed 18-unit expansion of our senior housing.

Great Job, Dale and Joann.

Defining "Economic Development"

The 2013 Google Earth satellite image provides a chronology of the development of the Plattwood Industrial Park. The past year's expansion is shown as an overlay: the three new buildings, their fixtures and equipment, will enter our Grand List in 2015. But there is more here than growing our tax base. Of the three companies chosen by the Board of Selectmen to participate in the expansion, two have been renting space in our incubator buildings. Winthrop Tool Company was one of the first to move into our Incubator (600 Industrial Park Road). Now, cramped, and with no room to expand, Winthrop Tool looks forward to moving into its own, brand new, 11,200 square foot headquarters. Top Notch Electrical, which has been working from space in the second Incubator (500 Industrial Park Road), is also out of space. Their new building will be 6,144 square feet. Finally, Moyer Landscaping, which has occupied its own building on neighboring Commercial Drive since 2007, will construct a building of 11,200 square feet.

The Walt Mislick Legacy

The next chapter of this story has its roots in the mid-1990's, with conversations I had over a period of time, with Walter Mislick. Proper acknowledgement of Walt's legendary business acumen would require much more space than is available here. Suffice it to say that he was

In addition to my discussions with Walt Mislick I sought out other members of the business community and investors. Their consensus was that the key to success for start-up businesses was low overhead, allowing them to spend their dollars on personnel and equipment. The idea that the Town could influence its own future by being pro-active was very appealing. Deep River had benefited many times from more conventional grants. We had nothing to lose by simply proposing the Incubator concept. While most of our grant applications are written by the First Selectman office the grant that we proposed to construct the Incubator Building was through the Small Cities Program. Because of the complexities of Small Cities Grants, we utilize the expertise of consultant Dale Kroop.

The short version: we were awarded \$400,000 to build Connecticut's first private/municipal, grant-funded Business Incubator. The purposes of the experiment was to promote small businesses and, as a result of their success, increase employment opportunities.

As important as stimulating young startups, Small Cities required that the growing businesses expand employment base, especially in the area of low to moderate jobs. It was the Town's responsibility to see that employment goals were achieved, and that the investment of public funds in an untested venture was safeguarded. I am pleased to say



Selectman's News, cont.

that Deep River exceeded the number of jobs required as a condition of the grant.

A Successful Program

I am happy to report that the Business Incubator Program has proved to be more than just a safe investment; it has far exceeded our early estimates. Of the ten businesses that have benefited from the program, one built its own new building in the Plattwood Industrial Park, another purchased and renovated a vacant building in Deep River, two will soon occupy their own buildings in the new section of the Plattwood Industrial Park (freeing their space for remaining businesses to expand). Another of the Incubator entrepreneurs, whose success attracted the interest of a larger corporation, continues his employment - for the new owner. Only two of ten did not succeed.

It has been eighteen years since the initiation of the Incubator Program. Its success has enabled the Town to purchase 3.39 adjoining acres, sufficient for the three new,

privately built and owned industrial buildings. We can all be proud of the success of Plattwood Industrial Park, from the Board of Selectmen to the Boards and Commissions and, finally, the residents of Deep River who, through the Town Meeting process, are ultimately responsible for our success - you have the final say. On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, thank you for supporting these projects.

Recognizing a Mentor

In honor of Walter Mislick, whose idea began it all, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to choose Mislick Drive as the name of the new road that will lead to the fruits of his vision.

Dick Smith

Three New Industrial Buildings

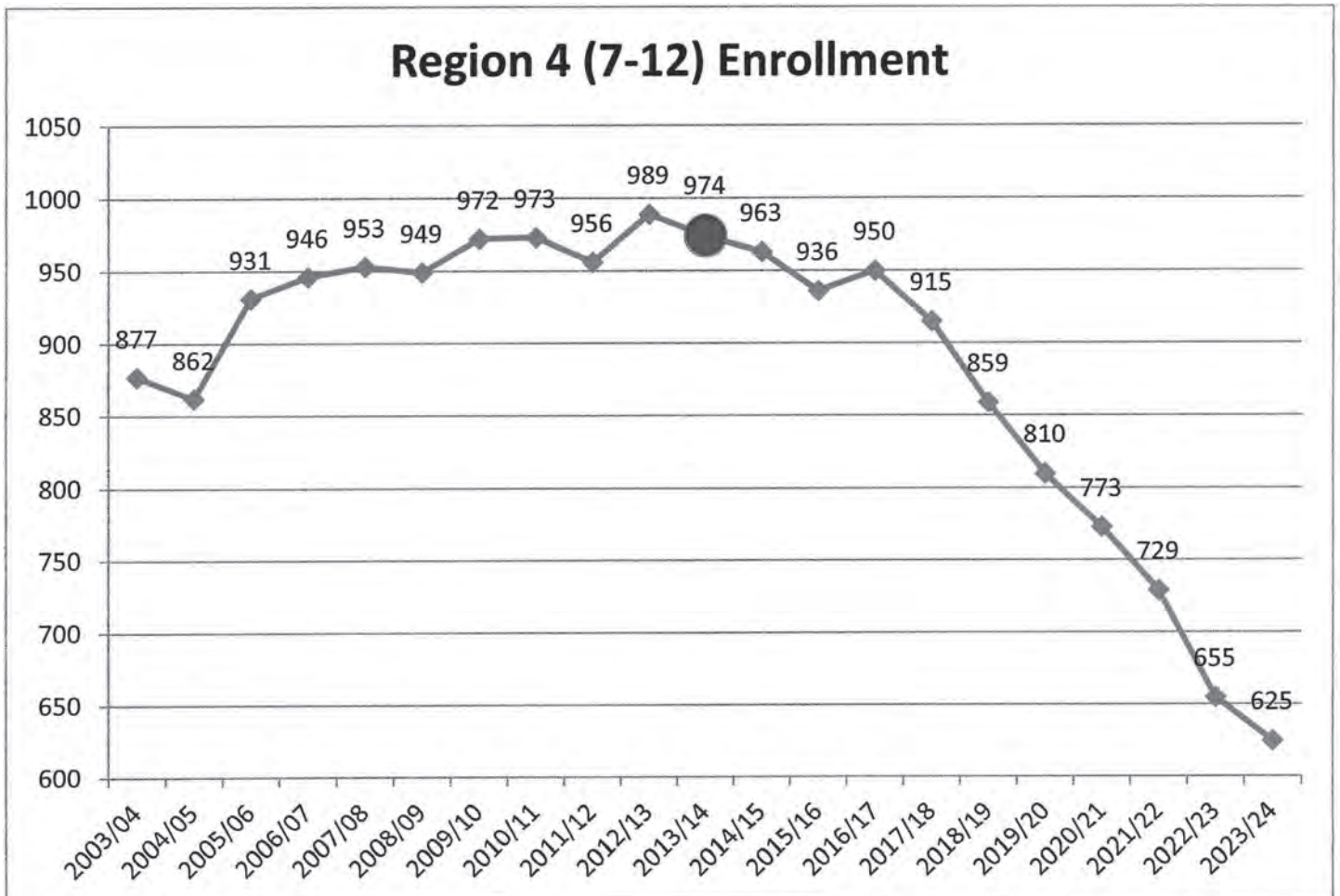


Regional School District #4

A frequent topic at Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance meetings regards the cost of education in the face of declining school enrollment. This is not merely a local issue. Our three towns are representative of many areas across the United States. Ed Meehan, Norm Needleman and I meet regularly with Region 4 Superintendent Ruth Levy and Business Manager Garth Sawyer to discuss these and other issues regarding the future of our schools, including their cost. We have asked Ruth to form a study committee

so that we may know in advance how to best provide the excellent education our children have a right to expect as we tailor programs to best fit a shrinking student body. I expect that this subject will become more and more familiar as changing demographics effect our way of life.

The graph below illustrates the dramatic decrease in student population projected for the next decade alone.



Town Clerk's Office

Welcome New Residents & Property Owners

Wesley Bassett	111 Witch Hazel Drive	04/15/2014
Michael G. & Joan R. Burns	48 Rattling Valley Road	04/24/2014
Bruce W. Coderre	101 Bokum Road	05/05/2014
Rory Fitzgerald	0 Kelsey Hill Road	05/06/2014
Alice C. Proctor	73 Kirtland Street	05/13/2014
Stanley & Hillary Rheinheimer	256 Winthrop Road	05/14/2014
Aaron P. Giugno	77 Scenic View Drive	05/19/2014
Brian Beisser & Aimee Adamo	43 Stanwoll Hill Road	05/22/2014
Jodi Guenther	77 Scenic View Drive, Unit 2	06/02/2014
Kevin Harris & Casey Mugavero	17 Maple Avenue	06/09/2014
Kevin & Eileen Costa	45 Whittlesey Brook Road	06/23/2014
Ryan Radicchi	186 Union Street	06/23/2014
Yeun Cheung	391 Main Street, #113	06/23/2014
Jason Simms	41 Winter Avenue	06/24/2014
Christopher Lewis	116-118 Main Street	07/11/2014
George W. Martin, III & Kimberly A. Fair	32 Bridge Street	07/15/2014
Alfredo Herrera & Erin Mulhern	90 Hemlock Drive	07/21/2014
Samantha Martone & George Gerard, V	106 Elm Street	07/21/2014
Patricia C. Baroni	54 Bridge Street	07/24/2014
Tyler J. Disbrow	16 Laurelwood Drive	07/23/2014
Cori Giroux	27 Tower Hill Road	07/25/2014
Carlos D. Ayala-Cruz	391 Main Street, #505	07/31/2014
Suzanne & Adam Sutch	160 Kelsey Hill Road	08/11/2014
Kristen & Lachlan Brennan	9 Rogers Lane	08/19/2014
David, Jr. & Madalyne Longfellow	20 Main Street	08/26/2014
Samantha Atmur	92 Main Street, #202	08/25/2014
Mary C. Mattis	28 Prospect Street	09/02/2014
Lori & Arthur Peters	191 Westbrook Road	09/02/2014
Cristin & George, Jr. Cummins	78 Stevenstown Road	09/02/2014
Paul-Dennis McAllister & Jessica Mulhall	12 Castle Heights	09/03/2014
Nikita Peperni	47 Hemlock Drive	09/29/2014
Meghan Donoghue	72 Spring Street	09/29/2014

Board and Commission Vacancies

If you are a registered voter and are interested in serving on a Board or Commission, please contact the Selectmen's Office at 526-6020. Currently there are vacancies on the following Boards:

Local Boards and Commissions

Community Health Committee	term to expire 10-30-2014
Economic Development Commission	term to expire 12-01-2016
Economic Development Commission	term to expire 12-01-2014
Housing Authority	term to expire 01-31-2017
Housing Authority	term to expire 01-31-2019
Park & Recreation Commission	term to expire 12-01-2016
Park & Recreation Commission	term to expire 12-01-2015
Park & Recreation Commission	term to expire 12-01-2014

Regional Agencies

Agent for the Elderly
CATV Advisory Council District V
Long Island Sound Council

Town Clerk's Office, cont.

Passings

Beverly P. Morris	60 Main Street, #401	03/27/2014
Kenneth Suhr	60 Main Street, #308	03/30/2014
Rose B. Cutone	123 Union Street	04/03/2014
Richard Lippincott, Jr.	111 Union Street	04/25/2014
Audrey Streit Ely	30 Lords Lane	04/27/2014
Danny Field	177 Winthrop Road	05/07/2014
Robin Marie Karol	39 Union Street	05/09/2014
Francis J. Czapinski	138 Westbrook Road	05/23/2014
Thomas Eli Reed	75 Essex Street	05/26/2014
Milton R. Larson	335 West Elm Street	06/26/2014
David Francis Puffer	168 Main Street	06/26/2014
Byron Carlyle McDade	85 Hemlock Drive	07/03/2014
Raymond Peter Mozzochi	258 Main Street	07/07/2014
Philip J. Bjornberg	60 Main Street	07/08/2014
Richard Michael Risinit	75 Lords Lane	07/17/2014
Marjorie Lucille Suhr	60 Main Street	08/21/2014
Charles Larson	65 Hemlock Drive	08/29/2014
Patrick Antonio Menghi	92 West Bridge Street	09/24/2014

New Trade Name Filings

Stephanie Farrand	Karma Skincare	04/09/2014
Deborah Hyland	Morningstar Mosaics	04/25/2014
Michelle M. Annicelli	Michelle M. Annicelli, LMT	05/01/2014
Evan M. Haston	Brain Puzzle Computers	05/01/2014
Ivey Gianetti	Ivey – Massage Therapy	05/13/2014
David Mitchell	OCKERS Company	06/11/2014
Anne-Margaret McElroy	Trystal Kovatis Kidney Fund	08/04/2014
United Recovery Systems, LP	ACB Recovery	08/13/2014
William Damon	Without a Doubt Property Management	08/18/2014
George Bartlett	Bartlett's Auto	08/28/2014



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Town Clerk's Office, cont.

Marriages

Joshua O. Becker & Alisha Jo Conary	05/01/2014
George E. Becker & Karen Marcovici	05/08/2014
Marco E. Amaya & Christa L. Meketa	05/10/2014
Walter S. Kustra & Laurie A. Herber	05/10/2014
Christopher L. Chiappa & Samantha L. Reardon	05/17/2014
Daniel P. Mozzochi & Rebecca E. DeMichael	05/23/2014
Jason E. Rapport & Courtney A. Steller	05/31/2014
Jason B. Guyot & Lisa K. Julian	06/21/2014
James R. Scala & Rosalyn V. Sullivan	06/21/2014
Benjamin J.N. Craw & Kathryn M. Walsh	06/28/2014
Justin K. Warren & Amanda D. Morgan	06/28/2014
William C. Hamlin & Heather L. Glowski	06/29/2014
Jeffrey M. Hepp & Gina M. Ostuni	07/12/2014
Geoffery B. Metz & Sophia B. Appel	07/19/2014
William M. Augusta & Diana Harbison	07/26/2014
Dennis Schmelzer & Hannah R. Scott	07/26/2014
Adam M. Keifer & Emily P. Zatursky	07/26/2014
Kevin D. Harris & Casey J. Mugavero	08/02/2014
Robert K. Laurer & Debbie N. DeFilippo	08/02/2014
Keith J. Scalia & Sarah E. Benson	08/09/2014
Trevor L. Smith & Jessica M. Murack	08/15/2014
Robert Joseph & Vania Jean Baptiste	08/15/2014
Michael J. Bush & Jennifer K. Lifland	08/22/2014
Richard J. Skinner, DMD & Patricia E. Foote	08/26/2014

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Deep River Ambulance Association

Welcome to winter – please stay safe and avoid slips on the ice, back injuries shoveling, winter sports injuries and the like! Deep River Ambulance is excited to announce that we'll be hosting an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course in January this year, open to anyone age 14 or older. The class runs January 6 to January 31 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings with 2 Saturday sessions. The course fee is \$425 and includes text and CPR certification (a tuition discount is available for students affiliated with a sponsor EMS agency.) For more information or for an application, please contact course instructor Emily Masters at 860-526-3275 or email EMEMTP@msn.com.

We were pleased to host an EMT course again this past summer, also graciously instructed by Emily Masters, an EMT-P from Chester. We wish all of her students the best of luck as they take their exams this fall, and we're especially excited to welcome a member of that class, Maria Lucarelli, as a probationary member. Congratulations to new full member, James Pash, who completed his EMT certification in early summer! Welcome also to our new EMT member, Mike Dunn!

In August we hosted our summer Red Cross Blood Drive, and we are extremely grateful to all donors who came out to give in this time of extreme blood supply shortage. We were able to collect 65 units of blood, which will help over 180 people!

Thanks to all who came to our Annual Tag Sale in September – we raised over \$300 which will be put to use acquiring new equipment for use by the crew. It's always nice to see our regulars and to have an opportunity to say hi to past patients and townspeople on a non-emergency basis!

Many thanks to Jerry Clark, Jr., who graciously mows our lawn during the summer and keeps us looking neat and tidy. Thanks also to Rich Kollmer for getting us ready for fall with mums and mulch, and warm thanks to Janice Kmetz, who decorates the space in front of the window of the hall and keeps us seasonal!

We're pleased to be able to make the hall and kitchen facility available for use (minimal donation requested) to many individuals, and we continue to provide it for no cost to various town organizations. If you're interesting in holding an event at our facility, please contact our scheduler, Tara Bouchard, at 860-526-4666.

Please feel free to contact us at our non-emergency number, 526-6043, if you have any questions or are interested in joining our crew or board of directors.

Jen Kollmer, Chief of Service

Deep River Assessor's Office

State of Connecticut Homeowner's (Circuit Breaker) and the Town of Deep River Senior Abatement Program

The application period for these exemptions is February 1, 2015 to May 15, 2015. Persons who file must be 65 years of age or totally disabled and meet income requirements.

Additional Veteran's Exemption


The application period for Additional Veteran's exemptions is February 1, 2015 to October 1, 2015, applicants must meet income requirements.


Proof of income is required when filing for the above programs. Income includes all taxable and non-taxable income as well as social security income. Exemption forms for the Totally Disabled and for the Blind are available in the Assessor's Office.

Please call the Assessor's Office at 860-526-6029 to make an appointment or to discuss your qualifications.

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Deep River Garden Club



Summer is a time when we see the fruits of our labor grow and flourish... except for perhaps the difficulty with keeping our plantings watered. It is always a challenge for the club members to haul watering cans to our different sites around town that we try to enhance. You will see our plantings at the Veteran's Memorial Green, Devitt Field, Winthrop and Library planters and the many places that our daffodils show up each spring.

At our recent fundraiser at the Deep River Family Day, we had a good showing for selling of our daffodils and mums. We will also be doing more planting of daffodils when we realize how many bulbs we have left. Also we appreciated your support, both at our booth and at the Transfer Station, when you saw club members selling the bulbs this fall.



We would like to thank Acer Gardens for their donation of plants to the Winthrop Planter for our seasonal plantings. We had to have them remove the fine line shrub that was previously growing there for it was taking the water from its neighbors that it shared the planter with and the roots were keeping the annuals from thriving. It has been freshly replanted with a fall theme.



We also acknowledge and thank Running Brook Farms, in Killingworth, for their donation of mums for Family Day and plantings that members planted around the flag pole at the Veteran's Memorial Green. With these generous donations it al-

lows us to use our funds for items that we feel important to the beautification of Deep River and the goals of our club.

The Garden Club meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, even through the winter when we plan our activities for the year and attend to matters unrelated to the actual plantings. We now have a new home! Deep River Ambulance Association is graciously allowing us to use their building on West Elm Street for our meetings. We formally held them at the town hall now we have a new place with lots of space.

We are also now sporting a Facebook page which we encourage residents to check out and see what we post. This year we also have created a brand new e-mail address for any correspondence that town folks might want to send. Our address is: drgardenclub@gmail.com You may also see our new colored tri-fold brochures that have been released for residents and in local stores. All new exciting ways to reach out to residents in town and make our mission known.

We welcome anyone interested in joining our group to contact our club president, Janice Kmetz at Janice.kmetz@gmail.com or 860-790-0432. We hope to add to our projects next year and welcome any suggestions from town residents on what projects they might like to see us consider. You do not need to have a vast knowledge on gardening to join our ranks, just an interest in beautifying our community. We have added several new enthusiastic members this year (even a few from surrounding towns). We welcome and encourage you to become one this year also to help us make our projects come to life... and the more hands, the easier it is. COME GROW WITH US.

In addition to our projects we offer social interactions among members with different workshops, day trips, pot-lucks, a progressive dinner at member's homes and gardens and many other events that creates new friendships and community spirit.

Sue Wisner, Club Secretary

American Legion Post 61

By July 1st Post 61 met our membership quota. We have 65 members. Nationwide there are 2.5 million American Legion members. There are more Legion posts than there are McDonalds or Starbucks. A strong membership helps to ensure many programs that enhance the lives of many Americans and Deep River residents. Most of us think of the American Legion assisting only veterans. We are the largest advocacy group for veterans. Other academic, sports, social, civic and patriotic programs are also supported. Art Winschel is the Service Officer for both Post 61 and District 7. Please call him at 526-2304 if necessary. He attended the Soldiers, Sailors & Marine Fundraiser in July and is very up to date on available services.

Many Post 61 members are also active at the District 7 level as well. Over the summer, James Beardsley, District Commander, retired after many years of service and much appreciation from many departments of the American Legion and the Auxiliary. A reception was held to honor him and his daughter, Miss Lillian Beardsley, Auxiliary president, for their dedication to both organizations. Jim and Lillian were presented with beautifully framed photographs of themselves taken in front of our WW1 Doughboy statue at Deep River Elementary School. Our new District 7 Commander is also from Post 61. He is Robert DeCarlo.

The September District 7 meeting was held at the Deep River Town Hall in front of our Columbia painting which notes the names of so many Deep River veterans who have served. Many of the attendees were most complimentary about how clearly the names were printed and the vibrant colors that were portrayed. C.D. Batchelor, was a Pulitzer Cartoonist for the NY Daily News who donated his art work to the town freely. Post 61 Adjutant Arthur Nedobity delivered art and history commentary on Columbia. Several American Legion dignitaries were present including the new Department of CT Commander Harry "Butch" Hanson (from Milford) and new Department Senior Vice Commander Paul Spedaliere (from Gales Ferry). The discussion about the "Commander's Project" was a large part of the meeting. It pertains to the new Veterans Landing Project under construction in Newington's VA Campus. This will be 103 one bedroom apartments for independent living with some medical support available. Veterans Landing will be the first of its kind in our nation.

There was more good news and overdue recognition for Post 61. The "Legionnaire of the Year" was named. He is our own Jr. Vice Commander Donald R. Grohs. Post 61 was also recognized for submitting an excellent competitor for the National Oratorical contest (Miss Phoebe Petrovic). The Department of Connecticut also recognized Post 61 with the "John Roberto" award which exemplifies Americanism & Community Service. Ludwig Spokas from Post 61 won "Historian" of the Year. American Legion Commanders from many other towns were present.

Sadly, several Post 61 members were taken from us over the summer. Solemn tribute was paid to them during our September meeting. They are Sevinoi Mozzochi, Raymond Mozzochi, David Puffer, Arthur Streit and Ted Reinsch. The Charter is now draped in black.

We want to thank the people of Deep River for allowing us to respectfully dispose of their worn flags. Commander Jim Beardsley filled thirty, fifty-five gallon bags which he presented for the Flag Day Disposal Ceremony in Meriden. We also want to thank the Town of Deep River and residents for our two Memorial Day Parades in honor of our fallen veterans. For over eleven years, residents helped support our only fundraiser, the redeemable bottle program. Our members are no longer able to lift the heavy bags and generally are not able to manage the bottles any longer. This fundraiser was able to support many of our programs for youth. Hopefully, another idea will be as profitable.

Post 61 Commander James Marshall (860-526-9187) cordially invites interested veterans to call him for more information. Our meetings are at 7:30pm on the third Monday of the month at the Deep River Public Library-lower level.

Eileen B. Richard, Chaplin





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Troop 13 – Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts

Troop 13 Boy Scouts serves the boys ages 11-18 of Chester and Deep River. The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America is to help young men develop their character and life skills all while having fun. There is much emphasis placed on assisting these young men to develop into strong healthy citizens who will lead our communities and country in the years ahead. The Boy Scout methods help to promote these ideals through the challenge of putting them into practice with the Troop Program; This is done in a way that is both challenging and fun.

Summer Camp 2014

Troop 13 attended June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT for Summer Camp on July 13-18. The boys enjoyed swimming, boating, archery, rifle & shotgun shooting, sports, and camping. The 26 Scouts earned 114 merit badges during the week in topics such as: Archery, Canoeing, Citizenship in the Nation, Swimming, Geocaching, Metal Working, Welding, Camping, Shotgun Shooting and Wilderness Survival plus many more. Three Scouts completed the JNW Iron Man Triathlon and one Scout and one leader earned their BSA Lifeguard certification.

Philmont Scout Ranch Trip - 2014

A crew of 10 Boy Scouts from Troop 13 along with Assistant Scoutmasters Alex Toles and Rich Dalterio went to Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM this summer to hike in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of the Rocky Mountains. They hiked 87 miles on this trip.

Bike Trip to Block Island, RI

Troop 13 Boy Scouts went to Block Island, RI June 20-22, 2014. 32 Scouts and leaders went on the trip. The trip began in Point Judith, RI where the Scouts took the ferry over to the island. After docking at Old Harbor they cycled to their campsite. They cycled around the island and visited the Mohegan Bluffs, the Southeast Lighthouse and many other places on the island. The troop camped at the Sandsland Scout Reservation on Block Island.

New Eagle Scouts

Troop 13 would like to congratulate our newest Eagle Scouts: Josef Lenz, Bobby Hamblett and Dillon Erikson of Deep River and Benjamin Swartzell of Chester.

Josef's project was to establish and mark a new 0.3 mile long foot trail located at the Florence Bidwell Sanctuary on Rattling Valley Road in Deep River. The project included fabricating and mounting a trail map on a cedar post at the site entrance and the clearing and placement of two processed stone parking spots on an underutilized 12.8 acre property of the Deep River Land Trust.



Bobby's project was to clear and grade an existing aged tree stump and sod area to replace it with a commemorative live pin oak and a newly laid handicapped accessible brick patio with two reflecting benches at the entrance to the Deep River Elementary School.

Dillon's project was the construction of a crushed stone base, blue stone slate walkway using historic site pieces on the property of the Deep River Congregational Church. The completed project provides an important service to the members and guests of Deep River Congregational Church, in particular the youth members, by providing for a more stable ground area connecting the hall to the play yard.



Ben's project was to replace the boardwalk through the historic Cedar Swamp at Bushy Hill Nature Center in Ivoryton. The old walkway had deteriorated over time and was posing a safety risk for campers. The walkway allows campers to walk through the swamp to view ecological diversity at the camp.

Church Street Child Care

Church Street Child Care is open to children from ages three through sixth grade. We provide a safe and loving environment with a preschool format for young children to explore, learn and discover as well as to offer a welcoming place for older elementary school-age children to play, rest and study in a before and after school structured program. Our school year program offers activities and lessons that help prepare your child for kindergarten and beyond through theme based curriculum which will focus on the cognitive, physical, social and emotional needs of all children. Children will also have opportunities to go on field trips throughout the year, picking apples at the orchard and a trip to a farm where the children are able to learn through hands on and interactive learning. We welcome your child to come and grow with us at Church Street Child Care! Please stop by for a tour or call if you are interested in learning more!

For information, please contact Stacy Bowe at (860)526-2176, csc.drcc@snet.net or visit us at www.deeprivercc.org/childcare



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Dry Pants Model Yacht Club

Model yachting sailors from all over New England converged on Plattwood Park pond in Deep River recently for the ninth Annual New England Regatta for CR-914 radio-controlled model yachts. The Dry Pants Model Yacht Club sponsored the event. It was a great event with racing conditions ranging from very light breeze to wild wind conditions near the end of the day. Spectators enjoyed a lot of action on the pond.

CR-914 model sailboats are a one-design class of 36" vessels found throughout the United States and the world. These are the boats Deep River residents see at Plattwood Pond on a regular basis. All boats in the class are identical. One's ability to tune the boats and then to sail them competitively determines winners versus losers.



The winners in this year's event were (in order of finish): 1. Al Dion (Noank, CT), 2. Brian Kerrigan (Essex, CT), 3. Will Adams (Wooster, MA), 4. Buttons Padin (New Rochelle, NY) and 5. Brian Jobson (Wolcott, CT).

Winners Photo from left to right: Brian Jobson, Will Adams, Brian Kerrigan, Al Dion, and Buttons Padin.

Winter Sailing Anyone?

As the warm weather sailing season comes to a close, one would think the model boat Sailor's at Plattwood Park would have some common-sense and focus on other activities.

Not so! These venerable sailors will sail all winter long if two conditions are met. The pond has no ice and the temperature is 38 degrees and above. Two years ago, we didn't miss one Sunday morning (10:30 am-noon). Last winter was a different story.

Winter sailing is quite different than summer sailing. First, one has to be very careful about collisions even though the boats have protective bow bumpers. The plastic hulls are far more brittle in cold weather. Second, one has to be prepared for higher winds. All openings on the boats have to be carefully taped to keep water out of the hulls. Third, keeping fingers warm requires creative solutions to one of mankind's vulnerabilities.

The 2014 summer sailing season has been excellent with up to 17 boats racing at one time.

We have been very pleased with the interest shown by bystanders in trying out model sailing. A standing invitation exists for Deep River residents to give pond sailing a whirl at any time we are at the pond.

The Dry Pants Model Club is one of the leading model sailing clubs in the USA. The type of boats we race are CR-914s- a one design 36" class. Our members compete all over the country and are proud to have had two National Champions.

Deep River residents with basic sailing knowledge are welcome to try sailing one of the boats any time we are at the pond-Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings. Just ask one of the sailors for a try. We are happy to help you develop your sailing skills. It's addictive, competitive and lots of fun.

We welcome new members. For information about DP-MYC and model sailing, visit our website at www.DP-MYC.com or call me Jim Godsman@860-767-5052.

Jim Godsman, Commodore



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Deep River Congregational Church

The Deep River Congregational Church invites you to join us for worship each Sunday. We have two worship services: 8:30, a shorter, intimate service and 10:00, traditional service with choir and Sunday School classes which are held during the service.

We've had a busy summer and early fall, sharing the good news of Christ's love.

A group of teens and adults spent a week (June 22 - 27) in New Jersey helping with Hurricane Sandy Relief. On Sunday, September 28th, the group shared the news of their experiences during worship.

Our church continues to reach out to our local community by hosting the Shoreline Soup Kitchen here every Thursday at 5:00pm; contributing food to the local food pantry every month; serving a hot meal to the Eddy Shelter in Middletown once each month.

We reach out to the global community, as well, with collections of school and health kits for Church World Service, and contributing to One Great Hour of Sharing. In November and December, our Christian Service Board collects donations for blankets for Church World Service, which are distributed during emergencies around the world.

Our church hosted a Vacation Bible School for the children of church and community families from July 7 - 11th.

Our Annual August Flea Market/Rummage Sale, on August 16th, brought over 80 vendors and many visitors to our church. We were so pleased with the response and the huge amount of donations we received for the church rummage sale. In fact, this year the Rummage Sale expanded to a 4 day event. There was a pre-sale held the night before, the actual sale on Saturday, a "Trash Bag Sale" on Sunday following worship, and a Boutique Liquidation Sale on the following Wednesday evening. Part of the proceeds for the rummage sale support our Youth Mission Trip Fund. This was our most successful Flea Market/Rummage Sale by far!

We celebrated the beginning of our new Sunday School season on September 7th, along with our Annual Mission Fair and commissioned our 2015 Confirmation Class on Sept. 28th.

In October we observed the Annual Blessing of the Animals, World Communion Sunday, and our first Sunday School Chowder Challenge; Homecoming Sunday, where

we recognized 139 people who have been members of our church for 25 years or more. The Masters of Hawaiian Music also honored us with a special concert. On the last Sunday of October, we had our Joyful Pumpkin Festival and our "Great Pumpkin Launch!"

The month of December is always an especially busy time for our congregation and offers many opportunities for members of the community to join us as we celebrate the Christmas season. We began the month by attending our 48th Annual "Ye Olde English Christmas Faire" Weekend.

December Services and Events:

Sunday, December 21st ~ Festival of Music Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

Our church's Senior and Junior Choirs and our Chancel Handbell Choirs will present the gift of a Service of Music for Christmas. The church will be decorated with poinsettias given in memory and celebration of loved ones. A special coffee hour will be held after worship in Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday, December 24th ~ Christmas Eve Pageant, 5:30 pm

On Christmas Eve for over 50 years, young people from the Deep River Congregational Church have performed the nativity pageant, "Thy Light Is Come." Costumed shepherds, angels, and wise men have sung carols and told the Christmas story as envisioned by the late Rev. Walter Euston, former minister of the church.

Wednesday, December 24th ~ Candlelight Communion Service, 11:00 pm

During the service we share in Communion in the front of the church. The celebration closes as we light individual candles and sing "Silent Night" together.

Sunday, December 28th ~ Family Worship Service with a special Christmas story by Rev. Timothy Haut, 10:00 a.m. (no 8:30 service)

Please check our church website, www.deeprivercc.org for more information about our church. You may also contact the church office at 860-526-5045 or email: office.drcc@snet.net.

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Deep River Public Library



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What's Happening

Check our monthly calendar online: <http://deepriverlibrary.accountsupport.com/> or stop in to pick up a copy to see what programs are being offered. All of our programs are free, and open to the public.

Come Talk Books

Deep River Library has a monthly book club which meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Together we'll read and discuss interesting literature.

Have a Collection?

We'd love to share your collection with the community! We have two great display cases, so if you have something interesting to show, give us a call.

Fun for the Kids



The Deep River Public Library began fall sessions of story time with Miss Elaine, our new children's librarian. Miss Elaine implemented two fun programs.

Tot Time - Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Children ages 3 and under are

introduced to stories and songs in a fun and interactive group setting. Participants are also treated to a magical bubble party.

Preschool Power - Fridays at 11:15 a.m.

Children ages 3-5 enjoy featured stories, songs with movement, and a fun craft. The reading experience is enhanced by a mix of story boards, colorful toys, and musical instruments.

For both programs Miss Elaine brings a burst of fun and energy to the Deep River Library. You'll enjoy creative story themes such as: NINJA, FISH and UNDERWEAR. Parent participation is encouraged. Story times run for five

week sessions and will continue through the spring. For more information or to sign up, call 860-526-6039 or stop by the library.

Additional programs are in development, including a book club for school age children - coming this winter!

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Probate Court

The last 42 months have been a very busy time for the Probate Court. As most of you know, in 2011 the individual town courts were merged into a regional court, which serves nine towns. This merger was part of a statewide effort that reduced the number of Probate Courts from 117 to 54. The Saybrook District Court serves the towns of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. The total population of these towns is over 62,000 citizens. As you can imagine, merging nine courts into one was not a simple matter, but with the help and cooperation of the former judges and the significant effort of the clerks, we were successful in completing the task. The Court is now a full time court and is open daily from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. It is located on the second floor of the Old Saybrook Town Hall, at 302 Main Street.

The statewide consolidations have been a financial success in that it has saved the taxpayers \$8.5 million dollars, over the past two fiscal years and those savings will continue. Despite the increase in size, the Saybrook Court has been able to keep its budget the same over the last three and a half years.

Most people understand that we handle all aspects of decedent's estates, however the Court also handles a variety of other matters including determining the necessity to appoint conservators, reviewing the conservator's accountings and restoring conserved persons. We also appoint guardians both for minors, if they are going to inherit, and for adults with intellectual disabilities. We oversee testamentary trusts and trust accountings, we determine custody matters including termination of parental rights and visitation. We also do name changes and adoptions. We do not process passports, as they are handled at the Old Saybrook Post office which is just up the street from the Court.

We open and process approximately one thousand new matters (of all types) per year. Some of these matters require hearings and some do not. As a result, I hold on average, 15 to 20 hearings per week.

The legislature adopted extensive new rules for probate court proceedings which went into effect on July 1, 2013. The purpose of these new rules is to simplify the probate process and to make it more consistent with other court procedures. Additionally, new forms consistent with these rules, are available on line at www.ctprobate.gov. Most of

these new forms are fillable for the convenience of the public. We have been busy learning and implementing these new rules and forms.

In addition to the normal duties of a probate judge, I was fortunate to be elected to the Executive Committee of the Probate Court Assembly. The Executive Committee meets monthly to discuss the rules and policies of the Connecticut probate courts. I am also a member of the National College of Probate Judges, so that I can be aware of national trends and procedures in probate courts. In addition to attending state seminars regularly, I also attend national seminars annually.

Thanks to the efforts of the chief clerk Valerie Shickel, and the other clerks and assistant clerks, Sharon Tiezzi, Marjorie Calltharp, Stella Beaudoin, Helene Yates, Peggy Schroeder, Jackie Craco and Heather Graves the court continues to operate smoothly.

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Asset Builders in My Life

Even though the list of 40 Developmental Assets was created relatively recently, we have all experienced asset builders in our lives, whether we're 10 or 50 years old. In the spaces below, jot down the names of people who have built assets for and with you and how that person has made a difference in your life. If you are younger than 20, you may want to think about people who currently build assets for and with you. If you're older than 20, either think about someone who does this for you now or think back to your own childhood and adolescence. It's okay to leave some spaces blank if no one comes to mind. It's also okay to list the same person in several spaces.

Think of someone who has ...

Shown you love and understanding during a time when you really needed it (support assets).

Helped you know that you have something important to contribute to others (empowerment assets).

Set clear boundaries for you to help you stay safe (boundaries-and-expectations assets).

Helped you get a lot out of activities in your school, a youth-serving organization, or a congregation (constructive-use-of-time assets).

Made learning about new things really fun and interesting (commitment-to-learning assets).

Been a role model for you in living with honesty, integrity, and caring (positive-values assets).

Helped you develop important social skills, such as how to get along with other people (social-competencies assets).

Encouraged you to feel good about yourself and optimistic about your future (positive-identity assets).

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Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley

We have all heard that getting the flu vaccine is the number one method for prevention of infection from the flu virus. Infection control basics are also common sense methods of preventing the spread of illness.

Starting with the advice we all heard from our mothers... **WASH YOUR HANDS!!** Simply touching a surface like a telephone, computer keyboard, door knob or grocery cart contaminated by someone who has the flu can spread the virus. Viruses then pass from your hand to your nose or mouth. Keep your hands away from your face and mouth!

The flu is also spread if someone around you coughs or sneezes. The virus is spread through the air and enters your body through your nose or mouth. When you cough or sneeze cover your mouth with your elbow or your upper arm instead of your hand.

Flu symptoms generally appear 1- 4 days after exposure. Symptoms start very quickly and include: headache, chills, dry cough, body aches, fever, stuffy nose and sore throat.

Treatment for the flu includes resting in bed, drinking plenty of fluids and taking over the counter pain relief medicines. Notify your physician if you think you have the flu. There are prescription antiviral medications that may reduce symptoms if you start taking them within 48 hours of becoming ill, or may help you prevent the flu if someone close to you has the flu. If we all use common sense and eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, get plenty of rest and stay home when we are ill, we can do a lot to prevent illness this flu season!

Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley is conducting Flu clinics in the area, check our website for details (www.visitingnurses.org) or call 860-767-0186.

About Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley

Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, Inc. is a not-for-profit, Medicare and Medicaid home health care organization serving Deep River, Essex, Chester and the Lower Valley region.

Fountain Hill Cemetery

The chapel renovations are ongoing and progress is being made slow but sure. For those of you who have wondered or been disturbed by the plywood and white door on the chapel, they both will soon be gone. The old rotten door casing has been removed and used as a template to create a new door that will closely resemble the old one.

Thank you to all who have contributed to our window project. We have three windows still available for those who wish to purchase a window in memory of a family member. As the weather turns colder, work will continue inside to create more seating for the chapel, heating and light fixtures.

Plots are available by calling the cemetery office. Don't forget your pets. We have plots available for your pets as well. We are looking into the possibility of a green burial space. More info on that as we gather it.



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Though small towns generally are not known for having good public transportation, Deep River certainly is an exception. The town, a founding member of the Estuary Transit District which operates under the 9 Town Transit name, offers transit service throughout the entire town.

Town residents have access to both fixed bus routes and door-to-door transportation. Both services are open to the general public and provide access throughout the valley-shore region and beyond. Service is now provided to anywhere within the towns of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Durham, Essex, East Haddam, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Westbrook. In addition, service is available to Middletown and free connections can be made to New Haven, Hartford and New London.



Fares are \$1.50 on any fixed route and \$3.00 for door-to-door service. Trips can be made for any purpose. Additional information, route maps and schedules are

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Deep River Meetings on Television & Online

Watch our Town government in action on television Sunday evenings at 6:00pm when Board of Selectmen meetings and Board of Finance meetings are broadcast on Cable channel 19. Board of Selectmen meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month and are recorded for broadcast on the following Sunday evenings. The Board of Finance meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday and is broadcast with the Board of Selectmen's meeting on the following Sundays.

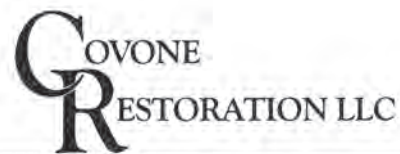
You can also view the meetings online at any time. Go to the Deep River web site (www.deepriverct.us) and on the homepage under "Quick Links" select "View meetings online." The most recent meeting will be shown, or you can select an older meeting date.

Occasionally, other town meetings are also broadcast such as Special Town Meetings and Public Hearings.

Following the broadcasts, discs of the meetings are available in the Deep River Public Library.

Anyone interested in helping with the recording and broadcast of these meetings is welcome -- please contact Margo at 860-526-8933. A short training session at the Valley Shore Community Television studio in Westbrook is required to become familiar with the equipment used.

Broadcasts are sponsored by the Deep River Taxpayers Association to make municipal business and discussions available to a wider audience of citizens.



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Deep River Parks & Recreation

This fall we held the 20th Annual 5K road race/walk and 1 mile fun run to kick off another beautiful Family Day. About 200 runners, walkers and a few four legged canines participated in the annual event. A new course record was set and trophies were awarded to the top three finishers, male and female, in each division. Again, this year the race was electronically timed by Greystone Electronics using BibTag technology. The USATF certified course took runners and walkers through beautiful downtown Deep River and down to the CT River before looping back to Devitt Field Park. There was also a 1 mile fun run. All finishers in the 1 mile fun run were awarded a medal of completion. Runners this year came as far away as Colorado! The following is a list of the top finishers in all categories.

We would like to thank the many sponsors of this year's race as without their support, the race wouldn't be as suc-

FEMALE BEST OVERALL - Marcy Withington, Old Lyme, CT 21:33

MALE BEST OVERALL - Darren Walden, Deep River, CT 16:12

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 1 - 13

- 1 Emma King, 24:26
- 2 Allison Romano, 27:08
- 3 Alena Crosby, 28:39

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 14 - 18

No entries

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 19 - 29

- 1 Jasmine Brooks, 23:42
- 2 Lindsay Grote, 27:42
- 3 Amanda Santos, 28:24

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 30 - 39

- 1 Allison Strolli, 23:12
- 2 Nellie Andrew, 25:06
- 3 Jessica Funke, 26:26

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 40 - 49

- 1 Stephanie Einsiedel, 25:01
- 2 Karen Cole, 27:10
- 3 Anne Scignano, 27:26

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 50 - 59

- 1 Cindy Lignar 28:51
- 2 Virginia Petersen 30:01
- 3 Sue McCann 30:57

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 60 - 69

- 1 66 Patricia Phillips 30:24
- 2 121 Lenore Grunko 46:07
- 3 124 Francine Papantonio 50:36

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 70 - 79

- 1 79 Kay Tucker 31:55
- 2 133 Rigi Bockard 54:27

FEMALE AGE GROUP: 80 - 99 No entries

MALE AGE GROUP: 80 - 99 No entries

MALE AGE GROUP: 1 - 13

- 1 Sean Davis, 24:24
- 2 Aidan Ingram, 31:40
- 3 Joe Carroll, 39:12

MALE AGE GROUP: 14 - 18

- 1 Phillip Ward, 24:21

MALE AGE GROUP: 19 - 29

- 1 Bob Duggan, 18:41
- 2 Benjamin Clark, 20:43
- 3 Tim Perkins, 23:17

MALE AGE GROUP: 30 - 39

- 1 Chris Hart, 21:28
- 2 Troy Edwin, 21:54
- 3 Tanner Steeves, 23:40

MALE AGE GROUP: 40 - 49

- 1 John Paggioli, 19:01
- 2 Paul Mezick, 19:21
- 3 Soren Moller, 20:01

MALE AGE GROUP: 50 - 59

- 1 12 Ken Lignar 22:28
- 2 16 Ric Reed 23:31
- 3 25 Dayne Stewkesbury 24:33

MALE AGE GROUP: 60 - 69

- 1 30 Dan Wilder 25:29
- 2 32 Warren Kleeman 26:16
- 3 71 Peter Canning 31:23

MALE AGE GROUP: 70 - 79

- 1 31 Carl Fuller 26:04
- 2 77 Ted Phillips 31:49
- 3 105 William Gagnon 36:27

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The evening concluded with a fantastic fireworks display at Plattwood Park. Parks and Recreation once again sold glow sticks but new this year we sold sundries out of the new snack shack! Although the building is not yet equipped for food preparation, it was a great way to christen the new building. Back by popular demand, "Mad Men", a popular local band played live music as families enjoyed their picnic dinners and the beautiful evening at Plattwood Park. The band was made possible by a generous donation from the Deep River/Chester Lions Club. Parks and Recreation would like to express our gratitude to the Deep River Fire Police, the Deep River Fire Department, the Town Constables, the Resident State trooper and especially to our largest sponsors, Haynes Materials and Whelen Engineering. October brought Halloween festivities, which included the annual costume parade and contest, entertainment for all ages in the Town Hall auditorium by world renowned magician, Daniel Greenwolf, as well as the jack-o-lantern carving contest. Winners of the costume contest were: Elizabeth Tulledge as a pile of leaves; Vivian Paradis who came dressed as an alien; Katie Morrissey who was a jack in the box and Joe Welch who came dressed as the game, 'The Claw'. For the pumpkin carving contest, winners were awarded in four categories. They are: funniest - Logan Parker; most creative - Samantha Pierce; most original - Griffin Smith and scariest - Emma Bach.

cessful. The following businesses contributed either a monetary donation or a free service for the raffle. In alphabetical order they are: Adams Super Food Store, Anchor and Compass-A Store for Guys, Atlantic Building Supply, Atwood's Auto, Ashleigh's Garden, Brewer Deep River Marina, Calamari's, Celebrations, Chester Deep River Lions Club, Child and Adult Orthodontics, Chris' Dog House, COLANAR, Daniels Propane, Deep River Design, Deep River Garden Club, Deep River Pizza, Deep River Rent All, DLS Insurance Services, Dough on Main, Essex Mail Mart, LLC, Face Arts Music, Finkeldey Septic Service, LLC, Hairworks Barber Shop Salon, Hally Jo's Restaurant, Haynes Materials, IFound Fitness, Ivory Restaurant and Pub, Kariann Price Designs, Machine Repair,

Back by popular demand, the basement of the Town Hall was transformed into a scary haunted 'house'. The Griffin family worked tirelessly to create a spectacular 'haunted house' in the basement of the Town Hall that was enjoyed by all, free of charge, during our annual Halloween festivities. They worked hundreds of hours and used their treasure trove of frightful props to good use; more than two hundred people screamed their way through the haunted basement, some with courage enough to repeat the experience! The Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission expresses our sincere appreciation to Dean, Meg and Jarrod Griffin as well as friends Julia Wilcoxson and Matt O'Keefe who helped with the haunting. Parks and Recreation

Deep River Parks & Recreation, cont.

ation requested people bring a non-perishable food item for the Deep River food closet as 'price' of admission. Because of the efforts of the Griffin family, several boxes of items were collected.

Again, the haunted basement, while an idea shared by many was brought to fruition, by the Griffin family and for that we are extremely grateful. There were shrieks, screams and laughter followed by the exclamations that it was "really cool!" and "really scary!" What a fun night it was.

A big thank you also goes out to the Deep River Fire Department Fire Police who once again helped out with traffic control, our Resident State Trooper, Dawn Taylor, and the Deep River Constables who ensured that the parade participants remained safe. We also want to thank the merchants who lined the parade route and generously handed out candy to the costumed participants.



Left to right: Jarod Griffin, Matt O'Keefe, Dean Griffin, Meg Griffin, and Julia Wilcoxson.

The growth of our basketball program continues to amaze us. Again this fall, we have over 200 youth in grades 1-12 participating in the program. We are grateful for all of the volunteers who continue to work hard to make this program so successful. The youth practice at the three area elementary schools as well as the gym at the Academy of Mount Saint John. Games are played not only at the three elementary schools but also at John Winthrop Middle School. The Commission wishes to express our thanks to our friends at The Academy of Mt. St. John and to the custodial staffs at both JW and DRES. Once again, the basketball year will culminate with the Valley Cup tournament in early March.

Parks and Recreation sponsored several fun bus trips this year. Our most recent trip was at the end of September when we headed to NYC where we visited the Museum of Natural History and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

We are excited to announce that we have many bus trips planned for the spring and summer of 2015. Our first trip will take place on Thursday, February 19th, 2015, when we travel to the Rhode Island Spring Flower and Garden Show. Enjoy historic Providence, get inspired by beautiful flower displays and shop at one of New England's largest malls, Providence Place. In March, we have an exciting day planned in Boston, with either a culinary food tour or a visit to three local breweries. Save the date of March 7th! On April 22, 2015, we will head to Broadway in New York City to see the absolutely, magical, Lion King. See all the details of these trips and sign up by visiting the town web site. Check out all of our offerings and sign up to receive the town news alerts so you never miss a thing! We have a trip planned for almost every month of 2015.

Again this fall, the Parks and Recreation Commission worked with DRES to offer some after school enrichment programs. This year, we are able to help offer a fun with Legos program, a mini Lego Robotics program, a popular nature program from Barking Frog Farms, arts and crafts, board games and a skateboarding class. All the classes met once a week. Back by popular demand is the theater program started last year by enthusiastic parents who wanted to bring theater to 5th and 6th grade boys and girls. This year's production is "Alice at Wonderland". The show has been cast and rehearsals are underway. Save the date of Saturday, February 7th at 7:00pm in the Deep River Town Hall Auditorium. Special thanks to Miriam Morrissey for all of her hard work on this endeavor.

The annual Holiday Stroll was held in early December and it was kicked off with a free concert by the Old Lyme Town Band. They played several holiday classics and got the crowd in a festive mood. On Saturday, several people came out despite the heavy rain and cold temperatures. The DRES chorus entertained the crowd with a concert and sing along, Santa arrived by fire truck, movies were enjoyed in the auditorium, and gingerbread houses were on display. The town tree was lighted and people strolled through downtown Deep River to take advantage of the many in store specials offered by the Merchants Association.

The Commission is always looking for ideas for programs that residents would love to see occur. Consider giving us a call to discuss what we can do for you. Better yet, join the Commission and help offer programs that you are interested in.

Savings on Medical Expenses

Since the text below appeared in the Fall 2013 issue of the *News*, updated figures show that the PRO ACT card has provided real savings. The card's effectiveness varies, depending on your present medical coverage, but it costs nothing to find out if it will work for you.

Several months ago you should have received a large, colorful postcard that offered savings in the costs of medicines. The PRO ACT program is a is sponsored jointly by the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) and its participating members. It offers savings on prescriptions (for pets, too), as well as on some vision and hearing related services. I have heard from several residents that the card has been of benefit to them. The major benefit of belonging to CCM is its focus on legislation that affects Connecticut's towns and cities. Programs such as PRO ACT add extra value to our membership. My suggestion is to present your card the next time you visit your Pharmacist, to see whether it may be beneficial to you and your family. If you did not receive your Pro ACT card or simply mislaid it, they are available from the Selectman Office.

Month:	Total Claims	Total Cards Used	Member Rx Cost	Avg Member Rx Cost	Price Savings	Avg. Price Savings	% Price Savings
August-13	3	3	\$ 112.17	\$ 37.39	\$ 45.37	\$ 15.12	29%
September-13	21	12	\$ 619.89	\$ 29.52	\$ 555.74	\$ 26.46	47%
October-13	20	9	\$ 394.96	\$ 19.75	\$ 1,311.30	\$ 65.57	77%
November-13	8	8	\$ 245.07	\$ 30.63	\$ 251.26	\$ 31.41	51%
December-13	10	9	\$ 421.34	\$ 42.13	\$ 1,223.59	\$ 122.36	74%
Total 2013	62	41	\$ 1,793.43	\$ 37.39	\$ 3,387.26	\$ 54.63	65%
January-14	12	9	\$ 251.74	\$ 20.98	\$ 465.11	\$ 38.76	65%
February-14	7	6	\$ 913.33	\$ 130.48	\$ 569.12	\$ 81.30	38%
March-14	12	9	\$ 662.00	\$ 55.17	\$ 660.03	\$ 55.00	50%
April-14	10	8	\$ 688.05	\$ 68.81	\$ 1,054.25	\$ 105.43	61%
May-14	8	5	\$ 323.99	\$ 40.50	\$ 174.91	\$ 21.86	35%
June-14	13	9	\$ 766.52	\$ 58.96	\$ 222.47	\$ 17.11	22%
July-14	5	4	\$ 114.01	\$ 22.80	\$ 200.66	\$ 40.13	64%
August-14	10	9	\$ 828.30	\$ 82.83	\$ 778.26	\$ 77.83	48%
Total 2014	77	59	\$ 4,547.94	\$ 59.06	\$ 4,124.81	\$ 53.57	48%
To Date	139	100	\$ 6,341.37	\$ 45.62	\$ 7,512.07	\$ 54.04	54%



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Food as Medicine in the Fall Season

Welcome to Fall!

This is a time for pulling inward with our activities and also the energy (Chi) of the body.

It is the beginning of the Yin properties of gathering, storing and contemplation. If we look at the human species for the last few thousand years we would have been very busy creatures sowing, planting, hunting and harvesting.

It has only been in the last 100 years we have developed refrigeration and trucking which has not given the body and its digestive function time to catch up with this evolution. It is no wonder that we could feel out of balance, tired and stressed with our very complex diets and work schedules.

In TCM (traditional Chinese Medicine) there are very specific exercises (Qi Gong) and dietary principles that help to keep us aligned with the seasons and our emotions. It really only takes small changes in what we eat, think and do that can make significant improvements to our health both physically and emotionally.

This season in particular is the metal season and guards the energy of the lungs and large intestine.

Its emotion is grief and the color is white or silver. This grief relates to our judgments and actions.

When the metal element is distorted, judgments can be cruel. People may be self-righteous and overly judgmental of others. Overbearing judgment can lead to punishment and penalties instead of upholding righteous actions.

Honoring our grief involves mourning EVERY loss we feel, BIG or SMALL. What we "ought" or "ought not" feel with righteous actions.

Some common signs of an imbalance in this system might include: Swollen tonsils, dry skin or rash, nasal mucous, dry constipation, neurotic behavior, judgmental or holding grudges, achy stiff neck and or shoulders. Cough, cold, chills, runny nose, aversion to wind.

Luckily for us, the autumn is harvest time giving us so many wonderful choices for food:

Apples, pears, peaches, late corn, oats, broccoli, pumpkins and gourds, potatoes, leeks (any onion) Fennel, garlic and pungent foods are highlighted. Chili peppers, horseradish, cinnamon, cloves, peppers. All root vegetables. Foods should be cooked and very little raw eaten.

If you visit a local farmers market and purchase the foods that are locally grown there are huge benefits to your health and it takes the entire guess work out for you.


If it is locally grown it is almost guaranteed to be a healthy choice in which ever season you are eating in!

You might consider using a few Feng Shui tips for your environment as well, White roses in a silver vase for the table. White sheets or throw pillows and mirrors or crystal make a room more metal.

As with all things this is with balance and moderation for optimal health.

Enjoy this season of bounty with balance and joy in your heart!

Be well, Hedy



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Hedy's Helpful Hints for Winter

Welcome to the Winter Season!

Winter is the season of rest and repose. Our bodies crave slow smooth movements such as yoga, T'ai chi and stretching. This season is a time of stillness and quiet. Animals and nature all around us have gone to sleep and the body is ripe for healing and meditation.

All the leaves have fallen and nature has made way for sounds to move easily and the sensory organ of this season is our ears. This is the perfect time to listen to our inner needs and of those around us.

A warm hearth with warming foods and liquids soothe and nurture our family connections and heart- warming conversation creates joy and celebration. Warm foods braising or simmering on stove tops create a loving environment. Root vegetables, cabbage, beans, all onions, potatoes and warming spices help to heat the yin/cooling body energy. Slow roasted meats (lamb, beef and kidney) hot tea and perhaps a little good quality wine or spirits occasionally can also help to balance the yin/yang energy.

Winter is the season of dominance of Yin in the body. This energy is about contraction. We need to guard the Yang energy we have gathered in the warmer months. Keeping our feet warm (Epsom salt foot baths and thick socks) protecting the K1 point helps to strengthen the Water (kidney/bladder) in this season of regeneration and rest. Keeping your kidneys covered and warm is also important as the cold leeches this vital energy from the body. Warm (not hot) baths are recommended as the intense heat can put our bodies out of balance.

Living in New England is difficult for absorption of vitamin D. Perhaps a natural supplement of this vitamin or a daily walk in nature on a sunny day could help with mood swings. Light exercise moves Qi and builds the spirit so bundle up and get outside as much as possible.

Live, laugh and love in this season of darkness and wonder.

Be well, Hedy

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Deep River Historical Society

One Brave Soldier – Private Louis R. Ziegara

This past summer the Deep River Historical Society chose to feature an exhibit on World War I memorabilia in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the start of the war. Many soldier's stories came to light but this one stood out. With Veteran's Day fast approaching, it seemed appropriate to share his story with all of you. It begins in the summer of 1917, but first let me set the scene.



War was declared in Europe on July 28, 1914, in the aftermath of the assassination of Arch Duke Ferdinand of Austria. President Woodrow Wilson, in a calming speech, declared the U.S. would remain neutral. The affairs of the citizens of Deep River seemed little affected by the events in Europe. Although many here were concerned for the wellbeing of family members who were living near the hostilities. After repeated attacks on American citizens and shipping, the United States declared war on April 6, 1917. The citizens of Deep River quickly responded and the Home Guard was mustered in on May 11, 1917. The Deep River High School "boys" mustered as well. Under the direction of Thomas Stevens the students formed the Knights of Preparedness. The Home Guard, consisting of 48 men with Harry A. Moore appointed Captain, Robert Rankin as 1st Lieutenant and Oliver I. Markham as 2nd Lieutenant and recruiting officer. Men of Deep River ranging in age from 21 to 30 had to register for the military draft by June 5, 1917. Of the 166 men who registered for the draft, 70 claimed dependents and 5 occupational exemptions. Silvano Agostinelli was the first man chosen for the draft and each week after that more names were added. Others not waiting for the call from the draft office enlisted in the service. Three friends, Albert Frank, Harry Marvin and Louis Ziegara enlisted together on July 14, 1917 in New Haven and left Deep River to join Company H of the 2nd Regiment. Albert would be sent home on September 28, 1917 with an honorable discharge and Surgeon's Certificate of Disability. Harry and Louis after training in New Haven were sent overseas at the end of October 1917 joining the American Expeditionary Forces in France.

The "boys" best friends, serving with the 102nd U.S. Infantry division Company H, also known as Yankee division, were seeing action in the trenches on the Western Front. On March 29th, Louis wrote home from a rest camp enjoying a seven day furlough. Harry, who had been with Louis continuously since they entered the service, wrote home on

April 9th while they were both in the trenches. He referred to Louie in his letter as being "fat as a pig and happy as a clam." Only days later the Ziegara family received a telegram which read as follows: "Deeply regret to inform you that Private Louis R. Ziegara is officially reported as missing in action, April 15th. Will report first information received. McCain, the adjutant General." Louie's friends were of the opinion that he had been taken prisoner and an effort was made to obtain some trace of him through the Red Cross.

On May 5th, Harry Marvin again wrote home from "Somewhere in France". He wrote, "I suppose you have heard the news about Lou long before now. He was taken prisoner by the Boche some days ago. I haven't heard from him and don't know if he is alive or dead. I am almost positive though that he is alive for had he been dead or seriously wounded they never would have taken him. Every man in the company misses him terribly, but there is no one outside of his family who can miss him the way I do for it has been years and years since he has been out of my sight. He did his bit before they carried him off. I knew he would, of that I am positive. It seems that Lou as acting supply sergeant was coming up with the rations. At the time we were in the front line trenches. The team came along down toward our kitchen and with him was the driver and the guide. The Boche raiding party jumped out on them. The mules were killed immediately and at the same time another bunch jumped on the occupants. One of them grabbed the driver; Lou pulled out his revolver and shot the damn Boche. At the same time another grabbed Lou and he shot that one too. At that point he was shot in the face, a bullet entering in the left cheek and came out under his right eye, and he was dragged away."

On Saturday May 6th the Ziegara family received the following letter from Commanding officer Co. H 102nd U.S. Infantry: "It is with deep regret that I report the probable capture of your son; in that respect I voice the sentiments of the whole company. There is consolation in the fact that he was taken, fighting like a man and an American soldier." Signed Clarence W. Geer. That letter was published on June 7, 1918 in the New Era Press under the headlines Worthy Tribute to Private Ziegara. Louis Ziegara remained a Prisoner of War for eight months and received an Honorable Discharge on April 29, 1919.

Upon his arrival home, Lou credits the American Red Cross with his survival while in captivity. In the eight months while he was a prisoner of war, he suffered many hardships. When he and other allied officers refused to work in camp, they were placed before a firing squad, but the threat was

Deep River Historical Society, cont.

never completed. On his face and several other places on his body, Lou carries the scars he received from the Boche that night in April 1918.

Louis Ziegra's story was big news in Deep River and was carried in the New Era on the front page. The editor published letters from Harry Marvin to his parents and telegrams and letters from Louis's commanding officer. But that was nearly one hundred years ago. Last month Wells Ziegra, Louis's grandson called Deep River looking for some information about Louis and his experiences. He had been approached by Terry Finnegan, who is writing a book called "A Delicate Affair on the Western Front" which is about the First and Twenty-Second Divisions on the Western Front in 1918. Mr. Finnegan had gotten access to German military records and was fascinated by Louis's story; due to the fact that he was referred to as "one of the bravest men the Germans had ever seen."

So let me share with you an excerpt from the book which relates Lou's story from the German point of view.

Général Gérard's "sacrifice positions" order was exemplified by a lone private whose actions were communicated up to the highest German army echelons, but never recognized by the Allies. A single incident to the northeast of Apremont merited equal praise as the success of the 104th Infantry at Bois-Brûlé. At the regimental line dividing the 101st Infantry and 102nd Infantry, two men dressed in American uniforms, speaking perfect English arrived at the 102nd Infantry's Marvoisin Company PC purporting to be on a liaison mission from the 101st Infantry, requiring sketches of the adjoining sector and the latest password. The officer at the PC declined to accede to the request, but his suspicions were not sufficiently aroused to hold the men. The men departed, passed a company runner, and proceeded north in the direction of the German lines. Later that night, a 30-man team from 7. Kompagnie, Res. I. R. 258 (7./258), under command of Lt. Frederich, conducted a patrol one kilometer into American lines near Xivray on the regimental sector line separating 102nd Infantry to the east and 101st Infantry to the west.

Frederich's team also included several Husaren [cavalrymen] that had just been sent to the front as infantry. 7./258 intercepted the Company H rations and mail wagon heading towards Marvoisin. After passing Xivray, the wagon was moving eastward, passing over a stone bridge across the Rupt de Mad. It was a still night with the wagon making the only noise. Three men were on the wagon, the driver, the acting company mess-sergeant (actually Private) Louis "Louie" R. Ziegra, and a rifleman serving as the guide sitting

inside the wagon. They were heading to the front lines to Company H. As the wagon approached the bridge bullets flew killing both mules. Private Ziegra fired back, killing one of the Husaren with a shot to the head. Stosstruppen jumped on the wagon and grabbed the driver. The driver was hit over the head with a rifle and fell backward into the wagon. The guide in the back took a bullet to the wrist and fell to the floor. Both proceeded to play dead. Then the fight began. Private Ziegra was shot at close range with a Becker-Hollander small caliber pistol. The bullet entered his chin, missed the jaw bone and exited near the right nostril. Despite the blood spurting from his head, Ziegra didn't stop pummeling the German stosstruppen that jumped him. Soon he was overpowered and taken away as a prisoner. Vizefeldwebel Ettighoffer remembered the American violently lashing out with his fists, flooring a German with each blow. Several assailants had bloody noses, a few broken teeth and black eyes. With the struggle over, the Germans robbed the wagon of mail and rations, and proceeded back to their lines with Private Ziegra. Private Marvin: "They had to fight to carry him off and had there been four or five instead of 20 or 30 they never in this world would have taken him." At the opportune moment both driver and guide sprang up and ran north into the Company H kitchen area where they described the fracas. A patrol quickly went out looking for Louie but found instead rubber waders, a sack of second-class mail, tins of corned beef, and an American and German helmet at a break point through the barbed wire. Iron crosses from the scuffle were awarded to nine stosstruppen. Gefreiter Stollenwerk was promoted to unteroffizier and the rest of the raiding party were given leave. Private Louie Ziegra became a legend among the Germans. He was a 25-year-old second generation German-American whose father, Richard, bitterly opposed the German militarism of the time. Lieutenant Joseph P. Burke, an American officer captured that Saturday at Seicheprey, reported after returning from Germany in late 1918 that a German officer commented on Private Ziegra, stating that he was considered one of the bravest men they had ever seen. It was said that he had killed or knocked unconscious several of his captors while fighting with bare hands. It became necessary to knock him out with a rifle butt and carry him back to German lines. Not only did Ettighoffer write about the incident, General der Artillerie von Gallwitz mentioned Ziegra's fighting spirit in his post-war memoirs: "An American of the 26th Division, captured at the southern front by Xivray had defended himself mightily and refused all testimony." In his lifetime, Private Ziegra never received recognition for his valor that night. Through the efforts of Wells Ziegra, Lou's grandson a purple heart was presented posthumously to Louis's wife Olive Ziegra.

Deep River Historical Society, cont.

Harry Marvin continued on the front lines with Yankee Division but without his best friend Lou. Harry was wounded and received a purple heart. He was brought back to the states and sent to Officer's Training School. Sgt. Harry Marvin received his Honorable Discharge on March 13, 1919. Harry became the first commander of the District 7 American Legion Post.

Veteran's Day began in 1919 when President Wilson proclaimed November 11th Armistice Day. November 11, 1918 at 11 am marked the end of World War I. A law adopted in 1938 made Armistice Day a federal holiday for the purpose of recognizing the sacrifices of our World War Veterans. But in 1954, after our nation had endured World War II and was involved in the Korean War the name of this holiday was changed to Veteran's Day to recognize all veterans not just those who served in WWI. Great Britain, France, and Canada all recognize Armistice Day in their countries on Nov 11th.

A total of 124 Deep River "boys" from Deep River served in the Great War from 1917 to 1919. Their names are listed on the bronze plaque in front of the Eagle monument. That will be a story for another day. If you have not yet stopped in to see the World War I exhibit the Stone House, it is not too late. We will be open the first weekend in December for the Festival of Trees. If anyone has a story to tell about a World War I veteran please don't hesitate to call us.

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Elephant Slaughter, African Slavery And America's Pianos

by Christopher Joyce, National Public Radio Special Correspondent

Research for this report, which aired on NPR's August 19th, *Morning Edition*, included a three-day visit to Deep River by Correspondent Joyce. To hear the broadcast: <http://www.npr.org/2014/08/18/338989248/elephant-slaughter-african-slavery-and-americas-pianos>

The following transcript is reprinted by permission.



Surrounded by tusk bearers, ivory buyer E. D. Moore celebrates the largest single consignment of ivory shipped from Zanzibar: 355 tusks weighing a total of 22,200 pounds.

Prologue: The illegal trade in ivory from African elephants has tripled in the past 150 years, to the extent that biologists [fear](#) for the creatures' future existence. Most of the ivory is sold in China and Vietnam, and these days the U.S. government and international conservation groups urge those countries to [arrest the traffickers](#). But for the better part of a century, from 1840 to around 1940, the U.S. was the world's biggest buyer of ivory. Hunters killed hundreds of thousands of elephants, and uncounted numbers of Africans were enslaved to carry the tusks to ships bound for America. Most of that ivory went to a tiny town in Connecticut — a town that's now grappling with this dark part of its past.

[Deep River](#) is old New England, and its residents take their history seriously. Driving into town, I pass a fife and drum corps practicing for a performance on the village green. Stone barns from the 18th century, riverside mills and newly painted Victorian mansions line the highways.

People called Deep River "the queen of the valley" 150 years ago. Mills and factories and timber made the town well-to-do. But it was ivory that made Deep River rich.

I travel up a road that winds from a landing on the Connecticut River into town, with Marta Daniels at the wheel. She's a freelance writer by trade, a historian by avocation. "I have always thought of this road as the road of tears," she says. Between 1840 and 1940, the wagons of Pratt, Read & Co. traveled this same route, carrying hundreds of thousands of elephant tusks from ships up to the company's factories and workshops. Pratt, Read was the biggest importer of ivory in the world at the time. The big brick factory at the top of the road — it's longer than a city block — is now a condominium called Piano Works. Water still cascades through a nearby sluice that ran the factory's machines. Jeff Hostetler, president of the [Deep River Historical Society](#), says it was one machine in particular that brought ivory to this town and this factory. "What happened is Phineas Pratt, a very good mechanic and inventor, developed an ivory lathe to cut the teeth in ivory combs," he explains. "And, of course, all of Phineas' relatives bought one of Phineas' machines and went into the comb business."

And then into making billiard balls, cutlery handles, shirt buttons — all manner of ivory knickknacks. Then came the piano. In the mid-1800s, a piano in the parlor became a symbol of middle-class cultivation. Pratt's efficient, mechanized cutting lathes were modified to make ivory piano keys. Piano keys required extra labor, and soon the business sprawled all over town. "Pianists liked white," Hostetler says of the piano keys. "So the way to get a good, uniform white color is to take these thin wafers of ivory and just bleach them in the sun."

Acres of bleaching houses sprang up — huge greenhouses containing blocks of ivory instead of plants. People fertilized gardens with ivory dust. Kids swimming in local ponds came out of the water coated in it. Soon, a rival company, Comstock, Cheney & Co., emerged and built a whole new town nearby for its workers, called Ivoryton.



The two towns dominated the piano key business for decades. Fortunes were made and spent on grand houses that still stand. One of them is now headquarters of the Deep River Historical Society and home to a startling assortment of the artifacts that made Deep River rich. Curator Rhonda Forristall shows me around. "You've got needles; you've got crochet hooks, toothpicks, button-hooks," she says. Handles for straight razors. Buttons for corsets. For piano keys, the ivory was sliced thin, into laminates that were secured to wooden keys. "Three pieces go into making a key," she explains. "You could get 45 keyboards out of one tusk." Pianists liked the feel of ivory, and it

wasn't until the 1950s that cheaper plastic keys completely replaced those made of ivory.

In Deep River, these artifacts are a source of civic pride, but pride that's also tinged with shame, especially as the world condemns the current slaughter of elephants to make trinkets. Daniels, for one, says if Americans are going to condemn others for trading in ivory, they should at least know their own history. "We were the largest importer of tusks anywhere in the world," she says passionately. "So we have a special responsibility and we have a unique opportunity to say, 'We are sorry we have done this, but we want in some way to help stop the slaughter now.'" Citizens have formed the Deep River [Elephant Tusk Force](#) to publicize the ivory history here, both its good and bad sides. They [organized a conference](#) last year with speakers from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to talk about the U.S. ivory trade. They speak in schools, and they're [lobbying](#) for a law banning the import of existing ivory into the state. Deep River Rotary raised money to buy an elephant statue that sits in front of the town hall. Those efforts aren't likely to resonate in China and Vietnam. But Peter Howard, trustee of the historical society and a Tusk Force founder, says at least Deep River residents are now confronting the town's past. "There's a lot of debt that's owed the elephant here," he says, "and a lot of awareness. But it was kind of in the back of peoples' minds."

Dick Smith — as first selectman of the town, he's essentially the mayor — says he knew about Deep River's ivory history, but not about the current trade in Asia. He says he'd tell ivory buyers now to stop, even though Americans once were just as guilty. "We learn from our experiences," he says. "It wasn't right." Deep River's John Guy LaPlante is more sympathetic to the town's forebears. Attitudes were different 150 years ago. "You know, we deplore what happened to the elephant. It was brutal, there's no doubt about it. But we have to put it in context. These men ... who ran this industry, were upstanding, moral, high-minded people who didn't think they were doing anything wrong."

But there was another ugly fact about this trade that many Ameri-



cans either didn't know about or simply chose not to see — ivory slavery. Ivory traders needed ivory bearers. So they captured Africans and enslaved them to transport the tusks to the ships. [Richard Conniff](#) has investigated the African end of the trade. He's a writer who bought a house in Deep River and then discovered its past. He found historical accounts from Africa and from Deep River's ivory barons. They tell of ships from Connecticut that sailed to Zanzibar, an island off the east coast of Africa. Americans arrived with cloth, gunpowder and weapons to trade. The ivory came from central Africa, brought to Zanzibar by Arab slavers. "They would seize slaves, seize ivory, and then use the slaves to carry the ivory back to the coast," says Conniff. "And the descriptions that missionaries gave of those caravans were particularly brutal ... slaves bound by a log, basically, around the neck to the person behind them, and then carrying a tusk on one shoulder." Often, only 1 in 4 slaves survived the journey, according to British explorer Dr. David Livingstone, who observed and wrote about them. One of the Connecticut buyers who sailed to Zanzibar was Ernst Moore, who worked for Pratt, Read. Moore spent years in the trade, and it made him wealthy, but he grew to hate it. He wrote a book called *Ivory: Scourge of Africa*. Yet, says Conniff, quoting Moore's book, "He is the one who also said, 'Our lives were so crammed with our business and adventure that we were perfectly content to take what we had and make the best of it.'"

Conniff, sitting in a gazebo on the Deep River landing where the ships once arrived with ivory from Africa, says that's likely the attitude of people who are buying illegal ivory now. "What they need to realize is what this town has discovered," he says, "that our involvement in that kind of thing is ultimately a source of shame, and that the grandchildren of those people who are buying that ivory are going to look at them with the kind of horror with which we now regard the ivory trade that happened here."



Acres of bleaching sheds (*left*) sprawl over the Pratt Read campus in this 1930s aerial photograph. Beyond the new (1914) factory, with its rooftop aid to aviation, the original mill and outbuildings crowd the east bank of the Deep River. To meet the housing needs of their 400+ employees, the company constructed a three-building apartment complex (now the site of Kirtland Commons) and more than four dozen houses. When they were built, at the turn of the century, they comprised about a fifth of Deep River residences. Nearly all remain today. Photo credits: Louie Pratt, Ernst D. Moore: *Deep River Historical Society*; Parting the Heads: *Ivoryton Library Association*; Aerial Photo: *River Wind Antiques & Appraisals*.



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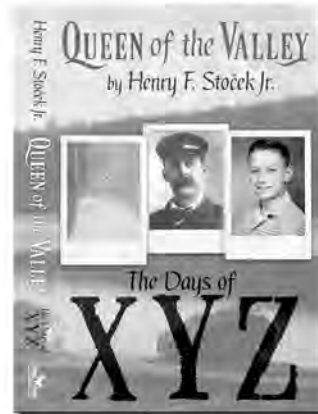
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March and September
Date & times to be announced.
Chairperson: Mark Reyher

Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commission

2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Chairperson: Alan Mizejeski

Community Health Committee

3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Chairperson: Maura Carver

Deep River Elementary School Board of Education

3rd Thursday of odd numbered months (except for July) at 7:30 p.m. at the elementary school. Joint meetings with other Region 4 boards during even-numbered months at JWMS
Chairperson: Christine Daniels

Design Advisory Board

4th Thursday of each month (as needed) at 6:30 p.m.
Chairperson: Alan Paradis

Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Management Committee

3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Chairperson: Carol Jones

Board of Finance

4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Chairperson: John Bauer

Board of Fire Commissioners

1st Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire House
Chairperson: William Spitzschuh

Library Board of Trustees

2nd Monday of each month (except for July) at 7 p.m. at the library.
Chairperson: AC Proctor

Parks & Recreation Commission

2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Chairperson: Tracy Woodcock

Planning & Zoning Commission

3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Hearings may be scheduled separately.
Chairperson: Jonathan Kastner

Regional 4 Board of Education

1st Thursday of each month, except July and August.
Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. at John Winthrop Middle School.
Chairperson: Linda Hall

Board of Selectmen

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Water Pollution Control Authority

1st Monday of each month.
Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. at the Treatment Plant.
Chairperson: Ted Mackenzie

Zoning Board of Appeals

3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.
(only when there is a case to be heard.)
Chairperson: Don Grohs

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