



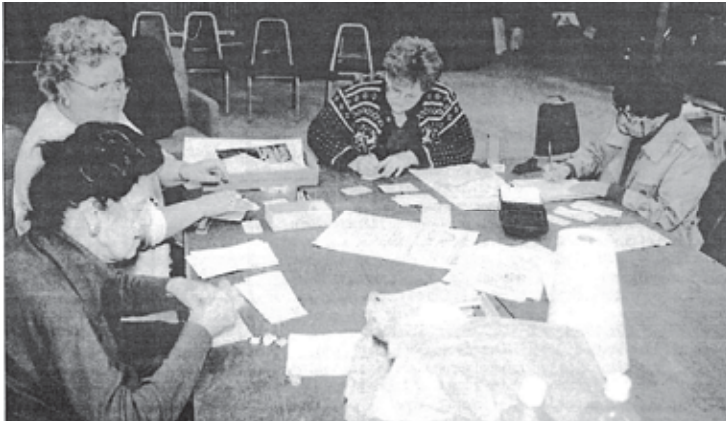
Deep River News

Vol. 18, No. 1

Spring
2013

The First 20 Years of Restoration: Finding the Past to Ensure...

Volunteer members of the Deep River Town Hall Restoration Association had two seemingly antithetical missions: [1] reverse a hundred years of wear and tear, and so return the space to its Victorian grandeur, while



A nostalgic look at the not-too-distant past: practicing their penmanship, stalwart members of the Association address invitations to a Centennial fund raiser. (Counter clockwise from right): Fran Strukus, Nellie 'Nell' Johnson, Jodi Mislick and Emy Marvin. Of the four, two are no longer with us: Emy died in 2006, Nell just last September.



A stack of seats (above), stripped by Ted MacKenzie of a century's grime (and uncountable rock-hard wads of chewing gum). (below): Bruce Edgerton, Barbara MacKenzie and Jen Minor (kneeling) take a smile break for posterity. Later: (below, right) a dozen pairs of backs and seats, newly finished, awaiting reassembly.

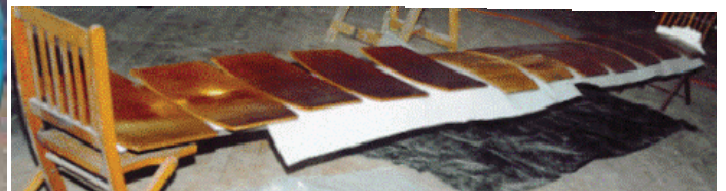
Historian's Note: in 1994 a proposal of marriage from fellow volunteer Richard Kollmer, Jr., (photo unavailable) was accepted by Jen Minor. The family now includes their daughter, son, a dog and a cat.



[2] simultaneously bring a century-old public space into compliance with today's safety codes. Starting in 1992 most Tuesday evenings were devoted to the joys of sanding, painting, disassembling and reassembling. Their standards of quality and authenticity set the bar high for those who would follow. Like most volunteers they have tended toward modesty, reticent when singled out. But recently discovered Kodachromes and photos from aging newsprint (*Pictorial-Gazette*, October 18, 1994), have identified a number of these restoration pioneers.



Jim Lanouette (above, foreground) and Ted Mackenzie begin the process of returning an original 19th Century door to its Victorian splendor. Restoration of wooden surfaces was a major task—several hundred square feet of wainscoting were stripped, sanded and repainted—but it was the seats. Hundreds of theater seats.....fold-up wooden seats and backs, fitted onto cast iron frames bolted to the floor—to the balcony floor. Seating in the orchestra had been on benches, four folding seats per bench, easily stacked to clear the floor for fancy dress balls. But egress from the balcony was unsafe—no need for seats there. So they were unscrewed, dismantled, carried down, refurbished and re-installed—on the orchestra floor. *Twenty years later, safety issues resolved, the balcony is once again usable; the seats have been returned from whence they came—to the balcony.*



...the Future

This montage of the major contractors is necessarily incomplete: some workers were called to other jobs on the days the camera paid its visits. Some work was not scheduled until past this issue's deadline. *Faces look familiar? Most all represent local talent.*

None of the Committee volunteers chose to be included, maintaining that the Auditorium is the star. While there was no lack of hands-on work, the Committee's mission was to make the tough decisions. They had just 18 months to set their priorities, select the contractors and manage the scheduling of multiple projects.

Painting, sanding, wiring, plumbing; repair the roof, repair the ceilings, repair the floors, repair the stairways; build new, old looking, doors that will meet safety codes, order new windows made to match old.

It takes alot of skills...



...to restore an auditorium!!

We are grateful to them all.

Then...choose new chairs, comfortable, attractive, yet easily moved and stacked; build a kitchen, rebuild a closet and finally—to emphasize the Victorian ambiance, from the Elm Street entrance to the Auditorium Dome: elegant wall sconces, hanging fixtures that accent the Grand Staircase and, of course, way up there, The Chandelier. Words, even pictures, don't quite do it. You must come visit.

Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Restoration Committee

Your Town Hall Auditorium is poised to be put back into full-time use by this community. A month of celebratory events has been planned by the Auditorium Restoration Committee, beginning May 1. One of our purposes is to re-introduce this much improved space to everyone.

Should you choose to participate in one of the many celebration activities, this is what you will see:

- A flexible space available to the community for a variety of uses.
- Theater space seating an audience of 279 in comfort.
- One-hundred, fifty seats at auditorium level that are moveable and stackable.
- One-hundred, twenty-nine permanently installed balcony seats.
- A room with a capacity of 300 for dances and parties.
- Tables for small banquets.
- A kitchen, with serving area in the auditorium rear, including provisions for keeping food warm or cool.
- A room that can be darkened on the brightest day, permitting light shows.
- A spectacular "Queen of the Valley" chandelier, along with complementary sconces and ceiling fixtures in the auditorium.
- Full use of the Grand Stairway from balcony to Elm Street lobby, with shiny brass railing the entire length.
- New lighting in the Grand Stairway, from balcony to lobby.
- Re-surfacing of all wood floors.
- Enlargement of the stage.
- Brand new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.
- New curtains throughout the stage area, and changes in safety equipment.
- Dressing room/make-up space at the rear of the stage.
- Control booth in the balcony, with improved lighting and sound systems.
- Piano to accompany musical groups and sing-alongs.
- Fresh coat of paint on most surfaces.
- Brass railings everywhere: balcony main rail and all stairways.
- Tastefully redecorated windows.
- Unique architectural features prominently displayed and emphasized.

But a list cannot adequately describe the grandeur of our restored auditorium. It has always been a space that, even at its worst, possessed a certain elegance. And the more time we spent here during our committee deliberations,

the greater our appreciation for the wisdom of the original builders and the devotion of those who labored long and hard to restore the space. Our committee has only taken up where the Restoration Association left off.

When you are at Town Hall on business, take the time to wander up to the auditorium to see for yourself what has been done. For the best effect, climb the swirly stairway from the Elm Street lobby to the auditorium, and then on to the balcony. That will leave an impression that no list can create.

This publication's deadline was at a time when restoration was very much a work-in-progress. So, these photos show only tasks that were underway.

Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Restoration Committee:

Sally Carlson Crowell
Janice Kmetz
Linalynn Schmelzer
Art Thompson, Chair
Bruce Edgerton
Richard Nagot

Dennis Schultz
Ken Wood
Claudia Epright
Kim Olson
Frances Strukus



Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Restoration Committee

The Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Restoration Committee is Celebrating the Completion of the Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Restoration

The Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Restoration Committee (DRTHARC) has made significant progress in completing the restoration to the Deep River Town Hall Auditorium. The restoration, which began nearly thirty years ago, has reached the final stage and the Auditorium will be opening once again for town and public use this spring. To mark this outstanding accomplishment, the DRTHARC is preparing a re-dedication celebration expected to be on May 1st, 2013 at 6pm. The program will recognize the original dedication on April 3, 1893, 120 years ago. Former First Selectman, Joseph Mizejeski will serve as Honorary Chairman for the re-dedication event that will honor the labor and vision of many volunteers, Deep River's town crew, professional contractors and the generous financial donations from individuals within the past thirty years.

The restoration completion celebration will begin with a ceremonial re-dedication program that includes educational speeches, music and an historical exhibit. The program will feature First Selectman, Dick Smith, Reverend Tim Haut, the Deep River Junior Ancient Fife and Drum Corps, a lecture by Dan Connors, author of Deep River, remembrances by Grace Stalsburg and attendees of the former Deep River High School. Also included will be musical selections by the Deep River Elementary School students, and reflections on the 30 year community-wide restoration project from key volunteers: Ted Mackenzie, Bruce Edgerton, Tom and Kris Lindner, Dennis Schultz and DRTHARC Chair, Art Thompson. The ceremony will conclude with the illumination of the "Queen of the Valley Chandelier" built by Scofield Historic Lighting. The re-dedication will usher in a month of diverse community activities. On Saturday May 4th the DRTHARC is looking forward to hosting an Open House from 4-7 pm for the public to tour the beautifully restored Auditorium. The open house will showcase an historical exhibit on The Life of the Deep River Town Hall from 1893-2013. Committee members will be present to answer questions and guide tours. Music will be provided.

Following the Open House, the DRTHARC is arranging to offer free programs that will include a variety of showcases in music, dance, theatre, and community activities. The month long celebration at the Deep River Town Hall

Auditorium will allow residents of Deep River and surrounding towns to experience the restored Auditorium as spectators and performers. The DRTHARC intends to close the month of celebration with a community social dance on May 31st.

For more information on the Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Restoration Completion Celebrations contact committee member, Linalynn Schmelzer, through e-mail at Linalynnschmelzer@yahoo.com. Also look for updates in your mail and follow us on Facebook at Deep River Town Hall Auditorium.



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Good PEOPLE*



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Upcoming Events

Town Hall Auditorium Restoration Celebration

The whole month of May
Visit the Deep River website for listings
www.deepriverct.us

Sonny Stebbins Fishing Derby

May 11th
Registration from 7:00 am – 7:30 am.
Derby runs 7:30 am – 9:30 am.
Fee is \$5.00 and is for ages 5-15

46th Annual Open House at Riverview Lodge

June 2nd
11:30 am – 2:30 pm
10 Prospect Street

Deep River Fire Department Chicken BBQ

June 8th
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Union Street Firehouse
See any fireman for tickets

Deep River Parks and Recreation 5th Annual Carnival

June 13 - 15
Devitt Field
Watch for further information

Summer Concert Series

Beginning June 27th
Thursday nights for 9 weeks
Watch for posters



Deep River News *Spring 2013*

Richard H. Smith, First Selectman
John R. Kollmer, Designer & Editor
Gina Sopneski, Advertising
Printed by Essex Printing

To submit articles or ads,
contact the Selectman's Office
860-526-6020 or gsopneski@deepriverct.us
Deadline for Summer Issue is May 13, 2013

www.deepriverct.us



On the Cover:
Photo by: Dennis M. Carbo Photography

Selectman's News

Grand List

I am very pleased to report that our latest Grand List, compiled by Assessor Robin O'Loughlin, represents an increase of 1.2114 per cent. That may seem like a small number, but translated into dollars, it will have a significant and positive effect on the Town's income:

Real Estate values increased by	\$3,397,540
Personal Property values increased by	\$2,677,877
Motor Vehicle values decreased by	\$ 233,350

The result is a Net Total: Increase: \$5,842,067

(Unlike our Fiscal Year, which runs from July 1st through June 30th of every year, by State Statute the Grand List is computed as of October 1st of each year).

At our current mill rate the increase equates to approximately \$144,000 in new revenue. I am very pleased that during these tough economic times both business and residential developers are finding Deep River worthy of their investments. Over the years you have heard me stress many times the importance of expanding our tax base. Our growth rate, compared to many other towns, has been strong and steady. The advantage of this firm fiscal foundation is our ability to continually improve infrastructure and schools, and to maintain the many programs that promote our quality of life. It is also essential to keeping our mill rate stable.

Council of Small Towns

When I first took office in 1989 I had a good understanding of my areas of responsibility as Chief Elected Official—I would be overseeing budgets, infrastructure, personnel—in fact all aspects of municipal government. But it was not long before I realized that whatever happens in Deep River is greatly influenced by events in Washington and Hartford. That is why our membership in the Council of Small Towns (COST) is so essential. COST's membership is comprised of 106 small towns (populations under 30,000).

During those early years, with increasing frequency, I traveled to Hartford to testify, in the company of many of my colleagues, before legislative committees. That

was when I met Bart Russell, then the Director of COST. Through Bart I came to realize the importance of organizations such as COST and the Connecticut Council of Municipalities (CCM). (CCM's membership extends to all municipalities, regardless of population. I have devoted more energy to COST, which focuses more on small town issues. However, in times such as these, when all budgets are tight, we need all the allies we can find.) I have been an active participant ever since, and, in January, I was elected President for a two-year term. In one sense the office is honorary. But to be elected by your peers to represent small town interests is a real honor.

Although this extra duty sometimes crowds my schedule, the knowledge I have gained and the relationships I have formed have been invaluable, especially in this tough economy. Like the towns, the State must balance its budget with a combination of increased revenues and decreased expenses. Gaining revenue through higher taxes is never popular at any level of government, so how can the State cut expenses? When state expenses represent towns' revenues through state aid, COST is on the alert. Another area that gets our attention is Unfunded Mandates. When legislation is introduced that adds to towns' workloads, but does not include the necessary funding, it can be costly to towns. That is why I and other members of COST lobby before the Governor and the legislature against proposals that either reduce state aid or impose unfunded mandates.

I assure you that our town budgets would be hundreds of thousands of dollars greater if it weren't for the many hours that COST staff, together with First Selectmen, Town Managers and Mayors spend during the legislative session, lobbying in favor of state aid and against unfunded mandates. Aside from travel expenses to and from Hartford, the services of COST are \$725 a year.

Another lesson experience has taught me is the crucial role of meetings. In addition to COST, I serve on the boards of our newly formed 17-town Council of Governments, the Connecticut River Area Health District and the Estuary Transit System, among others. These regional agencies have a direct impact on Deep River and its residents, both financially and through the ser-

Selectman's News, cont.

vices they offer. By personally representing Deep River as either board member or officer, I can ensure that our voice is heard, and that our needs are addressed.

Time consuming, yes, but the networking, and the relationships established over time, without doubt is of great benefit to small towns—including Deep River. Important, too, are the relationships but with the employees of the state agencies and commissioners who implement the government policies that govern nearly every aspect of small town life.

Storms

This has been an exceptional year for weather: Hurricane Sandy, the Blizzard of '13 and, finally, the heavy, wet snow of March 8th. In my 24 years no winter has so stressed our resources, financially, mechanically and in terms of the disruption to the lives of town personnel. The blizzard truly tested our fortitude, but all of us were prepared for a long weekend.

Five of us—Ed Field, Bob Jenkins, Chris Reedich, John Ely (whose day job is with the WPCF treatment plant) and myself—worked almost non-stop from Friday night through Sunday evening—approximately 50 hours. We rotated our nap breaks so that some trucks were on the job at all times, keeping roads at least passable for residents, and especially for emergency vehicles, concentrating on major roads and our steepest hills. At times the snow was so heavy that roads had to be opened with our front end loader.

John Ely was not the only recruit from the WPCF. Plant workers Ken Hebert and Ted Liniewski, as their regular duties allowed, were assigned to keep sidewalks in the center of town opened. Pete Lewis, Plant Superintendent, also took some leaves from his normal duties to help plow the roads, driving his own pickup truck. During the storm we responded twice with the ambulance to ensure that EMS personnel could reach their destination and depart safely for the Shoreline Clinic. I am proud to say that ours was a major team effort that matched a major adversary.

By Sunday afternoon all roads had been plowed and sanded. Parking areas at the Elementary School and

other Town buildings were largely clear. Monday, at four P.M., after taking some time to recoup our energies, we began the task of removing the tons of snow from the center of town. We wanted our shopkeepers (normally closed Mondays) to be able to open for business Tuesday morning, and to ensure that curbside parking would be available for their customers. Because of the enormity of our task and what amounted to a 12 hour deadline, we hired some helpers: Duncan Downie, with his agile Bobcat to clear sidewalks right up to the buildings, his tri-axle dump truck and driver, and a shovel operator to clean around signposts and streetlights; and we hired Don Lee, Sr., to ensure we would have enough capacity to carry all the snow to Plattwood Park as fast as the Bobcat and the Town's loader could fill them. The three town trucks as well as two hired trucks were in constant motion; they transported more than 80 truckloads of snow. By two A.M. Monday, Main Street was ready to open for business. I rarely engage private contractors for routine tasks such as snow removal. In this case it cost \$2,650.

During the next several days, using only our equipment, we transported countless loads of snow from intersections and cul-de-sacs throughout town. Aside from the feeling of a job well done, I was tremendously gratified at the number of compliments we received thanking us for our efforts. Most were from residents, who had patiently lived through the storm's inconveniences as we struggled to keep up. To my surprise there were also messages of thanks from out of towners who came to find shopping as usual, or to check up on friends and family.

The weight of the heavy snow took a toll on trees throughout town. Limbs and some entire trees were severely damaged, so much so that we hired an outside contractor to clear the roads of debris. The Highway Department continues to clean up branches and brush left on the roadsides—a task that will continue well into Spring.

Whether in my Town Hall office, attending meetings or working with the Town Crew, I find my work to be as gratifying a way of life as I can imagine. I can speak from personal knowledge that the employees of the town of Deep River consider their work to be much more than just a job. On behalf of the Town, thank you.

Selectman's News, cont.

Town Projects

In late Spring we will complete Phase 5 of our Main Street Streetscape, ending at the intersection with Union Street. We've also been planning to complete some small sections along Main Street.

In June, on Laurel Wood Drive in Winthrop, we will rebuild and upgrade the storm drainage system, followed by complete reclamation of the roadbed and repaving. We will undertake other projects as funds allow.

Continuing our ongoing Plattwood Park improvements, we will install curbing and landscaping, as designed by the Town's engineers. Traffic islands will help define the recently enlarged parking area. We will also install Streetlamps along the edge of the pond, on the concrete bases we poured several years ago. The cost of a splash pad, planned for several years, has been raised by Public Health regulations. To help the project along residents and businesses have offered to donate money and materials, giving us hope that we may be able to include it in this Summer's schedule.

Town Hall Restoration

This issue of the News has been devoted largely to Deep River's architectural treasure, our Town Hall, and the restoration of our treasured auditorium. I hope that you will enjoy the report from the Restoration Committee and the display on our color pages. Please visit our website: www.deepriverct.us for a listing of events, scheduled throughout May, that will celebrate the auditorium's rededication.

Dick Smith

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Estuary Council of Seniors



Deep River's very own First Selectman, Richard Smith joined the "Share the Love" Meals on Wheels Holiday Campaign by personally delivering a meal. Selectman Smith is just one of many special guests paying visits to seniors this holiday season during the Subaru and Meals on Wheels of America national "Share the Love" campaign.

The Meals on Wheels Program delivered nearly 60,000 nutritious meals to seniors in Old Saybrook, Westbrook, Old Lyme, Lyme, Killingworth, Madison, Essex, Deep River, Clinton and Chester this past year.

Locally Reynolds Subaru of Lyme has partnered with the Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc., in helping to make this holiday season a bit special for seniors along the shoreline. They have donated the use of one of their automobiles to be used throughout the six week campaign for meal delivery by members of their own family, staff and many civic groups. The campaign continues through the new year with local Rotary Clubs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Vista Volunteers and First Selectmen from all the shoreline towns paying visits to seniors as they deliver meals along with holiday cards and plants donated by area nurseries.

As one of the five Subaru "Share the Love" event charitable partners, the Meals on Wheels Association of America (MOWAA) is awarding \$200,000 in "Share the Love" grants to local Meals on Wheels programs that partner with Subaru dealerships in the fight to end senior hunger. The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. is eligible to win a MOWAA-Subaru "Share the Love" grant of up to \$35,000 to help provide hot, nutritious meals to homebound seniors in all ten towns it serves. Hayden Reynolds is spearheading a "matching funds competition" and hopes that many other local businesses will join him. If you are interested in providing a tax deductible financial match or a partial match to the grant they hope will be awarded to The Estuary Council of Seniors please contact Sandy at 860 388-1611.

Chester /Deep River Boy Scouts Troop 13

Dear Fellow Deep River Residents & Businesses,

We are writing to you today to ask you to make an investment in the future of our youth – specifically young men from the ages of ten through eighteen. Troop 13 has been an integral part of our community for nearly 100 years; shaping and teaching our future leaders to become exceptional citizens who contribute to their communities.

Our Scouts have this to say about their Scouting experience: *"It teaches teamwork, setting up tents together, cooking a meal, or splitting wood."*

"The skills learned in scouting are carried with you throughout your entire life."

"Scouts teaches you to appreciate nature, with more and more kids staying in all of the time to play computer games and watch TV, scouting gets you outdoors: hiking, camping, canoeing, making this type of organization even more important these days."

"Boy Scouts teaches us responsibilities and leadership skills that we would not learn anywhere else."

"We participate in many community activities, volunteering our time to make Chester and Deep River a better community in which to live"

Over the past several years Troop 13 has grown substantially, doubling in size to over 40 scouts. This growth has presented the Troop with some difficulties – it has put a tremendous strain on the "Shack" where weekly meetings and activities are held. The "Shack" is in need of repairs and an expansion will allow the Troop to continue to enrich the lives of our Scouts and the community for years to come. Our goal is to raise \$10,000.00 to provide the funds to make these improvements and assure guaranteed continuity for the future of Troop 13.

Please help us to preserve and grow Troop 13 by making a donation to improve the Scout "Shack". Thank you in advance for your donation, which regardless of the size will serve as a commitment to our youth of today and to future generations of boys who want to enjoy the adventures of Scouting.

Sincerely,

Troop 13 Chester/Deep River – Boy Scouts of America

Please make checks payable to:

Boy Scout - Troop 13
P.O. Box 65
Chester, CT 06412-0065

Town Clerk's Office

New stickers for 2013-2014 are available at the Town Clerk's office or the Transfer Station. These stickers are for residents only and allow use of the Transfer Station as well as Plattwood Park and the Town Dock/Landing. **Please remember to bring your motor vehicle registration when requesting a Town sticker.**

Opening Day of Fishing Season is Saturday, April 20, 2013. The 2013 Hunter and Angler's Guides are now available in the Town Clerk's office. Hunting and Fishing licenses are also available at the Town Clerk's office.

If you have a dog you are required by law to have him or her licensed in your town of residence. Dog licenses will be renewed starting June 3rd and we will send reminder notices with renewal instructions to registered dog owners in late Spring. These renewals can be done in person or by mail but **MUST** be received by June 30, 2013 to avoid paying a late fee.

Amy Winchell, Town Clerk

Welcome New Residents

Deki L. McKenney	112 Hemlock Drive	11/06/2012
Stephen T. Giangrande, Jr.	92 Warsaw Street	11/08/2012
Patrick Hanssen	23 Kirtland Street	11/08/2012
Nancy E. Winschel	391 Main Street, #131	11/14/2012
Candice & Douglas Dopp	391 Main Street, #123	12/11/2012
Angela E. Carontino	92 Main Street, #407	12/17/2012
Matthew P. & Alexa C. Jamieson	129 Cedar Swamp Road	12/17/2012
Diana L. Amara	77 Scenic View Drive, #10	12/19/2012
Hugh Albright	463 Winthrop Road	12/21/2012
Elizabeth A. Winschel	92 Main Street, #103	12/28/2012
Elizabeth Callinan	92 Main Street, #234	01/08/2013
Mark Botta, Sr.	9 Maple Avenue	01/15/2013
Jason & Kara E. Bell	59 Bridge Street	01/17/2013
Florence Mackey	78 High Street	01/31/2013
Gary Pipkin & Heidi Samuelson	125 Main Street	02/04/2013
Christopher Desrosiers & Nicole Gerard	66 Bridge Street	02/04/2013

Marriages

Michael A. Janis & Carolyn E. Heimann	10/19/2012
Jeremy P. Hughes & Sarah E. Desmond	10/20/2012
Jason A. DeLeon & Teri Ann-Marie Martin	10/27/2012
Seth L. Dellon & Erin K. Meehan	11/03/2012
Jamie L. Guerrette & Dawn M. Ciancimino	11/10/2012
Gerald L. Stone & Pamela E. Ziobron	11/30/2012
Jeffrey N. Rodo & Katherine M. Lutz	12/15/2012
James M. Preston, Jr. & Sara N. Tirrell	12/21/2012
Brian C. Dailey & Carlie M. McDermott	12/27/2012
Marcus J. McClain & Rachel N. D'Lizarraga	01/03/2013

Passings

Charlotte T. Ziobron	106 West Elm Street	1/02/2012
Winifred R. Chase	189 River Road	11/07/2012
Debra Marie Javor	222 Westbrook Road	11/10/2012
Kathleen G. Tabor	65 High Street	11/18/2012
Jennie W. Sulinski	201 Warsaw Street	11/23/2012
Kenneth Howard Hiscocks	391 Main Street, #607	12/03/2012
Olga Maria Moutzouris	3 Old River Street	12/04/2012
Ruscene L. Graham	37 Sylvan Terrace	12/13/2012
Carl James Olson	124 Main Street	12/18/2012
Marie F. Wollock	78 Hemlock Drive	12/19/2012

Town Clerk's Office, cont.**New Trade Name Filings**

Paula DeLorenze	Connecticut Home Staging, LLC	11/14/2012
Dennis P. O'Keefe	Dennis P. O'Keefe, LLC	11/20/2012
Anne-Margaret McElroy	Whispering Bough	01/04/2013
Alan James Hutchinson	The Alan James Band	01/14/2013
Greg Jankowski	G's Treasures	01/24/2013
Kevin N. Crosby	Crotur Properties, LLC	02/05/2013

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:

Community Health Committee	term to expire 10-30-2014
Economic Development Commission	term to expire 12-01-2013
Economic Development Commission	term to expire 12-01-2014
Park & Recreation Commission	term to expire 12-01-2013
Park & Recreation Commission	term to expire 12-01-2013
Park & Recreation Commission	term to expire 12-01-2014
Park & Recreation Commission	term to expire 12-01-2015
Water Pollution Control Authority	term to expire 12-01-2014
Zoning Board of Appeals (alternate)	term to expire 12-01-2014
Agent for the Elderly	
Long Island Sound Council	
Region II Regional Mental Health Board	

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Deep River Ambulance Association



Thank goodness spring is almost here - what a wild and crazy winter we had! Blizzard Charlotte kept us hopping, and we are extremely grateful to the Deep River Fire Department, the Town of Deep River road crew and especially our neighbor, John Dube, who all helped us get the ambulance out to the townspeople who needed us despite the three feet of snow on the ground! Thanks are due to the patients we helped, who were extremely patient with us in our efforts to get to them...

We held our annual elections in January, and our officers are Jennifer Kollmer (Chief of Service), Jim Guererra (Deputy Chief) and Betsy Macmillan (Secretary). We welcomed new members John Kollmer, Jr. (and returning veteran member, John Kollmer, Sr!) and EMT Laura Harris.

On February 19, we hosted our winter Red Cross Blood Drive, which was held in memory of Greg Dee. What a huge success - we collected 78 units of blood!! We are extremely grateful to all of our EXTREMELY patient donors, as well as those who came by to try to donate but were ineligible - thanks for working around the snow and for giving up so much time! Many thanks especially to those who baked and cooked to feed our donors and those who helped them feel welcome and tried to keep everyone entertained during the wait. It truly gives us great pleasure to help save lives in this particular way.

Our building is up and running with a beautiful new banquet room and a full kitchen! Thank you to Amy Winchell and Joanne Pandiani for our beautiful new curtains and a special thanks to Acer Gardens, Jim Dee and all of those who helped us finally get our planters filled out front! If you're interested in holding an event at our facility, please contact our Board Secretary and 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

50 Years of Service



On March 6, 2013, John (Jack) D. White Jr. celebrated his 50 years of service with the Deep River Fire Department. The Department honored Jack at a special meeting on April 3rd.

Jack was awarded a commemorative plaque by the Department and the Town of Deep River Board of Selectman presented him with a special Proclamation on behalf of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut.

Jack joined the Department in 1963. Jack's father John D. White Sr. was also a member. In 1964, Jack was drafted into the Army and returned to the Department in 1966. The Deep River Fire Department has and still honors military service as time served in the Department. Over the years Jack served as Captain, Assistant Chief, Assistant Engineer and ultimately Chief Engineer, a position which he still holds today.

Deep River Resident Trooper



Our newest Resident State Trooper is Trooper First Class Dawn Taylor. If Dawn seems familiar to you, it may be because she grew up in Chester and attended Regional District 4 schools. Dawn's prior assignment was teaching at the Connecticut State Police Academy. A warm welcome to you, Dawn.



Roast Beef Dinner

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9 Town Transit

Shoreline Public Transit Continues Transformation

A tremendous transformation has been underway over the past three years at 9 Town Transit, the shoreline's public bus system. The district has overhauled its hours, destinations and appearance to better serve the region.

Since 2009, 9 Town Transit has expanded the reach of its services. Public bus service is now available from the shoreline to New Haven, New London, Middletown and Hartford, and new service was recently added in Haddam. Free connections can be made onto neighboring transit districts including CT Transit, Southeast Area Transit and Middletown Area Transit.

During this time hours have also been increased. In the past, service was offered mid-day, making commuting difficult. Today, service is available from 6:00 a.m. until as late as 7:45 p.m. This has resulted in over fifty percent of all trips being work related, and an increase in riders under age sixty to eighty percent of all trips.

9 Town Transit has also remodeled its buses to be more attractive and better meet the needs of passengers. Larger buses have been placed on routes that were overflowing with passengers, and smaller buses purchased for the Dial-A-Ride service. All of the new buses have a new blue and green paint scheme that grabs the attention of passersby. By late Spring of 2013, all of the buses will have the new design. In addition, 9 Town Transit has been a leader in alternative fuels. Forty percent of the fleet is now hybrid electric, resulting in lower fuel costs and a cleaner shoreline.

Most importantly, 9 Town Transit has seen an eighty percent increase in ridership. With the 2013 fiscal year expected to top 100,000 trips, 9 Town Transit is an important part of the shoreline's transportation infrastructure and economy.

Additional information, route maps and schedules are available online at www.9towntransit.com or by calling 9 Town Transit at 860-510-0429.



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Calling all Outdoor Enthusiasts! Volunteers needed!

Members of the Deep River Land Trust will be gathering at our Whittlesey Brook Sanctuary on Kelsey Hill Rd in early spring to clear some of the fallen limbs and brush that are overtaking some of the trail points on this property. The storms that have passed through our state have left some fallen limbs and debris that need our attention.



If you have a pair of work gloves and an interest in spending a couple of hours of your afternoon with us early this spring, please contact the Deep River Land Trust at drlandtrust@gmail.com.

We will contact you with a more firm date as we move closer to spring!



Come make Fairy Houses

The Deep River Land Trust invites all to build Fairy Houses at the George Lyons Preserve

This preserve located on Meadow Woods Rd. has secluded nooks and natural materials that are perfect for fairy houses.



Fairies' Rules

1. Find a quiet place to build a Fairy House; the base of a tree, the side of a rock, among some ferns, or the crook of a branch.
2. Fairy Houses should look so natural they are almost hidden.
3. Use only natural materials to build a Fairy House.
4. Make a path leading to the front door. This will help the fairy find the house.

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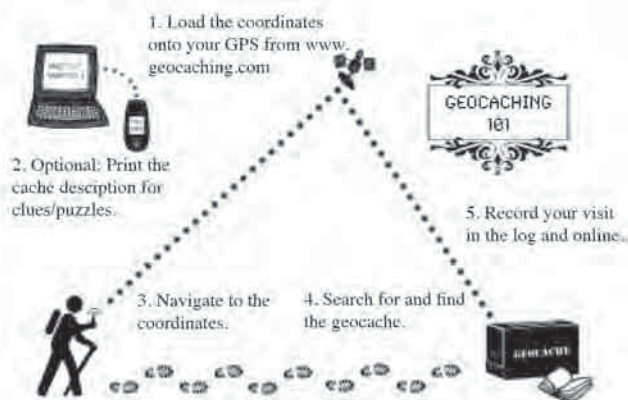
Beginners and current cachers are welcome.

Sponsored by the Deep River Land Trust

Contact us for the date and place:

drlandtrust@gmail.com

Space is limited



American Legion Post# 61

Members wish to thank all residents who continue to drop redeemables in our recycling bin at the transfer station. It is our veteran members who haul away these bottles, cans and plastics for redemption. This allows us to support many local civic projects in our community. For example, from the money raised, Post 61 is able to offer prizes to our Deep River Elementary school students who competed in our composition contest, as well as the oratorical competition about the U.S. Constitution. (We have a local student who entered for our district but as of this writing, no winner has been announced.)

These projects and contests enlighten adults as well as youth about significant American values and history.

It seems that this would be a good time to remind our high school juniors (eleventh graders) and their guidance counselors that the application process for Boys State and Girls State has changed. Applicants must go to the web site: www.CTBoysState.com. (Girls State applications are managed by the American Legion Auxiliary.)

It should be noted that Deep River's 2012 candidate, Shane Joy, reported last year's conference as "awesome" and was most enthusiastic about what he learned. Former attendees included senators, congressmen, and yes, a president (to BoysNation). We hope that Deep River students will welcome this opportunity to explore government service as a vocation. The conference will take place from June 22 to June 27, 2013. The application deadline is June first.

Commander James Marshall would like to invite all honorably discharged former U.S. military members to join us at our meetings, or in our Memorial Day Parades. The public is reminded to stand when the American flag passes by. Drivers and cars would be honored to transport veterans who cannot march. We have both men and women veterans who regularly attend our meetings. American Legion Post 61 meets every third Monday at 7:30pm from September to June at the Deep River Public Library. FMI please telephone 860-526-2983.



Miss Lillian Beardsley, Ladies Auxiliary President, Mr. Richard Nagot, Children and Youth Officer Post 61 and Dr. Jennifer Byars, Principal Deep River Elementary School are shown with Legion members and winners of the 2013 American Legions Arts & Essay contest held at Deep River Elementary School.

Delayed by Hurricane Sandy the award ceremony for the American Legions Annual Arts & Essay Contest at Deep River Elementary School was finally held on November 29th. The Legion would first like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Normal Randall for the use of their house to do the judging because my house was unavailable due to damage from Sandy. I am now proud to list the winners:

Kindergarten:

3rd place, Birch Whitbeck
Drawing of the Statue of Liberty
2nd place, Joe Welch
Drawing of the Liberty Bell
1st place, Miley Prue
Drawing of the Liberty Bell

1st & 2nd grades:

3rd place, Linette Spaner
Drawing of the Eagle on the Rock in the Island in the center of town
2nd place, Paige Lee
Drawing of a poppy growing in a field
1st place, Kayleigh Mackenzie
Drawing of the Eagle on the Rock

3rd & 4th grades:

3rd place, Austin Zwart
Essay about women's role in the service in World War II
2nd place, Elio Perez-Wilson
Essay on the home front in World War II
1st place, Grace Cassineri
Essay on the home front in World War II

5th & 6th grades:

3rd place, Sophie Spaner
Essay on why freedom is not free
2nd place, Ryan Douglas
Essay on the home front during World War II
1st place, Carolyn Raymond
Essay about women's role in the service during World War II

American Legion Post# 61, cont.

The American Legion would like to thank all the students that entered the contest and we will be looking forward to doing it again in 2013.

*Richard Nagot
Children & Youth Officer
American Legion Post #61*

Have you said THANK YOU to a veteran? It only takes a minute and pleases the veteran for your recognition of his or her service.

Our Deep River Unit 61 was honored to receive a Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition for Active Participation in the Project of the Month; a Certificate of Appreciation for Cavalcade of Memories; and a Certificate of Honorable Mention for the Cathleen Cottrell Award to the Unit showing the greatest activity in furthering the Legislative Program. These Certificates were presented by the Dept. of Connecticut, at convention.

A popular event with the veterans is the bingo held at Rocky Hill with prizes and refreshments.

There are many programs like the widely recognized poppies. The bright red crepe paper poppies are made by disabled veterans who earn a small wage for making them. The Laurel State Girls seminar to learn how government works is another. Our Senior Vice President Gail Breslin can tell you about her wonderful experience when she was a Laurel State Girl. We support the Fisher House project in West Haven.

We collect the tabs from cans for the Ronald McDonald House and have a canister in our local grocery store and also participate in the Kids Walk for the Children's Medical Hospital. Our thanks to everyone who has helped.

We invite you to our meetings which are held every third Monday, at 7:00 p.m., September through June at Grace Stalsburg's home. More information is available from President Lillian Beardsley at 860-526-5555 or Senior Vice President Gail Breslin at 860-663-0322.

Patriotically yours, *Virginia Buracchi,*
Chaplain/Junior Vice President



Attention all Deep River Businesses!

The Deep River Merchants Association (DRMA)
has recently created a website for its merchant members!

We invite you to join the DRMA and benefit from being a member,
including increased public visibility from placement onto our website.
Membership fee is only \$50.00 per calendar year!

You can view the website at
www.deeprivermerchants.com

For more information, please contact:

Cindy Lignar, Squared Circle Studio, Phone 860-526-8738
or
Rose Natter, Face Arts Music, Phone 860-526-1190

We look forward to hearing from you!!

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Dry Pants Model Yacht Club

Spring 2013 Brings Another Rescue Season

Spectators often wonder how we rescue our model CR-914 yachts when they get in trouble. The answer is: radio-controlled rescue boats.



The boats we sail at Plattwood Pond have no motors – just sails for power. Sometimes, Mother Nature takes away the wind. Sometimes, there are mechanical or electrical issues. The options to recovery are to wait for a boat to drift to shore, or go wading or swim to the rescue, or take matters into our own hands. We have experience with all of the options – including swimming!!

The Dry Pants Model Yacht Club has three rescue boats : a tug, an airboat and a boat that looks like a police rescue boat. One is always present at the pond when we sail. Each has an arm that hooks on the boat that needs help. Rescues take less than five minutes.

Deep River residents are always welcome to stop-by and visit with sailors. If you have had some sailing experience, club members are very willing to give you a chance to take the radio-control helm of a boat or even provide you a loaner. And, if you really like the experience, we will be very happy to have you come and join us on a regular basis.

Look for us at the pond every Sunday from 1030 AM until noon as well as Thursday evenings until dark. For more information, visit the Club's website: www.drypantsmodelyachtclub.com or just Google: dpmysc. Model sailing is a lot of fun..Come see and try it!!

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Deep River Junior Ancient Fife and Drum Corps



As marching season begins, the Deep River Junior Ancient Fife and Drum Corps would like to express their gratitude for the continued support of Deep River and surrounding communities. Without your help, we simply would not be able to do all of the things that we do.

Whether it is supporting us by buying plants on Easter weekend, buying soda or parking with us at the Deep River Ancient Muster and Tattoo, placing your votes at Essex Savings Bank, or simply making a donation, large or small, when asked, it is so greatly appreciated! Special thanks go out to Essex Savings Bank, Adams Hometown Market, and the Middlesex County Community Foundation, as well as all of the families that work behind the scenes to keep DRJA running smoothly.

We are always looking for new members from the surrounding areas. We practice on Tuesday nights at Deep River Elementary School and anyone, ages 8-18, is welcome to stop by and try it out!

If you would like more information, you can find us online at www.drja.org, or contact our President, Michelle Roise at 860-526-3439. Please be sure to visit us at the Deep River Ancient Muster, we look forward to seeing you!!!

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Not you're typical Clean up Day

Every year on Earth Day the Town of Deep River holds clean up details at our local landmarks. Plattwood Park, Veteran's Memorial Green and the Town Landing., etc.



This year, the Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts and divers from Diver's Cove in Essex took it one step further. They conducted an underwater clean up at the Deep River Town Landing. With the assistance of the Town's Harbor Master and Deep River Fire Department (for surface support) four divers scoured the bottom of the channel area in front of the Town Landing for bottles, cans, metal and other non-organic debris. The Boy Scouts then transferred this debris via canoes back the Landing for proper disposal. Some of the interesting finds were old bottles, a Razor scooter, lawn chair and one of the cement benches that was once on the fixed dock at the Landing.



Our Town Landing has always been an iconic landmark of our town and even though most people never thought twice about what they couldn't see below the surface does make a difference above and with the help of these divers and Diver's Cove they've made it a much better place for all that use and enjoy it.

The Boy Scouts, Diver's Cove and the Harbor Master would like to make this annual event on Earth Day and perhaps get more divers involved next year.

First Congregational Church of Deep River

Our youth participated in two special mission activities to begin the new year. On Saturday, January 26th, they joined the youth from other churches in the Middlesex County in "No Room at the Inn." This event raised greater awareness of the plight of the homeless, as those taking part spent the night sleeping outside in a cardboard box. There was a wonderful response. The Midnight Run is a non-profit organization that brings food and clothing to the homeless of New York every single day of the year. On February 16th, the teenagers of our church took part in the Midnight Run with a convoy of vans packed with food items, gallons of coffee, along with blankets and warm clothes collected from our members and friends of the church. They left Deep River around 7:00 p.m., and started their distribution in the city by about 11:00 p.m. Our group actively distributed food and clothing at pre-designated locations between 11:00 and 2:00 before heading home to Deep River around 5:00 in the morning. The Midnight Run is one of our most popular programs because of the close interaction with people who so desperately need help. We are so proud of our teenagers for taking on this commitment year after year! The older youth are also planning two weeklong mission trips for the summer: one to El Salvador, July 10-18, and the second to the Lakota-Sioux Indian Reservation in northern South Dakota, August 3-10.

The men of the church hosted a wonderful Valentine Breakfast for the women of the church on February 17th. It had to be postponed due to Storm Charlotte/Nemo! Following breakfast, the women were serenaded by the men.

Our Lenten/Easter activities give us the opportunity to celebrate God's amazing love for us in His dying and in the Glorious News of His Resurrection. Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 13th. Two services were held that day: a Communion Service at 6:30 a.m. and a Service of Healing and Peace at 7:00 p.m. On each Wednesday, February 20th – March 20th, potluck suppers are held at 6:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share, as well as your own place-settings and enjoy a special evening program. Tim also began a "Confirmation Class for Adults," called Faith to Make your Heart Sing. The group meets each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Seventh Annual Mother's Day Craft Fair will take place on Saturday, May 4 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. There are inside and outside spaces available. The inside

spaces are limited and will be filled on a first requested, first served basis. There is also a limited number of 8 foot church tables available for inside use on a first requested, first served basis. The cost to rent a space is \$25.00. There will also be a silent auction, a garden plant sale, as well as lunch and a bake sale. You may contact the church office at 860-526-5045 or the church web site, www.deepriverchurch.org, for an application or further information. Please check the church website to verify the date.

We have an active Sunday School program. The children participated in a collection of school and health supplies to be sent to Church World Missions. Our fourth graders are involved in special classes during Lent to prepare them for their first communion on Maundy Thursday. There is a group of high school students who are diligently working toward completing the requirements for Confirmation. They will become full members of our congregation on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th. Our third graders will be studying the Bible in anticipation of receiving their own Bible on Children's Sunday, which will take place on June 9th this year. That service will be followed by a VBS (Vacation Bible School) Block Party. Our Vacation Bible School will be held from July 15-19 this summer. The program is "Everywhere Fun Fair and is open to all children in the community for 4 year olds through those entering 5th grade. There is no cost to attend. You may contact the church office or Director, Chelsea Chiappa at vbs.drcc@yahoo.com.

Our church reaches out to people of all ages, starting with the very young. Sunday School meets each Sunday during the 10:00 a.m. church service, for pre-schoolers through high school. Confirmation classes are held every other Sunday for high school students preparing to become members of our congregation. We also have an Adult Fellowship group which meets regularly and several ministries that reach out to our elderly, shut-ins, and others in need of spiritual support in times of need: Caring Card Ministry, Stephen Ministry, and Friend-to-Friend Ministry.

Check our church website for more activities in the life of the church, www.deepriverchurch.org. or contact the church office, 860-526-5045 or office.drcc@snet.net.

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Chairman's Horseradish Burger or Chicken 12
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The Cosmic Egg 12
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Deep River Public Library

The Deep River Public Library said farewell to long-time Director Ann Paietta at a reception in December. For over thirteen years Ann oversaw the staff and operations, infusing the library with a sense of warmth and welcome. During her tenure circulation grew steadily and services and programs were expanded: Art exhibits music and variety shows at the Town Hall Auditorium, not to mention putting our library on the paranormal map with numerous visits from ghost hunters and paranormal groups. Family movies and foreign films became monthly staples. For children, story hours, summer reading programs, an annual Easter Egg Hunt and Teddy Bear Picnic. The library was the recipient of numerous awards and grants, including the ACLB 2003 Award of Excellence for Small Libraries and in 2009, the CLA Excellence in Public Service Award.



Ann Paietta with Roberta Ziobron, staff member and Louise Cowen, board treasurer at the recent reception.

The Library's new director, Susan Rooney, lives in nearby East Haddam. She's worked in a variety of capacities in several libraries in Connecticut for the past 16 years. Her love of libraries, varied interests and enthusiasm, added to her excellent qualifications, made her a clear choice for the position. Thanks to Assistant Director Susan Oehl and the staff for their loyalty and dedication during the two plus months between directors. Stop in soon, check out a book, DVD or audio book and say hello to our new Director Susan Rooney.

Math Counts




The Math Counts program from Deep River entered five students in the Eastern Regional Chapter competition held at the Coast Guard Academy on February 2nd, in New London, CT. Twenty-six teams competed with over two hundred students involved.

Math Counts heightens student interest in mathematics by making math achievement challenging and exciting. More than 6,000 schools participate in competitions annually from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories and State Department and Department of Defense schools worldwide.

While this program builds math skills, promotes logical thinking and sharpens students' analytical abilities, it is more than a competition. It involves students and teachers in year-long coaching sessions and helps students at all levels improve their critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Though challenging and non-routine, the competition problems focus on the 6th through 8th grade standards of the National Council of Teachers in Mathematics.

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Deep River Garden Club

The Daffodils in Deep River will be in glorious display as they bob their colorful heads for our local residents to enjoy. For the past several years the Garden Club has planted additional bulbs each fall and look forward to having them help us rejoice and welcome spring. We sold bulbs last fall for a fund-raiser and appreciate all who supported us. Now, after they have had their winter's rest, we see the fruits of our labor. Winter was a quiet time of reflection, planning and deciding what projects and activities that we will try to accomplish in 2013. The Library continues to have some beautification to the grounds along with the Veteran's Green, the Gazebo on Main Street and the Winthrop Planter. Our projects have been modest to date but will grow as our treasury and membership expands.

We are very appreciative for the donation of plants for the Winthrop Planter from Acer Gardens. They continue to be very supportive of our efforts in Winthrop.

We look forward to a full growing season ahead and would love anyone interested in joining our club to come to one of our meetings. There is no commitment to join, just come and see if we might be worth your time and effort. They are usually held the third Tuesday of every month, usually at the Town Hall. Several of our meetings are held at alternate sites, including the Carriage House, with the generosity of the Deep River Historical Society. In appreciation to the Deep River Historical Society, we have planted their window boxes on their front porch and additional plantings around the grounds of the beautiful Stone House. Everyone working together and helping each other is the key. With clubs and organizations working together we can accomplish so much more and get to know other residents from Deep River.


We have many activities and day trips also planned for this year as we try to balance work along with some fun too. Our group is small but very motivated in making Deep River even more beautiful and attractive to those that are lucky enough to live in this town and for all that pass through it.

We welcome anyone interested in joining our group to contact our Club President, Janice Kmetz at Janice.kmetz@gmail.com or call her at (860) 790-0432.


We truly do appreciate your support either financially or by just encouraging us and we would love it if you would COME GROW WITH US.

Sue Wisner, Club Secretary

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Deep River Parks & Recreation

Deep River Parks and Recreation had a busy winter!



The holiday stroll was held on Friday December 7th and was attended by hundreds of local revelers. The crowd enjoyed homemade cookies and hot chocolate while warming up by the fire on the grounds of the historic Town Hall building. The 3rd annual gingerbread house contest was held where several awards were given out

for best use of candy, most unique and most creative to name a few. This year, a fire juggler entertained the crowd as they waited in line to meet and greet Santa Claus.

The Parks and Recreation Basketball program is in full swing. Games began the first weekend of January and continued through early March. There were some 200 area youth participating in the program! This season culminated with the Valley Cup tournament! The tournament took place the third weekend of March and was a single elimination event. The top teams from each age division in grade 7-9 and grades 10-12 were awarded the Valley Cup. The teams will have their names engraved on the trophy and every year the trophy will be presented to that year's winners. This tradition began in 2012 and it is the hope of the basketball committee that it carries on forever as the Stanley Cup, in professional hockey, is passed on each year.

The commission has been active with the DRES PTO in offering after school enrichment programs. The programs began in early January and went for five weeks. The offerings included art class, step dancing, a gym program, Lego Robotics and a young carpenters class to name a few. The overall response was positive so look for a mid-spring offering as well.

Early spring classes being sponsored by Parks and Recreation include two boating certification classes and a first aid class. The 8 hour boating certification classes are being held on Sundays in early April and again in early June. The classes are being held in the community room

at the library.

Also, Parks and Recreation is pleased to offer two bus trips to see Major League Baseball games. Two buses have been scheduled, one on May 5th to a Yankee game in the Bronx and another on June 30th, to catch a Red Sox game at Fenway Park in Boston.

Registration is underway for our summer youth camp. Both morning and full day sessions are being offered during the six week program. The children will be visiting some tried and true places as well as new destinations on their weekly field trips. Trips include the Knight's Quest Laser Tag and Fun squared bowling experience as well as mini golf, a trip to the movies and new places like a trip to the Beardsley Zoo, Dinosaur State Park and a trip to The Trampoline Place. Last year, our summer program was attended by some 100 area youth so get your registration forms in early to avoid disappointment!



Our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23rd was open to Deep River youth in preschool through 6th grade. The hunt was held at Devitt Field.

The Sonny Stebbins Fishing Derby is scheduled for Saturday morning, May 11th. Registration runs from 7:00-7:30 with the derby taking place from 7:30-9:30 am. The derby is \$5.00 and is open to all Deep River youth aged 5-16 years of age.

The 5th Annual Deep River Carnival is June 13th-June 15th so plan to come down for some true summer time fun. What a great way to kick off the summer!

Look for the start of the Parks and Recreation Summer concert series where you can enjoy some lovely music from local bands and feast on some tasty food from area restaurants while lying in the grass on a picnic blanket

Deep River Parks & Recreation, cont.

with family and friends. The concerts are free and begin Thursday, June 27th 2013. They will continue for nine weeks.

The election of officers for the 2013 calendar year took place at the January meeting. The new chairperson for the commission is Tracy Woodcock, vice-chair is Kevin Crosby and the Treasurer is Miriam Morrissey. The secretary position is being filled by Whitney Woodcock.

All information concerning Parks and Recreation programs and classes is available on the Town web site or by calling the Parks and Recreation office at 860-526-6036. The Commission is an active group which is always looking for new members. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month. Please come to a meeting and see how you can help!

Carol Jones, Director



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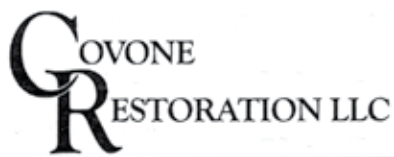
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Deep River Democratic News

Please join us for our 3rd Annual Spring Fling which will be held on April 26th, 6:30-10:00pm at the Carriage House. We will have live music, food, silent auction it will be a fun evening for sure. For tickets and further info please contact Lisa Bibbiani at 860-227-1697.

It is another Municipal Election year and the DTC is anticipating vacancies on the ballot. If you have any interest in running for a position on any of the boards of education, or Library trustees, or any municipal office please contact Lisa Bibbiani for more information. Lisabib@gmail.com or 860-227-1697.



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Fountain Hill Cemetery



Chapel repairs are moving forward under the direction of Mark Lowrey, Vice President of the Fountain Hill Cemetery Association. The roof repairs are complete and the building is secured. The squirrels are gone and after a thorough cleaning the whole place smells much better. Work is continuing on the stained glass window

over the door. The window needed to be removed for the roof work and the frame was so deteriorated that it could not be put back. Mark is rebuilding the frame work and new glass will be inserted soon. On these cold days Shawn Nelson, the superintendent, is working inside on the benches, sanding them down and refinishing them. As soon as the weather clears we will be working to get electrical power to the chapel. If anyone has color photos of the original stained glass windows, we need them. If anyone has information about the interior of the chapel please call us. If anyone would like to donate to the chapel restoration fund please send your check to Fountain Hill Cemetery Chapel Restoration Fund, P.O. Box 263 Deep River, CT 06417.

The Pet Cemetery is now operational. Curtis Turner earned his Eagle Scout rank through this community service project and celebrated at a ceremony on December 21, 2012. The first graves have been dug and hopefully by the time this issue goes to press the stones will be in place. Cremation plots are two foot square. All markers must be flat. The cost of each plot is \$100.00. The flat markers are \$50.00 each plus engraving. There is also an opening and closing fee of \$50.00.

For more information please call Shawn Nelson at 860-526-4752.

Fountain Hill Cemetery and the Connecticut Graveyard Network will host a Spring Walk April 28, 2013 at 2pm. We will begin with a tour of the chapel and then an easy walk through the cemetery. Refreshments will be provided. The walk is free and open to the public. Come and see the progress being made on the chapel. Hope to see you there.

Deep River Horseshoe League



It is getting close to that time of year again to start a new season for the Deep River Horseshoe League. Our first meeting will be held at the Deep River

Town Hall on March 28th 2013 at 7:00 pm. This is a perfect time for new players to attend and find out about how to qualify for the league and all the new information about the upcoming season. Past players also need to attend that didn't sign up at last year's banquet at the close of our 2012 season. This meeting will be about our pit clean up night on April 11th 2013 and the start of our new season on April 25th 2013 and any other items that need to be discussed by League Officers and Players. We can always use extra help on pit clean up night in case of any damage that occurred during the winter.



The League Officers would like to encourage anyone that would like to substitute or potentially become a new member that you don't need to be a town resident or have played in any Horseshoe League in the past. For instance the picture that is shown is of James Howard throwing a horseshoe & Don Berthiaume, standing on his right who just finished their first season. The League would also like to mention we could always use more substitute players even if you cannot play the entire season, so if you're interested come down to the meeting and be part of the exciting and competitive new season for a league that is Connecticut's oldest Horseshoe League and is starting its 58th year of existence.

Thank You League President: Vincent Puckett

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Chris Belfoure Memorial Fund

Chris was a 2005 Valley Regional High School Graduate. In his junior year he went on the foreign language department's trip to Italy. This experience opened his eyes to a new and vastly different view of the world. It inspired him to further discover what lay beyond the horizon and explore the possibilities. This was the beginning of his journey to learn about other people and their cultures. He went on to study Chinese at West Virginia University, and this afforded him the opportunity to study abroad in China. This is where he developed a passion for the Chinese people and their language. It ultimately led to employment at EMC Shanghai, China (a computer technology company) where he trained the Chinese employees in learning English, other cultures and customer service.



Chris's dreams of expanding his horizons were being fulfilled.

The Chris Belfoure Memorial Fund at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County was established a year ago, after a tragic and fatal accident in July of 2011. The fund will serve as a catalyst toward integrating multicultural experiences and a broader understanding of people around the world.

The \$1,000 grant for the bus transportation has been given to the VRHS World Language Dept. to help offset the cost of the trip.

The first Annual Run for Chris a 5K race in Essex, was held on June 23, 2012, helped to raise these funds. This year the run will be held on Sat. June 22, 2013, I hope you will participate (runners and walkers welcome) to give others the same opportunities to expand their horizons, as you will have on your trip to France. Continuing in Chris' path.

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Watch our Town government in action on television Sunday evenings at 6:00 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.

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 Comcast studio 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 Elementary School PTO

The mission of the Deep River Elementary School (DRES PTO) is to support excellence in education by promoting closer ties and communication among parents, faculty, administration and the Board of Education. Our goal is to provide curriculum and social enrichment activities for all DRES students as well as support to the administration, faculty and staff throughout the academic year. The PTO raises funds to support cultural arts programs at DRES, grade level field trips, field day, 6th grade graduation and more!

The spring PTO meetings are scheduled for Tuesdays, March 12, May 14 and June 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the DRES Library. If you are interested in learning more about the activities of the PTO, please join us at one of the meetings or send an email to drespto@gmail.com. Free babysitting for school-age children is available during the meetings.

Upcoming Activities of the PTO: March 25 - Day of the Arts

April 1-3 - Spring Book Fair - Family night and cake/bake walk on the 3rd from 6-8 p.m.

DRES Movie Night - New this year! Keep your eye out for DRES Movie Night. Get out of the cold and enjoy a family movie night.

Spring Used Goods Drive - Please keep this in mind for later this spring (possibly in May).

Ongoing Activities for DRES parents and the residents of Deep River that can earn money for DRES:

Box Tops for Education - Box Tops offers three easy ways to earn cash for our school through everyday activities such as buying groceries, shopping online and purchasing books.

1. Clip — Box Tops coupons are worth 10¢ each when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education.

2. Shop - Shop through the Box Tops Marketplace (www.btfe.com/marketplace). Up to 8% of each qualifying purchase is automatically donated to DRES. There is no additional cost to you.

3. Buy books — Purchase books online at Barnes & Noble through the Box Tops Reading Room. DRES will receive 6% of your new book purchases and 3% of all other online purchases.

One of the easiest ways you can help is to sign up to support DRES at www.btfe.com. You will learn about new and easy ways to help our school earn the extra cash it needs.

A+ School Rewards Program - Shop at Stop & Shop and earn cash for DRES! The PTO has added the Stop & Shop Reward Program to our fundraising! Simply register your card at www.stopandshop.com/aplus or call 1-877-275-2758 - Use school id# 11128 and KFAB for the password. We need your support!

eScrip Recycling Program - This program is FREE and provides a convenient location for collecting laser & inkjet printer cartridges, used cell phones, iPods, laptops, digital cameras, GPS devices and media (CDs, DVDs/Blu-rays, video games) while raising funds for DRES. You can drop off your items in the collection bin outside the DRES main office whenever it is convenient for you. Periodically, DRES PTO will ship the items collected at DRES to eScrip Recycling and they will then deposit funds electronically in DRES PTO's account!

PTO membership is open to all parents and guardians of all DRES students as well as all DRES staff. All are welcome to attend the PTO meetings to find out more about its activities. If you are interested in helping out with PTO activities or if you have any suggestions for new PTO activities, please feel free to email us at drpto@dres.k12.ct.us or drespto@gmail.com or drop a note in the PTO mail box in the DRES teachers' lounge. To keep up to date on PTO activities, please check our recently launched DRES PTO Facebook page and the DRES PTO information on the Region 4 Schools website (<http://www.reg4.k12.ct.us>) under the Deep River Elementary School/Links for Parents information.

Thank you, 2012-2013 DRES PTO Officers - President: Leslie Sheehan, Vice President: Stacy Meisner, Secretary: Jeni Gray-Roberts, Treasurer: Cari Kirla, Recording Secretary: Amy Petrone

Hedy's Health Tips

Welcome to the Spring Season. Spring forth with new beginnings in this season of rebirth and revitalization.

This is the perfect season to set those intentions we manifested during the winter.

It is also the perfect season to clean out both our homes and bodies. Perhaps a fast might bring clarity and wisdom? After a fast or cleansing we might focus on what is good for us rather than always trying to avoid what is bad for us... I believe the true treasures of TCM, Traditional Chinese Medicine, lie in its greater focus on preventative health, wellness and lifestyle practice.

Health is about assisting the body to find balance. We achieve this by providing the best possible environment for our body to be healthy, supporting it to recover from or avoid imbalance and disease. This preventative style of medicine is not simply treating the results of imbalance, rather the study of how to find balance.

Food is the perfect venue to begin this practice of balance. The spring season is about young foods and their preparation. Things such as baby carrots, sprouts, micro greens, young green onions, chicory, dandelion and just about anything else in the green spectrum.

Greens have been a traditional part of the spring diet in most cultures. They are plentiful at this time of year and their use has always been associated with freshening, cleansing, and building the body. The active part of these plants is chlorophyll which may be one of the strongest healing agents known to man, not to mention greens have a moderate amount of protein and many contain calcium, phosphorus and the B, C, E and A vitamins.

Try some grains but fewer heavier foods like meat and dairy products. Avoid fried foods, chemical foods and alcohol or drugs.

Spring is about keeping the wood element (liver/gallbladder) in its best possible shape with new attention to your nutrition, exercise and self awareness. This is a special time to be open to new beginnings and clear out the past which is ready to leave.

It is important to clear out the past to make space for the future you! Remember that "elimination equals illumination"!!

Dance, play and enjoy this very creative time of year.

Be well, Hedy



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Deep River Republican Town Committee

The Deep River Republican Town Committee will sponsor its 11th annual "March Madness Chicken Dinner" on Saturday, March 23rd from 5:30-7:00 pm at the Carriage House of the Deep River Historical Society located at 245 Main Street. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and those attending are requested to bring their own alcoholic beverages (BYOB). Soft drinks will be provided. Attendees are encouraged to wear the colors of their favorite college basketball team. Raffle prizes will also be available. Newly elected 33rd State Senator Art Linares has indicated that he will attend. If you are unable to attend, please consider sending a donation. Checks are payable to the Deep River Republican Town Committee (DRRTC) and may be forwarded to Tom Lindner, P.O. Box 173, Deep River, CT 06417. This fundraiser is extremely important to our local Republican Party. Monies raised will enable our town committee to support our local GOP candidates. This is a great opportunity to network together and enjoy a night of fun and relaxation.

The Town of Deep River is fortunate to have interested and dedicated townspeople serving our community with distinction and in the best interest of our town. The Deep River Republican Town Committee (DRRTC) would especially like to thank those who have served in various capacities and for supporting our goal of making Deep River such a wonderful community.

This is an exciting year with the municipal elections to be held on November 5, 2013.

Our nominating committee will be diligently working to recruit qualified candidates for various positions. If you are interested in seeking a political office or would like to serve on a board or commission, please contact us. We invite any registered Republican to attend our DRRTC meetings which are held at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of each month at Liberty Bank.

If you would like to learn more about our organization, please visit our website at www.drrtc.org or contact the following: Chairman Greg Alexander (860) 526-2174, Pat Gamerding (860) 526-9626, Town Treasurer Tom Lindner (860) 575-0871 or Selectman Dave Oliveria (860) 526-1460. Inquiries may also be sent to DRRTC, P.O. Box 183, Deep River, CT 06417

On behalf of the Deep River Republican Town Committee, we wish all Deep River residents a safe and enjoyable 2013.

Tom Lindner, Town Treasurer

Preventing Back Injuries

Another Storm.....More Pain in the Back?

One of the more common causes of back injuries during the winter months is snow removal. And unfortunately we can't catch a break when it comes to snow this winter! Using the wrong body mechanics when shoveling snow can put undue stress on the lower back and lead to a painful muscle strain, or possibly back injuries. The following snow shoveling tips can help you to avoid low back injuries and pain during this snowy winter season.

Use the Right Shovel

An ergonomic snow shovel can help take some of the effort out of your snow removal chores. A shovel with a curved handle or an adjustable handle length will minimize painful bending. In addition, a small, lightweight, plastic blade helps reduce the amount of weight that you are moving.

Warm Up

Cold, tight muscles are more prone to injury than warmed up, flexible muscles. Do your back a favor by warming up for five to ten minutes before shoveling or any strenuous activity. Get your blood moving with a brisk walk, marching in place, or another full-body activity. Then, stretch your low back and hamstrings (the large muscles in the back of the thigh) with some gentle stretching exercises. Limber up your arms and shoulders with a body hug.

Pace Yourself

Shoveling small amounts of snow frequently is less strenuous than shoveling a large pile at once. If possible, removing snow over a period of days will lessen the strain on the back and arms. In deep snow, remove a few inches off the top at a time, rather than attempting to shovel the full depth at once. When shoveling, take a break for a minute or two every 10-15 minutes or if you feel overworked at any point. Use this opportunity to stretch your arms, shoulders, and back to keep them warm and flexible.

Use Proper Lifting Techniques

Whenever possible, push the snow to one side rather than lifting it. When lifting the snow shovel is necessary, make sure to use ergonomic lifting techniques:

- Always face towards the object you intend to lift (i.e. have your shoulders and hips both squarely facing it)
- Bend at the hips, not the low back, and push the chest out, pointing forward. Then, bend your knees and lift with your leg muscles, keeping your back straight
- Keep your loads light and do not lift an object that is too heavy for you. Especially with wet snow!

- If you must lift a shovel full, grip the shovel with one hand as close to the blade as comfortably possible and the other hand on the handle
- Avoid twisting the back to move your object to its new location – always pivot your whole body to face the new direction
- Keep the heaviest part of the object close to your body at your center of gravity – do not extend your arms to throw the snow
- Walk to the new location to deposit the item rather than reaching or tossing

When gripping the shovel, keep your hands about 12 inches apart to provide greater stability and minimize the chances of injuring your low back.

Watch for Slippery Ground

Slippery conditions while shoveling can lead to slipping and/or falls and strains that can injure your back. Shoes or boots with good treads will help to minimize injuries from slipping. Spreading sand, rock salt, or kitty litter on your sidewalk or driveway will increase traction and reduce the likelihood of slipping on the ice.

These tips can help to make snow removal less of a pain literally! Keeping these guidelines in mind during the winter season will lessen the chances of a developing new back problems or worsening your low back pain while shoveling, and hopefully make your winter a healthier and more enjoyable experience.

Written by:

Stacy Meisner. Stacy is an AFFA and Les Mills Certified instructor and an AFAA Certified Personal Trainer. She is co-owner of Squared Circle Studio in Deep River.

Sources: Dr. Peter J. Schubbe, DC. Schubbe-Resch Chiropractic & Physical Therapy Centers, AFFA online



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Board & Commission Meetings

All meetings are held at the Town Hall unless otherwise noted.

Board of Assessment Appeals

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: Russell Marth

Deep River Elementary School Board of Education

3rd Thursday of each 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

Town Hall Auditorium Restoration Committee

2nd Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m.
Chairperson: Arthur Thompson

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

Note: If a scheduled meeting falls on a legal holiday, check with board or commission for rescheduled date. You may also check the meeting calendar on our website: www.deepriverct.us.

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selectman@deepriverct.us
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174 Main Street
860-526-6029
assessor@deepriverct.us
Mon.-Fri. 9am-12, 1-4pm

Building Department

174 Main Street
860-526-6025
buildingdept@deepriverct.us
Mon.-Fri. 8am - 3pm

Conservation & Inland Wetlands

174 Main Street
860-526-0082
Mon. 9am -11am & Wed. 9am-12pm

Public Works Department

206 Winthrop Road
860-526-6032
Mon.-Fri. 7am-3pm

Kirtland Commons Housing Authority

Joann Hourigan
60 Main Street
860-526-5119

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Richard Smith
174 Main Street
860-526-6020

Fair Housing Officer

Richard Smith
174 Main Street
860-526-6020

Park & Recreation

174 Main Street
860-526-6036
parkandrec@deepriverct.us

Planning & Zoning

174 Main Street
860-526-6030
zoning@deepriverct.us
Mon. & Wed. 8:30am-12pm

Registrars of Voters

174 Main Street
860-526-6059

Water Pollution Control Authority

99 Winter Avenue
860-526-6044
plewis@deepriverct.us
Mon.-Fri. 8am-4pm

Tax Collector

174 Main Street
860-526-6028
taxcollector@deepriverct.us
July & Jan. Mon.-Fri. 9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm, All other months Tues. & Wed. 9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm, Thurs. 9am-12pm, 1pm-6:30pm

Town Clerk

174 Main Street
860-526-6024
townclerk@deepriverct.us
Mon.-Fri. 9am-4pm
Open til 6:30pm Thurs.

Social Services

56 High Street
860-526-6033
drsocalservices@deepriverct.us
Tuesdays, 9am-1pm, Thursdays, 1pm-4pm and by appointment

Transfer Station

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Regional District #4 Superintendents Office

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860-526-2417 x1
jbryan@reg4.k12.ct.us
www.reg4.k12.ct.us

Deep River Elementary School

12 River Street
860-526-5319
School Nurse ext. 1
www.reg4.k12.ct.us

John Winthrop Middle School

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Valley Regional High School

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Public Library

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860-526-6039
apaietta@att.net
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Ambulance Association

284 West Elm Street
860-526-6043 (non-emergency)

Fire Department

57 Union Street
860-526-6042 (non-emergency)
Winthrop Station
409 Winthrop Road
860-526-6041 (non-emergency)
deepriverfd@sbcglobal.net

Fire Marshal

174 Main Street
860-526-6020 (non-emergency)

Resident Trooper's Office

174 Main Street
860-526-6027 (non-emergency)
police@deepriverct.us

Troop F - State Police

Westbrook, CT
860-399-2100 (non-emergency)

Animal Control

174 Main Street
860-767-3219 ext. 2
860-526-6020 (non-emergency)
selectman@deepriverct.us

Tri-Town Youth Services

56 High Street
860-526-3600
ttsyb@aol.com

Deep River Post Office

225 Main Street
860-526-5970

Connecticut River Area Health District

445 Boston Post Road, Suite 7
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Fri. 7:30am-12pm



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The Deep River New Era August 25, 1899

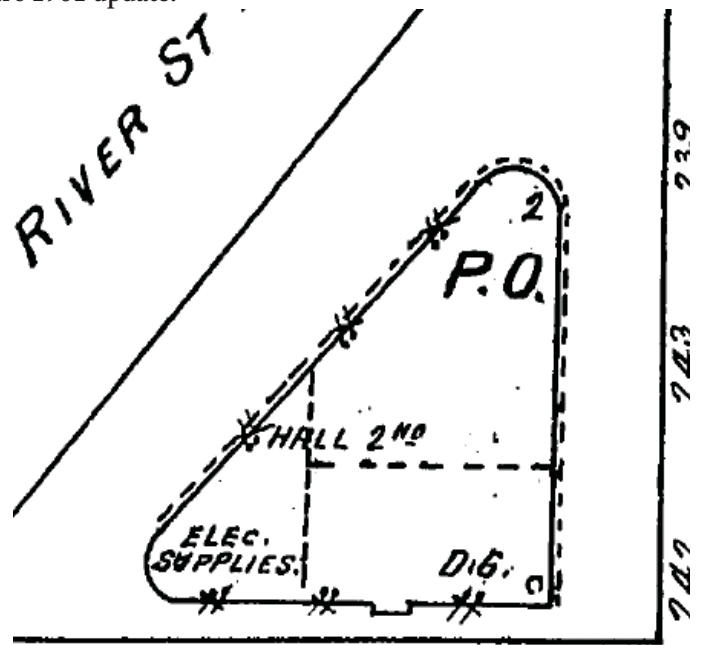
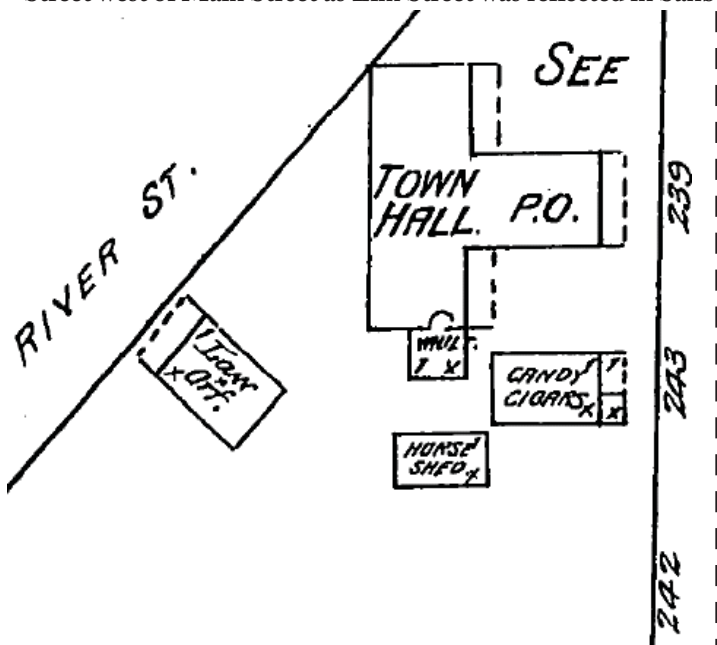


In the course of composing an historical essay there is constant danger of “information creep,” the discovery of interesting tidbits, indirectly related to the chosen topic, but difficult to ignore. Just when you thought that Jeanne Field Spallone’s account of the efforts to construct a new Town Hall told all, along comes the Forristall’s Heroes of Deep River, then a contemporary account from the weekly New Era, which helps explain this roundabout introduction to a brief history of our amazing Town Hall.

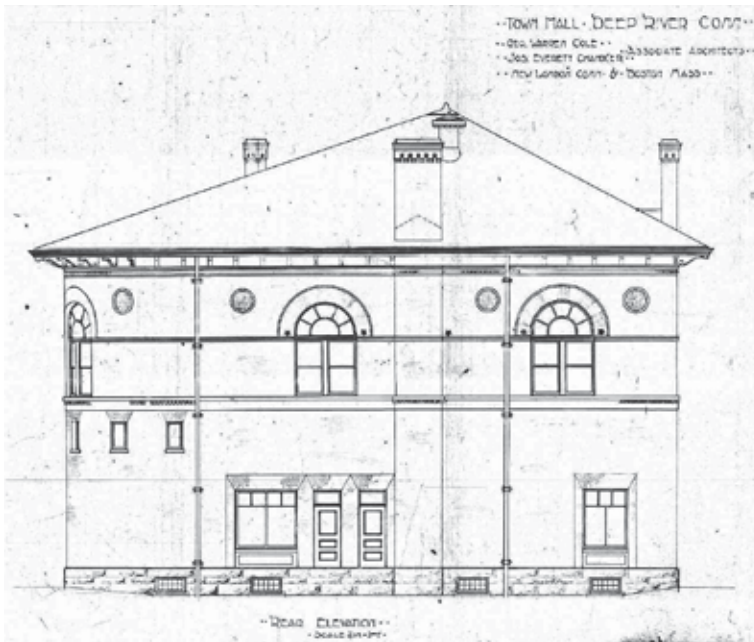
On July 30, 1891, a fire in Olmstead’s Bakery on Elm Street spread quickly to Deep River’s wood frame Post Office. Both were leveled. Amazingly, the adjacent wood frame Town Hall, also called Read’s Hall, was saved. But it was to that fire that we owe this remarkable

structure. By September 10th a Town Meeting had approved a new Town Hall, to be funded through public subscription. Three Deep River industrialists, S. H. Jennings, S. E. Jennings and H. L. Shailer, pledged \$13,000. In a week the fund neared \$17,000 and the Building Committee began the search for an architect.

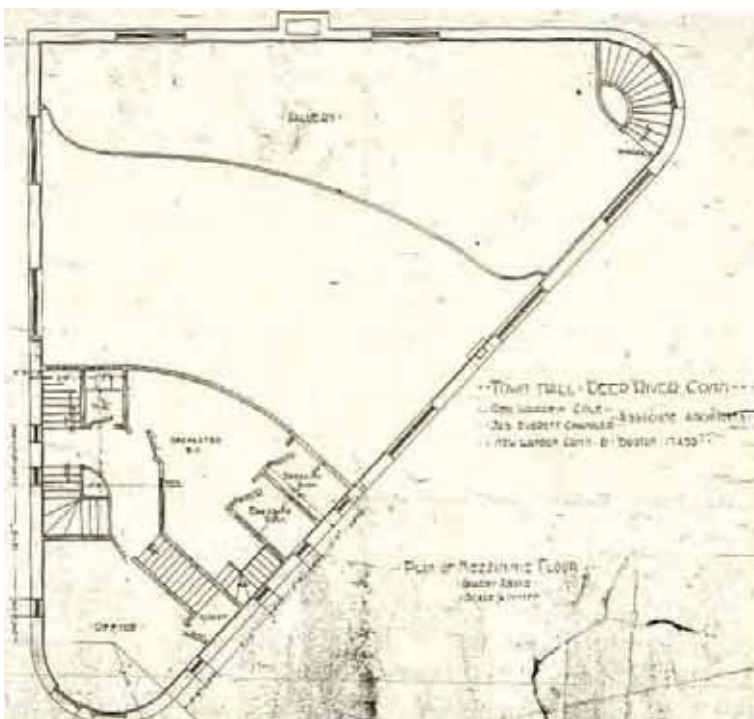
Beginning in the late 1800s, wherever insurance companies wrote policies, the Sanborn Map Company supplied descriptive renderings of properties to help underwriters determine their liabilities. Today the maps serve as valuable documentation of past streetscapes. In 1889 (below, *left*) the Town’s triangular property also included a law office, horse shed and candy & cigarette vendor, all replaced by the new Town Hall, as shown in the 1895 edition (below, *right*). The renaming of River Street west of Main Street as Elm Street was reflected in Sanborn’s 1901 update.



A Plan for the Future



The Rear Elevation of the proposed Town Hall is one of the set of blueprints drawn by Architects Chandler & Cole. The ceiling over most of the first floor was the underside of the auditorium, 20 feet above. Only the northern corner (*below*) included a second floor. About half served for many years as a dentist's office (now it's our Police Office). Under the auditorium's backstage, accessed by a narrow stairway, was the Green Room (dressing room) for actors' use during theatrical productions. Today the Land Use agencies: Planning & Zoning, Inland Wetlands and Building Department, are headquartered there, but the narrow stairway remains, and actors will still be welcome to use the space as their Green Room.



In September of 1891, when the citizens of Deep River were considering when to build their new Town Hall, our population was about 2,000. Streets were yet unpaved. Electricity and city water had not yet arrived. Automobiles had appeared, but transportation remained predominantly steam and horse powered. That we were on the verge of a technological revolution was not hard to imagine, but how to foresee future municipal needs? In 1891 those needs consisted only of space for the Town Clerk and Probate Court and secure storage for their records.

What the Building Committee had to work with was the \$22,050.90 raised by public subscription and the same quarter-acre lot on which Read's Hall still stood. For their architect they chose Chandler and Cole of New London and Boston. The decision was made to designate space for the Post Office, which had been quartered across the street since the fire, a dentist and other shops. As the Town's needs grew, tenants were displaced. In 1955 the Post Office relocated to its present home at 255 Main Street. Town Hall, after 70 years, was exclusively The Town Hall.

Even before the Post Office fire there had been discussion of replacing the outdated Read's Hall. A group of local women had gone so far as to raise \$1,000 for a theater (Opera House was their description) to be included in the municipal building of the future. In 1891, when the project was underway, the women—and their treasury—were ready participants.

In 1891 the Town's entire budget amounted to \$20,878.43. It seems unlikely that the taxpayers would have encumbered themselves with debt equal to a full year's operating budget. Were it not for the private subscription the graceful Grand Staircase, the wainscoting, the auditorium / theater / banquet hall / ballroom—all would surely have been well beyond their means.

A Town Hall Timeline



Town Hall's façade has scarcely changed, though transportation surely has. An exact chronology of these cards and photos is difficult, but the cars provide rough estimates. At the turn of the century, the Highway Department's motive strength was four horsepower. Looking north (*below*), Town Hall is at left, beyond Dr. Snow's carriage. No cars yet. The Trolley (*bottom*) came in 1912, was gone by 1921. We leave it to you to date the cars in these photos—is that a Plymouth on Elm Street (*right, top*)? The marching group is thus far unidentified (*right*), as is the vehicle they're passing.



Plenty of cars (*right, below*) to challenge your antique car knowledge. Clues in the final picture (*right, bottom*): the siren came off the roof in the late 80s. LaPlace's new Furniture store opened in 1982; the gum trees were planted by Joe Mizejeski in the 70s. The evergreen was felled in the 90s. Route 9 became 9-A when the expressway opened in the 70s, finally renamed 154 in the 80s.



Flat Irons Large & Small...& Tall

A decade before New York City's famed Flat-iron Building rose from the oblique intersection of 22nd Street, Broadway and Fifth Avenue, Deep River's admittedly more modest entry in the roster of three-sided buildings had opened for business. We have no evidence that our Town Hall influenced the construction of its 22-story skyscraper cousin, but we can identify the source of the description they share.

Before there were electric irons, there were flat irons, which were, essentially, chunks of cast iron, their mass a compromise: heavy enough to hold heat and unwrinkle the fabric, yet bearing in mind the strain on the operator's biceps. It is no surprise that these legalized instruments of torture were typically referred to as "Sad Irons." They drew their heat from the wood or coal burning kitchen stove—winter and summer. Today they are best known as door stops.

Town Hall's triangular footprint may be too equilateral to fit the definition of "Flatiron," but that is simply a matter of fate, determined by the angle at which Deep River's two major thoroughfares chance to meet.



The Color Pages were compiled by Jonathan Kastner. Additional postcards from: Don Sampson, Peggy Maraschiello; Photos by: Dennis M. Carbo, Bruce Edgerton, Art Thompson, Tom Walsh; Research courtesy of: Rhonda Forristall, Kathy Schultz. Also: Russ Calamari, Mat Elgart, Jeff Hostetler, Bob Johnson, anyone willing to stop and talk...

A Paean to Town Hall

George Warren Cole was just 28 years old when the Building Committee chose him to design their new Town Hall. Cole, in turn, recommended New Haven builder Charles D. Kinney, described as "A man with great practical experience, an authority on the best architectural methods using the best materials in the erection of modern high class buildings." The result of the Cole-Kinney synergy was eloquently described by Centerbrook Architect's Patrick McCauley, "...a brick and stone mason in another life." *Extreme Vernacular Brickwork*, appeared in the firm's blog, *The Millrace*:

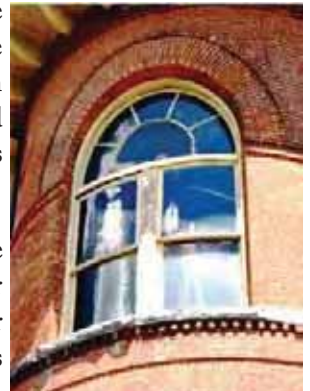
The town hall is a handsome Flat Iron building of the Romanesque Revival style, and was considered at the time to be quite avant-garde. The exterior is fashioned of common and local clay brick (probably from New Haven), which is accented with granite foundation, sills, and water tables that serve both structural and ornamental functions. The graceful beauty of the building is in its detailing, execution, and uncommon footprint.

Perfectly suited for its site, the three-story building projects stylish authority to the adjacent streets. The curving and arched entranceway and large window above must have presented quite a challenge to its craftsmen. The bricks that form the arches, for example, have to conform simultaneously to three distinct curvilinear planes, with each brick in the compound curved arch being different from its neighbors.

The bricklayer was flying solo, one brick at a time; unlike a carpenter or metal artisan, he couldn't plane or sand or hammer the imperfections into proper alignment after the fact.

Each brick was like a single-elimination playoff game: one and done. Where it was set, in time and space, is where it stayed. No doubt, the mason, or masons, had forms and molds to guide the process and to support the arch as it was being built. Ultimately though, this brickwork, particularly the complex arches, could only have been crafted with a remarkable level of pride, passion, and commitment to the trade.

Such craftsmanship, combined with a homogenous structural cladding system (masonry) and the flexible and waterproofing properties of lime-putty mortar, is responsible for the astonishing fact that the walls of the Deep River Town Hall have no cracks, gaps, or any other discernable flaws after (120) years. It was built for the ages.



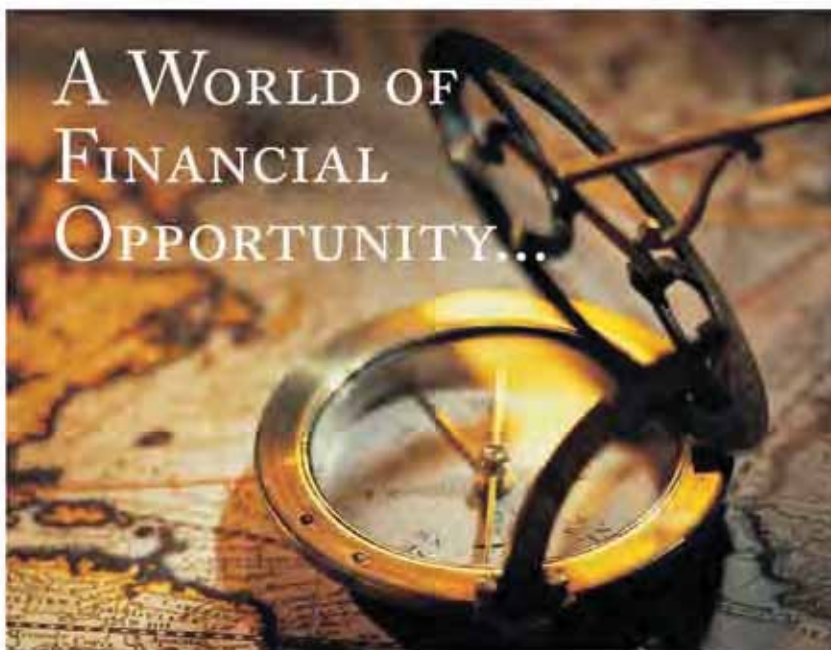


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