

How Free Parking Saved Main Street

Perhaps not exactly. There never had been parking meters in Deep River—curbside parking remained a perquisite of Deep River shoppers. As a marketing tool ("WOW! FREE PARKING!") the offer may have lured the occasional visitor from far away. However, there is little doubt that the shiny, multi-aisled, self-service FINAST Supermarket was the main attraction. It was the anchor for the half-dozen satellite tenants in the Deep River Plaza. More important, it brought customers to the dozens of entrepreneurships that filled storefronts from the traffic light to Bridge Street.

The year was 1957. Small town retail districts had traditionally provided life's basic needs, available in small, owner-operated shops—grocery, barber shop, hardware store, 5 & 10, drug store, clothing shop. But in the booming post World War II economy automobiles proliferated. Gasoline, rationed during war years, had become plentiful and cheap. Supermarkets, formerly viable only in urban centers with a concentrated pedestrian clientele, flocked to locate on inexpensive rural land. No more need to be in town—customers would drive to them. The attraction of one-stop shopping was a harbinger of mercantile decline for many a Main Street. Fortunately, not so Deep River. Was it the Free Parking?

Forays into the past routinely pose more questions than the answers they unearth. The circumstances that brought Deep River Plaza to the center of Deep River require research and the space to present it. Meanwhile, we have our photographs, aging memories and reminiscences. We can ponder the unknowable: what would Deep River be today if that 50s strip mall had found a home a mile or two to the north or south? Would Main Street have survived (and grown) as a retail destination? Or might it now be plain old State Highway 154, a corridor used by those en route from where they were to somewhere else?





The Photographs

<u>Opposite</u>: in this 1966 telephoto portrait, the tip of the Eagle triangle is in the foreground (*past the 30 MPH*, sign); the entrance to Dr. Samuels' dental office is to the right of the utility pole.

Behind FREE PARKING was Strick's Deep River Bakery. In 1970, when the Strick brothers retired, the space was leased by young Michael & Irene Price. Three years later, a fire in the third floor apartment doomed the building; it was razed. The Prices' moved to 158 Main Street, where Mike's Bakery's bread, especially the Squaw, doughnuts (the old-fashioned way) and pastries were the preferred calories of choice for nearly four decades. The Atlantic gas station (later Gulf) is best remembered as Zanni's, then Ken Beemer's Valley Garage.

Beyond the traffic light, change to Main Street's eclectic mix of architecture has been appropriately slow and comfortable, allowing us time to accept—sometimes even welcome—progress.

A key to the vintage cars, as compiled by Russ Calimari and his research organization, will in an upcoming issue.

This page: Names changed at dizzying speed. The Edwards brand was brief. Then, as Adams grew the directory shrank. Familiar names were consigned to history. Deep River Cleaners, Best's successor, found a new home in The Elms across the street; Shore Discount moved to its own larger quarters down the street. The pre-shopping center First National Store took just two-thirds of the space now used by The Great Wall and Quality Collectibles.

Signs of the Times— From the 50s to the 90s

Along with its emergence as an industrial powerhouse, Deep River developed the strong retail sector we continue to enjoy. In large part this has been due to geography and demography: we are the last major retail stop to the east, north and west.

The transition from old style grocery shopping (below, right) to modern supermarketing seems to have arrived in Deep River with excellent timing. For four decades, Deep River Plaza (more commonly known simply as "The Shopping Center"), and especially the Finast, continued to draw shoppers from Deep River and nearby towns.

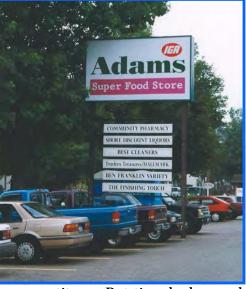
Main Street itself remained an attraction—many venerable smaller shops had become institutions, and the variety of goods available in a small town setting was becoming increasingly rare. Main Street Deep River had become, in a sense, an anachronism—but not a museum; a glimpse of the past in a contemporary setting.

Late in the 90s First National Stores, which had been founded and had prospered in New England, retrenched. For a short time it took the name of its new parent company, Edwards, before announcing that it would

be offering its locations to former competitors. But time had passed Deep River Plaza by. Though welcome in the 50s, its expanse of asphalt, unmitigated by landscaping, was no longer in vogue. From a market standpoint, the location was still excellent; the floor space, alas, was far too small to attract most other vendors.

Most, but not all—Adams, the retail arm of Bozzuto, Cheshire-based IGA distributor recognized the opportunity. In an agreement with Turnpike Properties, owners of the shopping center, Adams would expand, in stages, as space became available. Working with Town agencies, Turnpike developed the present parking and landscape design.















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Pub Everyday 11:30am-Close Late Night Menu Thur-Sat til 12:30am

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



Cover Photo by: Cathy Kehlenbach, Opening Day of Little League - Devitt Field

www.deepriverct.us

Selectman's News

Industrial Development Report

On January 8, 2014, the residents of Deep River approved the purchase of approximately four acres of industrial land from M&M, LLC. Due to limitations of access and zoning regulations, the property will be of greater value to the town than to a private buyer. Access has been via an easement, with use restricted to M&M and Teague Moyer, owner the easement property. The alternative, constructing a 300-foot connection to Industrial Park Road, had been investigated by a potential buyer, who concluded that building the road, which includes a wetlands crossing, would not be economically feasible for him. In addition, Deep River's zoning regulations limit private development of that parcel to a single building. Finally, an unexpected bonus: the engineering study commissioned by the prospective purchaser will represent a meaningful saving for the town.

So Why did the Town take this Step?

State Statutes provide that a town may exempt itself from certain zoning regulations, such as lot coverage and property line setbacks. The exemption must create positive benefits for the town as a whole, and must be in conformance with the town's Plan of Conservation & Development. Statutes notwithstanding, it is our policy to submit such proposals to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Their reviews confirm the overall benefits of the exemption.

Thus the town gains the maximum benefit from the space available. Building codes, and those regarding public health and safety, such as septic system requirements and potable water supply, apply equally to all entities, public and private.

After reviewing the property's potential, the Board of Selectmen calculated that from the Town's advantageous position, three buildings could be constructed, not just one.

One of our continuing successes has been Plattwood Industrial Park (P I P), part of land purchased by the Town in 1985 and divided to provide both recreation and revenue enhancement. From the single original building, P I P now offers nearly 100,000 square feet of industrial space. In my view, a town cannot have too much industrial development—as long as it is correctly located, de-

signed to be attractive as well as functional, and populated by the types of industries suitable to the character of our small town. The key? During my tenure the Board of Selectmen has always adhered to the policy of considering every option that offers the potential for expansion of commercial / industrial development. We have taken imaginative approaches, notably the two business incubator buildings in the P I P. Based on a concept promoted by Walter Mislick, who had the foresight to underwrite incubators in his Connecticut Valley industrial Park, our grant-funded buildings have encouraged new companies, providing employment and expanding our tax base.

When it is to the town's future advantage, we have offered tax abatements to attract new companies. Contractors with whom we have long-standing relationships have rendered their services to investors at the town's price. When appropriate we have provided investors certain town services. In some cases our cooperation has proved to be a deciding factor, convincing developers to locate in Deep River. Savings have also been applied by developers to extras such as additional landscaping, brick sidewalks and streetlamps.

Why the effort?

Deep River competes with other towns and other states, all vying for the same industrial / commercial investors. This is not simply theory—companies who have chosen Deep River have acknowledged that for the reasons stated, and due to the cooperation of all town agencies, they have found a comfortable home in our town.

Additional tax revenue is just one side of the equation. Workers are also customers who form the customer base for our retail shops and services. Retail success further strengthens local employment, while expanded retail opportunities attract shoppers from an expanding area. The greater the proportion of revenues generated by business, the less the burden on homeowners to sustain our excellent schools and to maintain our infrastructure.

A Different Approach

Unlike the Incubator project, in which the Town built and maintains the buildings and oversees the rentals, in this case the Town will not be involved in building construction or ownership. The developers who decide to

Selectman's News, cont.

locate on our property are mature businesses prepared to move from rented quarters to buildings of their own and will be privately funded. The advantage to the town is the increase in taxes, which will commence as soon as the buildings are completed, and the creation of new jobs.

We are very pleased that this venture has been made possible through a continuation of the grant program that began in 1997 when we built our first incubator building. As of April 25th, the cutoff date, the town has received six letters of interest in participating in this unique program. The Board of Selectmen will be charged with selecting three of the six, all of whom appear to be excellent prospects.

Excitement on Bridge Street

In 1999, Scott Goodspeed purchased the former UAR-CO Building at 12 Bridge Street as headquarters for his successful Tri Town Precision Plastics (TTPP). With plenty of room for expansion, the firm soon grew to more than 100 employees, working three shifts, manufacturing parts for firms in the medical, general industrial, aerospace, communications, automotive and defense industries. Their largest customer has come to be Smith & Wesson (S&W), the firearms manufacturer. Recently, S&W announced that they had concluded the purchase of TTPP, its facilities and assets, for \$22.8 million. Although the transaction did not include the building itself, S&W has leased the property for 10 years, and holds an option to buy the property outright.

With Scott to introduce us, in the company of Economic Development Commission members Ted MacKenzie and Peter Lewis, I met with S&W representatives Jeffrey D. Buchanan (Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer) and Anne Bruce (Vice President of Human Resources). They assured us of their intent to continue operations under the subsidiary's new name: Deep River Plastics.

Our purpose was to welcome the new owners and to assure them that a good relationship between Town and business is essential to both parties, and that it is our tradition to offer assistance whenever it is practical and proper to do so. This building, of 150,000 square feet, is a virtual industrial park under one roof. Based on that conversation, S&W is reviewing options regarding remaining available space. It is my hope that they expand

both their equipment and their employment, another plus for the town.

On behalf of the Town I thank Scott for being such a good corporate citizen. In addition to putting his newly acquired property back into use (it had been vacant for three years following UARCO's departure) and providing much-needed employment, Scott renovated the building's exterior, a reflection of his pride in his company and his respect for Deep River.

A Note About History

While we are on the subject of economic strength, I note that elsewhere in this issue two articles bear on past financial success: Rhonda Forristall's treatise on the famed, but mysterious XYZ, expounds on the reasons professional bank robbers chose our town in which to attempt their dastardly deeds. Jonathan Kastner's essay discusses more recent events along Main Street.

Infrastructure Projects

Six firms submitted bids for the proposed Kirtland / River Street sewer expansion. Unfortunately, none fell within the limits of funding awarded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and approved by Town Meeting. We are investigating the availability of increased USDA funding. An alternative would be to put part of the project on hold, pending future financing.

As important as it will be, the expansion itself offers the opportunity for us to simultaneously rebuild the affected town highways by reclaiming roadbeds and reconstructing the network of storm drains. In addition, we will repair or replace area sidewalks. Fulfilling a long-time dream of mine, we will complete the pedestrian link between Main Street and the Town Landing by closing gaps in the sidewalk east of River Lane.

An added bonus: the Connecticut Water Company has once again agreed to take advantage of the construction by replacing older water mains in the affected area, and, where possible, extending service to benefit additional properties.

We Can't Help You.....if we can't find you.

That time-worn phrase is the mantra of every emergency

Selectman's News, cont.

dispatching center. Deep River is fortunate to have many police, fire and ambulance personnel of long experience. They know many residents and their locations by rote, and may not need a house number to reach their destination; new generations, not yet in possession of such encyclopedic knowledge, will benefit from your help.

Back in 1988, to help responders reach their destinations timely, we took a big and important step: we completely renumbered our town. Even numbers were assigned to the right side of the street, odd numbers always on the left, with addresses assigned every 50 feet (roughly 200 numbers to the mile). It is a wonderful system—as long as house numbers are clearly posted. Please make sure that your number is visible from the road, preferably from both directions. Then, when you need us, we'll be sure to find you.

12 Bridge Street -- A Personal Connection

My gratitude to Scott Goodspeed, and my pleasure over the purchase of his company by Smith and Wesson, are not due simply to my position as First Selectman. Until 1989 I worked for the previous owner, the UARCO business forms company. Had I not been elected to office that year it is likely that I would have continued my career there—until 1997. That year, following a series of corporate acquisitions, the Deep River plant was closed.

In an instant, hundreds of careers—20, 30, 40 years or more— were ended. In that same instant Deep River lost its largest taxpayer. Through our State contacts we advocated as best we could to find jobs for those who found themselves suddenly unemployed. And for three years we sought a buyer for the property, a search that ended successfully with Tri Town Precision Plastics. Fond memories of past connections add a component of sentimentality as I follow the recovery of one of our economy's valuable assets. I still count many former coworkers among my friends. I thought you might like to know why I occasionally dwell on happenings that involve the big white factory building at 12 Bridge Street.

What A Great Town

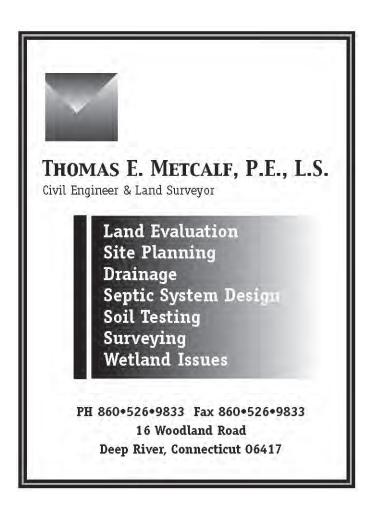
I was reminded today of how much a simple "Hello" or "Thank You" can mean, when a young couple, recently married and fairly new to Deep River, stopped in to thank me for what I consider a routine bit of helpful-

ness. It was not a courageous act, nor was it onerous or time consuming. It was simply what I do. But their thoughtfulness, the time they took from their busy day, was touching (thanks Kerri and Eric, for the chocolate).

I have been active in public service for more than 40 years, the past 25 as your First Selectman. It has been (and continues to be) a wonderful ride. As I have written many times, Deep River, in my eyes, has a special character, as evidenced by its spirit of volunteerism, friendly "Hellos" as we pass on the sidewalk, and the expressions of appreciation for the projects we undertake and the services we provide.

I always appreciate such gestures, though they are seldom a surprise. This is Deep River, after all. How could life be otherwise? In closing, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I wish you all a safe and happy summer.

Dick Smith, 1st Selectman





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Town Clerk's Office

Welcome New Residents & Property Owners

92 Main Street, #230	12/12/2013
24 Essex Street	12/16/2013
132 Union Street	12/17/2013
94 Shailer Pond Road	12/17/2013
92 Main Street, #419	12/18/2013
308 West Elm Street	12/26/2013
116 Union Street	12/27/2013
129 Union Street	01/10/2014
78 River Road	01/21/2014
85 Bokum Road	01/28/2014
47 Acorn Road	01/29/2014
132 Bushy Hill Road	03/06/2014
Union Street	03/26/2014
8 Melody Ridge Road	03/26/2014
65 High Street	04/02/2014
16 Fox Run Road	04/03/2014
	24 Essex Street 132 Union Street 94 Shailer Pond Road 92 Main Street, #419 308 West Elm Street 116 Union Street 129 Union Street 78 River Road 85 Bokum Road 47 Acorn Road 132 Bushy Hill Road Union Street 8 Melody Ridge Road 65 High Street

Marriages

Justin P. Waz & Nicole E. Larson	12/20/2013
Bryan C. Brandt & Courtney C. Joy	12/28/2013
Zachary P. Ribera & Jennifer M. Leeman	03/22/2014

New Trade Name Filings

Jerilyn C. Nucci	Hairy Barkers Canine Activity Center	12/19/2013
Hugh Albright	Deep River Plowing, LLC	01/10/2014
Channan E. Merrill	Evolve, LLC / Razz Salon	01/27/2014
Hennessy Aspilaire	Hennessy Trucking	03/14/2014
Trystal R. Kovatis	TinkerInk Workshop	03/24/2014
Donald Dimugno	Chippendale House	03/26/2014
Teri Parrish	Parrish Photography	03/28/2014

Board and Commission Vacancies

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

Local Boards and Commissions

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

Regional Agencies

Agent for the Elderly CATV Advisory Council District V Long Island Sound Council Region II Regional Mental Health Board

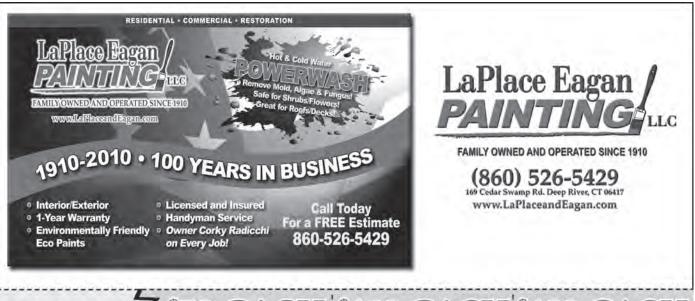
Town Clerk's Office, cont.

Passings

Vern W. Wehr	5 Tower Hill Lake Road	12/10/2013
Margaret A. Rohner	131 Rattling Valley Road	12/26/2013
Patricia C. Strange	391 Main Street	01/02/2014
Karen A. Faraci	349 Winthrop Road	01/10/2014
Giampiero P. Mazzoni	272 Main Street	01/12/2014
Stanley Klim	60 Main Street	01/20/2014
Richard D. Chapman	92 Main Street	01/23/2014
Della Moore	22 Anderson Lane	01/29/2014
Mark A. Wyzkowski	92 West Bridge Street	02/03/2014
Thomas J. Griffin	198 Main Street	02/11/2014
Anne E. Duplessis	174 West Bridge Street	02/28/2014
Michael J. Heroy	435 Winthrop Road	03/13/2014
Dorothy Z. Stopa	54 Bokum Road	03/26/2014

Town Clerk Hours: Beginning in May the Town Clerk's office closes at noon on Fridays. The office will continue to stay open until 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays to accommodate those who can't come in during the day.

Dog License: Did you receive your Dog License reminder postcard in the mail! All dogs were due to be licensed during the month of June. A late fee will now be imposed.



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Deep River Ambulance Association

Welcome, Summer! Deep River Ambulance crew held its annual elections in January, and our officers are Jennifer Kollmer (Chief of Service), Jim Guerrera (Deputy Chief) and Betsy Macmillan (Secretary). We are pleased to have welcomed the following new members over the last several months: John Ely (EMR), Charlie Schroeder (EMR) and Sandy Stroeter (EMT), as well as probationary members Amy Albright, Kaile Janetatos, James Pash and Zach Skalandunas, all of whom are enrolled in local EMT courses.

The Board of Directors held its annual meeting and elections in March, and our officers are James Lanouette (President), James Beardsley (Vice President), Tara Bouchard (Secretary) and Tania Crosby (Treasurer). If you're interested helping Deep River Ambulance without becoming medically certified, please consider volunteering on our Board – we have several open positions.

In February we hosted our winter Red Cross Blood Drive, and we are extremely grateful to all donors who came out to give despite the snowstorm! We collected 47 units of blood despite the weather. A special thanks to Eli Dube and Mike Tomlinson who helped shovel the parking lot while John Dube and Bob Jenkins plowed us out – we definitely weren't prepared for the snow we got that day! This summer we'll be hosting the Valley Regional HS blood drive on July 26th, and the Ambulance's next blood drive will be on August 26th – we hope you'll stop by to donate.

Special thanks to the Deep River Fire Department members who have continued to help us with lift assists when we need them – we can't always do this alone, and we're grateful for their support!

Please remember that our hall and kitchen facility is available for use (with a minimal donation.) If you're interesting in holding an event at our facility, please contact our scheduler, Tara Bouchard, at 860-526-4666.

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

Jen Kollmer, Chief of Service

Deep River Assessor's Office

There are many programs available to the residents of Deep River. Visit the Deep River website at www.deep-riverct.us for a listing under the Assessor's section for all programs. Please note the application dates and dead-lines for some of the programs available in the Assessor's Office.

Homeowners Program – The Elderly and Totally Disable Homeowners Program filing period began February 1, 2014 and ended May 15, 2014. In order to qualify for this program you must have reached the age of 65 years or older by December 30, 2013 or totally disabled and meet state mandated income requirements.

Renters Rebate - The Elderly and Totally Disabled Renters Program filing period began April 1, 2014 and ends October 15, 2014. In order to qualify for this program you must have reached the age of 65 years or older by December 30, 2013 or totally disabled and meet state mandated income requirements.

Veteran's Program - Additional tax relief is available for Veteran's who qualify based on their income, residency and service dates. October 1, 2014 is the deadline to file your application for the 2014 Grand List. The maximum income is \$34,100 for single applicants and \$41,600 for married applicants. October 1, 2014 is also the deadline for Honorably discharged Veterans to file their DD214 papers with the Town Clerk to be eligible for an exemption based on residency and service dates for the 2014 Grand List.

Rental Property Owners – Annual Income & Expense report was due by June 2, 2014. In order to fairly assess your real property, information regarding the property income and expenses is required. Please do not confuse this document with the Personal Property Declaration you file each autumn, this is a separate item, which must be filed in addition to the Personal Property Declaration





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Deep River Board of Selectmen / Deep River Planning & Zoning

Registrar of Voters

The role of the registrars of voters has continued to evolve with new statutes that have been introduced. There are several more that are slated for legislative approval.

Same day registration, electronic election night results reporting and on line registration are now operational. Still to be approved are: "No excuse needed" ballots, early voting and electronic poll books.

We are continuing to attend conferences and classes to learn more about these new initiatives. Look for notices of a Primary for State & District offices to be held on August 12, 2014. November 4th will be the date for the election of the Governor as well as State & District offices.

Many thanks go out to the many men & women who work in several capacities at the polls. They perform an invaluable service.

Any questions or concerns-please call 860-526-6059, 860-526-9213 or the Town Clerk @ 860-526-6024

Lorraine Ballsieper/Joanne Grabek -- Registrars



Deep River Garden Club

Spring took its time arriving but it was a welcomed feeling when it finally did. Everyone had long awaited the fresh air of spring and the joy of seeing the earth renew. Summer always holds the promise of warmth and for the garden club, a chance to work in the dirt and find different ways to beautify Deep River.



We celebrated Earth Day with our first fund-raiser of the year with beautiful baskets of violas and pansies offered to the residents at our

stand outside of the town hall. As always we are appreciative of any support we do receive from the town residents and it gives us additional revenue to complete some of our projects.

Our goal is to also reward a yearly scholarship to a qualifying graduating senior from Valley Regional High School that plans on continuing in some branch of agriculture or related studies. Those applications are available in the guidance department of the school. Our efforts will show again at the Veteran's Memorial Green as we do plantings for Memorial Day activities. Our daffodils continue to be found in several places in Deep River and we add to the numbers every fall when we plant them and anticipate them blossoming in April. The Deep River residences have shown support by purchasing them at our bulb sale in the fall.

We have lots of plans for the growing season and with our new members that have joined us this year, we hope the vitality will show in town. Pet projects planned are some new work at the Town Landing around the gazebo, library plantings, maintenance of the triangular sections at the green and making additions to Plattwood Park and Devitt Field.

We welcome anyone that would like to come and see what we are all about. Our usual meetings are held at the Ambulance Headquarters, 284 West Elm Street on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. No obli-

gation to join by just coming and attending a meeting. Several times during the year we will hold our meetings at various places in town. Also day trips are planned for members that would like to participate. Even if you do not feel you have a green thumb, there are many ways that you could help in our activities. We are all learning and have fun along the way. Come check us out!

Sue Wisner, Club Secretary





Deep River Historical Society

Afternoon Tea at The Carriage House

The Deep River Historical Society was blessed by the generosity of its benefactor Ada Southworth Munson, when in 1946 she donated her home and its contents to the Society. Ada loved to have people over for tea. It was our great pleasure to host this first annual tea in her honor.

Surrounded by Ada's tea service, Olive Shumway's tea cup collection, and tea cups and unique tea pots on loan to us from our volunteers, fresh flowers and pretty baskets participants enjoyed their tea and cakes while being entertained by the guest speaker. Betty Johnson of the Bigelow Tea Company, based in Fairfield, CT, spoke about the history of the Bigelow Company and the many uses of tea. This was complimented with some personal anecdotes by Mr. Ogden Bigelow of Essex, who had spent some time with Ruth Bigelow, founder of the company.

The Deep River Historical Society wishes to thank everyone who contributed to the success of their first Tea. This was a group effort from members and non-members, who baked and made sandwiches, and to others who created the gorgeous raffle baskets.

We are grateful for the support of the community, Chaos, Halley Jo's, Deep River Design, Ashleigh's Garden, The First Congregational Church of Deep River and the Deep River Ambulance Association for their help with this special day. All proceeds will go directly into the Archival Fund for the protection and preservation of Deep River's treasures.

Animal Control

Money Saving Tips

Unlicensed Dog	\$75.00 fine
Roaming Dogs	\$92.00 fine
0 0	\$15.00
Impound fees	\$15.00 a day
Poop scoop	\$50.00 fine
Unvaccinated	\$136.00 fine
Pick up fees Impound fees Poop scoop	\$15.00 \$15.00 a day \$50.00 fine

My coupons are in the form of a citation or ticket can not be redeemed in a store.

Total savings of \$368.00 instead of giving this money to the state, which is not tax deductible as a write off, you could use it towards a vacation.

Enjoy your summer and let your pets do the same.

I know you like to be cool on hot summer days, and so don't your pets. Don't leave your pets in your car in the summer, as the heat builds up very fast.

If I am called and I can't find you fast I may have to break your car window to save your pet. This will also cost you money to have your car window repaired. I am legally allowed to save your pet and charge you with cruelty to animals. The cruelty fine is extremely heavy and could cause you time in jail.

Bob Jenkins, Animal Control Officer



American Legion Post 61

Some of our members participated on April 19th, in the Kids'Walk, in Deep River, which benefits the Children's Medical Center, in Hartford. Auxiliary President Lillian Beardsley and her father American Legion Commander Jim Beardsley were in charge.

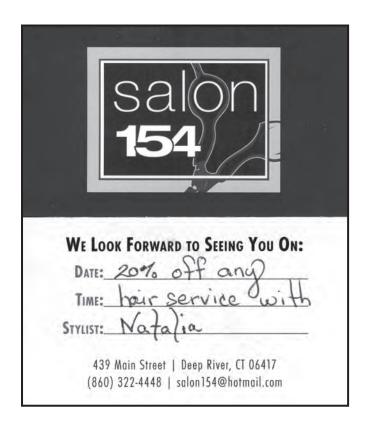
May 19th our members attended the American Legion's lovely ceremony at the Deep River Library, honoring Phoebe Petrovic, a Valley Regional student. Phoebe won the Post 61, 7th District, and State Oratorical Contests and went on to the National Contest in Indianapolis.

Mary Hope Gardner of Deep River was sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 61 to attend the Laurel Girls State from June 28th through July 3rd. Laurel Girls State is a one week hands on seminar in government for young women, assisted by state and local officials. This program reaches out to young women who have just completed their Junior year in high school who are willing to learn how government works to better our nation.

If you are interested in more information, about what the Auxiliary does, please contact Lillian Beardsley at 860-391-5346 or Gail Breslin at 860-663-0322. Our meetings are held monthly, September through June at the home of Grace Stalsburg.

Patriotically yours Virginia Buracchi, Chaplain/Junior Vice President American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 61











75 Years of Marriage



Fred and Julia McPherson celebrated 75 years of marriage

with family and friends on Sunday, April 13th at the Carriage House in Deep River, CT. Fred, 104 years old, was born in Essex, CT and Julia, 98 years old, was born in New York City. They met in Deep River and were married in St. Joseph's Church in Chester in 1939 and have lived in Winthrop, in the same home, for the last 75 years. They have one son, Patrick, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Fred is an avid dog lover and was the keeper of the original Rin Tin Tin. He served in the US Army and was stationed in Panama. He worked for the Deep River New Era Press for 36 years until retirement. Julia graduated from Deep River High School and traveled to and from school in the mule drawn school bus which is now on display at the Deep River Historical Society. Julia worked for many years at the Verplex Company in Essex and also at Whelen Engineering where she retired.



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Chester/Deep River Boy Scout Troop 13



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

A Busy Year for Troop 13:

You have probably seen the Boy Scouts of Troop 13 at several functions since September. Maybe it was helping to park cars at the Lobsterfest, moving books for the Deep River Library Sale, splitting and stacking wood at Camp Hazen for the campers to use for summer campfires, helping at the district wide Pinewood Derby. Perhaps you enjoyed a hot dog or cotton candy at the Chester Carnivale; maybe you found a treasure at the Troop 13 tag sale.

The boys of Troop 13 have also been actively camping and enjoying the outdoors as well. They have camped as a troop and worked on earning merit badges in cooking, fishing and search and rescue. The troop attended the three district camporees with the themes of Survivor, Orienteering and the always popular Klondike Derby. Scouts from Troop 13 have also attended the Merit Badge Madness and STEM Merit Badge Days. You also might have seen them as they loaded into mini vans for their trip to Washington DC over the Martin Luther King weekend. The boys have certainly had a busy year of fun and learning leadership skills.

June Court of Honor:

Troop 13 held their June Court of Honor at the Camp Hazen Pavilion on June 4, 2014. 100 merit badges were earned by the boys since February 2014.

The following boys earned Rank Advancements.

Life Scout: Matthew O'Keefe

Star: Dean Kollmer

First Class: Alec Hoehnebart, Jared Hart, Drake Pe-

terson and Samuel Rutty

Second Class: Kenny Peterson and Edward Lenz Tenderfoot: Sean Davis and Gavin Hauswith

Scout: Axel Johnson

Gold Eagle Palm: Gregory Merola, awarded for remaining active in the troop and earning 10 merit badges after earning the Rank of Eagle Scout.

Eagle Court of Honor Ceremonies were also held for Eagle Scout Bill Brown and Dillon Eriksson.

A large number of Scouts will attend a Camping and Bicycling trip on Block Island, RI in June.

In July, Troop 13 attended June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT for Summer Camp. The boys enjoyed swimming, boating, archery, rifle & shotgun shooting, sports, and camping.



A crew of 12 Boy Scouts from Troop 13 along with Assistant Scout Masters Alex Toles and Rich Dalterio will be heading to Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM this summer to hike in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of the Rocky Mountains. We all wish them well and look forward to hearing of their adventures.

Information:

To learn more information about joining Troop 13 please contact our Scoutmaster, Steven Merola @ 860-526-9262

Deep River Merchants

The Deep River Merchants are just as excited as everyone else that summer has arrived! We look forward to seeing our friends and neighbors out and about and encourage anyone who owns a business in town to consider joining our fun group! It is just \$50 annually and your membership is valued not only by our already active group, but also by the residents of Deep River. Our dues help to fund wonderful events like Family Day and the beautiful decorating of the lamp posts at the holidays! We also contribute to local charities as a group both collectively with our dues money and also individually as businesses - through raffle donations, gift certificates, team sponsorships, etc...A strong commercial base is one of the signs of a strong community and we have so many great companies and small shops here in town! Another perk of membership is free publicity on our merchant website and our Facebook page. These are wonderful forums to share information about your business and any events you might be having not only with your town, but also with people curious to learn more about Deep River. Please check us out on-line at DeepRiverMerchants.com and Like us on Facebook! To join or learn more please contact Sage Novak at Anchor & Compass - 860-322-4327 or sage@anchorandcompass.com.



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Connecticut River Area Health District

CRAHD offers some facts about Skin Cancer

Did you know that skin cancer is the most common cancer in the US? That's right! We often hear more about other cancers such as lung, colon, breast cancer in women, and prostate cancer in men, but skin cancer is by far most common at over 3.5 million new cases per year. Ironically, skin cancer may also be the most preventable and treatable cancer.

There are 3 basic types of skin cancer:

- 1. Basal cell
- 2. Squamous cell
- 3. Melanoma

The first two types, basal and squamous cell, are caused by over-exposure to ultraviolet rays from the sun. They are non-melanoma type cancers and are normally not as invasive as melanoma. Subsequently, they are easier to treat than melanoma. These cancers usually develop in sun exposed areas of the body, such as the head, face, ears, lips, neck and back of hands. If treated late, these cancers may cause significant scarring and disfigurement, and even loss of function.

Melanomas are the more serious type of skin cancer. It develops in cells, called melanocytes, which contribute to our skin color. (Benign growths of melanocytes cause non-cancerous moles.) Melanomas can occur anywhere on the body, and may grow and expand aggressively. Unchecked, melanomas can cause serious conditions and may lead to death.

Risk factors for melanomas include unprotected exposure to the sun's UV radiation, pale skin complexion, skin with a large number of moles, history of severe sunburn, and occupations which require excessive amounts of time in the sun.

There are simple steps we could take to prevent skin cancers from occurring and prevent them from becoming a serious condition if they do occur.

- 1. Avoid long exposure to the sun
- 2. Have regular skin exams, both self- exams, and by your doctor, to discover problems early. A key to any self exam is to detect any changes in your moles, blemishes, freckles, and other marks on your skin.

Any change should be brought to the attention of your physician and examined.

3. Practice the ABCDE skin rule:

A= Asymmetry (one half of a mole or birthmark does not match the other)

B= Boarder(edges are irregular, ragged, notched, or blurred)

C=Color (the color is not the same all over)

D=Diameter (the spot is larger than 6 ml across-about ¼ Inch, the size of a pencil eraser)

E= Evolving (changes in the mole over variable time, weeks, months) Also E is for having suspicious spots Evaluated by a Doctor!

Practice Sun Safety!

- 1. Avoid sun when it is most intense, between 10AM and 4PM.
- 2. Seek shade
- 3. Avoid sun burns
- 4. Cover up with protective clothing as much as possible, wear hats, sunglasses
- 5. Use a BROAD SPECTRUM sunscreen (broad spectrum protects all harmful UV radiation)
- 6. Apply sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher daily, and at least 30 for extended outdoor times
- 7. Avoid other sources of UV light, such as tanning beds and lamps
- 8. Practice these methods even on cloudy or overcast days

CRAHD (Connecticut River Area Health District) is your local health dept. in Deep River, Clinton, and Old Saybrook. CRAHD offers skin cancer education to groups. If interested, call Sherry at 860-661-3300.



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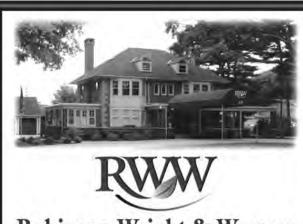
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Dry Pants Model Yacht Club

An Open Invitation to Try Sailing With Us



Model sailboats are raced throughout the world. In the USA alone, there are 32 classes of boats and hundreds of model clubs. In the case of DPMYC, our primary boat

is the CR-914--- an extremely competitive 36" boat.. Members of our Club also sail other classes ranging from 24" long to 8 ½ feet long. None of the boats have motors!!

Throughout the year, we have a lot of folks stop and watch the boats racing at Plattwood Park pond.. We welcome bystanders to give sailing a try as it's an addictive hobby once you start. Just ask one of us and we will be happy to coach you...There is always great camaraderie among the sailors as well as great competition. Age and skill levels cover the gamut of life experiences.

When someone expresses an interest in sailing, members of the Club can help the newcomer find a used boat, build a new one, and learn how to improve their racing skills. Used boats are usually available and are not expensive. It takes very little time to make any boat truly competitive.

The DPMYC is a very active Club that likes to participate in other club regattas...Members of the Club have already sailed in the Fort Lauderdale Mid Winter regatta. During the summer months, we will be sailing at Larchmont Yacht Club, the Marblehead Model Yacht Club and others. In addition, we host the very popular New England Spring Regatta in May of each year.

The local Club sails every Sunday from 1000-noon and Thursday evenings while there is good light. For additional information, visit our website www. DPMYC or call Jim Godsman: 860-767-5052.

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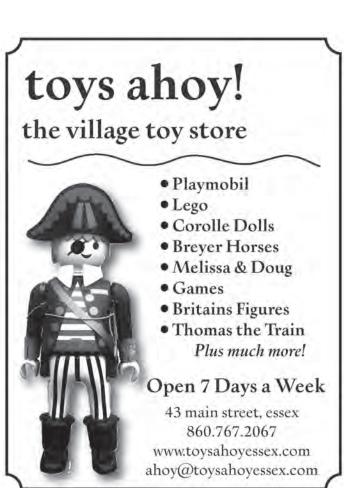
> Dr. Matthew E. Elgart eyeboss@comcast.net

Old Saybrook 1156 Boston Post Road Old Saybrook, CT 06475 (860) 388-2020

Deep River 1 High Street Deep River, CT 06417 (860) 526-3937

Guilford 770 Boston Post Road 705 Village Walk Guilford, CT 06437 (203) 458-2020





Deep River Rotary Club

The Deep River Rotary Club was recently honored at the annual Rotary District 7980 Conference held at the Mystic Marriott on May 2. The club was singled out for its vitality and service as a small club with great heart. Hundreds of Rotarians from throughout the Southern Connecticut district attended.

The Club meets each Tuesday noon at the Ivory Pub in Deep River. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The cost of lunch is \$12. Most meetings welcome speakers, civic leaders, and special programs of interest to our community. The Club has hosted a variety of interesting speakers at these weekly meetings. Chester resident and author David Hays read from his manuscript which is awaiting publication and talked about his life in the theatre. He had just been inducted into the New York Theatre Hall of Fame at a gala hosted by the NY Theatre Critics Association. Cynthia Matthew of the Saybrook Counseling Center talked about the healing power of quieting one's mind and learning the skill of "mindfulness." Mary Boone of Essex talked about the upcoming Child and Family Services fashion show at Essex Meadows, which will provide funds for needy youngsters to attend day care programs and help promote an after-school program for disadvantaged kids in New London. Kyung Pak and Younhee Shin, from New York, came in traditional Korean dress and talked about the culture and history of Korea, offering samples of Korean desserts as well.



The Club honors a Valley Regional High School student each month for their exceptional leadership and accomplishments. These students are nomi-

nated by a faculty member and are invited to attend a club meeting, receive a certificate and gift card in recognition of their achievement. A book is also donated to the Deep River Public Library in their name. This Spring the Club honored Claire Madden (nominated by English teacher Peg Meehan), Andrew Goering (nominated by music teacher Laura Hilton), and Bobby Hamblett (nominated by math teacher Kathleen Berg-

man). Sam Jones and Zach Robertson (nominated by french teacher Kate Wheat)

One of the Club's major fundraisers of the year was held on Saturday, March 22, at the Congregational Church. A great Antiques and Collectibles Auction, conducted by Quality Collectibles of Deep River, raised nearly \$2100 for the club's outreach. Club member Chuck



Hedge, an antique dealer himself, coordinated this extremely successful effort.

The Club also had fun. We celebrated Valentine's Day with a gala party at Griswold Point in Old Lyme, and dressed as royalty at a gala "Longest Table" event hosted by the Chester Rotary Club at St. Joseph's parish center in Chester in early April.



The Rotary Club year ends in June, and it will be marked by a wonderful picnic at Griswold Point in Old Lyme, at which we will honor a Deep River resident as our "Citizen of the Year." We will also

introduce a new slate of officers for the 2014-15 year. They include Desiree Richardell (President); Stacia Libby (President-Elect); Jill Merola (Treasurer); Tim Haut (Secretary); and Kevin Brewer (Sergeant-at-Arms).

The Club is already making plans for its Fourth Annual Oktoberfest Celebration, to be held Saturday, Sept. 27, with German music, a variety of food, Oktoberfest beer, a silent auc-



tion, and great activities including a bratwurst eating contest and a German Chocolate cake eating contest. Tickets will be available soon for only \$10 apiece, so plan on joining us!

Deep River Public Library

Thank you Valley Regional High School for our beautiful library shelves!



Monthly Library Newsletter:

Our monthly newsletter contains library events, programs, and news for

children, teens, and adults. You can pick one up at the library or download it from our website.

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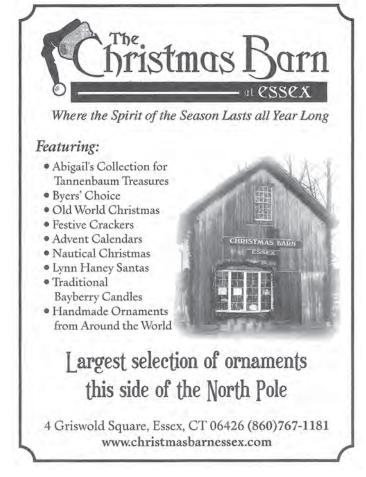
Seed Lending Library

We've thought of a good way to use our old card catalog!

Deep River Library is starting a seed catalog. We want to collect and share bio-diverse, locally-adapted plant seeds, cultivated by and for area residents. If you are interested in helping us get started, please stop in or give us a call at 860-526-6039.



Shamrock the Stallion:
Visit the children's room and hangout with our newest friend, Shamrock the Stallion!
Wells Fargo in Old Saybrook recently donated Shamrock to the library.



8th Annual Tip-A-Teacher

Another Great Success!

On the evening of April 29th, 23 staff members from Deep River Elementary School, along with the staff of Oliver's Tavern, participated in the 8th Annual Tip-A-Teacher event. This year, the event was held to benefit The Deep River Food Pantry and The Wounded Warrior Project. Deep River Elementary teachers and staff assisted the restaurant staff by waitressing, bussing tables, and even making balloon animals!! The Tip-A-Teacher tips, along with proceeds from a raffle, will be donated directly to The Deep River Food Pantry and The Wounded Warrior Project.



I would like to give special thanks to the management and staff of Oliver's Tavern for hosting this event, as well as the following members of the Deep River Elementary School for donating their time to make this event such a success: Sandra Meinsen, Karen Srsic, Kelly Gordon,

Kathy Kalapos, Nancy Haslam, Brie Malone, Jill Shakun, Angie Kingston, Karen Macaione, Angela Fachini, Laura Kasprow, Caitlyn Hardy, Peggy Caffrey, Jackie Meislitzer, Katie Vreeland, Jennifer Nimms, Allison Vicino, Karen Liberatore, Pat Maikowski, Marilyn Malcarne, Diana Carfi and Lisa Tenbrunsel

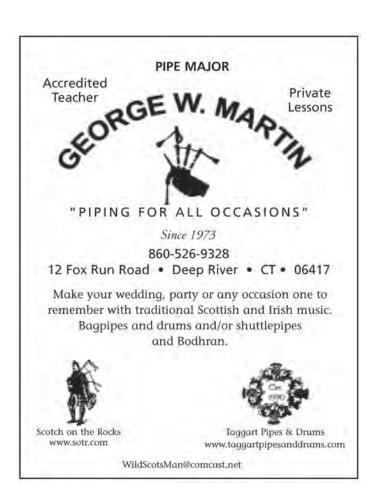
I would also like to recognize the following businesses and individuals who generously donated gift certificates and merchandise for the raffle that was held: The New Britain Rock Cats, ESPN, Marquee Cinema, Celebrations, Deep River Pizza, Deep River Sweet Shoppe, Westbrook Dairy Queen, Centerbrook Pizza, A Style Above, Oliver's Tavern, Anchor & Compass, Jammin' With Jeff, Jewelry by Robin Whaley, Old Saybrook Lanes, Linda Vaneck, The Good Tee Company, The Essex Police Union, Adams Supermarket, Jewelry by Laurie Pash, Ashleigh's Garden, Chaos, The Pet's Choice, Jewelry by Laura Kasprow, Gather, Otto Restaurant, Rustica Ristorante,

Peg Schaedler, The Dance Corner, Dough On Main, Salon 154 and the Beauty Barn.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the patrons and Deep River families who came out that evening and enjoyed some great food and fun!! You were all so generous with your donations for The Deep River Food Pantry and The Wounded Warrior Project. At the end of the night, the event raised over \$2,000.00!

I would again like to thank everyone involved in making Tip-A-Teacher such a success, and proving, once again, what a wonderful and giving community Deep River is.

Karen Liberatore Grade 4 Teacher Deep River Elementary School



Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley

Faith and Health: A Nurse in the Church?

Why does a nurse belong in a church? Women have been nursing in the church since the early days of church history. Deaconesses such as Phoebe and Fabiola cared for the sick and the poor. Religious orders of women showed God's love by caring for the sick in monasteries. This rich history of compassionate care led German Lutheran Pastor, Theodor Fleidner, to start the Kaiserwerth Institute for the Training of deaconess nurses. The nurses were called "Parish Nurses" and Florence Nightingale was one of the most notable students. Feeling called to service through nursing, Nightingale combined the roots of Christian care with high professional standards. Nightingale viewed God as goodness, wisdom and love and reflected this belief through nursing care.

Parish Nursing is now called Faith Community Nursing to reflect the growth in many faith traditions. The practice of Faith Community Nursing has grown from a church based clinic in Chicago to an international specialty nursing practice recognized by the American Nurses Association.

Faith Community Nurses check blood pressures, give seminars on health related topics, and assist with navigating the healthcare system according to the values and traditions of the faith community. The skills of observation, listening and "being present" are at the heart of nursing care. Many FCN's find this part of the ministry the most valuable. The FCN provides compassionate, professional care for the whole person.

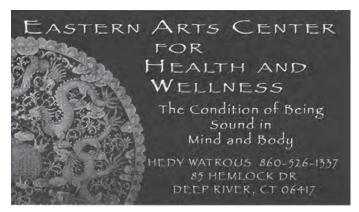
Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley has been serving the shoreline community since 1920. As a community supported, nonprofit organization we provide compassionate, professional, licensed and supportive home care services of the highest quality to people of the Lower Valley. We recognize the needs of the community.

Spiritual leaders of all faiths are often closely involved with individuals and families who struggle to care for loved ones or manage difficult healthcare issues. The aging of the population, and the complexities of healthcare, have increased the need for supportive home care. VNLV would like to extend a helping hand to assist you, and your congregants with your healthcare needs through home health services and health related programs.

To support the faith community effort to care for people in need, Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley has the Faith

Community Nurse available to Shoreline religious communities for health education programs, advocacy, blood pressure screening, and referral. Contact Deborah Ringen, RN, MSN, Faith Community Nurse at (860) 767-0186 for further information.

About Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, Inc. is a not-for-profit, Medicare and Medicaid home health care organization serving Deep River, Essex, Chester and the Lower Valley region. Please check their website (www.visitingnurses. org) or call (860) 767-0186 for service information.





RUN for Chris

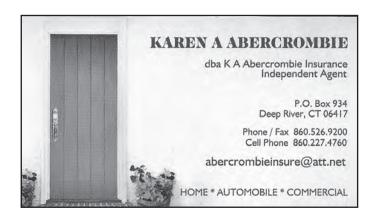


The 3rd Annual RUN for CHRIS 5K Challenge was on Saturday, June 21, 2014, in Essex, CT. Chris was a 2005 graduate of VRHS and received his Bachelor's in History and Chinese from WVU. Chris appreciated educational

opportunities that introduced him to new places, including his time spent in China. He believed everyone should have similar opportunities to expand their own horizons. In his memory, the Chris Belfoure Memorial Fund keeps his dreams and aspirations alive by helping high school students in our area expand their horizons internationally. His fund has been established at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County (CFMC). This fund serves as a catalyst toward integrating multicultural experiences and learning foreign languages into the schools of the Lower Valley of the Middlesex County.



This year a grant was given to VRHS for their trip abroad to France and Spain, where the students lived with families and attended their schools.



Fountain Hill Cemetery

The Fountain Hill Cemetery Association would like to thank all who donated to the window-replacement phase of the Wooster Chapel restoration project. We are half way there, with only six large windows and four small windows left to have your name or the name of someone you wish to be memorialized, placed on a plaque under the window in the main auditorium. Confident that funds will continue to come in, the installation of the leaded-glass and storm windows has been completed. These replace the plastic inserts that have been there for decades.



The Board of Directors would like to thank Gary Elliott for donating his time and expertise in creating the templates for our new leaded-glass windows and also for installing them. His efforts are very much appreciated and the results are beautiful. We hope everyone will stop by to see the finished windows.

While we have come a long way in our fundraising efforts, there is still much to do and many ways for people to contribute to the chapel restoration. New trim around the front door will complete the exterior of the building project. In the main auditorium, electrical wiring and lighting fixtures need to be updated. Also, heat will be very nice if this coming winter is anything like the last.

All donations are tax deductible. Checks can be made out to Fountain Hill Cemetery Chapel Restoration and sent to Fountain Hill Cemetery, P. O. Box 263, Deep River, CT 06417. If you would like more information, you may contact Mark Lowrey at 860.526.4259.

Plots are available throughout the cemetery and the newly opened Pet Cemetery.



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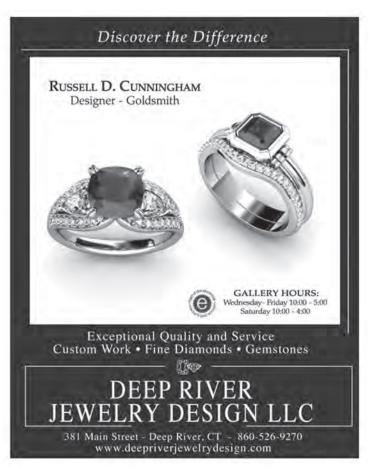


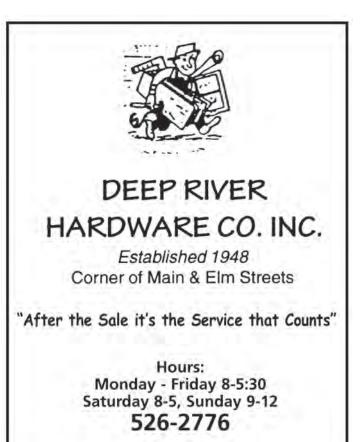
The Growing Garden Center 860-767-0126

"The Growing Garden Center"; A motto we have tried to keep true over the past 72 years.

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Deep River Meetings on Television & Online

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.

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

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

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

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

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



Deep River Parks & Recreation

Deep River Parks and Recreation is busy this summer. The summer concert series has begun so has our swimming lessons, summer basketball league and summer camp.

The concert series will continue for nine consecutive Thursday evenings into August. Come down and enjoy some lovely music while visiting with family and friends. The concerts begin at 6:30 pm and conclude typically at 8:30 pm. Area restaurants are on hand to provide food, so pack up the blanket and chairs and head down to enjoy this summer tradition. The concerts are as follows:

July 17th – 'Old Lyme Town Band', food by Pizzeria DaVinci; concert on The Stonehouse Lawn. July 24th –'Jim Shepley Band', food by Dough on Main; concert at the Town Green. July 31st – 'Meadow Brothers', food by The Whistle Stop; concert at the Town Landing. August 7th – 'Shiny Lapel Trio', food by All Fired Up Barbeque: concert at Plattwood Park. August 14th – 'Shore Grass', food by The Ivory Restaurant: concert at the Town Landing. August 21st – 'UHF', food by Pizzeria Davinci; concert at Plattwood Park. Past concerts were June 26th- 'Big 6', food by Deep River Pizza; concert at the Town Green. July 3th- 'Brad and Brian', food by Simon's Marketplace; concert at the Town Landing. July 10th-'Blues on the Rocks', food by Imperial Shows Treats; concert at the Town Green.

Parks and Recreation has sponsored several bus trips this spring with three more trips planned this summer and fall. On Wednesday July 23rd, join us as we travel to the beautiful Berkshires in Western Massachusetts to visit the Berkshire Botanical garden, The Norman Rockwell Museum and visit downtown Stockbridge. On July 20th, will again travel to Boston to catch the 2013 World Series Champion Red Sox take on the Royals from Kansas City. Looking ahead, on September 25th, a Region 4 school holiday, we are offering a bus trip to the Bronx Zoo. Register on line by following the links on the town of Deep River web site. Space is limited, so don't delay! Please support these trips so that we can continue to offer them at cost to all participants.

Our recent bus trips were well attended and enjoyed by so many. We travelled to New York to see a Yankees game and it was "Old Timers Day" at Yankee Stadium so our group got to cheer for Whitey Ford, Yogi Berra and a host of other former Yankee legends. Another recent trip took a group of 38 enthusiastic folks to Broadway where they attended the Tony award winning show, "Once". On May 18th, a bus full of baseball fans headed to Boston, Massachusetts to see historic Fenway Park as the Red Sox battled the Detroit Tigers. It was a night game and was broadcast as the "game of the week"

Deep River Parks and Recreation offers a six week summer camp for youth entering first grade through to those entering 7th grade. We are excited to welcome two new camp directors this summer, Ms. Mary- Elizabeth Massey and Ms. Lauren Barker. They bring years of experience as well as enthusiasm to our annual summer camp! The camp runs weekly, Monday-Friday, from June 23rd through August 1st. The camp consists of a morning session that runs from 9:00 am -12:00 pm (with the exception of field trip days when the camp runs longer) and afternoon session and a full day option! Each week the camp has a different theme and a fabulous field trip as well as in-house entertainment. Field trips this year are to the Submarine Force Museum at the Submarine Base in Groton, Fun squared laser tag, BounceU in Branford, Safari Golf, Beardsley Zoo and to the movie theater in Westbrook. Limited space remains so call the Parks and Recreation office today at 860-526-6036 to register.

Again, this year, the Commission is sponsoring the 'Misfit Cruisers' Cruise night at Plattwood Park. Weather permitting, every Tuesday from May 13th through September 9, 2014 starting at 5 pm you can come enjoy some antique, classic and unique cars as they gather at one of the Town's most popular parks. Food will be available for purchase, so plan on coming down for dinner and enjoy the trip down memory lane.

In mid-June, the 19th through the 21st, the sixth annual Deep River carnival came to town! As in years past, we had a wonderful turnout as many local families came down to enjoy a wild ride, some cotton candy, tried their hand at a game of chance and enjoyed some great music. Mark your calendars for next year and come on out for a fun time!

With the arrival of August, will come our popular 'movies on the beach' series. Spend an afternoon at Plattwood

Deep River Parks & Recreation, cont.

Park swimming, playing some basketball or picnicking and then stay for a movie! Or just come down to Plattwood park and enjoy a free family movie on Friday nights. All movies are either rated 'G' or 'PG'. The movie schedule is as follows: August 1st – "Curious George"; August 8th – "The Smurfs"; August 15th-Double Feature- "Free Willy" and "Jurassic Park". Snacks will be available to purchase. If it's raining, head to the Town Hall auditorium.

Save the date for the Deep River Family Day when the 20th annual 5K road race/walk will take place. New this year is on line registration! Check out the race page at http://raceroster.com/events/2014/2312/20th-annual-deep-river-5k. The event will begin at 8:30 am at Devitt Field and the day concludes with the spectacular fireworks display, sponsored by Hanes Materials and Whelen Engineering at Plattwood Park. Mark your calendars!

Looking back at spring, it was a busy one for the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Our basketball season wrapped up in Mid-March. We had over 220 youth participating in the program this year! It is always wonderful to see so many spectators enjoying the games as well. I know the kids enjoyed it! This year, we had the privilege to hold the majority of our practices at not only Deep River Elementary School but also at the gymnasium at The Academy of Mount Saint John located on Kirtland Street. The gym is bright and freshly painted and the players and coaches received a warm welcome. A big thanks to Mr. Lee Farland of MSJ as well as Kathy White and Chuck Carlson who worked closely with us to allow us to be there. With so many youth participating in the program it is always a challenge to find adequate gym space. Thank you also to the Chester and Essex Elementary School s as well as John Winthrop Middle School who scheduled not only team practices but games at their facilities. The season wrapped up for the grades 7-12 teams with an end of season tournament. Congratulations to all who participated, it was a fun two days of basketball! Two teams were crowned champs and were awarded the Valley Cup, to be held by the winning team until next year when a new champ is crowned! The winning team from the NCAA level, grades 7-9 was our Red shirted Hoosiers Team. The team coaches were Matt LaCasse and John Gagnon. The championship team from the NBA

level, grades 10-12, was our red shirted Houston Rockets team coached by John Rannestad.

The basketball program is not possible without the time commitment of so many volunteers who help with the coaching, refereeing, and scoring of the games. A big thank you to all who gave of their time, and talents to make the season possible. Tracy Woodcock, who is the Parks and Recreation basketball chairperson, alone does the job of three people and puts his heart and soul and love (and extreme knowledge) of the game into 100's of long hours, to make the program possible. Please give her all the deserved kudos. So to all you volunteers out there, rest up...we would love to have you come back to help out again!



On Saturday, April 5th, the annual Easter egg hunt was held at Devitt field. It was a glorious sunny day and hundreds of children came out, baskets or bags in hand, to gather up the

thousands of colorful eggs. The Easter bunny made an appearance as he arrived by fire truck to the delight of the youngsters on hand. A 'golden ticket' was hidden amongst the eggs in each age category and was found by three excited youngsters. The winners of the Easter baskets were Max Rogan, grade pre-K-K; Lucas Rogers, grade 1-3; and Emma King, grade 4-6. The commission had help stuffing and scattering the eggs this year from a group of enthusiastic young adults who were in town as part of the AmeriCorps. The group spends 10 months travelling around their assigned region of the US performing work for non-profit groups. They were staying at the Incarnation Center and reached out to our community to offer help. They said that they thoroughly enjoyed helping out and watching the smiles on the young children's faces as they gathered up the colorful eggs and met the Easter Bunny. Once again, we would like to thank the Deep River Fire Department and our bunny, Jacob Kateley for making the day extra special.

Deep River Parks and Recreation recently held the 29th Annual Sonny Stebbins Fishing Derby at Plattwood Park in Deep River. The derby is named in loving memory of

Deep River Parks & Recreation, cont.

the native Deep River resident who enjoyed fishing and who enjoyed the town and its beautiful parks; it is open to Deep River residents aged 5-15. The derby is grateful for the support of two local businesses; Adams Super Stores and Deep River Hardware.

Dozens of local youth turned out to try their angler skills at catching a prized trout. Overall winner for the biggest rainbow trout, measuring 16 inches, went to: Race Greenawalt, Age 9. Besides winning a new fishing pole and tackle box, donated by Deep River Hardware, Race's name will be engraved on the Fishing Derby Plaque located at Deep River Elementary School.

Prizes were awarded for largest catch of the day and in three separate age categories as follows:

AGES 12-15 YEARS OLD WINNERS:

1st Prize – Tim Bouchard, Age 12
2nd Prize- Nicole Grief, Age 12
3rd prize- David Uphold, Age 14
13 inch trout
Other participants in the 12-15 age group included:
Jake Ramage, Dan Hearn, Daniel Smith, Stirling Spakowski, Allie Champion

AGES 9-11 YEARS OLD

WINNERS:

1st Prize- Jack Whittaker, Age 9 13 ¾ inch trout 2nd Prize- Nathan Lenz, Age 11 13 5/8 inch trout 3rd Prize -Michael Raymond, Age 11 12 ½ inch trout No third prize winner

Other participants in the 9-11 age group included:

Elizabeth Tulledge

AGES 5-8 YEARS OLD

WINNERS:

1ST Prize- Joanna Petrone, Age 7 13 5/8 inch trout

2nd Prize-None

3rd Prize- None

Other participants in the 5-8 age group included:

Dylan Brown.

The 8- hour boating and personal watercraft safety certification course was offered to local residents on Sunday, April 6th. The course was attended by 15 area residents.

More information about these and other programs/ events can be found on the Town web site. Or please call 860-526-6036 to reach the Parks and Recreation office.





(Ages 9-17 June 27-Through July 13, 2014)

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Benefits of Rest & Recovery after Exercise

The warm weather is finally here and to many people this means exercise levels increase. Whether it is training for a formal event, having more time to exercise outside or the desire for a beach body, many people increase their training programs during the warm weather months. Although it is wonderful to see groups of people running, biking and enjoying exercise, in the fitness business it is not uncommon to see injuries increase due to over-training-- training too aggressively without recovery, during these cherished warm months. Most professional athletes know that getting enough rest after exercise is essential to high-level performance, but the average person may not realize that rest and recovery is an essential component of exercise. Regardless of time of year, people should be mindful of over-training. Many athletes over-train and then feel guilty when they take a day off. It is important to understand that body repairs and strengthens itself in the time between workouts, and continuous training can actually weaken even the strongest athletes.

Why is recovery needed? Rest is physically necessary so that the muscles can repair, rebuild and strengthen. This is also the time for soft tissue (muscles, tendons, ligaments) repair and the removal of chemicals that build up as a result of cell activity during exercise. Exercise or any other physical work causes changes in the body such as muscle tissue breakdown and the depletion of energy stores (muscle glycogen) as well as fluid loss. Recovery time allows these stores to be replenished and allows tissue repair to occur. Without sufficient time to repair and replenish, the body will continue to breakdown from intensive exercise. Signs of overtraining- or not resting enough, can include a feeling of general malaise, staleness, depression, decreased sports performance and increased risk of injury, among others.

The Principle of Adaptation states that when we undergo the stress of physical exercise, our body adapts and becomes more efficient. It's just like learning any new skill; at first it's difficult, but over time it becomes second-nature. Once you adapt to a given stress, you require additional stress to continue to make progress. However, there are limits to how much stress the body can tolerate before it breaks down and risks injury. Doing too much work too quickly will result in injury or muscle damage, but doing too little, too slowly will not result in any improvement. This is why it is important to plan workouts that increase time and intensity at a planned rate and allow rest days throughout the program. When working out athletes need to realize that

the greater the training intensity and effort, the greater the need for planned recovery. Monitoring your workouts with a training log, and paying attention to how your body feels and how motivated you are is extremely helpful in determining your recovery needs and modifying your training program accordingly.

The key to successful training with positive results is to balance exercise with rest and recovery. Below are some tip more effective recovery:

- Crosstrain http://sportsmedicine.about.com/cs/ conditioning/a/aa111800a.htm with a completely different activity such as yoga, stretching, or going for a walk on your day off
- Get adequate sleep
- Eat properly for your workouts: http://sportsmedicine.about.com/od/sportsnutrition/a/SportsNutrition. htmgetting enough of the right calories for your training intensity and your individual requirements
- Eat properly after your workout to help your body repair
- Keep hydrated- especially in the heat!

Enjoy the warm weather, get out and move and train smart!

Stacy Meisner
Co- Owner Squared Circle Studio
Certified AFAA Personal Trainer/Instructor

Sources:

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Adios, dear Deep River!



Well, Friends, it's time for me to say goodbye to the town I have come to love. I never thought this day would come. Never wanted it to come. I have been happy here. Fifteen years ago, I chose Deep River as my retirement community—chose it deliberately!

It's a strange story: I had my whole career in Massachusetts. Then, just

retired, I came here to CT for a program at Incarnation Center in Ivoryton.

Well, surprise. I became the director of its wonderful Elderhostel program. Another surprise—I put in eight good years there. And that's how I discovered Deep River.

I caught the town at the right moment. Just as it was coming out of a long slump. I sensed it was about to flower. How right I was.

Within a few days I bought a condo at Piano Works—yes, the one that's my home now. It has been just perfect for me.

Then I applied to join the town Rotary Club. Rotary had long appealed to me but I was too busy. What a happy day that was when they swore me in.

I made friends in the club. And I became involved in one big project after another. Rotary Clubs always finds ways to serve their community.

A big one for us was creating Keyboard Park with beautiful Gazebo and Fountain. Another was launching our annual Patriotic Fourth Fiesta on Independence Day there at Keyboard Park.

Another was buying the Elephant Statue for the Town Hall. Gosh, that was a big expense for us. Now, like everybody else, we love it.

Here's a nice memory. At one Deep River Family Day we blew up and handed out balloons to kids, but through the elephant's trunk! What fun that was.

I admit we had a second motive. You see, the elephant is really a water fountain. We wanted to show everybody that its plumbing was still working just fine.

Another big day was when we re-dedicated the Observation Deck that looks over the Connecticut at the foot of Kirtland Street. It's our Rotary Club that made that deck possible years ago. We had a fife and drum corps, speeches, then a parade to the Town Hall,

Know what? All those projects became a reality because of the cooperation of the Town and the big help of First Selectman Dick Smith!

Yes, Deep River Rotary was wonderful. Oh, another great thing happened to me here. I had been a journalist on a big newspaper. Here I found fresh outlets for that passion of my younger days. And I'm still writing and publishing ... though right now I've taken a pause to get ready for my big move to California.

Many times over the years, I've heard the call, "Go West, Young Man!" Well, finally I'm saying yes to that. But for sure there will be tears in my eyes on that day. And I won't be so young!

John Guy LaPlante



Darn! I have to sell my Condo at Piano Works!

It's a beauty! One of the best here. 10 reasons why. Yes, 10.

I'm 85 now. My daughter Monique in California wants me close by. I've said I'm coming!

My condo is on 2 floors. Has 2 BDRMS (one is a mini APT). 2 baths. Very nice Living Room. Great Kitchen & Dining Area. A wonderful "Office." Loads of storage space. So many good features. Come see. No obligation.

One thing you should know: our Condo Association also offers many amenities!

At one time I had a big house in the country. I got smart and went condo. That saved me lots of money. Opened me up to a much nicer lifestyle.

Piano Works could be smart for you, too.

The price is right. And at the Closing, I will give you CASH BACK. Yes, I will!





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Jonathan Kastner And now, the story of

X Y Z

December 13, 1899. It hardly equates to that other date we know so well, December 7, 1941. Yet, 115 years later, we are we still talking and wondering about a man we hardly know. What is the mystique surrounding XYZ? And why is his story set in this particular small town?

The Deep River of 1899 was markedly different from the village we know today. Our official name was Saybrook, and we were considered the industrial center of the original land grant, which consisted of the area now comprised of Old Saybrook, Essex, Westbrook, Deep River and Chester. The Deep River New Era dated August 25, 1899 describes us as "a prosperous, progressive community, and one in which the people take great pride. Its business men are active and wide awake, and its factories are running full time."

It was predicted that by early 1900 our population would reach 1,600, a gain of 25 per cent in just 40 years. This was a happening place. Life was good. People had jobs; because employment was high, the middle class was moving up. Pianos graced most living rooms, not only here, but across America.

A small town, if defined in terms of area and population, perhaps, but an economic powerhouse. Our factories (and the many hundreds they employed), combined with Main Street's lively commercial



The day shift of Pratt, Read & Company takes a portrait break. With a payroll of nearly 200, the firm was Deep River's largest employer.



Pratt Read's operations could be best appreciated from the vantage point of Spring Hill, looking southward. It covered the full block between Bridge and Spring Streets, and west a third the way to Union Street, their domain encompassed more than six acres,

block, easily supported two successful banks. The Deep River National Bank, organized in June of 1849 in George Read's parlor, was 50 years old at the time of this story. Back in July of 1854 the stockholders had voted to increase their capital to \$150,000. By 1879, cramped for space, Deep River National built the handsome Victorian just a few hundred yards south on Main Street.

Incorporated in 1851, the Deep River Savings Bank had conducted business from Smedley Snow's store for 28 years. It happily moved into the building vacated by the National Bank. By August 1899 the bank's deposits totaled \$1,473,469.30! Small town or not, Deep River was a wealthy community.

The previous January, bank President Asa Shailer had received a letter from the American Bankers Association. Its disquieting news, quoting intelligence sources, was that a band of burglars was being assembled for the express purpose of robbing banks in Connecticut. The letter read, "Your bank and the Deep River National Bank are mentioned as institutions upon which attack is contemplated."

For Asa, the letter stirred unpleasant memories of professional burglars' previous attempts. That both had been aimed at the National Bank did not allay Shailler's concerns. The first had been a quarter century earlier. Then, the explosives employed to breech the vault had been so muffled that the attempt was undiscovered until the bank opened the following morning. Quiet notwithstanding, the blast had virtually destroyed the vault, but despite their expertise, the perpetrators were unable to penetrate the wreckage—when workers assessed the damage they found nothing missing. Whomever and however many had participated, they had

entered, tried, failed and departed—undetected. The Jimmie Hope burglary took place just four years later, aimed again at the National Bank. It is believed that Jimmie and his gang of three worked for an hour to open the safe, but the bolts became jammed and they were forced to employ more violent methods. In that case the considerable noise of the blast aroused several families in the area; the thieves were spotted as they beat a hasty retreat.



The Deep River National Bank was designed as an imposing Victorian statement of success, wealth and solidity. Although shorn of its dormered roof, much of the original building survives, largely hidden by later additions. Fortunately, the classic arched windows continue to grace the rear of what is today the Liberty Bank.

Witnessing the getaway from his across the street, Mr. Harris grabbed his revolver, pulled on a pair of rubber boots and threw his coat over his shoulders. Pursuit was somewhat delayed by Mrs. Harris, who called him back to pull on his trousers.

Despite Mr. Harris' faux pas, Jimmie Hope was caught and bound over to Superior Court, where he was held for a considerable time in the Haddam jail. But the only evidence against him were his past robberies, the burglar tools in his possession and the testimony of the proprietor of the depot restaurant at Old Saybrook. According to the restaurateur, Mr. Hope had taken his meals there for several days prior to the attempted robbery. The court found the evidence and testimony insufficient for a conviction. Jimmie was released, apparently not a bit chastened.

Several years later (and 3,000 miles to the west), Mr. Hope was interrupted during an attempt to break into a California bank. Caught red-handed, he was sentenced to a jail term from which he would not survive. Taking a positive view, Jimmie Hope's imprisonment and subsequent death provided him a perfect alibi. He was removed from the list of possible suspects behind this new threat.

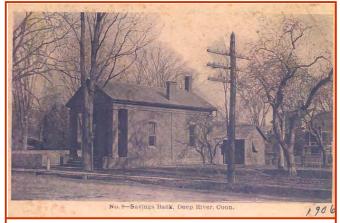
Despite the fact that there had not been an attempted bank robbery in Deep River in twenty-one years, Asa Shailer took the warning seriously: he called the Sav-



Harry Tyler was known as a careful dresser. Here he is smartly attired in (*possibly*) his U.S. Post Office uniform.

ings Bank's Directors into emergency session, during which they voted to hire, for the first time in the institution's 48 year history, a night watchman. To ensure that the guard would be properly armed, Shailer undertook a journey to the Winchester Firearms Corporation in New Haven. He returned with the latest model Winchester 97 shotgun, a weapon reportedly capable of dispatching two assailants with a single blast.

The man hired to fill the role of night watchman was Harry Tyler, age 31. A Deep River man, Tyler had a reputation for cool courage under fire, earned two years earlier, when he had captured an afterhours intruder in L'Hommedieu's store. Harry was currently engaged in rebuilding his houseboat, but in mid-winter, the prospect of inside employment led him to conclude that boat repair could be just as well accomplished in gentler weather. Guarding a bank might pose greater danger, but he would be under the protection of Asa Shailer's Winchester.



Sturdy and unadorned, the National Bank's original quarters conveyed just the image of thrift that suited savings bank's depositors.

In February, another letter came, with news even more unsettling: "Burglars are contemplating an attack on a bank in Deep River when the moon has waned and the nights have grown darker," a very melodramatic statement, even for Victorian times. Harry Tyler and his Winchester were ready. But nothing happened. Spring came, then summer. Still no evidence to support the grim forecast.

The un-shuttered windows of the plain, rectangular brick Deep River Savings Bank faced north, south, and onto Main Street. Lights were kept burning at all times, in both the counting room and at the entrance to the vault. The Directors' room was at the rear, the view from the outside blocked by blinds. But Harry had a clear view of Main Street in all directions.

About twenty rods (5.5 yards x 20 =110 yards) to the north of the bank was the home of William B. Stevens. Stevens' watchdog, who spent nights outside, was inclined to bark with little provocation. For Harry's purposes the dog's sensitivity to threats, real or imagined, was made to order; any bark could mean danger, and Harry diligently followed each canine alarm with a visual check of the surroundings. False alarms were fine with him. And so it went, bark after bark, night after night.

Until December 13th, at just after one a.m., when Stevens' watchdog barked again. It had been fully ten months since the latest warning had arrived, ten months of bogus barks and empty streets. The letter had predicted that any attack would be launched on a moonless night. Yet through the north window, fully illuminated by a full moon whose light was scarcely dimmed by a light winter fog, Harry spied four men. They walked single file, heading south from the corner of High and Main. His first thought was that it must be a prank thought up by some of the town's young fellows. But Harry did not relax. Positioning himself so that he commanded a view in all directions, he kept a wary watch on their movements.

One of the men climbed the front steps and peered through the window. Within moments, another was at the south window of the very room in which Harry stood. Then, from the north window, the sounds of tools—two of the intruders were working toward prying open the sash. While the man clos-



William Mitchell's successful Livery & Stable

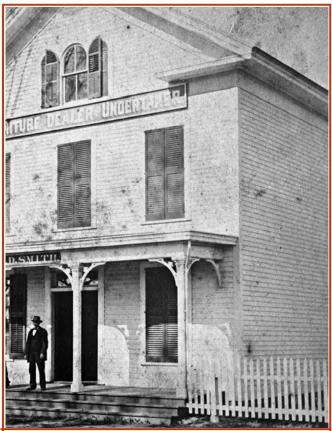
est to the building used both hands, his partner worked with just his left. A revolver occupied his right hand. Harry was surrounded.

Any thought of prankish youth had been quickly dispelled. This was no joke. Stepping back about eight feet Tyler fired the Winchester. The 97 was a riot gun. It held six cartridges, each filled with peasized zinc balls. It was meant to be lethal. Having fired once, Harry quickly moved to safety, out of line of return fire. But no shots came. The scratching of tools against wood had ceased. Absolute stillness. After about ten minutes Harry cautiously approached the window.

One man was lying on the ground motionless. Of his accomplices there was no sign. Nor was there any indication that help was on the way. The roar of the Winchester, insulated by the thick brick bank walls, seemed not to have disturbed neighbors' sleep. But Harry needed backup, and after a suitable period of caution, he crossed the floor to the bank's telephone, a trip that rendered him briefly visible from the outside. Evidently no one was abroad to see him.

Telephone service was not new to Deep River, and most businesses had subscribed, but in the middle of the night there was no one on the premises to answer. The operator tried several numbers before the phone bell aroused William Mitchell, a hotel and livery keeper. Mr. Mitchell set out immediately to spread the word, but it was fully an hour before a group had gathered at Henry Wooster's house, just across Main Street from the bank. Jittery, they set out across the street, ready to shoot at any appearance of strangers.

Harry, in the meantime, had crawled outside on his stomach, his gun at the ready, should any of the



Mr. Smith (*might that be he posed stolidly on the porch?*) was the proprietor of the furniture store, and served as the town undertaker, prior to the time of XYZ. Smith was succeeded by Simon LaPlace. By the time of XYZ, Simon's son, George, was in charge.

robbers have remained in hiding. The search began on the north side of building, where the body of the slain bandit lay, under the bank window just as he had fallen: arms thrown up, one knee slightly drawn up. The charge from the shotgun had struck his left eye and killed him instantly. Beneath him was a loaded revolver; in his pockets a number of revolver cartridges.

As more help trickled in, the alarm went out in every direction, in hope that some trace of the three remaining bandits might yet turn up. Tyler felt that surely he must have wounded another; the two at the north window had been standing so close. But no trace of the others was ever discovered.

Harry Tyler said that he would be hard put to describe his feelings as the incident escalated from possible prank to multi-pronged assault, the ominous scraping of metal tools against the wood of the window frame. It had been four against one, with the telephone, his sole link to reinforcements, frustratingly out of reach.

The body was taken to William G. LaPlace's undertaking rooms. Over the next several days it was viewed by a large number of people, the merely curious, but also many who hoped to see a familiar face. The dead man was short, just five feet four, aged about 30, with dark curly hair and a mustache. He had worn a dark suit, the coat and vest of one style, but trousers of a different pattern. On the neck of his shirt was written the name "Rogers," a clue that lead nowhere. There was no other identification; he remains, simply, XYZ.

In his pocket he carried a copy of the Springfield *Republican* of December 3rd, an A.B.C. Pathfinder guide to railroad schedules, with corners turned on pages listing schedules between Springfield—Hartford and the Valley Division. Also in his possession were a dollar bill, two dimes, a Waltham silver watch with gold plated chain, six Morse twist steel drills, a safety fuse, dynamite cartridges and a soap preparation for tamping explosives fuse.

Back at the Bank, still wedged between sill and sash, were two new 18-inch carpenter's chisels. It is ironic that these very tools were later identified as the property of Harry Tyler. Prior to what was to have been their night's main act of thievery, the robbers made a side trip to the Connecticut River, to visit Harry's boathouse. There they had burgled the tools to aid in their skullduggery. One successful break-in, one disastrous failure.

Also found was a receipt for a new style money order, Issued by the Springfield, Massachusetts, post office, dated December 4, 1899. The purchaser was listed as P. E. King, Worcester, Massachusetts, and made payable to T. J. Farley, 144 Broadway, Albany, New York. Farley, a bartender in a criminals' hangout in Albany called the "Skates," told police that he knew King, who was also familiar to the Albany police on suspicion of having robbed a brewery in nearby Amsterdam the previous fall.

According to Farley, King had been a brakeman on the Boston and Albany Railroad until October of that year, when he quit his job, and that King had come in one night and ordered drinks. When he said his good-bys, he added "I'll come back richer or I won't come back at all." Police could not locate P. E. King in Worcester, and found that he was not listed in the city directory.

In October 1947 an article in the *New Era* by Edwin Kent asserted that detectives had eventually found reason to believe that the dead man was Frank Howard, alias Frank Ellis, alias Tom Howard, a desperate criminal who, in 1889, had robbed a Bellaire, Michigan hardware store at gun point, shooting one man before being captured. However, further investigation never conclusively identified the bandit—not as King, nor Howard nor someone else.

A Pinkerton detective raced up from New York City to view the body. "He is nobody that we want," he said, and promptly returned home. The identity of

the other three conspirators was never learned. Several tips were called into police but they led nowhere. "Dr. Webb, of Madison, reported that his



man Willard saw two men in a top buggy, the top turned down, driving west, running their horse, which was all in a foam, about 5:30 this morning."

Charles Hopkins Clark, editor of The Courant, played a small part as well. He wrote to bank officials: "I have a call from a well-known farmer of East Glastonbury, who thinks that one of the gang of burglars is at work on his farm. The man came along the morning after the affair, very tired, and asked if he could join a number of men digging for pipes on the place. He is about 44 years old and slight of build. He wore a black derby hat and a brown check suit and carried a jockey cap. He claimed to have walked from South Windsor that morning where he had been working for a farmer. The editor had not followed up that clue to see if he was there. The farmer said the man claimed his home was in Hudson and that his name is Bady but some might call him Brady. Apparently he knew about the robbery in Deep River, for when The Courant came with a picture of the dead man, Brady said he was in no hurry to see it."

Coroner Davis conducted an inquest into the death of the burglar on Wednesday afternoon. A jury of six of Deep River's well known business men was impaneled to hear the testimony of Harry Tyler. The members, George T. Spencer, J. B. Banning, John G. Edmonds, Charles A. Kirtland, Charles M.

Thomas and Charlton M. Pratt, promptly returned a verdict of justifiable homicide, having determined that the watchman did his duty and that the dead man had been a professional. Harry Tyler, still a hero, received a \$500.00 reward for his actions.

This story received a great deal of attention in newspapers from Boston to New York. Letters poured in, praising the bank's effective security system and the courage of Harry Tyler. One letter stood out from the rest. Unsigned, and thought to have been written in a woman's hand, the letter requested that the grave be marked with the simple inscription "XYZ." The postmark was illegible. The origin of the letter could not be traced.

The Board of Directors of the Fountain Hill Cemetery Association donated a grave site. After the inquest the body was moved to the cemetery's burial vault. The following spring it was transported in an ordinary business wagon from the vault to a grave site on the side of a hill overlooking the Connecticut River. In the procession were three men and two women. Harry Tyler himself honored the anonymous request, fashioning a simple wooden marker into which he carved the letters "XYZ."

In around 1950, cemetery workers found a leftover piece of grave monument, incised the letters "XYZ," and replaced the original wooden marker.

Harry Tyler went back to work. He was deeply interested in the affairs of the town and of the welfare of his friends. Gradually the attempted robbery ceased to be the lead topic of everyday conversation. Until, that is, December 13, 1900, the anniversary of the event. On that day a woman dressed completely in black stepped off the train at the Deep River depot. She walked to Fountain Hill Cemetery, left flowers on the grave of the bank robber, then returned to the railroad station and departed. No one inquired as to her identity. No one inquired about her connection to XYZ. No one disturbed her obvious grief.

"The Lady in Black" became her own legend, arriving every year on the anniversary of the death of XYZ, always by train. There were reports that she was willing to talk to fellow train passengers and to people she encountered during her walk to and from the cemetery, but that she never did reveal her name. There is another version. Former resi-



In 1960, when the Fire Department moved from the corner of River and High Streets to its new headquarters on Union Street, their former home was repurposed as the Ambulance Barn. Four decades later, when the Ambulance Association relocated to West Elm Street, the venerable building began its third career: Fire Department Museum. The second floor had been home to Tri Town Youth Services during the agency's early years. Since the TTYS outgrew the space, and moved down the street to brand new offices, the upstairs has served as rehearsal hall for the Deep River Senior Drum Corps.

dent Henry Stocek, who is writing a fictionalized account of the XYZ affair, believes otherwise. Henry says that during the 1920s, in a chance meeting at the cemetery, she is said to have divulged her identity to Simon LaPlace, Ansel Adams and Reg Comstock, and that the name she gave was Eleanor Rogers.

"Rogers," you may recall, was the very name that had been found written on the collar of the shirt in which XYZ met his end.

But back to our story: beyond the fame that XYZ had earned him, Harry was best known for his abiding kindness to children and animals. At home he maintained a small bird sanctuary, and spent many hours feeding the birds and wild animals. It seemed that Harry never left home without his basket, which he filled with flowers, treats for his bird and animal friends and candies. The children called him "Lollipop Man."

Harry, a charter member of the Fire Department, was elected Fire Chief in 1901, 1902 and 1906. In 1904 he had the distinction of receiving Deep River's first appointment as rural mail carrier. For many years he was employed by the sign painting division of the Connecticut Highway Department, and also worked at several local stores. From time to time life-threatening letters arrived, all as un-

traceable as the request for a marker for XYZ's grave. Undeterred, Harry returned as the bank's night watchman, but whether due to increasingly sophisticated alarm systems or the legendary prowess of the man himself, neither Harry nor the Winchester 97 were again called to duty.

In 1937 Harry's wife died. Both daughters entreated him to make his home with one or the other. Harry chose to remain at home on Rogers Lane, where he continued to live his life, but with an added note of caution. The letters eventually stopped, but their author—perhaps one of the three who go away—might yet seek to avenge their slain comrade. Against that possibility, the basket he so unfailingly carried gained a dual purpose: the animal treats, flowers and lollipops now also served as a disguise: at the bottom of the basket, carefully concealed, was Harry's revolver.

On Thursday, March 1, 1944, Harry Tyler died at home, in his bed. He was 76. According to a newspaper account, he had retired the night before in apparent good health. At ten the next morning his neighbor, Mrs. Eric Anderson, noticed that his window shades remained uncharacteristically drawn. Sensing something amiss, she phoned Harry's daughter, Mrs. James Ott of Chester, who alerted the family physician, Dr. Callander.

The cause of death was termed a heart attack. Since retiring as Savings Bank watchman the year before, Harry had been treated for a heart condition. His obituary described Harry Tyler as having a sunny and cheerful disposition, with always a pleasant word of greeting for all. His passing was deeply felt by his large circle of friends.

Epilogue

Our fascination with the legend has far outlived our story's characters. XYZ's simple gravestone continues to attract offerings of flowers and coins—it is the most frequently visited in the cemetery.

So why is it that we all know the story of the bandit XYZ, yet are so unfamiliar with our hero, Harry Tyler? My story ends here—it is Henry Stocek's turn. I spoke with Henry recently—his opus is almost complete, and he is planning a visit to Deep River, his birthplace. We anxiously await the opportunity to read his book—autographed, of course.

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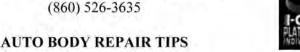
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Board & Commission Meetings

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 Miezejeski

Community Health Committee

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

Deep River Elementary School Board of Education

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

Design Advisory Board

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

Deep River Town Hall Auditorium Management Committee

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

Board of Finance

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

Board of Fire Commissioners

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

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

Parks & Recreation Commission

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

Planning & Zoning Commission

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

Regional 4 Board of Education

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

Board of Selectmen

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

Water Pollution Control Authority

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

Zoning Board of Appeals

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

Chairperson: Don Grohs

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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447 S. Main Street, Deep River CT. Exit 4 off of RT.9 Left at the bottom **Selectman's Office**

174 Main Street 860-526-6020 selectman@deepriverct.us Mon.-Fri. 8am – 4pm

Assessor's Office

174 Main Street 860-526-6029 assessor@deepriverct.us Mon.-Wed. 9am-4pm, Thurs. 9am-6:30pm, Fri. 9am-12pm, Closed every day 12pm-1pm

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

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

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

Index of Services & Facilities

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 drsocialservices@deepriverct.us Tuesdays, 9am-1pm, Thursdays,1pm-4pm and by appointment

Transfer Station

220 Winthrop Road 860-526-6047 Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun. 8am-4pm

Visiting Nurses of Lower Valley

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Regional District #4 Superintendents Office

1 Winthrop Road 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

1 Winthrop Road 860-526-9546 www.reg4.k12.ct.us

Valley Regional High School 256 Kelsey Hill Road 860-526-5328 www.reg4.k12.ct.us

Public Library

150 Main Street 860-526-6039 apaietta@att.net Mon. 1-8, Wed. 12:30pm-8pm, Tues., Thur, Fri. 10am-6pm, Sat. 10am-5pm, Jul. & Aug. 10am-2pm

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) info@deepriverfd.com

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 ttysb@aol.com

Deep River Post Office

225 Main Street 860-526-5970

Connecticut River Area Health District

445 Boston Post Road, Suite 7 Old Saybrook, CT 06475 860-661-3300 Mon.-Wed. 7:30am-4pm, Thurs. 7am-7pm, Fri. 7:30am-12pm



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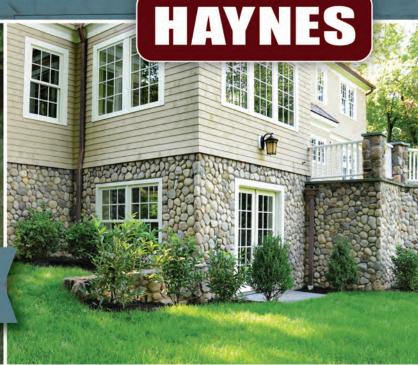
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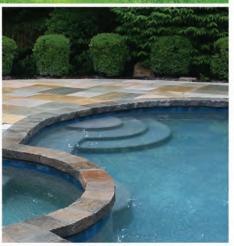




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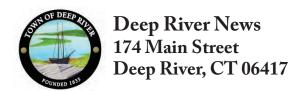
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