

Winter 2024



Deep River News

Vol. 28, No. 3



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Deep River News

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In this Issue

| | |
|---|-------|
| American Legion Post #61..... | 28 |
| Assessor's Office | 7 |
| Board & Commission Meetings..... | 47 |
| Community Health Committee | 25-26 |
| Deep River 60 Club | 43 |
| Deep River Congregational Church | 34 |
| Deep River Elementary School | 18 |
| Deep River Fire Department | 13 |
| Deep River Garden Club | 29 |
| Deep River Historical Society | 16 |
| Deep River Junior Ancients Fife & Drum Corps..... | 14 |
| Deep River Land Trust | 30-31 |
| Deep River Meetings on Television and Online..... | 35 |
| Deep River Parks & Recreation | 20-24 |
| Deep River PTO | 40 |
| Deep River Public Library | 39 |
| Deep River Register of Voters | 6 |
| Deep River SustainableCT | 8-9 |
| Dry Pants Model Yacht Club | 36 |
| Fountain Hill Cemetery..... | 33 |
| Friends of the Deep River Library | 40 |
| Index of Services & Facilities | 48 |
| Kirtland Commons..... | 41 |
| Planning & Zoning | 32 |
| Selectman's News..... | 2-4 |
| The Nest Coffee House..... | 38 |
| Town Clerk | 5-6 |



Cover photo by:
John R. Kollmer

Upcoming Events

Festival of Trees

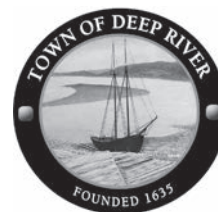
December 1st-3rd

Deep River Historical Society

Holiday Stroll & Light Parade

Saturday, December 2nd

See Page 25



Deep River News *Winter 2024*

Angus L. McDonald, First Selectman

John R. Kollmer, Designer & Editor

Joyce Berardis & Tina Accetta, Advertising

Printed by Essex Printing

To submit articles or ads,
contact the Selectman's Office

860-526-6020 option 1 or jaberardis@deepriverct.us

News from the Selectman's Office

"Thanks, gentle citizens and friends,' quoth I..." William Shakespeare – Richard III

"Thank you, friends and neighbors' says me" Angus McDonald Jr. – Deep River News

Reflections and thank yous...

It has been the honor of a lifetime, and a true privilege to represent Deep River since April of 2016. I will be forever grateful for the opportunity, forever proud of the accomplishments, and forever changed for the better from the experience.

From the moment I heard that Dick had passed it was clear that each and every member of the Deep River "Family" of employees made certain that I knew that they were poised to assist in ensuring that the Town was secure. In my first Newsletter message I spoke of how government stops for nothing, and how the day to day business must continue uninterrupted. Our Town Staff immediately stepped to the fore and made certain that despite the emotional blow, Deep River business did not miss a beat. I can tell you without hesitation that Deep River is fortunate to have such a remarkable staff not only in the Town Hall but in Public Works, as well. It has been a pleasure to work with each of them individually and as a team, they truly care about our town and work tirelessly to make it better.

From our first days with Dave Oliveria, through the addition of Duane Gates to the Board of Selectmen, and finally with the addition of Jim Olson, we have worked only with the best interests of Deep River and her residents in mind. I often remind myself, and others, that the First Selectman alone has very little real authority, and can and should do little more than manage the Town and provide a vision, but with a good Board of Selectmen, good Boards and Commissions, great staff, and finally the approval of the residents, wonderful work can be done.

Dave was a good, level headed Selectman and the right person at the right time. His cooperation and efforts in bringing Duane to the Board were a shining example of how our boards and commissions operate, with only the good of the Town in mind. Duane has been a partner through practically all of the almost eight years, a pleasure to work with, and an example of how partners can disagree on some things, but still work cooperatively to

find common ground, with those efforts often leading to better solutions. The addition of Jim to the Board came at just the right time and we benefitted from his continued efforts to approach issues from all sides. Both Duane and Jim brought their lifetime of history in Deep River to their jobs, and that perspective has been invaluable.

I was lucky enough to come into office at nearly the same time that Bud Eckenroth became chair of the Board of Finance. Deep River is extremely fortunate that this man continues to put his efforts forward for the Town, and boy howdy, did I enjoy learning from, and working with the professor.

While I am most proud of the successful efforts made to replenish our Reserve Fund, some of the projects that I am most happy to have been able to work on are the upgrading of the energy efficiency in all of our municipal buildings, the addition of two fire trucks to the roster, the addition of two dump/plow trucks and a police vehicle to our fleet, the rebuilding of our Police Department, the approval of a solar array on the grounds of our Highway Department, the replacement/addition to the playground equipment at DRES, Devitt, and Plattwood Park, and the replacement/addition of the facilities and pavilion at Plattwood Park.

Highways and infrastructure...and important Main Street News

The Connecticut Department of Transportation is replacing the stop light support structure, traffic lights, and cross light stands and mechanisms that control traffic at the intersection of Main Street, Elm Street, and River Street. In the end this project will increase traffic safety and will be a good project for the Town, but the period of construction will be, at the least, a pain in the neck. Work was expected to begin on or around October 1, 2023 but has been delayed until the Spring of next year. This work will be done in six or seven "mobilizations" of approximately 3 – 7 days, with lengthy intervals of no work being done. We have proposed a revision to the work plan to the State in an attempt to reduce the impact to our downtown as much as possible and will work closely with DOT in an attempt to bring that to fruition. Once scheduled we will let you know when the mobilizations will occur and what impact they might have on traffic. Please see below for instructions on signing up for email news blasts.

News from the Selectman's Office, cont.

We have completed paving projects on West Elm Street and Rattling Valley Roads and Kelsey Hill Road has been chip sealed in our efforts to extend the life of our roads. By the time this issue goes to press we should have completed paving of sections of River Road, Meadow Woods, Riverview, Bushy Hill, and Union Street. If we miss them this season, we will get them first thing in the Spring. We will notify you as the schedule becomes clear.

The Town voted unanimously at a Town Meeting in September to replace our 30 year old street sweeper and to purchase a wood chipper to assist in clearing brush or fallen trees from our roads. Both have been ordered from the manufacturer and I expect we will have our chipper in hand soon, while the sweeper will be at least a year being built.

You say goodbye and I say hello...

After many years as our Accounts Manager Cathy Kehlenbach has resigned her position and we thank her for her service to the Town and wish her and her family only good things.

Matt Ward has been Cathy's assistant for a year and a half, but he made the decision to change careers and leave us for a full time role with MahoneySabol. That said, Matt's presence in the absence of Cathy has proved invaluable, and is much appreciated.

We welcome Vicki Galimitakis as our new Accounts Assistant and Annmarie Ryan as our new Finance Director.

We have also added Tina Accetta to the Deep River Town Hall Family as an Administrative Assistant in the Selectman's office. Stop in to say hello, she is looking forward to meeting you.

The future of Trash in Deep River...

We are coming to the end of our food scrap grant and toward that end we have created an Ad Hoc Waste Reduction Advisory Committee. After the first public education meeting held at the Town Hall Auditorium we added three new members of the public to the committee and they are working overtime with CT DEEP and our consultants, Waste Zero, to plan how Deep River moves forward with reducing our waste. When you read this

there will already have been another information session and I anticipate that there will be a Town Meeting in December to vote on how to proceed. As of this writing the option most discussed is a pay as you throw (PAYT) program similar to Portland or Stonington. Details can be found at the Sustainable Deep River page.

This is really an opportunity for Deep River to continue to lead the way into how Connecticut reduces the amount of garbage being shipped out of our state to landfills in Pennsylvania or Ohio. This is not a sustainable program which will only become more expensive as landfills across the country continue to close.

Sign up for News

If you have not already done so, please consider signing up for Town News. It is a great way for us to communicate information of all sorts to you.

In order to do so visit www.deeprivect.us, click on the How Do I icon, and from the listing choose Subscribe to Town News (third from the bottom). We look forward to seeing you there!

Also, when looking for what is happening in Deep River remember to check our COMMUNITY CALENDAR. You'll find a link on the Town website.

Lions and Tigers and Bears.... Go Buy

In our last issue of Deep River News I took on a task that I had resisted for lo, all these years. It didn't begin as a roster of shops along our Main Street, but it became one. The main reason for my resistance was that whenever one takes on this type of list, inevitably, someone is missed and disappointed. Perfect Pup, Hairdressers, Bennett's Books, Movement, Family Laundry, DaVincis, and Deep River Pizza were all left out of the article, not by intent, but by mistake. All of these businesses are part of Deep River's vibrant downtown and serve well the needs of our community.

As the holidays approach please continue to keep our local merchants in mind and remember those three little words, local, local, local when you need to shop. Our local merchants are open for business and will welcome you with a smile. This year's holiday stroll and light parade

News from the Selectman's Office, cont.

are scheduled for Saturday, December 2nd. If you have not already, consider participating in the parade, or at the least, come to town and shop, eat, and enjoy small town holiday celebrations. Check the Parks & Recreation pages of this publication or their website for details.

Final words....

I am perplexed by how to recognize the two women in Town Hall with whom I worked most closely, Gina Sopneski and Joyce Berardis. I have thanked them both personally, but they deserve so much more. Gina really introduced me to the intricacies of the office and what I might expect from the public. We worked together to ensure that Deep River didn't lose a step, and even more closely when COVID 19 arrived. When Gina left, Joyce stepped seamlessly into a seat that had been occupied by someone almost as entrenched as Dick. She learned the role immediately and became my right hand in the Town Hall and beyond, establishing relationships with Local, Regional, State, and Federal offices that have benefitted our town immensely. We are a better Town Hall with Joyce, in her seat, and I will miss working with her on day to day work, Emergency Operations, grant applications, messaging with the community, and beyond.

Last minute addition!! Last spring Joyce and our resident trooper Steve Krause developed and submitted a grant application to the US Department of Justice offices of community oriented policing services. This grant is specific to assisting communities better comply with the new accreditation laws and requirements. Just yesterday we were informed that Deep River had been awarded \$160,000 through the Federal Police Accreditation Grant to further our efforts in not only complying but advancing our police department for the next two years. Great job Joyce and Steve!!!

Back in the Autumn of 2016 I wrote the following about Deep River and how we move forward:

Historically, and rightfully, Deep River was known as the "Queen of the Valley." Her inhabitants embraced the title, bestowing it on their baseball team: the Queens. Whatever role geography and geology may have played in her success, it has always been the people, not the ground beneath, who have been the authors of Deep River's history.

Established patterns of conduct, especially when strengthened by the passing years, are not easily changed. Despite the emotional setback, we have not lost our compass, we have maintained our civility, and as we have in the past, we will move forward together, as a community, to set our future course.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as your First Selectman, and thank you for the opportunity. I promise you that every decision I made was made with the best of intentions and were what I truly believed to be in the best interest of the Town.

In the meanwhile, please enjoy the season, and take some time to celebrate Deep River. We are a great little town, getting better all the time.

Love and Peace,

Angus

Dance to the music
All night long
Everyday people
Sing a simple song
Mama's so happy
Mama start to cry
Papa still singin'
We can make it if we try

Thank you for the party
But I could never stay
Many things is on my mind
Words in the way

I want to thank you
Falettinme
Be mice elf
Agin

Sylvester Stewart – Thank you

Town Clerk's Office

News from the Town Clerk

It's been 14 years since I first swore to serve the good citizens of Deep River as their Town Clerk and I have learned so much in that time. I again want to thank the residents for allowing me the privilege to serve the Town I have called home since 1969. I will do my best to help Deep River's transition to new leadership in the coming months.

Subscribe to Town News

Would you like to have Town News and Announcements emailed to you? Simply go to our Town Website www.deepriverct.us and click on "Subscribe to News" in the top right corner. There you can check off which Town emails you would like to receive. If you don't see a Board or Commission you are interested in, call the Town Clerk at 860-526-6024 to have it added to email options.

Permanent Absentee Ballot

Do you find it difficult to vote at the polls due to your permanent physical disability? Public Act No. 12-57 created permanent absentee balloting status for certain individuals. To be eligible for permanent absentee ballot status, an elector must file with the Town Clerk an absentee ballot application together with a doctor's certificate stating that they have a permanent disability and are unable to appear in person at their polling place. The doctor's note should be on letterhead. There is no prescribed form—the doctor's note and the absentee ballot application would satisfy the requirement of the law. Permanent absentee ballot status enables the elector to automatically be mailed an absentee ballot for each election, primary, and referendum in the municipality in which they are eligible to vote without having to apply each time. For more instructions and an absentee ballot application, please contact the Town Clerk's office; 860-526-6024 or email at townclerk@deepriverct.us

Welcome New Residents & Property Owners

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|------------|
| Jay T. & Cathy A. Cassineri | 112 Hemlock Drive | 03/07/2023 |
| Douglas & Heather Smith | 39 Pinewood Trail | 08/03/2023 |
| Amelia Armitage & Gary Mathias | 80 Meadow Woods Road | 08/03/2023 |
| Steven W. & Katherine C. Mosley | 208 Main Street | 08/17/2023 |
| Wyatt Powers | 103 Union Street | 08/28/2023 |
| Erin Brown | 92 Main Street, Unit #226 | 08/29/2023 |
| Michael Wood | 58 Union Street | 08/30/2023 |
| Cynthia Sullivan | 62 Lords Lane | 09/01/2023 |
| Michael S. Harris & Julia Masters-Harris | 92 Main Street, Unit #403 | 09/06/2023 |
| Clandestine Construction Inc. | 11 Winter Avenue | 09/08/2023 |
| CT Coastal Academy LLC | 141 Main & 19 River Streets | 09/15/2023 |
| Lori D. Baldwin | 124 Kelsey Hill Road | 09/26/2023 |
| Brian P. Woronick | 42 River Street | 09/28/2023 |
| Kaya Levi LLC | 1 High Street | 10/05/2023 |
| James J. & Elizabeth Hagan | 17 River Street | 10/16/2023 |
| Christine Gelotte | 92 Main Street, Unit #212 | 10/17/2023 |

New Trade Name Filings

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| River Roost | Kate Webb / Pratt & Post LLC | 08/07/2023 |
| Crickhollow Property Care | Colin Nicholson | 08/28/2023 |

Town Clerk's Office, cont.

Marriages

| | |
|---|------------|
| Thomas A. Walsh & Cameron E. Johnson | 07/22/2023 |
| Kevin M. Radomski & Cori A. Gulliford | 08/12/2023 |
| Michael D. LeGrand & Christa R. Leary | 08/13/2023 |
| Jonathan S. Solomon & Jennifer L. Gavens | 08/20/2023 |
| Wilder A. Murcia Lopez & Altagracia J. Andujar-Franco | 08/26/2023 |
| Jaysen D. Tyrseck & Larissa L. Tyrseck | 08/26/2023 |
| Thomas H. Quirk & Sarah N. Sieminski | 09/01/2023 |
| Arthur L. Tirrell & Lori J. Staib | 09/01/2023 |
| Erik B. Gundersen & Jasjeet K. Sahani | 09/02/2023 |
| Stephen M. Brunelle, Jr. & Ashley S. Burzenski | 09/09/2023 |
| Jeffrey D. Kesten & Jordan A. Witik | 09/10/2023 |
| Kevin P. O'Brien & Rachel L. Cyr | 09/14/2023 |
| Mead A. Close, Jr. & Madison O. Heidkamp | 09/15/2023 |
| Brent E. Mitchell & Anna K. D'Agostino | 09/16/2023 |
| William R. Armstead & Elizabeth M. Nosal | 09/16/2023 |
| John J. Galiani & Lyndsay M. Mayer | 09/22/2023 |
| Leon E. Blythe & James L. Lucas, Jr. | 09/23/2023 |
| Sean M. Papoosha & Julianna M. Rushford | 09/23/2023 |
| Miles A. Reaves & Ashley M. Gonzalez | 09/24/2023 |
| Aaron T. Baral & Meredith L. Clark | 09/30/2023 |
| Garrett W. Wadsworth & Victoria L. Morrell | 09/30/2023 |
| Kyle P. Doane & Erica L. Paiva | 10/01/2023 |
| Chadwick A. Nottingham & Eleanor K. Roberts | 10/01/2023 |
| Remington J. Ewald & Ashley N. Walton | 10/05/2023 |
| Adam J. Boccalatte & Danielle E. Wieland | 10/06/2023 |
| Juan C. Llubes & Sarah E. Ryan | 10/08/2023 |
| Jacob T. Tobiasen & Keira G. Valaitis | 10/12/2023 |
| Richard D. Fusco & Dana M. Farley | 10/14/2023 |
| Gary W. Savona & Kathleen S. King | 10/14/2023 |

Passings

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Michael W. Webb | 07/25/2023 |
| Nedra U. Wallis | 08/27/2023 |
| Edward M. Pierpont | 09/20/2023 |

Deep River Registrars of Voters

Greetings from the Deep River Registrars of Voters, Elizabeth (Lori) Gregan and Michael Harris. Lori is in her seventh year as Registrar, and this is Michael's first year. Both were elected in the fall of 2022 as write-in candidates - don't forget to ask about your write-in options whenever voting! As such, like all Registrars, they represent all voters in town.

Registrars of Voters are governed by the Connecticut General Statutes, and are sworn elected officials serving two-year terms. The Registrars of Voters are responsible for:

- Maintaining and updating voter registration information including changes of address, name, or party affiliation, adding new voters and removing voters who are deceased or who no longer reside in town.
- Training election workers. Poll workers are trained before every election. We need you! Volunteer to be a poll worker.
- Preparing election equipment and tabulators and ordering ballots for each election, primary or referendum.
- Conducting an annual canvass, January through May, of voters who may have moved within town, out of town or out of state.
- Implementing new election laws as adopted by Connecticut.
- Conducting High School voter registration sessions.
- Attending Registrars of Voters Association meetings and training.

Their mission is simple, free and fair elections with access for all registered voters. They ensure federal, state, and local elections are conducted timely, responsibly, and with the highest level of professional election standards.

On Wednesday, October 25, 2023, Deep River received an award from the Secretary of the State for having the highest percentage of voter turnout per population of Connecticut small towns in November of 2022! A hearty congratulations and thank you goes out to all Deep River voters. Keep up the good work. The Registrars also want to be very clear about our gratitude for the work of all poll workers and the certified Moderators that keep election polls running smoothly and effectively.

Finally, we congratulate the new slate of town leadership recently elected and wish them well in their work! Life in Deep River is awesome and our future as a wonderful place to live is secure.

Assessor's Office

Programs & Application Filing Dates:

State of Connecticut Homeowner's and Town of Deep River Senior Abatement Program:

The application period for this program begins **February 1, 2024**, and ends **May 15, 2024**. If you are considering filing for the abatement program, please note there are several requirements such as persons who file must be 65 years of age by December 31, 2023, or totally disabled and you must meet State income requirements. If you are currently on this program and it is your year to reapply, our office will mail you a reminder letter in January letting you know it is time to see us again!

When applying for this program you will need to bring proof of income with the application. Income includes all taxable and non-taxable income as well as your social security income. To view the current 'Qualifying Income' levels, please visit the Town website at www.deepriverct.us – Assessor's Section.

Exemption forms for **Totally Disabled** persons and the **Blind** are also available online or in the Assessor's Office; you would need to file on or before **October 1, 2024**, to be considered for the 2024 Grand List.

Additional Veterans Program:

The Application period for this program begins February 1, 2024, and runs through October 1, 2024. The Additional Veterans program also mandated income requirements which are listed on the Town website.

Address Changes:

It is important that you report any mailing address changes for your **Real Estate or Personal Property** accounts to **EITHER** the Assessor's or Tax Collector's Office. This will ensure that our records are updated with the most current mailing address and that you are receiving all proper notifications. Please check your property record card on the Town website www.deepriverct.us – Quick Links (Property Assessment Online) or call the Assessor's Office to ensure we have the proper mailing address. **Motor Vehicle** address changes can only be made through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Motor Vehicle Supplemental Assessments:

Assessment for newly acquired Motor Vehicles registered October 2, 2022, through September 30, 2023 or registration renewals that were not included on the Motor Vehicle **Regular** List, will be sent out in late December 2023. If you have any questions regarding a Supplemental bill you may receive, or you believe you may be entitled to a credit based on the vehicle being sold, totaled, or registered in another state, contact our office to discuss the necessary documentation for possible adjustments.

You can call our Office at 860-526-6029 or email assessor@deepriverct.us to discuss any questions you may have regarding the requirements or information on the programs administered by the Assessor's Office.

Robin O'Loughlin, CCMA II - Assessor
Milly Salafia, Assistant

Reopening Soon!

DEEP RIVER PIZZA



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"We would like to thank our dedicated customers for all their support."

Open Tuesday - Sunday
11 am to 10 pm
Lunch & Dinner
160 Main Street, Deep River, CT

Deep River - SustainableCT

Congratulations! Deep River Did It!

Deep River met the NexTrex Community Challenge and collected over 500 pounds of thin plastics in six months. Our brand-new bench is sitting at town hall ready to be installed! We have signed up for another challenge and hope to earn a second bench by February. Continue the excellent work keeping thin plastics out of the garbage!



Thin Plastic and Film Recycling

"Recycle More Than the Bag!"

What are thin plastics?

They are so much more than the bag. Many, many products come wrapped, protected, and delivered in thin plastics. Plastic films labeled with #2 or #4 recycling symbol (polyethylene films), bread bags, Ziploc and other re-sealable food storage bags, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, product wrap (around items like paper towels, toilet paper and water bottles), air pillows & bubble wrap, retail bags, plastic shipping envelopes, ice bags, bubble wrap, produce bags and more!

Please **don't** include saran or plastic pouches from meat packaging (think hot dogs or bacon), any soiled and wet bags or wrap. Snack bags, candy wrappers and frozen food bags are also don'ts.

Please **do** be sure your plastics are CLEAN and DRY.

Thin plastics drop off locations:

Adams Hometown Market
Deep River Town Hall
Deep River Library
Deep River Transfer Station

For more info go to <https://www.deepriverct.us/deep-river-sustainable-ct-committee>

Food Scraps

Food scraps make up 20% of the waste we currently throw away and can easily be converted to energy and compost right here in Connecticut. Deep River is recognized statewide as a leader in the food scrap diversion

movement. DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes was recently heard at the capitol giving our community a big shout-out as a "model for how towns can handle local compostable waste."

Many thanks to those people who are separating and disposing of their food scraps in an environmentally friendly way. Disposal can be in your backyard compost, handed off to the chickens next door or at the Deep River Transfer Station. Whatever environmentally friendly way you do it, we applaud you. We want everyone on board with separating food waste. For more information: <https://reducethetrashct.com/deepriver/>

Pay-As-You-Throw

Several of our members are on the Deep River Waste Reduction Committee working with DEEP and Waste Zero to formulate a good plan for reducing waste at the Deep River Transfer Station. They have held two town-wide information sessions to discuss how paying for household waste bags can have a positive effect on encouraging people to reduce their waste and recycle effectively. This method is commonly referred to as pay-as-you-throw or UBP (unit-based pricing).

Please come out to the Public Meeting on or about December 11th at which time a vote will be taken to adopt a pay-as-you-throw plan.

Tri-Town Sustainable Efforts

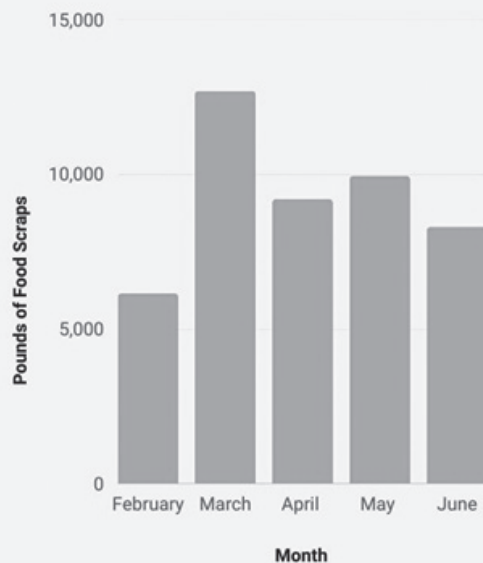
We are pleased to be collaborating with the Sustainable Essex and Chester committees to more effectively and efficiently bring sustainable practices to our Tri-town area. Both Essex and Chester are certified Silver. We are working towards earning Silver next Spring!

This Fall we have been working together on:

- Region 4 Schools Food Scraps implementation.
- A FREE Three Part "Stop the Plastic" series which included: a book talk at the Essex Library by Erica Cirino, author of "Thicker Than Water: The Quest for Solutions to the Plastic Crisis," a Sustainability Roundtable discussion at The Hive in Chester, and a Climate, Coffee and Conversations event at The Nest with House State Representative Christine Palm.

Deep River - SustainableCT, cont.

Food Scraps Collected



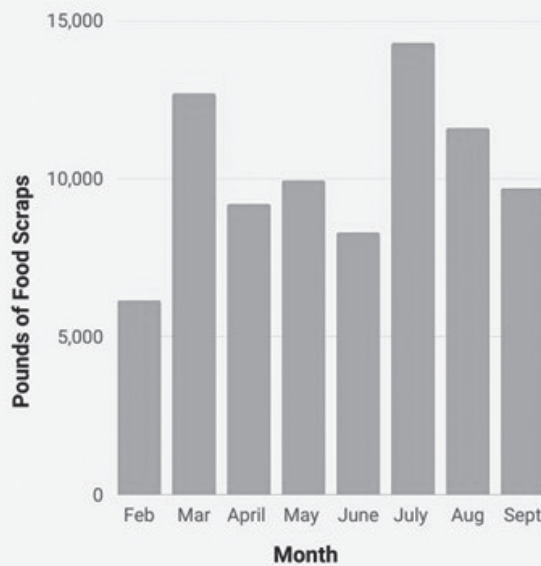
Total: 46,300 Pounds!

That is 23 tons of waste diverted from the landfill from February - June.

Cost Savings: \$2,685

Deep River saves \$116 for every ton diverted.

Food Scraps Collected



Total: 81,900 Pounds!

That is 41 tons of waste diverted from the landfill from February - September

Cost Savings: \$4,756

Deep River saves \$116 for every ton diverted.

Want to Learn More? Interested in Joining Us?

For more information about any of the above topics and the latest updates on our work:

Find us online: www.deepriverct.us/deep-river-sustainable-ct-committee

Email us: sustainabledeepriver@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

If you are enthusiastic about the work we do to better our community, consider joining us. We meet the second Thursday of each month at 7:00pm, Town Hall.

Hank's Service

Sharpening & Small Engine Repairs

Lawn Mower Repair
Now Selling Lawn Mower Parts
Household Tools
Woodworking Tools
Hand Saws
Chain Saws
Carbide Saw Blades
Snowblower Repair/Tune Up
Ice Skates

73 River Street
Deep River, CT 06417
Shop: 860-526-5023
Henry08@aol.com



**RIVER
VALLEY
TRANSIT**

Public Transit for Middlesex County and Beyond!

River Valley Transit is the new brand of the recently combined 9-Town and Middletown Area Transit District. We provide a variety of public transportation services for our 17 member towns and beyond!



Check out our new website to learn more about our services at **RiverValleyTransit.org**

Call Us for More Information
860-510-0429



A FULL SERVICE AUTO BODY SHOP

344 SOUTH MAIN STREET, DEEP RIVER, CT
(860) 526-3635

AUTO BODY REPAIR TIPS

- Preserve your vehicle's value and your safety by having it repaired professionally.
- You have the right to go to the repair shop of your choice. Your insurance company cannot require you to go to a particular shop.
- Some insurance companies may want you to visit their drive-in claims center before having your car repaired. You can do this, or you may leave your car at our shop and ask that the insurance company inspect the car here.
- Differences in repair estimates are common. A lower estimate may not include all necessary work. If you're not sure why one estimate is different from another you've received, please ask us.
- You are not required by law to obtain more than one estimate or appraisal.

YOUR CAR, YOUR CHOICE

Angus L. McDonald
First Selectman

April 21, 2016 through November 20, 2023



Specializing In:
Colors
Perms
Smoothing
Treatments

Haircuts for:
Women, Men & Kids
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Deep River Fire Department



At the departments July picnic and the September monthly meeting, Chief Tim Lee awarded the following members for their 2022 service to the department;

- 60 years of Service Award - Jack White
- 35 years of Service Badge - Jerry Clark Sr.
- 30 years of Service Badge - Will Grote
- 20 years of Service Badge - Jerry Clark Jr., Doug Whittaker, Kevin Brewer
- 1st Top Responder - Don Lee Sr.
- 2nd Top Responder - Barry Luff
- 3rd Top Responder - Rick Daniels and Rich Sypher
- Top Junior Responder - Mathew Daniels
- Top Firefighter of the Year - Ryan Demik
- Junior Firefighter of the Year - Paige Lee
- Chiefs Award - Tom Lee

Congratulations to all who went above and beyond the call of duty!



Jack White joined the Fire Department in 1961 along with his friend Donny Sampson. In 1965-66 he joined the Army where he fought in the Korean conflict. When Jack returned from the service he jumped in where he left off with the Fire Department. He

rode trucks as a firefighter, held the position of Assistant Chief, Captain of 552, Lieutenant and Chief Engineer for 38 years. In his early days as Chief Engineer, Eddie Paul and Eddie Zarembo were Jack's Assistant Engineers. The three spent countless hours rebuilding equipment, overhauling pumps and



creating whatever new parts were needed. Their collective expertise not only kept all equipment in excellent condition, they also saved thousands of dollars for the town of Deep River. When Eddie Paul moved and Eddie Zarembo retired from the department, a new assistant needed to be trained. Tom Lee fit the qualifications. Jack generously trained Tom in all the intricacies of keeping the Fire Department equipment in the best condition. Both the department and the town are incredibly lucky to have had these four amazing men on team DRFD.

At the September monthly meeting Jack was awarded recognition for his 60 years of service to the department. The Officers and Board of Fire Commissioners all extended their appreciation with awards and citations while the members of the department gave a resounding standing ovation to the remarkable Jack White.

Chimney fire season is upon us. Please have your chimney checked and cleaned. Burning creosote deposits can reach extreme temperatures of 1000*-2100* F. Such extreme heat can ignite rafters on the other side of 5 inches of solid brick even on a perfectly sound chimney.

The Automobile Extravaganza had to be canceled due to inclement weather. The committee would like to announce that all booklet ads will be honored next year at our 2024 automotive show.

If you have not attended a DRFD free breakfast yet, it is time to come out and enjoy a wonderful community event. Fresh cooked eggs, pancakes, meats, home fries and Ricky Daniels amazing cheesy potatoes await for your taste buds to savor.

New Senior and Junior members are welcome to join our team of first responders. We train on Wednesday evening from 6:30pm-8:30pm. No experience necessary.

Marilyn Malcarne, Public Relations

Deep River Junior Ancient Fife and Drum Corps



The DRJA Board of Directors would like to thank and commend our young color guard and musicians on their dedication to perpetuating the music of our forefathers as well as their expertise on military bearing. Summer 2023 was another wonderful season for Deep River's goodwill ambassadors sharing their talents throughout New England to enthusiastic, appreciative crowds of parade on-lookers.

This past 4th of July, Provincetown, MA invited the Juniors to lead the parade in their annual celebration. The entire day was a wonderful experience for both the members as well as the joyous crowd who showed their support and gratitude. As members were heading back to their vehicles, dozens of people verbally expressed their appreciation, respect and had pictures taken with our members. Certainly a memorable time for all involved.

2026 marks the 250th Anniversary of our country. Celebrations, performances and wonderful new adventures will be bountiful. We invite families to join us on this next historical celebration. New members from 8 years and older are welcome. No experience needed. All music and marching skills are taught by our excellent, talented instructors.

The opportunities provided by belonging to a corps are unequalled. As a family oriented endeavor you can experience travel, performance, parades and concerts where you make life long friends through music. It is a very special opportunity.

Practice is at Deep River Elementary School on Thursday evening from 6:30pm-8:30pm. For further information call Berta at 860-301-9305.

A small group of former Deep River Juniors paid tribute to our wonderful friend Donna Meyer Hyde who passed

this past July. Per request of her family, the musicians performed as friends and family entered DRCC. Donna joined the Juniors in 1955 when the corps first started. As the first fife sergeant of the corps, her love of our music and camaraderie was a life long experience. When Vic's Kids was formed, Donna was the first to join and performed with us every year. RIP our dear friend, your loving, kind spirit will always be with us.

The Board would like to congratulate Roberta Mann Armstead as the new Director of the corps. Berta spent many years in the Chester Fife and Drum Corps, on the Board of the Company of Fifers and Drummers and on the Deep River Ancient Muster Committee. Her expertise, strong work ethic and kind demeanor will lead the corps in the right direction.

Respectfully, Marilyn Malcarne



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Deep River Historical Society



The Deep River Historical Society is again partnering with Valley Regional High School to host a student intern. We are very pleased to welcome Maeve Brashears.

Hello I'm Maeve Brashears, and this year I'm interning at the Deep River Historical Society. I am a senior at Valley Regional and am Interning as a part of my Capstone a.k.a senior project. I'm excited to say that for the next few months I'll be interviewing longtime Deep River residents in order to record their legacy and the town's history. I'm planning on attending college for a bachelor's degree in political science and history. If you know anyone who would like to be interviewed or interviewed yourself, please contact me at: Mbrashears@reg4.k12.ct.us.



The energized Board of Trustees has been working hard to ensure the preservation and sustainability of the Stone House, Carriage House and Bleach House for future generations. We have made great progress this year and have plans that will carry us into the new year.

The new driveway is complete thanks to funds from our Capital Campaign! Goodbye potholes and puddles the size of lakes. New signage will direct you to new parking areas and designated handicap parking. Work continues as we plan to install the Legacy Bricks in front of the double Carriage House doors. New landscaping in front of the Carriage House with benches will make this whole area more attractive. Winter projects include upgrading electrical and the handicap ramp to be completed by spring.



Farm Day on September 16th was a huge success bringing in families to see our farm equipment and explore the house and grounds. Our junior docents did a great job of bringing in their friends and impressed many adults with their knowledge of Deep River history. Thank you to Don Sampson for the gift of a Hay Rake from the Rosenblad Farm which will

now grace our lawn and help to tell the story of farming in Deep River. Seen here are Brayden Palumbo with the farmers hat and John Voitans in the red t-shirt with members of the Farrell family and friends.

In collaboration with the CT Childrens Network DRHS brought musical theater to the town hall with a production of Radical Women the Suffragists on Oct 21 and 22. This was a great family event and we look forward to working with CT Childrens Network again.

Jason Scappaticci had an entertaining talk on the CT Witch Trials on Oct 30th to get us all ready for Halloween.

The Festival of Trees will be bigger and better than ever this year with new organizations taking part. Many will find this is a great spot to watch the light parade before coming in to enjoy the trees. Also new this year is the addition of musical entertainment by John Brown and his Backyard Pickers on Saturday night sponsored by the Chester/Deep River Lions Club. Members of Valley Regional Chorus and the Deep River Fife and Drum will make appearances on Friday and Sunday nights. The Stone House grounds will have tower heaters to warm visitors while enjoying the music outside, sponsored by the Deep River Rotary. Our Hometown theme this year will feature exhibits of toys past and present and organized by our young docents Brayden and John. This is a wonderful way for the whole family to kick off the holiday season. Come and join us. Admission is free.

Luminary Kits are Back by Popular demand. Help DRHS light up our path to the future. Kits will have everything you need to create a light for your home or business. Sold in packages of 5 for \$20 or 1 for \$5. Check out our website for details.



July 4th 2026 will mark the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Society has reached out to the Selectmen to form a commission to discuss this historical event and to work with groups within our community and neighboring towns to create a celebration worthy of this milestone.



Are you looking for a unique venue to host your family get-together or company event? Engaged, and beginning your wedding planning?

The Deep River Historical Society's picturesque Carriage House can accommodate smaller events like birthdays, anniversary parties, baby showers, reunions and receptions as well as larger tented wedding events on our beautiful grounds.

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deepriverhistoricalsociety.org
or contact Liza Thayer at **860-322-3426**
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about our events.



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Matt Olsen

Deep River Elementary School

As we move into the Fall here at DRES we are moving past our initial community building and baseline assessments and heading into focused instruction with our students.

Coming up at the end of the month will be our Halloween parade on October 31st at 1:30pm where students will get the opportunity to share their costumes with the school community. In November we will be honoring our Veterans during Veteran's Day assembly with student created work based around the question of "Why is Freedom Not Free?"

We are actively recruiting volunteers for our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) day this December. This is an opportunity to engage our students in the fields related to these domains giving them a hands-on look into careers of those in the community. You do not have to have experience working with students to participate. If you or someone you know is interested please reach out to jtorchia@reg4.k12.ct.us

Throughout the 2022-2023 school year, a committee consisting of representatives from the town government, school, Board of Education, DRES PTO and other community members worked to seek out designs from playground firms that met the desired needs of the school. In the Spring of 2023 the town moved forward with purchasing equipment for Deep River Elementary School. We have moved into the final stage of this project with the removal of the old structures taking place over the past few weeks and installation scheduled for early November.

We are always looking for substitute teachers for Deep River and the Region 4 district. If you are interested in coming in to help us out please apply via the Region 4 district website under "employment."

My door is always open, I look forward to meeting more members of the Deep River community throughout the upcoming school year.

*Josh Torchia Principal
Deep River Elementary School*



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Deep River Parks and Recreation

As we head into the fall and winter, Deep River Parks and Recreation is excited to bring back some of our popular programming.

Our adult pickleball league has started. The first session that began in mid-October is full but the next session, which begins in early January is taking registrations. Sessions are limited to 20 players. Pickleball is played on Monday evenings from 6:00-8:00pm at Deep River Elementary School. The cost for session 2 is \$35.00 payable at the time of registration. Session 2 will run from early January through early April.

Parks and Recreation will once again offer winter basketball for youth in grades K-12. At this time, we are trying to secure gym space for the older players due to the loss of the JW gymnasium space. However, registration is now open on-line. We need volunteer coaches to make the program run. Please consider coaching. If you are hesitant because you have little or no experience, we can offer on-line training classes or set up a training session with some of our more experienced coaches. Maybe you hesitate because you travel for work? Well, pair up with another parent to coach so that you can share the workload. Volunteers make this program happen! Depending on the age level, the time commitment is anywhere from 1-3 evenings (or late afternoons) a week. The younger players meet once to practice and play; the older elementary school age players may practice and scrimmage or play a game twice a week. The high school age players typically practice twice a week and have games on Saturdays. As registrations come in and as the program start date gets closer, we will know more about schedules, days of practice etc. While we try to offer this program to all ages, if enrollment numbers are too low, then we will do our best to combine age groups, so that all can play. So much depends on the number of players who register. Please talk it up with your child's friends so that no one is disappointed who wants to play. Help us make this program happen, volunteer today. If you have a day and evening that works best, we will try hard to accommodate that. Based on previous year's schedules, practices should begin in late November or early December with games beginning in January. Please email the P & R office if you'd like to volunteer.

We have received questions about the adult volleyball league; we are trying to secure gym space at the high school so that we can keep this program going. Please check the town web site for updates.

Save the date for the annual Holiday Stroll and the Holiday Light Parade which will be held on Saturday, December 2nd from 4:00-8:00pm. Start planning your vehicle's light decorations so that the 2023 parade will be bigger and better than ever! The anticipated parade route will be the same as last year's, Bridge to Main Street to Southworth ending at Devitt Field. More details to follow! The night promises to be busy as besides the parade, there will be merchant specials, music performed by the Connecticut Yuletide Carolers, the tree lighting ceremony, photo opportunities, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus who will arrive by fire truck, a fire juggler, fun contests and games, local vendors, a food truck, hot chocolate and our annual scavenger hunt for the "Moose on the Loose" with other things being planned! In case you missed one of our light parades, check out the parade from 2021 by watching this post on YouTube. (<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Xh7oCoUavx4>) Register your vehicle today!

Looking back, we had an exciting summer which lead to a super fun Deep River Day.

Deep River Day on September 16th was a fun filled day for Deep River families. Deep River Day consisted of many activities around town such as the Deep River Library 'Friends' Book and Bake sale as well as downtown merchants' in-store specials. Anchor and Compass again offered their free fishing game outside their store. The Deep River Historical Society had a new exhibit of antique farm equipment and the Deep River Garden Club sold mums at the library. But kicking it all off was the annual 'Run to the River' 5K which was held for the 31st year! With well over 140 participants, Devitt Field was full of excitement. Our newest sponsor, XTrainDFQ, was on hand leading a free stretching clinic before the race and DJ Mike Prodotti was setting the festive mood with some classic rock and roll. Congratulations to all our runners. The top overall finisher in the male division was Logan Miceli with a time of 18:44.8 and in the female division, it was Elizabeth

Deep River Parks and Recreation, cont.

Fengler with a time of 19:13.9. Great job to the top 3 winners in each age category:



For a complete list of results, see Page 24 or go to <https://empiretiming.com>

Deep River Parks and Recreation wishes to acknowledge all our sponsors. Platinum sponsors were: High Nine Brewing, Red House, Safe Harbor Deep River, Scott Masonry Contractor LLC. Gold sponsors were: Anytime Fitness, Blissful Beauty, Cartier Optical, Colanar, Edward Jones, Head to Tail, Howard Tree Service, Machine Repairs, Riverview Stich & Print, and XTrainDFQ. Silver Sponsors were: Access Storage, Adams Hometown Market, Anchor & Compass, Apizza Grande, Atlantic Building Supply, Atwood Auto Appearance, Inc., Celebrations, Compass Rose, Deep River Hardware, Deep River Ice, Deep River Fire Department, Empire Timing Co., Face Arts Music, G's Treasures, Angus McDonald/Gary Sharpe & Associates, Hally Jo's Corner Café, Landing & Main, Leah's Bella Vita, Morrissey Engineering, LLC, Pizzeria Da Vinci, Salon 154, Signs & Digital Graphics, Spruce Ledge Tree Farm, The Lace Factory and The Whistle Stop Café.

The race is always held rain or shine, although this year, we had no worries, as the sun was out all day with air temperatures ranging from a high of 88 to a low of 73 degrees. The route is relatively flat and is very scenic, taking the participants from Devitt Field to the center of town and down to the lovely Town Landing at the Connecticut River. The finish line is back at Devitt on the 'B' field. The race is certified and again this year was chip timed by Empire Timing.

What began last year as a way to celebrate the race's 30th year and was so well received that it was contin-

ued this year, was the Red House Restaurant along with High Nine Brewing, offering a free beverage (beer or soda) to all runners! All participants were given a race ticket to be used at the Red House later that day for a free brew from High Nine. The race tee shirts were designed by Deep River's own, Riverview Stich and Print. Once again, it was a cool design and a cool color-this year heather orange. Adams Hometown Market donated water, snacks and fruit for the runners.

P & R is forever grateful to the Deep River Police, the Deep River Fire Department, Deep River Fire Police and the Deep River Ambulance crew who kept the runners safe as they navigated the course. We also want to extend a big thank you Deep River Public Works Department for their much needed assistance leading up to Deep River Day and to all of this year's volunteers who came out to set up the course, process registrations, work water stations, serve snacks, or help as needed. The race wouldn't happen without everyone's help and support.

New this year, a component of the day was concentrated at Deep River Congregational Church's Marvin field, located on Church Street. Because the Deep River Farmer's market and an artisan market were already planned for that location, more fun was added on the field and on Church Street which was closed to traffic for the day. Live music was provided in the morning, by John Brown, from Back Porch Pickers, followed by Kenny Hebert's band, the LP's and later by Righteous Continental. Two food trucks were on site, Apizza Grande and a delicious taco truck. Fun and games were provided by P & R, DRES PTO, and a new local endeavor, Kaleidoscope.

The Cub Scouts set up the Pine Wood Derby track and allowed kids to build a LEGO car and try their hand at racing their creations. P & R hired a balloon artist, a juggler/stilt walker, and a magician. Cari Jansen, from Spruce Ledge Tree Farm, was on hand to offer awesome face painting. The Deep River Fire Department brought the smoke trailer which simulates a house fire, challenging folks to navigate when you can't see. P & R welcomed local groups and organizations which filled the field with informational tables, free kid tattoos and free giveaways. A popular feature was the dunk tank,

Deep River Parks and Recreation, cont.

where anyone could take a chance to send someone into the cold water.



Former First Selectman McDonald took a turn as well as DRES principal Josh Torchia and DRES physical education teacher, Adam Traxel. All monies raised were split between the DRFD and the DRES PTO.

Deep River Day included the popular pet parade! Started by Lynne Ditta from Pet's Choice, this fun annual tradition



has pet owners dressing up their canines, felines, feathered friends, rabbits, rodents, well you name it! It is quite a sight! This year's parade was sponsored by a new Deep River business, Head to Tail dog grooming. All pets wore adorable costumes, and the parade route was Church Street to Main Street heading north and then south on Union, back to Church.

Once again, fireworks at Plattwood Park capped off Deep River Day. Apizza Grande and Deep River Ice were on hand to offer dinner and dessert. Free shuttle buses ran from JW to the park entrance to help alleviate parking concerns. The folks that gathered in

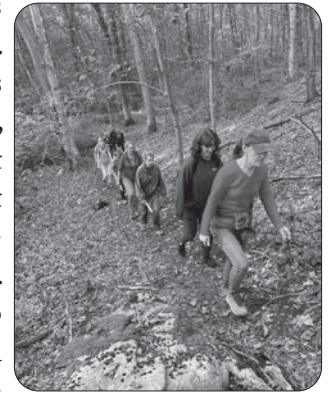


the park enjoyed music by DJ Mike Prodoti with quite a large group dancing until the fireworks began. P & R sold glow sticks and sundries from the shack. Thank you to the Deep River Police Department, the Deep River Fire Department and the Deep River Fire Police for traffic control, extra park lighting and keeping

everyone safe. P & R owes a big thank you to the Deep River Public Works Department for setting up traffic cones and pedestrian walkways in the park. Thank you

to Haynes Materials for co-sponsoring this popular yearly event. It was a great show.

The women's hiking club was on the move again this fall. Four awesome local hikes lead by naturalist and teacher, Ann Courcy, took our largest group of women yet (16!), out into the woods every Thursday afternoon, for 4 weeks. Hikes this session were to Canfield Woods, Bushy Hill Preserve, The Preserve in Essex, and finally around Bushy Hill Lake at the Incarnation Center. The hikes were on Thursday afternoons, from 4:30-6:00pm on 9/14, 9/21, 9/28 and 10/5. This is a popular program, so register quickly when the next session is announced, so that you don't miss out on the fun.



After 5 years of offering trunk or treat events, the P & R Halloween Committee, revamped this year's event bringing in some exciting new components while also bringing back some old favorites, like the Picasso Pumpkin contest, the Scarecrow contest and kid's entertainment. The event was called "The Night at The Town Hall". In the weeks preceding the event, decorations mysteriously appeared around the town hall grounds to set the stage. So, on Saturday evening, October 28th, "The Night at the Town Hall" began by offering a spooky tour through decorated areas of the building where flashing lights, creepy music and volunteer actors screamed, yelled and sometimes even followed anyone who dared enter! Outside of the town hall, Veteran's Way was closed to traffic. Here sat a school bus which was eerily decorated by DRES PTO, making it appear that it hadn't been moved in 100 years! This area also housed many fun Halloween themed games such as bowling, bean bag toss, and even a limbo contest. A scavenger hunt was offered as was a guessing game. A pumpkin patch was set up where costumed children could pick a free pumpkin. DJ Mike Prodoti was playing Halloween favorites to keep the atmosphere festive. The entertainment this year was supplied by local magician Joel Harris who dazzled the

Deep River Parks and Recreation, cont.

audience with slight-of-hand magic. Out in front of the town hall, stood 10 scarecrows arranged around the fountain and pumpkins grinned and scowled from the wooden stands. Local groups such as the Deep River Historical Society and the Valley Girls Soccer Team were on hand; one selling pizza slices and the other holding a bake sale. P & R also invited a taco truck to help feed the crowd.



Voting for the scarecrow contest was done utilizing a QR code. Congratulations to the DRES 6th grade class who won 'Best Overall' for their scarecrow 'student' sitting at a desk doing homework while also offering free jokes from a box. 'Most Creative' was fittingly awarded to the scarecrow entered by SoMA

(South of Main Art Collective), which celebrated all things art, with the scarecrow sporting a dance outfit, wearing hand-made jewelry and scarf and holding a paint brush.

The Picasso Pumpkin contest had three independent judges. Prizes were awarded in 5 categories. Most creative - Lennyn Howard; Best design- Ben Sutch; Scariest-Sy Howard; Sparkliest-Amelia Harris; Most Original-Eli Sutch.



Congratulations to all the winners. Each winner was awarded a gift certificate, generously donated from our local merchants-DaVinci, Apizza Grande, Celebrations, The Nest, and Red House.



This year's event was the brainchild of P & R members Nicole Desrosiers, Suzanne Sutch and Kayla Howard. Their enthusiasm, energy and determi-

nation to make this an awesome event was amazing. Many hands make light work, so they actively recruited P & R members and like-minded friends and family to make this event happen. What a fun filled night it was.

The Halloween Committee would like to thank the following:

- DRFD and the DR-EMT's, for helping decorate and for helping run games; especially DRFD junior members Erin Lee, Noah Lee, Bryan Fabian and AJ Kerop.
- Howard Tree for decorating an area in the town hall for the spooky tour and helping with set up and clean up.
- Valley Regional High School student volunteers who helped with set up, clean up and who played major roles in being tour guides through the spooky town hall and for playing actors to scare the unsuspecting visitors. The Valley Students are: Sway Riechel, Madelyn, Kayleigh Cornett, Isabella Perl, Alexa Escarraman, Derek Beaudoin, Cierra Thompson, Cameron Donoghue, Abby Innamorato, Madi Stone, Sidney Archer, Riley Russell, Abigail Vilca, Ethan Dean, Allan Nye, Lily Resnisky, Jonah Morrissey, Kai C.
- Joel Harris for volunteering his time to entertain the children at two separate shows throughout the event.
- Pumpkins were donated by the Essex Steam Train
- First Student Bus Company for the school bus.
- DRES PTO
- John Ely for building a set of stairs and helping with set-up
- Deep River Police Department
- Deep River Fire Marshal, Adam Kerop for assisting with set up to ensure safety and compliance.
- DRFD for loaning P & R tables and chairs.
- Deep River Public Works for providing and setting up stands for the pumpkins and barricades.
- Luther Moen for offering assistance with audio/video in the auditorium.
- DRHS for helping out with food
- VRHS girls soccer for hosting a bake sale. Good Luck and Congratulations on making States! You rock!

Deep River Parks and Recreation, cont.

In other P & R News:

Reminder- the water is now shut off at the parks. There will be portable toilets in place only at Plattwood park for the winter. The unit at the town landing will be pulled at the end of November.

The parks are now all 'smoke free.' There is a ban on the use of all tobacco products, vaping products like e-cigarettes, and cannabis products from town parks.

Good News! The grant that was awarded to the town to upgrade our playground equipment at both the parks and the elementary school is being spent! As this article is prepared, the DRES playground equipment has arrived, and is waiting for installation. The playground equipment for Devitt Field has been ordered; with anticipation that all work there can be completed and ready for spring 2024.

Please remember that dogs are allowed in the parks from November 1st through March 8th but must be leashed or under control at all times. Dogs are not allowed on the beach or on the ballfields.

No household trash should be disposed of at the parks.

Friendly reminder- Park use forms are required to be filled out by residents and non-residents if you would like to reserve exclusive use of a park area. Plan ahead as your application may have to be presented to the full Commission for a vote. A refundable security deposit is required of all users. Insurance might also be required.

We continue to experience vandalism at the parks, so please help us by being the eyes and ears when you are out enjoying these lovely town assets. Often times, vandalism is done by non- residents. So, if you see something, please report it immediately so that we can take action to resolve it in a timely manner. Thank you.

Are you looking for a way to get involved and give back? Please consider joining Parks and Recreation. We need your help to continue to offer these great programs and events. Please consider volunteering to help at a particular event or to help with multiple events.

Your time commitment can be whatever works best for you. Call the office or send a text to 860-526- 6036 and we can come up with a plan that works for you.

Carol Jones
Director, Parks & Recreation

2023 Run to the River 5K
Division Winners-Top 3

| | Last Name | First Name | Town | State | Time | Pace |
|----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|---------|------|
| overall Male | Logan | Miceli | Southington | CT | 18:44.8 | 6:03 |
| overall Female | Elizabeth | Fengler | Wallingford | CT | 19:13.9 | 6:12 |

| Division | Last Name | First Name | Town | State | Time | Pace |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Female < 10 yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Hallie | Durie | Deep River | CT | 28:47.4 | 9:16 |
| 2 | Arden | Rioux | Deep River | CT | 35:24.8 | 11:24 |
| Male < 10 yrs. | | | | | | |
| no runners | | | | | | |
| Female 11- 14yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Phoebe | Gerl | Deep River | CT | 27:23.9 | 8:50 |
| 2 | Violet | Spooner | Sturbridge | MA | 55:54.1 | 18:00 |
| Male 11- 14yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Canyon | Erkila | Deep River | CT | 27:47.4 | 8:57 |
| 2 | Daniel | Charbonnier | Essex | CT | 28:06.4 | 9:03 |
| Female 15- 18yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Millie | Gardner | Deep River | CT | 25:43.8 | 8:17 |
| 2 | Paige | Spooner | Sturbridge | MA | 55:53.4 | 18:00 |
| Male 15- 18yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Jacob | Ushchak | East Haven | CT | 21:29.9 | 6:56 |
| 2 | Jack | Guthrie | Cheshire | CT | 24:31.7 | 7:54 |
| Female 19- 29yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Annabelle | Mead | Westbrook | CT | 25:24.7 | 8:11 |
| 2 | Stephanie | Sheehan | Deep River | CT | 27:52.1 | 8:59 |
| 3 | Mady | Davis-Troler | Cottage Grove | WI | 28:01.6 | 9:02 |
| Male 19- 29yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Glenn | Cunningham | Middletown | CT | 23:22.4 | 7:32 |
| 2 | Niko | Kvietkus | Hampton | NH | 25:31.5 | 8:13 |
| 3 | Collin | McCarthy | Middletown | CT | 30:48.9 | 9:56 |
| Female 30- 39yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Ivette | Saunders | Clinton | CT | 25:56.2 | 8:21 |
| 2 | Marie | Ostby | Guilford | CT | 27:56.5 | 9:00 |
| 3 | Olivia | Stilis | Guilford | CT | 27:57.6 | 9:00 |
| Male 30- 39yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Brad | Wyzykowski | Westbrook | CT | 24:26.8 | 7:53 |
| 2 | Chris | Reedich | Deep River | CT | 26:30.1 | 8:32 |
| 3 | Tyler | Roasa | Madison | CT | 27:53.0 | 8:59 |
| Female 40- 49yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Linda | Spooner | Sturbridge | MA | 20:38.8 | 6:39 |
| 2 | Cynthia | Ruel | Manchester | CT | 25:29.0 | 8:13 |
| 3 | Sharon | Torello | Deep River | CT | 25:37.8 | 8:15 |
| Male 40- 49yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Andy | Asensio | East Hampton | CT | 21:22.5 | 6:53 |
| 2 | Josh | Spooner | Sturbridge | MA | 21:30.9 | 6:56 |
| 3 | Brett | Durie | Deep River | CT | 23:05.2 | 7:26 |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------|--------------|------------------|----|---------|-------|
| Female 50- 59yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Jaqs | -TheFStevens | Madison | CT | 25:27.7 | 8:12 |
| 2 | Kathryn | Stoker | Norwalk | CT | 27:45.2 | 8:56 |
| 3 | Missy | Campbell | Deep River | CT | 28:11.3 | 9:05 |
| Male 50- 59yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Jonathan | Plucker | Niantic | CT | 22:31.0 | 7:15 |
| 2 | Michael | Deane | Colchester | CT | 27:39.5 | 8:55 |
| 3 | Michael | Joia | Deep River | CT | 28:57.6 | 9:20 |
| Female 60- 69yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Tammy | Charbonneau | Colchester | CT | 26:05.5 | 8:24 |
| 2 | Marykay | Bauer | Essex | CT | 26:45.4 | 8:37 |
| 3 | Emily | Walzer | Guilford | CT | 32:18.2 | 10:24 |
| Male 60- 69yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Brent | Stratton | Middletown | CT | 24:40.0 | 7:57 |
| 2 | Cliff | Collins | Deep River | CT | 25:49.7 | 8:19 |
| 3 | Bruce | Nohe | Essex | CT | 25:59.0 | 8:22 |
| Female 70+ yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Patricia | Phillips | Niantic | CT | 39:43.6 | 12:48 |
| 2 | Smidgie | Macphail | Niantic | CT | 49:34.6 | 15:58 |
| Male 70+ yrs. | | | | | | |
| 1 | Bob | Dacey | Vernon Rockville | CT | 26:02.2 | 8:23 |
| 2 | Lee | Bradley | Newington | CT | 41:33.6 | 13:23 |



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Come in out of the cold...



We are SO excited! After many years of dreaming, scheming, and believing, the Pandemonium Rainforest Project is fulfilling its mission to create an animal sanctuary devoted to the rescue and rehabilitation of exotic birds and reptiles!

Our mission has been to provide forever homes for unwanted animals through rescue, education, and sustainable husbandry.

We have worked very hard to create an entire campus devoted to the celebration of all animals, from our goats, dogs, and chickens to exotic birds and reptiles. (Maybe even a few humans seeking a respite, too.)

Come visit the new sanctuary, meet our birds and reptiles, do some shopping and enjoy the day.*

We are proud to announce that the Pandemonium Rainforest Project Animal Sanctuary is now open!



**The sanctuary and gift shop open
Thursday - Sunday 10-5**

**We continue to support our animals through a small admissions fee to the sanctuary.*

Pandemonium Rainforest Project is a 501-C3 Non-profit Organization. All your donations go directly to the care and rehabilitation of our animals.

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Community Health Committee

The Community Health Committee (CHC) wants to thank everyone who stopped by Adams Hometown Market to donate food items or cash at the annual 'Stuff- a- Cruiser' food drive event held on November 5th. Thank you to the Deep River Police Department, who were on site collecting and transporting the food back to the food pantry. The cruiser was 'stuffed' over 5 times! The food collected stays in the community and helps to provide our most vulnerable Deep River residents with food for a holiday dinner as well as year-round food assistance. The Deep River food pantry is located at 56 High Street, and is open on Tuesdays from 9:00-12:00pm and on Thursdays from 1:00-4:00 pm or by appointment. Non-perishable food donations may be made at any time by leaving donations in the drop box located in the lobby of the building. Perishable items can be accepted in small quantities when the pantry is open. Currently we have 1 small refrigerator available for storage.

Due to inflation and the rising cost of home heating fuel, some of our neighbors are facing hardships as they try to make ends meet. The CHC, to help offset their burden, has initiated our annual community appeal. The annual appeal letter mailed to all postal customers in Deep River is reaping generous returns. Our goal for 2023 is \$9500.00. To date, we have collected over \$7400.00 for the Community Health Fund (CHF), so we are well on our way. Thank you to all who have given so generously to this cause. If you haven't yet mailed your donation, there is still time. Please consider donating; remember no amount is too small. All funds collected are used to help Deep River families. Mail donations to the "Community Health Committee" c/o Deep River Town Hall, 174 Main Street; checks can be made payable to the "Community Health Fund".



Carol Jones, CHC member collecting the check from Adams employee Victoria And from assistant manager Lucy Face Arts

The Community Health Committee recently was offered the opportunity by Adams Hometown Market to participate in the "round up" program which al-

lows customers upon check out to round up their grocery bill to the nearest dollar as a way to make a donation to the Community Health Fund. This program allows qualifying groups to participate for one week at a time. During the week of September 10-17th, the community 'rounded up' bringing in \$1,002.00 for the CHF. Wow! Thank you to all who donated!

The CHC would like to thank Deep River's own Face Arts Music for their very large donation of food items and gift cards recently collected at an event that they



organize and hold every year. Face Arts Music held their annual 'Jams For Cans' event on Saturday, November 11th. This event is in its 18th year! Jams for Cans is a night of live music, all genres- rock, blues, jazz, folk, with the sole purpose of stocking the Deep River Pantry's shelves. Local bands and musicians are featured. It was held at the Deep River Ambulance Barn from 3-10 pm. Admission to this awesome night was 10 non-perishable items per person or a food gift card of \$25.00 or more.

We want to thank our community partners who help out the food pantry and our social service director throughout the year. Local civic groups such as the Rotary Club, the Elks, the Deep River Fire Department and local churches in Deep River and Chester are important contributors!

The committee also administers the Backpack program for students at Deep River Elementary School. Working with the school's social worker, Laura Kaspro, this program ensures that students who might otherwise

Community Health Committee, cont.

face food insecurity on the weekends do not go without. Members of the committee take turns going shopping for food items, assembling bags and having them ready for distribution on Friday mornings. It is a wonderful program but a great deal of work for a small committee to take on alone. So, a big thank you to other groups that have helped out when asked- namely the Deep River Rotary Club and the Town Hall employees. We could use more help, so if you would like to volunteer to shop for this great cause or help assemble bags each week, please reach out to a committee member or call and leave a message for the CHC through the Selectman's office. If you'd like to donate specifically to this program, any school lunch type snacks, or easy to prepare dinner options are welcome. Donations can be marked for the backpack program and dropped at the food pantry. Currently we are serving 12 students at DRES.

Another great source of funding is the 'community match fund' through Liberty Bank. Each fall, money is collected from jars put out in the bank lobby and then the total of those funds is matched by Liberty Bank. This results in a very generous donation to help with Thanksgiving meals. So, every little bit does help! Donate and watch your donation double!

The CHC is again working with DR Social Services, the Rotary Club, Tri-Town Youth Services and the DR Fire Department to hold a toy drive so that local youth will have presents to open at holiday time. The drive is ongoing and will take place until December 8th. Check out the details on the Town's web page or call Rosie @ 860-526-6033. It isn't too late to help out! Toys for all ages are needed and gift cards are greatly appreciated. There is also a need for volunteers to 'adopt' a child (or family) and purchase a specific gift or gifts for them. If you have interest in helping out in this way, please reach out to Rosie @ 860-526-6033.

Deep River's Social Service director is Rosie Bininger. Rosie works part time in Deep River as she also serves as the Social Service director in Chester. Her office hours are Tuesday, 9-12 and Thursday, 1-4. Her office and the food pantry are located at 56 High Street, next to Tri-Town Youth Services and Parks & Recreation. The food pantry is available free to any Deep River

resident in need. If you need other assistance, please make an appointment to meet with Rosie. Her phone number is 860-526-6033.

If you are looking for ways to help, donations are always sought and appreciated. Items can be dropped off in the lobby of the Tri-Town building @ 56 High Street or at Town Hall during office hours. You may also order items online and have them shipped directly to the pantry if that is easier. Gift cards are also appreciated.

As we move into the colder months, the pantry is in need the following food items:

- Canned tuna, chicken, or deviled ham
- Hearty soups/stews
- Juice
- Coffee/tea (small 1 lb. containers)
- Canned fruit
- Boxed or shelf milk
- Cereal/oatmeal
- Crackers and snacks
- Paper products (paper towels, toilet paper)
- Toiletries are appreciated
- Perishables during office hours ONLY, such as milk, eggs and butter

Currently, the committee has 8 members. The members are: Tracy Woodcock, chairperson; Lori Gregan, vice chair; Carol Jones, secretary; Dave Bifford, Dawn Norton, Betsy Scholfield, Jackie Calamari and Nancy Howard. The committee meets the first Tuesday evening of the month, 8 times a year.

Please attend a meeting or reach out to a committee member if you want to get involved. We are a wonderful small town that has some neighbors in need. Thank you for your donations and support, it is greatly appreciated.

Carol Jones, Secretary

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American Legion Post 61 Ibell-Jacobson-Smith

The pandemic re-arranged our meeting conditions so despite what you might have heard our members are active locally, at a District level, and at a state level. We cordially invite interested U.S. military veterans to telephone our Post 61 Senior Vice Commander Richard Nagot at 860-526-5270 for more information concerning our meeting schedule.

Post 61 and Commander Bill Burdick wish to acknowledge the great support we always have from our neighbors on Veterans Day and Memorial Day. The ceremonies at our schools are always so touching. We will be sponsoring an Arts and Essay contest for Veterans Day this year so please watch for the results in the next DEEP RIVER NEWS. Information on the winners is not yet available because this printing came earlier.

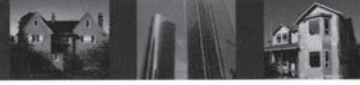
Plans are still underway for our American Legion High School Oratorical Contest. This contest consists of a competition at the end of January 2024, a second contest for the District (county level) on 8 February 2024, and a third (CT state level) contest in March 2024, followed by a national level contest about a month later. The contest is open to ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth graders under nineteen years of age. The application deadline is 27 November 2023 for students who would be interested. Please see more information on ctlegion.org for the requirements and rules. Follow the prompts for "ORATORICAL CONTEST." It might be necessary to scroll to the bottom of the site for Children & Youth or Americanism topics. Students, parents, and teachers may call me at 203-494-7151 with any questions; a conversation would be helpful. This is a challenging and competitive contest. Past winners delivering their speeches can be seen on YouTube. When these exceptional students present their speeches, we all learn something about the U.S. Constitution.

Considering recent news of other countries, we are so blessed and lucky to live here in the U.S. Please thank a veteran near you.

Eileen B. Richard, Adjutant, Post 61

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Deep River Garden Club

Thank you to those who supported our annual fall plant sale on Deep River Day! This year, 100% of the proceeds from this sale, as well as an additional \$500 from the DRGC's Helen G. Hannon fund, will be donated to the Deep River Historical Society. Last spring, DRHS had to remove several 200-year old trees on their property that were no longer safe, and our club is proud to support the replanting of one or more trees this coming spring.

In October, we held a New Member Social, and were pleased to have six new members join our small but mighty club! There's still room for more—it's never too late to join!

In November, club members will craft ornaments to decorate our Christmas tree entry in Deep River Historical Society's 10th Annual Festival of Trees, this year held at the Stone House on December 1-3 from 4:00-8:00pm.

As a new co-presidency takes root, we are still enthusiastically looking for new club members. You may be thinking, "I don't have a green thumb," or "I don't know how to garden." That's okay! All you need to care about is driving through Deep River and seeing cared for gardens and well-maintained landscapes. Current club members are considering Deep River resident feedback in order to set plans for next year and club goals for the future. We have big dreams, but those dreams are only possible with many hands! No matter your age or gardening experience, WE WANT YOU!

Looking ahead to 2024, we will be busy fulfilling our mission of maintaining and beautifying town properties, as well as looking into new fun and educational programming. Our monthly meetings (third Tuesdays of each month) are a mix of brainstorming, field trips and lectures, and working cleanup/gardening events that form great camaraderie!

If your schedule doesn't permit you to attend a majority of meetings but you would like to attend some events or support our club as an inactive member, please email drgardenclub@gmail.com and say you would like to be a "Friend of the Garden Club." Volunteer when you can, support how you can!

If you're on Instagram, please follow and share our NEW account, @deeprivergardenclub, or find us on Facebook at Deep River Garden Club, to see what we're busy with now and up to next! This spring, look out for our spring plant sale and keep your eyes open for the 1,000+ daffodils we'll soon be planting around town! And remember,

You don't have to have a green thumb to join, just an interest in beautifying Deep River!



Digging Deeper from the Deep River Garden Club Board, *Terry Konefal, Nicole Desrosiers, Sarah Layton, Lonnie Moskal and Kelly Lent*



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Deep River Land Trust

What's new with the Deep River Land Trust

The properties managed by the Deep River Land Trust provide a welcome respite from the stress and hurried pace of our busy lives. It's possible to venture out onto trails overlooking the Connecticut River or to spend time in more forested environs. Whichever Land Trust property you choose to access there will be a reward around every bend in the trail. Each season will bring a different view from exactly the same spot. Now, how many of us can say that about a walk in a city or a stroll down a busy thoroughfare? The members of the Land Trust work to preserve critical habitats necessary for the protection of native plants, animals, amphibians, avians and reptiles.

At any given time, the Land Trust volunteers can be found clearing out invasive plants, cleaning debris off of established trails, picking up litter from roadsides adjacent to our properties, leading bird walks and building a hardscape to make an area more accessible. During the course of the last year there have been a number of exciting events in the world of the Deep River Land Trust. In the spring of this year, we had our first maple syrup harvest at the Guetliweg property. This project was supported by the Bushy Hill Nature Center which kindly let us use their sugar shack. This event will be reprised next spring, and we encourage the public to drop by on selected dates which will be posted on social media. We had a contingent of students from the high school volunteer through the Warriors in the Community program to help with the maintenance of trails and build a deer enclosure structure at Guetliweg. The Rattling Ridge and Ridge Bypass Trails were opened in September with a hike and an after-hike party at High Nine. A dedicated group of volunteers are working with the Town of Deep River to acquire property on Rattling Valley Road which will be designated as open space. A new viewing platform is being constructed at the Smythe property which will offer a clear line of sight for bird watching and a spot for contemplation.

Since its founding in 1975 the Land Trust has acquired and preserves more than 230 acres of land in Deep River. There are a number of geographic features representative of the forces of nature which have given us our unique landscape. Chief among these are the glaciers which have come and gone over millennia. There are interesting environmental gems located on a number of our 15 properties, including beaver ponds, vernal pools, cold water streams and tracts of undisturbed woodlands. All of these features help to support wildlife, sequester carbon and filter our community's water as it moves toward the Connecticut River.

The next time you have the opportunity to stroll or hike on one of the trails on the Land Trust properties give a nod to the intrepid trail crew who work from spring through the fall to keep the trails clear and plan for the next iteration of trail construction. Leading this stalwart group of individuals is Robert Butterworth. Rob has been involved in trail work since 2001 when he began volunteering with the CT Forest and Park Association managing a section of hiking trail in the Cockaponset state forest. He was asked to take over the entire trail in 2003 as the person who preceded him moved out of state. Rob has continued to manage the trail but has the help of three other individuals helping with the maintenance of the trail. In addition to working full-time, managing the trails at Cockaponset, and raising a puppy (which is super cute) Rob has also spent time learning to build sustainable trails. He has spent years learning to build trails and has imparted his expertise to the volunteers who work with him on the Land Trust properties. When I talked with Rob about the concept of building trails, he presented a lesson in physics and a view of the natural world that lines up with Claude Monet. Rob patiently explained the concept of how physics is related to the mass and energy of water as it moves down hill and the need to work with the force of water when building trails. He then explained how he spends a full year deciding where a trail should be built by observing the view from "positive control points" on a proposed trail. Rob described how a view in mid summer can be dramatically different from the same spot in the depths of winter. This concept is similar to what Monet did in his paintings, where he painted the same scene over the course of time with the repetitious study of a scene at different times of day, showing the effects of sunlight, time and weather on a subject. I'm sure Rob would not see himself as the Monet of sustainable trails, but it does illustrate the idea of a shared appreciation of beauty. When asked about what the greatest need he has as our master trail manager/builder, Rob said a multi year commitment from volunteers, because it takes time to learn the craft and art of building sustainable trails. The following link will take you to the U.S. Forest Service website and a more in-depth discussion of sustainable trails on a national level. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/national-trail-strategy.pdf>

In conclusion, I would like to invite everyone to visit our website <https://deepriverlandtrust.org/> find a property and venture outside to take a hike and support the Land Trust by donating your time or money to a great cause.



Membership Form

Join the Deep River Land Trust! Membership is open to all—individuals, families, and organizations interested in supporting our mission. Individual, Family, Contributing, Sustaining, and Guardian Membership lasts one calendar year, starting in April in honor of Earth Day. Please renew your membership by April 22 each year. Lifetime membership does not need to be renewed each year. Membership benefits include receipt of the Annual Newsletter, attendance at Annual Meetings, and participation in special Land Trust activities; Membership responsibilities include exercising your right to vote in Board elections and voting on motions set before the entire DRLT membership.

Select your membership level below.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 |

Membership dues to the Deep River Land Trust are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. It is most efficient for us if you fill out this membership form on line and pay your dues via PayPal, but if you choose to join us by using paper, please make checks payable to **Deep River Land Trust, Inc.** and mail along with this completed form to:

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(We need your email address in order to communicate and manage your membership efficiently; it will never be shared)

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* Are you interested in Volunteering to help us?

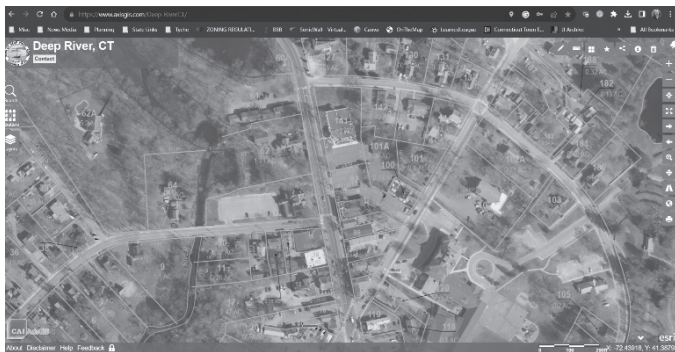
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Planning & Zoning

Thanks to a COVID-era grant from the State of Connecticut, the Town of Deep River has been gradually expanding its government services that can be accessed without making a trip to Town Hall. One of the primary beneficiaries of these long-overdue upgrades is the Land Use Office, which includes the Building Department, Planning & Zoning, and Inland Wetlands. Because this office is generally only open two days per week, property owners, contractors, and interested buyers or builders often have to modify their schedules to accommodate that limited availability. Over the next 6-12 months, that resource will be dramatically improved, because of two significant new developments.

The first of these is already in place. The Town has digitized its basic property information through an online Geographic Information Systems (GIS) website. That site – www.axisgis.com/deep_riverct/ contains a wealth of information about property parcels and underlying data. While this may surprise traditional map-users who have a limerence for old-school cartographers, the GIS website can easily and quickly answer many questions like: How many acres is this property? Are there likely wetlands on site? Are there public sewer lines nearby? What are the allowable uses in this zone? When was the primary building constructed, and when was it last sold? It is hoped that the ready access to this information will help property owners, realtors, developers, and curious visitors access a wealth of information without having to wait for the Land Use Office to be open.



The second significant technology upgrade has the potential to be even more transformative of how people interact with Deep River's government. The Town recently entered into a contract with Brightly Software, the makers of the SmartGov permitting system, to begin to migrate Deep River's land use permitting (building, zoning, wetlands, and health) to an online format. The initial framework of this system will be over the next

several months, with a target of full implementation within the year. The software will allow property owners and building contractors to submit their entire project application package online, including maps, plan sets, and payments. This can be done 24/7, so that applicants do not need to wait for those windows of time when the Land Use Office is open to physically deliver applications and plans to Town Hall. Even more importantly, it will allow town officials to more efficiently review, track, comment on, and approve permits at any time.



The migration of permitting systems to a digital format will take some time and effort and will present a significant learning curve for town staff, property owners, and contractors alike. In the end, however, the Town believes that this is a more responsive, accessible, and efficient way to deliver critical government services to its residents. Please contact the land use office at zoning@deepriverct.us or 860-526-6030 for any questions about these new e-government upgrades.



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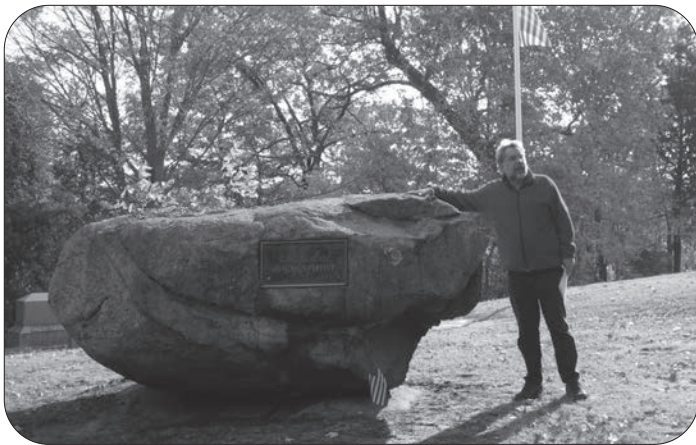
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Fountain Hill Cemetery

Fall Cleanup: The Board of Directors of Fountain Hill Cemetery are working on their annual fall cleaning. Just in time for a wedding scheduled for next weekend and the Fall Walk on November 4th.



Our Annual Fall Walk held on November 4th was well attended with many familiar faces and some new ones. Rev. Tim Haut has a treasure-trove of stories that ensure an entertaining walk. He is seen here at the Soldiers Monument placed by the GAR veterans in 1870.

The Chapel at Fountain Hill Cemetery is not just for funeral services. The Wooster Memorial Chapel at Fountain Hill Cemetery was built for non-denominational services including weddings. On October 21st the chapel hosted its third wedding service since it reopened in 2017. This Gothic style chapel has withstood the test of time unaltered and is a beautiful example of architecture of the early 20th Century. Upgrades in the last few years have included the chandeliers and air conditioning. With a seating capacity of 70, it's the perfect location for an intimate wedding service. For more information about renting the chapel please visit our new website www.fountainhillcemetery.com

Visit us on the web: Fountain Hill Cemetery now has its own website www.fountainhillcemetery.com. Keep up with current events, find out more about us and our history.

Support the Fountain Hill Cemetery Preservation Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of this historic cemetery. The group is currently working towards dredging out the pond and bringing a fountain back to the cemetery.

As we look forward to this winter season, safety is our priority. Walkers: please watch out for icy conditions and follow road closure signage in inclement weather.

Happy Holidays!

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Deep River Congregational Church

You are invited to join us for worship on Sundays at 8:30am or 10:00am. The 8:30am service offers a more intimate time to gather to worship and praise God, while the 10:00am service is a Traditional Service, with Choir, in addition to the weekly sermon. Sunday School meets every week during 10:00am worship. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Also, on the third Wednesday of each month, there will be a Service of Peace and Healing at 7:00pm. If you cannot attend in person, our 10:00am service is live-streamed each Sunday. Go to our church website, www.deeprivercc.org and click on live-stream.

Fall was a busy season in the life of the church.

- **Sunday School** Our Sunday School offers programs from birth - 8th grade and we welcome all within the local community and beyond. Sunday School meets during our 10:00am service.
 - **DRCC group for High Schoolers, Teen Issues** meets every **Sunday from 10am-11am**, and is open to all in **grades 9-12**. Join us for fun projects and meaningful talks about life and faith. No matter where you are on your faith journey, all are welcome.
 - On **Sunday, October 8th**, we had a special congregational meeting and unanimously voted to invite **Rev. Dr. Cheryl Caronna** to be our **Co-Pastor**. She will begin to serve here in early 2024.
 - On **Homecoming Sunday, October 15th**, we recognized 188 members who have been members of our church for 25 years or more.
 - We had our **Harvest Dinner Theater on Sunday evening, October 15th**. It was a delicious ham and bean supper and a number of entertainers performed following supper.
 - On **October 29th**, our Sunday School had a special Halloween celebration.
 - The **CT River Valley Symphonic Band** performed a free concert here at 4:00pm on **Sunday, October 29th**. Member, **Jacob Wilson** is the Director.
 - **Rev. Tim Haut** led the annual walking tour of **Fountain Hill Cemetery on Saturday, November 4th**.
 - **Rev. Allen Humes**, our Pastor for 17 years before Tim came was laid to rest here in our Essex Street Cemetery on Nov. 5th.
 - On **November 12th**, our **7th & 8th grade Sunday School** hosted their **Sixth Annual Breakfast for Veterans** in our community.
 - The **Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service** was held at **Essex Baptist Church, 10 Prospect Street**, in Essex on **Sunday, November 19th at 4:00pm**.
- The month of December is an especially busy time for our congregation and offers many opportunities for members of the community to join us as we celebrate the Christmas season.
- On **Dec 2nd**, you are invited to our delicious and festive **Dessert by Candlelight**. It will be served from **6:00pm -7:30pm**. Tickets will be available at the church office beginning Nov 1st.
 - Come join us at the **Ye Olde English Christmas Faire on Dec 2nd, from 8:30am-2:00pm**. Wander through our Dicken's village and shop for gifts, sweets, homemade bread and soups, chocolates, freshly decorated wreaths, decorations and much more! Lunch will be available at our Reindeer Restaurant.
 - Sunday, **December 9th at 4:00pm**, the **CT River Valley Symphonic Band** will perform a free concert of Christmas and holiday music. It will be a wonderful way to usher in the Christmas season and relax after our Christmas Faire. There is no cost to attend.
 - **Sunday, December 17th**, please join us for our special Christmas Music service at 10:00am. The Senior Choir and Chancel Handbell choir will present the fit of a Service of Music for Christmas. The church will be decorated with poinsettias given in memory and celebration of loved ones. A special coffee hour, hosted by our Deacons, will be held after worship in Fellowship Hall.
 - **Sunday, December 24th ~ Christmas Eve Pageant, 5:30pm** - We are planning an Alumni Pageant this year! Join us in person or via live-stream.
 - **Sunday December 24th ~ Candlelight Service, 8:00pm** - Join us as we sing Christmas carols together and hear the Christmas story. You are welcome to come in-person or to watch via live-stream from our website. (www.deeprivercc.org) The celebration closes as we light individual candles and sing "Silent Night" together.
 - **Sunday, December 31st ~ Family Worship Service** with a special Christmas story by Rev. Timothy Haut, 10:00am (no 8:30am service)
- Please check our website for upcoming events in 2024 and updates about our worship schedule and church activities: www.deeprivercc.org It is updated regularly. You may also contact Office Manager, Kris Lindner at 860-526-5045 or officedrcc@deeprivercc.org



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Deep River Meetings on Television and Online

Stay informed about Town government by watching Board of Selectmen meetings and Board of Finance meetings Sunday evenings at 6:00 on **Comcast channels 19 & 1070**, or **Frontier TV channel 6089**. Board of Selectmen meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month and recorded for broadcast on the following two Sunday evenings. The monthly Board of Finance meeting is held on the fourth Tuesday and broadcast with the Board of Selectmen's meeting on the following Sundays.

You can also view meetings **online** by going to the Deep River web site (www.deepriverct.us). On the homepage under "*Quick Links*" select "View meetings online." On the link you can select meetings by date.

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

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



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Dry Pants Model Yacht Club

Exciting and fun to watch or sail the Dry Pants Model Yacht Club (DPMYC) is finishing up its Fall Series this week, ending eight weeks of Sunday competition. The DPMYC is a 31-member group of radio-controlled model boat sailors. We sail most every Wednesday and Sunday from 10:30am to 1:30pm, unless the Plattwood Pond is frozen, or the temperature is below 38 degrees.

There are three One Design classes sailed. The CR-914 is the most popular. In fact, the DPMYC has the largest CR fleet in the country. The other two classes are the DF-95 and DF-65. CR-914s are 3 feet long and 5 feet tall including the keel bulb. With a fair wind, both the CRs and DFs race at 4-5 mph, a fast walk and turn on a dime. If you can toggle, you can sail all classes. Your right thumb steers while your left thumb adjusts both the main and jib, together.

The Club is a good source for used boats, especially the CR-914 which is a good boat for the new skipper. Some skippers enjoy building their own boats from kits, others prefer to buy used boats. There are loaner boats for those who just want to get their feet wet.

Radio controlled racing is like big boat racing, with the same rules. The start is very important, then boat speed and tactics take over. Some skippers will fine tune their rigging between races, some tweaks are helpful, others regrettable. If you finish poorly, don't worry, there will be another race in a few minutes.

Trophies or plaques are awarded to the top three finishers in both the Spring and Fall Series. The balance of the racing year is just for fun and camaraderie. For further information regarding the Club, please contact our Vice Commodore, Bill Dempsey at: lighthouse-print@sbcglobal.net or visit our website, DPMYC.com.

Come join us at the pond!

Steve Butler
Club Secretary



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Photos Wanted!

**We are always looking for great photos
for our Newsletters, Website and
Town Calendar**

**If you have a photo you would like to submit, send it
to jaberardis@deepriverct.us**

High resolution images, 3000px or larger please.



The Nest Coffee House

A Little Compassion Inc./The Nest Coffee House

Here we are welcoming yet another season in this magical place we call home. I know that the majority of Deep River residents never take for granted the beauty of these wooded hills, historic rock walls made hundreds of years ago by our predecessors, or the majesty of the Connecticut River as it makes its final push toward Long Island Sound. But the biggest treasure of all in these hills is the people who make this town the place we not only call home but a place where others come so they can also feel at home here in Deep River.

It's no accident that The Nest Coffee House found its home in Deep River. Sure, we could have opened in a busier town with more foot traffic, but this is where our heartbeats are, where our paths cross, our roots go down and our children grow. It was the only place The Nest could become real and so it is here in Deep River where our community's soft place to land began in 2018.

The Nest has the most incredible, kind, and compassionate baristas you'll ever find and if you have not been in lately, check out our new offerings and space. From delectable desserts to new vegan options and hearty soups, we truly do our best to have something for everyone. Our coffee comes from right here in CT through One World Roasters who pride themselves on roasting only fair trade and organic coffees while giving back in so many ways across the globe and locally. We love these guys!

Just a month or so ago our 2nd Annual Compassion Walk took place here in Deep River. Together, a flock of folks who believe in our mission to support young adults with neurodiversity walked our quaint streets together. They believe in creating paths to independence for young adults, supporting families and helping the overall community become more aware of the challenges and gifts of neurodiversity. We are so grateful for all those who walked, donated, or sponsored our walk to "pave the way for people of all abilities." Our programs will fly higher with the support of so many.

We've also taken some steps to bring more opportunities to our community's young adults with a trip to the Katherine Violet Hubbard Sanctuary in Ridgefield, CT

as well as new artists in our Boutique, new and interesting gatherings, and new staff to ensure our "soft place to land" stays that way! Check out our Nest Gatherings at www.aLittleCompassion.org. Please stop in for coffee and say "Hi" to Linda Bennet, our new program director, who calls Middle Haddam home and loves books, creativity in all forms, sign language and people...she adores people most of all and knows the value of the tapestry of skills and talents we build together here at A Little Compassion.

We wish you all a wonderful holiday season. For more details on what we've got brewing and how we support our community, visit us at The Nest, on Facebook or Instagram, and via our website www.thenestcoffeehouse.org.

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Deep River Public Library



All of our programs are free unless noted, and open to the public. Check out our monthly calendar to see what's on offer. View our calendar online: <http://deepriverlibrarysupport.com>, or stop in

to pick up a printed copy.

Let's Talk Books

Deep River Library has a monthly book club that meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00pm. Occasionally we'll watch a critically acclaimed film instead of a book discussion. We are currently seeking new members!

Digital Media

Enjoy eBooks, audio books and additional digital content for free on the Palace Project, Libby/Overdrive or Hoopla. Visit our homepage and click on one of the apps to start accessing content today!

Upcoming Adult Programs:

Legends and Lore November 1; 6:30pm
Spooky local legends with Pamela Ryder. Registration is required.

Holiday Harvest Table November 4; 11:30am
Learn tips and tricks to a festive table and try out treats and mocktail samples. Registration Required.

Tips for Managing Stress November 8; 6:30pm
Find out tips for managing stress with Dr. Wendy Hurwitz! Registration is required, seating is limited.

Understanding the Power in Dreams, November 18; 10:30am
Discover how to channel the power in dreams! Registration Required.

Tie Dye Tea Towels, November 20, 6:30pm
Get crafty with Shell & Bee! Registration Required.

Intergenerational Programs:

Autumn Harvest Bowl; November 15, 6:30pm

Pear Cupcakes with Maple Frosting; December 6, 6:30pm

Whether you are an adult that likes to try new recipes, a teen stretching their culinary skills or a family that likes to cook together, try out our monthly Zoom cooking classes to enjoy a social and inclusive program that is delicious and great fun! Registration is required!

Children's Programs:

Storytimes are offered on Thursday and Friday mornings at 10:30am. Join us for books, music, and movement, followed by social time and play. No registration required.

Brick Bunch: Open LEGO play with friends!
November 3, November 17, December 1 and December 15; 3:45pm

Music with Miss Martha, November 9; 10:30am
Music and Movement with Miss Martha from Community Music School! No registration required.

Mrs. Claus Storytime
December 2, 10:30am
Festive stories and music with Mrs. Claus.

STEM Take & Make Kits
Raindrop Suncatcher, October
Up-SEED Down, November
Flight Test, December

For more information on Library Events, check out our monthly online calendar! Use the QR code to access our full list of programs!



Friends of the Deep River Library

The Friends of the Deep River Public Library would like to thank you for your generosity during the annual Book and Bake Sale! It was a tremendous success.



We hope you remember to use the free passes to the many museums, seaport, and some of the other adventure opportunities they offer.

We are currently working with our local boy scout troop to add some additional free libraries around town. Due to popular demand, we are also planning to bring back our annual psychic medium fundraiser event in January. If there is something that interests you, or a subject you would like to hear a speaker on or a craft to create, let us know.

We are always looking for new members, so feel free to reach out via email. We love new friends!



Thank you for your support.

Lori Gregan, President

Kyra Beta, Secretary

Kim Olson, Treasurer

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Deep River PTO



The Deep River Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (DRES PTO) saw an incredibly successful year in 2022-23! We would like to thank our incredible community for supporting events such as: BINGO Night, Pansy Sale, the co-host Pasta Dinner with the Deep River Fire Department, the Ice Cream Social, Clothing exchange and many others. Your involvement on our elementary school's behalf has been invaluable.

During the 2022-23 school year, donated funds supported:

- Field trips (such as attending the U.S. Coast Guard Band's annual School Concert Series).
- Student enrichment activities (such as A Place Called Hope).
- Unbudgeted school improvement and classroom items (new air conditioners for classrooms).
- Teacher Appreciation Week (five days of celebrating our teachers and staff).
- STEM Day (guests included parents with careers in the sciences as well as the Connecticut Science Center's Bubble Show).
- Day of the Arts (we hosted Crocodile River Band, Flock Theater, Face Art Studio and more).

Our 2023-24 PTO has already begun contributing to our community by offering mini-grants to teachers for an additional classroom event or items, giving teachers additional funds to refresh classroom libraries and by providing two commercial grade picnic tables to increase our outdoor classroom space.

We have a bright future ahead of us this year and we would love your support! All caregivers are welcome to join our meetings offered both in person and virtually on the third Thursday of each month. We love co-hosting events and supporting our community. Please reach out to drespto@gmail.com as we'd love to partner with you!

Follow us on Instagram @drespto and on Facebook DRES PTO for the most up-to-date event information.

Kyra Beta (President)

Christine Hanford (Vice President)

Lori Sanfratello (Treasurer)

Katelyn Ely (Secretary)

Kirtland Commons

The change in season has brought some calmness to Kirtland Commons after a busy, busy Summer! We held a total of 9 concerts throughout July and August—our favorite events of the year! We would like to thank all the local artists who performed for us as well as the variety of food vendors that provided delicious meals for us every Wednesday night. We wouldn't have had such a successful concert series without you all!

We opened our waiting list this past June and are happy to have expanded our list with a significant new group of applicants! We love to see so many people with great interest in living here at Kirtland Commons. If there are people in the community interested in joining the list—applications become available once a year during the month of June. Over the past few months, we have also welcomed a great handful of new residents into our Kirtland family! We love embracing new tenants to ensure they feel right at home here.

September and October have slowed down, but our weekly activities remain the same: BINGO, chair yoga, paper crafting, ceramics, trivia, and billiards. Residents and seniors in town have also been enjoying some productions at the Ivoryton Playhouse and their annual trip on the CT RiverQuest boat to see the beautiful fall foliage down the river. This quietness has allowed us some time to begin planning our autumn and holiday events. As always, we will have our annual pumpkin carving party on Halloween this year. We plan to have a full day of fun—yummy apple cider donuts, cozying up with some corn chowder and grilled cheese while watching a spooky Halloween movie played outside for the residents to enjoy. We have also started preparation for our Holiday decor since we have multiple Christmas trees to plan for! We love brainstorming different themes for each one of our trees; the residents always adore when we “deck the halls!” We are also thrilled to take part in the Historical Society's “Festival of Trees” this year.

As we look to the new year, we are hoping to restart our weekly meal program and bring in new activities. We are planning to add fun holiday activities to the calendar like cookie decorating and ornament and wreath-making crafts. If you are a senior in the Deep River area and would like to stay up to date with our programs and activities, follow us on Facebook or you can reach out to Liza at lizathayer@deepriverha.org



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Deep River 60 Club

Membership in the Deep River 60 Club is open to all seniors who are 60 or above who live in Deep River or nearby communities. The club's activities are supported by donations, dues, and fundraising. Contact us at 860-767-2302 for more information about becoming a member. We welcome all seniors.

As stipulated in the bylaws, the Club's Officers can only serve for two consecutive two year terms. Therefore, at its final meeting for the year the Deep River 60 Club unanimously elected the following slate of officers and committee chairs for 2023-2025.

- President: Louisa Ketron, and member of all standing committees
- Vice President and Sunshine Committee Chair: Richard Nagot
- Secretary and Membership Committee Chair: Calice Sterling
- Treasurer and Programs and Fund-Raising Committee: Barbara Lunn
- Refreshment Committee: Terry Konefal
- Publicity Committee: Jean Randall, Norm Randall, Calice Sterling, and Sue Wisner
- Nominating Committee: Cheryl Tilney
- Member at Large: Sally Carlson Crowell
- Member at Large: Carol Clark

After completing her full terms as President, Sally Carlson Crowell was honored and received special recognition for her years of service.

Left: Terry Konefal and Right: is Sally Carlson Crowell



We are looking ahead to a full and fun year. Programs can be musical, educational, assorted crafts and guest speakers.

This most recent event was organized by Louisa Ketron. This was a fun afternoon painting and decorating rocks with acrylic paints. We had all types of designs, and everyone left with at least one of them.

We are very excited about being able to use the Deep River Ambulance Barn for our future meetings, located at 284 West Elm Street They will be held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Time 1:30pm -3:00pm. We started on Sept 26th, and it worked out perfectly. It is a large space, and the facility has everything we might need.

We appreciate the Ambulance Barn being made available to us and the Deep River Ambulance organization allowing this. It just shows how our Deep River Community works together for the better good of our town.

We meet at the Deep River Ambulance Barn at 1:30pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month September through November and February through May.



Norman Randall, Carol Clark, Maurine Rodrigues, and Jean Randall showing their talents.



Barbara Lunn, Richard Nagot and Beverly Oboda

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Board & Commission Meetings

Board of Assessment Appeals

March and September
Date & times to be announced.
Chairperson: Darlene Pollock

Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commission

2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Chairperson: Tanner Steeves

Community Health Committee

1st Tuesday of most months at 7:00 p.m.
Chairperson: Tracy Woodcock

Deep River Elementary School Board of Education

3rd Thursday of each odd numbered month (except for July) at 7:00 p.m. at the elementary school. Joint meetings with other Region 4 boards during even-numbered months at JWMS
Chairperson: Miriam Morrissey

Deep River SustainableCT Committee

2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Chairperson: Sara Conner

Design Advisory Board

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

Economic Development Commission

3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Chairperson: Peter Lewis

Board of Finance

4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Chairperson: George Eckenroth

Board of Fire Commissioners

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

Library Board of Trustees

2nd Monday of each month (except for July) at 7 p.m.
at the Library.
Chairperson: Linda Hall

Municipal Ethics Commission

1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Chairperson: Luther Moen

Parks & Recreation Commission

2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Chairperson: Christopher Marra

Planning & Zoning Commission

3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Hearings may be scheduled separately.
Chairperson: Anthony Bolduc

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: Kate Sandman

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.
(as needed)
Chairperson: Jerome Ackerman

Note:

If a scheduled meeting falls on a legal holiday, check with board or commission for rescheduled date.

Index of Services & Facilities

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

Animal Control
Caroline Fountain
174 Main Street
860-767-4340 ext. 160
860-526-6020 option 1 (non-emergency)
selectman@deepriverct.us

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

Building Department
174 Main Street
860-526-6025
buildingdept@deepriverct.us
Mon. & Wed. 8am-12pm & 1pm-3pm

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

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

Deep River Congregational Church
1 Church Street
860-526-5045
Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-2:00pm

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

Deep River Post Office
225 Main Street
860-526-5970

Fair Housing Officer
174 Main Street
860-526-6020

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 option 1 (non-emergency)

Fountain Hill Cemetery
57 High Street, P.O. Box 263
860-526-4752

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

Kirtland Commons Housing Authority
Joann Hourigan
60 Main Street
860-526-5119

Land Trust
P.O. Box 101
drlandtrust@gmail.com

Parks & Recreation
56 High Street
860-526-6036
parkandrec@deepriverct.us

Planning & Zoning
174 Main Street
860-526-6030
zoning@deepriverct.us
Mon. & Wed. 9am-12pm

Public Library
150 Main Street
860-526-6039
sjrooney@biblio.org
Mon. 1-8, Wed. 1:00pm-8pm, Tues., Thurs.
Fri. 10am-6pm, Sat. 10am-2pm,

Public Works Department
206 Winthrop Road
860-526-6032
Mon.-Fri. 7am-3:30pm

**Regional District #4
Superintendents Office**
1 Winthrop Road
860-526-2417 x1
jbryan@reg4.k12.ct.us
www.reg4.k12.ct.us

Registrars of Voters
By Appointment Only
860-526-6059
drregistrars@deepriverct.us

Resident Trooper's Office
174 Main Street
860-526-6027 (non-emergency)
police@deepriverct.us

Selectman's Office
174 Main Street
860-526-6020 option 1
selectman@deepriverct.us
Mon.-Wed. 8am-4pm
Thurs. 8am-6:30pm
Fri. 8am-12pm

Social Services
56 High Street
860-526-6033
drsocalservices@deepriverct.us
Tues., 9am-12:00pm, Thurs., 1pm-4pm
and by appointment

Tax Collector
174 Main Street
860-526-6028
taxcollector@deepriverct.us
Tuesday-Wednesday 9am-4pm & Thurs. 9am-
6:30pm Open 5 days a week - July & January
(Closed daily 12pm-1pm)

Town Clerk
174 Main Street
860-526-6024
townclerk@deepriverct.us
Mon.-Wed. 9am-4pm, Thurs. 9am-6:30pm
Fri. 9am-12pm

Town Historian
Richard Kalapos
860-526-3254
By Appointment Only

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

Tri-Town Youth Services
56 High Street
860-526-3600
ttysb@aol.com

Troop F - State Police
315 Spencer Plain Road
Westbrook, CT
860-399-2100 (non-emergency)

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

Visiting Nurses of Lower Valley
61 Main Street
Centerbrook, CT
860-767-0186
Mon.-Fri. 9am-4pm

Water Pollution Control Authority
99 Winter Avenue
860-526-6044
plewis@deepriverwpca.com
Mon.-Fri. 8am-4pm

Winthrop Cemetery Association
Route 80, Winthrop Road
860-526-2161

Zoning Office
174 main Street
860-526-6030
zoning@deepriverct.us
Mon. & Wed. 9am-12pm



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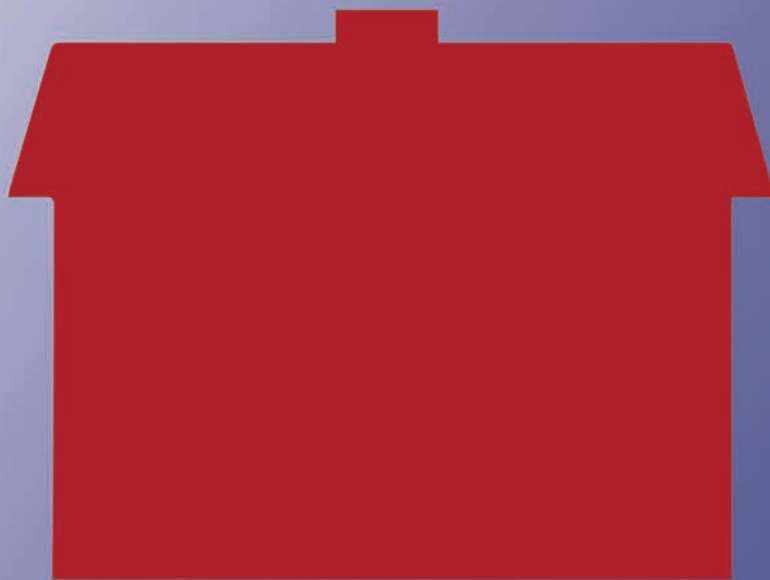
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