

Clinton events

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Education Initiatives in Connecticut

Across the state of Connecticut, administrators, teachers and students are well underway with their lesson plans for the 2021 school year. While educators are accustomed to teaching their students language arts, history, math and science, another important discussion to have with younger generations in the classroom is energy efficiency. Throughout the years, Eversource has provided educational programming to hundreds of schools across the state, cultivating positive energy behaviors and ensuring students know ways they can make a positive impact on the planet. Eversource, an Energize ConnecticutSM sponsor, offers eesmartSM, Green STEP and Home Energy Challenges to encourage students and parents to make changes in their everyday lives, leaving a healthy planet for generations to come.

eesmartSM consists of an annual contest, professional development workshops for educators, energy efficiency lessons for students, and resources for parents. The popular eesmartSM annual student contest asks students to answer grade level-specific prompts, like a poster or a public service announcement. This year, more than 244 students across the state submitted entries and we hope to continue increasing participation each year. James Waters of Mystic, who attends St. Bernard School in Montville, was the first-place winner for sixth grade and wrote a persuasive speech about how the state can become more energy efficient. When asked about the contest, he said, "I learned that helping save the environment with clean sources and renewable energy is very important." Second-place winner for Kindergarten, Raegan Phanavong of New Britain created a drawing and she said, "Mr. K (art teacher) gave clues on recycling. So, I drew Daddy recycling and I turned off the lights in the morning that we used at night." Winners of the competition received a box in the mail from Eversource with their certificate, an eesmartSM water bottle, energy-efficient night light and an Amazon gift card. Look for details about the next student contest in early 2022.

To encourage and prepare our vocational high school students to enter green careers, Green STEP (Sustainability

Technical Education Program) provides young people with energy efficiency knowledge and skills in their chosen trade, as well as awareness of related career pathways through real-world learning experiences. It gives students the opportunity to research, analyze and implement energy-efficiency strategies in their schools and communities. There are almost 4,000 students enrolled in the program, and Eversource hopes that many of those students can one day gain employment in the energy efficiency industry.



Second-place winner for Kindergarten, Raegan Phanavong of New Britain.

Eversource also offers the Home Energy Challenge. The Home Energy Challenge was created in 2020 by Eversource, because of at-home schooling becoming commonplace across the nation. It was designed to provide families across Eversource's service territories at-home energy conservation projects that educate students and their families. Between May 2020 and August 2021, Eversource

provided four unique topics – insulation, home energy conservation, LED lighting and energy transformation – and had nearly 2,700 participants across CT, MA and NH.

The current education programs offered by Eversource, through Energize CTSM, and new programs that will come to life, aim to educate our communities on actions they can take to make our planet thrive for years to come. Teaching about renewable energy and energy efficiency now will help equip younger generations in the future. We hope to be giving students a foundation to keep innovating, learning and practicing ways to combat climate change. For more information on how to get involved in Eversource's energy efficiency education offerings, please visit www.eversource.com.



Town Manager's Corner

Of late, Clinton has been able to enjoy a great deal of new development which is revitalizing our community. New businesses have opened and older properties have been re-purposed, finding a new use. Building on this progress, there are a number of forward looking initiatives that are also underway which will have an impact on Clinton's future – both short-term and long-term.

At the regional level, Clinton is part of an effort to develop a regional housing plan and a local plan to provide housing that is affordable. Clinton and 12 other towns in our region are working with the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments to understand the regional housing market, demographics, current trends and the long-term direction for housing needs. The regional housing plan will serve as the foundation for local plans required by State statute to describe approaches to provide for housing that is more affordable. The local focus will be on identifying policies that can make housing more affordable in a way that fits within Clinton, reflecting community values and priorities. Affordable housing can take many forms and complement existing development, but it should always be housing that costs no more than 30% of a household's income. The plan should be something that can be implemented and will allow many, such as senior citizens on fixed incomes, teachers and other local workers to live in our community. Quality housing is critical to keeping the local and regional economy working. In the words of one

of the consultants on this project, "housing is where jobs go at night." It is in all of our interest to insure that our economy remains strong with housing that supports employment opportunities.

A second initiative the Town is moving forward with is to create our own system that will provide programs for senior citizens. The Town's first step was to create, and hire, a Senior Program Coordinator to identify and develop programs to meet the needs of active senior citizens based in Clinton. The position will also partner with existing senior service providers as we carve out a space to address unmet local needs. This is an exciting opportunity for the Town.

Lastly, the Town Council had its second annual budget forecasting discussion. As a best practice and a way to look at future budget issues, budget forecasting with the Council helps identify the activities that influence the budget and can work to address issues before they become a crisis. The forecast is simply that – a projection of what could be coming our way that is known or can be anticipated. Looking at it earlier than the height of the annual budget adoption process helps the Council and the Town Manager have a discussion on priorities and actions that might need to be taken. Clinton is moving forward and seeing real growth

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Karl Kilduff, Town Manager

A large photograph of a modern dining room interior. In the center is a wooden dining table with a black metal base, surrounded by white upholstered chairs. A floral centerpiece sits on the table. To the left, a light blue sofa is partially visible. To the right, there are white-framed glass doors leading outside. The room has large windows and a light-colored rug.

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Town Manager... *continued from page 3*

in its Grand List coming from new economic development activity but remains at risk for decisions made in Hartford regarding funding given to each community to provide important services. Toward the end of 2021 and into the winter of 2022, the annual budget process will start again. It will

be informed by early Council input and the benefit of having a forecast to plan accordingly. Soon enough it will be February and the Town Manager's Recommended Budget will be presented to the Town Council.

Enjoy your fall and winter holiday season. Stay safe.

Clinton Building Department

Generator Requirements

Effective immediately, due to recent issues with generator installations the following will be required for all generator permit applications:

- A site plan in detail, must be uploaded indicating the direction of the exhaust and the location of the new equipment, any existing equipment, and the transfer switch location (before main or after main disconnect), wiring sizes and method.
- If a whole house transfer switch is to be installed ahead of the current main disconnect, details on the grounding and bonding arrangement are to be provided.
- Please note that the generator shall be placed at a 90° angle with the exhaust

facing outward from, not parallel with the house.

- If an Automatic Transfer Switch is being proposed to be installed, a load calculation is required in order to show compliance with the capacity and rating requirements of the National Electrical Code.
- The type of fuel source being used as well as the pipe type and size must be referenced on the application.
- The location of the fuel source and distance between the generator and the fuel source must also be noted on the site plan.
- Cement board must be used to seal any basement windows/openings. Plexiglass is not an acceptable material.

Clinton Human Services: New Logo and Website

Clinton Human Services has rebranded itself with a new, custom-designed logo and a revamped website.



The logo, designed in partnership with the Human Services Advisory Board and design firm the Scout Collective, features three helping hands surrounding a heart, bordered

by sun rays and ocean waves. HSAB Chair Erin Gaudet observed that the logo has “three hands to represent each department, Youth & Family, Social Services and Partners in Community. The heart in the middle to unite the departments into one... Clinton Human Services. The waves and sun to show that no matter how rough the tides, the sun always comes out to soothe and warm us. Just perfect for our Shoreline town.”

The new website, also developed by Scout, features a full-color gallery of everything CHS has to offer. Find our programs, volunteer opportunities, and testimonials at ClintonHumanServices.org.

This fall, Partners in Community took members of the Morgan REACT club on several outdoor adventures, with camping, hiking, canoeing, and rock-climbing as highlights. A video compilation of these experiences is on YouTube at the channel Partners in Community. PiC and REACT were happy to re-launch the popular Haunted Hallways at Morgan, running on October 30th. On October 24th, CHS also sponsored its 1st annual mental health and wellness day at the beach, a family-friendly event called “Clinton Cares.” Throughout the fall, our Social Services department has offered drive-thru food distribution on the 1st Friday of each month, as well as supporting families completing renter’s rebate and energy assistance applications. Finally, our mental health clinicians at Youth & Family Services are counseling



L-R Laconia Shepard, Lucy Bailey, Madeline Stevens

a record number of clients, one of many impacts of our extended pandemic.

With our autumn events behind us, Clinton Human Services looks forward to the holiday season, to include our annual Holiday Gift Giving Program for Children. Contact Social Services at 860-669-7437 in November to register and complete paperwork for this program. Captions:



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Henry Carter Hull Library

What's new at HCH Library? Visit www.hchlibrary.org or call (860)669-2342 for the most up-to-date hours, guidelines, and information about upcoming events and programs, in addition to details about our services. Subscribe to our email newsletter and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates. Need a library card? Have a question? We're here to help! Please call or email askus@hchlibrary.org for assistance.

Reference Resources

The Henry Carter Hull Library is excited to offer our community Aspen Discovery, a new web-based enhancement to our library catalog. Search for books, audiobooks, movies, music, and more while experiencing the future of the web. Discover more with the integration of, "The New York Times Best Sellers" list and reviews from other readers on GoodReads. Visit catalog.hchlibrary.org to access your library account and explore digital resources to keep learning from and enjoying all that HCH has for you!

Library Resource Highlights:

Pre-Loaded Nook eReaders & Roku Streaming Devices: Borrow a device loaded with an entire library of new and classic eBooks or films. Contact us for more information or to place a hold.

Need WiFi? Public WiFi may be accessed from our library garden or parking lot every day. WiFi Internet HotSpots are also available for check-out with your library card - Contact us to find out how!

Job, Career, & Employment Assistance: Looking for employment, business development, training, or résumé help? Visit hchlibrary.org/research/job-career-resources to access our Virtual Job Board, business database, JobNow SkillSurfer course catalog, Cypress Resumé skill-builder, and more.

Online Resources: Valuable digital resources and streaming materials are available online. Visit hchlibrary.org/explore/online-resources and use your

Clinton library card to create an account to access tutorials, databases, movies, music, eBooks, audiobooks, and more.

For Children

Our staff is busy planning some fun events and activities for the Children's Room. Mrs. T. has created some adorable "Book & Craft" kits which contain two picture books to check out and themed crafts and activities to keep. We also have



some exciting additions to our "Love to Learn" packs thanks to Clinton Eagle Scout

Noah Borkowski. We now have over 30 educational kits to lend including STEM, Phonics, Math, Social/Emotional, Board Games, and Dramatic Play. For his Eagle Project, Noah built a deck for our new outdoor structure, then donated the balance of his fundraising efforts to the Children's Room. Thank you, Noah!

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Events for children are in-person and require registration. Visit www.hchlibrary.org or call (860)669-2342 to learn more and sign up.

Weekly Programs:

Baby & Me

Tuesdays @ 10:00 am & 4:00 pm
Come sing, bounce, read, and play! Birth - 24 Months.

Sign Language

Thursdays @ 10:00 am
ASL signs are taught through songs and stories with Jaye Carlson of Love2Sign. Birth - Age 6.

ABC Amigos

Thursdays @ 10:45 am
A fun and active bilingual Spanish-English class with Miss Aimee. Birth - Age 6.

Movers & Shakers

Thursdays @ 4:00 pm
A music and movement class

with Miss Coralie. 18 months - Age 6.

Stories & More

Fridays @ 10:00 am
Stories, music, & movement with Miss Coralie. Ages 2 - 6.

Saturday Crafts

Saturdays, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Stop in on Saturdays and pick up a Grab & Go craft kit. Ages 2 & up.

Special Programs:

Read to Bee the Therapy Dog

Wed. 11/17, 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Sign up for a 15-minute reading session with Bee. Readers earn a new Brag Tag. Grades 1 & up.



Slithery, Slimy, & Creepy Creatures

Wed. 11/17 @ 4 pm
Meet and learn about some of

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Library... continued from page 7

the “creepy” resident creatures of Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center. Ages 5 & up.

Kindness Club

Mon. 11/22, 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Wed. 12/15, 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Drop in and create gratitude crafts.

Family Fun!

Tween Time: Fun & Games

Mon. 11/29 @ 3:00 pm

Come play and win prizes! Grades 5 - 8.

LEGO WeDo 2.0

Wed. 12/8, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Hands-on, “minds-on” LEGO robot building and coding. Generously sponsored by the Clinton Rotary Club.

Grades 1 - 4.

Tween Time: DIY Gingerbread Houses

Mon. 12/20 @ 3:00 pm

Craft your own gingerbread house.

Grades 5 - 8.

For Adults

Are you making the most of your library card? Stop by for a visit to see what kinds of valuable resources are available to you. While you're here, enjoy our monthly exhibit featuring a rotation of work by local artists. Borrow a museum pass, or check something out from our “Library of Things.” We're always adding something new!

Events for adults are in-person, virtual, or hybrid, and may require registration - Visit www.hchlibrary.org or call (860)669-2342 to learn more and sign up.

Weekly Programs:

Virtual Meditation

Mondays @ 11:00 am

Start your week with a live, virtual, guided meditation class. Virtual.

Scrabble Club

Tuesdays, 2:00 - 5:00 pm

Drop in for a friendly, casual game of Scrabble with fellow word-enthusiasts.

In-person.

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ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR

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November 20, 2021 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

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Library... *continued from page 8*

Virtual Yoga

Fridays @ 9:45 am

Ease into the weekend with a live, virtual, guided gentle yoga class. Virtual.

Monthly Programs:

Brain Games

1st Thursday, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Drop in for a variety of fun games, puzzles, and activities that will boost your brainpower. In-person.

Creative Writing Group

2nd Monday @ 6:00 pm

Share what you've been writing and gain feedback from other local writers. In-person.

"Get Real" Nonfiction Book Group

2nd Tuesday @ 1:00 pm

Read and discuss a different nonfiction book selection each month. Hybrid.

Virtual Chair Yoga

2nd Wednesday @ 9:00 am

Stretch and flex from a seated position

with a live, virtual, guided gentle yoga class. Virtual.

Afternoon Fiction Book Club

2nd Thursday @ 2:00 pm

Read and discuss a different fiction book selection each month. In-person.

TED Talks

3rd Wednesday @ 10:30 am

View and discuss a selection of engaging and informative talks on a different topic each month. Hybrid.

Book Chat

3rd Thursday @ 1:00 pm

Share what you've been reading and explore a different genre or topic each month. In-person.

The Atlantic Magazine Discussion Group

4th Wednesday @ 10:30 am

Interested in politics, art, literature, & history? Join us for a discussion on the latest issue. Hybrid.

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Families Helping Families

As we approach the end of 2021 one thing that has been reinforced throughout the year is how much the people in Clinton care. They care about their neighbors as if they were family. In fact, they are family, the family of greater Clinton.. People have supported Families Helping Families' four community outreach programs continuously not only this year but for the past fifteen years. The people in Clinton rise to meet any and all challenges on a consistent basis.

Every week during 2021 we were able to provide two deliveries of food and related items to the Clinton Food Pantry. Our partnership with a wholesale produce company ensured that each week the freshest fruits and vegetables were available. Much needed non-perishable food items and personal care items were also delivered on a weekly basis.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis (at press time for this article) your donations have helped up provide 131,059 of these most needed items.

But your donations didn't stop there! When families in town find themselves in a crisis your help provides them with instant help. Help with hospital and utility bills or emergency transportation costs or temporary housing costs you are there. When Clinton children needed new clothes and new shoes this school year you were there.

During the school summer vacation you helped with scholarships to art camp, sailing camp, and musician theatre camp. These children would never have had the opportunity to attend these camps if you weren't there for them. Thanksgiving would have just been another Thursday if you hadn't stepped in and purchased hundreds of gift cards. These gift cards allowed these families to enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner which in many cases could only be thought about.

We are a community of many different families, but in Clinton your actions prove otherwise. Your actions prove that all Clinton families are cared about. At FHF we are so grateful and blessed to be part of such a wonderful community! For more about FHF or to donate you can go to our website fhfclinton.org

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Being Smart about Marijuana in Clinton

Are you aware of Connecticut's new law that makes it legal for those over 21 to use marijuana? At present, it is legal for adults 21 and older to possess and use marijuana, up to five ounces. It is now legal to grow marijuana in one's home with a medical marijuana card, and soon will be legal for all adults to grow up to three plants at home (this is effective 7/1/2023.) Late next year, many CT towns will be able to manufacture, distribute, and sell all types of cannabis products which will include leaves and flowers, high THC potency waxes, edibles, and vapor products.

After numerous testimonies from Clinton parents and students in October, our Town Council chose to draft and pass an ordinance that prohibits all cannabis businesses in town. A second ordinance prohibits use of any cannabis product on town-owned property. While this decision might confuse some people who have heard that there is a promise of extra tax income for the town from marijuana sales, those who have researched the truth in towns in Colorado, Washington and California know different. What ends up happening is: a \$1 income from tax turns into a \$4.50 expense from crime, traffic accidents, hospital visits, work place loss of time and productivity due to marijuana use.

continued on page 12

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Marijuana... continued from page 11

Clinton's Town Council should be commended for making a decision which will ultimately result in protection of our youth. By saying "no" to cannabis business, the Town Council sends a message that public health matters more than a small income from taxes. By saying "no", the Council lets parents know that marijuana is not a "safe plant" as pro-marijuana supporters tout, but something to be informed about before using. The high THC levels in many products can really harm teen brains, and can be quite dangerous to children. Edibles with packaging that resembles common treats such as Kit Kats, Cheetos and Klondike Bars can poison users who do not distinguish between marijuana-infused and non-marijuana-infused varieties. Being educated about the many versions of legal marijuana that are coming to our state is really important, so that accidental ingestion and poisoning can be avoided.

Finally, by prohibiting use of all products on town property, the ordinance lessens the exposure of children to the use of marijuana. The more frequently that young people are in the presence of use or observe signage and advertising about marijuana, the more "normal" and accepted use becomes. The more accepted use becomes, the risk of use decreases, and use increases. With multiple research studies showing that teen brains are damaged by marijuana use, avoiding normalization in our town is an important prevention strategy. As we know it takes a village to raise our children, and our village has made some smart choices this fall to keep ours safer and more healthy.

If you want any more information about marijuana or any other substance, prevention or treatment, you can check out www.clintonpic.org, call 860-664-1142 or email Kelley at: kedwards@clintonct.org.

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Land Use Department

Do I Need a Land Use Permit for a Shed?

One of the most frequent questions we get asked in the Land Use Department is, "Do I need a permit for a shed?" The answer is YES, you do need a permit for shed, even a pre-fab shed.

All sheds are considered structures by Zoning, so they require Zoning Permits and a B100a Application, which is approved by the CT River Area Health District.

Sheds that are 200 square feet or smaller do not need Building Permits, but they do require Zoning Permits.

Sheds that are larger than 200 square feet require a Building Permit with Zoning Approval.

If a shed is going to be located within 100 feet of an inland wetland, it will require an Inland Wetlands Permit.

There are other factors to consider as well such as the amount of allowed ground coverage and location of the shed on the property.

Please contact us if you are planning to put a shed on your property, and we can guide you through the process, and tell you which permits you will need.





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Historic District Commission

Clinton's Historic District Commission (HDC) is launching an Historic Restoration Recognition Program, whereby, early American Clinton properties that have deteriorated, or had inappropriate renovations and have completed appropriate restoration, will be publicly recognized.

Matted and framed photographs with captions, of each such restoration, will be hung in Andrews Memorial Town Hall. And an unframed and captioned copy of the same photo will be given to the property owner who did the restoration. HDC's hope is that this program will give owners of 17th, 18th, 19th and early 20th century Clinton properties, whether in an historic district or not, an incentive to enhance their investment.

The first property to be recognized is 109 East Main Street, which houses an antique shop known as Old Beautiful and is situated on the corner of Liberty Street and The Boston Post Road. Owned by Joseph & Virginia Kabe of Waterside Lane, it was built in 1850 and is a 1.5 story building of wood frame construction with a hip/gable roof and clapboard siding. Originally built as a store, the structure covers almost the entire .03 acre property on which it sits and is next door to the Clinton Historical Society and across the street from Liberty Green. Until April of this year, when



Photo by HDC Member Rich Geer

the restoration work took place, the building's porch, and porch stairs were seriously decomposing; the porch roof was sagging; and the chimney had crumbled. 109 East Main Street now sports newly constructed porch and stairs; a porch roof now sturdily supported; a chimney that has been rebuilt; and a fresh coat of paint.

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We all moved in around the same time and are becoming fast friends. We love sitting together because we make each other laugh so much!



Susan, Carol, Mary and Helen


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The Clinton Parks & Recreation Department

The Parks and Recreation Department and Commission would like to sincerely thank the M. Jones Fund at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County for their kind gift in the grant awarded to us. With their generosity, we were able to provide additional scholarships for our summer camps allowing children to partake in programs they may never have had the opportunity to experience before.

We are excited to announce that the Recreation Department is now using RecDesk registration software! With RecDesk, customers/citizens have greater awareness of parks and recreation department activities and events. Customers/citizens can register online, pay with credit cards, check facility availability online, complete forms electronically, view paid and outstanding invoices, and more! Setting up your RecDesk account is easy!

- 1) Visit <https://parkrecclintonct.recdesk.com>
- 2) Click Create Account
- 3) Complete Information, start by adding Parents/Guardians first and then
- 4) Add Additional Family Members
- 5) Start Using RecDesk!

Registration will still be accepted by mail or in person at the Recreation Office. In addition to credit cards, we will continue

to accept cash, checks and money orders. Questions? We're here to help! Contact the Recreation Office at (860)669-6901 or stop by Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm (excluding holidays).

SUMMER

Our Summer camp program was very strong this year. We are thrilled to say that we sold out of many of our camps!

Dana Skidmore, the Director of our Ecology camp, was awarded a grant for her program through the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. This very popular camp allows kids to explore our beach and woodland areas in Clinton. Through this grant Dana offered scholarships to more than 20 deserving and lucky kids who may not have had the opportunity to go to her camp otherwise. The kids had to write an essay explaining why they wanted to go to the camp and why they were the perfect candidate to qualify for the scholarship. The remainder of the grant was used to purchase additional equipment for all of the kids to use while at the camp.

We had a very active beach season despite the cold and rain this summer. Our beach season now runs from Memorial weekend through Labor day. Beach passes

are required during beach season or a daily parking fee will be charged. We are delighted to have Kim's Shore She-Shed running our beach concession. Her hours are 11am -5pm daily.

BASKETBALL

Our Park & Rec and Travel Basketball programs will be running again this year! Registration is now open at <https://parkrecclintonct.recdesk.com>. Programs for Grades 1 through 8th grade are available. Games for 3rd – 8th grade will start in early December. Grades 1 & 2 will start in early January. We are always in need of volunteer coaches. Anyone interested in coaching, please contact the Parks & Recreation office at 860-669-6901.

ZUMBA

Zumba classes are back inside our Indian River Complex (with masks) every Monday (5:45 pm-6:45 pm), Wednesday (10 – 11 am) and Saturday (9 – 10 am). No registration/contract needed. Walk-in fee per class is \$7, cash only.

Please check our Facebook page (Clinton CT Parks & Recreation) to keep up to date on our programs as things change on a daily basis. Or go to our website at <https://parkrecclintonct.recdesk.com>.



On Saturday Sept 25th CLCT Board Member Kim Flanagan chaired our annual "Beach Cleanup Day". 50+ volunteers removed 358 pounds of trash from our Town Beach, Cedar Island and other marsh areas in town. All of the debris is categorized and sent to "Save the Sound" where they process all the data and make recommendations of packaging that should be banned. Many thanks to all that helped!

Library... *continued from page 9*

Special Programs:

Visit www.hchlibrary.org or stop by the library for updates on upcoming special programs for adults.

Did you know? All library programs and events are fully funded by charitable contributions from our community. We appreciate your support! Find ways to support library programs and say "I Love My Library" at: www.hchlibrary.org/support-hch



SCSU Baseball Coach Tim Shea - From a baseball dream to a baseball dream job... by Sigrid Kun

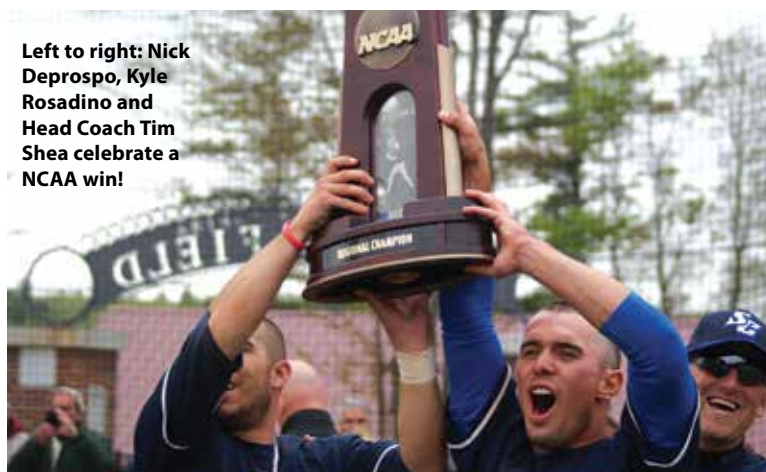
Like for so many kids, Tim Shea had the dream - the lure of being a major league baseball player. While the West Haven Little Leaguer didn't get to the MLB, he's found his baseball home as head baseball coach at Southern Connecticut State University.

SOME THINGS ARE JUST MEANT TO BE...

Coach Shea and SCSU simply go together. But SCSU was never in the plans. Shea was recruited by UCONN as a student athlete - following in his big brother's footsteps. It was the Big East, with annual College World Series opportunities. The perfect fit.

"I left before the first workout," recounts Shea. Home sick and feeling lost on a large campus, Shea was thinking UNH. Then, Shea experienced one of the most influential conversations of his life. Two simple questions from Joe Tonelli, Shea's former athletic director at Notre Dame HS and assistant coach at UNH. 'Why do you want to go to UNH?' Shea's simple answer - great baseball program.

'What do you want to study and what profession do you want after playing?' After some thought Shea's reply was possibly a teacher and a coach. Shea recalls an unforgettable response. "Then why the hell do you want to go to UNH? Right up the road is Southern. They have exactly what you are looking for!"



Left to right: Nick Deprospro, Kyle Rosadino and Head Coach Tim Shea celebrate a NCAA win!

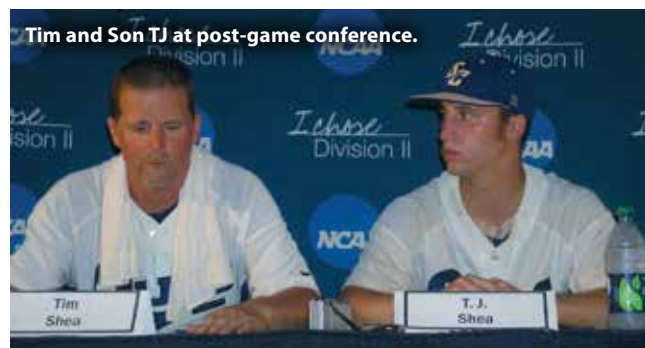
Shea blossomed as a SCSU student athlete. The two-year captain led the nation in doubles per game in 1987, his senior year. He was team MVP in 1985 and Second-Team All-Conference in 1986. He secured a degree in Special Education, a teaching job and coached football and baseball at NDHS before arriving back at SCSU in 1991 as an assistant and becoming head coach in 2001. Over his 32-year tenure coaching the Owls, there are six NCAA Tournament appearances and two NCAA World Series berths. Shea is a three-time Northeast 10 Conference Coach of the Year and a three-time Northeast Regional Coach of the Year. He's had 8 seasons of 30 or more wins. On May 1, 2019 he captured his 467th victory to become the winningest coach in program history.

KEYS TO SUCCESS

While there are so many analytics (spin ratios, launch angles), Shea trusts his eyes when determining whether a player has what it takes or not. Along with skill set, Shea looks for intangibles like being willing to sacrifice, accountability, dedication,

determination and mental toughness. From there, he gets to know his players and what makes them tick. "The more you know a player, the better suited you are to motivate them and help them reach their full potential," he explains. Having effective practices requires strong time management skills. Structure and discipline are necessary so that players respond as expected in tough situations.

The players hold a special place in Shea's heart, not just accomplishments on the field but also in their professional and family lives. Many are married, have children. They are police officer, firemen, teachers, coaches, businessmen, and even a Navy Seal. "I'm so proud of each and every one of them," Shea underscores.



Tim and Son TJ at post-game conference.

Photography courtesy SCSU Athletics.

THE LOVE OF BASEBALL / FAMILY

Shea's love of baseball derives from his family. His mother and father encouraged him to play sports. "My Dad was not only the absolute best father one could ask for, he was also the best coach," reflects Shea. Shea tagged along with his brother to play in sand lot games. Playing baseball with the older kids showed Shea that he could compete.

Family is still central to Shea - from walking the dog with his wife, golfing with his son, playing dominoes with his wife, mother, mother and father-in-law ... or, his favorite, playing with his two granddaughters. And there's that memorable moment in his coaching career. "Slapping my son TJ's hands as he rounded third base after hitting a game tying 3-run homerun at the College World Series," he relates. "And then, later that evening, sharing the stage with him at the post-game conference and hear him deflect all the praise for his performance to the play and comradery of his teammates. I was not just a proud coach but also a proud father. It doesn't get any better than that!"

WHAT KEEPS HIM GOING?

There are two things. "One is my players," Shea says. "I just love that I am able to be a small part of their lives. Helping them to reach their full potential on and off the field. The second thing that keeps me going is the chase. I tell my players every day: 'Chase perfection to catch excellence.' I love the chase, the process, the journey. Trying to get better every day so that at the end of a season something magical might happen."

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