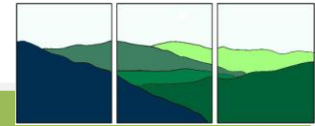


NWCT Regional Planning Collaborative Newsletter

Plan Locally. Act Regionally.



There is a lot going on over the next few months as you can see in the upcoming events sidebar. For an update on what we've been doing to promote village center vitality and affordable housing options read on...

IN THIS UPDATE:

- Launching a new web based tool to promote business opportunities in our Village Centers!
- Save the Date for our annual meeting: December 5th, 2011
- Call for Nominations for "Collaborative Planner of the Year" award
- Homeownership Housing Fair- November 16th brings affordable homeownership resources to the NW Corner
- Last but not least- announcing the birth of Anna Katherine Ayer, Junior Planner to Jocelyn Ayer, Senior Planner

Upcoming Events

Visit [our website](#) for details:

October 20th @ 7PM

Growth & Community Character,
Deep River Carriage House

October 26 @ 7PM

Development Alternatives, Burlington
Town Hall

October 28th @ 9:00AM

USDA Grants, Energy meeting,
featuring the USDA's Jennifer Lerch
UConn Torrington

Hear about funding opportunities for
rural businesses & energy initiatives.
Lunch provided.

Sponsored by: Union Savings Bank
To register or for more info contact
Gina Bento Scherbner at (860) 626-
7717

SAVE THE DATE & NOMINATE

Collaborative's Annual Meeting
DECEMBER 5, 2011



We will be holding our annual meeting on Monday, December 5th at 7pm (exciting location TBA). Please save the date and JOIN US! There will be pie of course, because who can plan without pie?

Also, please send in nominations for our "**COLLABORATIVE PLANNER OF THE YEAR**" award. Email [Jocelyn](#) with the name of the commission member or volunteer and a brief description of the outstanding planning work they have contributed to over the last year.

Upcoming Events continued...

Visit [our website](#) for details:

November 5th 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m

Land Use Academy Advanced Training

Central Connecticut State University, New Britain

Topics: Bias & Conflicts, Conditions & Modification, Running a Meeting & making a decision

November 8th 2-3PM

Webinar: Using CLEAR Web Tools for Local Conservation Planning

November 16th from 4-7pm

A HOME of your OWN, Regional Homeownership Housing Fair

Learn about new housing resources available to your community
Geer Village, Canaan CT

December 5th @ 7:00PM

NWCT Regional Planning Collaborative's Annual Meeting
SAVE THE DATE! Location TBA

New addition to the Collaborative family

Anna Katherine Ayer



Jocelyn announces the birth of Anna "my 10 lb baby" and feels lucky to get to work from home, "how many people get to talk about economic development & affordable housing while changing a diaper?"

Collaborative Rolls out New Economic Development Tool!

Promoting Business Opportunities in Our Village Centers



Try the NWCT Regional SiteFinder here and stay tuned for additional developments.

The Collaborative has launched a web-based tool to promote business opportunities in our member towns with the support of the Connecticut Economic Research Center, Inc. (CERC) and Connecticut Light and Power/Yankee Gas. Based on the award winning statewide tools developed by CERC, this regional edition SiteFinder lists buildings, sites, and businesses for sale or lease, along with descriptions and contact information just for the NW Corner.

"More than 90% of initial site selection screening is now done using the internet" - CERC

This new economic tool marks an important step in our Village Center Economic Development Initiative. Pending additional funding, we intend to expand the SiteFinder offerings while we undertake other economic development actions including design of a regional website to promote local and regional businesses, marketing of our region as a destination, support for local economic development activities, and installation of regional signage and wayfinding.

Nov. 16th Housing Fair brings new resources to the region

Geer Village, Canaan CT (4-7pm)

HousingUs, an initiative of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation is holding an Affordable Homeownership Housing Fair on November 16 from 4-7pm at Geer Village in Canaan, CT.

Come hear about new housing resources available including:

- Free first time home buyer courses
- Down payment & closing cost assistance
- Homeownership counseling
- Info on creating an accessory apartment
- Affordable homes being built by local non-profits

Information on the local housing groups building affordable housing in our region will also be available as well as applications for the affordable homes currently in process. Please pass this initiative on to anyone you know who would be interested in this event. For an event flyer see our website.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Our work would not be possible without the financial support from the following:

Salisbury Bank & Trust

CL&P- Yankee Gas Services

Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut

Connecticut Main Street Center

CT Office of Policy & Management

Our member towns

Hope to see you December 5th at our annual meeting!

Jocelyn Ayer & Chris Wood
Collaborative Planners