

Liberty Bank / Rotary Club

Thanksgiving Dinner Drive 2014

Thanks! Together we raised \$209,489!



Southington Rotary Club presents \$3,000 to Southington Community Services. L-R: Joanne Alfieri, Rotary Turkey Leg Chairwoman; Kate Sirignano, President of Rotary Club of Southington; Janet Mellon, Director of Southington Community Services; and Rob Flood, Branch Manager of Liberty Bank Southington.

“Each year, our drive gets larger, with more branches, more Rotary Clubs, and more dollars raised.”



Rotary Club of New Haven presents a donation to Christian Community Action. L-R: Americo Mendes, Liberty Bank New Haven; Rev. Bonita Grubbs, executive director of Christian Community Action; and David Hunter, president of the Rotary Club of New Haven.

With federal food stamp usage up by 79% in Connecticut over the past five years, many families struggled to find the money to buy turkey and all the fixings for Thanksgiving this year. But thanks to the 2014 Liberty Bank/Rotary Club Thanksgiving Dinner Drive, families living in Liberty Bank’s service area benefitted from \$209,489 raised to supply that food—a record for the 11-year-old partnership between the bank and 33 local Rotary Clubs.

Rotary Clubs in 35 towns teamed up with 49 Liberty Bank offices to raise \$167,620 during the weeks after Columbus Day. At the end of the drive, the Liberty Bank Foundation added 25 cents for each dollar raised, totaling \$41,869. Rotarians used the funds to purchase and deliver Thanksgiving food to needy families, or donated the money to a local nonprofit organization that provides Thanksgiving baskets. All donations were used to provide food in the communities where they were given.

“Each year, our drive gets larger, with more branches, more Rotary Clubs, and more dollars raised,” said Sue Murphy, executive director of the Liberty Bank Foundation and a member of the Middletown Rotary Club. “At the end of the day, though, it’s really all about neighbors helping neighbors—communities coming together to take care of their own.”



Angela Smart, Liberty Bank Willimantic branch, with Jerry “Claus” from WILI 98.3 FM, standing outside of Bob’s Windham IGA to raise money and collect food for the Liberty Bank/Rotary Club Thanksgiving Dinner Drive.



Marjorie D. Fondulas, Director, Groton Department of Human Services, accepts a donation check. L-R: Mary Lou LaRose, Mystic Rotary Club; Marjorie Fondulas; and Sue Ferraro, Liberty Bank Mystic.

\$14,126
collected through sale of turkey legs in Liberty Bank branches



Clinton Rotary Club presents check to Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries. L-R: Patty Dowling, Executive Director, Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries; Lin Smith, Pantry Manager, Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries; Dee Tully, Clinton Rotary; and Joey Fazzino, Liberty Bank Clinton



Members of Old Saybrook Rotary Club present Big Y gift cards for families in need in Old Saybrook, Lyme-Old Lyme, and Westbrook. L-R: Kathy Callinan, Old Saybrook Rotary Club; Kathy Brookson, Liberty Bank Old Saybrook; Cheryl Meadows, Liberty Bank Old Saybrook; Gerri Lewis, Old Saybrook Rotary Club; Amber Scherber, Old Saybrook Rotary Club; Shawn Belval, Liberty Bank Old Saybrook; Leigh Bette Maynard, Liberty Bank Old Saybrook.



33
Clubs

Wallingford Rotary Club partnered with their local IGA market to raise money by selling turkey legs. Willimantic Rotary Club also partnered with Bob's Windham IGA to do the same.



Waterford Rotary Club donated their funds to Gemma Moran/United Way Labor Food Center. L-R: Manly Church, president of Waterford Rotary Club, receives donation check from Dave Bouffard, branch manager, Liberty Bank Waterford and New London.



L-R: Eric Hutchinson, New Britain Rotary Club; Marci Moskal, New Britain-Berlin YMCA; and Marzena Bukowski, branch manager, Liberty Bank New Britain.



Hema Prakash, manager of Liberty Bank's Wethersfield North office, presents check to Mark Williams, Wethersfield/Rocky Hill Rotary Club and Erica Texiera, Wethersfield Social Services.



Rotary Club of the Stoningtons presented their donation to Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center (PNC). L-R: Rich Willner, president of the Rotary Club of the Stoningtons; Vicki Anderson, executive director of the PNC; and Sue Ferraro, manager of Liberty Bank's Mystic branch.



Willimantic Rotary Club donated \$1,240 each to 3 organizations. L-R: Rose Nilson, First Baptist Church Community Meal Program; Heather Clarke, Covenant Soup Kitchen; Carol Tarbell, Holy Family Home & Shelter; and Angela Smart, manager of Liberty Bank's Willimantic branch and Willimantic Rotarian.

42,377
meals provided



First Row: Wallingford Rotarians gather with recipients to present their donations. Front row, L to R: Kathy Queen, Wallingford Day Care; Linda Adamo, Holiday for Giving; Sharlene Kerelejza, Meriden/Wallingford Chrysalys; Jack Neubiser, United Way of Meriden and Wallingford; Craig Fishbein, Wallingford Rotary Club; Lisa Suprenant, Wallingford Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner. *Second Row:* Peter Pfau, Wallingford Lions Club; Thom Thurber, Wallingford Emergency Shelter; Nancy Freyberg and Arlene Hiller, Wallingford Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner. *Third Row:* John O'Brien, Liberty Bank Wallingford; Craig Turner, Wallingford Youth and Social Service Bureau; Richard Figlewski, Dry Dock.

2014 Highlights

East Hampton raised an outstanding **\$39,908.42** before the match – much of it from the annual Turkey Plunge in Lake Pocotapaug. *See photo on page 5.*

This year's #2 fundraiser was **Rotary Club of Bristol**, with **\$13,770.74** before the match. Great work!

Middletown came in at #3 with **\$10,829.59** before the match.

Wallingford, always a strong contender, came in at #4 with **\$10,767.10** before the match.

Special kudos to **Branford Rotary Club** for posting the highest total for a first-year participant: **\$6,748.11** before the match. Fellow newcomers **New Haven** and **Southington** also did a great job, both topping the \$5,000 mark.

**Congratulations to all 33 clubs
on another amazing year!**



The Rotary Club of East Haddam raised over \$8,000 for our the local food bank. Pictured here: Charley Hnilicka; Roger Stube and Deb Denette, Rotary Club of East Haddam; Nancy Smith, manager of Liberty Bank's Haddam branch; and Cole McCormack, Eagle Scout Troop 22.



Liz Abate, manager of Liberty Bank's Hamden branch, and Jeff Torone of Rotary Club of Hamden present a check to Darlene Butler from Hamden Community Services. L-R: Jeff Torone, Darlene Butler, Liz Abate.



Troy Bree, manager of Madison's Liberty Bank branch, presents a donation check for Madison Community Services to Ed Pellegrini of the Madison Rotary Club.



Kensington-Berlin Sunrise Rotary Club presents a donation to the Berlin Social Services Department. L-R: John Roman, Kensington-Berlin Sunrise Rotary; Amy Carrol and Doug Truitt, Social and Youth Services; Michele Tine, Liberty Berlin branch manager; Marie Bogsanski and Lou Zuchi from Kensington-Berlin Sunrise Rotary.



< L-R: Christine Costa representing Liberty Bank and the East Hampton Rotary Club presents donation to Joanne Goode from the Marlborough Food Bank.

\$41,869.03
 in matching funds provided
 by Liberty Bank Foundation