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Showing postings 1 - 24 of 24 in the thread: Windham Diner.

Posting: Windham Diner Poster: William Brainard Date: 27 August 2006 4:07 PM	Posting 1
Saw it for the first time today driving to my cousin Susan's. How's the food? How does it compare with Aero for food and price?	
Posting: Re: Windham Diner Poster: John Ferreri Date: 27 August 2006 7:34 PM	Posting 2
A little less expensive than AERO. I like the coffee better, also. But, have only tried it once. Hope to get there again, soon.	
Posting: Re: Windham Diner Poster: chas barrett Date: 28 August 2006 10:21 PM	Posting 3
where is the windham diner?????...the aero ?? are you john ferreri the pharmacist??	
Posting: Re: Windham Diner Poster: John Ferreri Date: 31 August 2006 7:37 AM	Posting 4
Yes.	
Posting: Re: Windham Diner Poster: John Ferreri Date: 31 August 2006 7:44 AM	Posting 5
The Windham Diner is at the Bridge St. Plaza overlooking the majestic Willimantic River. The Aero Diner is on Rt. 6 in front of the airport overlooking the majestic "big boxes", Walmart, burger places, etc.	
Posting: Re: Windham Diner Poster: William Brainard Date: 31 August 2006 8:06 PM	Posting 6
It's next to the old Willimantic hair school, now Cardinal Appliance Company on Bridge Street. Aren't both diners open 24 hours a day?	
Posting: Re: Windham Diner Poster: chas barrett Date: 31 August 2006 11:22 PM	Posting 7
hi john: you may remember me....skipper barrett, my dad ran the capitol theatre, did not your dad run currans before the kornacki's did???...and you went on to run storrs drug?? sb	
Posting: Re: Windham Diner Poster: John Ferreri Date: 1 September 2006 1:00 PM	Posting 8
Hi Skipper, Long time "no sea"! Curran's, yes! Storrs Drug, Yes! Capitol Theater, I remember! That was 50 years ago!!! The "good old days" when you could walk up and down Main Street and window shop at Firestone's, Grants, Woolworths, etc. The ladies liked Janel's. There was good food at the Italian Garden and the owner had a three-legged dog. I wonder where the fourth leg went? Remember Nasiff's when it was on Railroad Street? How about Ralph's Taxi, next to the foot bridge. The RR station and RR Express station next to it. Now to stretch it a little, how about the Candy Kitchen about 3 doors down from J.F Carr's mens shop? Then there was the Boston Store. Remember the steam locomotives taking on water and letting off steam right under the foot bridge? Little League that I always tried out for but never made. Remember those that have passed on, Bill Gurnack, John Fay, and others.	

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 9
 Poster: John Tormey
 Date: 4 September 2006 6:38 PM

In 1953 I started working at the A&P corner of Church and Valley. It was an after-school job from 3 til 6, but on Thursday nights we worked 'til 9:00 stocking the shelves. So at 6:00 a bunch of us would go to Curran's Drug Store for a sandwich or something. Some went for the roast beef sandwich but I always got an egg salad and tomato on white for \$.25 and a nickel coke -- came with some sliced sweet pickles. I knew I'd get a big meal at home after nine. Saved some bucks and bought a tape recorder mail-ordered from Chicago -- shipped Railway Express.

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 10
 Poster: Ada Kerachsky Albright
 Date: 5 September 2006 2:11 PM

The Candy Kitchen! I remember going in there as a small child. I never did like candy too much, but that place was so unusual. It fascinated me. Does anyone have pictures of the interior (or exterior, for that matter)? I had once asked Tom Beardsley about it and he sent me an article. I do remember the establishments on Railroad Street--remember going to the place next to the shoe shine shop for root beer floats. I also remember as a very small child going to the train station and being so scared by the hissing locomotives.

Here is a descriptive paragraph from Tom's article about the Candy Kitchen:

Signs outside the Thread City Candy Kitchen declared that "fine chocolates and bon bons" were "made fresh" every day in the store, for the wholesale and retail trade. On entering the store, there was a 70-foot long row of glass cabinets on the left, carrying the many varieties of chocolates and candies. Many of the candies and chocolates were stored in large apothecary jars, and then dispensed via weighing scales. On the right was a marble counter, lit by two Tiffany Lamps, where soda and ice cream were dispensed. A popular feature was the store's nickelodeon that had playable piano keys. One of the store's best-selling products were "cherry smash" soda. Broma soda was also popular for upset stomachs.

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 11
 Poster: John Ferreri
 Date: 5 September 2006 9:23 PM

Re: the Candy Kithcen. I vaguely remember a tile floor made of black and white tiles about one inch square and a few (5-8) ice cream sets, (four iron wire chairs and a small round table).

A trip to the Candy Kitchen was a very special event reserved for when relatives were visiting.

Nassiff's on RR Street was neat. It was mostly a gun shop if I remember correctly. Dick had a coin (nickel or quarter) glued to the floor about 4-5 steps in the door. Hardly a person went by without trying to pick it up.

There is an old book written about 1890 by George Bidwell. It is titled "Forging his Chains" It is about this fellow George whose life of crime (forgery), started on Railroad Street when the trains laid over for a half hour or so and ended in London where he embezzled about a million pounds from the bank of England.

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 12
 Poster: chas barrett
 Date: 5 September 2006 10:21 PM

Hiya John:

You have good recall of what my ole pal, the late Wmtc. Chronicle reporter/writer Dick "Scoop" Bellavance called "The old Willimantic".

Yeah ..I remember well the IGs where my pop and I watched the Friday nite Gillette Blue Blade -sponsored boxing marches from Madison Sq. Garden, Hallocks and its great ice cream and sandwiches, Nassiff's for 22 ammo, Ames dairy store next to Mac's Cigars run by The Stargers (writer Steve Starger lives in Portland now, we still stay in touch...have known him since 1950 in Ms Seekamps' class at Windham St School), Sam Gordon's Surplus Center and its \$1 WWII bayonets, and of course The Capitol and Gem that transported all of us to other worlds down the road. And of course Lindy'sand for its great roast beef sandwiches and home made pies. Rose Haddad was a very nicend very kind lady, who I hear passed away just recently !

Many of those we knew in our generation back there are gone, some at a young age if you recall like Teddy Meyer who died in a car crash in Coventry in 1950s as well as Don Caisse of Willington, an old classmate of mine at WHS (class of 1958) who lived in Willington, and many others. I guess my classmates are planning our 50th reunion for 2008...haven't heard lately.

Nice to hear from you John. I get back to Wmtc once in a while...I have been a guest on my friend Wayne Norman's WILI show a few times talking about life in Hollywood.

Cheers,

Charlie " Skipper" Barrett

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 13

Poster: John Ferreri
Date: 6 September 2006 6:13 PM

Skip,

Next time you talk to Steve Starger would you tell him I said "hello"!

We lived two houses apart on Mansfield Ave. and were buddies for years.
His dad, after retiring worked for us at the pharmacy as a bookkeeper for 5-6 years.

I never went to WHS so I missed out on a lot of home town times. I went to Catholic school in Danvers, Mass and then college in Boston. I was "out of town" for 9 years except for summers and vacations. I came back and went right to work. A lot passed by during those years. No red carpets here, sorry to say.

John F.

Posting: Re: Windham Diner
Poster: chas barrett
Date: 14 September 2006 11:54 PM

Posting 14

john ferreri:

yes, i remember you and steve as pals, circa 1952, or so on mansfield ave, cuz that's exactly when he and i also became buddies, before he moved to the house off high street in the ridges. i just got an email from him tonite and will let him know you were asking after him. he has a book coming out on a famous guy who began Mad and EC comics, if i am correct.

i remember your pop too...a nice man who used to write up our prescriptions from our doc, reuben rothblatt.

you retired???.or still at it in the drug trade? i am still very much working here in hollywood in PR, and also host a radio show once a week called SINATRA & CO on CRN DIGITAL TALK RADO (fridays 11pm-saturdays, 4am pacific time) over www.crn1.net -- CRN 1 channel streams and on stations all over but not in CT.

best to you, john

skipR

Posting: Re: Windham Diner
Poster: John Ferreri
Date: 15 September 2006 2:57 PM

Posting 15

Skipper,

Thanks for the kind words re: my dad. He passed away in 1995.

Did you live in our neighborhood? Can't remember! Too many years of memories competing for space between my ears.

Yes, I am still at work. I think that if I retired I would probably fall apart.
Sounds like an interesting life you have on the West Coast.

My favorite mystery movie: The List of Adrien Messinger (sp?). Could I have seen that at the Capitol?

JF

Posting: Re: Windham Diner
Poster: chas barrett
Date: 17 September 2006 12:57 AM

Posting 16

john:

i told steve you were asking after him. if you want, email me at barcopr@earthlink.net and i will send you his email address.

sorry to hear your pop passed away. mine died in 1963.

we lived near junction of lewiston (on lewiston) and high streets almost the whole time we were in wmtc except for 3 years on pleasant st when we arrived from massachusetts.

LIST OF ADRIAN MESSENGER...great flick.

keep shoveling, as they say....as when we stop..maybe we get old.

best,

SkipR

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 17
 Poster: Steve Starger
 Date: 19 September 2006 1:42 PM

Hello John? Johnny??? It's me, Steve Starger. I've been reading your conversation with Skip Barrett. You know what's been happening with us lately. Wow. I haven't signed onto this site in a long time. It's great to "hear" you. Send me an e-mail and I'll certainly respond. I remember Mansfield Avenue as if it were yesterday. I even remember going to one of your birthday parties, handing you your gift and blurting out "Here's your fishing tackle"!

Many many things to catch up on. Give a blast.

All best,

Steve

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 18
 Poster: John Ferreri
 Date: 20 September 2006 8:24 AM

Hi Steve,

This forum does bring old friends back together again. This thread started discussing local diners. There were two in town way back then and now there are two again. This summer my wife and I have been doing day trips and stoping at any old diners we came across. Simple fare and usually good food.

I'm not going to complain about either of these 2 in town, we visit both. One outstanding diner, for value is Cindy's on Rt 6 in Scituate, RI. If anyone reading this has been there, what do you think?

Skip is sending me your E-mail address so I will be in touch soon.

Oh yes! I'm still a lousy fisherman.

JF

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 19
 Poster: Steve Starger
 Date: 6 October 2006 2:04 PM

John and Skip,

Remembering old friends who have passed:

Bruce Thompson and Ron Menditto, killed in a car crash on Rt. 6, near the golf course, around 1961. I remember going to the wake (open caskets, arrggh!) and not wanting to go in there until Bruce's mother gently beckoned me in, as if to say, "it's all right, Bruce would want you here." He was a great guy, good drummer, drove a 51 Ford, then a 56 Ford Fairlane ragtop -- the car in which they died. I have a photo of me, Skip Barrett, and Bruce taken with Gene Krupa at the old Metropole club in Manhattan when we were still in high school (at least I was).

steve

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 20
 Poster: Steve Starger
 Date: 6 October 2006 2:07 PM

John,

By all means get in touch. Last time I saw you was when my dad worked for you at Storrs Drug; even that is a long time ago now. Speaking of diners, is Zip's still around, out near Danielson?

steve

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 21
 Poster: John Ferreri
 Date: 7 October 2006 6:52 AM

Steve,

Please e-mail me at storrsdrug@yahoo.com so I can get your e-address.

Zip's Diner: I believe it is still there. At least it was 6-9 months ago when I passed through that intersection heading to the wilds of Rhode Island.

Posting: Re: Windham Diner Posting 22
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 9 October 2006 9:25 PM

" I have a photo of me, Skip Barrett, and Bruce taken with Gene Krupa at the old Metropole club in Manhattan when we were still in

high school (at least I was). "

Steve ,

I wouldn't mind seeing that pic , being a drummer and fan of Gene's over the years .

BTW , I checked out some of your writing on the net ...good stuff ...beats' influence shines through ...All the best ...John in old Japan

Posting: Re: Windham Diner
Poster: Ernie Gesner
Date: 9 October 2006 11:13 PM

Posting 23

While I was stationed at Westover AFB in Chicopee Falls MA. in 1954 I drove my date, Lily (now wife) to a concert at the State Theatre in Hartford. Tony Bennett and Gene Krupa put on a great show and I can still remember that night. We got stopped for speeding on the way home as I was in a hurry to get her home before her curfew. The cop listened to me and didn't write the ticket

Posting: Re: Windham Diner
Poster: Steve Starger
Date: 10 October 2006 4:38 PM

Posting 24

John,

Thanks for the kind words. I'm kind of amazed at what ends up on the 'net. I've been freelancing for years, doing stories mostly in arts and entertainment, so I'm interviewing or reviewing musicians, artists, writers, et. etc. I write pretty regularly for Preview Connecticut and Preview Massachusetts, A&E magazines published by the Advocate newspapers. I did recent pieces for the Mass. edition on Cecil Taylor and Alice Cooper. Talk about a range! And yet, it makes sense, somehow ... That photo with Krupa is in my boxes of memories somewhere, but I know I have it. The three of us are towering over Gene K., all holding cigarettes. He was small in stature but man could he blow some drums!