





2019 was a year of growth and accomplishment, thanks to your support. Our parks welcomed 836,809 visitors, who connected with the **Connecticut River** in so many different ways, and we couldn't have done it without you.

We all connect with the Connecticut River in different ways. You may connect with it as a daily park user, as a rower, or as a volunteer. You might have connected to it through our Adventure program, on a dragon boat, or as one of our valued corporate supporters. The one shared connection is that you recognize the importance of our work, our parks, and our future.

Our parks are a conduit to the city and region, providing green spaces, commuter access and recreation opportunities.
Our parks help to attract new residents, businesses, and initiatives to the region, especially ones that focus on quality of place. The river, and our parks, are vital to the region and its future. Your investment in and support of Riverfront Recapture enhances quality of place and makes the region a place where people want to live, work, and play.

We appreciate you all so much, and we look forward to continuing to connect in 2020.

Dave Jenkins Board Chair Michael Zaleski President & CEO



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What did your support help us to accomplish? We acquired 60 acres of riverfront land in northeast Hartford and southeast Windsor, where we'll be building a new park. Additionally, this gives us full access for the 2.5-mile Riverwalk expansion from the boathouse to Windsor Meadows State Park. We made improvements to the exterior of the boathouse, and along the riverwalk. We built a new playscape in Charter Oak Landing, and we completed the installation of the new stage canopy, lighting, and sound systems at Mortensen Riverfront Plaza.

We also had more volunteers than ever - 2,132 of them! They worked for 8,881.75 hours, helping to beautify our parks, and supporting our staff. There were more volunteer opportunities than ever, with the launch of our volunteer tree-planting program, which offers companies a way to support us and the environment at the same time. Our first planting added four single-stemmed Heritage River Birches in Great River Park.

Our programming grew as well. The Head of the Riverfront was the largest ever, with 650 entries. The second annual Hartbeat Music Festival gave 24 local music acts the opportunity to perform on three stages. A team traveled from China to compete in our dragon boat races. We added Zumba to our free fitness programming, and our summer rowing clinic sold out. Our rowing program got a new wakeless, we refurbished the Connecticut Adaptive Rowing Program's wakeless launch, and the free veterans rowing program was an even bigger success than last year.

All of this was made possible with your support and our dedicated Board and staff. Our 16 year-round employees are supplemented by 89 seasonal staff, many of whom have been with Riverfront for a decade or longer. Our rowing coaches and Riverfront Adventure facilitators are essential to positive outcomes for program participants and our Rangers and park operations crew ensure that our parks are clean and safe for all to enjoy.

Thank you so much for your belief in our mission and your continued support of our work.













# Corporate, Foundation, and **Government Support**

Investment in Riverfront results in enhanced quality of life for the regional community. Please share your thanks with representatives of the following organizations for their support of general operations, arts and culture, youth enrichment, park development, and health and fitness.

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The Richard P. Garmany Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving The Metropolitan District

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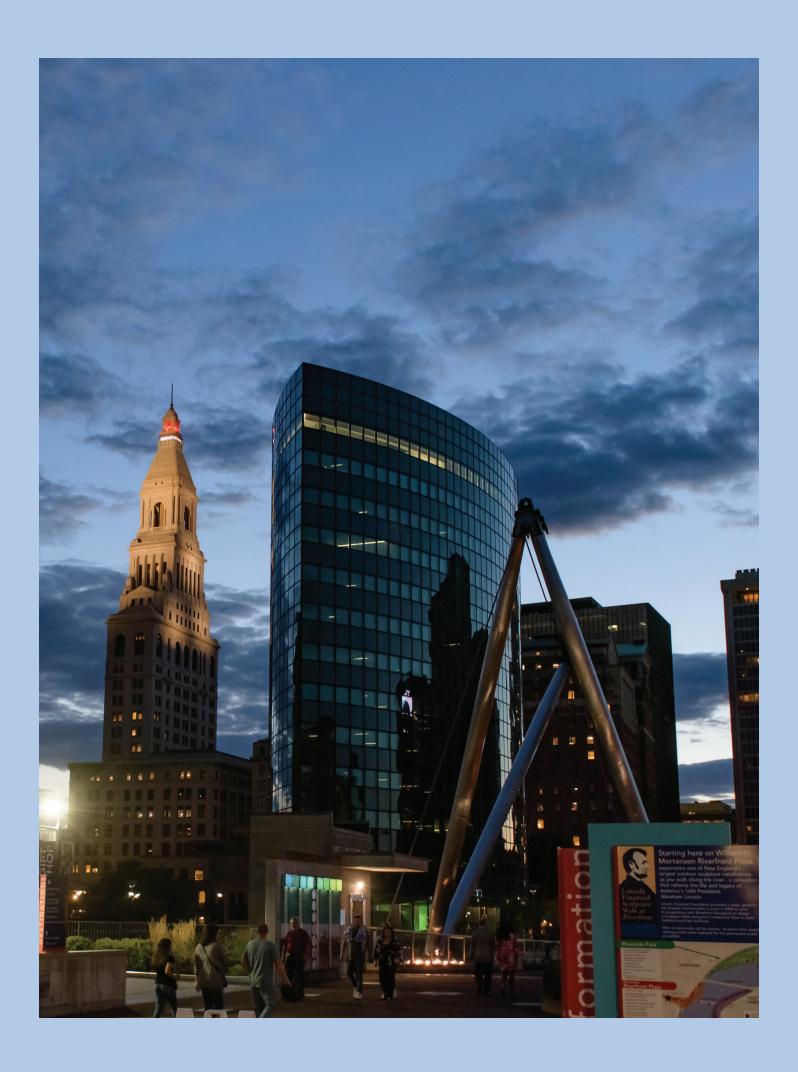
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Contributed goods and services provide essential resources for many Riverfront activities. We thank the following donors:

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Special thanks to the companies who provided matching gifts – and to the employees who inspired and requested those gifts:

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## **Individual Donors**

We are thankful for the many friends who show appreciation for the Riverfront by supporting our mission to connect people with the Connecticut River. Your donation touched more than 836,000 people who visited our parks and enjoyed our events and programs in 2019.

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#### **FOUNDERS' SOCIETY**

Our Founders' Society members are committed to the Riverfront; they have contributed for 10 or more consecutive years and understand the importance of providing access to the Connecticut River and the regional benefits our parks provide. These faithful donors are identified in bold in this Annual Report in appreciation and recognition of their steadfast support, with new members marked in italics. Thank you for your dedication to the community, and for encouraging others to follow your example.

We welcome and thank the following who became new Founders' Society members in 2019:

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#### **MARFUGGI PARKS FUND**

This special fund provides a source of long-term support that can be used to make essential repairs and improvements in Riverfront parks. The fund was created in 2011, recognizing then-President & CEO Joe Marfuggi. Joe retired from Riverfront in 2015 and passed away in 2018. The fund continues to grow through contributions and earnings, with periodic special expenditures approved by Riverfront's Board of Directors.

We especially thank the following contributors for their support in 2019:

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Mainstay donors support Riverfront by donating through convenient monthly giving. These regular contributions to Riverfront add up throughout the year, helping Riverfront in its role as a guardian of the river and its parks. This dedicated group of people stays engaged and periodically choose to increase their annual commitment.

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Contact Debbie Baker, director of development, if you'd like to learn more about Mainstay, at dbaker@riverfront.org or 860-713-3131 x326.

**Photos:** Cover: Sounds of Summer concert in Great River Park; Page 2: Daylily on the Riverwalk, park users in winter and fall in Riverside Park, RiverBarre participants and fall foliage at Mortensen Riverfront Plaza, and rec rowers on the water; Page 5: Riverfront Adventure participants, concert goers in Great River Park, host Larry Dooley, president Michael Zaleski, CRDA chair Suzanne Hopgood, Committee Chair Matt Necci, Mayor Bronin, US Congressman John Larson at the Big Mo' at Coltsville, park users on the Riverwalk, rowers at sunset, Riverfront Ranger on patrol; Page 7: Mortensen Riverfront Plaza at night

#### **RECOGNITION GIFTS**

We appreciate the following individuals who choose to honor or remember their loved ones with a contribution to Riverfront.

#### In Honor of

Deborah Baker Rob Capossela Andy Hart Christopher R. Hayes Carle & Larry Mowell Jonathan Near Marc Nicol Mike Puckly Blair Wlochowski Michael Zaleski

#### In Memory of

David Allison Margaret Mary Andreo Josephine Cadiz Marie Coburn Astrid Hanzalek Virginia Horne John Jacobs Dave Kimball Joe Marfuggi Martha Newman Robert R. Parker Jack Riege Helen & Robert Roth

#### **RIVERFRONT LAND GIFTS**

We offer sincere thanks for lead donors who provided significant resources to help us acquire 60+ acres of riverfront land in northeast Hartford and southeast Windsor, giving us full access for the 2.5 mile Riverwalk expansion from the Boathouse to Windsor Meadows State Park:

Richard P. Garmany Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Robinson+Cole William and Alice Mortensen Foundation The Mowell Fund at the Hartford

Foundation for Public Giving

With the land purchase complete, additional funding will be sought to convert the property into a new Riverfront park. We are excited about the future opportunities to expand access to the Connecticut River and to provide a new regional connection to existing trails and green space.

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Brian McCauley
Patricia A. McKinley

Carol Moore Catherine Morelli Marianne Morelli James E. Morse Bill & Sue Moses David Newman Harriet Noyes

Mr. & Mrs. Henry A. O'Neal Lee & Dorothy Paquette Elizabeth & David Patterson

Laura & David Pels

Kyle Pelton

Jennifer W. Pennoyer Marilyn & Donald Pet Dr. & Mrs. Jack K. Plummer **David & Patricia Porteous** 

David & Fatticia Forteous

Edward P. Regan

Jack & Debbie Reid

Cypthia Poils

Cynthia Reik D. Peter Rex Adam Reynolds Susan Ring

Steve & Jane Robinson

Angela Rompery

Marilyn Rossetti & Greg Rose Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Rothschild Michael & Deborah Sacks Paul Sanson & Kathy Hanaway Laura Santirocco

H. Hiram Satterwhite

Helen & Henry Savage Sudhir & Jyotsna Shah

Jennifer Sharp **Gail Phyllis Shay Carol Sicbaldi** Nicholas Skoulis

**Robert & Sharon Smith** 

Lilith Solis

Linda & Frank Sousa Alan & Roz Spier

W. D. Stefanowicz Jeffrey & Deborah Stein

George & Gesella Stephan

William R. Sullivan Melissa Taylor-Doyle Lisa Thompson Cole Turner

Hope W. Vath & George Kirkutis

Joseph Vogel

Fredric & Darlene Weber Richard & Robin Weiss Janet Wilkenson

**Kathy & Steve Wilson** 

Al & Barbara Zakarian

Andrew Wizner & Sheila Houlihan

Dr. & Mrs. C. Steven Wolf Timothy Wolf

**UNDER \$50** 

Ruth Alexander Andrea Allen Anonymous (4)

Peter Arakas & Karen Kellerman

Alka & John Arcari Andy Asensio

Leesa & Carl Barenboim

Brett Berman Ladd M. Bethune Anita Blais Johana Blancos

Dr. & Mrs. Sherwin Borsuk

Ben Bowen Robin Bozek

Peter & Elizabeth Brzezicki

Dawn Burchell Justin & Rob Caplain Robert B. Carl

Rick & Valerie Carterud

Nanette Char Elaine Ciarcia Andrew Claflin Colleen Claflin Neletta Cochrane

Jonathan & Georgianne Cohen

Sheila Coleman Rebecca & Brian Conn Steven Czerniewski John DaSilva RIVERFRONT LEGACY SOCIETY

The value of Riverfront's parks is immeasurable, and ensuring that our parks are available long into the future is critical to community well-being. Recognizing the present and future importance of the parks inspires people to include Riverfront in their estate plans.

We are grateful for the following individuals who have left or intend to leave a legacy to Riverfront, supporting our mission to connect people with the Connecticut River:

Mr.† & Mrs. Maurice A. Belanger Dr. G. Peter Bloom Kim & Chris Byrd Susan & Brian Clemow Marie P. Coburn<sup>†</sup> Alison Coolbrith<sup>†</sup> & Barry Lastra Lynn H. Ferrari & Virginia Seeley Ellsworth S.† & Virginia† Grant Astrid Hanzalek<sup>†</sup> David M. Klein Mimi† & Brendan Lynch Harriett S. MacGuiness† Joe Marfuggi<sup>†</sup> Carle & Larry Mowell Edith<sup>†</sup> & John<sup>†</sup> Davis Murphy Mike Puckly John H. Rieget Sali G. Riege<sup>†</sup> Chrissie & Ezra Ripple David R. Robb Margaret Olmsted Ford Twombly<sup>†</sup> Don<sup>†</sup> & Jean Wilson Robert Yohe, Jr.

Contact Debbie Baker, director of development, if you'd like to learn more about legacy giving, at <a href="mailto:dbaker@riverfront.org">dbaker@riverfront.org</a> or 860-713-3131 x326.

Michael Zaleski

Photos: Page 8: Travelers volunteers, Mayor Leclerc and president Michael Zaleski, our new wakeless launch, Stanley Black & Decker's first dragon boat team; Page 9: park users on the Riverwalk, entering Big Mo' at Coltsville, dragon boat teams at the finish line, Neighborhood Builders conference; Page 11: Toward Union Lines, one of 16 sculptures on the Lincoln Financial Sculpture Walk; Page 16: Dedication of The Mady, childhood joy, Run for the Riverfront 5K, Head of the Riverfront Regatta; Page 17: Head of the Riverfront Regatta, Taste of the Caribbean & Jerk Fest, Riverfront Fireworks, dragon boat training, Run for the Riverfront 5K, Sounds of Summer concert









#### Harry H. Davidson

Elizabeth Davis

Ted Diesenhaus & Deanne Shapiro

#### Lillian B. Doerschler

The Donston Family Eileen & Allan Driscoll

#### Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Droney

John & Rachel Ewaski

Faye Ewen

Lauren Farley

Stacey Feiss

Kathy Fine

Matthew Fitzsimmons

#### Jov Flovd

Estelle S. Freed

Annette & Seymour† Gavens

Colin & Ginger Gillespie

Jake Giuliano

Sid Glassman

Audrey J. Gough

#### Carole & Richard Guttman

Elizabeth Harlow

Rachel Hart

Claire Henderson

Anne Horton

Marisa Howard

Kara Hughs

Herbert & Lois Isaacson

#### Jav Jaffe

Karen Jason

George Jeong

Craig R. Johnson

Ralph & Lele Kadden

#### Drs. Michael & Ruth Kahn

Marvin & Janet Kay

#### Lida A. Kearney

Natasha Khouri

Doreen Kindelan

#### Irmgard Klee

Mary Ellen Kowalewski

Bethany Lapworth

Kristi Larson

Lewis Ben Lau

Eileen Leahv

Rose Leblanc

#### James & Helen Lehmann

Ethel Lewis

Mark R. Lewis

Lawrence Little

#### Nancy Loiselle

Scott MacCloy

Pamela Mancini

Ruth H. Mantak

#### Tom & Gwen Marrion

Doris Martin

Robert C. McNally

Daniel T. Miller

Ann Milner

Cliff & Judy Moss

Carol Murphy

**Robert Murphy** 

Julia Nagler

S. P. Nolan

#### Judy & Lew Parker

Libby Pearl

Elizabeth Pearman

Mike Pellin

Elana Plenby

David Pond

Martin Powers

Mary E. Powers

Aaron Price

Mr. & Mrs. Brian J. Reardon

Elenor G. Reid

Karin & Gregory Reinhardt

Levi Retriever

Theresa Rocsch

Robert & Gail Rosenberg

#### Russ Salk

Philip Scheid

Linda Schernau

Doreen Scott

Tracey Scraba

#### **Patricia Scully**

**Brook Seeley** 

Corinne Seibert

Dr. & Mrs. Leon H. Seitelman

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Sharpless

#### **Ruth Sheehan**

Kathy & Ray Simeone

W. Coleman & Jane Smith

Mike Smoolca

Benjamin Spencer

#### Cheryl J. Stabnick

Nancy Stankiewicz & John Morehouse

Marianne Stieglitz

Jim Stodder & Beth Curry

Meredith Swanson

Hua Tan

Karen Taylor

Roberto Tollis

Lee Allan Tryon

John F.K. Tyner

Kivomi Ueki

Judy Unsworth

Alan & Ann-Marie Veniscofsky

Dr. & Mrs. Richard Viagrande

#### **Elaine & Calvin Vinick**

Katherine Wall

Jim & Dorothy Walworth

Noreen & Charles Watson

#### John & Marylou Welch

Barbara Wierzbicki

Kevin & Marcia Winn

Susan Wiskowski, M.D.

Names in bold indicate Founders' Society members. Names in bold italics indicate new members of the Founders' Society. † indicates that the donor is deceased.













## **Volunteers**

Volunteers are an essential part of our work to connect people to the Connecticut River. We worked with 2,132 volunteers in 2019, who volunteered for a total of 8,881.75 hours!

Volunteers weeded, planted, trimmed, mulched, cleared invasives, built benches, installed beaver baskets, shoveled silt/sand, cleaned PFDs/boats, removed debris, and did extensive prep work before events such as building temporary docks and sprucing up the pedestrian highway crossover. Thanks to their efforts, our parks looked clean, welcoming, and beautiful! In addition to our 44 park clean-up groups, seven groups of Travelers volunteers were vital in building a KaBOOM playground in Charter Oak Landing over four days, assisted by another 44 community volunteers from adjacent neighborhoods from Design Day to Build Day.

Many event volunteers return event after event, year after year. This year, 421 volunteers worked to make sure our events went smoothly. These dedicated volunteers have gained a real sense of ownership, particularly for the Riverfront Dragon Boat & Asian Festival, Hartbeat Music Festival, and the Head of the Riverfront.

#### Our parks wouldn't be the same without the following groups and individuals:

#### **GROUPS**

Aetna Summer Interns
American Eagle Financial Credit
Union
AXA XL Insurance
Bank of America
Catholic Heart Work Camp

Connecticut P

Connecticut River Academy
Connecticut River Conservancy
Conning

Conning

Covr Financial Technologies CREC Impact Academy

CREC Metropolitan Learning

Center

Finest Hours Young Professionals

Grant Thornton

Great Falls National Historic Park

YouthCorp, Paterson NJ Hartford Community Court

The Hartford Hertz Rental

HW Lochner Inc.

OPTUM Cirrus Nighthawk OPTUM/UnitedHealthcare

PricewaterhouseCoopers Interns

REI

RPA, a Jensen Hughes Co.

Shake Shack

Shipman & Goodwin

Slalom Consulting

S.T.E.P. Hartford

Travelers

Travelers ITLDP

Travelers PI Finance

**Travelers Young Professionals** 

Trinity College Action Lab

UConn Net Impact Graduate

Chapter

University of Hartford Hawks

Helping Hands

University of Hartford Summer

Place

Voya Retirement Management

Watkinson School

#### **INDIVIDUALS**

#### 1,000+ HOURS

Dave Guadliana

#### **100+ HOURS**

Gretchen Gregg Jennifer Lambert

#### **75+ HOURS**

Eric Kasowitz

#### 50+ HOURS

Greg Adams Mady Kenny Kimberly McVey Mike Puckly

#### **25+ HOURS**

Andy Asensio
Susan Hoffnagle
David McCartney
Kevin McCauley
Jonathan Nyberg
Annalise Slicer
Lynn Swezey
Eric Van de Berg
Ralph Veenema
Nicole Violette
Brian Wendry
Steve White

#### **15+ HOURS**

Keith Antaya
Heather Avery
Nan Boyer
Carlene Bush
Chris Cadiz
David Crockett
John Grinvalsky
Traci Hazelton
Joan Karpuk
Darcy Kirk
Joseph Kristan
Roberta Murphy
Garrett Nicol
Kaitlin Nicol

Mike Reddy Jean Sapula Nanci Scully Glen Smyth Bill Telech Greg VanHouten Ally Zoppa

**10+ HOURS** Abdurrahzat Abdullah Polo Abon Jerry Burns Eliza Byrnes Olivia Casciano **Ethan Clewes** Will Cook Jim Cooper Jessica Dery Marissa Dery Mark Gillis Terri Granger Andie Hartman Devon Hazelton Devon Hoffnagle Rhonda Leonard Rebecca Likar Marsha Mason David Marzilli Mark Melanson Adrienne Miceli Sue Pape Kristen Poulin Matthew Poulin Susan Ring

Rosalie Rioux Andrew Slicer Marc Weinberg Kim Winter Aiden Wlochowski













































#### **STAFF**

#### Robert C. Allan

Director of Public Safety

#### Deborah Baker

Director of Development

#### **Tara Cantor**

Director of Communications & Marketing

#### **Bridget Cooke**

Director of Events

#### **Martha Conneely**

Park Development Associate

#### **Hector Diaz**

Rowing & Operations

#### Venus Dickson

Finance Manager

#### Margie Girardi-Telech

Volunteer & Program Coordinator

#### Christopher R. Hayes

Director of Operations

#### Richard J. Lopa

Director of Ranger Services

#### **Peter Morse**

Director of Finance

#### Jonathan Near

Assistant Director of Rowing

#### Marc A. Nicol

Director of Park Planning & Development

#### **Bryan Pape**

Director of Rowing Programs

#### William Sullivan

Director of Adventure Programs

#### Michael Zaleski

President & CEO

#### **MANAGEMENT PARTNERS**







#### **SUMMARY OF FINANCES**

\$2,744,747
186,946
1,263,849
14,379
\$4,209,921

Payables	\$306,802
Refundable Advances	39,755
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	2,232,422
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	1,630,942
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$4,209,921

#### **REVENUE**

Grants and Contributions	\$3,483,537
Program Fees and other Earned Income Total Revenue	783,710 <b>\$4,267,247</b>
Total Reveilue	\$4,207,247

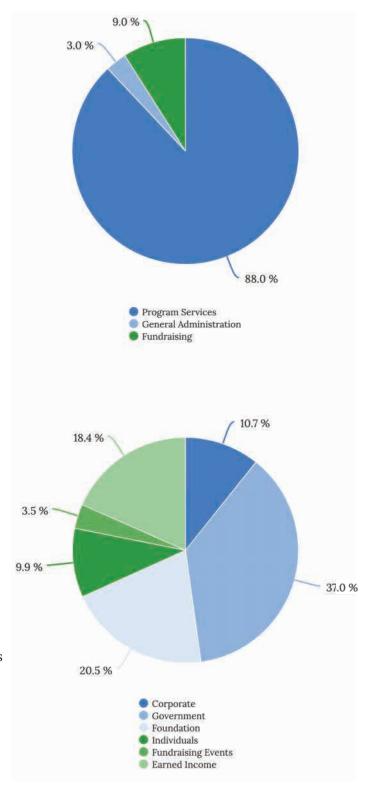
#### **EXPENSES**

Total Expenses	\$3,800,383
Fundraising	337,272
General Administration	110,487
Program Services	\$3,352,624

	4000 044
INVESTMENT RETURN	\$363.914

TOTAL NET ASSETS	
Beginning of Year	\$3,032,586
End of Year	\$3,863,364

This summary is derived from the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2019. A copy of the complete statement is available at riverfront.org/financials.



**Photos:** Page 19: volunteers at Mortensen Riverfront Plaza, Charter Oak Landing, Great River Park, at event, and in Riverside Park; Page 20: event attendees, Hartbeat Music Festival, Riverfront Community Rowing practice, River Zumba class, Riverfront Fireworks, views of the river and parks; Page 21: Head of the Riverfront Regatta, Riverfront Dragon Boat & Asian Festival, Yoga class, Great River Park concert, Riverfront Food Truck Festival, event goers; Page 22: Riverfront Food Truck Festival, fishing, WIP into Shape class, spring daffodils; Back Cover: Riverfront Dragon Boat & Asian Festival



RIVERFRONT RECAPTURE 50 COLUMBUS BOULEVARD, FIRST FLOOR HARTFORD, CT 06106