

Town of Barkhamsted

Weekly Email

February 26, 2026

From the Desk of Meaghan Cook, First Selectman

Taking one day out of the mix really created a stir for this week. I found myself checking the calendar a little too often to double check what day it is, where I need to be, and who I need to meet with. Missing the opportunity to post the agenda for Board of Selectman's meeting pushed us to rescheduled for tonight, Thursday. The 250 Celebration Committee met on Wednesday, again another successful group of volunteers sharing ideas to celebrate this historic time, marking 250 years of freedom since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The group has a lineup of events working together with the Barkhamsted Historical Society. I am still working on my chair to put up for auction as a fundraiser for the MAIN EVENT, a community picnic to be held on June 6, featuring a Lighted Drone Show after dark. More details to come. The Barkhamsted Woman's Club were represented as well and offered to collaborate. Selectman Mark Mahoney is out soliciting sponsors to promote business and offset expenses. Reach out if you might want to be involved, we will find a way to make it happen.

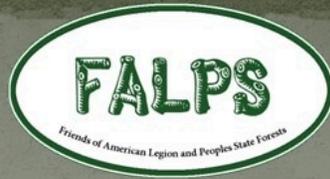
You are likely to get sick of me talking about the upcoming Riverton Fishing Derby, I will try to be respectful of your attention, but it's a pretty big deal, for a pretty long time in that pretty little village. We could use some help with funds to purchase the fish that get stocked on the evening of Friday April 10. The Union Agricultural Society is offering overnight dry camping and off-street parking. As always, the Grand Prize is the coveted Hitchcock Rocker!

A message from Rich Novak, Road Crew Foreman:

Thank you to the community for allowing the road crew to get the snow managed and the roads cleared again. Your patience with the reduced salt distribution is appreciated. A special THANKS goes out to the families of the Road Crew. Time away from them is valuable and irreplaceable. We can't thank them enough.

Have a good week - Meaghan

*Making a
difference...*



*...in our
forests*



Wildlife Tracking 101

Ever wonder what those tracks are out in the woods? Join retired Furbearer Biologist Paul Rego for a walk in Peoples State Forest to learn just what those tracks might be. Paul will identify not only point out tracks but other "sign" of what critters have passed by.

Dress appropriately for the weather and, if snowy or icy, consider cleats of some kind and hiking poles. Free and open to all ages. Heavy snow, rain or ice will cancel. Check FALPS' Facebook page or website in case of inclement weather.

**Meet at intersection of Park and Beaver Brook Roads,
Barkhamsted
1 p.m., Sunday, March 1st**





THE TRAVELIN' TROUT BAND

WILL BE HOSTING A

**FREE CONCERT, SING-A-LONG
AND A NEW *SHOWCASE* EVENT**

FRIDAY, FEB 27, 2026 6:30 – 9:00 PM

BARKHAMSTED SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER
109 WEST RIVER ROAD, PLEASANT VALLEY

BRING YOUR INSTRUMENTS TO PLAY WITH THE TROUTS, SING ALONG

OR JUST LISTEN B.Y.O. drinks & snacks

THIS MONTH WE ARE SHOWCASING A LOCAL GROUP

GRANT from THE MUDGETONES

DONATIONS WILL BE GLADLY ACCEPTED



AMERICA 250 FUNDRAISERS

Image our town lit up with red/white/blue stars to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence

Decorate your home or business with a star(s) to celebrate and raise funds for exciting events to take place in 2026

Call Erica or Debbie at the Town Hall to pre order – 860 379 8285 or see Leslie at the Riverton General Store

The Logo above is being sold as a magnet – Display on your car, fridge, file cabinets, etc. Available for purchase at the Town Hall or Riverton General Store

\$7.00



Join in the Patriotic Flower Garden Contest (entry Fee)

Start planning your spring & summer gardens now! Brighten up Barkhamsted with a Patriotic theme. More information coming soon.



Registration Entry Form – Painted Chair Auction



Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Theme of Chair: _____

Business or Website if applicable: _____

Entry is FREE. All funds raised by the auction will be to benefit the Barkhamsted America 250 Events and programs taking place in 2026 to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence.

If you are a business donating a chair or an artist advertising your skills, please attach a business card to this entry form so that we may display it along with the chair.

Entry forms must be received no later than March 16, 2026. Painted chairs must be delivered for display to the Barkhamsted Community/Senior Center, 109 West River Road, Barkhamsted between March 30 and April 1. They will be on display from April 1 through April 18th when the silent auction takes place. Entry forms may be emailed to edyndiuk@barkhamsted.us or mailed to Town of Barkhamsted, Attn: Erica, 67 Ripley Hill Road, Barkhamsted, CT 06063.

The artist of the chair with the highest bid will win a prize in the form of a Gift Card

Barkhamsted Residence is not necessary. Open to Everyone!

Register for Fun Programs with the Barkhamsted Recreation Department

New Pickleball Late Winter and Spring 2026 Session!



End of Winter/Spring Pickleball

It is time to get off the couch and join us for the very fun and new Pickleball Spring Session. All levels and abilities are welcome. This fun sport combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. You will get great exercise and have a blast.

Day-Wednesdays

Location-Barkhamsted Elementary School gym

Time-6:00-9:00 p.m. (this program is for adults (**high school students are also welcome**))

Dates- February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 25, April 1, 8, 22, 29, May 6 and May 13 is a backup bad weather day.

Please pre-register through this link- <https://forms.gle/J3F9eBLuwnhgWoyP6>

Fee: \$20.00 for residents, \$25.00 for non-residents (no pro-rations) Pre-registration is required. Registration deadline is February 18 at Demo night. Please bring your

own paddle and wear sneakers. Please mail your registration to The Barkhamsted Recreation Department- Attention Donna Bastrzycki-Recreation Director 67 Ripley Hill Road, Pleasant Valley, CT 06063 or bring your payment to the Free Demo night on Wed. Feb. 18, 2026



Spring Karate

Spring Karate 2026 (For Children and Adults)

Children's Program- Class 1

Thursdays, 3/5, 3/12, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/23, 4/30, 5/14, the program will be held in the Barkhamsted Elementary School in the Gym or Library from 6:00-6:45 p.m. (No Class on May7)

White Belts (Beginners ages 5 to 12)

Little Dragons-(ages 5 & 6)-Basic Karate skills, Basic Kata, target drills and exercise, simple self defense

Mighty Tigers (ages 7 & 8)-Stronger Karate basics and Kata, Stretching, exercise, target drills and self defense

Karate Rangers (ages 9-12)-Karate Basics, including kicking, kata, self-defense, exercise to level, target drills

Fee: \$80.00 for the eight-week session (New-\$5.00 discount for each additional family member that signs up) *****Note***New students are white belts and receive uniform**

Fee includes: Belt and/or Stripe, Belt or Stripe Test and Certificate (Note: Promotion to higher belt levels will require multiple sessions)

Family/Teen and Adult Karate – Class 2

Thursdays, 3/5, 3/12, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/23, 4/30, 5/14, program will be held in the Barkhamsted Elementary School in the Gym or Library from 7:00-7:45 p.m. (No Class on May7) in the Gym or Library 7:00-7:45 p.m.

White Belts (Beginners ages 13 and up)-7:00 to 7:45 p.m.

Teen/Adults-(Ages 13 and up)-Kenpo Karate Forms and Self Defense Techniques, Basic kicking drills.

This is a great opportunity to learn karate with family members or solo.

\$80.00 per 8 week sessions New-\$5.00 discount for each additional family member that signs up for Karate!

*****Note***New students are white belts and receive uniform**

Please pre-register through this link- [spring Karate 2026 link](#)

Egg Hunt and Visit with the Easter Bunny and Photos



When: Saturday, April 4 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Where: (The Riverton Fair Grounds) Riverton, CT

The Easter Bunny will be visiting the Shops in Riverton first (2 School Street, Riverton, CT) so be sure to go over and say hi before heading over the Riverton Fair Grounds. The egg hunt will begin at approximately 1:30 p.m. (Please don't be late!!) We have prize categories for all ages and this year; we will have an egg hunt for adults. (Some eggs will have coupons and prizes from local Riverton and Barkhamsted vendors!!) What to Bring: Please be sure to bring an Easter Basket or bag for you and your child to join in on the Easter Egg Hunt, a smile! The children will be divided into two separate age groups for a toy and candy filled Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Recreation Commission. Then parents and caregivers will have their chance to go on their own egg hunt too!! The Event will be held rain, snow or shine!!! (If you are a local vendor/business owner and would like to participate or contribute to the prizes, please contact Donna Bastrzycki, Barkhamsted Recreation Director barkhamstedrec@barkhamsted.us)

Register today at: [Easter egg hunt 2026](#)



Barkhamsted Recreation Summer Camp

Save the Date!

July 20-24, 2026

Recreation Summer Camp-Save the Date! (July 20-24, 2026)

Get ready for loads of fun at the annual week long Barkhamsted Recreation Camp. There are new special events, crafts and water fun planned for each day. We hope your child will be a part of the 2026 camp! Barkhamsted Recreation Summer camp will be held July 20-24, 2026. The registration for Camp will be held **April 3-June 1 or when program is full. Be sure to register early. Spots are limited.**

Register at: [summer camp 2026 registration link](#)

Summer Help Wanted!

Applications are being accepted for Counselors, Junior Counselors and staff for Summer Camp. Please complete the application from this link-

[SummerCampHelpWanted Link](#)

Deadline is-Monday, April 6 or when positions are full (completed applications must be received by this date.)

Please mail or drop off summer payments to Barkhamsted Parks and Recreation Department -67 Ripley Hill Road Pleasant Valley, CT 06063 and also in the white drop box in front of town hall. **Karate, Pound and Pickleball** payments can be brought on the first night of the program. Please sign up before the deadlines to reserve your spot for programs and ensure your spot and “like” the town of Barkhamsted on Facebook to stay up to date with current events and programs.

Community/Senior Center

Schedule of events and meals:

LUNCH – Tuesday, March 3 – 12:00 noon – Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, corn and ice cream

BREAKFAST – Thursday, March 5 – 7:30 – 9:00 – Cooked to order, as usual -- your choice of eggs any way you prefer, bacon, sausage links or patties, ham, pancakes, French toast, waffles, home fries, hash, fresh fruit cocktail, orange juice and more.

As always, meals are \$5.00 – additional donations are always welcome. Gluten-free options are also available, so please let us know if those dishes are something you would like or need. We also try to accommodate other dietary restrictions for those who cannot eat certain foods.

Here are the upcoming activities:

Monday, March 2; Wednesday, March 4 – 11:30-12:30 – Tai Chi – The classes are \$5 and are held Monday and Wednesday each week. Feel free to join us even if you have never tried it. I can vouch for the fact that it really helps your flexibility and balance, and in my case, it really seems to help my back and leg pain. And it is focused on seniors who are beginners, so none of us need to worry about looking like an amateur.

Monday, March 2; Rich Madara will be conducting sessions to help folks with their computers and smart phones. More about smart phone use and more information on AI (Gemini) will be included in subsequent sessions. You can also ask specific questions of Rich, who is an IT expert, as these sessions are very informal. Please let me know about anything else electronic or related to computers or phones with which you would like to get help.

Friday, February 27 - 6:30 - the Traveling Trout will be starting up their monthly jam sessions for 2026. Everyone is welcome to join, admission is free (although donations are welcome), and the music is lively. If you want to sing along, you are more than welcome. Please join us for a really great evening out.

Tuesday, March 17 - 6:00PM - we will have our monthly Trivia night. These continue to be great successes thanks to Bob and Linda Pulford. Everyone is welcome whether you are part of a team or come by yourself. We always have room for individuals to join a table even if you are new to the group or the game.

I am waiting to hear back from the “Northwestern Regional 7's Principal's Advisory Council Community Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee”. I believe they are still planning to hold a senior center night with them and us at the Barkhamsted Senior/Community Center. She will get back to me with more details on the event and the timing. I am also waiting to hear back from the Barkhamsted School librarian about the plans for the 5th grade class to hold an event with the seniors.

If you would like to hold a crafts or other activity or conduct an exercise class, please let me know. If you have ideas for events or programs you would like to have us schedule, please reach out to me and I will work to get them on the calendar.

As I have mentioned, we are still collecting food for the Community Food Bank in Barkhamsted. It is extremely important that those who can help, contribute what they can, even if it is a small amount. The food bank is at the Pleasant Valley Methodist Church and does a great service for those in need. Check their Facebook page for their operating hours. Their Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551048540688>. They are open every other week on Monday and Thursday.

Don Stein

NEW PROGRAM SERIES:

BEYOND THE LORE

LECTURE SERIES ACCOMPANYING LEGENDS AND LORE EXHIBIT

ICONOCLASM IN LITCHFIELD: MELTING THE STATUE OF KING GEORGE III IN 1776 AND 1935

Wendy Bellion

Professor of Art History at the University
of Delaware

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 6:30 PM

VIRTUAL LECTURE

In 1776, a crowd pulled a statue of George III from its pedestal in New York, and soldiers transported the remaining fragments to Litchfield, where the statue was melted down and recast as ammunition for Continental soldiers. This talk revisits this dramatic episode of the American Revolution and explores its lesser-known afterlife in the twentieth century.

Wendy Bellion is Professor of Art History and Sewell C. Biggs Chair in American Art at the University of Delaware. She is the author of *Iconoclasm in New York: Revolution to Reenactment*.

LITCHFIELD
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

250TH
LITCHFIELD, CT



ICONOCLASM
IN NEW YORK

Revolution to Reenactment WENDY BELLION



Winsted Soldiers' Monument Commission

Special Event

UPCOMING PRESENTATION



Rosie the Riveter

“Rosie the Riveter” became an iconic symbol of working women during World War II. What was it really like for them? We’ll look at propaganda posters, art, music, photos, and hear real-life accounts of Connecticut women who worked for victory in the war.

Date: Saturday, March 7th, 2026

Time: 11 AM

Location: American Museum of Tort Law

654 Main Street

Winsted, CT 06098

Contact: Melissa Bird

RSVP: 860-379-0505

Melissa.bird@tortmuseum.org





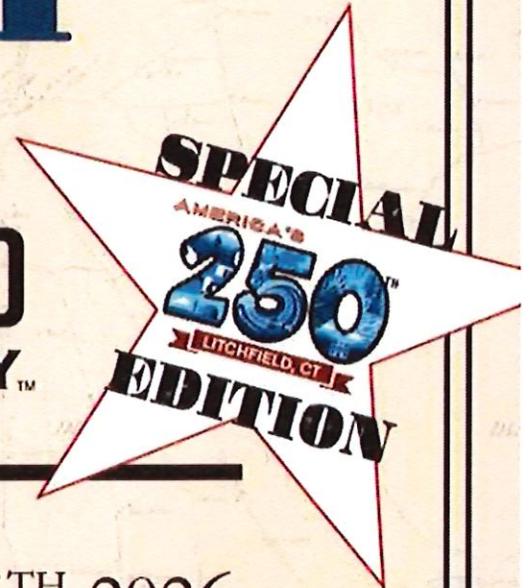
LITCHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM | INGRAHAM LIBRARY | TAPPING REEVE HOUSE | LITCHFIELD LAW SCHOOL

More Than Just History

TRIVIA NIGHT

AT THE

**LITCHFIELD
DISTILLERY™**



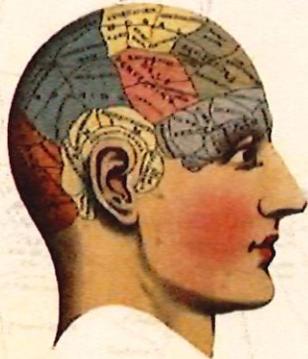
THURSDAY, MARCH 5TH 2026

6:30 - 8:00



\$20 
FOR MEMBERS

\$25 
FOR NON-MEMBERS



TEAMS UP TO 6
DRINKS AND SMALL
BITES PROVIDED

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Northwestern Regional 7 Presents *The Addams Family*
A Delightfully Dark Musical Comedy with Heart



WINSTED, CT, Feb. 17 — Northwestern Regional 7 proudly presents *The Addams Family*, a spooky, funny, and heartfelt musical comedy based on Charles Addams' cartoons and the iconic TV classic. Performances will take place **Friday, March 27, at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m., and a matinee show on Sunday, March 29, at 2:00 p.m.** in the NWR7 Auditorium.

The musical follows Wednesday Addams, who has fallen in love with a "normal" young man. When his family comes to dinner, two worlds collide, secrets are revealed, and both families are forced to reconsider what it truly means to love and belong.

The production features a talented student cast representing the towns of Barkhamsted, Colebrook, New Hartford and Norfolk. Principal actors include:

- **Gomez Addams** – Gustavo Zurita (Senior, Barkhamsted)
- **Morticia Addams** – Ivy Wallace (Senior, New Hartford)
- **Wednesday Addams** – Kaileigh Grant (Senior, Barkhamsted)
- **Lucas Beineke** – Domonic Salz (Senior, Barkhamsted)
- **Uncle Fester** – Maribelle Roach (Junior, Barkhamsted)
- **Alice Beineke** – Violet Swanson (Sophomore, New Hartford)
- **Mal Beineke** – Levi Swanson (Senior, New Hartford)
- **Grandma Addams** – Krystal Janak (Junior, Colebrook)
- **Pugsley Addams** – Lorelai DeCerbo (Freshman, Norfolk)
- **Lurch** – Juan Pablo Urbina Labarrere (Senior, New Hartford)

Just as essential to the production are the student crew members, whose work in set construction, lighting, sound, costumes, and stage management brings the Addams' eerie world to life. Together with the cast, nearly 50 students participate in the production, led by directors Ann DeCerbo and John DeShazo, with support from choreographer Kristin Mudge, musical director Dylan Pedersen, and costumer Sue Zymont.

"You won't be able to help singing along to this delightfully macabre musical," said Director Ann DeCerbo. "Beneath its spooky exterior, *The Addams Family* celebrates love, individuality, and accepting people for who they are. Our students bring it to life beautifully!"

Event Details:

The Addams Family

Dates: March 27 & 28 at 7:00 p.m.; March 29 at 2:00 p.m.

Location: Northwestern Regional 7 High School, 100 Battistoni Drive, Winsted, CT 06098

Tickets available at the door or online at www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nwrtheater/addams#/