

Town of Barkhamsted

Weekly Town Email

May 21, 2026

This weekend we remember the U.S. Military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

From the Desk of Meaghan Cook, First Selectman

This week, some sprucing up has been happening at Town Hall. The Women's Club spent time refreshing our flower pots during one of those spontaneous 80-degree days. Interior updates in the lower-level offices are nearly complete, and everything looks great, stop in and say hello!

The gardening efforts are also extending to the Town Garage. Many of the foundation plantings need to be replaced, and a couple of very generous residents have offered to donate new shrubs, along with their time and hard work, to help revitalize the front of the building. It is a welcome endeavor.

The car show held in Riverton last week was a huge success, and people are already excited to see it return next year.

June 6th is fast approaching, and Erica and her team have been busy finalizing the details. It's shaping up to be a great day for the entire community.

Also, save the date, on July 11th, the Recreation Committee is planning a Drive-In Movie Night at the Riverton Fairgrounds. Donna will be sharing more details soon.

The flag is searching for a new landing spot, so keep an eye out for where it appears next.

Don't forget to stop by the Town Garage this weekend to browse the Farmer's Market! Open from 9 am to 1 pm.

The Patriotic Flower Contest has begun. This weekend is a perfect time to get the garden planted! See attached flyer.

Enjoy the weekend, travel safely, and check on your neighbors. – Meaghan

ACTIVE PEDDLER PERMITS – ION Solar, Renewal by Anderson, Frontier, Verizon and Direct TV

Northwestern Regional #7 News

Senior Prom will take place Friday, May 22nd. As is tradition, many prom goers will be at the Saville Dam for photos from about 4 pm – 5 pm. Please avoid the area if possible, during that time but if you do have to travel that way, use caution for everyone's safety.

Please click the link below for NWR7's newsletter. There is a lot of information about past events, coming events, school news and achievements, etc. It is worth a read.

Highlander Highlights

Senior/Community Center News

We just finished a busy weekend with the Traveling Trout at the Center on Friday night and a talk on the Lighthouse Community sponsored by the North Woods Land Conservancy on Saturday night.

Here's the schedule of events and meals for this week:

LUNCH – Tuesday, May 26 – 12:00 noon – Homemade meatloaf, potatoes and veggies with lemon bars for dessert.

BREAKFAST – Thursday, May 28 – 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:

Wednesday, May 27 – 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. It is focused on improving balance and flexibility for seniors who are beginners, so no one needs to worry about looking like an amateur.

Thursday, May 28, after breakfast - Weeders and Readers meets during the Spring/Summer months as a garden club and during the Fall/Winter it becomes a book club. Meetings are normally the last Thursday of the month beginning at 9.30 a.m. (after breakfast). For further information, please call or text Lorna Delaney (860) 379-6419. They plan to maintain the gardens at the Center for the second year in a row and will be working with the Barkhamsted Women's Club to install a park bench next to the garden.

Friday, June 19; 6:30 -9:00 – The Traveling Trout will be back at the Senior and Community Center for their jam sessions. They have been practicing some new music and invited some other bands and musicians to join them. Come on down and enjoy a very fun evening with good music.

If you would like to hold a crafts or other activity or have an additional 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.

The Weeders and Readers club is planning on decorating the outside of the Senior & Community Center in red, white and blue flowers and other decorations to mark America's 250th birthday. Their work party is scheduled for Monday, May 18th in the morning. They would welcome any donations of red, white and blue decorations that can be left at the Center. Please bring any decorations that you wish to donate to the Center so that we can make them available to the Club.

Don Stein

[Celebrating America 250](#)

On Friday, April 24, 2026, students of the Barkhamsted Elementary school dedicated a cherry tree to help our Town celebrate America's 250th Anniversary. The school choir sang the National Anthem, First Selectman, Meaghan Cook spoke and students helped plant the tree. We love involving our young residents in celebrating our history!



Register for the Barkhamsted Recreation Department's

New Summer Programs Today!



Paddle the Farmington River with Barkhamsted Recreation and The FRCC River Stewards (2026 River and Recreation Events) (New) (Two separate events!)

Experience the beautiful vistas of the scenic Farmington River during an evening of fun while paddling with Collinsville Canoe and Kayak, FRCC Summer River Stewards and the Barkhamsted Recreation Department for our River and Recreation Family Event. Spend an enjoyable evening while getting in some great exercise. You can choose whether you would like to kayak or Paddle Board. Whatever your preference, you're sure to have a great time. The cost is \$25.00 per person, per event night and the price includes a paddleboard, or kayak, paddle and life vest. The cost is \$10 if you have your own supplies. Collinsville Canoe charges \$5 for Parking and boat launch and then \$5.00 for Barkhamsted Recreation. (Payment must be received one week prior to the program) Lots of smiles and laughs are sure to be had by all. The program is open to adults and families. Children should be ages 6 or over and should be able to swim. Life jackets are required.

Date-Friday, June 5 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

and Sunday, August 9-Event Night

Time-2:00-4:00 p.m.

Location: Collinsville Canoe and Kayak- 41 Bridge Street, Route 179, Collinsville, CT

Please register at [2026 Paddle Registration link](#) by Wed. June 3 for Event 1 and Wed. August 5 for Event

2 so we can have the proper equipment and supervision in place. Mail your check to Barkhamsted Recreation Department, Barkhamsted Town Hall-67 Ripley Hill Road, Barkhamsted, CT 06078 or drop it off in the white mailbox outside town hall in the upper level by the deadline for each event. Once you are registered there are no refunds as we have to give a headcount to Collinsville Canoe and Kayak the head count three days before the event.

You can also bring your payment to the event but Once you are registered there are no refunds as we have to give a headcount to Collinsville Canoe and Kayak the head count before the event.

For any questions, please email- Donna Bastrzycki, Barkhamsted Recreation Director, barkhamstedrec@barkhamsted.us

Looking forward to seeing you there!



Summer Fun Day by the River at Peoples State Forest 2026-River and Recreation Series

Summer Event

Summer Fun Day by the River at Peoples State Forest will be held on Sunday, June 28 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Join us for the new River and Recreation Series Summer Event at Peoples State Forest- (in front of Squires Tavern-The Barkhamsted Historical Society.) Crafts, games, corn hole competitions and activities are for adults, families and children from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and the event will be led by the Barkhamsted Recreation Camp staff and the 2026 FRCC Assistant River Steward Team. You will have a blast while making new friends and learning more about the Wild and Scenic Farmington River, area hiking and recreational programs, meet the 2026 FRCC River Steward Team and members of the Barkhamsted Recreation staff and play a variety of games, make crafts and even have the opportunity to go on a Nature Scavenger hunt! Meet at the picnic tables at Squires Tavern/Barkhamsted Historical Society. Please register by Wed, June

25 so that we can plan for the necessary supplies and craft items. Small snacks will also be served. This event is free!

When-Sunday June 28 Time-1:00-3:00 p.m.

Location-Squires Tavern/Barkhamsted Historical Society Red Barn-100 East River Road, Barkhamsted, CT

Fee-FREE (This is a FREE community event for all ages)

Register at- [Summer Fun Day By the River Registration link](#)

For any questions, please email- Donna Bastrzycki, Barkhamsted Recreation Director, barkhamstedrec@barkhamsted.us

Register for Summer Camp with the Barkhamsted Recreation Department



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, May 18 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. 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.

Please mail or drop off summer payments or required forms 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. 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.



STANCLIFT COVE IS BACK!



Get ready for another great summer at the Cove!



Resident Pass Sales

May 30, 2026

 Gates open: **8:30 AM**

 Pass sales: **9:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

 **Barkhamsted & New Hartford residents only**




BONUS PRE-SEASON SWIM DAYS

We're kicking things off early thanks to our amazing returning lifeguards!

 **Pre-season dates:**

June 6, 7, 13 & 14

 These extra days are our way of giving back after last summer's brief closures.

 **Valid 2026 season pass required**




Out-of-Town Passes

Available starting **June 6**



OFFICIAL OPENING

Father's Day Weekend

 Starting **June 20**



See you at the Cove!

Celebrating **America's** **250TH**

Join us for a Town Wide Picnic!

June 6, 2026 at the Barkhamsted Elementary School Fields

3 pm - 9:30 pm

Schedule of Events

(a shuttle bus will run from the Senior/Community Center to Praise Christian Church to the School)

3:00 - Opening Ceremony

3:30 - Living History Reading of the Declaration of Independence by Greg O'Brien

4:00 - Games and Historical demonstrations, music

5:30 - Bring your own picnic! Drinks, pre packaged snacks and a cake will be provided

7:00 - Poster display by Elementary School Students and announcement of Poster winners

9:00 - Drone Show

Thank you to our Sponsors

Anonymous
Turning Point Realty
Brooks-Green Woods DAR Chapter
Boulder Ridge Day Camp
Pleasant Valley Fire Department
Barkhamsted & Riverton Lions Clubs
Barkhamsted Historical Society
Democratic Town Committee
Republican Town Committee
Praise Christian Church (parking)
Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church (parking)
Legeyt Bus Company
Center Hill Lumber

If you or your business would like to be a sponsor of events and programs please contact Erica Dyndiuk or Debbie Brydon
860 379 8285 or via email to edyndiuk@barkhamsted.us or dbyrdon@barkhamsted.us

— ★ Join the ★ —

PATRIOTIC FLOWER GARDEN ★ CONTEST! ★

— ★ ★ ★ —

Start planning your spring & summer gardens now!
Brighten up Barkhamsted with a **Patriotic** theme
and then place a **star** in your garden! ★



A map, indicating your home, will be available
for anyone to follow so they can view the
gardens and **vote** for their favorite (if you
were here for the Holiday Light Contest,
this is similar).



A PRIZE WILL BE AWARDED
to the winner at the
July 4th Parade!



★ **IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT:** ★

Debbie Brydon

☎ 860-379-1314

Erica Dyndiuk

☎ 860-379-8285

★ *Let's show our patriotic spirit and make
Barkhamsted bloom with **red, white & blue!*** ★

SAVE THE DATE!

June 6, 2026

**TOWN WIDE
PICNIC!**

Join us for a fun-filled day for the whole community!



GAMES



MUSIC



**POSTER
CONTEST**

Bring your own picnic!

Drinks, snacks, and cake will be provided.

PICNIC STARTS

at 3:00 PM

DRONE SHOW

at 9:00 PM

Don't miss this exciting evening celebration!

LOCATION IS:

BARKHAMSTED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELD

BECOME A TIME TRAVELER!

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026

4 PM – 7:30 PM

COLONIAL ENCAMPMENT,
DISPLAYS AND INTERACTIVE FUN



COLONIAL ENCAMPMENT



HISTORICAL DISPLAYS

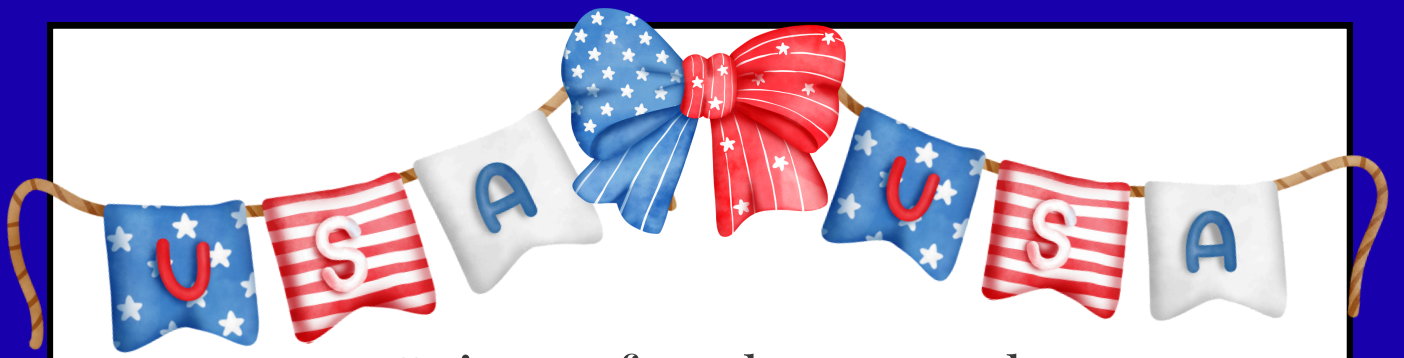


INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES
& HANDS-ON FUN

★ *Presented by* ★
History without Walls

65 RIPLEY HILL ROAD
BARKHAMSTED, CT

★ TRAVEL THROUGH HISTORY AND ENJOY
AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE FOR ALL AGES! ★



Join us for the annual
Barkhamsted Town



4th of July PARADE



July 4th at 10:30 AM

Kids Theme Patriotic Bikes Strollers Trikes

Parade line up starts at 10:00 am at the
former Bus Barn and ends at the
Elementary School



Sponsored by the Barkhamsted Lions