

**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**

# Town of Barkhamsted

## Weekly Town Email

June 4, 2026

### **BIG TOWN EVENT SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026**

3 pm – 9:30 pm

Picnic and Drone Show

(Bring your own Picnic- but ice cream and a food truck available for purchase)

Read on for further information

**RIVER ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC**

**FROM 3 pm – 10 pm**

#### [From the Desk of Meaghan Cook, First Selectman](#)

This week has been filled with final preparations and last-minute details for a truly special event: **Barkhamsted Celebrates America 250**. Try saying that 10 times fast! The excitement is building, and it has truly been an all-hands-on-deck effort across the community.

As we prepare to celebrate **250 years of American freedom, independence, and resilience**, volunteers and town employees have been working behind the scenes to make this event a success. Pleasant Valley Fire Department has been focused on public safety planning to ensure everyone can enjoy the festivities safely. The America 250 Committee has been actively promoting the event through social media and community outreach, while Erica has done an incredible job coordinating participants, musicians, reenactors, games, shuttle buses, vendors, and dozens of other moving pieces that come together to create a memorable experience. Best of all, the weather forecast looks fantastic, making the perfect backdrop for neighbors, friends, and families to get together, celebrate our shared history, and create new memories.

I was speaking with someone this week who was reminiscing about the Bicentennial celebrations of 1976. I remember what a big deal it was, parades seemed to be everywhere, patriotic decorations in every storefront, and commemorative memorabilia all over the place. There was a sense of pride, excitement, and connection that brought communities together. While times have

changed, I hope we can capture even a portion of that spirit as we commemorate this remarkable milestone. Our committee intentionally planned this celebration well ahead of July 4th to maximize participation and engagement. Unlike a single holiday weekend, America 250 gives us the opportunity to honor our nation's history over an extended period and reflect on the people, events, and ideals that have shaped our community and our country. Let the celebrations begin!!

On to other business, the Economic Development Committee would like to remind local businesses to take advantage of the Town of Barkhamsted's online Business Directory. This free resource provides businesses with valuable visibility and serves as an effective marketing tool for reaching both residents and visitors. Businesses can include contact information, describe their services, and link directly to their own websites, helping potential customers find them more easily. The directory is also connected to Discover Litchfield Hills and the Regional Business Directory, expanding exposure beyond our town borders and helping showcase the many businesses that contribute to Barkhamsted's economy. Supporting local businesses strengthens our community, keeps investment local, and helps maintain the vibrant character that makes Barkhamsted a great place to live, work, and visit.

Finally, a small house fire this week serves as an important reminder about fire safety in our homes. Many people regularly clean the lint trap inside their dryer, but that's only part of the maintenance required. Over time, lint can accumulate in the dryer vent and ductwork behind the machine, creating a serious fire hazard that often goes unnoticed. Regular inspection and cleaning of dryer vents can significantly reduce the risk of a fire. Thankfully, due to the quick response of our volunteer Fire Departments, this incident was contained before it could spread and cause greater damage. Their dedication serves as a reminder of the critical role our volunteer firefighters play in protecting our community every day. Taking a few minutes to perform routine fire-safety checks around your home can make all the difference in preventing emergencies before they happen.

I hope to see many of you this weekend as we come together to celebrate **250 years of freedom, history, and community spirit**. It's a milestone that only comes once in a lifetime, and Barkhamsted is ready to celebrate it in a big way. Happy America 250!



*Celebrating*  
**America's**  
**250<sup>TH</sup>**

*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 by Farmington Valley Band

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 A

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, Greg O'Brien - Voice Actor

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](mailto:edyndiuk@barkhamsted.us) or [dbyrdon@barkhamsted.us](mailto:dbyrdon@barkhamsted.us)

# 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! ★

# Town Picnic – June 6, 2026 Celebrating America’s 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What should I bring?**

Lawn/camp chair, blanket, bug spray, sun screen, picnic food for you and your family, small trash bag to take out what you bring in.

### **Is alcohol/smoking/vaping allowed?**

No, alcohol/tobacco/vaping is not allowed on school grounds

### **Can I bring a grill?**

No, grilling will not be allowed for safety reasons

### **Can I bring my pet(s)?**

No, for safety reasons pets are not allowed.

### **Will there be a cooling center?**

The Town Hall will be open if someone needs to cool off.

### **Can I bring an easy up or other small tent?**

No. There is an irrigation system and we do not want it damaged by staking tents into the grounds. We suggest bringing a small umbrella to attach to a chair or hold or a shaded chair.

### **Are coolers allowed?**

Yes, small coolers (no bigger than 12”x 18”) are allowed.

### **Where should I park?**

Parking will be available behind the Elementary School, Praise Christian Church and the Barkhamsted Senior/Community Center. Handicap parking will be available at the Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church.

A shuttle bus will run between the Senior/Community Center, Praise Christian Church and the Town Hall.

**Will Food be provided or available for purchase?**

Water, drinks and some pre packaged snacks as well as a celebration cake will be free to all in attendance.

Ice cream will be available for purchase from an ice cream truck. Burgers and Tacos will be available to purchase from a food truck also.

**What are some picnic food ideas?**

Cold roast meats (chicken, beef, etc.), cheese, breads, pickled vegetables, hard boiled eggs or deviled eggs, fresh berries, watermelon, pie, salads.

**Will restrooms be available?**

There will be two porta potties available

**What time will the drone show be and how long will it last?**

The show will begin approximately at 9/9:15 pm and last about 15 minutes.

June 1, 2026

Good day! This notice is to remind all dog owners that per CT State Statute 22-338, all dogs aged 6 months and older must be licensed annually **during the month of June**. You must supply the spaying/neutering certificate if done during the previous year and an updated rabies certificate if necessary. Please check your current license as rabies dates must be valid through July of the year to be considered valid. The fees remain at \$8.00 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$19.00 for intact dogs. You are welcome to renew in person during my office hours or you may renew by mail. If renewing by mail (or if you'd like to leave the license renewal request in the locked mailbox located outside the lower level door), checks are to be made out to Barkhamsted Town Clerk and submitted along with any necessary paperwork to Town Clerk Office, 67 Ripley Hill Road, Barkhamsted, CT 06063. Please also include a self-addressed, postage paid envelope for return of the license, tag, and any paperwork. If you prefer to license in person, my office hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30am to 4:30pm. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to call (860) 379-8665 or send an email to [hkrouse@barkhamsted.us](mailto:hkrouse@barkhamsted.us) Have a happy summer!  
Holly Krouse, Barkhamsted Town Clerk

— ★ 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!*** ★

*Making a  
difference...*



*...in our  
forests*

# National Trails Day Hike!

Come join FALPS' President Erik Landgraf and Board members on a hike to enjoy the beauty and serenity of Peoples State Forest. Pass by babbling brooks, towering pines, and historical stops along the way. Delight in the views from the outstanding overlooks that scan the Wild & Scenic West Branch of the Farmington River and the valleys and hills surrounding it and then experience the wonders of the Beaver Meadow boardwalk. You might even get a glimpse of a Bald Eagle or Black Bear! We'll travel approximately 5.25 miles with a total elevation gain of 1,200 feet.

**Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**



**Meet at parking lot for Jesse  
Girard/Falls Cutoff Trails,  
East River Road,  
Barkhamsted, CT**



**Trails Day Hike**  
**Pine Mountain & Indian Council Caves**  
**Saturday, June 6th 9:00 AM**

Join trail leaders Pam and Steve Emmons for Connecticut Forest and Park Association's Trails Day Hike at Pine Mountain and Indian Council Caves in Barkhamsted. Hikers will meet at the Pine Mountain entrance to the Blue Trail at 9 AM. We will hike to Pine Mountain summit and then head south to the Indian Caves. Hikers will be shuttled back to their cars around noon. No rain date and no dogs. Registration required at [www.trailsday.org](http://www.trailsday.org)

# NATURE RANGERS CLUB



## **Calling All Budding Naturalists!**

Hello from the Nature Rangers Club

A program for preschoolers (ages 3 - 4) where little ones are introduced to the world of nature. Each month we feature a species of local flora and/or fauna found here in our beautiful Northwestern Hills. Blending art & science, sessions include ecological tidbits reinforced with an associated storybook reading, arts & crafts and more. Please come join us!

## **DATE & TIME**

June 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am

## **LOCATION**

Hartland Public Library  
61 Center Street  
West Hartland, CT 06091

*Sponsored by North Woods Land Conservancy  
Graciously hosted by the Hartland Public Library*

Registration required at [dcnaturerangers@gmail.com](mailto:dcnaturerangers@gmail.com)  
Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian at all times

**JUNE 2026**

***Barkhamsted Senior/Community Center Newsletter***

Center Director: Don Stein

Kitchen Manager: Bonnie Reynolds



**Bingo:** Following lunch on Tuesdays, Dean Reynolds directs the game of Bingo for those who are interested. Come and enjoy lunch beforehand at noon and stay for continued fellowship and fun.

**Traveling Trout:** This wonderful group of local musicians will be playing at the Center on **Friday, June 19**, at 6:30. Come and hear some great music. Bring your own snack for a fun evening with friends.

**Welcome Back!!!**

From Florida: Jane Gurka, Lester Carr  
From Illness: Dave Delaney

**Upcoming:**

**June 6**, Starting at 3 p.m.: Barkhamsted's main event for the 2026 anniversary celebration: town picnic, games, and a colorful drone show at 9 p.m.  
Bring your own food. Drinks and dessert provided. Pleasant Valley Elementary School Playground.

**On Friday, June 12**, at 7 p.m., the Barkhamsted Historical Society will be holding its fourth and final program, "Play Ball": the history of baseball in Barkhamsted, presented by Don Stein.

**Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30 a.m.: the Weeders and Readers Club meets at the Center following breakfast. All are welcome.

**Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>** at 10 a.m. Historic bus tour of the Saville Dam and Barkhamsted Reservoir. Inspect the lower gatehouse of Saville Dam and visit two historic locations along the west side of the Reservoir. Tickets Available at Squire's Tavern.

**Yoga:** Lorna Delaney will conduct Yoga classes on the following Mondays in June 8, 15, 22 and 29. Information call Lorna at 860-379-6419.

**June Birthdays**

Shari Lynes June 2  
Tina Smith June 8  
Connie Warner June 8  
Terri Collins June 14  
George Washington June 15  
Beverly Stone June 22  
Cynthia Williams June 23  
Patricia Sabolcik June 23

**Community Food Bank:** The Center is collecting food items for the Food Bank in Pleasant Valley. The food bank is located at 93 River Road (United Methodist Church) in Pleasant Valley. Call 860-379-0346. For information on open hours see their FACEBOOK page: "The Community Food Bank"

### **Friends We Remember**

It is with heavy hearts that we mourn the passing of two friends of the Center. Our prayers are with their families.

*Barbara Sherwin  
Don Joy*

### **Container Gardening Program**

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, area gardener Ann Travers held a program on shade and sun gardening in containers. Twenty participants received a container, a selection of sun and shade annuals, and instruction on selection, planting and care. The response was enthusiastic, and more programs are in the planning for the future: “Fall Container Gardening” and “Growing Plants in Water”. We’re looking for feedback. If you are interested, see Bonnie Boyle.



*Twenty enthusiastic gardeners filled planters with colorful annuals*

### **The Cooks are Asking You**

As always, the Tuesday cooking crew tries to prepare nutritious, tasty food to serve those in attendance at lunch.

We have put together a questionnaire requesting your thoughts on future meals and ways to make lunch the most enjoyable experience.

We have already begun preparing an alternative entrée for gluten-free diets, so if you are one of those folks who would benefit, let us know.

We have also added cruets for oil and vinegar to be placed on each table for those who would like to have an alternative to the salad dressing that we usually provide.

Questionnaires are located in the dining room and are anonymous if you wish.

### **Thanks to the Weeders and Readers and Barkhamsted Women’s Club**

We thank the Weeders and Readers Club for the newly planted annuals and decorations for the U.S. 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. They also gave the cellar hatchway door a much needed fresh coat of paint.

Thanks also to the Barkhamsted Women’s Club for the donation of two benches which have been placed in the garden area.

These improvements have made the Center look very welcoming and we are appreciative of these generous donations.

### **Julie Sullivan Does it Again!**

Are you the recipient of some of the great baked goods on the weekly raffle table?

Each week, when she’s not working here in the Center Kitchen, Julie is busy baking goodies: cookies of all varieties, delicious fruit pies, and mouth-watering fudge. We are so lucky to have this generous, hard-working woman in our midst.

Thank you, Julie! (...and keep it up)

# JUNE 2026

## Barkhamsted Senior and Community Center

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Food Bank open 4-9 p.m.	<b>2</b> 12:00 Lunch Baked Ham, Potato Salad Garden Salad, Baguette	<b>3</b> 11:30 Tai Chi	<b>4</b> 7:30 – 9:00 Breakfast Food Bank open 2-4 p.m.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 3:00 Barkhamsted Celebrates U.S. 250 <sup>th</sup> Barkhamsted Elem. Playground
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:30 Yoga 11:30 Tai Chi	<b>9</b> 12:00 Lunch Chicken Divan Noodles, Green Beans Dinner Roll	<b>10</b> 11:30 Tai Chi	<b>11</b> 7:30 – 9:00 Breakfast	<b>12</b> 7:00 p.m. Historical Society “Play Ball” with Don Stein	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:30 Yoga 11:30 Tai Chi Food Bank open 4-7 p.m.	<b>16</b> 12:00 Lunch Taco (Beef, Cheese, lettuce, tomato, avacado, salsa) 6 p.m.Trivia Night	<b>17</b> 11:30 Tai Chi	<b>18</b> 7:30 – 9:00 Breakfast Food Bank open 2-4 p.m.	<b>19</b> 6:30 – 9 p.m. Traveling Trout	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:30 Yoga 11:30 Tai Chi	<b>23</b> <u>12:00</u> Lunch Spaghetti and Meat Sauce, Garden Salad. Italian Bread	<b>24</b> 11:30 Tai Chi	<b>25</b> 7:30 – 9:00 Breakfast 9:30 Weeders and Readers	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:30 Yoga 11:30 Tai Chi	<b>30</b> 12:00 Lunch Grilled Kielbasa, Potato, Cole Slaw, rolls				

### SERVICES:

Ambulance: Call 911

Barkhamsted Senior/Community Center: 860-738-1264

Community Food Bank: 860-379-0346 (For Hours, see Facebook “The Community Food Bank”)

Helping Hands Home Care: 860-379-4900

Visiting Nurse and Hospice of Litchfield County (VNA): 860-379-8561

A COMPLETE LIST of SERVICES is available at The Barkhamsted Senior/Community Center and at Barkhamsted Town Hall



YOU ARE INVITED TO A  
**SENIOR**  
*Celebration*

Please join our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students for  
a breakfast in your honor

At Barkhamsted Elementary School

**Tuesday June 9th**  
**from 9am-10am**

Breakfast will include pastries, sandwiches, juice, tea and coffee.

Please RSVP by June 2<sup>nd</sup> to Mrs Hedenberg  
[lhedenberg@barkhamstedschool.org](mailto:lhedenberg@barkhamstedschool.org)  
or by calling 860-379-2729



Possible Trips (1-day, no overnight, including lunch)

	Yes	No	Maybe
Mark Twain House/Harriet Beecher Stowe House - Hartford			
Florence Griswold Museum – Old Lyme			
Goodspeed Opera – E. Haddam			
The Kate Old Saybrook Theater			
Essex Steam Train/Riverboat			
Nathan Hale Homestead – Coventry			
Gillette Castle – E. Haddam			
Old State House – Group Tour – Hartford			
Long Wharf Theater - New Haven			
Bushnell – Hartford			
Palace Theater - Waterbury			
Mystic Seaport and Village			
American Tort Museum – Winsted			

## Special Thanks

**Royal Coachman Tavern at Old Riverton Inn** for underwriting the cost of this initiative.

Riverton Grange #169 Inc.

Riverton American Legion Post #159

State Representative (Veteran) Mark Anderson

Shops at Riverton Marketplace

Barkhamsted Lions Club, Riverton (CT) Lions Club, and Northwestern CT Cyber Lions Club

Barkhamsted Forks Senior Center

**Please join us on Sunday,  
July 5, at 6:00 PM, at the historic  
Riverton Grange Hall, 17 Riverton  
Road, Riverton, for our next  
ceremony!**



RIVERTON GRANGE

#169

hosts ceremony **#50**



**Veteran of the Month**

**USMC Veteran**

**Kevin Hales**

**Sunday, June 7, 2026**

**6:00 PM**

## Welcome



On July 4, 2021, **Riverton Grange #169 Inc.** launched the Veteran of the Month initiative in partnership with the Town of Barkhamsted, The Barkhamsted Seniors Inc. (Barkhamsted Forks Senior Center), Riverton American Legion Post #159, Riverton Lions Club and Northwestern CT Cyber Lions Clubs.

Suggested by American Legion National Committeeman Joe Jackson; normally on the first Sunday of each month at 6:00 PM, an American Flag is raised and flown for one month in honor of a local veteran over the Riverton Grange Hall. At the end of the month, the flag is lowered, folded and presented to the veteran or their family with a National Grange Patriot's Certificate of Honor and other mementos.

Since 1908, Riverton Grange has been serving our region, and this initiative is just one token of gratitude for the men and women who have served our nation so that we might live freely and have the ability to serve in our community.

## Event Schedule

- Opening Remarks by Riverton Grange #169 Community Services Chair Tim Sweeney
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Announcing our June Veteran of the Month: **USMC Veteran Kevin Hales**
- Ceremony of Honor conducted by Riverton American Legion Post #159 Color Guard under the command of Commander Timothy Sweeney
- Presentation of the folded American flag
- Honoring our Vietnam Veteran of the Month
- Remarks from the recipient or the public
- Acknowledgements and closing remarks

**NOTE: Following the ceremony, please stay for light refreshments and social time.**

250TH CELEBRATION EVENT

Presented by

Riverton Grange #169



DISCOVER YOUR  
*Roots*



GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

★ Bring your own laptop or device ★  
For beginners or anyone who has  
already begun to look up their

*Family Tree*

and presentation on

*Revolutionary War Resources*

Mel E. Smith  
History and Genealogy Librarian  
CT State Library



SUNDAY

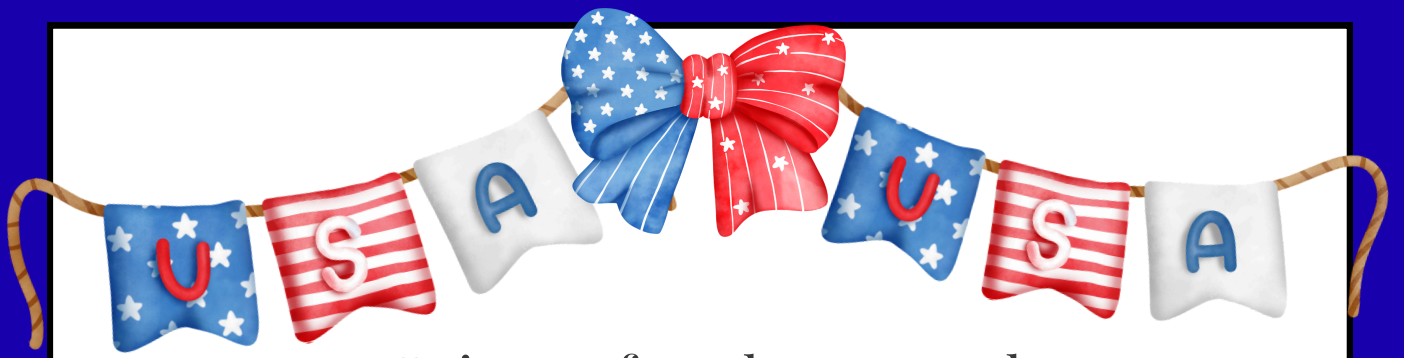
JUNE 7, 2026

1:00 PM  
RIVERTON GRANGE HALL



FOOD & DRINKS WILL BE SERVED.  
FROM BAARKHAMSTED FORKS





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*