

Town of Barkhamsted

Weekly Town Email

July 2, 2026

OPEN PEDDLER PERMITS - NONE

WEEKEND EVENTS - Saturday, July 4th – Lions Club Parade 10:30 am

Town Hall offices will be closed on Thursday, July 2

West River Road Closure for July 4 Parade begins at 9:30 am July 4th

From the Desk of Meghan Cook, First Selectman

It has been another whirlwind of a week, and somehow July has already arrived!

I had the chance to take several family members to a Hartford Yard Goats game at Dunkin' Park, and we all had a great time. If you weren't aware, the Town purchases a block of tickets for a few games each season so we can offer them to residents at a significantly reduced price. I have to admit, it was even more fun than I expected, even if the home team didn't win. There's just something about a summer afternoon, a baseball game, and maybe a hot dog or two that makes for a great family outing.

Emergency Management Director Jim Shanley has echoed the Governor's severe weather warning. Over the next several days, temperatures climbing well into the 90s will increase the potential for passing thunderstorms and severe weather. Power outages are a concern, along with heat-related medical emergencies. Please remember to check on your neighbors, especially our seniors or anyone who may need an extra hand.

Although Town Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday for the July 4th holiday, I will be around town over the next few days. Town Hall is equipped with a generator, and if extended power outages occur, we can open the building to provide a place for residents to cool down, recharge electronic devices, or simply take a break from the heat. Hopefully we won't need it, but it's always better to have a plan than wish we had one. As always, if you have a medical emergency, please do not hesitate to call 911.

Area emergency management teams are planning a region-wide amateur radio exercise in conjunction with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). The exercise will take place on **Saturday, August 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** If you've ever been curious about emergency communications, or you're already the person everyone calls when their technology

stops working, this is a great opportunity to get involved. Please contact Town Hall by **July 27** if you're interested.

The Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation is launching its **Northwest Corner Gives** campaign, with a goal of matching up to \$10,000 in donations. We all know budgets are tight these days, but when matching funds are available, every dollar stretches that much further. Barkhamsted has benefited tremendously from the Foundation's generosity over the years, and this week brought even more good news.

The Barkhamsted Senior Community Center will receive funding for a new large-screen television and upgraded audio system, something I know will be a welcome improvement. The Union Agricultural Society of Barkhamsted, Colebrook, and Hartland has also been awarded funding to help modernize its aging electrical infrastructure. Even more exciting, the Society has officially received its 501(c)(3) nonprofit designation, allowing donors to make tax-deductible contributions under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. Congratulations to Don Stein, Sherry Courtemanche and everyone who put in the time and effort to reach this important milestone. That's a lot of paperwork worth celebrating!

I also forgot to post this week's "Spot the Flag" riddle, so here we go:

Looking for breakfast, lunch, or a sweet frozen treat?

This newly reopened favorite can't be beat.

A chalkboard menu greets you at the door,

With paninis, subs, and so much more.

Near where boats launch and summer days begin,

The flag is waiting—go see where the fun begins!

We received a few calls this week regarding door-to-door solicitors. At this time, there are **no active peddler's permits issued to Terminix**. If you happen to encounter a Terminix representative going door to door, please politely direct them to Town Hall during normal business hours to obtain the required permit. A little kindness goes a long way, they're just trying to earn a living, and we're simply asking them to follow the same rules as everyone else. If you observe suspicious or unusual activity, please contact Connecticut State Police Troop B at **860-626-1820**.

Finally, we have an update regarding our Drive-In Movie Night on **Saturday, July 11**.

Unfortunately, *Project Hail Mary* has been held back from release, so we'll be switching gears and showing **How to Train Your Dragon** instead. I have a feeling Toothless will be just as popular with the crowd! Gates will open at **6:30 p.m.**, giving everyone plenty of time to get settled, let the kids burn off some energy, enjoy a little tailgating, and catch up with neighbors before the movie begins. We hope you'll join us for a fun evening under the stars.

As we head into the Independence Day weekend, I want remind you all about the parade, step off is at 10:30. Also I want to wish everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July. Whether you're spending it with family, friends, on the lake, at a barbecue, or simply enjoying a quiet weekend

at home, I hope you have the opportunity to relax and appreciate everything that makes our little corner of the world such a wonderful place to call home.

Stay cool, stay safe, and I hope to see you Saturday.



Senior/Community Center News & Events

LUNCH – Tuesday, July 7 – 12:00 noon – TBD

BREAKFAST – Thursday, July 9 – 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.

Here are the upcoming activities:

Monday, July 6, and Wednesday, July 8 – 11:30-12:30 – Tai Chi – Tai Chi is twice a week. The classes are \$5. Feel free to join us even if you have never tried it, as It is focused on improving balance and flexibility for seniors who are beginners. Remember, all of us are amateurs.

Tuesday, July 21 - 6:00PM - 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.

Thursday, July 30, after breakfast - The Weeders and Readers club 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.

Tuesday, September 1 - 1:00PM (after lunch) - Ann Travers has planned Container Planting for Fall. We will be planting grasses, decorative cabbages, and late blooming annuals in a bring-your-own container. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Center soon.

The Traveling Trout are unable to play in July at the Senior and Community Center for their jam session. They hope to be back in August.

If you would like to hold a crafts or other activity or have an additional exercise class that you would like, 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.

This week, I plan to reach out to the Essex Steam Train to get an idea of the cost of their tour and also will find out the availability of the bus from the Northwest Transit District. The bus is free, so that is a big help. More to follow when I have more information.

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. We also have a box at the Center if you would like to leave a donation off and we will make sure it gets to the Food Bank. If you have food or cash to donate and they are not open, you can also message them on Facebook to let them know about your donation. Their Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551048540688>.

They are open every other week on Monday and Thursday. Here are the dates and times for the second half of June and during July.

Monday, June 29th, 4-7 p.m.

Thursday, July 2nd, 2-4 p.m.

Monday, July 13th, 4-7 p.m.

Thursday, July 16th, 2-4 p.m.

Monday, July 27th, 4-7 p.m.

Thursday, July 30th, 2-4 p.m.

That's it for today. Please stay safe. Feel free to reach out to me if you need assistance and I will do whatever I can to help or get help from the Town.

Don Stein

Tax Office Update – July 1, 2026

Office hours:

Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 – 4:30

Closed Mondays and Fridays

In addition, open Monday, August 3, 2026 9:00 – 3:00

Tax bills were mailed on Friday, June 26, 2026 by our vendor. These bills have a due date of July 1, 2026 but there is a 30 day grace period so you have until Monday, August 3, 2026 to pay without a penalty. The State Statute for motor vehicle valuations was changed last year. If you have questions on this, go to the Assessor's web page on www.barkhamsted.us and there is a detailed explanation of the new process.

All town offices will be closed on Thursday, July 2ndrd.

The tax office can only take payments in the form of cash or checks. Checks, credit/debit cards and pay pal are available online, however, there are fees for these services. Please be sure checks are completely and correctly filled out. To avoid waiting in line, please pay early. Also, if you mail a check at the end of July, please have it hand cancelled as the post office may not process it the same day it is mailed.

If you have any questions after receiving your bills or you do not receive a bill, please call either the tax office at (860)738-4762 or the assessor's office at (860)379-3600.



STAR BAND

SATURDAY, JULY 4th, 2026, 10:30 am

MUSIC IS PROVIDED

Musicians provide their own instrument & music lyre

Some marching percussion, rhythm instruments, & a few lyres will be available.

ARRIVE ready to make some music

West River Road at **10:00 a.m.***

10:30 Step Off - Marching to Barkhamsted Elem. School for Ceremonies



Star Band Uniform

Jeans/Shorts & Red/White/Blue Shirts



REHEARSAL

Friday, July 3, 6-7 p.m.

Barkhamsted Elementary School

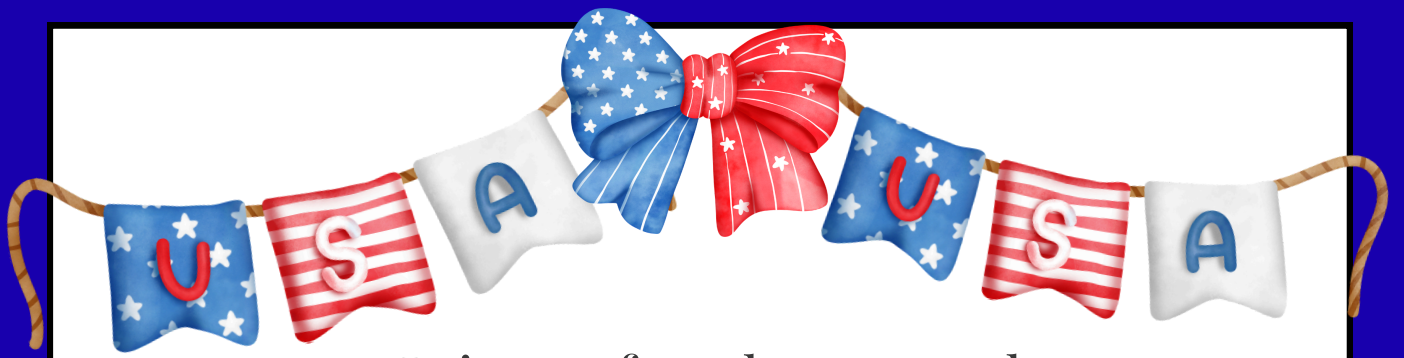
Route 318, Ripley Hill Rd. – rain or shine.

For more information & RSVP please email Allison Melillo
allisonzalneraitis@mail.com

** Due to Parking Restrictions, you must either be dropped off where the Parade forms, or park at the Barkhamsted Elementary School and walk down West River Road to where the parade starts.*

Pic A Barkhamsted Elem School and Parade Start





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



People who Care. Causes that Matter.



Today Is the Day: Northwest Corner Gives Begins Now!

Today through July 22, donations made through northwestcornergives.org to participating local nonprofit campaigns will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to campaign goals.

That means your gift can go twice as far in supporting local organizations serving communities throughout our wonderful Northwest Corner.

This year's campaigns support a wide range of local needs, including youth programs, basic services, arts and culture, food security, housing, mental health, and more.

Visit northwestcornergives.org today to explore the full list of participating nonprofit campaigns, learn more about their goals and see the generous funds and matching donors making this opportunity possible.

Choose the causes that matter most to you and make your gifts today! Then, be sure to SHARE this email or share the link on your social media accounts to help spread the word to help participating nonprofits reach their goals!

Visit northwestcornergives.org July 1-22 to double your impact for local nonprofits!

Register for the Barkhamsted Recreation Department's New Summer Programs Today!



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

Join Us for an Afternoon of Fun at Peoples State Forest
Sunday, June 28, 2026

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location:

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

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT FOR ALL AGES

Spend a summer afternoon by the Farmington River enjoying activities for children, families, and adults.

Activities Include:

- Arts & Crafts • Lawn Games & Cornhole Competitions
 - Nature Scavenger Hunt • Recreational Activities for All Ages
 - Learn About the Wild & Scenic Farmington River
 - Information on Local Hiking & Recreation Programs
 - Meet the 2026 FRCC River Steward Team • Meet the Barkhamsted Recreation Staff
- Snacks will be served.

Hosted By

Barkhamsted Recreation Camp Staff

and the 2026 FRCC Assistant River Steward Team

Meet at the picnic tables in front of Squires Tavern/Barkhamsted Historical Society.



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

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. 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-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. 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 headcount 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

Register for Summer Camp with the Barkhamsted Recreation Department



Barkhamsted Recreation Summer Camp

Save the Date!

July 20-24, 2026

Summer Help Wanted!

Applications are being accepted for Junior Counselors for Barkhamsted Camp. Please complete the application from this link-

[SummerCampHelpWanted Link](#)

Deadline is-Monday, June 23 or when positions are full (completed applications must be received by this date.) All Junior counselors must be at least 14. This is a volunteer position but is great experience for community service.

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.

VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL
IS BACK!

SHINING A LIGHT ON
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

PRAISE

ILLUMINATION STATION

JOHN 8:12

DISCOVER WHAT IT MEANS FOR JESUS
TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!



JULY 27-31
MONDAY-FRIDAY



**9:00 AM -
12:00 PM**



AGES
PRE-K 3
THROUGH
6TH GRADE

**NO COST
TO ATTEND!**

REGISTER TODAY!



**SPACE
LIMITED**

**52 NEW HARTFORD RD
BARKHAMSTED**

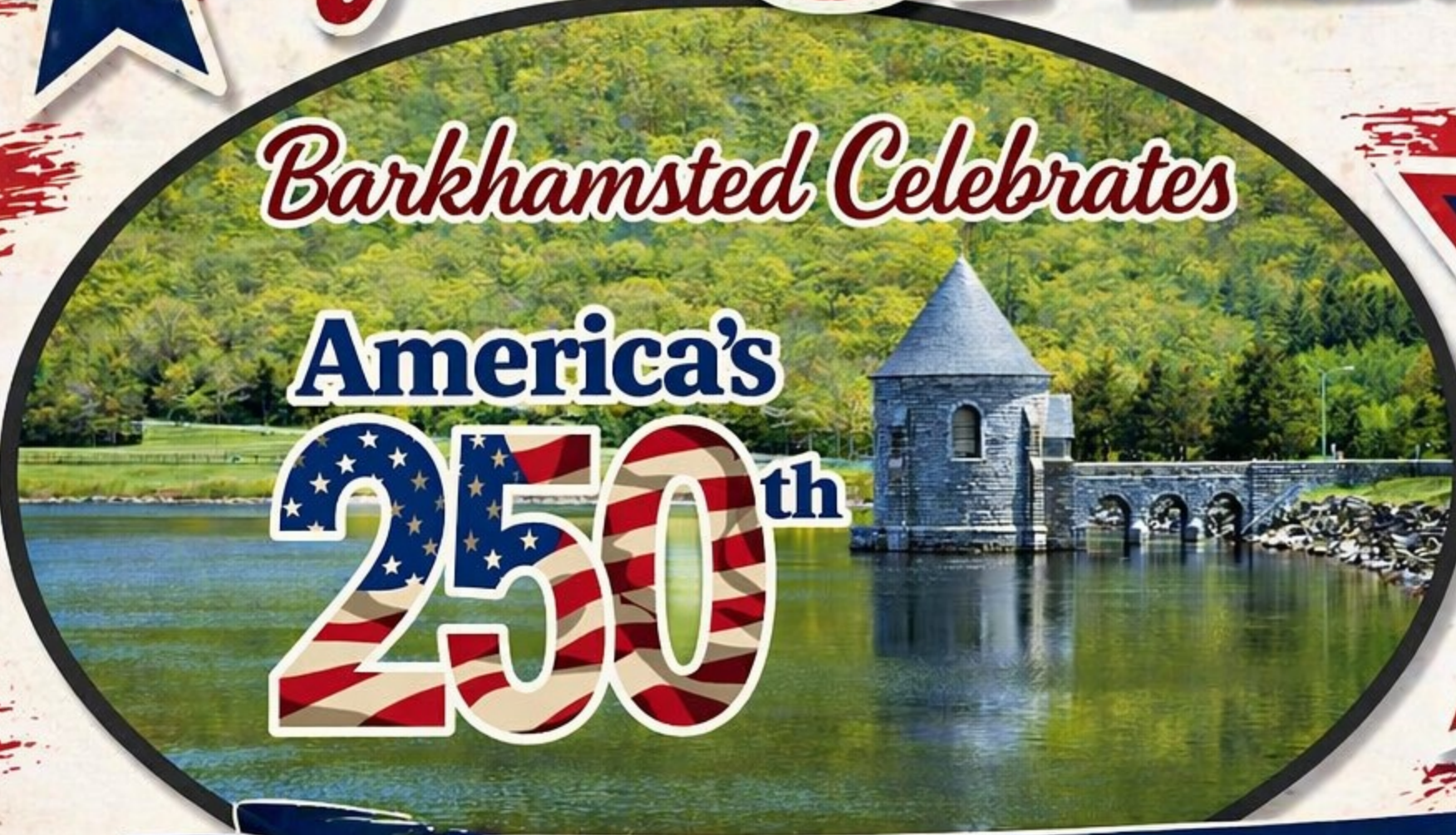
MAGNETS

for SALE!

Barkhamsted Celebrates

America's

250th



\$7.00

★ *Show Your Patriotism!* ★

JULY 2026

Barkhamsted Senior/Community Center Newsletter

Center Director: Don Stein

Kitchen Manager: Bonnie Reynolds



We welcome you to the Senior/Community Center! Our goal is to provide interesting, pertinent programming, social opportunities, as well as weekly lunch and breakfast.

Upcoming:

Traveling Trout: The band has cancelled this month's event but will, hopefully, be able to hold a jam session in August.

Bus Trip: Thanks to everyone who filled out the questionnaire about potential trips to Connecticut places of interest and entertainment. The greatest response was for a trip to the **Connecticut Riverboat and Steam Train**. Don Stein is presently looking into transportation and a date.

Container Planting Activity: Due to the success of the previous program in May, Ann Travers has planned five more activities for the future. The first, **Container Planting for Fall**, will be held on **Tuesday, September 1 at 1 p.m.** We will be planting grasses, decorative cabbages, and late blooming annuals in a bring-your-own container. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Center soon.

Four activities are planned for the future: Pumpkin Decorating, Starting Paperwhites, Growing plants in water, and Making Flower Magnets

Blood Pressure Screening



Joni Rylander, LPN

On the third Tuesday of each month, during and after lunch at the Center, Joni Rylander, LPN, is available for blood pressure screening. Joni is a member of the **Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County**, a nonprofit nursing organization which serves our area. This organization offers professional at-home care for those who are recuperating from surgery, short-term illness, need continued support for managing a chronic health condition or help in managing medications. Don't forget to look into this valuable resource for yourself or for family members. Their phone number is: 860-379-8561. They are located at 32 Union Street, Winsted.

Grant Application

A grant request is being made on behalf of the Senior/Community Center for a new large screen “Smart” TV and sound system. This will facilitate presentations at the Center and provide opportunities for future movie nights here. Written by Don Stein, the application is to the Doug and Janet Roberts Fund of the Northwest CT Community Foundation.

Bingo is Back!

Following Tuesday lunch, Dean Reynolds is holding Bingo for anyone interested. It’s fun and a good way to stay cool on a hot day.

Breakfast is Ready!

Every Thursday morning from 7:30 until 9 a.m., our group of dedicated volunteers is ready to serve tasty breakfasts personalized to order. In these photos we captured a few of them before the 8 a.m. rush. (They were still smiling at 9 after serving 30 plus meals.)



Roger, Ron and Nan, our servers.



Bonnie, Liz and Helen Ann, cooks par excellence!



Nan and JoJo, ready to take orders.

Lunch Questionnaire

Thank you all for filling out the lunch questionnaire. As a result of the many thoughtful suggestions and recommendations, we are adding new items to our menu. You will see some of your requests (and your old favorites) in the next weeks.



Maria Mullady with June birthday celebrant
Cynthia Williams



John Lukens celebrating his birthday and winning
the pie!

Lunch Reminder

Just a reminder that lunch begins as close to noon as possible. Try to arrive a little early so that we will be sure to serve you promptly. Thank you!

Our thanks to all volunteers

Our Center is run entirely by volunteers. A few are pictured in this issue but many more are involved in lunch, breakfast, and the activities we provide for the public.

It's amazing that when we are short-staffed many helpful people come forward to serve food, clean up, and help in numerous other ways. Thank you!

July Birthdays


Nils Johnson	July 5
Kathy Tong	July 10
Ines Hazen	July 14
Janet Hall	July 19
Don Stein	July 29



Happy Birthday, George Washington!

JULY 2026

Barkhamsted Senior and Community Center

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 11:30 Tai Chi	2 7:30 – 9:00 Breakfast Food Bank open 2-4 p.m.	3	4 10:30 Parade Pleasant Valley 
5	6 11:30 Tai Chi	7 12:00 Lunch <i>Turkey-ham wrap, vegetable soup, garden salad, watermelon</i>	8 11:30 Tai Chi	9 7:30 – 9:00 Breakfast	10	11
12	13 11:30 Tai Chi Food Bank open 4-7 p.m.	14 12:00 Lunch <i>Hot Dog, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, rolls, ice cream</i>	15 11:30 Tai Chi	16 7:30 – 9:00 Breakfast Food Bank open 2-4 p.m.	17	18
19	20 11:30 Tai Chi	21 <u>12:00</u> Lunch <i>Salad with ham, pineapple; corn salad, rolls, sorbet</i> Blood Pressure Testing 6 p.m. Trivia Night	22 11:30 Tai Chi	23 7:30 – 9:00 Breakfast	24	25
26	27 11:30 Tai Chi Food Bank Open 4-7 p.m.	28 12:00 Lunch <i>Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, carrots and peas, dinner roll. cake</i>	29	30 7:30-9:00 Breakfast Food Bank Open 2-4 p.m.	31	

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