

New Haven Elks Delivered Holiday Meals For Veterans



North Haven: New Haven Elks Lodge #25 (located in North Haven) members delivered and packed 204 holiday meals for Veterans at the Errera Center (Orange, CT) using funds from the Beacon & Spotlight Grants 2025! 204 Veterans each received a lasagna, Texas toast, a chocolate and pumpkin pie to enjoy for the holiday. *Elks Care, Elks Share!*

ACADEMIC Excellence

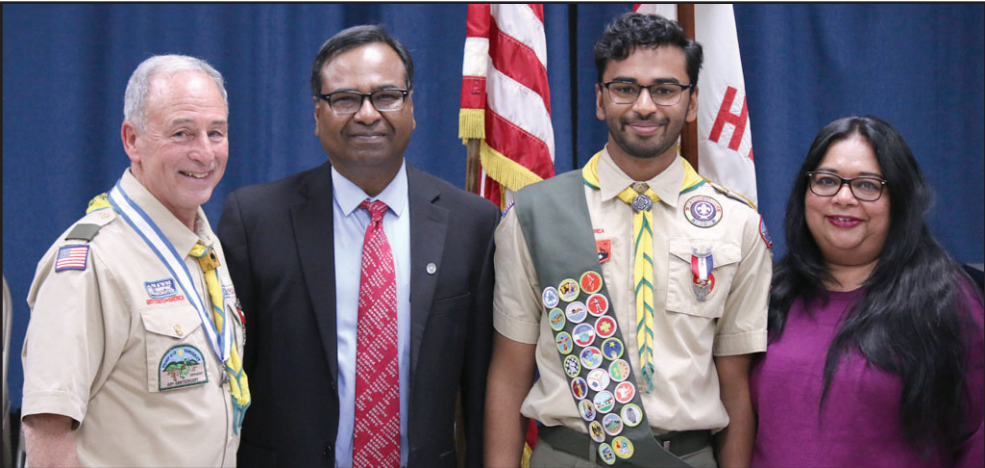
Wallingford Resident Induced into Physical Therapy Honor Society
Quinnipiac University physical therapy student Anna Charisse of Wallingford, has been inducted into the Physical Therapy Pro Bono National Honor Society.

Founded in 2014, the Physical Therapy Pro Bono Honor Society recognizes outstanding physical therapy students who provide pro bono service as part of their education.

PRESIDENT’S LIST
Southern New Hampshire University
SNHU congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2025 President’s List:

Hamden: Xylina Benjamin, Tynishia Carter, William Evans, Chason Higgs, Angel Iverson, Danice Jackson, Amber James, David Johnson, Joanne Lutchmansingh, Alyssa Misurale, Jamar Roberts, Danilo Vargas, Kiara Wiggins.
Wallingford: Matthew Clem, Rachel Delaney, Kaylin Findley, Andrew Massimino, Patrick O’Dea, Kyle Quartuccio, Tori Smith.

Hamden Troop 610 Eagle Scout Rank Awarded



Pictured: Eagle Scout Zayed Elahee with Scoutmaster Bill Earley and parents Mohammad and Mubarra Elahee.

Hamden Troop 610 member Zayed M. Elahee was recently presented the rank of Eagle Scout by the Boy Scouts of America. The Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony was held on December 18th at the Hamden Knights of Columbus Lodge. Andy Caporossi, the Exalted Ruler of the Hamden Elks Lodge #2224 presented Zayed with a Certificate of Achievement from the Elks Organization and a United States Flag. A citation from Connecticut State Senator Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox was also presented to Zayed during the ceremony.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest rank in Scouting and is preceded by 6 other Scouting ranks. It is obtained by earning 21 merit badges and by implementing those skills in troop leadership positions. In addition, the Eagle candidate must plan, develop and direct a major community service project through its entire completion.

Zayed’s Eagle Scout Service Project led to the revitalization of an old dog walking trail at the Where The Love Is Dog Rescue located in Hamden, CT. The first step was to spread mulch along the trail which better defined the trail and will limit the growth of weeds in the future. Next was the construction of a 16-foot bridge over a small creek which would allow individuals to cross safely over the brook with their dogs. The final step was the construction of a sign that displays information about the rescue, including a link for people to donate and an attached box for doggy waste bags.

Zayed Elahee joined Troop 610 in September 2018, and began his journey along the advancement trail to become an Eagle Scout. Many years of hard work were rewarded when he completed his Eagle Board of Review on July 23, 2025 and he

became Troop 610 Eagle Scout #65. While earning rank of Eagle Scout, Zayed earned a total of 23 merit badges.

While a member of Troop 610, our new Eagle Scout held a variety of leadership positions including Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader.

During his Troop 610 tenure, Zayed earned three Troop 610 Trekker Awards, the Troop 610 Polar Bear Award and had perfect campout attendance during the 2019-2020 season. Zayed attended three Winter Troop 610 High Adventure Trips in the Adirondack Mountains located in upstate New York. He reached seven summits during these trips including two 4,000-foot mountains, Cascade Mt. and Porter Mt. Zayed is also the proud recipient of the Troop 610 Camp Sequassen Honor Award and the Troop 610 J. Russell Ryan Award.

Zayed graduated from Hamden High School in June 2025 and he is currently enrolled at the University of Connecticut majoring in Electrical Engineering. While attending Hamden High, he was a member of the National Honor Society, a National Merit Finalist, a Top 10 Scholar, a recipient of the Quinnipiac Book Award and the 2025 Class Treasurer. Other clubs he was a member of included Interact Club, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, the Marching Band, Jazz Band and Concert Band. In addition, he was a member of the Varsity Cross Country Team and both Varsity Indoor Track and Outdoor Track Teams, earning Fall Scholar Athlete in 2024.

During the summers of 2024 and 2025, Zayed was a Staff member at Camp Sequassen located in New Hartford, which is the resident Boy Scout Camp for the CT Yankee Council. We congratulate Zayed for all his achievements.

DEAN’S LIST

Lasell University
The Fall 2025 Dean’s List at Lasell University includes the following local area students:
North Haven: Baylee Bianchi, Liliana Oliveira.
Southern New Hampshire University
Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2025 Dean’s List:
Hamden: Rocio Biaggi-Cedeno, Renee Blake, Gianna Civitillo, Jenny Saysiri.
North Haven: Mia O’Connor.
Northford: Alexander Astorino.
Wallingford: Helen Milici.
UW-Madison
The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized the following local area student named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2025 semester.
Wallingford: Dan Altschuler, College of Engineering.
Elmira College
Wallingford resident, Meera Patel was named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2025 Term at Elmira College, located in Elmira, New York.

North Haven Memorial Library January Programs

To register for a program at North Haven Memorial Library (17 Elm St.), visit our website at www.northhavenlibrary.net or call us at (203) 239-5803. **Registration is required for all programs except for those noted otherwise.**

Dance Party: Thurs., January 15, 10:30-11am. Ages: 1-5. Join us for this loosely structured dance party to sing, dance, and play with instruments.

Study Group - MIDTERMS: Thurs., January 15, 5:30pm-7:30pm. Grades: 9th-12th. Sign up for this evening study group. Use our whiteboard as a tool, collaborate with your classmates, and ace those upcoming exams.

Library Science Squad: Thurs., January 15, 6-6:30pm. Ages: 6-11. We’ll learn some cool science facts while making a fun science craft.

Mixed Media Art: Fri., January 16, 10:30-11am. Ages: 2-5. Learn the basic concepts behind STEAM programming. We will spend the time tapping into kid’s creativity and problem solving with the supplies we provide.

Must See Movie - Aging in America - Survive or Thrive: Fri., January 16, 1:30-2:30pm. **No Registration Required.** Narrated by Martn Sheen, celebrates the promise of increased longevity while addressing crucial and unprecedented public policy challenges.

Closed for Martin Luther King Day: Mon., January 19. We will reopen on Tues., January 20.

Take & Create - Winter Mystery: Tues., January 20, 10am-8pm, (Adult Service Desk). Ages: 13+. We provide the materials and directions for this take-home craft, you provide the fun!

Tiny Hands Talk: Tues., January 20, 10:30-11am. Ages: Birth to 2. This easy-to-follow introduction to sign language is designed to help young learners express their needs and feelings without words.

Online Author Talk - Julia Hotz: Tues., January 20, 2pm-3pm, Virtual. Jump start your new year with us as we chat virtually with journalist and author Julia Hotz about her book *The Connection Cure: The Prescription*.

Power of Movement, Nature, Art, Service, and Belonging.

Pokémon Club: Tues., January 20, 6pm-6:45pm. Ages: 6-11 yrs. **No Registration Required.** Be sure to bring your own cards. *Trading is welcome at the player’s discretion and is not monitored by library staff.

Middle School Chess Club: Tues., January 20, 6pm-7pm. Grades: 6th-8th. Interested in learning the game of chess? Join our highly-requested Middle School Chess Club!

Toddler Time: Wed., January 21, 10:30-11am. Ages: 2-3. Parent/Caregivers and their toddlers will interact with books, learn fingerplays, and sing.

Scratch Art - Travel: Wed., January 21, 2:30-3:45pm. Ages: 13+. Scratch art is a technique where you scratch away a dark top layer with a stylus tool to reveal a travel destination in vibrant colors underneath.

Lullaby Library Tales: Wed., January 21, 6-6:30pm. Ages: 2-5. Put on your coziest PJ’s and head over to the library for some soothing stories and songs.

Baby Rhyme Time: Thurs., January 22, 10:30am-11:15am. Ages: Birth-2 yrs. **Registration is highly recommended but not required.** This program brings caregivers and babies together to nurture bonds and increase awareness of the child’s development.

Creation Station - Clay Snow Buddy: Thurs., January 22, 4-5pm. Ages: 3-10 yrs. with an Adult. **No Registration Required.** This week (while supplies last): A lot of clay, some cute winter accessories and your vision will help you build a snowbuddy of your own who won’t melt away!

Murder Mystery Party - Poison on the Polar Express: Thurs., January 22, 5-7:30pm. Grades: 6th-8th. Railroad giant, PolaRail, presents you with a special ride on their steam locomotive. But the gifts have been ransacked and poor Santa has been poisoned! Help Santa figure out who-dunnit!

LEGO Club: Thurs., January 22, 6-7pm. Ages: 4-12 yrs. **No Registration Required.** We provide the LEGOs™ and you provide the creativity!

Probus Club Donates Socks and Underwear



Pictured: Charlie and me with Lauren Pace, and Ashley Adams, managers of facilities at Marrakech.

New Haven: We continue to have many agencies - (who work with the un-housed, the veterans, the at-risk families) come to the Bethany facility to shop for clothing, and more.

Recently a visit from BHCares (Ansonia facility), the Connection, and Marrakech - all we very excited and happy to have the opportunity to shop for their clients and provide some comfort. We were very pleased to have also donated around 1100 pairs of BOMBAS socks and some underwear from our small inventory.

Thanks to Charlie for the help in working with the shoppers and me.