

SHERMAN THIS WEEK

TOWN TRIBUNE (203) 746-4669
EDITORIAL@THE TOWN TRIBUNE.COM

Sherman Community Calendar

Sept. 24: 7:00pm, Board of Selectmen Monthly Mtg., MTH
Oct. 1: 7:00pm, Planning & Zoning Commission Monthly Mtg., MTH
Oct. 5: 7:15pm, Park & Recreation Commission Monthly Mtg., MTH
Oct. 7: 7:00pm, Board of Education Monthly Mtg.
Oct. 7: 7:00pm, Conservation Commission Special Mtg., MTH
Oct. 8: 7:00pm, Commission for the Arts Monthly Mtg., MTH

Visit the Town of Sherman website at www.shermanct.gov for more information.

SHS 2026 Annual Meeting of the Membership Tues., Sept. 29, 7pm

The Sherman Historical Society will be holding their annual meeting of the membership on Tuesday, September 29 at 7pm. Open to the public.

If you would like to Zoom the meeting or would like a post-meeting copy of the annual report, please email the Society at: office@shermanhistoricalsociety.org



Lynne Gomez, Director
Sherman Social Services

Free Medicare Counseling

Sherman offers free Medicare counseling to anyone interested in learning more about Medicare Open Enrollment. Call Sherman Social Services at 860-354-2414, ext. 2. The director, Lynne Gomez, LMSW, is also a certified Medicare CHOICES counselor. The mission of the CHOICES program is to bring factual, unbiased information to all Medicare beneficiaries.

"It is especially important this year to review your Medicare coverage because of the many changes to Medicare anticipated for 2027," said Ms. Gomez, Director of Sherman Social Services. Medicare Open Enrollment is the only time in the year when you can make changes to your Medicare plans. Changes are expected as some Medicare Advantage Plans will be eliminated in CT, requiring Medicare clients to select a new plan. Increases in Drug Plan monthly costs are also anticipated. Other plans might be more cost effective and cover your prescriptions drugs better. **Open Enrollment runs Oct. 15 to Dec. 7 each year.** Stop by or call Sherman Social Services with any questions at 860-354-2414, ext. 2.

Sherman Park and Rec

Boat Moorings: Just a reminder, you can register for the 2027 boating season any Saturday in September at the Park and Rec Office in Town Hall from 9-11:30am. The lottery for boat slips will be held on October 3, 2026 at 10am. You must own a boat to register. Bring a copy of your registration.

After School Program: We are looking for children who need after school supervision in our after school program under the expert tutelage of Christine Celio and Sue Darinzo that runs from 3-6pm each day that school is in session. If you are interested in signing up, please call Park and Rec.

Tiny Tots Soccer: Our fantastic Tiny Tots soccer program began the Fall Session on Sept. 12 from 9am-12pm on Colonial Field. This 8 week program costs just \$55 and is open to boys and girls ages 2-7. Please be mindful that at least one parent must attend.

Pickleball: Just a reminder that we now have 4 beautiful pickleball courts at Volunteer Field and that there is no pickleball allowed on the tennis courts at Veteran's Field anymore. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Nature Trail: Get a little fresh air and a little exercise and get out of the house and walk our nature trail that goes from the Town Park over the mountain to Colonial Park.

For further information on the rest of our outstanding programs like **Pilates and Mindful Movements**, see our website at shermanct.gov

Office Hours:

Mon.-Fri., 9am-12pm, Town Hall
Dir.: John Wrenn, 860-354-3629

The Park and Recreation Commission is charged with the preservation, control, development, improvement, management, operation and maintenance of the Town's parks, forests and recreational facilities.

Hometown News

is what we're all about!

Email us your news to: editorial@thetowntribune.com

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www.jccinsherman.org

Sun., Sept. 27, 1:00pm - Sunday Speaker Series: CT Heroes with Gerard Monaghan. Free Event

On May 3, 1783, General George Washington did something unprecedented in military history. Standing on the parade grounds at the New Windsor, N.Y., cantonment, he presented awards – the Badge of Military Merit – to two enlisted soldiers. It was the first time any military awards had been given to other than officers. Several days later, a third soldier received the award.

All three recipients – the only ones documented during the Revolution – were from Connecticut. The story of how this award came into existence and the exploits that earned it are a little-known footnote in the American Revolution.

Gerard J. Monaghan, a retired Army Reserve lieutenant colonel and military historian, will take you through the history of this award – which became the Purple Heart – and examine the deeds of other heroic Connecticut residents.

Gerard J. Monaghan, co-founder and former president of the Association of Bridal Consultants, had a parallel career, teaching journalism and practicing marketing and public relations for the Army and Army Reserve for almost 30 years. He served in Belgium and with the 25th Infantry Division at Cu Chi, Vietnam. As a Reservist, he was called up for Grenada, Panama and Gulf I, where he worked for Gen. Colin Powell and edited the Defense Department's report to Congress on the war. A military historian, he retired as a lieutenant colonel. In a prior life, he was an editor for The News-Times in Danbury and The Advocate in Stamford. He holds degrees in journalism and political science, and serves on the New Milford Planning Commission.

Sat., Oct. 3, 7:00pm - Dinner & Music: Remember Warsaw
Members \$52 | Non-Members \$60
Dinner Catered by Chef Lori Hendricks-Bechtold. This month's dinner & music features a showing of the important classical musical drama Remember Warsaw by Roger Ames and the JCC's own Bernard Kaplan.

NFSAW Fundraiser
Clean out your closets and donate your clothing and shoes to the New Fairfield Sherman Animal Welfare Society! Shoes will be worn and are being paid for by the pound. Proceeds go to pay for food, shelter, and veterinary care for our animals until they are adopted.



The collection bin is located to the left of the shelter entrance located at 223 State Route 37 in New Fairfield.

The mission of the New Fairfield/Sherman Animal Welfare Society, Inc. is to offer refuge, medical care, and the opportunity for a second chance for life to needy dogs and cats; to protect animals from cruelty or neglect; to foster a public sentiment of humanity and gentleness toward all living creatures; to encourage and promote responsible pet ownership; and to reduce companion animal overpopulation through humane education and spay/neuter advocacy.



FROM THE DESK OF FIRST SELECTMAN DON LOWE

The regularly monthly meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be this Thursday, September 24 at 7pm in Mallory Town Hall. The agenda is on the Town website. The main items concern public works and road repair and resurfacing. (Incidentally, the resurfacing of Anderson Road should start in the next two weeks.) We are also continuing our discussion on purchasing a new server, Mallory Town Hall safety and security, and our relationship with the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WESTCOG). As with all of our meetings, it will be transmitted via TEAMS so interested folks can view them in the comforts of their homes.

Last Friday I was kindly invited to a cool party for Sherman pickleball enthusiasts and the party's host surprised me with a moment of recognition to the Board of Selectmen for building the courts. The four pickleball courts was a trouble-free and cost-free project that came about as quickly and smoothly as a municipal capital project can. It also, as evidenced by what I experienced at this party, created a deep Sherman pickleball culture. There is, apparently, quite a merry band of players who gather frequently to play this game. Their enthusiastic and spirited conversation over pickleball was a delight to experience. I appreciated the gratitude sent my way, and I will pass that on to Bob Ostrosky and Joel Bruzinski, fellow selectmen, who were both very responsible for this success. In a light-hearted moment at the party, I was presented with a plaque that names me "Commissioner of Pickleball." Goodness, I was quite flattered to be named commissioner, and like I tell my kids, ya just never know where life might take you.... :)

Last week I went over a list of the capital projects that our Board of Selectmen has completed in the nearly 9 years since I have been First Selectman. At some point, I am going to list them outright. It's a long list. And in my examination so far of that list, not one of them went over budget. None of this is about boasting. Rather, I believe it's important for taxpayers to know the places where your tax dollars have been spent. I think the list will surprise people as many of these projects went by quietly. Did you know, for example, that just at Mallory Town Hall we have installed ADA compliant automatic doors, constructed a new roof, built an extra office, installed a new oil burner, repaired all of the sidewalks, and completely re-did the landscaping?

Some other projects: The Scout House is like a completely new building after its restoration, Charter Hall has had multiple improvements, all of our parks have been improved -- yes pickleball, but also a new soccer field at Veterans. Many other smaller improvements have taken place in all three parks. The Happy Acres farm buildings were all completely restored. Anyway, these are just a few of the projects on the list and at some point, I will offer this in a clear manner with dollar amounts for each project. Of course, taking the main spotlight right now is the restoration and repair of the Sherman School, which is the largest capital project in Sherman's history. Sherman will be very proud of that school when it is finished.

I wrote in last week's column about the "annual coffeehouse" that the Sherman Chamber Ensemble puts on. This year they held it at the JCC. Almost every year for the last 20 years, I have been the opening musical act for that evening, something I love to do. Well, I was looking forward to it again last Saturday. And then that afternoon I turned my ankle quite severely and had to stay off of it. I'm better now, but it was an unpleasant sprain I can tell you that.



Sunday Speaker Series

CONNECTICUT HEROES

With Gerard Monaghan

On May 3, 1783, General George Washington did something unprecedented in military history, presented awards – the Badge of Military Merit – to 2 enlisted soldiers. Several days later, a third soldier received the award.

Learn more at this intriguing presentation.

FREE EVENT!

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER
27TH**

From 1:00PM - 2:00PM
The JCC in Sherman |
9 RTE 39S Sherman, CT

MORE INFO & TICKETS AT

WWW.JCCINSHERMAN.ORG