SHERMAN THIS WEEK

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Sherman Community Calendar

Nov. 19: 7:00pm, Board of Selectmen Monthly Mtg., MTH
Nov. 25: MTH Closes at 12:00 noon in Observance of Holiday
Nov. 26-27: MTH Closed in Observance of Holiday
Dec. 2: 7:00pm, Board of Education Monthly Mtg.
Dec. 3: 7:00pm, Planning & Zoning Commission Monthly Mtg., MTH
Visit the Town of Sherman website at www.shermanct.gov for more information.

LINK to Social Services

Lynne Gomez, Director
Sherman Social Services

The Giving Tree will be going up at Sherman Social Services office on *Friday, November 20*, signaling the beginning of the Sherman Holiday Gift Drive. Stop by Sherman Social Services during office hours and consider donating a gift for a neighbor in need.



Wish lists will be posted on the Giving Tree and generous donors may decide if they want to give to a senior, child or family. We are requesting only gift cards to local stores this year and not doing wrapped gifts. The gift drive is anonymous and confidential…no one knows who they are giving to and recipients don't know the shoppers. But a bit of holiday cheer is shared. Deadline for returning gift cards to social services is December 8.

Sherman Social Services office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9am-3pm, and Thursday and Friday, 10am-2pm. Call with questions 860-354-2414, ext. 2.

Medicare Open Enrollment Runs Thru Mon., Dec. 7

It's worth sitting with someone and going through your specific coverage, line by line. That's what our free Medicare counseling sessions are for. Appointments are available to suit your schedule and started Oct. 15 at Sherman Social Services. The free appts. are with Lynne Gomez, Director of Sherman Social Services and a Medicare CHOICES counselor.

At the appointment we will review your Part D prescription drug plan and see whether it's still your best option for 2027. We will go through your actual prescriptions, dosages, and pharmacy, and compare that against what's available for the coming year. It's not a general conversation about Medicare. It's specific to you.

Last year, reviewing plans helped Sherman residents save thousands in projected prescription costs for 2026. There's no pressure to switch plans, and no pressure to stay. The goal is simply making sure your plan actually fits your prescriptions and your budget.

What to bring to the appointment:
•Your medicare.gov username and password
•Your Medicare card
•A full list of your prescriptions, including doses and quantities

We can also set up an account at medicare.gov when you come in, if you haven't already. Setting up an account with your own username and password allows you to keep track of your Medicare plans throughout the year. For appointments, call Sherman Social Services at 860-354-2414, ext. 2.

Homeowners in Sherman Assistance from the Rural Development 504 Loan and Grant Home Repair Prgm

Homeowners in Sherman may be eligible for assistance from the Rural Development 504 Loan and Grant Home Repair Program, which assists very low-income households to repair, improve or modernize their homes via loans. The program also has a very low-income elderly homeowners grant program to remove health and safety hazards as well.

Sherman is a designated rural area and falls within the scope of the 504 Loan and Grant Home Repair program.

Here are some of the rules:

•The applicant must own & occupy the property.
•You must not exceed the income limit to be eligible. Income for the senior grants is $78,400 for the entire household. Income limits for the loans is $117,500.
•The maximum amount of the grant will not exceed $10,000 and can only be awarded once per lifetime. The maximum of the loan is $40,000. Loans are 20 years with a fixed interest rate of 1 %.
•Home must be of modest value, which for Sherman cannot exceed $586,500.
•For grant eligibility, you must be age 62 or older.
•The application will require estimates by a licensed & insured contractor for each repair.
•Average processing time after receiving a full complete application is 4+ months.
•Loans require applicants to be credit worthy.

The loan and grant programs have waiting lists and therefore are not designed to help in emergencies. The types of repairs allowed in the program are roofs, ramps, oil burners, flooring, etc. Anyone interested in learning more may contact Sherman Social Services at 860-354-2414, ext. 2.

Holiday Shoppers!

The Sherman Holiday Gift Drive has begun.
Help out your Sherman Neighbors this year
with a simple gift card.
Come grab a wish list from our Giving Tree.

Sherman Social Services
860-354-2414 x.2

Deadline to drop off gift cards is: Tuesday, Dec. 8



What's Happening At The Sherman JCC

Fri., Nov. 20, 7:00pm - "Let There Be Light" A Jewish Soul Performance Showcase
Members $20 | Non-Members $30

Featuring Sam Cross (Host); Cindy Davis; New Middle Class; Michael Horwitz; Ann Lee; Howard Lapidus; B'Not

This event is meant to rekindle a connection to the Jewish soul. To give purpose & meaning to being a Jew through music & song, & feel its connection through both laughter & tears. Including an opening poetry reading & live music.

6:30pm-7:15pm | Shabbat Celebration With Rabbi Mark Cohn

7:30pm-9:00pm | Opening Poem & Live Music

Sat., Nov. 21, 7:00pm - Mallas & Coombe (Live Music)
Members $20 | Non-Members $30

An evening of original music featuring songs from both Louise Coombe & George Mallas



Louise Coombe grew up in McEwen, TN on a cattle farm - riding horses and writing poetry. She began writing songs after college while working in TV/radio in Knoxville. Louise started writing songs about the South – what she knew and where she grew up. In 2008, she began working on a new album eventually to be called "Home" because she'd come full circle in her "voice" as a writer. The album was a mix of bluegrass, country and folk and as she weaved in lush stories and songs about southern life.She ended up winning top awards at Kerrville Folk Festival, Wildflower! Festival, Telluride Bluegrass Festival and Falcon Ridge Folk Festival. "Home" debuted at #1 on the Folk DJ charts in January 2010 and went on to be one of the most played albums that year for that chart. In 2014 she released her second album, 'Lay it Down.' An album of love, loss and surrender and produced by Cliff Eberhardt.

George Mallas is a Singer/Songwriter based in North Salem, NY. Having been a student of the piano since age 6, the instrument is a natural extension of who he is. His experiences in life, love and family have profoundly inspired his songs, his style, and his passion for playing.George was influenced by some of the great singer/songwriters of his youth, namely Joni Mitchell, Elton John, Jackson Browne, James Taylor and Cat Stevens. His songwriting started at this time during his early teen years. After a hiatus from writing while his two sons were young, George has recorded 4 full length albums of original music since 2015 and is excited to share a sneak peek of his fourth and newest album titled 'Within These Walls.' George writes of love, longing and redemption amongst other subjects. George has graced the stages of The Bitter End, The Towne Crier, Uncle Cheefs and Cafe Lena to name a few. His melodic piano based songs touch the heart strings.

The JCC in Sherman has been a gathering place for the local communities in the Candlewood Lake area and nearby New York towns since 1994. The mission of the JCCS is to provide high quality educational, cultural, and social programs to Sherman, CT and the surrounding communities serving all people irrespective of age, race, or religion.



FROM THE DESK OF FIRST SELECTMAN DON LOWE

I enjoyed attending the Annual Meeting of the Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy (NCLC) on Saturday morning in Litchfield. NCLC is the largest land trust in Connecticut, and it has preserved 14,400 acres -- land in open space for the public to enjoy. Its efforts go a long way to preserving our water supply and providing habitat for numerous wildlife species. Sherman's wonderful land trust, Naromi Land Trust, is now part of NCLC. They are always looking for volunteers, especially trail monitors, so if you are a nature lover you might consider reaching out to them.

This Thursday is the regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting to be held at 7pm in Mallory Town Hall. Prior to the BOS meeting, is a Town Meeting with one agenda item: "to authorize an expenditure not-to-exceed $110,000 from the capital non-recurring fund for the purchase of a new F-600 truck plus an accompanying snowplow for public works."

The BOS meeting has some recurring agenda items (reports regarding building committees, SVFD, and public works) plus a handful of new items. It is posted on the Town website. One capital item on the agenda is the Sherman Playhouse. The steeple needs painting and a touch up and it may be that we will paint the entire building. This will be Spring's work, but we will line it up this winter.

I had started the topic of capital projects completed over the last nine years and will continue it by listing some of the most prominent and noticeable projects that we have successfully completed. I listed previously several at Mallory Town Hall including a new roof, new automatic ADA accessible sliding doors, and the installation of a new generator, repaired sidewalks, a new oil burner, among others. The list features numerous capital purchases for various equipment needs, especially for the SVFD and Public Works.

Veterans Park: renovated and refurbished bathrooms -- once in 2018 and a retouching up in 2026. A new soccer field, repaired gazebo roof; Town Park: building repairs, pavilion improvements; Volunteer Field: pickleball courts, new fencing and repairs of the ballfield; Happy Acres Farm: repair, restoration and painting for nearly every building on the farm including the farmhouse. Many small repairs of water systems and electrical upgrades. Scout House: a comprehensive renovation, repair, and painting. Including an electrical upgrade. Resurfacing Wakeman Hill Road and Anderson Road and in addition to chip sealing (a less expensive type of surfacing) for many roads including Leach Hollow, Chimney, Edmunds, and several others.

Charter Hall has had numerous improvements. I will list those and other Town improvements in subsequent columns as my space here is used up. In the meantime, we are entering the holiday season, and I wish you and your families a blessed Thanksgiving full of love and good food!

What's Happening At The Sherman JCC



- **Fri., Nov. 20, 7:00pm** - "Let There Be Light" A Jewish Soul Performance Showcase
- **Sat., Nov., 21, 7:00pm** - Mallas & Coombe (Live Music)
- **Sat., Nov. 28, 12:00pm-8:00pm** & **Sun., Nov. 29, 10:00am-3:00pm** - Holiday Pop-Up Shop with Oliver Tobin of Homorganized
- **Sun., Nov. 29, 2:00pm** - Discover the Wonder of the Tale: Storytelling Performance & Workshop with Jane Gangi & Laconia Therrio
- **Sat., Dec. 12, 4:00pm** - Hanukkah Party with Temple Sholom
- **Sun., Dec. 13, 3:00pm** - 4 Horsemen Holiday Show & Fundraiser

Open Mic Night - Thursdays, 7:00pm
MahJongg - Fridays at noon
Song Swap - last Friday of the month, 7:00pm
Yoga with Paul - Saturdays, 9:30am
Yoga with Oliver - Fridays, 8:00am
All Levels Yoga with Megan - Wednesdays, 11:00am
Canasta- Wednesdays, 12:30pm

Please visit our website & sign up for our newsletter to stay updated on all of our events & to purchase your tickets ~ www.JCCinSherman.org

