COMMUNITY NEWS

New Fairfield Leo Club Installs New Officers for 2026-2027



LtoR: Leo Club Advisor, Patricia Neal-Petrillo, Lions District 23A's First Vice District Governor, Shaun McColgan, Leo Club President Catherine Tomaino, Treasurer George Hernandez, Secretary Sophia Pankiv, Vice-President Leah Lobban, Assistant Leo Advisor, Samantha Petrillo and New Fairfield Lions Club President, Devin Alward.

By John Tomaino

The New Fairfield Leo Club held their Installation of Officers for 2026-2027 on Sunday, November 1 at the New Fairfield Senior Center. There are over 60 members in the club which include Middle School and High School students from New Fairfield and neighboring towns. The NF Leo Club members volunteer their services throughout the year assisting the New Fairfield Lions Club with their local events. They also extend their services to the surrounding communities and other Leo Clubs as well. This year, CT Lions District 23A's First Vice District Governor, Shaun McColgan and New Fairfield Lions Club President, Devin Alward, had the honor of installing Catherine Tomaino as President, Leah Lobban as Vice-President, Sophia Pankiv as Secretary, and George Hernandez as Treasurer of the New Fairfield Leo Club. Many of the other Leos in attendance were honored for their individual achievements, their 50+ and their 100+ hours of community service. The Leo Club members who are graduating in June 2027 received their Leo Club cords to wear on graduation day, which were presented to them by their Leo Club Advisor, Patricia Neal-Petrillo, and the Assistant Leo Advisor, Samantha Petrillo.

For more information about the New Fairfield Leo Club, visit or follow them on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/nfleosclub.

Connecticut Knight of the Blind presented to Doris McDermott

The Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation's honoree for 2026 is Doris McDermott, a 33 year resident of New Fairfield and teacher of blind and visually impaired children for 40+ years.

Doris was presented with the award at the New Fairfield Lions Club's dinner on Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at Biscotti's Restaurant in New Fairfield, CT.



Doris McDermott

Toffee has Arrived at The Old Store

By Lisa Cilio

In addition to holiday sparkle and glitter arriving at The Old Store, the famous toffee has also made its appearance. We couldn't let you miss out on this special hostess gift. And, there is so much more to help you complete your gift list!

If you tire of shopping, take a break and learn a little history in our museum. It is full of fun facts about the town of Sherman, Roger Sherman, and items that would have been sold way back when.

We have included nutcracker products to the left of the front door which we have named our Nutcracker Suite. They add a touch of whimsy and make the museum sparkle and shine, too.

As always, thank you for your support. The Old Store is open Thursday through Sunday from 12 to 4, and every day in December closing at the end of day on Christmas Eve. Hope to see you soon!





Sherman Players Present: An American Christmas Carol, Opens Dec. 3

The Sherman Players will complete their Centennial Season, with An American Christmas Carol, adapted from the Dickens classic by Robin Frome. Director Jane Farnol has brought together a talented ensemble, sprinkled it with music and dance, and dusted it with just enough nostalgia to put everyone in the holiday spirit.

The cast is a large and vibrant group. Sean Latasa brings his sonorous voice to Scrooge (Bah Humbug). He is haunted by John Bergdahl, Noel Desiato, Tom Heydenburg (all recently appearing in Inherit the Wind), and Vincent D'Ambrosio. Scrooge's family includes Fred Thaler, Violet Gunderson, and Kyle Carnahan and the Cratchit's are brought to life by Adam Battelstein, Stacy Lee Frome, and five and ½ year old Wilks Brooks as Tiny Tim. You'll be treated to several other Sherman Players regulars and friends including Lizzy Booth, Jimmy Collins, Lukas Gunderson, Susanna Marker, Lou Okell, Abi Heydenburg, and Talon Profeta. And a wonderful group of young performers including Giada LeClerc, Oliver Gunderson, Victoria Horihuela, BB Brooks, Violet Gunderson, Leila Profeta, and Delilah Flynn.

This is a family affair, both for the audience and in the cast. Oliver Gunderson (who was Randolph MacAfee in Bye Bye Birdie), returns to the stage with his sister, Violet and his dad, Lukas. Wilks Brooks (Tiny Tim) is joined by his sister BB Brooks, and Talon Profeta (Hugo Peabody in Birdie) is now appearing with his sister Leila Profeta.

Professional dancer/choreographer Adam Battelstein is creating two dances for this production. Susie Pettibone is providing music direction; Susanna Marker will be on fiddle and Abi Heydenburg on flute.

To add to the holiday spirit (and because this show runs without intermission), there will be concessions and music starting 1 hour before showtime in the Scout House (right next to the theatre).

An American Christmas Carol runs December 3 (Preview Night), 4, 5,11,12,18,19 at 8:00; Sun December 6, 13, & 20th at 2:00. Tickets available at shermanplayers.org.The Sherman Playhouse is located at 5 Rte. 39 North, Sherman, CT 06784.

PAWLING FARMERS MARKET

Pre - Thanksgiving Holiday Market

Saturday November 21
9am to 1pm

At The Pawling Fire House
25 South Street

PAWLINGFARMERSMARKET.ORG

Sherman ARTISTS ASSOCIATION
OPEN STUDIOS
DECEMBER 5-6, 2026
SAT/SUN 10AM-4PM
FREE RAFFLE _ HOLIDAY TREATS _ ARTIST DEMOS _ GREAT GIFTS
★ Maps available @ American Pie, The Daily Market, Limoncello & Sherman Wine & Spirits! ★
SHERMANARTISTS.ORG