COMMUNITY NEWS

Holidays Come Alive at Merwinsville Hotel's 2 Weekend Show

Enjoy the holidays at the historic Merwinsville Hotel's Holiday Show that begins Nov. 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with shopping, as well as holiday experiences. The two-weekend show continues through Nov. 29 and Dec. 4-6.

This year the show will include artwork by many local artists and craftspeople. The historic hotel is decorated with collections of nutcrackers, Santas and has a festive atmosphere not to be missed. In addition to the miniature Dickens Village, with its model train, there is a miniature World's Fair, with various amusement rides moving in all directions. The third floor restored Ballroom is now open to the public for tours and has exhibits on display, including period clothing and antique toys and dolls.

For those looking for special, one-of-a-kind gifts, there will be photography, fine artwork, pottery, dolls, woven wear, felted holiday crafts, jewelry, décor and ornaments available for purchase. Fresh cut trees and wreaths will also be on sale. A portion of all sales benefit the hotel.

A $3 donation per person is requested; children under 10 are free. Individuals with a current membership are admitted free, and those with a "sponsor" or higher membership will receive a one-time 10% discount on their entire order.

The Merwinsville Hotel is located at 1 Brown's Forge Road in Gaylordsville, CT, only 15 minutes from Kent, Sherman, New Milford and the Harlem Valley/Wingdale Railroad Station. For further information, call 860-350-4443 or visit www.merwinsvillehotel.org

GOOD SHEPHERD

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portunity to "sit down and enjoy complimentary hot chocolate or hot cider while you have a snack and soak up the holiday atmosphere. We will also have soft pretzels with member Heather Palkewick's delicious cheese dip for sale as well," Dube shared.

The idea for the Market, for which all proceeds will go to fund church missions and future events, is rooted in the traditional Weihnachtsmärkt, which are holiday-themed street markets held during the four weeks of Advent in Germany. Dube pointed out, "Many Lutherans have a German heritage…[and] our Christmas Market won't be all about selling. We want to honor our German heritage while celebrating the Christmas season with music, decorations, and a whole lot of holiday spirit!"

Though most of us have a list to shop for at this time of year, Good Shepherd encourages anyone interested to stop by, even if a purchase is not in the plans. "We are excited to share in this joyous holiday season with our community. If anyone is interested in learning more about us they can find out more information by asking a member of the congregation at the event, check out our website at Goodshepherd-newfairfield.org, or join us for a worship service," Dube encouraged.

Get into the spirit by stopping by the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd's Christmas Market, 2 Colonial Road, New Fairfield. The event is cash only and will be held in the lower level with ramp access—just follow the signs from the parking lot.

LAPTOP

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sure residents have the tools they need to get online and use digital services." The State believes that "by combining device access with library-based support, the program aims to expand digital opportunity and connect more people to education, employment, and essential resources."

NF Library Director Linda Fox said, "We hope that more residents take advantage of this program. We value our community and are here to support the needs of the public." Of the ten laptops that are available for long-term home loan, only one is checked out. Fox shared, "the patron who borrowed one was very grateful." Fox does not see this program impacting the high-volume use of desktop machines at the library.

The statewide initiative has a few requirements for eligibility, including you must: be 18 years old, though an adult may receive a device on behalf of a minor in their household; have a valid library card from the same municipality as the distributing library; participate in a qualifying state or federal assistance program, such as SNAP, CEAP/LIHEAP, Medicare, or HUSKY Health; and not have access to a comparable device at home already. Once participants have cleared eligibility, they will receive any needed digital skills training and then receive a device. Fox explained that the patrons will receive "tech support through the provider, not the library" and "there is built-in security" in the machines. Each laptop includes standard accessories, such as a power adapter. The State noted that "additional accessories may be available on a case-by-case basis based on participant needs, including a carrying case, wired mouse and/or keyboard, headset with mic, etc."

The Laptop ConneCT Program receives its funding through the American Rescue Plan Act Capital Projects Fund and "complements Connecticut's broadband investments." The program states that devices must remain dedicated to public use through December 31, 2031.

Fox added that there are more tech items available for loan in the library as well, including two Hotspots, two portable DVD players, five portable power banks for in library use, and an Eversources Kill-A- Watt device. Feel free to ask about any or all of the available items at the library's checkout desk.



EARLY DEADLINE:
SUNDAY, NOV. 22
FOR OUR COLOR THANKSGIVING ISSUE TO BE DELIVERED WED., NOV. 25

Wreaths Across America
Sat., Dec. 19, 12pm
Deadline Dec. 1



Mountain View Cemetery is taking part in the Wreaths Across America program again this year. This is the 7th year that Mountain View Cemetery will participate in the national program. The mission is to REMEMBER the fallen, HONOR those who serve and TEACH our children the value of freedom.

Our goal is to support efforts that help unify our community and celebrate our freedom by thanking the 325 Veterans laid to rest at Mountain View Cemetery by placing a live, balsam wreath. Please join us on December 19th at noon. To sponsor a wreath please go to: http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/CT0112

When sponsoring a wreath, you can indicate a specific Veteran in Mountain View Cemetery that you would like the wreath to be for.

The cut-off date to order a wreath is December 1st. Coffee, Hot Chocolate and cookies will be provided.

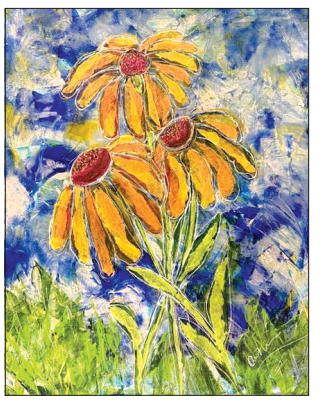
In the event of bad weather and we need to reschedule, the date would be Sunday the 20th. Please check channel 30 on Charter (News 12) for weather cancelation information or contact Charlotte Maher 203-241-9467 with any questions.

Sherman Artists Open Studios 2026: Thank you Sponsors!
December 5 & 6, 10 am – 4 pm

By Linda T. Hubbard

The sixth annual Sherman Artists Open Studios 2026 is on Saturday and Sunday, December 5 & 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Sherman Artists Association (SAA) invites you to an unforgettable weekend of artistry, inspiration, and holiday shopping by 28 artists. We are excited about our upcoming event which is made possible by our sponsors. We appreciate our community of sponsors from Danbury, New Fairfield, New Milford, and Sherman for helping us. For a brochure/map and more information, visit www.ShermanArtists.org

Thank you to our Platinum Sponsors: Collins Hannafin, Donna Kennedy, Ginny Gordon- O'Neil, Irit Granger, Limoncello and the Daily Market. Thank you to our Gold sponsors: Agway, Amber Vlangas, American Pie, Boardman Bridge Butchers, Dashing Deliveries and Movers, Ed Schaffer, Hair by Susi, Keno Graphics, La Piccolina, Little Munchkin DayCare, Jean Flynn Luks Realty, New Milford Animal Hospital, P.S. Enterprises, Scotts, SHS AV DESIGN, Sherman Wine & Spirits, Webster Bank, and White Silo Farm & Winery. Many thanks also to Sacred Grounds Coffee Roasters and the Sherman Library.



The Stories We Grow From
Amber Vlangas

In the Sherman JCC and Charter Hall plus 5 home studio locations, there are 28 artists displaying paintings, photographs, pottery, jewelry, handmade wood crafts, glass, fabric artists and more.

Many local Sherman locations will provide brochures with maps, the participating artists, and a list of sponsors. The brochure can also be downloaded from the website: www.shermanartists.org.

For a preview of some of the artwork, the Sherman Library will host a show with art pieces representing the participating artists from November 20, 2026 through to January 6, 2027 with an opening reception on Friday, November 20, from 6 to 8 pm. Refreshments will be served. For more information: www.shermanlibrary.org

Sherman is the home of many talented artists. This is an opportunity to meet some of them and see their work and how it's created. Join us the first weekend of December and do some holiday shopping. Mark your calendars and spread the word – art awaits you in Sherman! For more information, visit the Website: www.ShermanArtists.org.

