

# CHATFIELD FARMS and Beyond

Spring 2025



*Are Robins the first sign of spring? Other signs of spring, such as the appearance of earthworms and the blooming of plants, can also indicate the changing of seasons. It's time for all of us to get outdoors and enjoy the returning warmth and sunshine. Remember to visit the websites [ctvisit.com](http://ctvisit.com) and [visitconnecticut.com](http://visitconnecticut.com) to give you current information on calendar events in Connecticut.*

*As always, if you have a topic of interest that you would like to share with the community in the newsletter, please contact Nancy Carroll at [ncarroll51@gmail.com](mailto:ncarroll51@gmail.com) or join us at our monthly Social Activities Committee meeting. Watch emails for the Schedule of Meetings and Agendas. Minutes of all Meetings are posted for your information.*

## THOMASTON OPERA HOUSE

Landmark Community Theatre opened its 2025 season with the groundbreaking Broadway musical "Rent," featuring eight performances through March 30 at the Thomaston Opera House.

Patrons attending this production will be among the first to see the newly restored ceiling and coffers of the Thomaston Opera House. These repairs, which began in June 2024, have kept the facility closed for more than nine months. The newly restored ceiling has not been seen in its entirety since the early 1900s, when the theater was only a few decades old.

The elaborate dry fresco paintings that cover the ceiling of the Thomaston Opera House date back to 1884, when the Romanesque building was erected as a venue for theatrical performances and social events in Litchfield County.

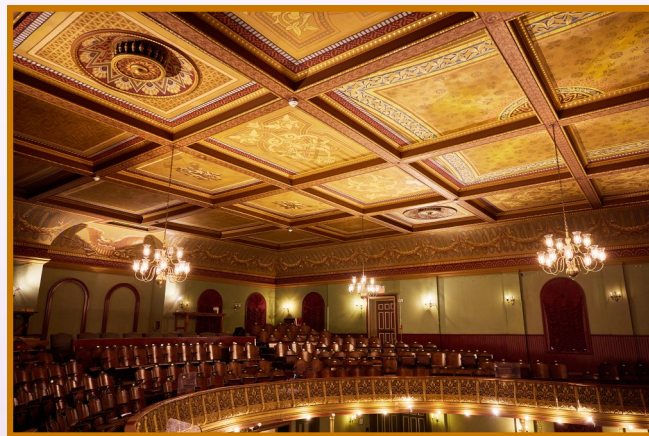


The hand-painted panels were created in the Eastlake Victorian style, with more than 180 colors used to produce the intricate geometric shapes and other stenciled motifs that adorn the coffered ceiling. The illustrations have long been a treasured attraction for visitors to a landmark

venue that still ranks as the county's oldest and largest theater.

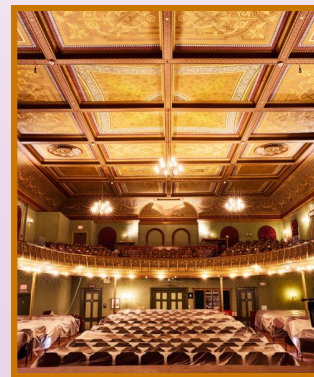
After years of neglect, though, the ceiling eventually fell into disrepair, with decades of dust, grime, and water damage obscuring the original colors and details. Now, some 140 years after its creation, the opera house is unveiling a \$3.5 million facelift that includes bringing its original ceiling artwork back to life.

## ..... CONTINUED



*"Rent" is the first of five Landmark Community Theatre productions showcased in its main stage season. Other productions in 2025 include "Our Town;" "Shrek the Musical;" "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Miracle on 34th Street."*

To learn more about the theater and its productions go to [Landmark Community Theater](http://LandmarkCommunityTheater.com).



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## Recap of Activities and events in February/March...



Snow and Ice did not deter our “Not So Newlywed Game” and its 16 contestants and audience of 76 residents on Saturday, February 15th.

**Game 1** - Barb & Colin Schulze; Sandy & Arthur Cutler; Tina & Rob Bernocco; **and winning couple Gail & Jim Brushitis**

**Game 2** - Bob Scott & Jim Rothgeb; Keith Gardner & Joe Anderson; Virginia & John Dedad; **and winning couple Patti & Joe Dosso**

Matt Sparks did a terrific job as Host (aka Bob Eubanks); Gary Markman was the advertisement and commercial reader; and Pat Palfy led the audience in laughter and applause.

Special thanks to Lee Williamson and his committee for a very entertaining evening!



Sunday Bingo was postponed in February but was back on March 9th. Thank you Leona Schwartz (and her assistant Alan). Winners were Peggy Morneau, Milt Harrigan, Doug DiLorenzo, Sandy Fuller, Bob Torrani, Arlene Veltri and Bob Pitzschler.



### FUTURE EVENTS: Mark Your Calendar

Apr 3 SAC Meeting  
Apr 6 Bingo  
Apr 7 5 Crowns  
Apr 8 Trivia  
Apr 16 HOA Board Meeting

May 1 SAC Meeting  
May 3 Tour of Grand Central Station, NYC  
May 4 Cinco de Mayo Breakfast  
May 5 5 Crowns  
May 6 Afternoon Tea Party at Posh Tea Room  
May 13 Trivia  
May 17 Concert/Movie Night  
May 18 Bingo  
May 24 Memorial Day Picnic

**Looking for volunteers.** If you are thinking it's too hard or too much trouble, our Social Committee will give you all the tools and guidance and even a member of the Committee to help. **Bowling, Garden Tour, Museum Tour or Brewery.** If any of these events interest you or you have your own idea, please reach out to Barb Schulze at [sch52481@aol.com](mailto:sch52481@aol.com) or 203-581-4011.

### ART IS ALIVE IN BRIDGEPORT

As we begin to move outdoors with the warming weather, exploring Bridgeport should be on your list - especially to take in the art resulting from the Colorful Bridgeport Initiative launched in 2022.

Bridgeport is a city known for its wealth of cultural history and continues to transform its urban landscape through many large public art installations. The Colorful Bridgeport initiative has brought nearly 40 murals to city streets, and organizers are determined to establish the initiative permanently as a key part of Bridgeport's identity.

The objectives of Colorful Bridgeport is to celebrate local artists, create more public art opportunities and establish Bridgeport as an arts and entertainment hub. The art initiative in Bridgeport focuses on getting the whole community involved. It does this through working with all of the local artists. Many international muralists, including from Australia, have participated in and improved the project. To guarantee each mural complements the character and vision of its location, artists and building owners work together when choosing it.

To find the location of the murals and to learn more about each of them go to [Color It in: Downtown Public Art Works](#)

The following are just a few of the murals:



Artist: Key Detail  
Title: "Tailor"  
at 461 Broad St



Artist: Octavio Logo  
Title: "The Great P.T. Barnum Mural Extravaganza"  
at 52 Fairfield Ave



Artist: Key Detail  
Title: "Seaside"  
at 1 Lafayette Circle



Artist: Joshua Paiz  
Title: "First in Flight:  
Gustave Whitehead"  
at 525 John St

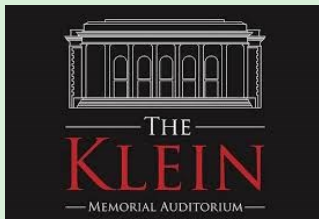


Artist: Chuck Berrett  
Title: "Untitled"  
at 392 Prospect St

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## WHILE IN BRIDGEPORT VISIT.....

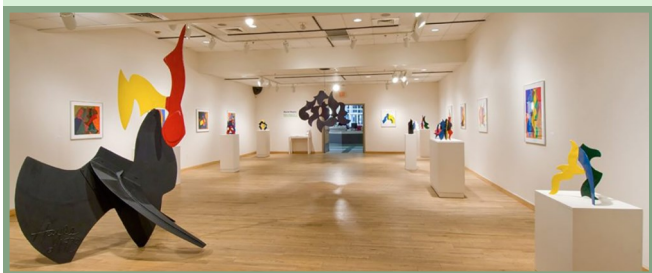


**Something BIG!**  
Bridgeport Symphony  
Orchestra

May 10th @ 7:30 pm

**One Hot Night:**  
**A Tribute To Neil Diamond**  
May 24th @ 4 and 8 pm

**Decades In Concert: 80s**  
June 6th - 29th @ 3:30 and 7:30



**Housatonic Museum of Art**

The Housatonic Museum of Art (HMA) holds one of the largest art collections of any community college in the United States with almost 7,000 artworks. The focus of the HMA is modern and contemporary American and European art, including Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, Romare Bearden, Cindy Sherman, and Jenny Holzer. The collection also includes artwork from Africa, Asia, and the Americas.



### Event Calendar includes:

- June 12th Ringo Starr
- July 29th Chicago - Live Concert
- August 9th Jerry Seinfeld Live
- August 29th James Taylor

## .... AND MAYBE TRY A NEW RESTAURANT

### Ralph-n-Rich's

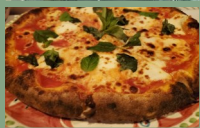
Experience excellent Italian-Continental cuisine made with fresh and wholesome ingredients, moderate prices, and attentive service. The restaurant is located at 815 Main Street (across from the famed Barnum Museum - currently undergoing a restoration) and is open for lunch and dinner, as well as it's family style "Sunday Sauce" dinner. Visit their [website](#) to learn more.



The authenticity of Sorrento, Italy is tasted in every dish, every flavor and every ingredient. Born out of a desire to recreate the memories of the simple but pure food of his childhood, Chef/Owner Pasquale De Martino established

**Trattoria 'A vucchella** which translated means "of the mouth / of the taste". The food paired with his extensive

knowledge of Italian wine will offer an unforgettable culinary experience that will transport your senses straight to Italy. Visit the [website](#) to view the menu and more. Located at 272 Fairfield Avenue.



### OTHER RESTAURANTS TO CONSIDER:

**Joseph's Steakhouse:** Classic, old-school, white tablecloth steakhouse & bar in a space composed of dark wood & exposed brick. Located at 360 Fairfield Avenue.



**29 Markle Ct:** A unique experience to those dining within its art filled walls providing a space for diners to experience a great seasonal meal and feel comfortable in an eclectic ambiance.