

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2009

WILDERNESS-WELLNESS WEEKEND™ IN RIVERTON, CT JULY 10-12

BARKHAMSTED, CT – The village of Riverton, in the Town of Barkhamsted, CT, will host the first in a series of *Wilderness-Wellness Weekends*, starting Friday, July 10 and ending Sunday July 12.

The *Wilderness-Wellness Weekend* celebrates Riverton's natural beauty, historic heritage, and extensive outdoor-recreation activities. Riverton is located at the headwaters of the Wild and Scenic Farmington River, near the People's State Forest and the American Legion State Forest.

Don Stein, First Selectmen of Barkhamsted said, "If you and your family love the great outdoors, there's something here for everyone: camping, fishing, hiking, biking, kayaking and canoeing—all for little to no money!"

The Riverton Merchants' Association encourages visitors to be sure to take in the glass-blowing studio located in an old church. Stop by the antiques store featuring restored Hitchcock furniture. Grab a bite at the General Store or dine at the village's charming restaurants. Stay over night at the historic Riverton Inn. Or take a quiet walk back in time through a quaint, 19th century New England village.

The *Wilderness-Wellness Weekend* starts Friday evening, July 10, at 6:00 PM, with a free concert by *Mad River Crossing*, singing nostalgic classics with Bluegrass flair.

Saturday activities begin at 8:00 AM, with *The World's First Fly Market™*—a flea market for fly-fishing where club members from Trout Unlimited and other local anglers will exhibit, sell and trade fly-fishing equipment. The *Fly Market* runs from 8AM to 3PM Saturday, with a casting demonstration, a kids casting clinic, a talk on the proper handling of fish, and a professional fly tyer, who will demonstrate his craft.

Saturday afternoon July 11, take in a free concert from 1:00-3:00 PM, featuring the country, folk, and bluegrass sounds of *The Traveling Trout*. From 4:00-5:00 PM, Greg Hoffman will entertain visitors as they walk among the charming shops and by the river.

At 7:00 PM the Riverton Church will be the host site for the newly released family musical, *Letters to Daddy™*. This 75-minute theatrical production stars nine "amazing tweens", who dance and sing songs for life-lessons of inspiration. Tickets are \$3.00 for children and \$5.00 for adults. (www.letterstodaddy.com)

Also on Saturday, over one dozen area artists will exhibit their work in the *Arts and Posies Gallery/Reception*, to be held from 2:00-5:00 PM with light refreshments in the historic Lambert Hitchcock House. The *Arts and Posies Gallery* will continue on Sunday, from 12:00-5:00 PM.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sunday festivities begin with a riverside worship service offered by the Riverton Church at 10:00AM. The service will be followed by a walk through the village and a Farmer's Market, from 1:00-5:00 PM, featuring fresh produce from area growers. The Farmer's Market will include gardening clinics by Master Gardener, John Krish, and pony rides and lemon ice for children.

Enjoy more music on Sunday from 1:00-3:00 PM with area artists. From 4:00-5:00 PM, the Riverton Church will be the host site for *Brilliant Broadway*[™], featuring cast members from Broadway's *Phantom of the Opera* and *Cats*, singing a collection of Broadway classics. Tickets for Brilliant Broadway are \$5 for children and \$7 for adults.

Sunday's *Wilderness-Wellness* program encourages visitors to take a bike ride on the shaded, 8-mile loop of the Farmington River. Hikers can choose from miles of trails in Peoples and American Legion State Forests or take a leisurely stroll around the village. There will also be paddling demonstrations on the Farmington River from 3:00-5:00 PM and, as always, the Farmington provides world class trout fishing.

"The *Wilderness-Wellness Weekend* reflects a growing appreciation for a simpler, more natural way of life." says First Selectman, Don Stein.

Tickets for *Letters to Daddy* and *Brilliant Broadway* are available at the Riverton General Store and at www.letterstodaddy.com. For more information about Riverton's Wilderness-Wellness Weekend, including a complete schedule of events, with a listing of local merchants, please visit www.RivertonCT.com, or the town website www.barkhamsted.us.

Contacts: Don Stein (860) 379-8285
Mike Casale (203) 470-1722

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Riverton Wilderness-Wellness Weekend – July 10-12

Event/Components	Dates/Time	Function	Primary Location
Live Friday Night Music in Riverton	Fri, July 10 6:00 -8:00	Mini concert by Mad River Crossing	Riverton Center
Artists' Open House (Art & Posies)	Sat. July 11 2:00-5:00 Sun. July 12 12:00-5:00	Opening Reception Artists' Open House continues	Lambert House/Welcome Center
Concerts	Sat. July 11 1:00-3:00 4:00-5:00 7:00-8:00	The Traveling Trout Greg Hoffman Letters to Daddy	Riverton Center Riverton Center Riverton Church
Glass Blowing	Sat. 9:00-5:00	Glass blowing demonstrations	Greenwood Glass Blowing Studio
Hitchcock chair restoration	Sat. 10:00-5:00	Antiques workshop	Still River Antiques
Fly Fishing Flea Market	Sat. July 11 8:00-3:00	Fly Market Fishing Clinics	Riverton Center
Paddling Clinic	Sun. July 12 3:00-5:00	Demonstration	Farmington River
Worship by the Farmington River	Sun. July 12 10:00	Worship service	Farmington River
Wellness Walk	Sun. July 12	Walk for your health	Loop through Riverton
Farmers Market	Sun. July 12 1:00-5:00	Produce sales Master Gardner John Krish Sales of Lemon ice Pony rides	Riverton Center
Concerts	Sun. July 12 1:00-2:00 4:00-5:00	Mark Shepherd Brilliant Broadway	Riverton Center Riverton Church