



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 16, 2026

**East Haven Announces Grand Reopening of Hagaman Memorial Library**

**East Haven, CT** – The Town of East Haven, in coordination with the Library Board of Trustees and Library Director Sarah Mallory, proudly invites residents to celebrate the Grand Reopening of Hagaman Memorial Library, marking the long-awaited return of one of the community’s most valued institutions.

The library will reopen its doors for the first time since a significant flooding event in April 2025 forced the temporary closure of the building. Over the past year, the Town has undertaken a comprehensive restoration effort, resulting in a nearly complete transformation of the facility. More than 90 percent of the building has been renovated, including new flooring, walls, and ceilings. As part of this process, the Town took additional steps to ensure that all work was completed conscientiously and meets the level of quality and reliability our residents expect and deserve.

In addition to restoring the physical space, the project provided an opportunity to modernize the library’s core and digital infrastructure, strengthening the technology systems that support connectivity, access, and daily operations. The library now features upgraded electrical systems, new LED lighting, enhanced fire and security systems, and updated technology, including new public computers. Meeting spaces have been increased, and furniture has also been refreshed, blending new elements with familiar pieces to preserve the character of the space while improving comfort and usability.

“This reopening represents more than just the completion of a project,” said Mayor Joseph A. Carfora. “It reflects the resilience of this community and our commitment to maintaining spaces that bring people together. Throughout the closure, the library remained a vital resource through creative programming and partnerships. Thanks to Sarah Mallory and the entire staff, we’re proud to welcome residents back to a space that is both familiar, renewed, and built to serve East Haven for years to come.”

“Our staff have been working to create a social space that feels both welcoming and modern,” said Library Director Sarah Mallory. “Hagaman is more than a place to borrow books, it’s a place to connect. Whether you’re here to read, to meet friends over a cup of coffee, or to take part in free programs, there’s something here for everyone. We’re so excited to welcome you back.”

**The Grand Reopening celebration** will take place on **Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** The event will feature a ribbon-cutting ceremony and dedication of a new sign, followed by refreshments, music, a scavenger hunt, giveaways, and hourly prizes for all ages. Families are also invited to enjoy a “*Where the Wild Things Are*” story time, followed by a fun craft activity at 2:00 p.m.

Residents are encouraged to attend and experience the revitalized Hagaman Memorial Library.