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Volume 30 No 7 November 17, 2023

More Activity Comes to Central Plaza



Norman MacDonald has been managing restaurants, bars and breweries for more than fifteen years Most recently known for his work with the Twelve Percent Beer Project in North Haven and the Stony Creek Brewery in Branford. So with a love for his home town, he decided to open the Central Cafe in Central Plaza in North Branford.

"I like a small intimate bar with good beers and I wanted to get involved in my community. Bringing people together is what it's all about."

The establishment will soon feature live music, a pool league and monthly charity fund raisers. There will be happy hours, with \$5.00

well drinks, wines and draft beers from 3-6PM on weekdays.

Presently, he will not be serving food but he has teamed up with Plaza Restaurants where you can order foods through a QR Code and take them into the Cafe.

"I'm looking forward to meeting neighbors and making new friends. We are excited about this venture and hope to become a staple in our community."

Saturday November 18th at 8PM Central Cafe will feature live music with Dave Lefkin on acoustic guitar and keyboard.

It's Time to Support Your Local Newspaper



It's that time again. It seems like yesterday I was asking for your voluntary payment but it wasn't yesterday. It was a full year ago. Since then postage has gone up twice and printing has increased twice as well. It now cost more than \$2000 an issue to put out the Totoket Times in your mailbox. Looking at the paper you can tell that ads do not cover that expense.

Many advertisers have chosen to go on Facebook where they may get 20 or 30 hits as opposed to reaching more than 5000 homes and businesses. That being said your support is essential to keep the paper going. The Totoket Times through in kind donations gives back what would amount to more than \$30,000 in public service announcements to keep you informed about your community. It is still your number one source for local news and events.

To support your paper please send your voluntary payments of hopefully \$20 or more to;

**Totoket Times,
PO Box 313**

Northford , Ct. 06472.

VENMO FRANK-MENTONE-1

IT'S THE HOLIDAY SEASON ONLY 2 ISSUES LEFT



Happy Holidays

Don't be late,

For all your advertIsing needs as well as your church and event announcements. Here is a list of publication dates and deadlines for the rest of the year.

FOR INFORMATION CALL FRANK AT 203-410-4254

E-MAIL TOTOKETTIMITES@COMCAST.NET

Publication Date

December 1st

December 15th

Deadline

November 24th

December 8th



TOTOKET TIMES

Deadline	Publication Date
November 24	December 1
December 8	December 15
January 5	January 12
January 19	January 26
February 2	February 9
February 16	February 23
March 1	March 8



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State Representative Vincent Candelora

Paid family leave fund overflowing with your money



There is perhaps no more recent or perfect example of government’s ability to extract billions in hard-earned tax dollars from working people without them really knowing over a relatively short period — just one year in this case — than the Paid and Family Medical Leave program.

Approved by the Democrat-Controlled legislature in 2019, it had a noble aim: provide working families a better chance to care for loved ones,

or close family friends, in their time of need or illness, without jeopardizing their household budgets.

We can argue over the value of the PFML program, who gets to use it, for how long, or who should pay for it. But there can be little disagreement that as currently constituted, it is overfunded.

The wages lost away from work would be subsidized by everyone *else* in Connecticut who earns a paycheck; benefits would scale up based on income and be limited to up to \$900 a week.

In its brief history, the program has paid out claims of \$309 million for justified leaves of up to 12 weeks. During that time, the PFML program collected \$433 million from working people whose weekly paychecks were automatically lightened by 0.5 percent leaving the state-sponsored account an extra \$125 million for just the fiscal year of 2023 alone. The PFML board did not start collecting fees until January 2021 and did not start paying out until January 2022.

This somewhat obscure program, approved late on a Friday night in Hartford in the dying days of a long session with zero House Republican votes, has exploded with little public note into a \$1 billion windfall controlled by 15 un-elected political appointees.

It took only 20 months for the PFML to collect more than \$1 billion. If the recent actions of its board of directors are any indication, it will continue to grow by leaps and bounds regardless of need or cost to the taxpayer. A modest, reasonable proposal supported by the House Republicans Oct. 12 would have given taxpayers a \$20 million break in the amount contributed to the fund by dropping the individual rate one-quarter point, to .475 percent, a level supported by an actuarial accounting that ensured PFML would remain intact.

But that proposal was not even brought up for a vote by the board on Oct. 12. The current contribution of 0.5 percent will come out of every paycheck for the foreseeable future.

There was significant debate over the PFML plan when it was first raised. Our concerns were that it was yet another mandatory tax on working people and families that would continue to grow if left unchecked. I heard some constituents voice opposition, wondering why they should pay yet another tax so that someone else does not have to go to work.

Interestingly, and perhaps of some encouragement, one-third of claims presented to the governing authority were rejected in the first year.

But even if the board of directors does not make adjustments to the funding of the PFML account in the future, someone else might. Connecticut has a long history of having the legislature come in and swipe savory, dedicated funding sources during times of economic exigence. Just ask state motorists who thought they were Saving the Sound when they paid extra for those special decorative license plates. Tough economic times require tough decisions so some of that dedicated funding went elsewhere. Save the Sound? Sorry, save that year’s budget.

Or the ardent anti-smoking lobbyists who, like the tulips that popped their heads up outside the Capitol every spring, mobilized when they saw millions in tobacco settlement dollars targeted into a general budget appropriation — talk to us next year! Same for the Gamblers Anonymous groups who witnessed casino revenues being redirected for other causes.

Luckily in more recent history, the public never bought into the faux “lock box” safeguard promises to spend all toll revenues solely on roads, ultimately dooming Gov. Ned Lamont’s signature first-term legislative initiative.

We can argue over the value of the PFML program, who gets to use it, for how long, or who should pay for it. But there can be little disagreement that as currently constituted, it is overfunded, say neutral professionals who view the numbers through green eye shades. And more importantly the taxpayers who foot the bill deserve a break, however modest.

Let’s Be “Frank”

Boy this past month has been a roller coaster. SueAnn and I took up the project of Heritage Month for the Sons and Daughters of Italy. Our mission is to continue the Italian Heritage and enjoy our history and the contributions the Italians made to America. During the month we celebrated Christopher Columbus and had a tremendous speaker talking about the real history of Columbus and not the made up liberal attacks.

We had a fried dough pizza night with and Italian singer/comedian/educator. We finished with a pasta night and a sauce making contest. Everyone had a great time (except a few of the losers, you know how Italians are).

Then came November. I ordered my usual dosage of Ozempic which has been really helping me control my blood sugars. My eyes have cleared up, my energy level was up and I lost some weight. You would have expected my ire (I could only image what you would have done) when I was told that I had to take a lower dose as the higher dose was not available. I asked an obvious question, “Can I double up on the lower dose, until the other arrives?” The answer was simple, “No the insurance won’t cover it.”

Let me get this straight. The insurance will cover two units a week in one shot but they won’t cover that same dose with two shots. Remarkable. So in a few weeks my sugar numbers have risen up the scale, my eyes are a bit blurry again and I am tired. So much for my great progress.

I was feeling tired and achy and one night I coughed up a lung. I originally thought it was allergies from cleaning out the garage (it was finally bulk pickup). But no, I had Covid. I am going to attribute it to low immunity from high sugar but I guess that is not an official diagnosis.

I immediately called the doctor and they are unable to put me on that Paxlovid. After some consideration they told me I am not a candidate because they would have to take me off the blood thinner I need for my pacemaker and the risk of a stroke would override possible death from Covid.

I knew I wasn’t going to die as I am too nasty, and you guys as well as the big guy aren’t ready for my attendance at your Thanksgiving table. Besides someone has to put out all the grave blankets next week.

It wasn’t terrible. I couldn’t get around much the first two days and I had to take a few days off from work(which I don’t like to do). I was weak and exhausted from not sleeping with the cough keeping me awake. They recommended some cough medicine for people with diabetes and high blood pressure. This foul tasting stuff almost made me puke. Mom use to say “it’s not fruit punch it’s medicine. It’s not suppose to taste good.”

I think the plan is to make you puke so all the phlegm will come up and clear you out. Well, I didn’t puke and the cough didn’t stop.

I finally went old school. A shot of my homemade cherry brandy, followed two hours later buy a shot of my homemade lemon cello heated with honey. A miracle. No more cough, more sleep and the strength was soon restored. My sugar went through the roof but as you use to advise, “just take an extra few hits of insulin”.

The timing was perfect. My hectic October schedule was done. I wound up getting a great deal of rest and caught up on a number of items on the computer that were making me anxious. I do know that if I ever become home bound due to a long illness, I will not make it too long. I even took a ride to see you on your birthday. I figured there was no way you guys would catch it. They always said the distance was six feet and I guess you guys would be okay being six feet under.

Well, it’s time to start getting the Thanksgiving meal going. Frank and Ana are coming up for the week. Even though the menu is now limited (I’ll spare that rant this time), the meaning is still important. Family together to thank God for all of our gifts and to contribute and pray for those who have less than we do.

We are luckier than most and I think we owe that to our family values and heritage.

Say hi to all and wish them a Happy Thanksgiving.

I’ll see you soon.



MARC GUERTIN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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This publication is published bi-weekly by
Doss Enterprises LLC
PO Box 313 Northford, CT. 06472
Tel; 203-410-4254 Fax 203-484-4729
email: totokettimes@comcast.net

PUBLISHER - FRANK MENTONE JR.

founders - Bert Bunnell Jr. & Anthony Esposito Jr.

The publisher assumes no responsibility for typographical errors. In the event of an error, the publisher will issue a credit adjustment on only the incorrect portion of the advertisement, as well as a retraction in the next issue.

Letters to the editor..

This paper encourages all readers to voice their opinions and comments. The Totoket Times is not responsible for erroneous information or statements in letters to the editor. Letters should be as brief as possible.

All letters must be signed. A telephone number should be included and no personal attacks.

This paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

All letters should be addressed to :

The Editor

P.O. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472



Estate Planning for Everyone: Choosing the Right Financial Planner

By Attorney Marc

Choosing the right financial planner is a critical decision that can significantly impact your financial well-being. Whether you're planning for retirement, investing, or managing your overall financial portfolio, a skilled and trustworthy financial planner can make a substantial difference.

Begin by checking the qualifications and credentials of potential financial planners. Look for individuals with recognized certifications such as Certified Financial Planner (CFP), Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), or Personal Financial Specialist (PFS). These designations indicate a commitment to high professional standards and ongoing education.

Consider the experience and expertise of the financial planner. Different planners may specialize in various areas such as retirement planning, estate planning, or investment management. Assess your specific needs and choose a planner with relevant experience in those areas.

Ensure that the financial planner operates under a fiduciary standard, meaning they are legally obligated to act in your best interests. This ensures that the advice and recommendations provided are geared towards maximizing your financial well-being rather than promoting products that may not be the best fit for you.

Understand the fee structure of the financial planner. Some work on a fee-only basis, while others may earn commissions from financial products they recommend. Choose a planner whose fee structure aligns with your preferences and needs. Transparency in fees is crucial for building trust in the advisor-client relationship.

Financial planning is a personal and collaborative process. Choose a planner with whom you feel comfortable discussing your financial goals, concerns, and personal circumstances. Effective communication and a good rapport are essential for a successful long-term relationship. Consider the accessibility and communication style of the financial planner. Ensure that they are responsive to your inquiries and provide clear and understandable explanations of financial concepts. Open and honest communication is vital for a successful partnership.

Seek out client references and reviews to gain insights into the experiences of others who have worked with the financial planner. A track record of satisfied clients can be a strong indicator of the planner's competence and commitment to client satisfaction.

Check if the financial planner is registered with relevant regulatory authorities. This ensures that they adhere to ethical and professional standards. You can verify this information through websites like the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

The above are just a few ideas on how to find a good financial planner. The best advice is to set goals, ask questions, get a plan together, keep your eye on the ball... and on your financial planner.

Marc Guertin is the principal at Marc Guertin, Attorney at Law, LLC. Located at 222 Rimmon Road, North Haven, Connecticut. Visit AttorneyMarc.com Call: 203-500-0201 or email Marc@attorneymarc.com to schedule a complimentary consultation.



The Community Dining Room, a local, private, non-profit providing food and support to our Shoreline neighbors has a home delivery meal service in North Branford and Branford.

This Branford based soup kitchen provides hot meal delivery on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays along with a frozen meal for the following day. This program is open to North Branford/Northford and Branford residents that are unable to drive and do not have a reliable source of transportation. There are no income guidelines or waitlist, but an intake via phone is required. These hot meals are available on a temporary basis or long-term if needed.

If you or a loved one is in need of FREE prepared meals and lives in the town of North Branford/Northford or Branford, please contact our Program Coordinator at (203) 488-9750, Ext. 2.

More Tips from Local Author Julia



In her Amazon bestselling book *Everything I Got: 30 Lessons on What You Give, What You Get, and How You Grow Through Sports*, former NBHS soccer player and current sport psychology consultant Julia Allain explores lessons from growing up in a world of sports to help players find success both on and off the field. Below is an excerpt from Lesson #16: Talk the Talk.

Most of our brains are like revolving doors, with thoughts continuously flowing in and out as new information or stimuli catch our attention. Sometimes they flow through so fast we miss them, unable to process them unless we are purposefully attending to the moment, which mindfulness encourages us to do. However, sometimes things get stuck in that revolving door like a trap, or a skipping record, constantly replaying the same word over and over again. The most common way for this trap to occur is to try to not think about something. "Don't mess up. Don't mess up. Don't mess up." Like a small, barely noticeable pimple on the side of your face that you try to poke, prod, and squeeze to get rid of, a dangerous thought that we obsessively try to suppress and get rid of only becomes redder, swollen, and much more noticeable.

Guiding, rather than controlling, our thoughts, is a more realistic approach to this challenge. In order to do this, one clever technique I use with my athletes is to take advantage of the few things we do control: our words and our actions. We all know we have much more control over our physical body than we do our internal mind. You may have all the feelings and thoughts that make you want to punch someone in the face, but it is much easier to withhold the punch than it is to suppress the feelings and thoughts associated with that desire. In addition, while we may think something, we don't always say it out loud. We have all proven throughout our lives that we can say and do things that do not reflect the thoughts and feelings we are currently experiencing.

When I work with athletes who are having trouble channeling their thoughts and emotions in the right direction, the first thing we check is their body language. Are they dropping their head and shoulders? Are they communicating to themselves and their opponent that they are defeated? Studies have shown that our body and actions can influence our emotions as much as our emotions can influence our body. While we may not be able to tap directly into our brain to adjust our emotional state, we can manipulate our body to send signals to our brain to produce the desired feelings. Stand tall when you feel unconfident. Smile when you feel nervous. Have your actions reroute your thinking rather than your thoughts restricting your actions.



Thanksgiving History and Traditions

Thanksgiving is a national [holiday](#) celebrated on various dates in the [United States](#), [Canada](#), [Grenada](#), [Saint Lucia](#), [Liberia](#), and unofficially in countries like [Brazil](#) and the [Philippines](#). It is also observed in the Dutch town of [Leiden](#) and the Australian territory of [Norfolk Island](#). It began as a day of giving thanks for the blessings of the [harvest](#) and of the preceding year (similarly named [harvest festival](#) holidays occur throughout the world during autumn, including in Germany and Japan). Thanksgiving is celebrated on the [second Monday of October](#) in Canada and on the [fourth Thursday of November](#) in the United States and around the same part of the year in other places. Although Thanksgiving has historical roots in religious and cultural traditions, it has long been celebrated as a [secular](#) holiday as well.

History

Prayers of thanks and special thanksgiving ceremonies are common among most religions after harvests and at other times of the year.^[1] The Thanksgiving holiday's history in North America is rooted in English traditions dating from the Protestant [Reformation](#). It also has aspects of a [harvest festival](#), even though the harvest in [New England](#) occurs well before the late-November date on which the modern Thanksgiving holiday is celebrated.^{[1][2]}

In the English tradition, days of thanksgiving and special thanksgiving religious services became important during the [English Reformation](#) in the reign of [Henry VIII](#).^[3] Before 1536 there were 95 Church holidays, plus 52 Sundays, when people were required to [attend church](#) and forego work. Though the 1536 reforms in the [Church of England](#) reduced the number of holidays in the [liturgical calendar](#) to 27, the [Puritan](#) party in the Anglican Church wished to eliminate all Church holidays apart from the weekly [Lord's Day](#), including the [evangelical feasts](#) of [Christmas](#) and [Easter](#) (cf. [Puritan Sabbatarianism](#)).^[3] The holidays were to be replaced by specially called [Days of Fasting](#) and [Days of Thanksgiving](#), in response to events that the Puritans viewed as acts of [special providence](#). Unexpected disasters or threats of judgement from on high called for Days of Fasting.^{[4][5]}

continued on page 5

continued from page 4

Special blessings, viewed as coming from God, called for Days of Thanksgiving, which were observed through Christian [church services](#) and other gatherings.^[3] For example, Days of thanksgiving were called following the victory over the [Spanish Armada](#) in 1588 and following the deliverance of [Queen Anne](#) in 1605.^[4] An unusual annual Day of Thanksgiving began in 1606 following the failure of the [Gunpowder Plot](#) in 1605 and developed into [Guy Fawkes Day](#) on November 5.^[4] Days of Fasting were called on account of plagues in 1604 and 1622, drought in 1611, and floods in 1613. Annual Thanksgiving prayers were dictated by the charter of English settlers upon their safe landing in America in 1619 at [Berkeley Hundred](#) in Virginia.^[5]

In Canada

According to some historians, the first celebration of Thanksgiving in North America occurred during the 1578 voyage of [Martin Frobisher](#) from England in search of the [North-west Passage](#).^[6] Other researchers, however, state that «there is no compelling narrative of the origins of the Canadian Thanksgiving day.»^[7]

Antecedents for Canadian Thanksgiving are also sometimes traced to the French settlers who came to [New France](#) in the 17th century, who celebrated their successful harvests. The French settlers in the area typically had feasts at the end of the harvest season. They continued throughout the winter season, even sharing food with the [indigenous peoples](#) of the area.^[8]

As settlers arrived in Nova Scotia from New England after 1700, late autumn Thanksgiving celebrations became commonplace. New immigrants into the country—such as the Irish, Scottish, and Germans—also added their own traditions to the harvest celebrations. Most of the U.S. aspects of Thanksgiving (such as the turkey) were incorporated when [United Empire Loyalists](#) began to [flee from the United States](#) during and after the [American Revolution](#) and settled in Canada.^[8]

In 1859, the government of the Provinces of Canada declared a Thanksgiving Day in which “all Canadians [were asked] to spend the holiday in ‘public and solemn’ recognition of God’s mercies.”^[9] On 9 October 1879, Canada’s Governor General, the [Marquis of Lorne](#), declared November 6 as “a day of General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed.”^[9] The Canadian Parliament on 31 January 1957 applied the same language in its proclamation for the modern holiday: «A Day of General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed—to be observed on the second Monday in October.»^[10]

In the United States

Jennie Augusta Brownscombe, The First Thanksgiving at Plymouth, 1914, Pilgrim Hall Museum, Plymouth,

An annual thanksgiving holiday tradition in North American colonies is documented for the first time in 1619, in what is now called the Commonwealth of [Virginia](#). Thirty-eight English settlers aboard the ship *Margaret* arrived by way of the James River at [Berkeley Hundred](#) in [Charles City County, Virginia](#) on December 4, 1619. The landing was immediately followed by a religious celebration, specifically dictated by the group’s charter from the [London Company](#). The charter declared, “that the day of our ships arrival at the place assigned for plantation in the land of Virginia shall be yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God.”^{[11][5]} Since the mid 20th century, the original celebration has been commemorated there annually at present-day [Berkeley Plantation](#), ancestral home of the [Harrison family of Virginia](#).^[12]

The more familiar Thanksgiving precedent accompanied by feasting is traced to the [Pilgrims](#) and [Puritans](#) who emigrated from England in the 1620s and 1630s. They brought their previous tradition of Days of Fasting and Days of Thanksgiving with them to [New England](#). The 1621 [Plymouth, Massachusetts](#) thanksgiving was prompted by a good harvest. The Pilgrims celebrated this with the [Wampanoags](#), a tribe of Native Americans who, along with the [last surviving Patuxet](#), had helped them get through the previous winter by giving them food in that time of scarcity, in exchange for an alliance and protection against the rival [Narragansett tribe](#).^[13]

Several days of Thanksgiving were held in early New England history that have been identified as the “First Thanksgiving”, including Pilgrim holidays in Plymouth in 1621 and 1623, and a Puritan holiday in [Boston](#) in 1631.^{[14][15]} According to historian Jeremy Bangs, director of the [Leiden American Pilgrim Museum](#), the Pilgrims may have been influenced by watching the annual services of Thanksgiving for the relief of the [siege of Leiden](#) in 1574, while they were staying in Leiden.^[16] Now called *3 Oktoberfeest*, Leiden’s autumn thanksgiving celebration in 1617 was the occasion for sectarian disturbance that appears to have accelerated the pilgrims’ plans to emigrate to America.^[17]

Later in New England, religious thanksgiving services were declared by civil leaders such as [Governor Bradford](#), who planned the Plymouth colony’s thanksgiving celebration and feast in 1623.^{[18][19][20]} Bradford issued a proclamation of Thanksgiving following victory in the [Pequot War](#) in the late 1630s to celebrate «the bloody victory, thanking God that the battle had been won.»^{[21][22]} The practice of holding an annual thanksgiving harvest festival did not become a regular affair in New England until the late 1660s.^[23]

Thanksgiving proclamations were made mostly by church leaders in New England up until 1682, and then by both state and church leaders until after the [American Revolution](#). During the revolutionary period, political influences affected the issuance of Thanksgiving proclamations. Various proclamations were made by [royal governors](#), and conversely by [patriot leaders](#), such as [John Hancock](#), [General George Washington](#), and the [Continental Congress](#),^[24] each giving thanks to God for events favorable to their causes.^[25] As President of the United States, George Washington proclaimed the first nationwide thanksgiving celebration in America marking November 26, 1789, «as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favours of Almighty God»,^[26] and calling on Americans to «unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions.»^[27]

Debate over first celebrations

Shrine of the first U.S. Thanksgiving in 1619 at Berkeley Hundred in Charles City County, Virginia

Devotees in New England and Virginia and other places have maintained contradictory claims to having held the first Thanksgiving celebration in what became the United States. The question is complicated by the concept of Thanksgiving as either a holiday celebration or a religious service. James Baker maintains, “The American holiday’s true origin was the New England [Calvinist](#) Thanksgiving. Never coupled with a Sabbath meeting, the Puritan observances were special days set aside during the week for thanksgiving and praise in response to God’s providence.

Honoring Our Veterans

Students at Jerome Harrison School paraded out with flags to honor our veterans. For some time the North Branford School System has chosen to skip the day off and learn history by celebrating our veterans with programs at all the schools



Dinner with the Chefs | Thursday, December 7th | 6PM |\$59 per person
Beef Wellington & Croquembouche Dinner & Demonstration
with Millpond’s very own Chef Pedro Avila and dessert by Chef Bob Hofmiller

Join us at Millpond Gatherings to learn kitchen skills, recipe prep and the preparing of a four course holiday meal. All accompanied by a wine pairing with each course.

Reservations Required | Limited Availability | Call 203-714-4700

Bring Your Party to Millpond | Friday, December 15th | 7:00PM- 11:00PM
\$125 per person | All Inclusive | Full Buffet | Open Bar | Entertainment

If you’re looking to celebrate the holiday season with your co-workers, family, or your friends, we have a table for you! Join us at our annual Bring Your Party to Millpond Event and enjoy a full buffet meal, open bar, and dance the night away!

Limited Seating Left | Reservations Required | Call 203-714-4700

Ring in 2024 at Millpond Gatherings!

\$175 per person | Sunday, December 31st |7PM - 1AM
All inclusive | Full Dinner Buffet | Open Bar | Entertainment

Enjoy a full course meal made by chef Pedro Avila that includes Hors D’oeuvre, Charcuterie, Raw Bar, Salad, Pasta, and Carving Stations, as well as desserts, open bar, and a champagne toast at midnight!

Reservations Required | Call **203-714-4700** to make your reservation today!

MILLPOND GATHERINGS
Steakhouse | Tavern | Event Venue

With the holidays quickly approaching, don’t forget to get your favorite people a gift card to their favorite restaurant.

Stop in and get yours today!





**NBHS Tech Department
Garnishes Top Award**

On Tuesday November 7th, members of the North Branford High School Technology Department were recognized during the Connecticut Technology Engineering Education Association’s annual professional development event. The NBHS Technology Department was named the CT Technology and Engineering Program of the Year.

NBHS currently offers several technology courses including: Project Lead the Way (Pre-Engineering courses), Intro to Construction, Advanced Construction, Introduction to Automotive, Home Repair, Transportation Systems, Introduction to Video/TV Production, Intermediate Video/TV Production and Advanced Video/TV Production.

*Pictured left to right, Ken Rice, Chris Reynolds, Nick DeLizio
(Photo and press release, courtesy of Principal Todd Stoeffler)*

**Crusin the Community
a Passport to North Branford**

The first grade team at Jerome Harrison School wanted to share some pictures from our first field trip! We planned a fun and educational connection to our social studies curriculum entitled “Crusin’ the Community- A Passport to North Branford!”

We were able to offer this field trip with the help of a grant from the North Branford Education Foundation.

At school, we have been learning about what makes a community and how to be good citizens. Before the trip, the first grade classes held a food drive to collect food for the pantry for us to drop off during our visit! For the field trip we were able to visit The North Branford Food Pantry, Northford Fire Department, Edward Smith Library, and the Little Red School House.



We are so grateful to all of the community members who teamed with us to help make this trip possible and show our first graders these important places in their community.

Submitted by, Katie Ayotte and the First Grade Team



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA IS BACK!
Sponsored by the North Branford Education Foundation



 **Saturday, December 2, 2023**
8:00 AM - 10:00AM 
NBIS Cafeteria

**Tickets are \$8.00 per person in advance
\$10.00 at the door**

Music provided by our own school children.
You don’t have to be a kid to enjoy
Good Food, Good Music and Good Times!
**Tickets are available at Jerome Harrison
and TVES schools.**
or by calling Frank at 203-410-4254.
Deadline for advanced tickets is Monday, 11-21-23.



North Branford Field Hockey Team Wins Seventh Consecutive Shoreline Championship



At press time, the team was looking to three peat as they entered the semifinals of the State Tournament.



THEY MAKE US PROUD

Tyler DePentima, Kaitlyn Morris, & Christian Perrotti were named to the Dean’s List at Goodwin University in East Hartford, CT.

NORTH BRANFORD BARBERSHOP

HAIR CUTS
MEN \$14.00
SENIORS &
KIDS UNDER 10
\$12.00

Tues, 8:30 - 5:00 Wed 8:30 - 5:00
Thur 8:30 - 5:00 Fri, 8:30 - 5:00
Saturday 8:30 - 2:00
- WALK - INS ONLY -

OWNER- ROBERT VIGLIONE
1179 FOXON RD, NORTH BRANFORD | (203) 484-6789



NBHS Volley Ball “Rewrites History”

The North Branford High School Volley Ball team reached the State Tournament for the first time in eighteen years. Once, there, they did not disappoint. After defeating Goodwin Tech 3 -0 the Lady Birds took on the powerhouse #1 ranked Buckeley where they surprised everyone but themselves by beating them 3-0. The ladies entered the quarterfinals against 8th ranked Holy Cross and lost a hard fought battle 3-2.

In a Facebook post, an emotional coach Tori Ramada stated,

“To say this season has been amazing would be an understatement. These girls overcame so many obstacles this year. Starting with not having a net for the first two weeks of practice to not having a home gym and being on the road all season.

This team surprised everyone with their ability, drive and talent, as well as their dedication. The bond they built has allowed them to surpass any expectations and goals this year. They are rewriting history for North Branford Volleyball and I cannot wait for next season. I am incredibly proud and honored to be their coach.”

Coach Ramada didn’t surprise anyone with her selection as the Shoreline Volley Ball Coach of the Year.(Pictured right)



COME SUPPORT
OUR LADY T-BIRDS!
NBHS POWDER PUFF
FOOTBALL



Sunday, November 19th
5:30PM kick-off
North Branford High School
Colafati Football Field

Raffle baskets, 50/50 Raffle,
Food, Fun, and more!!!

\$5 entrance fee for spectators*

*Proceeds will benefit 2024 Project Graduation

Connecticut Sportsplex®
FIELDHOUSE FAMILY FUN CENTER

LASER TAG BIRTHDAY PARTIES
LASER TAG GROUP OUTINGS

WALK-IN LASER TAG OFFERED
FRIDAY 5PM—9PM
SATURDAY 11AM—7PM
SUNDAY 11AM—4PM

203-484-4383
www.ctsportsplex.com

2023 ELECTION RESULTS

	<u>Total number of Electors</u>	<u>Total Number Voting 2275 (24.2%)</u>
District 1	4983	1175 (23.6%)
District 2	2533	658 (26%)
District 3	1873	442 (23.6%)

Town Council

Rose Marie Angeloni (Mayor)*	R	1420
Jeffrey Macmillen (Deputy Mayor)*	R	1399
Nick Paladino*	R	1336
Walter Goad *	R	1335
Thomas Zampano *	R	1328
Ronald Pelliccia *	R	1274
Craig Miller*	D	945
Marie Diamond *	D	934
Bruce Abelson *	D	848

*** Denotes Those Elected**

Board of Education

Kim Dawson *	R	1275
Judy Bannon *	D	1090
Victoria Lanza	D	964
Jana Balsamo	D	959

Send Community News to Totokettimes@comcast.net



999 Foxon Road, North Branford
203-484-0330 www.pastryfusions.com

2023 THANKSGIVING DAY MENU

9” Pies

(All our pies are made from scratch with real fruit, butter & no preservatives)

Pumpkin Pie	\$16.00	Apple Pie	\$17.00
Coconut Custard Pie	\$16.00	Apple Crumb Pie	\$17.00
Chocolate Cream	\$18.00	Chocolate Lemon	\$17.00
Banana Cream Pie	\$18.00		

Cheesecakes (8” \$30.00/ 10” \$40.00)

Pumpkin Cheesecake
New York Style Cheesecake (plain or with Strawberries)

Breads

Snowflake Dinner Rolls \$7.50 Doz.

Assorted Stuffed Breads

Antipasta	\$16.00	Buffalo Chicken	\$16.00
Pepperoni & Cheese	\$15.00	Broccoli & Cheese	\$15.00
Eggplant Parmesan	\$16.00	Spin, Saus. & Cheese	\$16.00

Full Stuffed Bread Menu is also available.

Desserts

Assorted Italian Pastry
Holiday Cookie Platters \$18.75 per pound.
Dessert Cakes available from our menu

To ensure availability please place order by Sunday, November 19th.

Holiday Store Hours:

Tuesday November 21st 7:30 - 3:00
Wednesday, November 22nd - 7:30 - 4:30
Thursday, November 23rd & Friday, November 24th - Closed.
Saturday, November 25th 8:00 - 3:00.
Sunday, November 26th 8 - 12.



Free Public Event hosted by the Musical Art Society

MAS Presents: Steven Flam Sings Sinatra, Sunday, November 26, 2023 at 2:00 PM at the James Blackstone Memorial Library. Free singer’s workshop, Breathing Rx, for highschool and middle school students following the concert.

Picture provided by Steven Flam.
Press release from Linda Franklin-Biggs with the Musical Arts Society

Want to discover a huge white oak from the 1600’s...stone walls...an old farm cistern



The nature trails behind Totoket Valley Elementary School are one of the quiet gems of our town. The trails were designed in 1968 by the Northford Garden Club (no longer operational). It is believed that this property was farmed by the Bartholomew Family in the mid 1800’s.

Join NBLCT hike leaders Mike Ferrucci, For-ester, and Board Members Hank Petroskey and Bon-

nie Symansky to walk on trails through the woodlands, which are constantly changing by the season.

When: Saturday, De-cember 2, 2023 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. (rain date Sunday). Where: Meet at the Play-scape at Totoket Val-ley Elementary School, 1388 Middletown Ave, Northford CT at 9:15.

This walk is one of a number of events present-ed by the North Branford Land Conservation Trust for adults and families throughout the year.

All events are free and open to the public.

The mission of the North Branford Land Conservation Trust is to acquire and maintain open space and to promote the conservation of land and natural resources within the Town of North Branford and environs.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR GIVING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023

Giving Tuesday is a global movement to encourage the generosity of people in the support of charitable giving in their communities. Founded in 2012, **Giving Tuesday** inspires people to collective generosity during the holiday season. The collaborative effect of many gifts at once allows good causes to benefit substantially. Great success comes from collaboration!

Giving Tuesday emphasizes opportunities to give back to communities and causes that allow for social connection and kindness.

This year, **Giving Tuesday** is November 28.

Support your local community with a generous donation to the **North Branford Land Conservation Trust (NBLCT)**. This year, funds raised during **Giving Tuesday** will be used to create the first ADA-accessible park-ing lot and trail in North Branford. We will also be participating in a project to try to repopulate American Chestnut trees. Both projects will take place following our acquisition of 37 acres of Regional Water Authority (RWA) property at the intersection of Beech St. and Poms Ln in North Branford.

NBLCT provides value to the community through acquisition and open space for passive recreation. We create and maintain trails for the benefit of our community. When you support NBLCT, you give to your own com-munity.

North Branford Land Conservation Trust
Go to nblandtrust.org
Click on the **DONATE** button
Give generously for our community!
Like us on Facebook.

Recycling News

Saturday 11-18 is the last day that the leaf drop-off is open.

North Branford residents can bring their leaves to the leaf drop off center located to the left of the police station, near the Public Works Facility on Route 22 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Just follow the signs. No brush or grass clippings. No commercial vehicles. Please place leaves in biodegradable leaf bags (no tape please) or empty them loose onto the ground.

There will be a curb side pickup of leaves in untapped biodegradable paper bags the weeks of November 27th – December 8th

Thanksgiving is a trash holiday. Pickups is delayed one day.

Thanks to everyone who came out to the electronics waste drop-off on November 4th. In the 3 hours that we were there, we had well over 200 cars who brought electronics, waste oil, batteries and tires to be recycled.

We collected over 3 dozen mattresses that will be taken apart and recycled. At some points we overwhelmed the Take2 person collecting the electronics. We are working on correcting this for next spring. Thanks to everyone for helping to keep these materials out of the waste stream.

Did you know that you can drop off waste oil at Public Works when they are open during the week? They use this oil to heat their buildings so it needs to have no contaminates in it like antifreeze or water.

Did you just find something that should have gone out for Bulky Waste?

Don’t want to wait till the spring to dispose of it?

Here are some options:

- You can post on the Facebook page: [North Branford & Northford Free Items.](#)
- Post on the New Haven, East Haven or Milford Freecycle.org site.
- Look up your item in the **New Haven Downsizing Donation Guide**. It lists multiple organizations that want your stuff! Just Google ‘New Haven Downsizing Donation Guide’. Some places even pick-up large items.
- Some big box stores take used electronics for recycling.
- Tire stores can take used tires for a fee.

Can I recycle it?

Connecticut has a website to help with recycling questions: www.recyclect.com. They also have an app.

Plastic Film Reminder

The town’s drop off locations are:

[Atwater and Smith Libraries, Northford Store, STW Community Center, The Food Pantry of NB, Country Paint and Hardware, T.J.’s Launderette](#)

Plastic Film includes grocery bags, newspaper sleeves, produce bags, bread bags, dry cleaning bags, ice bags, wood pellet bags, salt bags, and zipper bags for recycling.

They also accept plastic wraps from water bottle cases, diapers, bathroom tissue, and paper towels, as well as bubble wrap and shipping pillows.

Plastic bags with recycling symbols Number 2 or Number 4 **are** accepted.

Plastic bags with recycling symbols Number 5 or Number 7 (i.e. salad and grape bags), snack bags (potato chips, popcorn, and candy), pet food bags, frozen food bags, and any bags with food residue are **not** accepted.

Plastic bags and wraps get recycled into products such as new grocery bags, benches, and decking.

For more information about recycling in North Branford you can check out North Branford’s Recycling Committee’s website: townofnorthbranfordct.com/government/boards-commissions/hazardous-wasterecycling-committee.aspx or our Facebook page: North Branford CT Hazardous Waste & Recycling Committee

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Branford Bible Chapel. 212 Branford Rd., corner of Twin Lakes Rd. 203-488-3586. Sunday morning : 10:00 - 10:30 Worship & Lord’s Supper, 10:30 11:00 Announcements and Music Minity, 11:00 -11:45 Ministering of God’s Word & Sunday School. . Nursery provided. Vacation Bible School, missions & outreach programs. www.branfordbiblechapel.org

Hope Christian Church “A Place to Belong”. 211 Montowese Ave., North Haven, CT. www.hopeag.com Sunday services 10AM. Coffee served every Sunday 9:00 am. Church open for prayer Tuesdays noon to One. Thursday Bible study 7:00 PM. Like us on facebook.

North Branford Congregational Church, UCC, 1680 Foxon Road, North Branford, CT Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:00 AM. On the first Sunday of each month please attend and share communion with us.

Nursery Care is available.To contact our church: Office hours are Wednesday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Phone: 203.488.8456, email: nobdcong@sbcglobal.net, website: www.northbranfordcongregational.org Remember, all are welcome no matter who you are, no matter where you are on life’s journey; you will always be welcome here.

Northford Community Church. Church is located on Old Post Rd., (corner of Rte 17 and Rte 22), PO Box 191 Northford. Phone 203-484-0795, Fax 203-484-9916.. email: northfordcc@gmail.com Office Hours: Tuesday 9am - 1pm; other days by appointment. John Vigneri, Pastor . Jane K. Leschuk Minister of Music. Worship Service 10am. Join us for coffee hour following worship. Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month.Like us on Facebook. Our website is www.northfordcongregational.church

Shoreline Community Church located at 9 Business Park Dr., Units 1-4, Branford, CT. Call us at 203.481.8919. Sunday Services at 8:30 and 10:00 AM (Children and Jr. High activities meet during our 10 AM service). For more information, check out our website www.sccbranford.org. SCC is a diverse community that is dedicated to Making the Invisible God Visible.

St. Ambrose Parish – Roman Catholic Parish with two church buildings, St. Augustine, located at 30 Caputo Rd. North Branford and St. Monica, located at 1321 Middletown Ave. Northford.

The pastor is Rev. Robert L. Turner. All are welcome and invited to join us for Mass! Summer Mass times include: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 9:00 AM at St. Augustine. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4:30 PM at St. Augustine (English Ordinary no incense used), Sunday at 9:00 AM at St. Monica (English Ordinary, no incense used) and on Sunday at 11:00 AM at St. Augustine (Latin Ordinary with use of incense). The sacrament of Reconciliation is offered a half hour before all Masses, excepting Sunday, and on Monday evenings from 5-6 PM during Adoration. The parish office is located at St. Augustine Church and is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-1. You can access the bulletin and staff emails at NBcatholics.org. If you are new to the area and looking for a wonderful parish or homeschool co-op to join, please visit us or give us a call!

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 1382 Middletown Avenue - The White Church On The Hill In The Heart Of Northford (at the intersection of Rtes. 17 & 22). Sunday worship at 10:00 a.m. Coffee and fellowship always follows. The Rev. Bryan Spinks is Priest-In-Charge. St.Andrew’s is a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry Network (MACM Network), along with St. James (Higganum) and Emmanuel (Killingworth). Please join us - we’d love to get to know you! All are welcome! St. Andrew’s is the proud home of the Food Pantry of North Branford - a vital community resource serving families in need in Northford and North Branford. St. Andrew’s also partners with St. Pauly Textile in a broad outreach program to help people in need here in the U.S. and around the world. Donations of usable clothing, shoes, boots, belts, purses, sheets, blankets, curtains and stuffed animals may be made at the donation shed in the church parking lot, available 24x7. Visit our website at <https://www.saintandrewsnorthford.org> Like us on Facebook - St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church of Northford, CT. For more information contact us at 203-484-0895; Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-710-7005; Rev. Spinks, 860-304-5266; or MACM office, 860-345-0058.

United Methodist Church, Branford 811 East Main St, Branford (Route 1, across from Bill Miller’s Castle). www.umcbranford.org or (203) 488-0549. Sunday service 9:30am - both in-person and live on our website. “The Church on the Rock,” led by Pastor Kent Jackson. We invite you to discover the power of faith in Jesus Christ bringing God’s love to the world. Join us to worship, experience God’s word, and stay connected.

Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. Our vicar is the Rev. Lucy LaRocca. At this time, we have a single service at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday morning. Refreshments and fellowship to follow service in the parish hall. Please visit our Facebook page or our website zionaepiscopalchurch.org. Zion is an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ. 203-488-7395

North Branford/Northford Holiday Program
Office of Social Service

www.townofnorthbranfordct.com

TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD – OFFICE OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DECEMBER HOLIDAY BASKET SHARE

The December Holiday Basket Share will take place on Monday December 18th, 2023.

For those that need some assistance with their Holiday dinner and/or gifts for children, you only need to contact the Office of Social Services and request to be a recipient in the December Holiday Basket Share. The requirements are that you are in need and a resident of North Branford or Northford. Your information is protected, and your name will not be disclosed. You must be able to pick up your basket or arrange for someone to pick it up for you. We are unable to deliver or bring it to your car.

For those wishing to donate a basket, you only need to call or email the Office of Social Service and express your desire to donate a Holiday Dinner Basket or a grocery store gift card, with or without children’s gifts. You may choose the family size you would like to adopt. You may choose to do this alone, or as a group, with neighbors or co-workers. For those wishing to include children’s gifts, this Office will provide you with the children’s wish list.

Although names are not disclosed, a number will be given to both the recipient and the donor. This is used to identify which family is the recipient. All commitments by the donors and recipients will receive written confirmation.

Donor Drop Off: Monday, December 18, 2023 (9:30 AM – 11:00 AM)
Recipient Pick-up: Monday, December 18, 2023 (11:30 AM – 1:00 PM)

Should you have an interest in being a recipient or donor, please contact the Office of Social Service by email at ssadmin@townofnorthbranfordct.com or by phone at 203-484-6006 by 11/17/2023.

North Branford Congregational Church
Annual Christmas Holly Fair

Saturday, November 18, 2023 - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Please join us for some great Christmas shopping from the many gift tables in our Church Fellowship Hall. Browse through the treasures in the White Elephant Room, pick your favorite cookies from our Cookie Walk, purchase a handmade item from our craft table, jewelry table has lots of trinkets old and new. Plus, so much more! We are excited to welcome everyone to our NBCC Christmas Holly Fair.

Sat.
Nov. 18
9-2
Reynolds-Beers House
1740 Foxon Rd

TOTOKET HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Holiday Bazaar

BAKED GOODS, LINENS, JEWELRY,
HOLIDAY ITEMS, SILENT AUCTION &
LIBRARY BOOK SALE

THS MERCHANDISE WILL ALSO BE
AVAILABLE FOR SALE!
HATS, JACKETS, TSHIRTS

TO DONATE QUALITY ITEMS OR
INFORMATION CALL:
BUNNY@ 203 919-4146

ST. AMBROSE PARISH

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, December 2, 2023
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
St. Monica Church Hall
1321 Middletown Ave. Northford

Featuring handcrafted items by local artisans,
baked goods and beautiful raffle baskets.
Breakfast and lunch will be available.
Come and enjoy great food, interesting
crafters, raffles, childrens activites and more!

TABLES AVAILABLE. CALL LUCILLE 203-484-9737

Branford Compassion Club
Caring for Connecticut's Homeless Felines
branfordcompassionclub.org

Holiday Cookie Sale & Gift Fair

December 9, 2023
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

American Legion Hall
243 North Main Street, Branford

Homemade Cookies By The Dozen
Gifts & Merchandise - Raffles - Vendors

2023

NORTH BRANFORD PARKS AND RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER

NORTH BRANFORD PARKS, RECREATION, AND SENIOR CENTER

STW COMMUNITY CENTER • 1332 MIDDLETOWN AVE NORTHFORD

WWW.NBRECREATION.COM • CALL (203) 484-6017

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK! @NBPARKSANDRECREATION AND INSTAGRAM! @NBPARK.REC.SENIOR

Annual Tree Lighting

Friday, December 1st

Town-owned Augur Property
290 Forest Road, Northford • 6:30 - 8:00pm

Snow or Shine!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NORTH BRANFORD ROTARY CLUB

Ice Sculpting
Marshmallow
Toasting

Hay Rides
Musical
Entertainment
And Santa!

Hot Chocolate
& Cookies
Petting Zoo



Marshmallow toasting
Sticks provided by:
SMORSTIX
The Perfect Marshmallow Roasting Stick

**FREE SHUTTLE
FROM NBIS!**

LETTERS TO THE NORTH POLE
Mail a letter to Santa, Mrs.
Claus, or your favorite elf
or reindeer!
Find the template On our
website nbcreation.com

— SENIOR CENTER —



Join Chef Giovanna for a demonstration on how to make delicious pumpkin macaroni & cheese! A perfect side dish to bring to a holiday dinner or to make for yourself at home. Watch as she prepares and teaches you how to bake this fantastic dish then taste it for yourself!

November 21, 2023

Pumpkin Macaroni & Cheese

STW Gym/Cafe 1:00-2:00pm \$3 Register by 11/17

MOHEGAN SUN BUS TRIP

Monday, November 27 - 8:00am - 4:00pm

\$20 res / \$25 nr

If you are meeting at the STW Community Center, we will be leaving at 8:00 a.m. Departs Mohegan at 2:30pm

Please register by 11/21

SHOPPING TRIPS

November 20th— Hamden Kohls and Glenwood Drive-In
Bus departs 10:30am from STW and returns around 3:00pm. **FREE** Please register by 11/17 Lunch cost on own

November 27th— Ocean State Job Lot & American Steakhouse in Meriden
Bus departs 10:30am from STW and returns around 3:00pm. *Lunch cost on own* **FREE** Please register by 11/22



A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Enjoy this classic tale adapted and directed by Keely Baisden Knudsen, this story illuminates the journey of one Ebenezer Scrooge and his guided self-reflection amidst the Christmas season in 1800s England.

November 30, 2023 \$40res/\$45nr

Departs 1:00pm Returns: 5:00pm

TREE TRIMMING

Help us make the Senior Room festive for the holiday season! Enjoy holiday music, hot cocoa & eggnog as we decorate.

Monday December 4, 2023

STW Senior Room 1:00-2:00pm

TREES OF HOPE & CODY'S DINER

Maritime Center, New Haven, CT

December 6, 2023 \$5res/\$7nr

Departs STW at 10:30 a.m.

Lunch cost on your own at Cody's Diner in New Haven. Tour the beautifully decorated trees and shop for the perfect gift in the holiday boutique, all while supporting The Ronald McDonald House.
Register by 12/1

Trees of Hope



Raffle tickets are sold for \$1 each and attendees will be able to distribute their tickets towards the displays they would like to win on our raffle platform. It is a fun event for the entire family and a perfect way to get in the holiday spirit and kick off this special season. Trees of Hope is our largest fundraising event and therefore, instrumental in securing the funds necessary to support the brave children and families at Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut.



MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, & THURSDAYS

10:00am—2:00pm

Appointment time must be within this time-frame

Curb to Curb Service

A 2-week notice is preferred; however, we will try to accommodate last minute appointment changes. Please let us know if you need wheel chair services when you call. Please call the office at (203) 484-6017 to schedule your medical transportation.

Light Up North Branford

HOLIDAY LIGHT DECORATING CONTEST

**Tuesday, December 19th
6:00 - 10:00 p.m.**

FREE

Get into the holiday spirit with a fun and festive competition!
REGISTER TO GET YOUR HOUSE ON THE MAP!

A map of display locations will be available on our website on December 20th.

Registration required by 12/15 www.nbrecreation.com

Mary's Culinary Classes

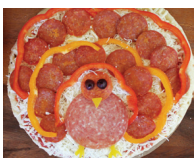
Explore, create, and learn basic cooking techniques with Mary Amter! This unique, hands on Culinary experience will engage children in preparing their own delicious creations.

Ages 5-14 at STW Community Center

5:00 - 7:00pm Cost \$40 res/ \$45 non-res per class

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2023

TURKEY PIZZA & TURKEY CUPCAKES



NEW YOGA CLASSES WITH BRIANNE BARRETT OF BHOGAH YOGA

PARENT & TOT YOGA

A fun-filled class for caregivers and tots. This class will introduce yoga practices in an age-friendly format designed for caregivers and children to participate together.

Wednesdays Nov 22 - Dec 13 • STW Yoga Room

9:30-10:00am \$35 res/ \$40 nr

Winter Break DAY CAMP

Winter Break just got a little bit COOLER! Come join us for 3 days of fun! Each day will offer a different theme with corresponding games, activities and crafts!

December 26- 28, 2023

8:30am - 4:30pm

STW Community Center

\$30 per day or \$75 for all 3 days

Lunch available for an additional \$4/per day



CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Personal, For Sale, Help Wanted, Tag Sale, and all non-business classified
1 issue \$9.00 2 issues \$12.00 3 issues \$15.00
20 words or less, not including phone #. \$.05 per word, per run, after 20 words
Lost and Found FREE
Business Classified Ads & Real Estate
3 issues \$35.00, 6 issues \$60.00, 12 issues \$100.00
\$.10 per word, per run, after 20 words
Payment MUST accompany all ads. The advertiser must notify this newspaper of any errors.
Send ad along with your check to:
Totoket Times P.O. Box 313 Northford, CT 06472
For more information call 203-410-4254

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Southern CT Restoration. Insurance restoration and general contracting services. New construction, remodeling, kitchens, baths, roofing, siding, windows, doors, decks and painting. Call 203-239-9600.


ELECTRICIAN

TJC Electrical Services. No job too big or too small. Service upgrades and generator specials. Call Tom Cassella at 203-619-2823. Licensed and insured.

PLUMBING

John DiMaggio Plumbing - Residential/Commercial repairs/remodeling. Big or small. Water Heater Specials! Licensed & Insured. Call 203 - 627 - 6826. References available.

TREE SERVICES

 **Tree Service - A Better Cut, Tree Service** - Local, full service tree company - we provide tree removal, chipping, and grinding. Please call 203-945-1808 for a free estimate.

HELP WANTED

Cafeteria/Food Service Substitutes

4 hours per day - as need

Please visit our website at:

www.northbranfordschools.org

**and click on the *Employment Tab* -
job is listed under *Substitute* category**

CAREGIVER

Caregiver needed in Branford: Please text 475-201-5872.

Helper/Assistant Please call: 203-481-4524.

Public Stargazing at Young’s Park

The Astronomical Society of New Haven is hosting a free stargazing event on Saturday November 18th after 6pm at Young’s Park, 60 Blackstone Ave. in Branford. Admission and parking are free. All are welcome, including children and grandparents. The telescopes will be pointed at Saturn, Jupiter and the constellations Pegasus, Andromeda and Cygnus. You will be able to see the Andromeda Galaxy and the great Hercules star cluster. Learn how to find these objects when you get home.
Directions and cancellation due to weather (including clouds) will be posted to our website, www.asnh.org or call 866-808-ASN.H.

Live streaming available at no additional cost



Burials ~ Cremation ~ Pre Planning



Philip M. Appell
Funeral Director & Managing Partner
phil.appell@carriageservices.com



Sarah L. Rivera
Funeral Director
sarah.rivera@keenanfuneralhome.com

At Keenan Funeral Home we work with every family’s budget to give your loved one the dignified memorial they deserve.

330 NOTCH HILL ROAD, NORTH BRANFORD
(203) 481-3217

238 ELM STREET, WEST HAVEN
(203) 933-1217

KEENAN FUNERAL HOME
www.keenanfuneralhome.com

Crafters Care Events
Presents ...

A HOLIDAY
ARTISAN MARKET
@ Millpond

Saturday, December 9, 2023 AND
Sunday, December 10, 2023

11 am to 3 pm

Millpond Gatherings

1565 Middletown Ave., Northford, CT

\$5.00 Entry Fee
Benefits The Food
Pantry of North
Branford

Support local small business
Holiday shopping from handmade artisans and crafters
All from CT



Taking orders now through November 20th
Assorted Cupcakes decorated as Thanksgiving Dinner!
Also featuring our popular Pumpkin Spice Cake.

www.j-cakes.com 203-488-2800

Foxon Road, North Branford, Farm River Plaza