



# Totoket Times

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*For Our Town From Our Town*

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Volume 30 No 8 December 1, 2023

## Enjoy the Holiday Month From my Family to Yours



## It's Time to Support Your Newspaper.

*If you have forgotten  
there is still time!*



## We Need Your Help!

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**



***NBHS graduates Ron Pitcher class of 2002  
and Gary Tercyak class of 1965 were two of the  
veterans honored by NBHS on Veterans Day***

*(Courtesy of Principal Todd Stoeffler)*



## Knights Active in the Community

Through the generosity of the community and with the help from the Wee family, the Knights Of Columbus #6801 was able to provide more than twenty food baskets and turkeys throughout the community. The youngsters learned a very important lesson early on about the ministry of helping others.

The children are pictured with Grand Knight Wayne Humphrey, Secretary Gary Johnson and their dad Tim Wee. .

### TOTOKET TIMES

Deadline		Publication Date	
December	8	December	15
January	5	January	12
January	19	January	26
February	2	February	9
February	16	February	23
March	1	March	8
March	15	March	22



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### Hrs. of Operation

**Mon - Sat 11-8:30**

**Sunday Noon - 8:00**

## Table of Contents

Editorial	Page	2 - 4
School	Page	5 - 6
Sports	Page	7
Community	Pages	8- 9
Church	Page	10
Park Rec	Page	11
Classified	Page	12



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**2023 HOLIDAYS**  
**Dear Editor:**

It's the most wonderful time of the year! With family gatherings, gift swaps and midnight toasts quickly approaching this holiday season, Anheuser-Busch and Dichello Distributors, Inc. are more thankful than ever to be a part of your festivities. Whether you're raising a glass at a loved one's house or celebrating with a night on the town, remember to keep yourself and your community safe.

If you'll be spreading holiday cheer with an ice-cold beer or two, don't forget to plan ahead for a safe ride. There is an average of 300,000 daily incidents and 10,000 annual fatalities related to alcohol-impaired driving in the U.S. – and this problem is 100% preventable.

That's why we've joined forces with Anheuser-Busch, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and Uber in a first-of-its-kind industry coalition that is focused on ending drunk driving. In a new initiative called Decide To Ride, we are encouraging everyone to plan ahead for a safe ride home, before the celebrations even begin – because you can't drive drunk if you don't drive there.

For more than 35 years, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler partners have invested more than \$1 billion in responsible drinking initiatives and community-based programs to prevent underage drinking, impaired driving and other harmful uses of alcohol. At Dichello Distributors Inc., we're proud to work alongside Anheuser-Busch to ensure that we keep our friends, families and neighbors safe by planning ahead for a safe ride home..

Cheers to a safe, happy and healthy holiday season!  
**Tony Lota**  
Alcohol Awareness  
Coordinator **Dichello**  
Distributors, Inc.



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**Hours of Operation**  
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**Wednesday - Friday 9AM - 5PM**  
**Saturday 9AM - 3PM**



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**Little Red Schoolhouse Benefit**  
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All proceeds support the restoration project!



Christmas Eve  
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10:00AM - 3:00PM  
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**Sunday, December 31st, 2023 in the Event Hall**  
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State Representative Vincent Candelora



The homicide of a visiting nurse inside a Willimantic halfway house in late October garnered headlines statewide, starting not only a critical conversation about the safety of healthcare workers in non-traditional settings but also what I hope will be a thorough review of our state’s criminal justice policy and procedures.

Investigators say that 63-year-old Joyce Grayson went into the community-based halfway house—a re-entry home for sentenced inmates—just before 8 a.m. on Oct. 28, and was discovered in the basement by police later in the day after concerned family members urged investigators to look for her. The police chief in Willimantic has described the case as the worst he’s experienced in his more than three decades in law enforcement.

Though he’s yet to be charged in the Willimantic crime, all eyes are on a resident of the halfway house—Michael Reese, who in 2007 was sentence to 25 years in prison, suspended after 17 years, after being found guilty of first-degree assault and first-degree sexual assault. Reese nearly killed a woman, who was stabbed in the neck several times. As described in recent news media reports detailing Reese’s criminal history, it was a violent attack in New Haven that represented “an indifference to human life.”

Reese was released early from prison in December 2020, having served 14 years of the 17, and discharged from parole in April 2021. In March 2022, he officially was charged with probation violation after failing (multiple times) to attend required treatments. In January of this year, he was sent back to prison for six months but was released in March into a transitional facility in Uncasville for high-risk sex offenders. He landed in the Willimantic home in August.

Though the Willimantic case involving Grayson is under investigation, a flood of early questions posed by advocates and citizens alike wonder how the longtime nurse ended up in what most would consider a highly dangerous situation. It’s the right question.

At a recent capitol news conference, advocates for reform say nurses deserve more protection on jobs in the field, including knowing more about the offender for whom they are about to provide care. I agree, but I also think questions about existing criminal justice policies and procedures are in order, the least of which is why a dangerous individual such as Reese was on the streets to begin with. What sort of monitoring was Reese under? Details about the home itself—including who else was living there—must be reviewed, too.

Reese is currently jailed on \$1 million bond, (again) charged with probation violation during the immediate phase of the investigation into Grayson’s death.

I can’t help but think Joyce Grayson’s death could have been avoided. Her family’s attorney, too, has raised concern about multiple system failures.

We live in a state where a majority of state lawmakers focus more effort on releasing criminals from jail than aiding officers in their pursuit of criminals. Signature accomplishments from my Democratic colleagues include a robust early release system for prisoners, and another that erases criminal records for a wide variety of offenses—many of them serious crimes. To boot, closing all prisons is a stated goal of our lieutenant governor.

I’m among those who contend those policy decisions, and many others, have tipped the scales of justice too far in one direction. Too often, victims are an afterthought. More balance is needed, and I can only hope this tragedy in Willimantic will open more eyes in the legislature toward that reality.

Rep. Vincent Candelora  
House Republican Leader  
86<sup>th</sup> District  
North Branford, Durham, East Haven, Guilford

LET’S BE “FRANK”

Well brother, one down and one to go. As the old man would say, “another Thanksgiving shot to hell.” You’re going to be surprised but I am slowly accepting a break in tradition as long as the family stays together. This year’s dinner had no macaroni, no sweet potatoes, no string bean casserole, no rolls and an elimination of the usual pies and pastries. Those yearly items were replaced by other “scrumptious” delicacies.

There were roasted carrots and string beans, salad with apples, cranberries, and nuts (I’m not sure if that classifies as a fruit salad), and brussels sprouts. The antipasto had no prosciutto, ham, salami or cheese. There were homemade giardinera, pickled and roasted peppers, olives artichoke hearts, Emeril LaGasse pickled mushrooms and my legendary stuffed peppers had to be made with no bread crumbs (I should have just put out a bowl of tuna fish). For dessert, my daughter-in-law (usually not a culinary artist), honored us with an ice cream made with zucchini and cashews, and an apple crisp made with apples and nuts. We also had a sugar free pumpkin/sweet potato pie.

I think I have come a long way eating zucchini ice cream. But is was very good. We did have the traditional Christmas pjs, donated and designed by Gina (see page 1).

Well, now comes our preparations for Christmas. With you guys gone and Frankie and Ana heading to Brazil, I have made great changes is the menu. The feast of the seven fishes might become the feast of the fast. There will be no fish sauce, no baccala salad, no antipasto and of course no macaroni. The new meal with be soup, shrimp (I got one fish in there), ham and a roast. Are you feeling mom and dad moving the earth next to you as they roll over in their graves? Nobody eats any of that “good”stuff any more.

To make matters worse, the administrators of our new parish (which combined the churches in New Haven), has decided (without our contribution to the conversation), that we will not have our traditional Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. That eliminates our annual pageant put on by our CCD class and my 30 year of Oh Holy Night solo. Another disappointing kick in the crotch to traditions.

But it’s all good. I’m a man who rolls with the punches (even the kicks in the crotch). You would be surprised. You always told me I should have been the oldest with my inability to let tradition go and my hold on the “old school” ways. I am proud of the fact that I was able to do that for so long and I will continue to attempt that but deal with it a little better when things I can’t control are changed.

We will still get the family together and I will make more visits to ailing friends and family bringing my “special talents” to their homes for the holidays.

Well that’s pretty much it. Break the news to mom, dad and Mary in bits and pieces. I don’t think they can handle it all at once. I wonder what Mary would say about zucchini ice cream. Take care and I’ll see you soon.

*Still time to have*

**Breakfast with Santa.**

NBIS cafetria.

**Saturday, December 2, 8-10AM**

**Full breakfast and entertainment by our school music students.**

**And of course a visit from the big guy.**

**Come at the door. Only \$10.00 per person.**

*Sponsored by the North Branford Education Foundation*

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**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



## FOR THE HEALTH OF IT...

### Embracing Self-Care this Holiday Season



I'm writing this in the afterglow of hosting a wonderful Thanksgiving gathering where the focus wasn't on perfection, but simply on spending time with people we love, sharing food, and laughing together. It didn't matter much that our stovetop decided to malfunction the night before and then refused to cooperate when we needed it most. It didn't matter that as the first guest arrived, and reached onto the bannister spindle for balance, it came off in her hand causing her instead, to lose balance. And, it didn't matter (much) that our son and his girlfriend were more than an hour late or that tradition has changed a bit now

that our daughter and son-in-law are alternating holidays between families. Oh, and did I mention that I forgot the dinner rolls until after dinner? Yet, we all had a great time and I'm still reveling in all the good feelings that made it so. Clearly, it wasn't our perfect planning that made the day special, it was the willingness to go with the flow and be grateful for the things that matter. Although the world around us forged ahead to the next set of holidays more than a month ago, I'm choosing to hang on to this feeling for as long as it lasts, and let the rest of the season unfold. For me, it's a form of self-care.

So, how are *you* feeling this holiday season? Are you wound up in a frenzy of too much to do and too little time, looking forward to the holidays with childlike excitement or perhaps feeling a bit blue? Whatever your answer, it is possible to partake in the transformation that occurs this time of year—a transformation fueled by the spirit of giving. The act of giving, whether through gifts, time, or kindness, ignites a sense of fulfillment unlike any other. It's not merely about material things; it's about the gestures that foster connection and uplift spirits. The season can act as a gentle reminder that despite life's uncertainties, there's always a glimmer of possibility and promise on the horizon.

It's true that as the world is being painted in vibrant hues of celebration and joy, we can experience a range of emotions and some of those emotions may not be very warm and fuzzy. However, if we stop for a moment, regardless of how we're feeling, we may notice that amidst the lights and festive cheer, the holiday season can infuse our hearts with hope. When we pair the spirit of giving with gratitude, even when life is chaotic, we are more inclined to acknowledge the blessings that surround us. Whether it's the kindness of strangers, the warmth of family gatherings, or the simple pleasures of a shared meal, gratitude can find its way into our hearts if we let it, grounding us in humility and appreciation.

Be mindful though, that being grounded in humility and appreciation does not require self deprivation. The true spirit of gratitude and giving needs to include self-care. Does that sound selfish, especially during the season of giving? Self-care is not selfish, it's essential and if that sounds like a foreign concept, we'll keep it simple for now with just a few suggestions,

Find ways to simplify and minimize stress which can significantly impact health. This can be through balancing social invitations with self-care, setting boundaries and honoring the body's need for rest and rejuvenation.

Carve out moments for relaxation, and allow yourself to unwind amidst the seasonal rush; even if it's a 10 minute time out in the middle of the day.

The values of love, compassion, and generosity that permeate this season have the power to rejuvenate us from within. Embrace it, be open to both give and receive.

As you navigate the joyous whirlwind of the holiday season, remember that the most meaningful gift you can give yourself is the gift of health. Instead of viewing health as a seasonal endeavor, use the holiday season as a launching pad for lasting healthy habits. Consider setting realistic goals and incorporating small, sustainable changes into your routine. This way, the gift of health extends far beyond the holidays, becoming a lifelong treasure.

**My Holiday Gift to You:** Due to such a positive response, I am happy to extend the offer of free 20 minute "Get Your Healthy Back", Healthy Lifestyle and Nutrition consultations to all, throughout the month of December. To schedule yours, please contact me at [joann@wellnessfusion.net](mailto:joann@wellnessfusion.net). Remember this monthly article is here for you, For the Health of it!



## Community Dining Room

*More than just a meal*

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.

## See Relics of Farm Living

On Saturday, December 2, from 9:30am-11:30am the North Branford Land Conservation Trust (NBLCT) is leading a family friendly walk on several trails in the woods behind Totoket Valley Elementary School.

Built in the 1970s by the Northford Garden Club, the blue, white, red, and yellow trails are on town owned land that was once farmland.

Several NBLCT members will lead the group on the marked paths, pointing out the different types of trees and undergrowth and several artifacts of farming life that have weathered the test of time.

Relics included a trough that provided water for livestock, a cistern for clean drinking water, and rock walls that once provided boundaries for pastures and crops. The trails are open to the public whenever school is not in session.

Meet at the Playscape at TVES by 9:15. Sunday is the rain date.

NBLCT is a nonprofit organization whose purpose 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. For more information about NBLCT, go to [www.nblandtrust.org](http://www.nblandtrust.org) or visit us on Facebook.







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NBHS PERIOD I HONORS

High Honors – 12<sup>th</sup>

Aguiar, Evyn  
Augur, Collin  
Barrett, Logan  
Brigance, Sienna  
Brustman, James  
Cappetta, Aidan  
Carter, Gianna  
Carusone, Christiana  
Cepeda, Destiny  
Chittenden, Aidan  
Criscuolo, Keana  
D’Aria, Samantha  
DeAntonio, Lucas  
DePino, Lucian  
Dion, Joshua  
Dodge, Lauren  
Ferrucci, Te’a  
Gamble, Gianna  
Holzer, Callie  
Jacobs, Joseph  
Jasudowicz-Crocker, Alexis  
LeBeau, Patrick  
Lin, Sabrina  
Lucibello, Morgan  
Lucibello, Natalia  
Maley, Jack  
Martinez, Adelys  
Martinik, Brady  
Mone, Patricia  
Mullins, Kiley  
Munck, Cassandra  
Nuzzo, Giana  
O’Brien, Mikella  
Onofrio, Lindsey  
Patel, Jay  
Peterson, Lars  
Pinette, Leah  
Rish, Adeline  
Senerchia, Gabrielle  
Sigal, Elizabeth  
Small, Noelle  
Stoner, Connor  
Timario, Nicole  
Toto, Sophia  
Vongher, Frederick

High Honors – 11<sup>th</sup>

Allen, Noah  
Amendola, Ashley  
Anderson, Kyle  
Ardito, Lily  
Cosgrove, Jason  
DeFrancesco, Alexa  
Dell’Aquila, Vincent  
DeLucia, Ryan  
Dion, Gabrielle  
Esposito, Benjamin  
Falcioni, Alexa  
Famiglietti, Nico  
Giardina, Jayden  
Hannan, Mary  
Higgins, Joshua  
Izzo, Tanner  
Kamienski, Daytona  
Lamot, Joanna  
Lin, Tina  
McCullough, Giana  
Melillo, Karma  
Monde, Jack  
Nuzzo, Megan  
O’Connor, Jason  
Onofrio, Isabella  
Onofrio, Julianna  
Patel, Preet  
Penna, Addison  
Raynor, Catherine  
Spanier, Sofia  
High Honors – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Aiken, Bree  
Baxter, Caleb  
Beecher, Zachary  
Berardesca, Ashley  
Bliven, Alyssa  
Bliven, Gary  
Brockett, Jack  
Budd, Michael  
Budeit, Aijalyn  
Carusone, Justin  
Connelly, Tyler  
DePino, Payton  
Ferraro, Gregory  
Gonzalez, Christian  
Heffernan, Tyler

Ianniello, Gianna  
Intravia, Luca  
Jara, Wilyan  
Kilstrom, Liam  
Lacroix, Cameron  
Marino, Alyssa  
Morehead, Logan  
Navarrete, Cassidy  
O’Brien, Charles  
Papa, Samantha  
Pienkosz, Olivia  
Poston, Jacob  
Preiss, Emma  
Raymond, Caleb  
Rivera, Jayden  
Sarenas, Benjamin  
Sargent, Brock  
Savo, Myrissa  
Sigel, Anthony  
Sorrell, Sophia  
Sudusky, Kyle  
Tang, Meghan  
Traill, Gavin  
Urbina, Mateo  
Valente, Jonna  
Venturini, Leo  
Vitarisi, Lauren  
Warren, Isabella  
Westefeld, John  
High Honors – 9<sup>th</sup>  
Balliu, Jayden  
Biehler, Aiden  
Brigance, Reese  
Caffalette, Talan  
Chasanoff, Ella  
Dowson, Marina  
Gildersleeve, Dustin  
Guerrero, Gabriel  
Harper, Mallory  
Johnson, Samantha  
Kleckner, Kayla  
Kundrath, Brianna  
LeBeau, Autumn  
Magazzi, Marcus  
Marashi, Edmira  
Miller, Craig  
Nargi, Joseph

Paolini, Natalia  
Patel, Vedi  
Pereira, Alexander  
Perrelli, Mya  
Podzikowski, Siena  
Rish, Aesop  
Rivera, Luis  
Rosado, Aliyah  
Sigal, Alexandra  
Spinelli, Valentina  
Stewart, Savanah  
Wang, Natalee  
Weld, Aubrey  
Wojciechowski, Emma  
Zulawski, Katheryn  
Honors – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Allen, Caleb  
Blomster, Luke  
Bossio, Austin  
Cardenas, James  
Carofano, Joseph  
Cassella, Nicholas  
Cummings, Thomas  
Custodio, Samuel  
Gott, Samuel  
Haggerty, Sofia  
Herassme, Joelle  
Karpel, Brooke  
Kirmali, Cameron  
Matteo, Michael  
Palma, Gabriella  
Pedersen, Jake  
Plano, Giana  
Ramada, Peter  
Riccio, Anthony  
Sommo, Gianni  
Urrata, Michael  
Vaspasiano, Katie  
Vogt, Lucy  
Waligroski, Brinley  
Yacono, Mia  
Honors – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Aneiro, Christina  
Bigio, Gabriella  
Cahill, Olivia  
Caso, Nicolas  
Cepeda, Raul

Chopus, Justin  
Cole, Riley  
Danner, Nathan  
Forslund, Brianna  
Fortier, Aidan  
Galasso, Gregory  
Giovanni, Anthony  
Hannan, Catherine  
Hills, Adriana  
Jarmie, Logan  
Keil, Jordan  
Levison, Brandon  
Mann, Julia  
Melillo, Samantha  
Minnocci, Brody  
Nay, Emilyn  
Pitcher, Madison  
Regino, Nicolette  
Riggione, Michael  
Rizzuti, Aaliyah  
Scalia, Matthew  
Schmidt, Alivia  
Sinski, Kyla  
Trindade, Michael  
Virginelli, Adam  
Vongher, Miles  
Honors – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Brittell, Avery  
Brustman, Leah  
Cantore, Taylor  
Carbone, Santino  
Cioffi-Smith, Chase  
Colon, Atum  
Colon, Sitareh  
Criscio, James  
DiStefano, Madison  
Falcigno, Nico  
Foley, Caden  
Gage, Sebastian  
Gage, Skylar  
Goodmaster, Michael  
Iamunno, Benicio  
Klouman, Matthew  
Kluk, Bryson  
Knowlton, Jack  
Landino, Luca  
Leone, Gavin

Longo, Brandon  
Ludington, Sofia  
Mansi, Giavana  
Nugent, Chase  
O’Rourke, Ashlyn  
Piercey, Christopher  
Rivera, Destiny  
Honors 9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Ahmed, Afran  
Cameron, Peyton  
Carbone, Armani  
Cavalier, Alexis  
Cruz, Christopher  
Dalip, Taylor  
Delfino, Laila  
Dolzani, Steven  
Duffy, Alana  
Duggan, Finn  
Esposito, Mason  
Famiglietti, Gabriela  
Ferraro, Myles  
Forgione, Matthew  
Frani, Daniel  
Fusco-Cuneo, Aden  
Harper, Mia  
Ilitli, Semih  
Keil, Brianna  
Kwalek, Mia  
Lahun, Baidu  
Macauley, Kate  
Martone, Alia  
McCullough, Joseph  
Meizies, Tyler  
Meneo, Makayla  
Montero, Justin  
Peterson, Leif  
Pinette, Eliza  
Plano, Matteo  
Porcu, Juliana  
Ramage, Mae  
Rosado, Haylee  
Salvati, Nicolas  
Seward, Madelynn  
Stimpson, Juliana  
Troqe, Iris  
Urbano, Mario  
Wright, Carly  
Yarnall, Dylan



NBHS Spanish Honor Society

**Press release NBHS.** Sixteen students have been inducted into an honor society associated with a World Language as a result of their academic achievement over a two year period. Twelve students have met or exceeded the admission standards for acceptance into the Spanish Honor Society and four have met or exceeded the criteria associated with admission for acceptance into the Italian Honor Society. The Honor Society for Spanish originated during 1953 and was founded by the American Association of Teachers. The Honor Society for Italian was also started by the American Association of Teachers and was founded in 1924. Current officers are also pictured with the inductees, unavailable for the photo: inductees Tyler Heffernan and Olivia Pienkosz. Pictured with the students (left) Ms. McGrath, World Language Teacher and Faculty Advisor for both organizations and (right) World Language Department Chair Mrs. Tzetzto

Courtesy of Principal Todd Stoeffler



NBHS Recognizes Area Veterans

On Monday 11/13/23 at the North Branford High School, twenty veterans (both current and past serving), from the Army, Navy , Marine and Air Force gathered and were in attendance in the school library. Veterans then moved to the auditorium for a program presented by the school chorus and band. Following that they received an excellent lunch in the school’s cafeteria.

Finally, the vets returned to the library, broke into small groups and discussed their time in the military with the students. The photo shows only fifteen veterans, but an additional five were in attendance and are employees of the North Branford school system.

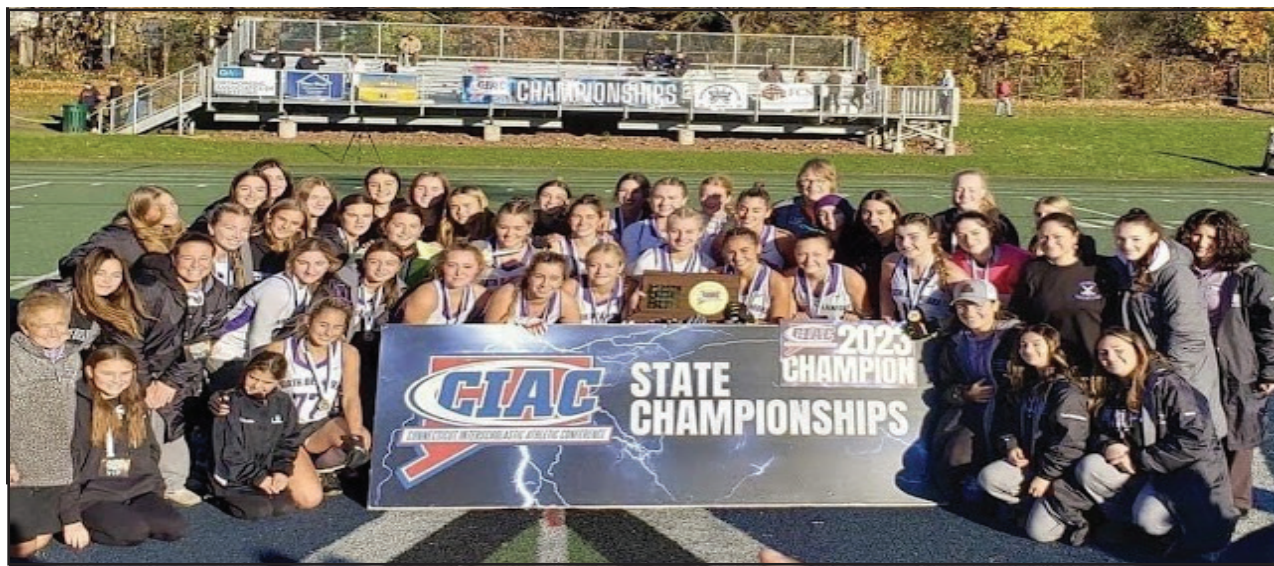
(Photo & info courtesy of Frank Garitta)







# PERFECTION



## THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT HAPPEN!

A SPECIAL THANKS to the North Branford Police Department, Companies 1, 2, 3, and 4 Fire Departments, the Connecticut Sportsplex for their generosity to allow us to use their turf fields, the NB Community for their support, our NBPS Administration, Parents, Players, family and friends!

Thank you for your continuous support!

Love from the NB Field Hockey Coaching Staff: Evaun Boatman, Cheryl Canada, Lori Connelly, Kathy Galdenzi, Sabrina LeMere, Babby Nuhn



## NBLCT Earns ABC Grant Program Award

The North Branford Land Conservation Trust (NBLCT) was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Athletic Brewing Company's 2023 Two for the Trails Grant Program.

The Athletic Brewing Co, located in Milford, CT is dedicated to crafting delicious non-alcoholic beer. Since 2018, they have donated over 3 million dollars protecting the outdoor places we love.

These grant funds will be used to make a portion of the parking lot and trail at our soon to be acquired Beech and Poms properties ADA-compliant. It will be North Branford's first ADA trail.

Athletic Brewing Company, LLC  
75 Cascade Blvd, Milford, CT 06460

[athleticbrewing.com](http://athleticbrewing.com)  
[@athleticbrewing](https://twitter.com/athleticbrewing)  
[#twoforthetrails](https://www.instagram.com/twoforthetrails)



## MADISON HOOP DREAMS

### HOLIDAY BASKETBALL CAMPS

We are excited to invite your basketball player(s) to join us for any or all of the 4 upcoming basketball day camps. Fortunately, we have reserved the Polson School (302 Greenhill Rd) for our Black Friday camp, November 24th. Our Christmas Holiday camps, Dec 27th, 28th and 29th, will be at the HK Middle School (451 CT 81, Killingworth). Four days for your son or daughter to have fun while developing their basketball skills in game situations and motivating their love of basketball with exciting competition from 9 AM to 3 PM. We Start each day with drills on the fundamentals of basketball --- dribbling, passing, shooting form, boxing out, and other essentials. After the fundamentals, the remainder of the day is devoted to putting the fundamentals into action with basketball games. Players get instruction as they are playing. The result is excitement, fun, and improvement. Players become more confident in their ability and more dedicated to practice and improve.

We will limit enrollment to 20 players in grades 3 - 4 and 20 in grades 5-6 and 20 players

in grades 7 - 9.. Players can attend any days that fit their schedule. We hope that many players can join us for all 4 days.

The cost is \$50 for November 24th. For our Christmas camps, the cost is \$50 if you attend for 1 day, \$45 for your second day, and \$40 for your 3rd day. Please go to <http://www.Madisonhoop-dreams.com> for more information and to register. Thank you for your support of our programs.

## 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](http://www.ctsportsplex.com)



## 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





The Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, GFWC recently celebrated our 60th Anniversary. If you are interested in joining one of our meetings look us up on Facebook and our website <http://northfordnbwomensclubgfwc.org>

### Town Council Makes Critical ARPA Investments in Police Assets

NORTH BRANFORD – At their first meeting of the new session on November 14<sup>th</sup>, The Town Council approved making several key investments in public safety utilizing unallocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the Town of North Branford.

The Council authorized an amount not to exceed \$275,000 to procure active shooter kits for officers including protective body armor and helmets, state-of-the-art license plate readers which will allow quick tracking of vehicles passing through town that have been reported stolen, two Traffic Logix radar feedback signs that show rate of speed and collect motorist data, an upgrade of 30 new handguns, and a Dodge Durango canine vehicle. Councilors **Walter Goad** and **Marie Diamond**, who serve as Council liaisons with the Police Commission, were instrumental in working on the list of items secured with the Police Department.

“There is no question that our North Branford community and communities across the State of Connecticut are facing an increase in violent crime,” said **Deputy Chief of Police James Lovelace**. “The support and action to fund these public safety needs by the North Branford Town Council as their first official business, sends an astounding message to the members of the North Branford Police Department and the residents of this small New England community. Law enforcement faces many complex challenges and with this funding it will enable the officers to respond to these difficult times safely and effectively.”

“This is a great use of the ARPA funds,” said **Mayor Rose Angeloni**. “These funds will allow the department to acquire equipment upgrades to help our officers keep our community safe in this challenging time. The Council appreciates all the work our first responders do to protect North Branford.”

“I am very pleased that our Town Council was able to provide these ARPA funds to our amazing Police Department for some much-needed equipment that will assist in safeguarding our community,” said **Councilor Nick Palladino**, who is a police officer with the Town of East Hartford. “The unanimous vote shows the Council’s continued commitment and support to our first responders.”

“As someone who has worked in Law Enforcement for almost 20 years, I’ve seen how much policing has changed over that time,” said **Councilor Ron Pelliccia**, who is a probation officer with the Connecticut Judicial Branch. “I believe these purchases will not only help us keep up with the times, but also help our officers be more effective in their mission of keeping our community safe. I would like to thank our officers and the rest of the Town Council for working together on this issue.”

“North Branford owes our police officers our deepest gratitude for their dedication to this community, and we want to always support them in their efforts to protect all residents,” said **Councilor Marie Diamond**.

“These investments on the part of the Town Council come at a critical time when property crimes are on the rise across the state,” said **Town Manager Michael Downes**. “We are pleased to continue our support of our police professionals by ensuring they have what they need to protect our residents.”

**Michael P. Downes**  
**Town Manager**



### Town Council & BOE Sworn In

Town Council members (L-R) Ronald Pelliccia, Jr., Craig C. Miller, Marie E. Diamond, Nicholas Palladino, Walter Goad, Thomas P. Zampano, Bruce Abelson being sworn in by Town Clerk Lisa A. Valenti at the November 14, 2023 Town Council meeting (top Photo).

Board of Education members (L-R) Victoria Lanza, Judy Bannon & Kim Dawson being sworn in at the November 14, 2023 Town Council meeting.

Mayor Rose Marie Angeloni being sworn in at the November 14, 2023 Town Council meeting

*Submitted by Town Manager Michael Downes*



**ENGAGE EDUCATE ENTERTAIN**

Atwater Memorial Library 1720 Foxon Road North Branford, CT 06471 203-315-6020

Edward Smith Library 3 Old Post Road Northford, CT 06472 203-484-0469

[www.nbranfordlibraries.org](http://www.nbranfordlibraries.org)

**ADULT DEPARTMENT NEWS - DECEMBER 2023**

**Make a Sock Snowman**  
Thursday, December 7th @ 6:30PM at Smith  
Please join us for a fun craft, and decorate your home with this handmade decoration!  
All materials will be provided!

**Grief & Loss Over the Holidays**  
Wednesday, December 13th @ 6:00PM at Atwater  
Please join us for a seminar with Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, Cheryl Cole. Grief is universal and can be especially difficult around the holidays. Many people find it hard to think about, but it is essential to process our grief in a healthy way.

**Caregivers Support Group For Dementia and Alzheimer's Caregivers**  
Thursday, December 14th @ 10:30AM at Smith  
If you're responsible for a loved one, caregiver support groups are a way for you and others to share information, insight, advice, or words of encouragement in a safe and supporting space. Please join facilitator, Karen LaBanca, for our Monthly Drop-In Group.

**Pat's Picks Movie Club, "Sherlock Holmes"**  
Thursday, December 14th @ 1:00PM at Atwater  
This month's title is, *Sherlock Holmes*, the 2009 Mystery-Adventure!  
"Detective Sherlock Holmes and his stalwart partner Watson engage in a battle of wits and brawn with a nemesis whose plot is a threat to all of England" - IMDB.

**Movie Matinee, "Christmas Cookie Catastrophe"**  
Friday, December 15th @ 1:00PM at Smith  
This month's movie title is, *Christmas Cookie Catastrophe*, the 2023 Romantic-Comedy!  
"Annie Cooper has big shoes to fill when she takes over as CEO of her late grandmother's small-town cookie company and is doing her best to help their struggling business get back on track. That task gets more daunting when her grandmother's secret recipe is stolen during the Christmas party" - IMDB.

North Branford Public Libraries will be closed on the following dates for the Holiday Season:

Sunday, December 24th  
Monday, December 25th  
Tuesday, December 26th  
Sunday, December 31st  
Monday, January 1st



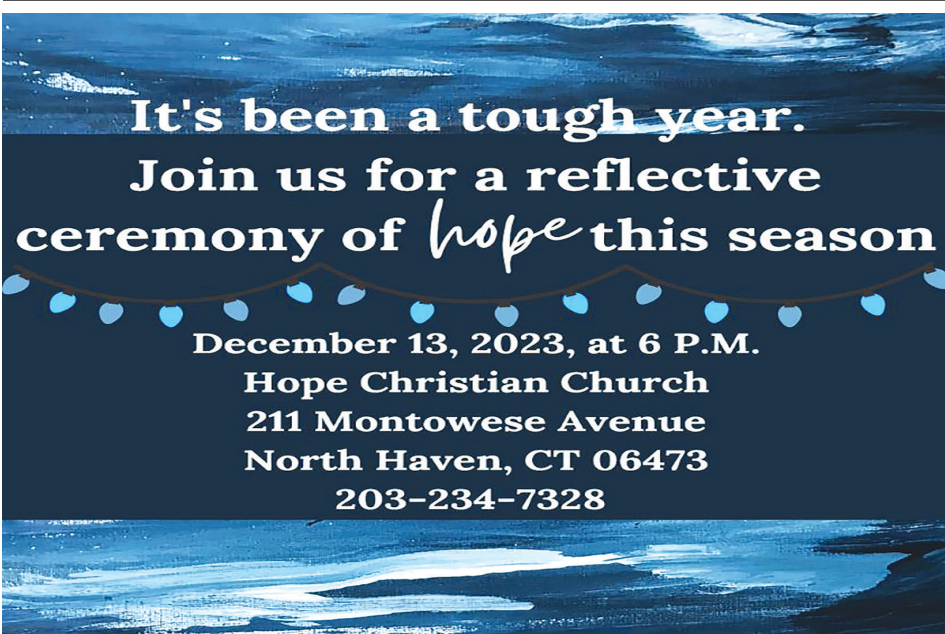


## Welcome to Central Cafe

North Branford officials were pleased to participate in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to welcome Central Cafe to Central Plaza in North Branford on November 16th. Best of luck to newlyweds Norm Macdonald and Mar Parsaye on their brand new neighborhood bar with some great signature cocktails! Come by when you get a chance and check them out at Central Cafe.

*Photo courtesy of the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce.*

*L-R: Town Manager Michael Downes, State Representative Vincent Candelora, Mayor Rose Angeloni, owners Norm Macdonald and Mar Parsaye, Asst. Town Manager Rory Burke, Nancy Gerson of Guilford Savings Bank, EDC chair Liz Caplan.*



### North Branford/Northford Holiday Program Office of Social Service

[www.townofnorthbranfordct.com](http://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 18<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:ssadmin@townofnorthbranfordct.com) or by phone at 203-484-6006 by 11/17/2023.



*Join us for  
Happy Hour*  
Tuesday - Friday  
3:00 - 6:00

**\$5.00**  
**Drinks**  
*Located in Central Plaza*

## Recycling News

There will be a curbside pickup of leaves in untapped biodegradable paper bags the week of December 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>

### Holiday Recycling

Please recycle the packaging that your holiday shipments arrive in. The cardboard goes into the recycle bin, but the **Styrofoam goes into the trash**. Styrofoam does have a recycle symbol on it but we don't have the equipment to recycle Styrofoam yet.

Any bubble wrap is considered plastic film and can be brought to a plastic film drop off location. Get out your frustrations by popping it first. **Plastic shipping envelopes are also considered plastic film**. These are the ones that are plastic on the inside and outside. The ones with paper on the outside need to go into the trash because they are mixed materials. Holiday wrapping paper is mostly not recyclable because most of it has metallic, glitter or velvety flocking on it. Also, the ribbons and bows cannot go into the recycle bin.

### “Please Don't Feed the Storm Drain”

Now that most of the leaves have fallen, please take a look at your storm drains and clear them of leaves so they can work properly and not flood your property.

Remember: Only Rain in the Drain!

### Can I recycle it?

Connecticut has a website to help with recycling questions: [www.recyclect.com](http://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](http://townofnorthbranfordct.com/government/boards-commissions/hazardous-wasterecycling-committee.aspx) or our Facebook page: North Branford CT Hazardous Waste & Recycling Committee*

## Thank You for Your Participation





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](http://www.branfordbiblechapel.org)

**Hope Christian Church “A Place to Belong”.** 211 Montowese Ave., North Haven, CT. [www.hopeag.com](http://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](mailto:nobdcong@sbcglobal.net), website: [www.northbranfordcongregational.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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.

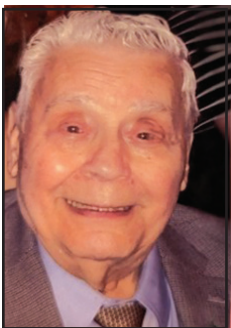
The pastor is Rev. Robert L. Turner. All are welcome and invited to join us for Mass! Summer Mass times include: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 9:00 AM at St. Augustine. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4:30 PM at St. Augustine (English Ordinary no incense used), Sunday 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](http://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](http://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 [zionepiscopalchurch.org](http://zionepiscopalchurch.org). Zion is an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ. 203-488-7395

DEATH NOTICES



**Arthur C. Cappetta, Sr.,** 99, of North Branford, passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at his home with his devoted family by his side. He was the beloved husband of the late Theresa Acampora Cappetta. Arthur was born in New Haven on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1924, was the son of the late Joseph and Filomena Vece Cappetta and served his country faithfully in the US Navy during World War II. Arthur was a hard-working man who passed his work ethic on to his children. Arthur worked for the former Associated Grocers Shurfine Foods Warehouse for 23 years, then Interstate Container and retired from Yale-New Haven Hospital in Material Management. We will remember Arthur for his devotion to family and faith. Arthur made 63 retreats with the Holy Family Retreat League, was a member of the Holy Rosary Society, was a parishioner of St Bernadette Church until moving to North Branford where he joined St Augustine Church.

In retirement he read each day, enjoying books about the Civil War and World War II. He loved to talk about and watch sports with his sons and was an avid fan of the NY Mets and NY Giants. Father of Cynthia Johnson (Gary), Joseph Cappetta (Melinda), Claudia Giulietti (James), Arthur Cappetta, Jr. (Diane) and Richard Cappetta (Theresa). Grandfather (Pop Pop) of Carleigh Schultz (Robert), Rebecca Rivera (Sam), Paul Cappetta (Danielle), Benjamin Johnson (Brenna), Kimberly Ranciato (Josh), Molly Johnson and Rhiannon Cappetta (fiancé David Turco MD). Great-Grandfather (Big Pop Pop) of Theodore and Beckett Schultz, Samuel and Dominick Rivera, Luke and Sophia Johnson, Quinnleigh Ranciato. He got great joy from visits with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was the last survivor of his generation. Brother of the late Peter, Edward, William, Joseph, Aldo, Eleanor and Carmel Cappetta and Adeline DelNegra. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Arthur was kind, patient, had a great sense of humor and did not sweat the small stuff. He appreciated the wonderful care he received from his family and home caregivers as his health changed, much of which was made possible by resources provided by the VA Connecticut Healthcare System.

Arthur faithfully watched Mass on TV daily. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Office of Radio & Television, 15 Peach Orchard Road, Prospect, CT 06712-1052 (or at <https://www.ortv.org/mass.html>). [www.northhavenfuneral.com](http://www.northhavenfuneral.com)



**Bernard S. Gagliardi Sr.** of North Haven CT, formerly of North Branford, passed away peacefully at Branford Hospice on Sunday November 19, 2023 with his beloved family by his side. Bernie was born on March 12, 1927 in Hamden CT, to the late Maria DiMeo Gagliardi and Vincenzo Gagliardi, grew up in the New Haven area and was a graduate of Hillhouse High School. Bernie served in the Navy during WWII and in 1947, married the love of his life, the late Gloria Mongillo Gagliardi. He worked for the New Haven Railroad and then for many years at Marlin Firearms in North Haven until his retirement.

Bernie was an accomplished accordionist and was band leader for “The Originals”, playing countless weddings and private events throughout the 1960’s and early 70’s. He was an avid sports fan of the New York Yankees, New York Giants and UCONN basketball. Of course, his most favorite teams were any of the soccer teams his four grandsons were playing on. Bernie and Gloria’s travels over the years took them to many locations both national and international including Atlantic City, New Hampshire, Florida on the east coast and Las Vegas, Colorado, and California on the west coast. They also visited Spain, St. Maarten, and Punta Cana and took an occasional cruise here and there. In his later years, visits to the casino and attending his son’s and grandsons’ musical events brought him his greatest pleasures. Any time spent among his family was where his greatest joy was found.

Bernie was married to his wife Gloria for nearly 69 years, and is survived by his son and daughter-in-law Bernard Jr and Maria Lisa, and his grandchildren Todd (Melissa), Jay, Luke (Tessa) and Brett. He is also survived by brothers Vincent, Ralph and his wife Genevieve, and many cherished nieces and nephews.

Beside his parents and wife, Bernie was predeceased by his brothers Anthony and wife Teresa (Tess) , Michael and wife Norma, Philip and wife Filomena; sisters Christine Richards and husband Ray, Florence (Ritz) Manzi and husband Michael, Margaret Kvitnizki and husband Anthony (Kippie); and sister-in-law Susan Gagliardi.. [www.northhavenfuneral.com](http://www.northhavenfuneral.com)

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



# 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.REG.SENIOR

**Annual Tree Lighting**

**Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Town-owned Augur Property  
290 Forest Road, Northford • 6:30 - 8:00pm  
*Snow or Shine!*

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NORTH BRANFORD ROTARY CLUB

Ice Sculpting	Hay Rides	Hot Chocolate & Cookies
Marshmallow Toasting	Musical Entertainment	Petting Zoo
	<b>And Santa!</b>	

Marshmallow toasting Sticks provided by: **SMORSTIX**  
The Perfect Marshmallow Roasting STIX

**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 nbrecreation.com

## YOUTH WINTER SPORTS CONDITIONING CLINIC

Get ready for your winter sports with this intensive conditioning clinic.

Designed for students grades 4 - 8.

The clinic will include working on fast footwork, agility, body weight strengthening exercises, agility and endurance training.

**December 11-14 • 5:00-6:00pm**

**Grades 4-8 - STW Gym/Cafe**

**\$70 res/nr**

Instructor: Jillian Temple is a Certified Personal Trainer from the National Academy of Sports Medicine and a Certified Functional Strength Coach. She is CPR/AED Certified, a NESTA Kettleball Coach, Level 1 Precision Nutrition Certified, as well as the Southern Connecticut State University Lacrosse Assistant Coach.

## SKYHAWKS VOLLEYBALL CLINIC



Skyhawks Volleyball takes the energy and excitement of this great team sport and puts it all together into one fun-filled program! This program is designed for the beginning to intermediate player and includes a focus on critical life skills such as leadership and teamwork.

**Wednesdays - Nov 29 - Jan 10**

**5:00-7:00pm - STW Gym Cafe -**

**\$109 per person**

**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](http://www.nbrecreation.com)

## 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

## FLASHLIGHT CANDY CANE HUNT!

**Tuesday, December 12th**  
**Northford Park—\$5 \$2 off sibling discount**

### Join us for our second annual Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt at Northford Park!

Participants will use flashlights to find candy canes hidden at Northford Park.

There will be 3 separate times for 3 separate age categories.

**Ages 2-4—4:30 - 4:45pm**

**Ages 5-7—4:50 - 5:05pm**

**Ages 8+—5:10 - 5:30pm**

At each time, candy cane hunters will have the opportunity to find "golden candy canes" which can be redeemed for a special gift!

*Please bring a flashlight & bag to collect your candy canes!*

*Please register by 12/8 [nbrecreation.com](http://nbrecreation.com)*

## — SENIOR CENTER — 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

## Holiday Mingle w/ NBHS Student Council & Chamber Choir

**December 20, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.**

STW Community Center

Join us for a special Holiday Mingle with the North Branford High School Student Council & the NBHS Chamber Choir!

*The NBHS Chamber Choir will do a special performance at 10:45 a.m.!*

**FREE - Please register by 12/15**

## 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.

## SAVE THE DATE! SENIOR CENTER HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

**Thursday, December 21, 2023**

Join us for our Annual Holiday luncheon and a special visit from Santa!

*Registration opens to residents beginning 12/4, nr beginning 12/11*

**Lunch served at 12:00 pm**



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  
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TREE SERVICES



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HELP WANTED

**Cafeteria/Food Service Substitutes**

**4 hours per day - as need**

**Please visit our website at:**

[www.northbranfordschools.org](http://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.

Local Resident Named Among  
Best Massage Therapists on Shoreline.

Barbara Vollero, a long-time resident of North Branford, was recently voted one of the top three best massage therapists on the Connecticut Shoreline.

Barbara has been a licensed massage therapist for over 26 years. During that time, she continued her education to learn myofascial release, manual lymphatic drainage, prenatal massage and cranio-sacral therapy. She became a Reiki Master Practitioner and certified in medical massage. Barbara continues to enhance massage therapy using aromatherapy, hot stones and now offering body wraps.

You can schedule with Barbara at A Better You at Skinsations, Visit [www.abetteryouatskinsations.com](http://www.abetteryouatskinsations.com) or call 203-453-0368.

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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  
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YOU CAN'T HUM IF YOU'RE  
HOLDING YOUR NOSE!