

## **Totoket Times**

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For Our Town From Our Town

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**Volume 28 No 18, March 4, 2022** 



# Announces 2021 Business and Community Awards Winners

Guilford, CT, February 24, 2022 - The Shoreline Chamber of Commerce, representing the towns of Guilford, Branford and North Branford recently held its annual awards breakfast at The Woodwinds in Branford, CT. The event honored award winners in nine categories, each of whom exhibited dedication, hard work, innovation community spirit and a willingness to give back to the community. The Chamber is pleased to announce that the following Awards were given at the awards breakfast:

New Business of the Year Award – D&S Hot Dogs & Catering Employer of the Year Award – Guilford Savings BankNon-profit Excellence in Re-Invention – SARAH, Inc. Innovation Award – Detect Business Excellence in Re-Invention – Bishop's Orchards Small-Business of the Year – Country Paint & Hardware Branford Community Partner / Hometown Hero – Branford Arts & Collateral Alliance North Branford Community Partner / Hometown Hero – Honeywell Guilford Community Partner / Hometown Hero – Peter Palumbo

In addition to presenting the above mentioned awards, Chairwoman of the Board of Directors, Kim Spanier, shared a 2021 year in review of Shoreline Chamber virtual and in-person events that covered business networking, legislative workshops that informed and educated business during the pandemic while the Chamber President, Dee Jacob, shared exciting new initiatives for 2022 that will help market, educate and support businesses in the coming year. "We are excited to celebrate the accomplishments of all our awardees. Each one faced their own set of challenges in 2021, but never wavered from their vision to do business or serve others in our community, "said Shoreline Chamber President, Dee Jacob. "Looking toward the future, we are committed to roll up our sleeves and dig into the work for our members in 2022!" said Jacob.

For more information about the Chamber call (203) 488-5500 or visit www.ShorelineChamberCT.com.

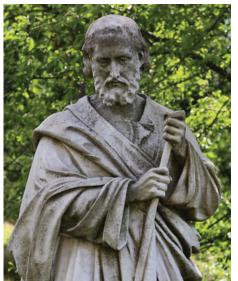
Photo and Information, compliments of Dawn Jackson Shoreline Chamber of Commerce

## Knights of Columbus Council 6801 North Branford, CT 06471

St. Joseph Dinner March 19, 2022 -5:00PM

## Saint Augustine Church

Proceeds to help pregnancy centers
and new mother centers
Tickets are \$20. for Adults
\$15. for children.



Lasagna, Salad & Zeppole
For tickets call Wayne at 203-410-3885
or Damion at 203-215-7699
or go on line at Knightsout@gmail.com.



## **IRIS Donations Appreciated**

The Northford-North Branford Women's Club, GFWC would like to thank all of those who donated items to our recent drive for IRIS (Integrated Refugee Immigration Service). A total of 706 items were collected including toiletries, cleaning items, socks and underwear. IRIS is a non-profit agency whose mission is to help refugees and other displaced people establish new lives, strengthen hope, and contribute to the vitality of Connecticut's communities. For further information about volunteering or donating, go to the IRIS website <u>irisct.com</u> or call 203-562-2095. Monetary donations can be mailed to: IRIS, 235 Nicoll Street, NewHaven, CT 06511.

(Pictured are all items collected along with volunteer Chase from IRIS and Ivey Cooley of the Northford-North Branford Women's Club, GFWC.)

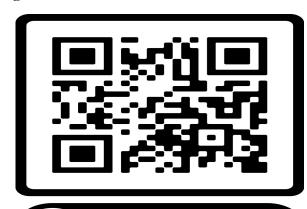
## **Scan Code Test**

Scan this QR Code to check out Honeywell employees and NBLTCT volunteers building boardwalks in preparation for trail on Land Trust 27 acre property on Village Street.

<u>Deadline</u>		Publication Date	
March	11	March	18
March	25	April	2
April	9	April	16
April	23	April	30
May	7	May	14
May	21	May	28
June	4	June	11
June	18	June	25

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## **Good Vibes Nutrition**

1715 Foxon Road North Branford 203-481-2323. Call ahead for curbside service!

## **GOOD VIBES IS ONCE AGAIN HOSTING OUR** "THANK AN OFFICER" EVENT!

It was such a success last year we thought we would do it again!

We at Good Vibes are very strong supporters of our first responders and we love to show our appreciation whenever we can! You can too!

#### Heres how!

Stop in or venmo to donate \$11 by Monday, March 7 and we will donate a shake & energy tea to our NB heroes! Our goal is to raise enough money for 30 shake/tea combos! We will then drop off free combo vouchers to the NB Police department that they can use whenever they like!

Venmo: Goodvibes1717 Note on venmo: TAO















The real estate market is in full upswing and is helping homeowners like yourselves cashin. Home values have been rising steadily and you can potentially be sitting on equity. When was the last time that you checked your home's value? Your home has never been worth more. It's a Seller's Market . . . don't let it pass you by!



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## **Burials - Cremations**

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Arnie Willhite, Owner

New and Used Guns \* Bought \* Sold \* Traded

Always time to make a voluntary payment to the Totoket Times. Venmo(a) Frank-Mentone - 1



#### GUERTIN AND GUERTIN, LLC

Attorneys and Counselors

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## State Representative Vincent Candelora

## Does an administration spearheading a review of its own failed processes seem like good government?



News broke late on Feb. 25 (a Friday afternoon) that Gov. Lamont parted ways with his budget director, Melissa McCaw, as the controversy around a federal investigation into whether corruption occurred in construction-related bidding processes that were managed by someone under the banner of her office.

I remain shocked that my Democrat colleagues who control the General Assembly

agenda are unwilling to conduct a legislature-driven investigation into the processes that perhaps allowed for steering of projects to benefit certain individuals and companies. After all, more than 50 school construction projects totaling more than \$1 billion have been approved since 2018 for communities represented by both Republicans and Democrats. So, they *should* care.

As we've seen in the news media, federal investigators certainly do.

The legislature, through state statute, has investigatory reach that includes the authority to subpoena witnesses and documents. Additionally, the legislature can delegate its investigative power to a standing or specially created committee.

While it would be a challenge to get targets of a federal criminal investigation to participate in a legislative inquiry, surely the General Assembly could secure government bureaucrats and documents to shed light on how the Lamont administration conducts business—specifically, it's unorthodox use of memorandums of understanding in state agencies to circumvent state statutes.

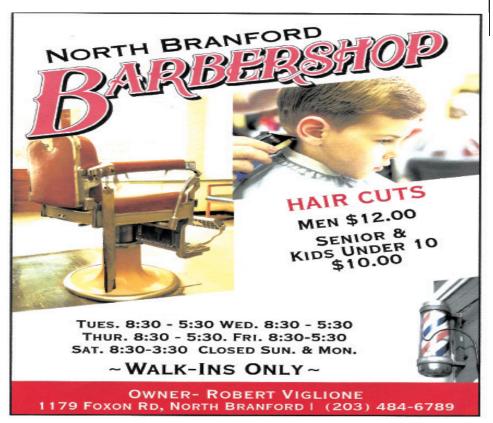
I'm interested in the process rather than the players—federal investigators can focus on the criminality, should it exist.

As you might expect, Democrats swiftly rejected our call for a formal investigation. They'd prefer a simple informational hearing, which of course lacks the juice power to compel anyone to participate.

On the heels of their response, Gov. Lamont announced budget director McCaw's departure. In his news conference, he generically described what has transpired as "bad habits," and talked about internal audits and process changes.

Residents, he said, deserve to feel confident about their government.

Forgive me if I sound skeptical, but an administration shouldn't be left to spearhead a review of itself circumstances such as these. As more information about this crisis is likely revealed, I'm hopeful that my colleagues across the aisle will have a change of heart and conduct that more formal review.



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#### PUBLISHER-FRANK MENTONE JR.

founders - Bert Bunnell Jr. & Antthony 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.

## **LET'S BE "FRANK"**

I spend way too much time on Facebook. I must admit I like many aspects. Unlike its avid followers, I don't know why it was started and what purpose the founder had in mind. Through Facebook I have been able to meet up with old high school buddies, check in with people from the old neighborhood, and learn new recipes, to name a few.

I don't mind seeing when people are married, when they've graduated, when they have a new child or many other eventful highlights of their lives.

I really like different community updates and activities in my town as well as surrounding areas.

What annoys the heck out of me are self serving people who feel the need to post every thing they do ad-nauseam. I don't care what you had for breakfast, lunch and/or dinner. I don't care if you're out with the love of your life buying towels for the bathroom. I don't even care if you re organized your closet or bought a new car. In my mind, that is just bragging.

I'm not particularly interested in a public thank you because one of your adult children took you shopping or fed the dog. It's their job and it shouldn't warrant a public celebration.

It's interesting to see what your kids are doing once in a while. But the daily post about every activity they have is not needed or wanted by the vast majority. I know everyone loves their kids but they aren't, the best kids who ever lived, To you they should be but I'm sure somewhere there us one better.

As I said, I like reading about community activities or accomplishments posted on Facebook but take the next step and send the information to your local newspaper. When I read of a special event that got 100 looks, it disappoints me knowing that 5600 households are getting the Totoket Times and only 100 of your Facebook followers have been informed.

I like Facebook and use it often but the good stuff should go out to everyone (your local paper) and what you had for dinner should stay with you. If you want to give us the recipe of what you had I'm all for it.

I also love the "political experts", medical doctors", and "religious ministers" who preach their opinions as if it were Gospel. I have been writing this column for 20 years and I am very opinionated but I have never claimed to be an expert in nay field. Don't give medical advice because your uncle's cousins neighbor once had that same symptom. Someone can get very sick or worse for confusing your opinion with fact or taking one of your prescribed home remedies.

Finally, if you post a traffic jam because of an accident, don't post what you think you saw or what you think the condition of the participants are in. Again, it's not the job of the self proclaimed Facebook police to give misinformation on people's condition. It's nice that you want to let everyone know you are on top of the situation but too many times I have been worried sick about one of my kids, possibly being injured in an accident where the author dramatizes a false report on the condition of a victim.

With that said brother, It's time for Lent. I remember phoning you and in later years Mary, to jokingly congratulate you on being old and not having to follow some of the fasting and abstinence regulations. I am now well past those limitations and I miss the banter about your age.

Many of the traditions are really falling by he wayside. Our Archbishop is becoming a better closer than Mariano Rivera. Under the guise of working together and having better opportunities as a united front, we are combining many parishes and it seems to be eliminating the closeness of the parish family. It's only my opinion but much of this is disheartening to many I know. Families don't seem to go to church together and worship spiritually and socially together. It's sad but let us all try to prepare ourselves for the resurrection of Christ.

Keep an eye on things down here and I'll see you soon.

# Send letters and press releases to: Totokettimes@comcast.net

#### 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

etters 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!

**Making Sense of Food Labels** 



My appreciation for good food began at an early age. Even though I didn't realize it at the time, the seed had been planted. We lived in a small cape cod style home with a wonderful vegetable garden just behind the garage. My parents were out there every season from March until October, tilling. planting and harvesting. There were fruit trees and berry bushes. I grew up eating whole foods along with homemade bread, pies and pizza lovingly prepared with the freshest ingredients, and it set a standard for my taste buds that processed foods could not come close to satisfying. I did complain about having to eat some of those

meals; especially when I spent time at a neighborhood friend's house and saw how quick and easy it was to pop a waffle in the toaster instead of waiting for a batter to be mixed, or better yet, mac & cheese from a box- I wanted some of that too! Growing up in a household where the vegetables were from the garden, meat and poultry was fresh and the seafood often came from a friend's catch, there was no need to read labels to assess the quality of meals and snacks.

Unlike my mom, I'm not much of a baker and I never got my hands dirty by digging into the earth to learn to garden. By the time I had my own children, processed foods had changed drastically. Additives like high fructose corn syrup and hydrogenated oils had become common ingredients and food labels had more words I could not pronounce than those I could.

Our fresh ingredients are from the grocery store in the winter and local farm markets when in season. I began reading labels in an effort to find a balance between cooking fresh, having some quick and easy options when necessary, and having our kids enjoy some "kid stuff". One thing I learned immediately is; packaging can be deceiving.

#### **Beware of Buzzwords**

Let's face it, we're busy - certain words draw us in as we're dashing through the aisles. It's a lot easier to grab something that boasts words like low fat, fat free, gluten free, made with real fruit, sugar free, whole grain, plant based- or how about this one-"all natural". All these words (and more) can be deceiving. We are looking for guidance and if not careful, will be betrayed by clever marketing that tells us what we want to hear. Unfortunately the less healthy choices seem to be positioned at a level that attracts the eye. Look more closely and you may be surprised to learn that the healthy item you just tossed into your cart isn't healthy at all. For example, protein bars that are typically found in the vitamin or health food aisle, must be healthy, right? Sadly, no. Avoid grabbing a protein bar off the shelf based on the tempting words used to describe the flavor; without first reading the label. Many are nothing more than candy bars in disguise. So how do we decipher labels? A good place to start is with the serving size.

#### Learn Label Language

Given the above examples- it's apparent that we need to look beyond the buzzwords and check out the Nutrition Facts. Serving size is listed first. If you typically eat an entire can of a certain item, you may unknowingly be downing two servings or more. That not only increases calorie intake, but also the fat, carb, sodium, sugar and everything else. And, speaking of calories (another "feature" that may be proudly displayed on the outside packaging); that alone is not an indication of a healthy choice. An item may be low in calories and void of overall nutrition. A serving of 15 potato chips has 150 calories, as does a serving of plain Greek yogurt with fresh berries, walnuts and a drizzle of honey. (I may not be comparing apples to apples here but you get the idea.) When it comes to fat content, the number of calories from fat should be less than 1/3 of the overall calories and void of trans fat. Remember, we're talking about the fat content of processed foods, so don't toss your favorite nut butter because it has 16g of fat per serving. Pair it with a balance of protein and carbs and it's a win. **Sodium** per serving is important and sometimes shows up in unexpected places. A 2 ounce serving of boxed macaroni and cheese tips the scale at 560 mg; about a quarter of the recommended daily limit. (2 oz. is not much mac and cheese). If you've been told to monitor sodium, rinsing contents of canned items will remove some of it. Sodium also appears in otherwise healthy items like frozen shrimp.

Buyer beware and don't just check the carbs! Being carb conscious is trendy these days but the right carbs are necessary for energy. Balance is the key. It's also necessary to check fiber (at least 3 grams per 100 calories), and added sugar. Avoid artificial sweeteners other than stevia and monk fruit which are truly natural and easily digested.

Label reading is never necessary when we stick with whole foods. However, among all the poor center aisles offerings, there are many healthier choices. The fewer ingredients listed on any label-the better. At first, stopping to read before you buy may take longer, but consider it time well spent. Soon you will be able to cruise the aisles and choose wisely with confidence!

This topic was selected by popular request. Please reach out at joann@wellnessfusion.net with questions or comments ~ this monthly column is here for you ~For the Health of It!

JoAnn Begley is a health enthusiast and Certified Nutrition Coach who has practiced and taught holistic therapies for more than 20 years. She and her husband Jerry have two children and live in North Branford.

## **North Branford Public Libraries presents: ZOOM PROGRAM**

Corey Alston: Story of Sweet grass Basket Weaving Tuesday, March 29th (6:30 - 7:30 pm)

Enjoy your dinner, relax at home, and listen to Carey Alston speak about:

- Why the Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor (South Carolina) is so unique
- How he is helping to keep Sweetgrass basket Weaving
- See ancestral patterns and techniques still being used
  - Recently featured on Good Morning America!

"The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor is a National Heritage Area, which was established by the U.S. Congress to recognize the unique culture of the Gullah Geechee who have traditionally resided in the coastal areas and the sea islands of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Visit us to learn more about Gullah Geechee people and a unique, world culture."

(Courtesy: gullahgeecheecoridor.org)

Register Online: nbranfordlibraries.org or call (203) 484-0469

## Sons and Daughters of Italy Lodge 2805 Offering Italian Culture Language Lessons



The Sons & Daughters of Italy Lodge #2805 will be offering Italian lessons and traditions at St. Frances Cabrini Church in North Haven. The lessons will begin on 3-24-22 at 6:00 PM. They will be one hour long. There will bea total of six lessons every other Tuesday (more to follow if interest is there).

All six lessons will be \$25 per person or \$15 for members. The class will be taught by local Italian teacher Raffaele Lenetti and refreshments will be served. To

register, e-mail, SueAnn Mentone at Sueann.mentone@yahoo.com.

The first annual **Mass for the deceased members** will take place at the at St Terese Church in North Haven at 11:))AM. Anyone who knows someone who has a deceased memebr of the group is asked to spread the word,

## **BOAT HANDLING COURSE** AT BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL

An in-person class offered by New Haven Sail & Power Squadron, part of America's Boating Club®, starts Wed., Mar. 9, for seven weeks. Register online by Mar. 2 at Shoreline Adult Education, www.shorelineadulted.org or by phone during business hours at 203-488-5693. Location: Branford High School, 185 East Main St., Branford. When: Wednesday's, March 9 thru April 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost: members \$80, non-members \$181. The non-member price includes a one-year membership in New Haven Sail and Power Squadron. For questions, contact: Past Commander Peter DePascale 203-671-2420 or email bathworksinc@gmail.com.

The Boat Handling course is appropriate for people who have received their Connecticut Safe Boating Certificate and who want to learn more. The course contains material applicable to both power and sail, covering the following topics: rules of the road, docking and undocking, handling your boat underway, anchoring, emergencies on board, and knots and line handling.

New Haven Sail & Power Squadron (NHSPS), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization dedicated to making boating safer and more enjoyable by teaching classes in boat handling, navigation, and related subjects. For information on NHSPS, go to: www.nhsps.org.

#### HH 12TH GRADE

Ackerman, Lauren Brustman, Nolan Burke, Saoirse Camejo, Genesis Carter, Alyiah Caso, Maissa Cavalier, Christopher Chopus, Jake Christiano, Jonathan Crocker, Alanie Cronan, Tyler Crouch, Kayla Danner, Jacob DePino, Gianna DeSena, Dane Gomez, Nichole Hills, Isabella Iuteri, Mila Jarmie, Aubrey Langlan, Charles LeBeau, Braeden Leete, Regan Levine, Taylor Marcarelli, Lexi Marra, Grace Melillo, Kate Norman, Delaney Parente, Carley Patel, Dhruvi Pearson, Blake Pearson, Elena Pettis, Kayla Pfeiffer, Olivia Pietrandrea, Lauren Pinto, Gabriella Pollock, Catherine Pujois, Cynthia Reynolds, Benjamin Ricardo, Marissa Rivera, Sheyenne

Rossicone, Paige

Salani-Bathija, Tara

Saldutti, Jake Scalia, Dominic Senerchia, Hanna Sorensen, Julia Sorrentino, Liam Spinelli, Francesco Stakaj, Franceska Stone, Makenna Teodosio, Demetrios Toto, Olivia Vander Wyk, Liam Virginelli, Michael Vollono, Abigayle Yacono, Emma Yarnall, Paige HH 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE Aiken, Aislinn

Barone, Gabriella Beardsley, Alyssa Betzner, Bridget Bogardus, Grant Bureau, Shelby Candelora, Ava Capasso, Chelsey Carbone, Carmela Chasanoff, Ryan

Cotton, Alexa D'Amico, Cecelia DeSisto, Nicolas Dolzani, Robert Esposito, Alexander Falcioni, Nico Gallagher, Stephanie Gambardella, Ava Gambardella, Sophie Garrett, Cameron Girardi, Drew Heffernan, Carolyn Higgins, Nathan Hoskins, Nathaniel Ianniello, Alexandra

Kamienski, Payton Katz, Avery Luciano, Edwardo Mansi, Heather Park, Mia Patel, Anuska Powell, Carly Riordan, Mea Rojas-Ojeda, Luisa Shadman, Alexander Sim, Paulynna Teodoro, Alexa Tranquilli, Nathan Vincent, Vada HH 10th Grade

Augur, Collin Blomster, Luke Brigance, Sienna Cappetta, Aidan Carter, Gianna

Carusone, Christiana Criscuolo, Keana DePino, Lucian Herassme, Joelle Holzer, Callie Lin, Sabrina Lucibello, Morgan

Lucibello, Natalia Maley, Jack Martinik, Brady Miller, Tiffany Mone, Patricia Mullins, Kiley Nuzzo, Giana

Patel, Jay Senerchia, Gabrielle Stoner, Connor

HH 9th Grade Allen, Noah

Yacono, Mia

Amendola, Ashley Anderson, Kyle Brezicki, Adrianna

Cappella, Robert DeLucia, Ryan Dion, Gabrielle Esposito, Benjamin Falcioni, Alexa Hannan, Catherine Hills, Adriana Krebs, Marley Melillo, Karma Melillo, Samantha Monde, Jack Nuzzo, Megan Onofrio, Julianna Rizzuti, Aaliyah Schmidt, Alivia Spanier, Sofia

Cahill, Olivia

HONORS 12<sup>TH</sup> **GRADE** Aguiar, Sarenna Anderson, Ryan Aucapina, Jade Belbusti, John Bonapace, Ava Brennan, Robert Brittell, Cameron Cassista, Tara Danz-Manner, Ashton Esposito, Joseph Fratta, Anna Helwig, Samantha Michonski, Ryan Monde, Ryan Nuzzo, Ryan Nye, Morgan Oliverio, Mia Pereira, Izaac Raffone, Marissa

Rossicone, Jalen

Salzillo, Ariana

Waldron, Cailey

#### HONORS 11<sup>TH</sup> **GRADE**

Annunziato, Nina Beecher, Nicholas Burwell, Dylan Carroll, Spencer D'Onofrio, David Defaranos, Elias Gallipoli, McKenna Geist, Aidan Izzo, Eric Jackson, Carl Krista, Cassidy Lacroix, Molly Manning, Ashley Martone, Isabella Molleur, Anastasia Nero, Antonio Olson, Jonathan Palma, Gianna Provencher, Mason Raymond, Maiah Rojas, Cristian Schmidt, Gabriella Serenson, Tyler Sorrell, Jaiden Taylor, Benjamin Wang, Marissa Wessoleck, Christin HONORS 10<sup>TH</sup> **GRADE** 

Aguiar, Evyn Allen, Caleb Barrett, Logan Brustman, James D'Aria, Samantha Dion, Joshua Dodge, Lauren Doody, Jalynn Ferrucci, Te'a Fico, Gianna Gott, Samuel Jacobs, Joseph

LeBeau, Patrick Medina, Thomas O'Brien, John O'Brien, Mikella Olsen, Christopher Onofrio, Lindsey Peterson, Lars Pinette, Leah Plano, Giana Ramada, Peter Sigal, Elizabeth Small, Noelle Toto, Sophia Vaspasiano, Katie Vogt, Lucy Vongher, Frederick Waligroski, Brinley

5

## HONORS 9th **GRADE**

Ardito, Lily Bigio, Gabriella Caso, Nicolas Chopus, Justin Danner, Nathan DeFrancesco, Alexa Dell'Aquila, Vincent Famiglietti, Nico Ferraro, Samantha Giovanni, Anthony Hannah, Mary Higgins, Joshua Izzo, Tanner Kamienski, Daytona Lamot, Joanna McCullough, Giana Meneo, Jeremy Nay, Emilyn O'Connor, Jason Onofrio, Isabella Patel, Preet

Proto, Natalia

Riggione, Michael

Scalia, Matthew

## THEY MAKE US PROUD

Johnson, Charles

Juniver, Tessa

Katelyn Bailey was received honors for the second quarter at Mercy High School in Middletown CT.

Morgan Violette was named to the Dean's List at Albertus Magnus College. She was also named to the Great Northeast Athletic Conference Team as a member of the Women's Soccer Team.

Catie Dow and Sierra DePalma were named to the Dean's List at Clark University in Worcester, MA.

Jadon Canelli and Dylan DiMeo were named to the Dean's List at Mitchell College in New London, CT.

Brianni Cabrera received high honors at Sacred Heart Academy in Hamden, CT

## The Nursery on Notch Hill

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203-481-0240

Nurseryonnotchhill@gmail.com 320 Notch Hill Road, North Branford

## **North Branford Scholarship Association Accepting Applications**

Applications for the NBSA scholarship awards can usually be picked up at the Atwater and Smith Libraries in town beginning March 1st This year because of covid the libraries may not be open. If they are not open please call Lars Selander at (203) 483-1311 and leave your name and mailing address and we will mail you an application.

These awards are for students who live in town and graduating from high schools in surrounding towns as well as in town. Your high school 3 !/2 transcript must accompany your completed application. Applications must be returned by April 1st.

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## **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

Branford Bible Chapel. 212 Branford Rd., corner of Twin Lakes Rd. 203-488-3586. Sunday morning: 9:15 - 10:30 Worship & Lord's Supper, 11:00 -12:15 Ministering of God's Word & Sunday School. . Nursery provided. Awana for kids, 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 Congregational Church. United Church of Christ. 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. . 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

St. Ambrose Parish is a Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Hartford comprised of two churches. St. Augustine Church is located at 30 Caputo Rd in North Branford and St. Monica Church is located at 1321 Middletown Avenue in Northford. The Pastor is Rev. Robert L. Turner. Weekday Masses are celebrated on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday at 9:00 AM at St. Augustine. Friday Mass is celebrated at 9:00 AM at St. Monica. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday evening at St. Augustine at 4:00 PM (English Ordinary, no incense) and Sunday at St. Monica at 9:00 AM and St. Augustine at 11:00 AM (Latin Ordinary, with incense). The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered 30 minutes prior to all Masses excepting Sunday and by appointment by calling the office. The Parish Office is located at 30 Caputo Road and is open M-F from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (Wednesdays until 6:00 PM). You can access the parish bulletin and staff emails at our website NBcatholics.org. If you are new to the area and looking for a parish to join or a homeschool co-op, please visit us!

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 http:// standrewsnorthford.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. 203-488-7395 Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar. Please visit our Facebook page or our website www. zionepiscopalchurch.org. Zion is a registered Integrity Episcopal Believe Outloud Congregation, a designation earmarking Zion as an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ.

## **NBCC** Lenten & Easter Services

We invite everyone to attend our Lenten and Easter Sunday services at the North Branford Congregational Church, 1680 Foxon Road, North Branford. **Palm Sunday -** April 10, 2022 - 10am Worship Service followed by

Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt

Maundy Thursday - April 14, 2022 at 7pm - Traditional Service with Readings by 6 of the Deacons.

Easter Sunday - April 17, 2022 at 10am - Traditional

Easter Service with Decoration of the Flower Cross - members are asked to bring a bouquet of flowers to the service to decorate the Flower Cross in the Sanctuary during the Service.

## Flower/Plant Sale

Northford Congregational Church, "A Little Church with a Big Heart," will have an Easter weekend flower/plant sale to benefit the church on Fri. and Sat., April 15-16, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and on Sun., April 17, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. The Easter Bunny will be helping.

In the event of inclement weather, the flowers/plants will be sold inside the church social hall downstairs.

The historic church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Routes 22 and 17 in the Northford village in North Branford. Website: <u>www.northfordcongregational.church</u>. Email address: <u>north-</u> fordcc@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook.

#### **DEATH NOTICE**



Yolande Viola Vanasse Hardy passed away on January 22,2022 at the age of 94 in Middletown, Ct, formally of Northford, Ct. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Victor Romeo Hardy. She will be lovingly remembered by her 8 children, Jocelyne (Jerome) Hartigan of Ohio, Gaetan (Gail) Hardy of North Carolina, Laurent (Diana) Hardy of Colorado, Marcia (George) Hollister of Westbrook, Marjolaine (Robert) Bellonio of Essex, Richard

(Donna) Hardy of Westbrook, Patricia (James) Barrett of North Branford, John (Laura) Hardy of Madison, 20 grandchildren and 32 greatgrandchildren.

Yolande gifted her children and grandchildren with a treasure trove of idyllic childhood memories that nurtured close relationships and transcended physical distance. She was happiest with family crowded around her dining room table. She loved traditions like midnight Mass followed by Christmas Eve dinner and Easter Sunday breakfast followed by basket hunts. On Sunday evenings, she served up sumptuous feasts and hosted competitive lawn games. Cousin sleepovers featured frightful sightings of the "Boogey man" whose posture resembled the beloved family matriarch- though she denied it. A plateful of homemade donuts the next morning made everything better.

Yolande's adventurous spirit taught her family that with initiative and determination anything is possible. She once ascended a tree to build a treehouse for her grandchildren, complete with indoor/outdoor carpeting. She and her late husband Victor built a sugarhouse to boil sap collected by their grandchildren from tapped sugar maples. After a long day of sugaring, she would reward her grandchildren with sucre' a la creme and maple syrup in snow. She shared many stories from her travels around the world where she visited the Vatican, sampled jambon et fromage on the banks of the Seine, and gazed at Monet's Impressionist paintings in the Louvre. Yolande loved each one of her 20 grandchildren singularly. Each grandchild was as sure as any other that they were definitively her favorite. She gave her children and their children strong roots grounded confidently in a legacy of love and care and wings ready to fly courageously into yet unknown adventures.

A private service will be held for immediate family members.

Memorial donations in Yolande Hardy's name may be made to The ALS Association Connecticut Chapter 4 Oxford Road - Unit E4 - Milford, CT





Atwater Memorial Library Edward Smith Library 1720 Foxon Road North Branford, CT 06471 Northford, CT 06472 203-315-6020

3 Old Post Road 203-484-0469

www.nbranfordlibraries.org

## Adult Department

March 2022

PAT'S PICKS MOVIE CLUB Atwater @ 1:00PM

The Quiet Man - 1952 Romantic Comedy "A retired American boxer returns to the village of his birth

in 1920s Ireland, where he falls for a spirited redhead whose brother is contemptuous of their union." - IMBD

#### **BOOK CLUB**

Atwater @ NOON

The Dutch House by Ann Patchett.

Interested in joining? Call 203-315-6020 and ask for Billy!

#### MOVIE MATINEE

Smith @ 1:00PM Downton Abbey - 2019 Drama

"The continuing story of the Crawley family, wealthy owner:

of a large estate in the English countryside in the early twentieth century." - IMDB

#### NOT-SO-GOLDEN-LIFE OF THE GILDED AGE WIFE

Atwater & Zoom Virtual Program @ 6:30PM Although Gilded Age women in the upper and lower classes had many differences, they had one similarity: women were viewed as second best to men, and were expected to be content with this role in society. Join us to learn about what life was really like for Gilded Age women. Presented by the GroundedGoodwives!

#### COREY ALSTON: STORY OF SWEETGRASS BASKET WEAVING

U Zoom Virtual Program @ 6:30PM

Recently featured on "Good Morning America" with his story of Sweetgrass Basket Weavin, Corey will speak about why the Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor in South Carolina is so unique and how he is helping to keep the Sweetgrass basket weaving tradition alive today.

#### **PUZZLE-OFF COMPETITION** Smith @ 9:00AM 10th Annual Puzzle-Off! Registration for this event is FULL, but feel free to come and see what this competition is all about, and ready yourself for

next year!

MONDAY NIGHT MAH JONGG

Smith @ 6:00PM For those looking for a group to play with! Bring your own Mah Jongg set if you have one. Players of all skill levels are welcome,

however this is not an instructional course. Check out these NEW

## March Releases!



DIAMOND









Steel





#### NORTH BRANFORD PARKS, RECREATION, AND SENIOR CENTER

W COMMUNITY CENTER 1332 MIDDLETOWN AVE NORTHFORD

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

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

Join us for a night of fun and games with your friends and family!

Games begin at 6:15pm • Register at nbrecreation.com \$5/per person Under 18 FREE Compete for prizes!

MAMMEDIRS Presented by Jeffrey Hanrahan,
Branch Manager of Guilford Savings Bank. GSB the only bank

> February 24, 2022 2:30 - 3:30pm • STW Senior Room .• FREE Grade 9+

This course is a basic finance breakdown for the young adult entering into the post high school life. A range of topics consist of the basics of savings, understanding credit, money management, the life cycle of student loans and more.

Mary's Culinary Classes
Ages 5-14 • STW Community Center • 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Cost \$40 res/\$45 non res per class

Join Mary Amter in this unique, hands on Culinary experience that will engage children in creating delicious creations. They will explore, create, and learn basic cooking techniques!

FEBRUARY 22, 2022 Broccoli and Cavatelli and Melted Snowman Cookies MARCH 8, 2022
Clover Quiche and Mint Chocolate Layered Brownies



Come join Parks & Recreation staff, Kari Zargo, for after school holiday crafting classes!

Students of TVES will be walked over after school!

Please pack a peanut-free snack.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CRAFT

Grades 3-5 \$10/res \$12/r **March 8—3:00-4:30pm** STW Classroom

YOGA TO RELEASE THE WEEK

This class will focus on releasing the stress of your busy week in both the mind and body leaving all students with more space to breathe, ease in their body and calm in their mind. All classes will be specifically designed to the students' needs who are attending. Instructor: Bhogah Yoga Ages 16+ STW Classroom

Thursdays 6:30-7:30pm March 10 - April 28 \$75 res/\$80 nr

## **Recycling News**

Saturday March 5th will be our first electronics collection day for 2022.

The event will be held at Public Works from 9am to noon. We will be collecting electronics such as TVs, computers, small appliances and almost anything that has a plug. We cannot accept smoke detectors, A/C's or dehumidifiers.

We will also be taking mattresses (clean and dry), batteries and used oil for free.

There is a small fee for recycling propane tanks in reusable condition.

Thanks to everyone who participated, 14 million pounds of electronics were collected and recycled in CT in 2021! When you bring us your mattress, you are creating jobs for those who take them apart to recycle the components.

We would like to thank the following for assisting at the Fall Leaf Drop Off:

Girl Scout Troop 60471, Frank Brigano, Boy Scouts Troop 463, Betty Anderson, NB/NFD Women's club and Otto Kastenhuber.

We have a Facebook page in town: North Branford & Northford Free Items.

You can post items that you want to find a home for or ask for items that you need.

There is also Freecycle.org in East Haven or New Haven. You can also look up your item in the New Haven Downsizing **Donation Guide.** It lists multiple organizations that want your stuff! Just

search for 'New Haven Downsizing Donation Guide".

## SENIOR CENTER Monday, March 21—10:30 am Let's get together for coffee and conversation. Come to learn about and discuss upcoming programs and events. 2.22.2022 1:00 p.m. in the Senior Room Come have some fun on a Twos-Day! Pick a friend and dress alike or wear a tutu on Twos-day during our afternoon games for 2! Please call (203) 484-6017 to register WATERCOLOR PAINTING WITH KAREN MARCH 14, 2022 AT 11:00 A Join Karen Kelly for a FREE St. Patrick's Day themed watercolor painting class Please register by March 8th SENIOR T'AI CHI THURSDAYS MAR 3-APRIL 21 :OO-11:OOAM \$40 RES / \$45 NR Instructor: Marty Reichgut Marty will use the flowing, meditative movements of this ancient Chinese martial art to improve balance, strength, endurance, flexibility, coordination, concentration, and memory. He will demonstrate how we can use Tai Chi's self-defense strategies to reduce our stress and protect ourselves from the repeated assaults of everyday life.

SENIOR CHAIR YOGA
TUESDAYS MAR 8-APRIL 26
10:30-11:30AM \$45 RES / \$50 NR

Instructor: Bhogah Yoga Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is done while sitting and using a chair for support. Chair yoga helps build strength, improve coordination, and promotes relaxation, reduces stress.

#### **MOHEGAN SUN BUS TRIP**

Monday, March 28th 2022
8:00am—Depart STW Community Center \$15/res \$15/nr
Space is limited please call early to reserve your seat!
(203) 484-6017
Per Mohegan Sun, the buses are not being greeted by staff and no packages are being issued

GET MOVING. GET MOTIVATED. VETERAN NB FIRE & FAMILY SENIOR MEMBERSHIPS AS LOW AS STARTING AT FREE \$250 **\$100** MONTH TO MONTH STARTING AT\$35 YEAR YEAR

FITNESS ROOM

## Can I recycle it?

Connecticut has a website to help with recycling questions: www. recyclect.com.

They also have an app.

Do you have your 2022 Recycling/Trash Card? Please keep this card handy all year. It has important dates and information that you will need concerning your trash pickups and what can be recycled.

If the card is missing or you misplace yours during the year, there are hardcopies at both town libraries and at Town Hall.

Or you can download it 3 different ways.

- www.townofnorthbranfordct.com see 'Lastest News' select '2022 Recycling/Trash Information'
- <u>www.townofnorthbranfordct.com</u> select 'Government' select 'Boards & Commissions' - select 'Hazardous Waste & Recycling Committee' - select 'Recycling/Trash Information'
- Go to the 'North Branford Community Pride' Facebook page search for 'Bulk Trash'

#### **Upcoming events**

March 5 – Electronics drop off April 4 – Scrap Metal pick up April 18 – Bulky Waste pick up

For more information about recycling in North Branford you can check out North Branford's Recycling Committee's website: townofnorthbranfordct.com/government/boards-commissions/hazardouswasterecycling-committee.aspx

or our Facebook page: North Branford CT Hazardous Waste & Recycling Committee

Thank You for Your Participation

**Totoket Times March 4, 2022** 

## **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.

## ELECTRICIANS

TJC Electrical Services - No Job too small or big. Service upgrade & Generator Specials. Call Tom Cassella at 203-619-2823. Licensed & 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 and trimming, chipping, and grinding. Please call 203-945-1808 for a free estimate.

#### **SERVICES OFFERED**

Gutter cleanup, tuneup, gutter guards, property maintenance, small repairs, painting, property maintenance and more. Call 203-441-1146 Wanted Gold, Silver scrap jewelry. Fair Prices offered.

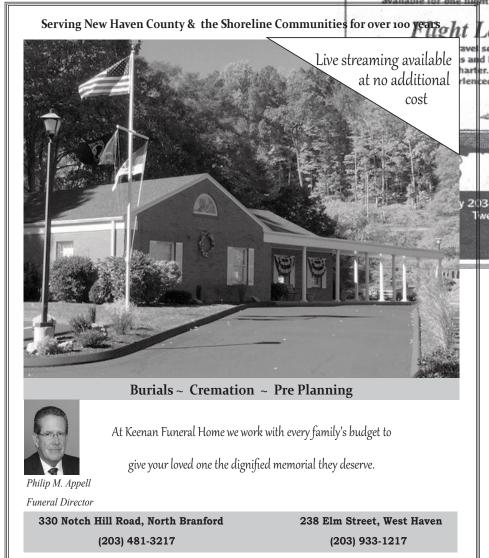
Call 203-627-6826 or 203-376-1249

## **LANDSCAPING**

J & M Landscapes LLC.Complete Lawn Care & SPRING YARD CLEANUP SERVICE { Mowing, Edging, Weed whacking & Blow off} Tree, hedge & shrub Pruning - Property cleaning & debris removal - Landscape Design { Mulch, shrubs & flower beds} - Stone, Gravel & Mulch delivery - Install Stone shed foundations - Small Backho { excavation work } - Driveway sealing -Power washing – . Gutter Cleaning. Winter Snow plowing.

Vet & Senior discount. For a free quote call John (860) 349-8135.





## **ENERGY ASSISTANCE** 2021-2022 HEATING SEASON TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD -OFFICE OF SOCIAL SERVICE 1332 Middletown Avenue, Northford, CT 06472

wecare@keenanfuneralhome.com

Keenan Funeral Home

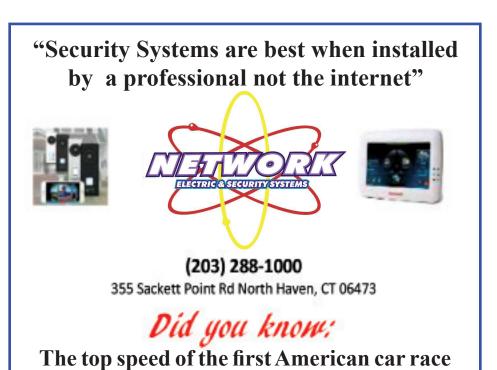
www.keenanfuneralhome.com

Press Release: This Office of Social Service will begin taking applications for the Energy Assistance Program for those who heat with a deliverable fuel. It is preferred that those that heat with a utility will make appointments after January, 2022. Although applications are taken now the program will not begin until November 1, 2021.

The program helps people pay for heat and weatherize the home. Eligibility is based on income, assets are no longer reviewed. This is not an entitlement program.

If you are interested in applying for Energy Assistance, you may call North Branford Social Service at 203.484.6006 to make an appointment. A list of required documents needed to complete your application is available in both public libraries, online at https://www.townofnorthbranfordct.com/ government/departments/social-services.aspx and the Stanley T. Williams Community Center, Social Service Lobby. There are significant changes to the program especially for those households that have an individual receiving Cash Assistance form DSS, SSI or SNAP.

You must bring to your appointment copies of your required documents. This office *cannot* make copies for you. Please bring all required documents. Applications cannot be completed without the required documents.



in 1895 was 7 MPH