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For Our Town From Our Town

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Volume 30 No17, April 19, 2024



North Branford Land Conservation Turst And the Great Giveaway

NBLCT is once again participating in **The Great Give** on May 1-2. This 36 hour, online, community-wide giving event was created by The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven to raise visibility and resources for nonprofits serving Greater New Haven.

Thanks to the generosity of thousands of donors, last year's event raised an impressive \$3.43 million for a record number of 516 local nonprofits. 2024 will be The Great Give's 15th year. We hope you choose to be part of making a difference to the NBLCT or any other participating non-profit in our community.

The NBLCT is in the final stretch of securing the acquisition of Beech and Poms (photo above). That is just the start of a long road to restoring and developing the land for passive recreation and education. This year's Great Give is one venue we are using to raise the funds we need to accomplish our goals. Here's a short list:

Protect the young oaks and other native saplings that are growing on the land before the deer devour them.

Build an ADA compliant parking lot and trail to the vernal pond.

Create a chestnut tree nursery and try to reestablish this cherished tree.

Clear invasives to allow native plants to get established.

Build a trail system.

Build a lookout to view Lake Gaillard.

The web address of the Great Give is <https://www.thegreatgive.org/>

PLAY BALL!

Little League Opening Day Ceremonies To Recognize 1999 State Champions



Another Little League season will kickoff on Saturday, April 20. The day will start promptly at 9:00AM. It is advisable to get there early. This year joining the introduction of the teams, the 1999 Little League State Champions will be introduced on the 25th anniversary of their accomplishment. All of the players with only two exceptions will

be in attendance with one coming from as far as Alabama.

Games will be played throughout the day and the concession stand will be opened as well.

All are invited to attend and meet these all-stars 25 years later and catch a ball game.



Rosary Walk

Rosary Walk begins on **Wednesday, April 24th at 6:00 PM**. We will meet every Wednesday evening until September 11th. All are invited to meet at All Saints Cemetery in North Haven (RT 17) by the main building. We will be praying the Rosary and concluding with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for your intentions and World Peace. Programs will be provided. For inclement weather, please meet by the Mausoleum. For more information, please visit our website, Events calendar: www.ccacem.org or Call Barbara at 203 780 8418. This is an outdoor event, please dress

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TOTOKET TIMES

Deadline		Publication Date	
April	12	April	19
April	26	May	3
May	10	May	17
May	24	May	31
June	7	June	14
June	21	June	28



LIVE MUSIC

April 27th

Grateful Dead
Night w/RGB

May 11

Country Night

May 18

The Mediums

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Estate Planning for Everyone: Estate Plan Self-Exam

By Attorney Marc Guertin

Does your estate plan need a little spring cleaning? I recommend reviewing your plan at least once a year. Why not work it into your spring-cleaning routine? It is a good time of year to take a look at your plan. If changes are necessary, it is nice to get them done before summertime travel. Find some time and a quiet space and take out your estate planning documents (Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney, Healthcare Directives and Living Wills), life insurance policies, financial records and other important documents and read through them. When reading through your documents keep the following questions in mind:

- Do I understand what these

documents do/mean?

- Do the documents still represent my wishes?
- Are the beneficiaries correct?
- Are the people I have put in positions of power (executor/guardian/trustee/power of attorney) still the right people for the job? Are they still alive? Are the right back-up people in place?
- Are these Wills so old that they should be in a museum?

Make sure that your plan conforms to your wishes, if it does not, do what is necessary to

make the necessary updates. If you would like to come in and talk about your plan, I offer free initial consultation. Virtual, phone and in person consultations are available. Call me at 203-500-0201 or email me at marc@attorney-marc.com to schedule an appointment.

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

Totoket Times
Pick up spots
**North
Branford**

Atwater Library, Patco Station, Town Hall, Post Office, North Branford Barber-shop, Hair Designs, Central Cafe

Northford
Recreation & Senior Center, Edward Smith Library, Post Office,
Check out our website at totokettimes.com for the complete edition archives of columnists & our directory of advertisers.



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State Representative Vincent Candelora



Facing fresh criticism over inflation, President Biden got help from his allies in Connecticut recently in an apparent PR stunt that attempted to shift any responsibility for high food prices onto grocery stores and away from the president's high-profile struggles to bring inflation under control.

A gaggle from the legislature's increasingly progressive Democrat caucus, joined by the attorney general, held a news conference in the Legislative Office Building to highlight a Federal Trade Commission report that surmises large grocery store retailers such as Kroeger and Amazon are driving high food bills because they're taking more profit than they should.

The event was steeped in familiar themes. Corporations are greedy. Connecticut residents are facing financial pressures from a variety of angles. The latter point, of course, is true.

What was missing, though, was any measure of self-reflection. President Biden, who has faced criticism for paying too little attention to consumer pain, isn't responsible. Policies that Democrats have passed here in Connecticut? No mention of those, either.

To focus solely on grocery stores and ignore the idea that the government they control has played a role in cost-of-living issues, such as the price of food, is naive if not disingenuous.

After all, the Connecticut lawmakers who tried to throw President Biden a lifeline on this issue that's dogging his re-election bid are the same people who installed the highway use tax on trucks that transport goods and equipment to and from stores, restaurants, and farms. That affects menu prices and the cost of filling our carts at the local grocery store.

The tax on restaurant meals? Yes, they did that too.

It's also worth noting that just four short years ago, the figurehead of the majority party, Governor Lamont, gave serious contemplation to a tax on groceries.

Hopping on a high horse now to talk about food prices smacks of hypocrisy.

The pushback from the state's grocery retailers was understandably swift, as they correctly explained to President Biden's foot soldiers that the study they promoted lacked solid data supporting any claims that Connecticut food retailers are raking in exorbitant profits.

Facing questions from the news media, Democrats admitted they didn't know if there was a problem here in the Nutmeg State. They'd like to determine if there's a problem here. And to do it, they want to give the attorney general more power to meddle in the affairs of businesses.

From where I sit, attacking an important sector of our state's economy without evidence to do so is reckless. Unfortunately, it's commonplace in our legislature, which is notorious nationwide for its antagonistic attitude toward businesses of all shapes and sizes.

Food retailers here have been saddled with a mountain of costly regulatory burdens over the years, such as substantial minimum wage increases, and mandates over paid sick time for employees. Unemployment benefits for striking workers? It's coming.

It's fair to have examination of what's driving the price of groceries. But to do so without considering government's role isn't just unfair, it's patently political.

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

MARC GUERTIN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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North Branford Fire Department

Safety Tips for Outdoor Grilling:

- **Gas and charcoal BBQ grills must only be used outdoors.** If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces, such as tents, they pose both a fire hazard and the risk of exposing occupants to toxic gases and potential asphyxiation.
- Position the grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Place the grill a safe distance from lawn games, play areas and foot traffic.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area: declare a three-foot "safe zone" around the grill.
- Put out several long-handled grilling tools to give the chef plenty of clearance from heat and flames when flipping burgers.
- Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below grill so it cannot be ignited by a hot grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended when in use.

Charcoal Grills

- Purchase the proper starter fluid and store the can out of reach of children, and away from heat sources.
- **Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals or kindling have already been ignited,** and never use any flammable or combustible liquid other than charcoal starter fluid to get the fire going.

Gas Grills

- **Check the gas cylinder hose for leaks** before using it for the first time each year. A light soap and water solution applied to the hose will quickly reveal escaping propane by releasing bubbles. If you determine your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame:
- Turn off the gas tank and grill.
- If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again.
- If the leak does not stop, **call the fire department.**
- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not attempt to move the grill.
- Use only equipment bearing the mark of an independent testing laboratory. Follow the manufacturers' instructions on how to set up the grill and maintain it.
- **Never store propane gas cylinders in buildings or garages.** If you store a gas grill inside during the winter, disconnect the cylinder and leave it outside.

Please Display Your House Numbers

Please help us help you. Sometimes it can be difficult to find the proper address when responding to an emergency. Please have proper house numbers that can be viewed from both directions on the street.

1. At least 3 inches in height, in a contrasting color to the background
2. Visible from the street
3. If the building is set back by more than 100 feet, the number should be affixed to a post or mailbox not more than 10 feet from the driveway

NBFD has a limited supply of new battery-operated Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide detectors. We also have replacement 9-volt batteries. If you do not have a working alarm, call, or email us @ 203-484-6016 or jobrien@townofnorthbranfordct.gov

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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



NORTH BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL PERIOD III HONORS

High Honors – 12th

Aguiar, Evyn
Allen, Caleb
Augur, Collin
Barrett, Logan
Blomster, Luke
Brigance, Sienna
Brustman, James
Carusone, Christiana
Cepeda, Destiny
Chittenden, Aidan
Criscuolo, Keana
Cummings, Thomas
Custodio, Samuel
D'Aria, Samantha
DeAntonio, Lucas
DePino, Lucian
Dion, Joshua
Dodge, Lauren
Ferrucci, Te'a
Gamble, Gianna
Gott, Samuel
Holzer, Callie
Jacobs, Joseph
Karpel, Brooke
Lin, Sabrina
Lucibello, Morgan
Lucibello, Natalia
Maley, Jack
Martinik, Brady
Matteo, Michael
Mone, Patricia
Mullins, Kiley
Olsen, Christopher
Onofrio, Lindsey
Patel, Jay
Ramada, Peter
Rish, Adeline
Senerchia, Gabrielle
Sigal, Elizabeth
Small, Noelle
Stoner, Connor
Timario, Nicole
Toto, Sophia
Urrata, Michael
Vogt, Lucy
Yacono, Mia

High Honors – 11th

Allen, Noah
Amendola, Ashley
Anderson, Kyle
Ardito, Lily
Bigio, Gabriella
Cappella, Robert
Chopus, Justin
Cosgrove, Jason
Danner, Nathan
DeLucia, Ryan
Dion, Gabrielle
Esposito, Benjamin
Falcioni, Alexa
Giovanni, Anthony
Hannan, Mary
Higgins, Joshua
Izzo, Tanner
Kamienski, Daytona
Lin, Tina
Lucero, Idalis
McCullough, Giana
Melillo, Karma
Melillo, Samantha
Nuzzo, Megan
Onofrio, Isabella
Onofrio, Julianna
Patel, Preet
Penna, Addison

Raynor, Catherine
Rizzuti, Aaliyah
Spanier, Sofia
High Honors – 10th Grade

Brittell, Avery
Budd, Michael
Cantore, Taylor
Carbone, Santino
Carusone, Justin
Cioffi-Smith, Chase
Colon, Atum
Connelly, Tyler
DePino, Payton
Falcigno, Nico
Haeckel, Jason
Heffernan, Tyler
Ianniello, Gianna
Lacroix, Cameron
Marino, Alyssa
Morehead, Logan
Navarrete, Cassidy
Pienkosz, Olivia
Poston, Jacob
Preiss, Emma
Sarenas, Benjamin
Sargent, Brock
Sorrell, Sophia
Sudusky, Kyle
Tang, Meghan
Traill, Gavin
Urbina, Mateo
Venturini, Leo

Vitarisi, Lauren
Westefeld, John
High Honors – 9th Grade

Ahmed, Afran
Balliu, Jayden
Brigance, Reese
Caffalette, Talan
Carbone, Armani
Chasanoff, Ella
Dowson, Marina
Duggan, Finn
Ferraro, Myles
Jacinto, Tristan
Johnson, Samantha
Keil, Brianna
Kilstrom, Mason
Kleckner, Kayla
LeBeau, Autumn
Magazzi, Marcus
Miller, Craig
Nargi, Joseph
Paolini, Natalia
Patel, Vedi
Perrelli, Mya
Podzikowski, Siena
Rish, Aesop
Rivera, Luis
Sigal, Alexandra
Wang, Natalee
Weld, Aubrey
Wojciechowski, Emma

Zulawski, Katheryn
Honors – 12th Grade

Cappetta, Aidan
Cardenas, James
Carofano, Joseph
Carter, Gianna
Castillo, Victor
Fico, Gianna
Herassme, Joelle
Hutchinson, Aiden
Kirmali, Cameron
LeBeau, Patrick
Martinez, Adelys
Miller, Tiffany
Nuzzo, Giana
O'Brien, Mikella
Pinette, Leah
Sommo, Gianni
Thomas, Sean
Vollono, Lucas
Vongher, Frederick
Waligroski, Brinley
Honors – 11th Grade
Cahill, Olivia
Caso, Nicolas
Cepeda, Raul
Dell'Aquila, Vincent
Farina, Natalia
Galasso, Gregory
Hannan, Catherine
Hills, Adriana
Keil, Jordan
Krebs, Marley
Meneo, Jeremy
Minnocci, Brody
Monde, Jack
Nay, Emilyn
O'Connor, Jason
Perrelli, Ava
Pitcher, Madison
Regino, Nicolette
Scalia, Matthew
Schmidt, Alivia
Sinski, Kyla
Torok, Caitlin
Vongher, Miles
Honors – 10th Grade

Baxter, Caleb
Beecher, Zachary
Berardesca, Ashley
Bliven, Gary
Brockett, Jack
Brown, Makayla
Brustman, Leah

Budeit, Aijalyn
Cenotti-Green, Jasmine
Colon, Sitareh
Foley, Caden
Gage, Sebastian
Gonzalez, Christian
Iamunno, Benicio
Intravia, Luca
Kilstrom, Liam
Krista, Christopher
Leone, Gavin
Longo, Brandon
Ludington, Sofia
Mansi, Giavana
O'Brien, Charles
Papa, Samantha
Piercey, Christopher
Rivera, Destiny
Rivera, Jayden
Ryszczuk, Ava
Savo, Myrissa
Sigel, Anthony
Valente, Jonna

Honors 9th Grade

Berardesca, Gavin
Biehler, Aiden
Cameron, Peyton
Dolzani, Steven
Ercolani, Jacob
Forgione, Matthew
Frani, Daniel
Gildersleeve, Dustin
Guerrero, Gabriel
Harper, Mallory

Harper, Mia
Jacobs, Jonathan
Kundrath, Brianna
Lahun, Baidu
Landau, Brian
Macauley, Kate
Marashi, Edmira
Martone, Alia
Martone, Santino
McCullough, Joseph
Meizies, Tyler
Meneo, Makayla
Montero, Justin
Pereira, Alexander
Peterson, Leif
Pinette, Eliza
Plano, Matteo
Ramage, Mae
Rosado, Aliyah
Salvati, Nicolas
Seward, Madelynn
Spinelli, Valentina
Stewart, Savannah
Stimpson, Juliana
Troche, Gian
Troqe, Iris
Urrata, Matthew
Velasco, Matthew
Wright, Carly
Yarnall, Dylan



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Branford Book Festival will Support Local Businesses and Authors on May 11

Mark your calendar to attend one of Connecticut's largest book festivals that will be held along Main Street in Branford on May 11. The Second Annual Branford Book Festival will feature more than 50 authors and 36 shops and will run between 12 noon and 3 p.m. The inaugural event was held last year, and due to its overwhelming success, the authors and the shops are excited to be holding it again this year.

Visitors can stroll down Main Street and explore the quaint shops and restaurants that line the street. There, they will have an opportunity to also meet local authors who will be set up in front of the shops. Authors are looking forward to chatting with visitors about their books—and for those who are looking for a great new read, it's an opportunity to buy a signed and personally inscribed a copy.

As an added feature this year, more than 20 authors of books for children and young adults will be gathered in one centralized area. Special fun activities for families and children will be presented there throughout the event, including magic acts by a well-known magician from the Boston area.

The event is being organized by Judy Doyle, a former Co-Chair of the Downtown Merchants, who enlisted the aid of Jack Matthews, a local author, whose novel *Arte Perdida* is a best seller that has received rave reviews, and the Branford Economic Department.

For more information, go to Discover Branford @ <https://www.bestcitiesfor-business.net>, email jackmatthewsauthor@gmail.com or email Judy Doyle at msjudysemporium@yahoo.com

Recycling News

Earth Day – April 20th 2024

For Earth Day, the NB Recycling Committee will be having an event at Wall Field on April 20th during Little League opening day.

There will be tables, environmental handouts and we will be available to answer your recycling questions. For more information, please email NBEarthDay@gmail.com.

On Earth Day, we encourage everyone to do a little to help mother nature. Do a cleanup around your neighborhood. Clean up a hiking trail on your next hike. Teach others not to litter. Learn how to recycle one new thing this week.

The leaf drop off is open on Saturdays 9-3

The location is located around the field to the left of the police station.

The leaf drop off will also be open on April 20th and 27th.

No brush or grass clippings.

There will be curbside pickup of leaves in untapped biodegradable paper bags the week of April 29th to May 3rd.

You Missed Bulky Waste!

If you find something you forgot to put out for bulky waste you can post useful items on the Facebook page: [North Branford & Northford Free Items](#).

There is also [Freecycle.org](#) in East Haven or New Haven.

You can look up your item in the **New Haven Downsizing Donation Guide**. It lists multiple organizations that want your stuff! Just Google 'New Haven Downsizing Donation Guide'.

Can I recycle it?

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

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

Thank You for Your Participation

North Branford Rotary seeking Nominations for Community Service Award.

The North Branford Rotary Club is preparing to recognize individuals who have made a difference to the North Branford community. The club is requesting nominations from individuals in town who know someone deserving of the Service Above Self Award. The award represents individuals in our community who actively help others, demonstrate meaningful humanitarian service, and have made an impact to the community as a result of their efforts. While volunteer efforts are preferred, recognition for paid employees for outstanding achievement for the benefit of the community will be considered. The club also welcomes posthumous nominations to be recognized.

The club recognized three distinguished North Branford residents last year. David Palumbo, Al Rose and Steve Torino were presented with the Service Above Self award at the well-attended annual event.

The club will be holding the event this year on Thursday June 27, 2024 at 6:00pm at Woodwinds. Individual nominations can be made by going to the North Branford Rotary website: NorthBranfordRotary.org where a nomination form can be submitted online. The form will ask for basic information of the individual being nominated and require specific details as to why the individual being nominated exemplifies Service Above Self in order to be considered for the award. The club asks to include specific details and be thorough in explaining times when the individual has displayed "Service Above Self." The deadline to submit a nomination is Friday May 3, 2024. So, act fast and send nominations promptly! Each year we have had several candidates that are well qualified. The decision to choose the award recipients is difficult. If you nominated someone in a previous year that wasn't chosen, submit them for consideration again this year.

For questions about the award or nomination process you may reach out to NorthBranfordRotary@gmail.com, the Committee Chairperson, Melinda Fonda at 203-988-0883, or Club President Anne Merola at 203-988-2898. The club is looking forward to learning about individuals from

this magnificent town who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to make the Town of North Branford, and the world, a better place!



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Saturday, May 4, 2024

North Branford Town Hall

909 Foxon Road, North Branford, CT

9am – 12pm

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NorthBranfordRotary@gmail.com

Please contact Anne Merola,
NBRC President,
at 203-988-2898 with any questions

***Voluntary payments
can be sent in at any time to:***

Totoket Times,

PO Box 313

Northford, Ct. 06472

or

Venmo@frank-mentone-1

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 1382 Middletown Avenue - The White Church On The Hill In The Heart Of Northford (at the intersection of Rtes. 17 & 22). Sunday worship at 10:00 a.m. Coffee and fellowship always follows. The Rev. Bryan Spinks is Priest-In-Charge. St. Andrew's is a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry Network (MACM Network), along with St. James (Higginum) 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.

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

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. Please join us for worship at **St. John's Episcopal Church** at 129 Ledge Hill Road in Guilford, CT 06437. Our services are at 10 am each Sunday with Youth Spiritual Foundation for ages 5 and up every first and third Sunday. Coffee hour after our service in our parish hall. See our Facebook page St. John's Episcopal Church, Guilford CT. 203-457-1094. check our website at www.saintjohnsguilford.org

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. Zion is an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ. 203-488-7395

FOOD DRIVE AT ST. ANDREW'S

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, the White Church on the Hill in the Heart of Northford, 1382 Middletown Avenue, is holding a town-wide, drive-thru food drive on Saturday, April 20th, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to benefit the Food Panty of North Branford. Rain or shine. Please help us help our neighbors living with food insecurity! Looking for donations of nonperishable, unexpired food items; cash donations also welcome.



A springtime choral music concert

On Saturday May 4, at 7:00 pm the North Haven Congregational Church is delighted to host a spring concert featuring the world renowned United Girls' Choir (UGC). This concert is a follow up to UGC's holiday concert offered at NHCC in December. If you missed that concert you won't want to miss this one!

The United Girls' Choir is known for performing complex and advanced musical arrangements with pristine intonation and phrasing. To hear this kind of singing in a spacious and historic church is a real gift.

Over the past two decades, UGC has given thousands of choristers, ages 5-18, the chance to sing for joy, develop confidence and leadership skills, and build lifelong friendships in a safe, supportive environment.

The Pierpont Concert series has been hosted at North Haven Congregational Church since the year 2000. The concert will take place at the North Haven Congregational Church, located at 28 Church Street, North Haven, across from the Town Green. There is ample parking and the church is handicapped accessible. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Student tickets are \$10 and children under age 12 are free admission. Please call 203-239-5691 to reserve your tickets. Doors open at 6:30pm. Cash, check, and Venmo accepted at the door.

DEATH NOTICE



Catherine Ann DeFrancesco (Cathy), 75 of Northford, Connecticut, passed away suddenly on Wednesday, March 27, 2024. She was born in New Haven on December 1st, 1948, daughter of the late Timothy Joseph Looney and Catherine Farrington Looney. Catherine graduated from Wilbur Cross High School in New Haven. She attended Southern Connecticut State University and graduated with bachelors and masters degrees in early childhood education. She taught in Madison, took a few years off after having children, and continued her teaching career in East Haven, where she taught until her retirement in 2008. She married her husband John DeFrancesco (retired New Haven fire department) of 53 years on August 22nd, 1970. She was happiest when cooking for her family and friends and hosted all holiday celebrations. She especially looked forward to her Sunday dinners with her family. After retirement, she and John moved to Jupiter, Florida. Many of her friends visited and loved Jupiter so much, that they too eventually moved down. She was an avid card and Mah Jong player, and she did not like to lose. Catherine was active in the Catholic Charity League and organized donation of food to the Ronald McDonald House. She loved Christmas time, when she was known for making dozens of cookies and shopping all year for presents for others. If she wasn't home, you could probably find her at TJ Maxx or Home Goods. She cherished her relationship with her only granddaughter Laina and spent time with her whenever she could. Besides her husband John, she is survived by her children, Erica DeFrancesco (Gregg Debowsky) of Cheshire and Jay DeFrancesco (Kristin) of North Haven; grandchild Laina Debowsky; her loving sibling Timothy J. Looney of Stuart, FL; and her many nieces and nephews. She was pre-deceased by her sister Patricia Pulsifer and her brothers in law Frank Pulsifer and Richard DeFrancesco. Catherine's family would like to give a special thank you to Dr. Gettinger and Dr. Knowlton and all the wonderful caregivers at the Smilow Cancer Center.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Ronald McDonald House in New Haven (860 Howard Avenue, New Haven, 06519). www.north-havenfuneral.com

Memorial Day Mass

Join us for Mass on Monday, May 27th (Memorial Day). **If you would like to honor a Veteran**, please visit our website at www.ccacem.org and select the **Blog & News Tab**, and click on **Events** to open the calendar. Select May 27th on the calendar and fill out the form included. All Veterans names will be honored at **all** the masses held at our cemeteries.

All Saints Cemetery Mausoleum-North Haven

Time: 10:30 am

Office: (203) 507-9213



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JUNK IN YOUR TRUNK

Saturday April 27th
8:30am—12:30pm

Rain Date 4/28

STW Community Center Parking Lot 1332 Middletown Ave.

Register by 4/25

nbrecreation.com

\$10 per parking space

Sell your tag sale items from the trunk of your car!

BYOT - Bring Your Own Table to display your goods

GENTLE YOGA

Join instructor Brianne Barrett for a gentle yoga class designed to softly open tight areas of the body while strengthening muscles and reinforcing balance. Much of this class is taught on the floor with very little transitioning between standing and sitting. This class is supportive of people working with injuries or chronic conditions.

STW Yoga Room

Fridays April 19 - May 17 12:00-1:00pm Ages 18+

No class on 5/3

Cost \$40 res/ \$45 nr

STEWARDS OF THE LAND BREWERY ADULT COOKING WITH MARY'S CULINARY CLASSES!

Join us for a fun-filled night of cooking and socializing with new and old friends! Learn how to cook delicious shrimp scampi and perfect knife skills with, Gregg Amter and teacher-certified Owner of Mary's Culinary Classes, LLC. Beverages must be purchased at the brewery. Class includes all supplies and hands-on cooking instruction.



Sunday April 28, 2024 - 3:00pm - 6:00pm - \$70

Stewards of the Land - 418 Forest Rd, Northford

Ages 21+ Please register by 4/24

KIDS COOKING WITH MARY'S CULINARY CLASSES!

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

Wednesday May 1, 2024 - 5:00pm - 7:00pm

\$40 res/ \$45 non-res

STW Community Center Ages 5-14

SUPER MARIO COOKING CLASS

TOADSTOOL PERSONAL PIZZA &

MARIO AND PRINCESS PEACH CUPCAKES



ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL

North Branford Parks and Recreation Department is excited to be offering a Summer Adult Co-ed Softball League. Join us at Totoket Valley Park beginning June 11 for a fun, recreational league!

Two games will be played each Tuesday evening, one at 6:15 p.m. and the other at 7:30 p.m. Potentially Thursday night games will be added depending on registrations.

Team Captains must register your team (minimum 8 players) at nbrecreation.com, submit a roster to the Assistant Director, Kerry Haynes at khaynes@northbranfordct.gov

Lancaster Show Trip & the Dutch Country

November 13, 2024 - November 15, 2024

\$540

*Per Person, double occupancy

(\$615 per person, single occupancy rate; \$520 per person, triple occupancy rate)

Incredible Price includes:

- Motorcoach transportation
- 2 nights lodging in the Lancaster area
- 4 meals: 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- Admission to "Daniel" Show at the Sight & Sound Millennium Theater
- Admission to a holiday themed show at the Magic & Wonder Theater
- Visit to charming Kitchen Kettle Village
- Admission to The Amish Experience & Jacob's Choice at the F/X Theatre

\$75 due at registration; final payment due: 8/30/2024
Gratuity for motorcoach driver and step on guides included.



SENIOR CENTER

GROCERY SHOPPING

***NEW* MONDAYS & FRIDAYS**

You must be able to put your bags in your seat area. We ask that you purchase only what you can carry. Pickup begins at 10:00am

MONDAYS

April 22 - Aldi

April 29 - Shop Rite

FRIDAYS

April 19 - Big Y

April 26 - Big Y



METEORS WITH MARK

Northford resident and astrophotographer Mark will share with us his amazing photos of meteors taken atop Totoket Mountain in Northford!

Tuesday, May 7 - 1:00pm STW Senior Room - FREE
please register by 5/3

THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD

At the Goodspeed Opera House

Enjoy lunch at the Gelston House before the show!

May 8, 2024 \$110res/\$120nr

Departs 10:15am Returns: 5:00pm

Who killed Edwin Drood? You decide! A troupe of Victorian performers invites you to play detective in this musical comedy whodunit packed with surprise. Your vote picks the guilty party from a lineup of suspicious Charles Dickens characters who leap off the page and into a gas-lit, gilded, giddy spectacle. No one is who they appear to be among the corrupt suspects in this cunning and clever show-within-a-show. You'll be guessing motives, masks and murder 'til the final curtain.

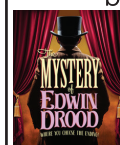
The trip leaves from the Senior Center. If you need transportation to the Center, kindly let us know when you register.

Lunch at the Gelston House is at 11:30 a.m.

Lunch choices are:

- *Parmesan Encrusted Bass
- *Sherry Mushroom Chicken
- *Smoked Beef Brisket
- *Pasta Cavatappi
- *Beef Burger

Lunch includes Mixed Green Salad and dessert. Coffee & tea are not included, but each can be purchased for \$3.50. Alcoholic beverages can be purchased and paid for during lunch.



Please register by April 17th to reserve your ticket to lunch and this fantastic show!



SLIPAWAY TOURS PONTON BOAT ON CT RIVER & FERRY GRILL & CHILL

JUNE 13, 2024 - \$20RES/\$25NR

Departing STW at 10:00 am, enjoy a pontoon boat ride narrated by Captain Bill of Slipaway Tours then have lunch on your own at the Ferry Grill & Chill! Register by 5/30



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

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

PLUMBING

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

STONWORKS

EARTHART STONWORKS LLC - Specializing in stonewall restoration. Offering hardscape design, custom and made to order stone creations, benches, water features, patios, mailbox posts and more. Licensed and insured. 203 868-9958. Earthart Stoneworks LLC

HELP WANTED

Seasonal Laborer – The Town of North Branford is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of Seasonal Laborer in the Public Works Department. Assists with all types of manual labor related to road, grounds, and facility maintenance. Work involves routine and non-scheduled maintenance and repairs of the Town’s public grounds and facilities. Position assists permanent, full-time employees with the execution of their duties. Applicants must be 18 years of age and have a valid Connecticut Driver’s license. Salary is \$18/hour with no benefits. This is a seasonal position. Hours will be 6:00 AM to 2:30 PM from May 1 through Labor Day and 7 AM to 3:30 PM otherwise. Full job description is available on the Town’s website www.northbranfordct.gov/jobs. Please submit applications via the Town website, by email to rburke@northbranfordct.gov, in person during regular business hours or by mail to: Town Manager’s Office, 909 Foxon Road, North Branford, CT 06471. This position will remain open until filled. EEO/AA

Grounds Maintainer - The Town of North Branford is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of Grounds Maintainer in the Public Works Department to perform all types of manual labor related to grounds maintenance, field construction, snowplowing, and other related duties. Requires High School diploma or equivalency certificate, 1 – 3 years of experience in parks & grounds maintenance and maintenance of equipment or any equivalent combination of experience and training that demonstrates the ability to perform the duties. Valid CT driver’s license required, Class A CDL preferred, and ability to drive a standard transmission truck. Starting wage is \$25.23/hr. plus benefits, \$27.15 after 1 year. Applications are available on the Town’s website www.northbranfordct.gov/jobs. Please submit applications and other materials via the website, by email to rburke@northbranfordct.gov, in person or by mail to the Town Manager’s Office at 909 Foxon Road, North Branford, CT 06471. The position is open until filled. EEO/AA

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TAG SALE

Craft and Tag Sale—Vendors Wanted! The North Haven Congregational Church Women’s Fellowship Craft & Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, **May 18, 2024**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. outside on the church lawn, 28 Church Street, North Haven, CT. Bring your own table and chairs. Setup begins at 7:30 am. There is ample parking in the church parking lot. Morning coffee will be available. The cost for a space is \$30, prepaid, nonrefundable. Limited indoor spaces with table and chair provided are available with a reservation for \$35, prepaid, nonrefundable. No rain date. Please call the church office at 203-239-5691 for information and to reserve a space. Spaces will go fast, so make your reservation soon!



Crafters Care Events presents

Mother's Day Sip & Shop

Saturday May 4, 2024 11 am to 3 pm
Caius Farm Brewery
101 North Branford Rd. Branford, CT

Shop from 25 handmade vendors for all your Mother's Day gift needs
50/50 Raffle to benefit Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter
Make a day of it - live music and food, too!