



Totoket Times

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For Our Town From Our Town

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Volume 29 No 201 May 19, 2023



2023 North Branford Memorial Day Parade

NORTH BRANFORD - The Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, **May 29, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.** in the North Branford section of town. The veterans of North Branford/Northford extend an invitation to everyone who wishes to march on that day. Groups will form on Commerce Drive, which is located off Route 80, at 9:00 a.m. The parade line will start at 9:30 a.m. and step off at 10:00 a.m. **sharp.** **Memorial Day is dedicated to honoring and remembering the men and women who have served our country and have since passed way. Anyone who has a family member or acquaintance who is a deceased veteran, you are invited to carry a picture of this person in our Memorial Day parade to honor their memory.**

The parade line will proceed east onto Route 80 toward the North Branford Congregational Church. All are invited to Company #1 Firehouse, 1531 Foxon Rd, North Branford after the ceremony for refreshments.

Interested groups contact **Gina Cox in the Town Manager's Office**, executivesecretary@townofnorthbranfordct.com or 203-484-6000 with your information. This is necessary to be included in the parade lineup.

REMEMBER THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES SO THAT WE COULD HAVE OURS!



K of C Giant Tag Sale/Flea Market

The Knights of Columbus, St.Ambrose Council 6801 is looking for vendors to fill 86 spaces 15'w x 28'd at their Annual Spring Giant 80,000 sq ft. Tag Sale / Flea Market on June 3th. (rain dates June 10th, 17th, & 24th.) at Doody's field 465 Foxon Road, North Branford. It will run from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., free admission and off road parking.

To reserve a space, call 203 484-9737. The cost is \$40 per space paid before 5/29, after this date +\$5 late fee. Vendors must provide their own tables.



TOTOKET TIMES

Deadline		Publication Date	
May	26	June	2
June	9	June	16
July	7	July	14
July	21	July	28
August	4	August	11
August	18	August	25
September	1	September	8



MARC GUERTIN
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222 RIMMON ROAD • NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473

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Let's Be "Frank"

Well brother it seems like just a few years ago, right after Mother's Day, my time would be consumed with spending a month preparing for the Saint Anthony Festival. Through four priest and forty years we would pull off the event of the summer. It was a lot of work but a great time as we celebrated our Parish family and the legacy of the Saint whose name you carry. It was a social and spiritual event that people would come to from miles around. Buses from Rhode Island, Massachusetts and different parts of Connecticut would fill the parking lots. It started with a deliciously served Manicotti sit-down meal followed by three days of prayer liturgies, Masses all day on June 13th, (Saint Anthony Feast day) and a high Mass on the last Sunday, to end the eight day celebration.

Between the three day prayer trilogy and the High Mass there were four days of an outside festival. There was music and food items mimicking menus of Italy, the Phillipines, Spain and of course the USA. It was a great time for people from the old neighborhood to meet and talk about their families their church and their heritage. Seeing the older people dancing and eating and hugging and

kissing and reverently praying should have set an example for all to cherish. In my younger days I was as strong as a bull. I used to set up 10 refrigerators in the various food booths, stoves and chairs and tables so that everything was just perfect for our gathering. Sometimes nearly 10,000 people passed the gates during the week. people. I would spend a week setting up and preparing it and I loved every minute. It made mom happy knowing I was helping out and it made me happy as well.

But times and life changes. Due to the departure of the Scalabrini Order of priests (a group that served Italian immigrants) the new realm of leadership slowly eliminated our traditions until they eliminated the Festival as well. So now what used to be a week of celebration has turned into a one day dinner and one special Mass on a Sunday. It's not the same and it's sad that our generation and that of our children do not get to see this wonderful tradition and event. But with the sadness comes the joy of our memories. We are lucky. So now with a smaller, yet just as strong group, we move ahead. We look back at the memories we share together as a family and as a parish family and we smile with happiness. We are thankful for the days of the past but now it's time to be more thankful for the days ahead.

A lesson for all of us is that it's fantastic to have great memories but we cannot lament over the good old days and we must be happy that we were fortunate enough to reach out to all those people and give them a chance to look back fondly, as we did. But through it all, we must move on. As someone once told me the good old days are right now. So we move forward continuing to work for our church and our parish family and strive to make new memories in the love of God and Saint Anthony. Take care my brother. Give my best to everyone and I'll see you soon.



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NORTH BRANFORD MARKET WATCH

Average Days on Market April 2023 61 Days ↑ 9.8% April 2022	Year-to-Date Homes Sold January - April 2023 24
Average Price per SqFt April 2023 \$206 ↑ 2.5% April 2022	↓ 22.6 (31) from YTD, 2022
New Listings April 2023 13	Percentage of Asking Price April 2023 101%
↓ 7.1%(14)from April 2022	↓ 0.5% from April 2022

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State Representative Vincent Candelora



Two bills debated and approved in the House last week within a 24-hour period exemplified the General Assembly’s habit of making incongruent policy decisions.

On Tuesday, the House overwhelmingly approved legislation that would inject public safety-related changes into the commercial marijuana market, including stronger labeling and packaging requirements. And most crucially, banning the sale of synthetic THC products often found outside of legal state-licensed dispensaries.

The latter is particularly important, given growing concern over poison control cases involving children who didn’t understand the potency of something they bought at a gas station.

But the day after acknowledging and trying to address safety concerns in the retail marijuana landscape they created, my Democratic colleagues acted on legislation that will only compound some problems we’re seeing today—a bill to decriminalize psilocybin, also known as psychedelic mushrooms. This means someone caught with less than a half ounce will face a fine, not a criminal charge. The bill’s proponents say more people are turning to psilocybin because it offers therapeutic benefits to individuals suffering PTSD. Maybe so, but that science is still very much emerging.

This push is reminiscent of the incremental steps that led to legalization of recreational marijuana in 2021, which also began with decriminalization legislation back in 2011. Those of us who shared concern then were brushed off, told it was a harmless step. Today, however, marijuana is everywhere, from youth athletic fields to the workplace. And just last week, a major study in the journal Psychological Medicine described an alarming link between schizophrenia and heavy marijuana use among young men.

A notable difference between the decriminalization of marijuana and the current legislation covering mushrooms, is that the former came with carve outs focused on kids—to make thorough interventions into the lives of those caught with it.

Make no mistake, if this legislation to decriminalize mushrooms receives approvals from the State Senate and the Governor, a push for legalization will quickly ensue.

I shudder to think of the impact on children, and what science will reveal to us after if legislature let’s another genie out of the bottle.

Some might say the legislation comes from Democrats at a surprising time, given the bipartisan alarm about the spike in wrong-way driving problems and case after case of serious substance-influenced crashes we’ve seen on Connecticut highways.

After all, this session lawmakers have contemplating lowering the blood

alcohol threshold for impaired driving, and spending millions to install wrong-way driving mitigation tools such as lights, signs, and rumble strips.

The normalization of hallucinogens, I suspect, will be of little help.

Yet, such is life at the state capitol—a place where a governor can gleefully tout retail marijuana sales in the news media as his administration spends time, energy, and money warning parents their children about the dangers the drug poses.



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467-3000

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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.

North Haven

Sons & Daughters of Italy Lodge 2805

2nd Annual Car Show

On the Grounds of

St. Therese Church, 555 Middletown Ave. North Haven, CT. 06473

Fun for the whole Family

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Saturday August 12, 2023

Rain Date August 19, 2023

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Large Asphalt Parking Lot - Grass Area - Bring your chairs and enjoy the day!

Pre Registration \$15.00 / Registration on Day of Show \$20.00

Registration 7:30am to 8:30am – Show 9am to 2 pm

Judging Starts at 12 Noon - Trophies at end of Day

Name: _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Are you a member of OSDIA Yes-No

Email Address: _____

Car Club Affiliation: _____

Vehicle info: Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

Please Initial – This Vehicle is Registered and Insured _____ Date _____

Mail form with payment to Mark DeFranco, 374 N. Brooksvale Rd. Cheshire, CT. 06410

Make Checks Payable to: North Haven Sons & Daughters of Italy Lodge 2805

For more information contact John Giorgio 203-430-6549 or email jallstarelectric@aol.com

Visit our website at <https://northhavenlodge2805.club/car-show/>

Letters to the editor..

This paper encourages all readers to voice their opinions and comments. The Totoket Times is not responsible for erroneous information or statements in letters to the editor. Letters should be as brief as possible. All letters must be signed. A telephone number should be included and no personal attacks. This paper reserves the right to edit all letters. All letters should be addressed to :



The Editor
P.O. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472

Estate Planning for Everyone: Planning For Artists and Creatives By Attorney Marc

Estate planning is essential for everyone, but it can be especially important for artists and creatives. Not only do these individuals often have unique assets and income streams, but they may also have specific wishes for how their intellectual property and legacy are managed after they pass away. In this article, we'll explore some key considerations for artists and creatives when it comes to estate planning.

Identify Your Assets:

One of the first steps in estate planning is identifying your assets. For artists and creatives, this may include not only physical assets like artwork or studio equipment, but also intellectual property like copyrights, trademarks, and patents. It's important to have a clear understanding of what you own and how it's valued, as this can help inform decisions about how to distribute your estate.

Consider a Trust:

For many artists and creatives, a trust can be an effective estate planning tool. A trust is a legal arrangement in which a trustee holds and manages assets on behalf of beneficiaries. There are several types of trusts. One common option is a revocable living trust. This type of trust allows you to retain control over your assets while you're alive, but it also provides a plan for managing your assets if you become incapacitated or pass away.

A trust can be particularly useful for artists and creatives because it can provide for the ongoing management of intellectual property rights. For example, you might create a trust that holds the rights to your artwork or music and designate a trustee to manage those rights after your death. This can help ensure that your creative legacy is protected and managed according to your wishes.

Plan for Digital Assets:

In today's digital world, it's important to consider how your digital assets will be managed after your death. This might include things like social media accounts, websites, and online storage accounts. Depending on the terms of service for these accounts, it may be difficult or impossible for your heirs to access or manage them without proper authorization.

One way to plan for your digital assets is to create a digital estate plan. This might involve creating a list of your digital accounts and login information, as well as instructions for how you want those accounts to be managed after your death. You might also consider designating a digital executor who can help manage your digital assets in accordance with your wishes.

Consider the Tax Implications:

Another important consideration in estate planning is the tax implications of your estate. Depending on the size of your estate, there may be federal and/or state estate taxes that need to be paid. It's important to work with a qualified estate planning attorney and/or tax professional to understand the tax implications of your estate plan, and to develop strategies for minimizing tax liability.

Communicate Your Wishes:

Finally, it's important to communicate your wishes to your loved ones and trusted advisors. This might involve discussing your estate plan with family members, friends, or business partners, as well as providing copies of important documents like your will or trust. You might also consider designating a trusted individual to serve as the executor of your estate or the trustee of your trust.

By communicating your wishes clearly, you can help ensure that your creative legacy is protected and managed in accordance with your desires. This can provide peace of mind for you and your loved ones and help ensure that your legacy lives on for future generations.

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.

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 deputyfiremarshal@townofnorthbranfordct.com

Best wishes to everyone for a happy, safe Memorial Day weekend!

To advertise in the Totoket Times,



**Call Frank
203-410-4254.
Or visit our website at
www.totokettimes.com**



NBHS Teachers Presenters at UCONN

Three Members of the NBHS English Department, Mrs. Jill Feltus, Mrs. Amy Papantonio and Ms. Chelsea Dodds, were presenters at a workshop held on May 10 at the University of Connecticut. Educators throughout the state attended this conference that focused upon effective teaching and learning involving the use of technology titled, "Teacher and Learning with iPads, Chromebooks and Cloud-Based Computing". Mrs. Feltus presented about the use of Google Sites when developing digital portfolios and designing project based learning activities. Mrs. Papantonio and Ms. Dodds provided a workshop about podcasts including the use of AnchorFM software.

(Pictured left to right Ms. Dodds, Mrs. Papantonio and Mrs. Feltus photo courtesy of UCONN staff).

THEY MAKE US PROUD

Junior Georgia Baldini received High Honors at Mercy High School in Middletown, CT.

Hunter Tanner graduated from Salt Lake Community College in Salt Lake City, Utah with Honors. He pursued an Associate of Science Degree in Pre-Health Sciences.



NORTH BRANFORD BARBERSHOP

HAIR CUTS -
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 Thur 8:30 - 5:00 Fri, 8:30 - 5:00
 Saturday 8:30 - 2:00
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SUMMER ART CAMP

2023

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 Session #2 June 26-30
 Session #3 July 24-28
 Session #4 July 31 - Aug 4
 Session #5 Aug 7 - Aug 11

9am - 2pm
 Extended Day Available
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All toddlers must be accompanied by an adult.

Cost: \$25 / Day
 All supplies included
 Register at CraftivateCT.com

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NBHS Students is Wesleyan Scholars Program
NBHS students Noah Allen (gr 10) and Sabrina Lin (gr 11) have been selected to participate in the Wesleyan University High School Scholars Program for the upcoming fall 2023 semester. The students will be able to take college level courses on the campus of Wesleyan in addition to their coursework at North Branford High School.



Rotary Recognizes NBHS Seniors
Seniors Elias Defaranos (nominated by the Mathematics Department) , Nate Higgins(nominated by the Technology Ed department) , Ava Candelora (nominated by the World Language department) , and Nina Annunziato (nominated by the Social Studies Department) will be recognized by the North Branford Rotary during their next meeting at Nataz Restaurant in North Branford. NBHS Departments nominate deserving seniors for the ‘Student of the Month’ award sponsored by the North Branford Rotary. Students and their families are then invited to attend a NB Rotary dinner meeting and discuss their post high school plans.
(Photo and information submitted by Principal Todd Stoeffler)

North Branford Public Schools Summer Camp Program Proudly Presents

2023 The Mighty Jungle!

Fun & creative enrichment activities

June 19- August 11

Available to students Entering grades 1-8

Location: Totoket Valley Elementary School
1338 Middletown Ave, Northford, CT 06472

visit: www.northbranfordschools.org
Under the "Summer Camp" tab for registration information!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Congratulations Seniors & NBHS 8th Graders Class of 2023

Let's Celebrate our Seniors & 8th Graders with Balloons!

NBHS Touchdown Club, Project Graduation & NBHS PTO is sponsoring Balloons for NBHS Seniors and NBHS 8th Grade Graduates

Purple for Seniors ~ White for 8th graders

Purchase congratulatory 17" Mylar Balloons for your special Graduate! Balloons are \$5.00 each

Order Deadline is May 26th:(First come first serve)

NOTE: Balloon pick will be June 6th at the NBHS Cafeteria. Balloons will NOT be delivered. A detailed email or text message about balloon pick-up will be sent prior.

Please print clearly: Please use additional forms for multiple balloon orders.

Sender's Name: _____

Sender's Email: _____ @ _____ (Cell Phone: (____) _____)

NOTE: Please include the student's information in the "To" area & your message.

To: Student Name: Grade: <input type="checkbox"/> Senior <input type="checkbox"/> 8th Grade Student (Parent) Cell Number: Phone: (____) _____ # of balloons: _____	Message: From: _____
To: Student Name: Grade: <input type="checkbox"/> Senior <input type="checkbox"/> 8th Grade Student (Parent) Cell Number: Phone: (____) _____ # of balloons: _____	Message: From: _____

Total # of balloons: _____ x \$5.00 ea. \$ _____

Checks payable to: NBHS Touchdown Club or QR Code/link: [QR Code Payment Link](#)

In description, Please put student's full name/ # balloons

Check one: ☐ Check # _____ ☐ *QR Code *(Please mail form to address below)

Mail Form/Payment to: Dale Lutz, 1 Farmington Drive, Northford, CT 06472
Attn: Balloons

Questions? Email dalelutz@gmail.com or whhaskins@nbcglobal.net

Save the Date.

NORTH HAVEN SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY

5th Annual Richard M. DeCrosta Memorial Golf Tournament.

Sunday, September 24, 2023

Hunter Golf Club, 688 Westfield Road, Meriden, CT. 06450

203-634-3366.

\$150 per person Includes Lunch & Dinner.

Prizes will be awarded.

For more information or to sponsor,

Call Tim at 203-843-7157.

Portions of the proceeds go to the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut.

SENIOR MOMENTS

RECENTLY, SOME OF THE NBHS SPORTS TEAMS
RECOGNIZED THEIR SENIORS.



Girls Lacrosse (left to right) Victoria McDermott, Gianna Palma, Ashley Manning, Mia Park, Mea Riordan, Natalya Guerrero, Ashley Giglietti and Ava Candelora.

Photo courtesy of Bill O'Brien.

Save The Date Aug 6, 2023

North Branford Athletic Hall of Fame

They will be inducting the newest members. The seven inductees will include: Jeff Breeman and Roselle Simiola from the class of 1977 as well as Tommy Fair(1981) Jeff Crouse (1994), Sean Anderson (1999) and Kelsey Platner (20210)

These men and women were outstanding athletes who excelled in a variety of sports including; football, soccer, basketball, ice hockey, softball, baseball, tennis and lacrosse.

Jeff Breeman and Tommy Fair also came back to coach at North Branford High School.

The induction will take place at a brunch at Northford Gatherings from 12:00 - 4:00. Information regarding tickets will be published next month. Your help in contacting friends and former teammates so they can "save the date" to join us in honoring them will certainly be appreciated.



Boys Baseball (front row left to right) John Onofrio, Bobby Dolzani, Willie Seward. (Back row)Cameron Garrett, Nico Falcioni, Nico DeSisto and Nicholas Beecher.

Photo courtesy of Dina Falcioni



More than 100 Gather to Celebrate Naples Soccer

Club Napoli in Northford was recently the scene of celebration, where more than 100 members and friends gathered to celebrate. The celebration was for their home country, Naples Italy who won its first Series A Soccer Title in more than three decades.



Reilly Wins First Match in Amateur Debut



Brandon Reilly a NBHS graduate has been training at Ultimate MMA in North Haven under coach Andrew Calendrelli who is a former MMA fighter. The coachv formally fought for Bellator and he specializes in Brazilian Jujitsu. Brandon is a blue belt who has competed in many ju-

jitsu tournaments in the past few years. He has won Gold multiple times in the process of learning jujitsu. He’s also schooled in boxing and kick boxing and decided to make a run for an MMA career. On May 6 he made his amateur debut for Reality fighting at Mohegan Sun Arena in front of his hometown crowd where he knocked his opponent down with a right cross in the opening 10 seconds of the fight then followed up on the ground with Jujitsu, securing a Rear naked choke (RNC) to finish the fight at 1:11seconds. His next fight will be in September once again for Reality. Brandon currently works for Bozzuto’s in the refuse business.



Company 4 Receives Plastic Film Program Bench

On Friday, May12, NB Fire Department Company 4 was presented the latest bench NB has earned from the Plastic Film Recycling Program, sponsored by Trex and supported by our NB Big Y. This is NB’s 13th bench. NB Solid/Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee members Bill Savastano and Hank Petroskey made the presentation. A big thank you to Earl Norwood and Country Paint and Hardware who agreed to donate the second bench they earned to the NB Fire Companies. To date, Country Paint has collected over 6,000 pounds (3 tons) of plastic film. The bench will give our First Responders a nice place to rest between calls. Thanks to everyone who participates in the Plastic Film Recycling Program and please continue to be diligent in placing only acceptable items in the collection bins and turn all bags inside out. The purpose of North Branford’s Solid/Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee is to develop and implement environmentally sound solutions and best practices for solid waste disposal and recycling management on behalf of our town. Seated are Captain Jim Buda and Jenna Jennings. Standing are John McFarland, Tate Barbarotta, and Interim Fire Chief Anthony Esposito. (photo by Hank Petroskey)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

North Branford
Thunderbirds Softball

CAR WASH

\$5.00 per car



When: May 20th
Time: 9:00am - 1:00pm
Where: North Branford Firehouse
1531 Foxon Road
North Branford, CT

BUDGET REFERENDUM

May 9, 2023

Total Number of Electors - 9227

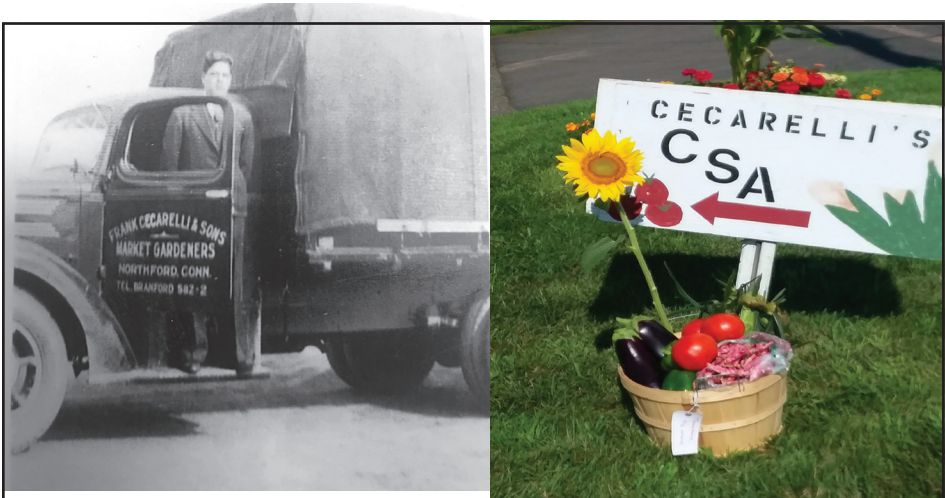
District 1 - 4857
District 2 - 2512
District 3 - 1858

Total Number Voting - 196 (2.1%)
District 1 - 82 (1.7%)
District 2 - 60 (2.4%)
District 3 - 54 (2.9%)

Question #1:
Shall the Town Council Recommended Budget of \$59,874,502, which will require a mill rate of 34.52 mills, be adopted?

	District 1	District 2	District 3	Total
I accept the budget	16	21	10	47
I reject the budget - too high	61	33	42	136
I reject the budget - too low	5	6	2	13

Budget passes as adopted by Town Council, 15% threshold not met.



North Branford Land Conservation Trust
Annual Meeting

Please join the NBLCT for their 2023 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 7 at 6 pm at the STW Community Center.

A short business meeting will be followed by a presentation at 6:15 on the Cecarelli Farm.

MaryEllen Smith DiLella, granddaughter of Frank and Angelina Cecarelli, will be highlighting the history of Frank Cecarelli and Sons Farm in the Northford Community.

This presentation will include photos and stories from 1911 - 2023.

Will DellaCamera, the Business Owner and Operator of Cecarelli Harrison Hill Farm, will be sharing current progressive-farming techniques, which will showcase the transition from less aggressive tillage to climate-smart practices.

Light refreshments will be provided. Hope to see you there!

The mission of the NBLCT is to acquire and maintain open space and to promote the conservation and enjoyment of land and natural resources within the Town of North Branford.

For additional information, visit the NBLCT website at <http://nbland-trust.org> or our Facebook page.



CT Trails Day Hike With the NBLCT

The North Branford Land Conservation Trust, working with North Branford Parks and Recreation and the North Branford Senior Center, is hosting a hike at North Farms Park on June 3 from 9:30-11:30am, as part of CT Trails Day.

This family friendly hike has some hills, a stream, ruins from the town's industrial past, and more. The trails here are varied and interesting and we will show you the highlights, leaving lots of unexplored areas for your future hiking visits. Cross the Branford River, see a cave, an old dam and mill and evidence of where charcoal was made in North Branford's past.

We will meet at the covered pavilion at North Farms Park at 9:15 a.m.

The Trails Day Hike is part of well over 100 events taking place a state-wide on June 3 and 4.

The North Branford Land Conservation Trust, coordinates a number of events for adults and families throughout the year. All events are free and open to the public.

Please pre-register at: <https://trailsday.org/>

We encourage everyone to wear comfortable clothing and supportive walking shoes.

North Branford Land Conservation Trust working with the North Branford Length of the hike is less than 2 miles.

Recycling News

Memorial Day is a trash holiday. Pickups will be delayed by one day.

Hazwaste Central is opening Saturday May 20th.

The Regional Water Authorities' HazWaste Central will be open on Saturdays starting on May 20th through October 28th. They are closed on the weekends of Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day.

HazWaste Central helps area residents in member towns protect water quality by safely disposing of household wastes. Located at RWA at 90 Sargent Drive in New Haven, HazWaste Central is open from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturdays only. Household hazardous waste comes from everyday products used in the home, garage, yard or garden.

A visit to HazWaste Central is quick and easy. Participants never have to leave their cars, and the waste is off-loaded by professionals. Some of the household wastes that can be dropped off include aerosol cleaners and sprays, antifreeze, oil-based paint and pool chemicals. We also list some of the accepted items on your green trash information card.

Please visit <https://www.rwater.com/in-the-community/hazwaste-central> for a complete list of what is accepted along with the online registration form. You can also call 203-401-2712 or email ask.hazwaste@rwater.com.

Balloons

Some people use balloons for celebrating. But, balloons on the loose are very bad for our wildlife. Please be sure to securely tie your balloons so the wind won't take them away. And please, when you are done with them, put them in the trash. Balloons do not go into the Recycle bin and they are not plastic film.

To protect our wildlife, please prevent balloons from going into the storm drains or blowing away. There are many ways to have fun and celebrate with environmentally-friendly alternatives. Giant bubbles, ribbon dancers, streamers and garden spinners are a few examples. Many of these can be reused for another celebration.

Please Don't Feed the Storm Drain

Is your storm drain covered with leaves or grass clippings? Please take a few minutes to rake them off so the water can flow into it.

Storm drains are designed to only carry rainfall runoff from our streets into our local waterways. Anything but water can contribute to water pollution and drainage issues. Pesticides from treated lawns and gardens can also end up in your drinking water, threatening water quality.

Please clean the street of grass clippings. Blowing grass clippings onto the road is dangerous to drivers, motorcycles, bicyclists, harms local storm sewers and aquatic life.

Remember: Only Rain in the Drain!

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

Thank You for Your Participation

NBLCT Awarded Grant

FABULOUS NEWS! The NBLCT has been awarded \$385,450 in Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA) Grant Program money toward the purchase of 2 Regional Water Authority (RWA) parcels at the intersection of Beech St & Poms Ln.

On May 11, Governor Ned Lamont announced that his administration is awarding approximately \$3.7 million in state funding to aid in the purchase and protection of more than 1,025 acres of open space in 14 communities throughout Connecticut.

NBLCT received the second largest single grant award. With this grant and the generous donations of so many, we have raised the \$593,000 needed to purchase the 37 acres.

Thank you all who have helped us raise the funds to purchase the RWA property, and once acquired, we will need your help again to create a parking area, build trails and generally spruce up these parcels to make them enjoyable for the public for passive recreation, that will remain open space for passive recreation for all to enjoy.

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

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

St. Ambrose Parish 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 <https://www.saintandrewsnorthford.org> Like us on Facebook - St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church of Northford, CT. For more information contact us at 203-484-0895; Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-710-7005; Rev. Spinks, 860-304-5266; or MACM office, 860-345-0058.

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

Zion Episcopal Church 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. 203-488-7395. Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar.Sunday Worship at 9:15, coffee and fellowship follow. Masks are required in worship while North Branford is in the ‘red’ zone for COVID positivity. Worship is also accessible through Facebook Live. ALL are invited. Zion is an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ. www.zionepiscopal.org

HER HANDS

*Her hands held me gently from the day I took my first breath.
Her hands helped to guide me as I took my first step.
Her hands held me close when the tears would start to fall.
Her hands were quick to show me that she would take care of all.
Her hands were there to brush my hair or straighten a wayward bow.
Her hands were often there to comfort the hurts
that didn’t always show. Her hands help hold the stars in place, and
encourage me to reach.
Her hands would clap and cheer and praise
when I captured them at length.
Her hands would also push me though set down or in harms way.
Her hands would punctuate the words just do what I say
Her hand sometimes had to discipline to help bend this young tree.
Her hands would shape and mold me into all she knew that I could be.
Her hands are now twisting with age and years of work.
Her hands now need my gentle touch to rub away the hurt
Her hands are more beautiful than anything could be .
Her hands are the reasons I am me.*

Maggie Pittman

Huge Perennial Plant Sale – May 27!

What: Spruce up your gardens for Spring with the beautiful flowers, shrubs, and trees—all hand-propagated with loving care by UMCBranford congregation member Ruby Lawrence!



When: Saturday, May 27; 9 am - 3 pm

Where: United Methodist Church,
811 East Main Street (Route 1), Branford, CT

More Info: (203) 488-0549 or
umcbranford1966@gmail.com

Mayflower Society Banquet

The celebration of the 127th year since North Haven’s Mayflower Society was founded will take place on Sunday, June 4th, 2023. The celebration will begin at 5:00 p.m. at Violi’s II Restaurant at the Wallingford Country Club for cocktails and the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner following.

The Mayflower was chosen as a symbol, not as a requirement of descending from a Mayflower passenger. The event provides an opportunity for dining with friends, meeting new friends and celebrating history. All are invited to attend and enjoy the dinner and intriguing program “That’s Weird”, presented by the Connecticut Historical Society.

The cost of the banquet is \$55 per person, which includes the annual membership dues. For more information and to reserve tickets, please call 203-239-7722.

DEATH NOTICE

Ruth Frank Cook (aka: Auntie Mom!)



The Woman, the Myth, the Legend. Passed peacefully on 4/29/23, three weeks short of her 101st birthday. An advocate until the end for social justice, equality, tolerance and fairness, she lived her life with great compassion for those in need. Her house was always open to anyone seeking shelter (often for months or years), a meal, support or just lively conversation and a Moscow Mule. Her philanthropy was constant (and frequently anonymous) and her sense of humor was legendary. Her early years were spent working on civil rights and political campaigns. Her later years were filled with sending “Get Out the Vote” postcards to tens of thousands throughout the country. Ever the survivor, she forged a new life after divorce and spent many happy years with her second husband. Traveling the country in their RV, Ruth and her husband Meyer (Cookie) left a trail of humor and goodwill everywhere they went. She was unsurpassed at winning at casino slot machines; to this day, her secrets to success remain a mystery. She leaves behind four children, Dan (Debbie), Henry (Liz), Julia, Carol (Larry), nine grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren, all of whom continue to cherish her memory. The world is a better place for having had her in it and while her legacy is one of joy and laughter, she will be deeply missed. Donations in Ruth’s memory may be made to Tri-State Maxed-Out Womens Pac (tristatemaxedoutwomenspac.org), Central Synagogue (centralsynagogue.org) or The Center for Common Ground (centerforcommonground.org)

*Send Church Notices to
totokettimes@comcast.net*





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SKYHAWKS CAMP (SPORTS & GAMES)

Ages 8-12 STW Front Field

June 20 - June 23 9:00am - 3:00pm \$175 res/\$175 nr

Skyhawks provides a wide variety of fun, safe and positive programs that emphasize critical lessons in sports and life, such as teamwork, respect and sportsmanship. Programs are designed to give each child a positive introduction into sports while fostering a lifelong love for an active, healthy lifestyle. Sports and games include capture the flag, soccer, ultimate Frisbee, kickball, baseball, 4 square, team handball and many more!

MINI-HAWK (BASEBALL, BASKETBALL & SOCCER)

Ages 4-7 STW Front Field

June 20 - June 23 9:00am - 12:00pm \$139 res/\$139 nr

For this camp, our patient and knowledgeable staff use a variety of skill-building games and activities to give each athlete a complete understanding and overview of many different popular sports and games.

FEELING LIKE YOU NEED A GETAWAY?

Check out some great cruise opportunities on our website!

Panama Canal, Costa Rica,
and Caribbean - November, 2023
Alaska - September, 2023

northbranfordct.myrec.com/info/activities

Department Info -> Trips - Grand American Cruises

— SENIOR CENTER —

SWEET TREAT TRIPS

Billy's Old Fashioned Ice Cream & Marketplace in Bethany

Friday, May 26

Departs STW at 12:30pm Returns 2:00pm

Hop on the senior bus and join us to get some delicious ice cream at Billy's Old Fashioned Ice Cream in Bethany! The cost is on your own. Register by 5/19.



SENIOR DINER DASH

Blue Colony Diner in Newtown & Southbury Shopping Center

May 31, 2023

Lunch Costs on own

Departs STW at 11:00am Returns 3:00pm

Register by May 12th

Join us for lunch on your own at Blue Colony Diner in Newtown. After lunch we will go to the Southbury Shopping Plaza for some retail therapy.

Richie Mitnick Presents

Come Fly With Me-

A Journey Through the Decades

Starring: Joe Saimeri & Ethel Lee

AQUA TURF CLUB

Tuesday Aug 15, 2023

Bus departs STW: 10:15am Returns: Approx 4:00pm

\$57res \$62nr

Enjoy music thru the decades: from Sinatra, Kenny Rogers, Tim McGraw, Dianna Ross, Roberta Flack & more! Menu: Baked Scrod/ Chicken Marsala

Register by: 7/14/23

HALF DAY FOOD EXPLORERS COOKING CAMPS

You'll make your own snack while learning all about food, playing games and exploring nutrition with a nutritionist. Each child will make their own portion, and all recipes are nut free but may contain dairy and eggs.

CHOCOLATE BAKING CAMP

July 17th - July 21st

1:00pm - 4:00pm - STW Kitchen \$140 Ages 5-11

ITALIAN BAKING CAMP

August 21st - August 25th

2:30pm - 5:30pm - STW Kitchen \$140 Ages 5-11



LACROSSE CAMP

Grades 3-8 STW Front Field

July 24 - 27 5:00 - 7:00pm \$75 res/\$85 nr

This clinic will provide youth athletes a fun opportunity to enhance their skills or play lacrosse for the first time. Athletes will grow as a player, learn drills and rules, and will work on their stick skills, foot work and field play

Instructor: Jillian Temple, Personal Trainer & Southern Connecticut State University Woman's Assistant Lacrosse Coach

Mary's Culinary Classes

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

Ages 5-14 at STW Community Center

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

MONDAY MAY 22, 2023

COPYCAT "PANERA" MAC & CHEESE AND FRENCH SILK PIE

MONDAY JUNE 5, 2023

PASTA PRIMAVERA AND CHOCOLATE CHIP

COOKIE DOUGH ICE CREAM CONES



TENNIS AT NORTHFORD PARK

Due to the overwhelming success of our Tennis Program last year we are excited to offer it again!

Spring and Summer sessions are open for registration. Join us for a 6-week introduction to Tennis program at Northford Park. Age appropriate skills and drills will be offered with Guilford Racquet Club Pros! Racquet included.

SUMMER TENNIS

Ages 11-13 - 4:00-4:45pm - July 5 - August 16

Ages 5-10 - 5:00-5:45pm - July 5 - August 16

\$75

Dream Girls

At the Goodspeed Opera House

Enjoy lunch at the Gelston House before the show!

November 29, 2023 \$110res/\$120nr

Departs 10:15am Returns: 5:00pm

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

Stars rise and fall... but dreams live forever! A 1960s Motown girl group catches its big break during an amateur competition. But will their friendship—and their music—survive the rapid rise from obscurity to pop super stardom? With dazzling costumes and powerhouse vocal performances, this Tony and Grammy Award-winning musical sizzles with sparkling spirit and dance. Featuring the unforgettable hits "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going" and "One Night Only," this is one Goodspeed production you won't want to miss!

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

Lunch choices are:

*Parmesan Encrusted Cod *Gelston Chicken
*Bistro Steak *Pasta Cavatappi
*Kobe 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 November 1st to reserve your ticket to lunch and this fantastic show!

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.


LANDSCAPING

Mone Landscaping LLC is now accepting new accounts for mowing, trimming, mulching etc. We are licensed and fully insured. More than 25 years in business. Call Mike at 203-640-5317. for a free estimate.

PLUMBING

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

TREE SERVICES



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

Public Stargazing at Young’s Park

The Astronomical Society of New Haven is hosting a free stargazing event on Saturday May 20th after 7pm at Young’s Park, 60 Blackstone Ave. in Branford. Admission and parking are free. All are welcome, including children and grandparents. The telescopes will be pointed at a very thin crescent moon, Venus and Mars. The constellations Leo, Hercules and many others can be seen. Learn how to find these objects when you get home. It will be a dark night so there will be some nice deep sky objects to find through the telescopes.
Directions and cancellation due to weather (including clouds) will be posted to our website, www.asnh.org or call 866-808-ASN.H.



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(203) 933-1217

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Torino, Rose and Palumbo being recognized for Service Above Self by North Branford Rotary

The North Branford Rotary is thrilled to announce the recipients of their annual “Service-Above-Self” Community Service Award to three deserving North Branford Residents. In April of this year the Club reached out to the community for nominations for their annual Service Above Self Award and received a terrific response.
“We asked the North Branford Community to nominate distinguished individuals who have made an impact through service and helping others in town. The response was incredible, and we couldn’t be more grateful.” North Branford Rotary Club President, Anne Merola graciously acknowledged the North Branford community and added, “We couldn’t think of a better way to say thank you to distinguished individuals right here in town than to recognize them with an award that symbolizes dedication, compassion and generosity.” The Club recently announced this year’s award will be presented to Steve Torino, Al Rose and Dave Palumbo.
The North Branford Rotary Club will be awarding the recipients on Thursday June 22, 2023 at 6:00 pm, at the Millpond Gathering in Northford. Tickets can be purchased in advance by going to www.northbranfordrotary.org or by contacting Rotary Club President Anne Merola at NorthBranfordRotary@gmail.com / 203-988-2898 or by contacting the Service Above Self Chairperson, Samantha Ouellette at 203-430-5976. We encourage those who know Steve, Al and Dave to join us as we acknowledge them for their distinguished service to the Town of North Branford.
Committee Chair, Samantha Ouellette, expressed her appreciation to those who sent in nominations. “It’s been a very rewarding experience for the members of the committee, and the club, to receive a fantastic response from the North Branford Community and I’d like to thank those who found the time to submit nominations.” The committee had difficult decisions to make with so many wonderful nominees. The club is looking forward to continuing to honor distinguished members of the community each year.

Through the lens of local photographer Nick Carlino.

Eastham Lighthouse Cape Cod.
Sunflowers in North Branford