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Volume 27 No 25 May 28, 2021

# **REMEMBER OUR HEROES**



# THEY DIED SO WE COULD LIVE!



Our Family Creating Good Vibes in the Community! The Good Vibes Nutrition family will be closing one day a month on either Saturday or Sunday to bring good vibes to the community. We will pick a service project each month that allows us to give back to the community that has been so good to us! We will post updates and plans in a few weeks and we invite any of our friends to join us in this community endeavor. 1715 Foxon Road, North Branford, 203-481-2323

Like us on instagram & Facebook @goodvibesnutritionct

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## Honor our Military with a Flag

The Northford-North Branford Women's Club, GFWC is sponsoring Honor Them with a Flag, a salute to our country's military personnel and veterans. The public is invited to participate by purchasing a U.S. flag dedicated to a member of our military or anyone else close to your heart. The flags will go on display on the front lawn at the North Branford Town Hall from Flag Day, June 14<sup>th</sup> to July 4<sup>th</sup>. Each flag, 12" x 18", will have a white ribbon attached to it inscribed with the name and rank of the soldier or loved one. Due to Covid concerns, there will not be a ceremony this year. Flags will be available for collection for one week after July 4<sup>th</sup> from the lawn of the North Branford Town Hall. Proceeds will benefit local veterans' projects. To order, fill out a form and mail a check made out to the Northford Women's Club for \$10 per flag to: The Northford-North Branford Women's Club, P.O. Box 264, Northford, CT 06472. Information is also available online at <u>www.northfordwomensclub.org</u>. There is no limit on purchases, but all forms must be received by June 11<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Collett at 203-484-9079.

Please fill out the following information and make a check to The Northford Women's Club Mail to: Northford-North Branford Women's Club	
PO Box 264, Northford, CT 06472	
Deadline is Friday, June 11, 2021. Name & Rank	
(as you would have it appear on the flag's ribbon. Please print)	
Service Branch	
Dates of Service	
Name of Purchaser	
Address	
Phone #	•
Email	
Number of Flagsx \$10 per flag = Total DonationPhoto copies or similar copies of this form are acceptable	I







600

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#### EDITORIAL Totoket Time

#### **Totoket Times May 28, 2021**

### EDITORIAL

### State Representative Vincent Candelora With Talk of "Signing Bonuses," Nationwide Conversation on Unemployment Benefits Reaches Connecticut



Back in early April, I participated in a news conference featuring statewide business leaders who were concerned about Connecticut employers having to pay back federal loans the state used to cover unemployment benefits. I described a brewing problem that wasn't getting much attention at the time. As the state grew

closer to reopening, business owners were beginning to talk about difficulties in getting their employees to return to work.

The issue exploded in the press here recently when the governor announced his plan to give \$1,000 "signing bonuses" to spur people back to work.

The problem, many employers say, is that a portion of the state's workforce has decided to stay home because they're making more on unemployment than they would earn by working.

It's estimated that Connecticut has 65,000 job vacancies right now, a dire situation made clear by hiring fairs at restaurants and malls and huge "we're hiring" banners that adorn businesses. Mohegan Sun casino made headlines with its two-day hiring fair and financial incentive plan.

Our state's economic recovery is at stake. Without workers, some small businesses are finding it difficult to resume normal operating hours. Some have been unable to reopen at all.

It is \$300 weekly supplemental unemployment payments from the federal government that are behind the dearth of workers. Facing similar vacancy-related challenges, 22 other states have decided to opt out of the federal assistance arrangement. It looks like that list will grow, too.

Connecticut, meanwhile, will continue in the program through its September expiration. That means the governor's team will administer competing programs, one that makes it attractive to stay out of the workforce and one designed to lure people back in. It's counterintuitive.

Before spending \$10 million on "signing bonuses," Gov. Lamont should reject the enhanced unemployment aid to determine what kind of effect that move would have.

If media reports are any indication, business owners don't disagree.

Even legislative Democrats are lukewarm on the governor's incentive plan, wondering whether his latest foray into discretionary use of federal pandemic aid makes sense.

Given the impact of the pandemic, they believe those funds could be put to better use.

It's hard to find fault with that opinion.



# Let's Be "Frank"

I'll tell you brother, I think you would be as disappointed in the state of baseball as I am. Maybe I'm just too old fashion but with computers and technology, they are taking the human element out of the game and quite frankly, it stinks.

I'm not for replays. If they make a mistake it's part of the game. Baseball is a game of successes and failures as well as greatness and errors. Use your technology to analyze the umpires and not correct their mistakes. When your think tank in New York studies the tapes, get rid of the umpires who have a higher percentage of blown calls and a lack of understanding of the strike zone. You use to teach young umpires that baseball is simple: "Know the rules, call balls and strikes and safe and out. It you can't master that then find another hobby".

That goes double for the electronic ball strike caller being tested in the minors. Once again if you can't master the strike zone get out of the game. With the electronic balls and strikes maybe we can get rid of the high priced players and watch cyber players and get rid of all the humans in the game.

Whatever happened to steals, bunts and hit and runs. If you're trying to make the game more interesting, bring that back into play. I'm bored watching a game just waiting for a home run. If the shift is on take the pitch the other way. Do that often enough they'll take the shift off and we can get away from the old softball play with four outfielders.

Speaking of softball, this rule with starting the tenth inning of a tie with a runner on second takes away from the game. It's exciting to watch a game in extra innings. If you are trying to entice people who don't like the game into watching it because it's shorter, that's absurd. A mystery movie is not a better mystery because it's short. It's a good mystery because it builds and builds until the great surprising finale.

Diddo with the seven inning double headers.

Finally, get rid of the rule where a pitcher has to pitch to three batters. Again, part of the intrigue in the chess game and strategies between managers. This new rule is just taking that away and once again it dehumanizes a human game.

On the local front, baseball is treated as a second class sport. In "my little town" the high school baseball field in an embarrassment. The infield is filled with divots, uneven grass patterns and dandelions. It is becoming a safety hazard. When all the visiting coaches comment about how terrible our field is, it's embarrassing not only as a coach but as a town resident as well. Our other town fields, for high scyhool sports as well as youth sports and including ultimate frisbee(I'm still not sure that's a sport) are pristine. Why can't the baseball field get that same look.

As the great American past time continues it's decline, our Little League program from the outside, appears to be following this trend. My many trips around town are alarming as I watch the little guys playing in the gravel and dirt fields near Stanley T, when Wall Field (the million and a half dollar baby) is empty. I know scheduling is often tough, but Wall Field should never be empty when other poor excuses for a field are being used. Maybe we can get the younger kids interested by letting them play on a field of dreams. Let them play on a properly watered and leveled field with no weeds, real bases and a concession stand where they can be rewarded with free hotdogs and drinks after the game. Try to teach them the game by having mandatory coaching clinics for well intentioned parents so they are teaching the kids the proper way of playing the game. Kids love to be taught and learning will increase their interest as will a hot dog and soft drink as a reward.

We are losing kids to video games and comfortable couches and we don't want to challenge them for fear of disappointment. Disappointments breed success. You can't really know the euphoria of success without experiencing the rejections of defeat. Failure doesn't make you weaker, it makes you stronger.



- Totoket Times is the most popular source for community events
- Respondents also specified school announcements and direct emails

#### 🔆 MILONE & MACBROOM

This publication is published bi-weekly by Doss Enterprises LLC PO Box 313 Northford, CT. 06472 Tel; 203-410-4254 Fax 203-484-4729 email: totokettimes@comcast.net **PUBLISHER - FRANK MENTONE JR.** *founders - Bert Bunnell Jr. & Antthony Esposito Jr.* The publisher assumes no responsibility for typographical errors. In the event of an error, the publisher will issue a credit adjustment on only the incorrect portion of the advertisement, as well as a retraction in the next issue.

Q28

It's time stop worrying about the trophy on your mantel, or the conversations around the water cooler about how good our kids play the game and how successful we are as coaches.

It's time to forget about building championships and worry about building champions.

Well that's it for now brother. My best to all and I'll see you guys soon.

### 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

## EDITORIAL Matt in the Minors

## Kidde Recalls TruSense Smoke and Combination Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarms Due to Risk of Failure to Alert of to a Fire

Name of product: Kidde TruSense Smoke Alarms and Combination Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarms

**Hazard:** The smoke alarm and the combination smoke/carbon monoxide (CO) alarm can fail to alert consumers to a fire.

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately contact Kidde for a free replacement alarm. Consumers should keep using the recalled alarms until they install replacement alarms.

**Sold At:** Walmart, Home Depot, Menards and other department, home and hardware stores and electrical distributors nationwide, and online at Amazon.com, ShopKidde.com and other online retailers from May 2019 through September 2020 for between \$10 and \$70.

#### **Consumer Contact:**

Kidde toll-free at 844-796-9972 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET on Saturday or online at <u>www.</u> <u>kiddetsalarmrecall.rsvpcomm.com</u> or <u>www.kidde.com</u> and click on "Support" and then "Product Alerts" for more information.

#### 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.



Let's set something straight about the minor leagues that most people don't know. It is not a glamorous life. We are not treated like the guys on TV and most of us are not living off of million dollar signing bonuses. About every few weeks there is a call up or call down. Just as soon as you get comfortable, you get shipped off to somewhere new. The next lesson was learned; never fully unpack.

There is not much to do out here which leaves me in a search for hobbies. Aside from cooking and reading, I have nothing going on. Eat, sleep, and breath baseball. That is the dream, right? My rou-

tine is something like wake up, eat breakfast, read, go for a walk, eat lunch, hang out, head to the field, come home, sleep, wake up and do it all over again. Our road trips are a week at a time to limit exposure so every week we have to pack our things and move out of the hotel we are staying at. The hotel is not great but it is something.

It's hard to complain about anything when you play baseball for a living. The weather is similar to home as far as temperature but the air is very dry. Anyone from the coast is having allergies for the first time in their lives, including me. We are 2 and a half hours from Chicago and St. Louis; right in the middle of Illinois. We travel to Iowa, Ohio, and Wisconsin for most road trips. The Midwest is just farms as far as the eye can see.

Hopefully there will be some on field stories the next time I write. Till next time-Matt Matthew Chamberlain

#### BUDGET REFERENDUM May 11, 2021

#### Total Number of Electors - 9734

District 1 - 5167 District 2 - 4567

Total Number Voting - 116 (1.2%)

District 1 - 54 (1%) District 2 - 62 (1.3%)

**Question #1:** 

Shall the Town Council Recommended Budget of \$55,020,430 which will require a mill

# rate of 33.14 mills, be adopted?

- 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.

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

District 1	District 2	Total
I accept the budget 38	43	81
I reject the budget - too high 15	18	33
I reject the budget - too low 1	3	4

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

### SCHOOL



## **Regan Leete is Shoreline's Best Junior at Math**

This year the Shoreline Outstanding Junior in Mathematics award goes to Regan Leete! She was chosen because she demonstrates a high degree of



interest and enthusiasm for mathematics and possesses a high level of ability, intuition, and conceptual understanding of the subject. Congratulations Regan!

Pictured with Regan, Mrs. Connelly - Mathematics Department NBHS Photo courtesy of NBHS math Department Chair Francine Stanio



#### **TVES & Jerome Harrison Students Join Forces**

During the months of March and April, Totoket Valley Elementary School launched a school community effort to collect empty potato chip bags as part of a fundraising effort to help the less fortunate. Our friends at Jerome Harrison Elementary School also joined this effort. The project was the idea of artist and environmental activist, Eradajere Oleita, where she began collecting the "trash" to create sleeping bags for the homeless. Foil lined chip bags act as an emergency blanket and create a warm, waterproof shelter for those in need during the chilly winter months.

In honor of Youth Arts Month, students learned about the Chip Bag Project and how art and imagination can help a community, while thinking about sustainability for our environment during our Earth Day celebration. The average sleeping bag contains about 150 chip bags which go through a cleaning process and then get ironed together by Oleita and her helpful volunteers.

Together, the schools collected over 1,500 chip bags and mailed them to the organization in Detroit, where the sleeping bags will be assembled and distributed throughout the city.

Our students and school community feel proud of their efforts knowing that they contributed to sustainability (recycling waste), taking action (helping address a community and national problem), community service (getting involved to raise support and awareness for a great cause bigger than ourselves), and all while supporting Art Appreciation.

If you would like to learn more about the Chip Bag Project or make a donation, visit <u>www.chipbagproject.com</u>.

A special thank you to TVES Art Teacher, Elyse Mortense, for leading this project!

Information and photo courtesy of TVES Principal Carter Welch





## Wee Care of North Branford, Inc.

## **Daycare and Preschool**

At Wee Care of North Branford, Inc. all day preschool is available for children ages 3-6 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Some of the highlights of the program are:

- -Two licensed Preschool Teachers
- -Curriculum and disciplinary procedures aligned with local kindergarten classes
- -Teacher directed learning centers
- -Morning lessons reinforced by afternoon activities -Extracurricular activities at no extra cost including Yoga, Music, Library visits, and Science classes

#### *Openings currently available.* 1680 Foxon Road (Rt. 80) North Branford, CT 203-481-3909 www.weecarenb.com



## **THEY MAKE US PROUD**

**Nicolette Molnar** was inducted into Phi Alpha Theta history honor society at Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic.



#### **SPORTS**

**SPORTS** 

# **NBHS Seniors Moving on to College Athletics**





Fourteen NBHS seniors are moving on to compete athletically at the next level after graduation! Family members and school officials were on hand at NBHS today to recognize these students.

NBHS Athletic Director Mrs. Connelley and Assistant Principal Mr. Gwudz organized the event and outdoor gathering.



Dylan Dimeo - Lacrosse - Mithcell College



**Catherine Dow - Soccer - Clark University** 





Stathi Gianniotis - Cheshire Academy - Football



**Onna Gott - Connecticut College - Track** 



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Kelli Jacobson - University of New Haven - Field Hockey





Jadon Canelli - Mitchell College - Baseball



Karina Jassil - University of St. Joseph - Girls Lacrosse



Alyssa Kendrick - Eastern CT State University-Field Hockey



Jada Miconi - Western Ct. State University - Softball



Jamison O'Brien - Eastern Ct. State University - Lacrosse



Briana D'Onofrio - Western Ct. State University - Girls Lacrosse



Erica Piercey - Wheaton College - Softball



Sofia Votto - Iona - Girls Lacrosse



FIELDHOUSE FAMILY FUN CENTER

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**Trevor Holzer - Salve Regina University - Football** 

#### **SPORTS**

Totoket Times May 28, 2021

**SPORTS** 

# **CELEBRATE OUR SENIOR ATHLETES**



Boys Lacrosse: Colby Martinik, Zachary Abbagnaro, Matt Pederson, Dylan DeMeo, Jamison O'Brien, Ethan Raymond, Taylor Waligroski, Nicholas Poulin & Nicholas O'Rourke. (Photo by Bill O'Brien)



*Girls Softball: Erica Piercey, Jada Miconi & Sophia Oullet.* (*Photo compliments of Roxanne Senerchia*)

At Right: Tennis: Alyssa Kendrick, Alyssa Nero, Carly Villano, Brianna Brezicki, Emma Serenson & Catie Dow. (Photo compliments of Mary Villano)



Girls Lacrosse: front row left to right: Sofia Votto, Leigha Sullivan, Landon Melillo, & Maddy Humphrey, Back Row: Zoe Hughes, Zoe Miller, Karina Jassil, Brianna D'Onofrio and Gabby Gibilisco. (Photo courtesy of Raelene Weyhreter).





Boys Baseball: Anthony Raffone, Jeremy Bunnell, Nick Tranquilli, Trevor Holzer, Jaden Cannelli & PJ Mullen(Photo by Dina Falcioni)





# **NBLCT to Benefit from Big Y Community Bag Program** The North Branford Land Conservation Trust has been selected by our

local Big Y store leadership as the benefiting non-profit in the Community Bag Program for the month of June!

The NBLCT will receive a \$1 donation from the purchase of each \$2.50 reusable Community Bag at the Big Y store located at 1289 Foxon Rd. Rte 80, North Branford CT.

If you can, please help support your Land Trust by purchasing Big Y Community Bags during the month of June.

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



## **NBLCT Annual Meeting**

Please join the NBLCT via Zoom for their 2021 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 2 at 7 pm.

A short business meeting will be followed by a presentation: **There's More to a Forest Than the Trees** 



cies, especially maple, birch, and beech. As with the shift from chestnut to oak forests at the beginning of the century, the emergence of a forest dominated by northern hardwoods will alter the economic, ecological, and aesthetic values of our forest. The consequences of these changes will last well into the 21st century.

Connecticut appears as a sea of hills cloaked with a never-changing forest. In fact, our forested landscape is always changing. At times the changes are too slow for most people to notice. But at other times its changes are faster and more dramatic. Now in Connecticut forests, we are at the beginning of a second major change in forest composition that has taken place during the past 100 years. What was once farmland is now forest. Dr. Jeffrey Ward will help us see the invisible in our woods.

Since the loss of American chestnut in the early 1900s, the Connecticut forest has been dominated by oak. Today, our forest is gradually converting from oak to other spe-

## **Recycling News**

Plastic Film Drop Off Program Restarted April 5th 4 convenient drop off sites:

Town Hall, Atwater and Smith Libraries and Park & Rec As a reminder, please do not include: grape/cherry bags, candy bags (Hershey, Werthers, etc.), individual tea bag packets, Saran wrap, and plastic bags that make a loud crinkling sound. These items cannot be used for this

program.

Thank You for Your Participation

\*\*\*\*\*

HazWaste Central open May 22nd for 2021 season Located right behind the Regional Water Authority's headquarters, 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven

Hours are 9am to noon - Saturdays through October 30th,

Note: Center is <u>closed</u> for the Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day holiday weekends.

#### Not Accepted at HazWaste Central

Asbestos, Commercial Waste, Electronics, Fire Extinguishers, Gas-Grill Size Propane Tanks, Medicine, Needles, Smoke Detectors, Pharmaceuticals

Call 203-401-2712 or email ask.hazwaste@rwater.com for more information

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Reduce Contamination**

Help our town reduce the contamination of our recycling to avoid fines and increased taxes!

Recent contaminations included: wood, paint, construction debris, auto parts, dog waste, plastic bags

- Do not mix designated recyclables with trash
- Leave metal caps and lids on glass jars and bottles
- Empty and rinse all containers
- Do not shred, box, bag or bundle recyclables (recyclables in plastic bags are treated as trash)
- Reduce the single-use items you bring into your home and try to reuse or donate them where they can be used.
- Learn what can and cannot be recycled.
- If in doubt, "check before you chuck" using the RecycleCT Wizard: https://www.recyclect.com

Type in the name of an item to learn how to recycle or dispose of it properly.

To find additional recycling locations using zip code and radius, use **Recycler Finder at recyclerfinder.com** 

Please put these common <u>non-recyclable</u> items in the trash: garden hoses, black plastic containers (TV dinner trays, outdoor plant trays), plastic utensils, pots & pans

#### Thank you for recycling responsibly

Yellow Sticker placed on your curbside item(s) for pickup? Check sticker for reason items not accepted as well as appropriate disposal means

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.

Dr. Jeffrey Ward will help you see things that you previously missed when walking through our forests. It is a unique opportunity, not to be missed. For additional information, visit the NBLCT) website at http://nblandtrust. org or our Facebook page.

#### Zoom Meeting Details

Meeting ID: 876 1831 4054 Passcode: 2021NB One tap mobile +19292056099,,87618314054#,,,,\*569161# US (New York) https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87618314054?pwd=L1A2NkNTbXJxKzdEcF ZpcDd2Sy9PQT09

#### TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD TOWN HALL - 909 FOXON ROAD - NORTH BRANFORD, CT 06471 PHONE: 203-484-6000 - FAX: 203-484-6025 YOUR MATERIALS WERE NOT COLLECTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS: **REFUSE COLLECTION RECYCLING COLLECTION NO TIRES** NO STYROFOAM **NO PROPANE TANKS** NO PLASTIC BAGS **NO TV's AND OTHER ELECTRONICS TAKE TO THE NEXT E-WASTE COLLECTION** CORRUGATED CARDBOARD MUST BE IN THE TOTE OR CUT NO MOTOR OIL. ANTI-FREEZE. 2 FT. X 4 FT. AND BUNDLED **OIL-BASED PAINT** LEAVES CAN BE BROUGHT TO **NO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS** THE LEAF DROP OFF IN THE \*PLEASE DISPOSE AT HAZWASTE CENTRAL SPRING OR FALL **NO GRASS CLIPPINGS NO CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS** NO TOILETS, DOORS, ETC. OTHER NO WHITE GOODS, MAJOR APPLIANCES **NO SCRAP METALS** BRANCHES, RUGS, SCRAP WOOD: NO BULKY WASTE THIS WEEK MUST BE LESS THAN 4 IN. DIA, & WAIT FOR SCRAP METAL/BULKY WASTE MUST BE LESS THAN 4 FT. LONG MUST BE BUNDLED OR TIED NO HOME CLEANOUTS \*PLEASE REFER TO YOUR RECYCLING CARD FOR COLLECTION DATES. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL THE TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE.

203-484-6000

### **DEATH NOTICES**

## **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

Branford Bible Chapel. 212 Branford Rd., corner of Twin Lakes Rd. 203-488-3586. Sunday morning : 9:15 - 10:30 Worship & Lord's Supper, 11:00 -12:15 Ministering of God's Word & Sunday School. . Nursery provided. Awana for kids, vacation Bible School, missions & outreach programs. www.branfordbiblechapel.org

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

North Branford Congregational Church, UCC. 1680 Foxon Rd., North Branford, CT, 203-488-8456 or nobfdcong@sbcglobal.net or www.northbranfordcongregational.org. Office Hours: Wednesday through Friday, 9:00 - 1:00pm. We worship every Sunday at 10:00am. Nursery care available. Get to know us by joining us for Coffee Hour following Services. The second Sunday of every month is Family Sunday when the children remain with their parents during the Service. This is followed by our second Sunday Brunch. Holy Communion is on the first Sunday of every month. Church School through grade 8 meets during worship. All are wecome no matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Northford Congregational Church. United Church of Christ. Church is located on Old Post Rd., (corner of Rte 17 and Rte 22), PO Box 191 Northford. Phone 203-484-0795, Fax 203-484-9916.. email; northfordcc@gmail.com Office Hours: Tuesday 9am - 1pm; other days by appointment. Rev. Robin Blundon, Acting 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 is a Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Hartford comprised of two church locations; St. Augustine, 30 Caputo Rd. North Branford and St. Monica, 1331 Middletown Ave. Northford. The Pastor is Rev. Robert L. Turner. Temporarily all Masses are being held at St. Augustine during the pandemic to accommodate as many parishioners at each Mass as capacity allows. Weekday Masses are celebrated at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 5:00 P.M. (English Ordinary, no incense) and on Sunday at 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. (Latin Ordinary with use of incense). The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered 30 minutes prior to all daily Masses and by appointment by calling the parish office. The parish office is located at 30 Caputo Rd. in the parish center and is open M - F from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. Mass is live streamed each Sunday morning on our St. Ambrose Facebook page. You can access the parish bulletin and staff emails on our website at NBcatholics.org. If you are new to the area and are looking for a parish family to join, 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). St. Andrew's is a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry (MACM) Network, along with Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Killingworth and St. James Episcopal Church in Higganum. Rev. Bryan Spinks is Priest-in Charge at St. Andrew's. Due to the COVID pandemic, services are currently held on-line via Zoom, and may also be viewed on St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Northford CT Facebook page. St. Andrew's is the proud home of the Food Pantry of North Branford, located on the lower level of the church's parish hall. And, the Community Dining Room utilizes our kitchen and parish hall to prepare and deliver meals to the homebound in Northford and North Branford. These are 2 vital community resources serving families in need in our community. 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, belts, purses, sheets, blankets and stuffed animals may be made at the donation shed located in the church parking lot. Like us on Facebook: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Northford CT. For more information contact Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-710-7005; or MACM Network office, 860-345-0058; or Rev.Spinks, 860-304-5266.

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

Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. 203-488-7395 Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar. Please visit our Facebook page or our website www. zionepiscopalchurch.org. Zion is a registered Integrity Episcopal Believe Outloud Congregation, a designation earmarking Zion as an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ.

### The Food Pantry of North Branford, Inc. 1382 Middletown Ave., Northford **EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY JUNE 2, 2021, WE HAVE NEW HOURS OF OPERATION:**



Robert M. Ward, 68, of Northford, passed away peacefully on May 9, 2021, at his home in Northford surrounded by his loving family. He was the devoted husband of Anita (Siena) Ward for nearly 47 years.

Born November 8, 1952, the son of the late Richard and Joan (Minnick) Ward, Bob was raised in Derby, CT and was a 1970 graduate of Notre Dame High School (West Haven). He then attended the University of Kentucky for one year, then went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree cum laude from his beloved University of Connecticut in 1974. He received a Juris Doctor Degree with honors from the University of Cincinnati in 1978, the same year

he was admitted to the Connecticut Bar.

Over three decades of public service, Bob made significant contributions to the State of Connecticut. First elected to the Connecticut House of Representatives in 1984 to represent the 86th Assembly District, Bob represented North Branford and parts of East Haven, Guilford, and Wallingford over the course of eleven terms of service.

Widely regarded as a brilliant legislator, he made many friends across both sides of the political aisle. At the same time, Bob was a dedicated husband and father. He coached many of his children's youth sports teams and never missed an important game or event for his four children.

Bob was elected by his Republican colleagues to serve six terms as House Minority Leader, from 1995 to 2007, making him the longest serving caucus leader in modern Connecticut history.

As House Minority Leader, Bob excelled at working across the political aisle with Democratic leaders, two Republican governors, and a GOP caucus that reached all four corners of the state to forge budgets and policies that often carried the day at the Capitol - no small feat for a minority caucus leader. His legislative skills and political acumen were tested during two seminal events in modern Connecticut history.

In 1995, Bob played a leading role in conceiving and enacting "UConn 2000" a ten year, \$1 billion investment in the University of Connecticut which transformed UConn into one of the nation's preeminent public universities.

In 2004, Bob bore the burden of leading the House Republican caucus through the investigation and eventual resignation of fellow Republican, Governor John Rowland. His honesty and commitment to a non-political impeachment process enabled the orderly transition from Governor Rowland to Governor Rell.

Bob's skill as a legislator was widely recognized, with Connecticut Magazine's poll of Legislators twice recognizing Rep. Bob Ward as "Most Effective Legislator" (1994 and 1996) and once as "Most Admired Legislator" (1996).

In 2004, the National Conference of State Legislators awarded him its "Excellence in State Legislative Leadership" award- making him the only minority party caucus leader in the country to ever receive this honor. Finally, in 2006 Bob was given the Connecticut Republican Party's highest honor-the Prescott Bush Award.

Upon his retirement from the General Assembly, Bob was appointed by Gov. M. Jodi Rell as Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, serving for four years and implementing the state's graduated license program for young drivers. In 2011, he was chosen by the General Assembly to serve as Auditor of Public Accounts, retiring in 2016. One of his most cherished public service roles was as a member of the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees, a position he held from 2007 to 2010.

Bob was a former member and treasurer of the Northford Volunteer Fire Department-Company No. 2; a former member and past president of the North Branford Jaycees; a former member of the Totoket Historical Society and a former member of the North Branford Education Goals Committee and the North Branford Sesquicentennial Committee. He also enjoyed his distinction as a member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

Bob and Anita made a great team in raising their four children and taking part in their eight grandchildren's lives. Bob enjoyed travel, especially with Anita, after his retirement. He could be seen and often heard rooting for UConn basketball teams with both his children and grandchildren whether in the original Field House, Gampel Pavilion, the Civic Center, or at home on TV. Additionally, Bob cherished holidays and Sunday dinners with his large and loving family. Surviving Bob are: son Michael (Maeve) Ward, grandchildren Benjamin, Riley, Cordelia; 3 daughters, Rebecca (Daniel) Podzikowski, grandchildren, Siena and Sophia; Nicole (Marc) Paradis, grandchildren Carmen and Nina; and Sarah (Michael) Alvarez, grandchild Marcella.

Bob is additionally survived by two brothers, David Ward; Jamie (Diane) Ward; one sister Ellen (Lester) Thees, as well as many nieces and nephews.

. Memorial Contributions may be made to: Bob Ward Scholarship/North Branford Scholarship Association, PO Box 241. North Branford, CT 06471. www.northhavenfuneral.com



Richard "Rick the Indian" Clarke, 83, of Northford, passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 8th, 2021 at the Connecticut Hospice, Branford. He was the beloved husband of 42 years to Cindy Koerber Clarke. Rick was born in Manitoba, Canada on September 24, 1937 and was the son of the late Hector and Beatrice LaVallee Clarke. He had worked as an Ironworker for Local #424 for 34 plus years as well as other ironworker jobs across the country. Rick enjoyed flowers, birds, maintaining his yard to perfection and cats, especially his beloved Kenny. Stepfather of Lori Vogt, Richard (Chrysanne) Vogt, Robert, and Sally Vogt. Also survived

by many step grandchildren and step great grandchildren.



Arthur J. Gagne III, 60, of Plantsville, formerly of Northford and Middletown, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 18th, 2021 with family by his side after a nearly four-year long battle with Stage IV cancer and the devastating effects of a stroke shortly after his diagnosis. Art was the beloved husband for over 32 years to Nancy (Winter) Gagne and the best friend and father to his son (AJ) Arthur J. Gagne IV of which they shared an inseparable bond. Art was born on January 5, 1961 in Meriden to Shirley (Smith) Gagne and the late Arthur J. Gagne, Jr. and grew up in Northford graduating from North Branford High School in 1979. Throughout his life, Art worked at various auto body shops until he found his home at First Line Emergency in Cromwell with his dear friend, Bill Sullo, for over 25 years. Art enjoyed working on motorcycles, playing guitar, playing cards, fishing and spending time with his large extended family and much-loved friends. Art was always willing to lend a hand when people needed one and a devoted friend to many. His greatest pride was the birth of his son, AJ, who was Art's rock throughout his illness and the best son a father could ever have. In addition to wife Nancy, son AJ and mother Shirley, Art is also survived by his brother Charles (Chuck) Gagne, a niece and three nephews, several aunts and uncles, a host of cousins too numerous to count, a multitude of friends, who will miss him dearly and his beloved cats he affectionately referred to as "the girls". The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Michael Farrell and all the wonderful staff at the Connecticut Oncology Group for giving Art and his family nearly four years of time together, the doctors and nurses at Middlesex Hospital for the best care he always received there and to the compassionate staff at the CT Hospice, Branford for all the comfort and support they gave Art and family in his final days. A special thank you to all of the family and friends for all of their love, support and prayers throughout Art's illness, to the Red Dog family for the beautiful fundraiser and the many friendships along the way, to the countless people too numerous to mention that shared all the good times, the music and the laughs - God bless you all for being a part of Art's amazing life. "Ride on Art, until we meet again" memorial contributions may be made to Bikers Against Animal Cruelty @https://bikersagainstanimalcruelty.org or a charity of one's choice. A celebration of Art's life will be announced at a later date.www.northhavenfuneral.com

#### WEDNESDAYS 4-7 PM & FRIDAYS 10AM-1 PM

**COVID-19 guidelines per East Shore Health Department** will be followed and masks are required. Guests will be allowed in the building one at a time to shop. Specific guidelines may be found at:

www.foodpantrynb.org or call us at (203)208-2581

## St. Andrew's Rhubarb Fest is Back

We are back, but with more of a bake sale feel. We will have all the favorites: pies, muffins, cheesecake, bread, cookies and more. But they will only be available to take home. Everything will be packaged and ready to go. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 5 from 2:00 to 4:00. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is the white church on the hill in the heart of Northford. Junction of Routes 17 and 22. Stop by and pick up your favorite!



PARKS AND

RECREATION

North Branford Parks, Recreation, and Senior Center STW Community Center 1332 Middletown Ave Northford

www.nbrecreation.com • call (203) 484-6017

Follow us on Facebook! @NBParksandRecreation

## NEW ST FUN & FITNESS - KIDS!

Ages 6 - 9 — STW Community Center

Mondays, June 7 - June 28, 6:00 - 6:45pm

Instructor: Coach Gibilaro

\$35 res/ \$40 nr

Join other young athletes in a fun and fast paced class where everyone will enjoy running, jumping, throwing and games!

This class will be an outdoor class unless the weather does not cooperate, then it will be moved inside to the gymnasium.

## MINI CAMPS: JUNE 21—JUNE 25

Our camp runs from

Monday June 28 - Friday August 20

8:30am - 4:30pm

Register online at www.nbrecreation.com

**Enrollment is now open** 

for camp, grades 1-6!

Skyhawks Sports & Games Camp \$165/res, \$170/non-res

Ages 8-12 — 9-3:00pm • STW Multi-purpose court

Mini-Hawks Sports Camp - \$139/res, \$144/non-res

Ages 4-7— 9-12:00pm • STW Multi-purpose court

Food Explorers Cooking Camp - \$135

Ages 5-11 — 2-5:00pm • STW Kitchen

FOOD EXPLORERS

For full program details visit nbrecreation.com

## 🔜 Virtual Camps by Kidscapades - \$65 per week

July 12 - July 15 at 9:00-9:30 • Virtual Princess Days: ages 3-6 July 19- 22 at 9:00-9:30 • Adventureland Camp: ages 3-6 July 26-29 at 9:00-9:30 • Summer Sizzling Science ages 5-8 Visit nbrecreation.com for full details and descriptions! And please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions!

# 

### Ages 18+ - Quinnipiac River Archery Park

346 Quinnipiac Street, Wallingford, CT.

**Tuesday, June 1 - June 22** 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. \$140 res/ \$145 nr

This outdoor adult archery class is in collaboration with the Quinnipiac River Archery Park located at 346 Quinnipiac Street, Wallingford, CT.

This class is designed for beginners and for individuals age 18+. You do not need your own equipment - the fee includes everything you need for the class!



# FAMILY SCIENCE SPECTACULAR

Ages 5 - 9 & Caregivers — STW Community Center

Fridays, June 5 - June 26, 11:00 - 12:45pm

#### Instructor: Kids Corner

\$130 res/ \$135 nr

Attention students & caregivers! Join this hands on class to explore chemistry, engineering and physics. Build a roller coaster, bridges and launchers. Put on your goggles and lab coats to learn about (safe) chemical mixtures, atoms, acids, molecules, electrons, metals and the periodic table elements. Then explore the exciting world of how things work by experimenting with heat, magnetism, magnetic fields, electricity, simple circuits and more!

Annual Senior Picnic

Featuring: The Muddy Rudders

Co-sponsored with North Branford Rotary Club

Thursday, June 24, 4:30-6:00pm STW Community Center Parking Lot FREE for town senior residents,

\$5 for non residents Nothing says summer like live music, friends and food! Music begins at 4:30pm | Meal served at 5:00pm Bring your lawn chair and enjoy!

### Please register by June 15th

# BINGO

Ages 55+ — STW Community Center 6/3, 6/10, 6/25 - 10:00am - .25 per card

Mary's Culinary Classes Ages 5-14

#### STW Community Center • 5:30 - 7:30 pm Cost \$40 res/ \$45 non res per class

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

JUNE 8, 2021 Spinach Artichoke Fettuccini & Triple Vanilla Brownies JUNE 15, 2021 Lemon Garlic Parmesan Shrimp Pasta & Chocolate Lava Cake JUNE 22, 2021 Buffalo Chicken Biscuit Bomb & Strawberry Brownie Kabobs



Space is limited, must register in advance!



## **CHAIR YOGA**

Ages 55+ — STW Community Center Monday, June 7– June 28, 1:00-2:00pm \$30 res/ \$35 nr

Instructor: Pat Velleca

Chair Yoga is an excellent way to loosen and stretch muscles, reduce stress, and improve circulation. This well rounded program includes flexibility and balance exercises.



FOR ALL PROGRAMS PLEASE BRING APPROPRITE EQUIPMENT AND YOUR WATER BOTTLE



## **CONSTRUCTION SERVICES**

ANF Construction. residential or commercial remodeling and new construction kitchens, baths, decks and more. Call for free estimate. Artie, 203-927-5275. Southern CT Restoration. Insurance restoration and general contracting services. New construction, remodeling, kitchens, baths, roofing, siding, windows, doors, decks and painting. Call Pat Zichichi @ 203-239-9600.

## ELECTRICIANS

TJC Electrical Services - No Job too small or big. Service upgrade & Generator Specials. Call Tom Cassella at 203-619-2823. Licensed & Insured.

### LANDSCAPING

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

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

Mone Landscaping LLC. we are now accepting new accounts for landscaping. Including but not limited to Lawn Mowing, Mulch, Trimming, Edging, etc. We are licensed and fully insured. Morethan 25 years in business. Call Mike at 203-640-5317 for a free estimate.

## CASH IN ON OLD JEWELRY

Wanted Gold, Silver scrap jewelry. Fair Prices offered. Call 203-627-6826 or 203-376-1249

#### PLUMBING

John DiMaggio Plumbing - Residential/Commercial repairs/remodeling. Big or small. Water Heater Specials! Licensed & Insured.

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**Accounting & Bookkeeping Services Computer Consulting, Training & Support Tax Planning & Preparation for Individuals & All Business Entitites Estate & Trust Tax Preparations** 

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Jodie R. Vog Funeral Director jodel.vogt@carriageservices.com

phil.appell@carriageservices.com 330 Notch Hill Road, North Branford (203) 481-3217

Philip M. Appell

Funeral Director & Managing Partner

238 Elm Street, West Haven (203) 933-1217

Keenan Funeral Home wecare@keenanfuneralhome.com

#### www.keenanfuneralhome.com

## Sons & Daughters of Italy Resume

The Sons & Daughters of Italy will resume indoor meetings in June. Be a part of a growing organization that embodies the Italian culture, The June meeting will take place on June 2, 2021at 7:00 in the St. Frances Cabrini Church Hall. Come and visit and see what we are all about. For more information call Frank at 203-410-4254 or go to northhavenlodge2805.club

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Call 203 - 627 - 6826. References available.

#### TREE SERVICES



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

### **HELP WANTED**

Part time Experienced Pizza Maker. Carmine's in Durham. Apply in person or call. 16 Main Street in Durham. 860-349-5411

### TAG SALE SPACE AVAILABLE

TAG SALE SPACES AVAILABLE: Northford Congregational Church, "A Little Church with a Big Heart," will be holding an outdoor tag sale on the lawn to benefit the church on Sat., June 26, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., at 4 Old Post Rd., Northford. A limited number of spaces will be available for \$25 paid in advance (non-refundable). Set-up will begin at 7:30 a.m. Bring your own table and chairs. Contact Aloha at (203) 484-0794 for information and to reserve a space.

