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Volume 27 No 26 June 11, 2021

## North Branford High School Class of 2021



**Caroline Shadman - Valedictorian**

Caroline is a very accomplished senior who has excelled in her academics and on the stage as a member of the NBHS Concert Band and various ensembles during tenure at NBHS. Caroline grew up in Northford and is the oldest child in her family with a sibling who also attends NBHS. She is the Vice President of the National Honor Society at North Branford High School and her academic resume is extensive and includes several Advanced Placement courses and Honors Level courses. Currently, Caroline is taking 3 Advanced Placement courses, AP Calculus, AP Music Theory, and AP Spanish. Her family has extensive experience and a keen interest in music. They have attended several live musicals and enjoy watching movies that feature this genre. Caroline has successfully completed related coursework at NBHS including Jazz Ensemble and Wind Ensemble. As a talented musician, she has also been a selected participant for the Shoreline Music Festival and Southern CT High School Music Festival, both events feature and recognize the most accomplished musicians from the corresponding areas. Her community service has included extensive work in the area of theatre and dance. Caroline was an accomplished student of karate and earned a black belt. Caroline's post high school plans include attending UCONN and majoring in Music Education.

Zachary Abbagnaro	Bella Colavolpe
Peter Ablondi-Taylor	Jaiden Colburn
McKayla Aguiar	Aiden Cole
Ashlee Amendola	Connor Coyne
Sophia Anastasio	Charliana Criscuolo
Allie Appicelli	Shawn D'Aversa
Sachin Archer	Briana D'Onofrio
Jessica Armin	Jonathan DaCunto
Andrew Banks	Trent DeFrancesco
Alyssa Barile	Sophia DellaCamera
Bryce Beardsley	Mia DeLoughery
Nadia Becker	Daisy DeWitt
Nathan Blythe	Felicia Didiano
Brianna Brezicki	Giacomo Didiano
Dylan Brown	Roberto Didiano
Jeremy Bunnell	Dylan DiMeo
Mackenzie Burwell	Dylan Dion
Carly Butler	Catherine Dow
Adrianna Cacopardo	Dylan Duffy
Luke Campagna	Kyle Dunphy
Jadon Canelli	Kelly Erickson
Gabriella Carofano	Alena Esposito
Alex Clinton	Isabella Esposito



**Brianna Iuteri- Salutatorian**

Brianna is an accomplished senior who has excelled in her academics and in her co-curriculars. Brianna grew up in Northford and is the oldest child in the family with a sibling who also attends NBHS. Her current schedule includes a rigorous course load including: AP Spanish, AP Calculus, AP Literature and Composition, and honors level Physics and Human Anatomy and Physiology. She has always had an interest in the field of science and has demonstrated a remarkable level of success in her coursework in this discipline throughout her high school career. Brianna has been a member of the NBHS Cheerleading Team, a member of the NBHS Interact Club, and a volunteer at local hospitals and medical centers. Brianna's family have made family time a top priority and all members of the family have a common interest in the culinary arts connected to their cultural heritage. Brianna's cousins are graduates of NBHS and she remains in close contact with them. Brianna will be attending UCONN this fall and will be majoring in Nursing.

**Summer Evans**

**Paige Fabish**

**Olivia Ferreira**

**Ariana Fiondella**

**Isabelle Fortier**

**Justin Frandsen**

**Brandon Fratta**

**Jillian Garrett**

**Griffin Geist**

**Julianne George**

**Efstathios Gianniotis**

**Gabrielle Gibilisco**

**Onna Gott**

**Summer Graver**

**Jason Guerrero**

**Corbin Hart**

**Julia Heffernan**

**Christopher Herassme**

**Trevor Holzer**

**Zoe Hughes**

**Ryan Hummel**

**Madelyn Humphrey**

**Brianna Iuteri**

**Kelli Jacobson**

**Karina Jassil**

**Marc Judd**

**Michael Kammerer**

**Marlena Karsmarski**

**Riley Kendall**

**Alyssa Kendrick**

**Luke Kim**

**Taylor Kirmali**

**Kelsey Laucella**

**Conor Leete**

**Alex LeMere**

**Anthony Longo**

**Ronnie Longo**

**Adrianna Lucibello**

**Kaila Manner**

**Vasilios Maroulis**

**Colby Martinik**



**Ethan Sabetta - Essayist**

Ethan Sabetta is an accomplished senior who has excelled in his academics and in his co-curriculars. Both of Ethan's parents are graduates of NBHS and he and his family reside in Northford. His mother is a Social Studies teacher and has been an inspiration for him when studying domestic politics, enrolling in AP US Government and when deciding to enter the field of Journalism. In addition to volunteering at local libraries during his high school years, Ethan was a frequent visitor at the libraries as a youngster. He also was a member of the local 4-H Organization and enjoyed working with peers and his advisors. His academic resume is most impressive with several Advanced Placement and Honors Level courses listed. Currently, he is taking Advanced Placement Calculus and Advanced Placement US Government. Ethan is the President of the National Honor Society and a member of the NBHS Fencing Team. He is also a member of the NBHS Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble. In addition to volunteering at libraries, Ethan has also volunteered at local food pantries. Ethan's post high school plans include attending a SCSU and majoring in Journalism.

**Emily McCormack**

**Marquis McFadden**

**Brooke Melillo**

**Landon Melillo**

**Jada Miconi**

**Zoe Miller**

**Liliana Mingione**

**Patrick Mullen**

**Alyssa Nero**

**Dominic Nuterangelo**

**Amanda Nuzzo**

**Jamison O'Brien**

**Jeffrey O'Connor**

**Kylie O'Neil**

**Nicholas O'Rourke**

**Emily Olson**

**Sophia Ouellet**

**Luciano Palma**

**Lucia Pantani**

**Matthew Pedersen**

**Erica Piercey**

**Jake Podoloff**

**Nicholas Poulin**

**Mallory Preiss**

**Hunter Provencher**

**Anthony Raffone**

**Ava Raymond**

**Ethan Raymond**

**Louis Ricci**

**Leslie Rice**

**Christina Riggione**

**Ethan Sabetta**

**Ilyanna Santiago**

**Elizabeth Sarenas**

**Kayla Sarmento**

**Andrew Sellitto**

**Emma Serenson**

**Caroline Shadman**

**Alexis Sorrell**

**Jason Stanford**

**Aidan Stoner**

**Leigha Sullivan**

**Ella Taylor**

**Evan Teran**

**Nicholas Tranquilli**

**Marcellino Turcio**

**Alessia Valentino**

**Michael Vaspasiano**

**Krista Vecchio**

**Nicholas Vecchio**

**Ariana Velez**

**Charlotte Villano**

**Sofia Votto**

**Tyler Waligroski**

**Shelden Wessoleck**

**Johanna Wethly**

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↑ 4.2% April, 2020

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April 2021

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↑ 4.2% April, 2020

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State Representative Vincent Candelora  
A “Clean Slate” to Grow Our Economy?



When the subject of economic development comes up in government circles, obvious catalysts for growth include fewer regulations and reducing taxes, or some combination of both.

Here at the capitol, though, a new and surprising sales pitch surfaced last week—erasing criminal records, we were told, is a key ingredient to growing our economy.

The “Clean Slate” bill advanced recently by Democrats is among the most controversial topics debated during the session. The purpose of their policy push, to put people with criminal records into a better position to secure jobs their convictions have prevented them from attaining, is well-intentioned. Research, they say, points to increased annual earnings and subsequent economic stimulation.

The jury is still out on their calculations. What we do know, however, is that this bill gives short shrift to victims. The legislation, approved along party lines in both the House and Senate, institutes *automatic* erasure of many misdemeanors (7 years after the date of conviction) and many Class D and E felonies (10 years after conviction.)

Make no mistake, this isn’t petty crime. Among the convictions that will be automatically erased are criminally negligent homicide, second-degree stalking, disseminating voyeuristic material, carjacking, and criminal violation of a civil protection order. Bias and bigotry-related crimes, too.

Like Republicans in the senate, where the bill passed along party lines, those in the House tried to pull those crimes, and others, out of the eligibility pool. Our colleagues across the aisle didn’t budge.

We offered amendment after amendment. Each one was shot down. In the end, we were left with legislation that essentially sidelines our state’s effective pardons and paroles process while also failing to establish a right for victims to contest the erasure of records. The bill passed 91-56.

For me, it’s a continuation of a trend in the legislature: the steady erosion of accountability.

As I write this, it’s unclear whether Gov. Lamont will sign the bill into law. He, too, has shown concern about the expansiveness of crimes eligible for automatic erasure. He hoped his legislative majority would include only low-level misdemeanors. Boy, was he off.

Whether the bill receives the governor’s signature or not, expect unabashed Democrats to press on next year. And they’ll continue to push the envelope.

A list of crimes was removed at the 11th hour to get moderate Democrats in the House of Representatives to support the bill, including: second-degree strangulation or suffocation, third-degree possession of child pornography, third-degree assault of an elderly, blind, disabled or pregnant person.

Expect to hear from them about those specific crimes, and others, again in future debates. Growing our economy by reducing regulations and taxes? I doubt it.

Let’s Be “Frank

Sunday is June 13th, the Feast of Saint Anthony of Padua. I’m sure you remember that was a special day for mom. Her devotion to the saint was evident when she skipped family tradition and named you Anthony. The only first born of dad’s siblings not to be named after the grandfather we never knew.

It was always Anthony and never Tony. When your friends called and asked for Tony she would respond with “there is no Tony here” and hang up. “When they start calling it St. Tony’s Church, then you can call him Tony” she would emphasize.

Speaking of St. Anthony, that became our church. We were all involved as teens and stayed involved for years. You till you got married, Mary till she died and me I hope until I die, many years from now.

For years, this would be a busy week for all of us. I would take a full week off from work and under the leadership of father Mario we would grow our annual Feast & Festival every year. It would take close to a year of planning but Father Mario would get input from all the parishioners, and then do what he wanted to do. It was fun. All the meetings were filled with wine, food and companionship. When Father Mario left, Father Joe brought the same love of God and family to our parish family and the traditional Parish activity became stronger than ever. It was also a large fundraiser to help with growing church expenses.

We would kick off the week with a manicotti dinner. That would be followed by three day prayer services and then a four day outdoor festival ending with a High Mass and procession.

I would spend a entire week outside moving refrigerators, picking up food, building booths and tents, and setting up the church yard. A small but dedicated group of people would help with the setups and more than 100 parishioners and friends would help with the four days of activities. It was a tremendous week of devotion, social reunions and food and music to bring our neighborhood and later bring an old neighborhood back to life.

It’s very sad that this hard work and spiritual renewal of happiness and reward, has now become a thing of the past. Many of the one hundred or so people who were so involved in putting this together have passed on and the torch has not been. It has been extinguished.

Our growing excitement and dedication to pulling this thing off every year are now just a memory. It has all broken down to a one day event and a small gathering after Mass.

There are many excuses as to why these traditions have been squelched but apathy and laziness come to my mind. Few want to or are capable of donating the entire week to set up the event.

This was followed by the cancellation (not reduction) of the outdoor festivities. Covid took care of the manicotti dinner and for some reason the

three days of prayer and devotion to Saint Anthony have also disappeared.

It’s sad that the elderly cannot enjoy the gatherings, and our children will never know the devotion, love and tradition of a neighborhood. They will only know it through our eyes and that too will soon be a memory. Well take care my brother. Happy name day and give my best wishes of a blessed Saint Anthony to the rest of the family. Tell mom I still have the statue of St. Anthony in the back yard. I look at it every day from my family room and



I still remember the grea times we had in his name. I’ll see you soon.

PS. Page 5 of this edition is dedicated to the life of Saint Anthony of

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**Letters to the editor...**

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All letters must be signed. A telephone number should  
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Matt in the Minors



First month of professional baseball in the books. Sometimes it's easy to forget how hard baseball can be. The level of play is definitely a step up but nothing

crazy. It just takes some time to get used to. The pitchers throw harder, any batter can be a threat, defense hardly ever makes mistakes. The evolving game of baseball seems to make more sense to me now more than ever.

Baseball before the 2000's had much more "small ball". Bunting, stealing, hit and runs, and situational hitting. They don't teach us those parts of the game anymore because it's not as efficient as hitting extra base hits. So for those angry baseball lovers, it is true: we are being taught what you see on MLB network and sportscenter. However, it is not so much "hitting the ball up" but rather shooting for a good OPS (on base plus slugging) instead of a high batting average. Batting averages may be down but run production and OPS numbers are still the same. Which goes to show, hitters are being more efficient than ever.

This leads into my humble brag that I successfully hit my first professional home run. It was certainly a wall scraper (a ball that barely makes it over the fence). Oppo-taco (opposite field home run) for those who need to catch up on their baseball lingo. A 2-0 fastball to left field just snuck over the wall at our home field in Peoria, IL. It was hard to hold in the smile going around the bases and I definitely could not hold it in once I got to home. I was struggling the at bats leading up to that swing so it definitely felt great to get out of the way. I already know what I will write about in two weeks....the fans. Until then.

-matt: Matthew Chamberlain

**Editor's Note:** Our humble columnist neglected to mention in his last five games he is 6 for 11.

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The Sound	282
Patch	234
Town website	114
Other (please specify)	60
New Haven Register	53
Totoket TV (public access)	23

- Totoket Times is the most popular source for community events
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## Saint Anthony of Padua June 13th

St. Anthony of Padua is one of the Catholic Church's most popular saints. Saint Anthony of Padua, patron saint of lost and stolen articles, was a powerful Franciscan preacher and teacher. He's typically portrayed holding the child Jesus—or a lily—or a book—or all three—in his arms. Many people give alms to St. Anthony Bread in thanksgiving to God for blessings received through the prayers of St. Anthony.

St. Anthony of Padua's life is what every Christian's life is meant to be; a steady courage to face the ups and downs of life, the call to love and forgive, to be concerned for the needs of others, to deal with crisis great and small, and to have our feet solidly on the ground of total trusting love and dependence on God.

St Anthony is beloved throughout the world and is responsive to all people and all needs. His intercessory powers before our God are awesome.

Legends about Anthony abound. But let's turn to the known facts about him. Anthony was born in 1195 (13 years after St. Francis) in Lisbon, Portugal and given the name of Fernando at Baptism. His parents, Martin and Mary Bulhom, apparently belonged to one of the prominent families of the city.

At the age of 15 he entered the religious order of St. Augustine. Monastery life was hardly peaceful for young Fernando, nor conducive to prayer and study, as his old friends came to visit frequently and engaged in vehement political discussions.

After two years he was sent to Coimbra. There he began nine years of intense study, learning the Augustinian theology that he would later combine with the Franciscan vision. Fernando was probably ordained a priest during this time.

The Franciscans allowed Anthony to go to Morocco, to be a witness for Christ, and a martyr as well. But, as often happens, the gift he wanted to give was not the gift that was to be asked of him. He became seriously ill, and after several months realized he had to go home.

He never arrived. His ship ran into storms and high winds and was blown east across the Mediterranean. Months later he arrived on the east coast of Sicily. The friars at nearby Messina, though they didn't know him, welcomed him and began nursing him back to health. Still ailing, he wanted to attend the great Pentecost Chapter of Mats (so called because the 3,000 friars could not be housed and slept on mats). Francis was there, also sick. History does not reveal any meeting between Francis and Anthony.

Since the young man was from "out of town," he received no assignment at the meeting, so he asked to go with a provincial superior from northern Italy. "Instruct me in the Franciscan life," he asked, not mentioning his prior theological training. Now, like Francis, he had his first choice—a life of seclusion and contemplation in a hermitage near Montepaolo.

Anthony traveled tirelessly in both northern Italy and southern France—perhaps 400 trips—choosing to enter the cities where the heretics were strongest. Yet the sermons he has left behind rarely show him taking direct issue with the heretics. As the historian Clasen interprets it, Anthony preferred to present the grandeur of Christianity in positive ways. It was no good to prove people wrong: Anthony wanted to win them to the right, the healthiness of real sorrow and conversion, the wonder of reconciliation with a loving Father.

Anthony's superior, St. Francis, was cautious about education such as his protégé possessed. He had seen too many theologians taking pride in their sophisticated knowledge. Still, if the friars had to hit the roads and preach to all sorts of people, they needed a firm grounding in Scripture and theology. So, when he heard the glowing report of Anthony's debut at the ordinations, Francis wrote in 1224, "It pleases me that you should teach the friars sacred theology, provided that in such studies they do not destroy the spirit of holy prayer and devotedness, as contained in the Rule."

Anthony first taught in a friary in Bologna, which became a famous school. The theology book of the time was the Bible. In one extant sermon by the saint, there are at least 183 passages from Scripture. While none of his theological conferences and discussions were written down, we do have two volumes of his sermons: Sunday Sermons and Feastday Sermons. His method included the use of allegory and symbolic explanation of Scripture.

Padua, Italy is a short distance west of Venice. At the time of Anthony, it was one of the most important cities in the country, with an important university for the study of civil and canon law. Sometimes Anthony left Padua for greater solitude. He went to a place loved by Francis—LaVerna, where Francis received the wounds of Jesus. He also found a grotto near the friary where he could pray in solitude.

In poor health, and still provincial superior of northern Italy, he went to the General Chapter in Rome and asked to be relieved of his duties. But he was later recalled as part of a special commission to discuss certain matters of the Franciscan Rule with the pope.

Back in Padua, he preached his last and most famous Lenten sermons. The crowds were so great—sometimes 30,000—that the churches could not hold them, so he went into the piazzas or the open fields. People waited all night to hear him. He needed a bodyguard to protect him from the people armed with scissors who wanted to snip off a piece of his habit as a relic. After his morning Mass and sermon, he would hear confessions. This sometimes lasted all day—as did his fasting.

The great energy he had expended during the Lent of 1231 left him exhausted. He went to a little town near Padua, but seeing death coming close, he wanted to return to the city that he loved. The journey in a wagon weakened him so much, however, that he had to stop at Arcella. He had to bless Padua from a distance, as Francis had blessed Assisi.

At Arcella, he received the last sacraments, sang and prayed with the friars there. When one of them asked Anthony what he was staring at so intently, he answered, "I see my Lord!" He died in peace a short time after that. He was only 36 and had been a Franciscan but 10 years.

The following year, his friend, Pope Gregory IX, moved by the many miracles that occurred at Anthony's tomb, declared him a saint. Anthony was a simple and humble friar who preached the Good News lovingly and with fearless courage. The youth whom his fellow friars thought was uneducated became one

of the great preachers and theologians of his day. He was a man of great penance and apostolic zeal. But he was primarily a saint of the people.

The reason for invoking St. Anthony's help in finding lost or stolen things is traced back to an incident in his own life. As the story goes, Anthony had a book of psalms that was very important to him. Besides the value of any book before the invention of printing, the psalter had the notes and comments he had made to use in teaching students in his Franciscan Order.

A novice who had already grown tired of living religious life decided to depart the community. Besides going AWOL he also took Anthony's psalter! Upon realizing his psalter was missing, Anthony prayed it would be found or returned to him. And after his prayer the thieving novice was moved to return the psalter to Anthony and to return to the Order, which accepted him back. Legend has embroidered this story a bit. It has the novice stopped in his flight by a horrible devil, brandishing an ax and threatening to trample him underfoot if he did not immediately return the book. Obviously a devil would hardly command anyone to do something good. But the core of the story would seem to be true. And the stolen book is said to be preserved in the Franciscan friary in Bologna.

In any event, shortly after his death people began praying through Anthony to find or recover lost and stolen articles.

St. Anthony Bread is a term used for offerings made in thanksgiving to God for blessings received through the prayers of St. Anthony. Sometimes the alms are given for the education of priests. In some places parents also make a gift for the poor after placing a newborn child under the protection of St. Anthony. It is a practice in some churches to bless small loaves of bread on the feast of St. Anthony and give them to those who want them.

Different legends or stories account for the donation of what is called St. Anthony Bread. By at least one account it goes back to 1263, when it is said a child drowned near the Basilica of St. Anthony which was still being built. His mother promised that if the child was restored to her she would give for the poor an amount of corn equal to the child's weight. Her prayer and promise were rewarded with the boy's return to life.

Another reason for the practice is traced back to Louise Bouffier, a shopkeeper in Toulon, France. A locksmith was prepared to break open her shop door after no key would open it. Bouffier asked the locksmith to try his keys one more time after she prayed and promised to give bread to the poor in honor of St. Anthony if the door would open without force. The door then opened. After others received favors through the intercession of St. Anthony, they joined Louise Bouffier in founding the charity of St. Anthony Bread.

St. Anthony has been pictured by artists and sculptors in all kinds of ways. He is depicted with a book in his hands, with a lily or torch. He has been painted preaching to fish, holding a monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament in front of a mule or preaching in the public square or from a nut tree.

But since the 17th century we most often find the saint shown with the child Jesus in his arm or even with the child standing on a book the saint holds. A story about St. Anthony related in the complete edition of Butler's Lives of the Saints (edited, revised and supplemented by Herbert Anthony Thurston, S.J., and Donald Attwater) projects back into the past a visit of Anthony to the Lord of Chatenauneuf. Anthony was praying far into the night when suddenly the room was filled with light more brilliant than the sun. Jesus then appeared to St. Anthony under the form of a little child. Chatenauneuf, attracted by the brilliant light that filled his house, was drawn to witness the vision but promised to tell no one of it until after St. Anthony's death.

*This excerpt is from the book, Saint Anthony of Padua: The Story of His Life and Popular Devotions, which was published in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of St. Anthony Messenger by Franciscan Father Norman Perry (1929-1999)*

**"Security Systems are best when installed by  
a professional not the internet."**



**(203) 288-1000**

355 Sackett Point Rd North Haven, CT 06473

*Did you know:*

**A bolt of lightning contains enough energy  
to toast 100,000 slices of bread!**



*The North Branford Scholarship Association awarded 66 scholarships to graduating seniors for a total of \$22,350. They are grateful for the overwhelming support of the community and the hard work of all the graduates.*

[illegible]



# SHORELINE CHAMPIONS



***NORTH BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM WON THE SHORELINE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE SIXTH YEAR IN A ROW BY DEFEATING OLD LYME 5 - 0. PHOTO COMPLIMENTS OF ROXANNE SENERCHIA***



***NORTH BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM WON THE SHORELINE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR***





***NBIS Softball has Undefeated Season***

The NBIS softball team completed a perfect 9-0 season by defeating HK Middle School at Totoket Park by a score of 9-1. The team featured excellent pitching and defense throughout the season. The 6th - 8th graders possessed excellent leadership qualities on and off the field. They played aggressively throughout the season and had some very timely hits. They understood the importance of playing as a team and rose to the occasion in pressure situations. The team wishes the 8th graders the best of luck as they move on to high school next year and looks forward to welcoming back the returning 7th and 6th graders . The NBIS softball team is coached by Russell Scovin.

*Photo compliments of Dina Falcioni*

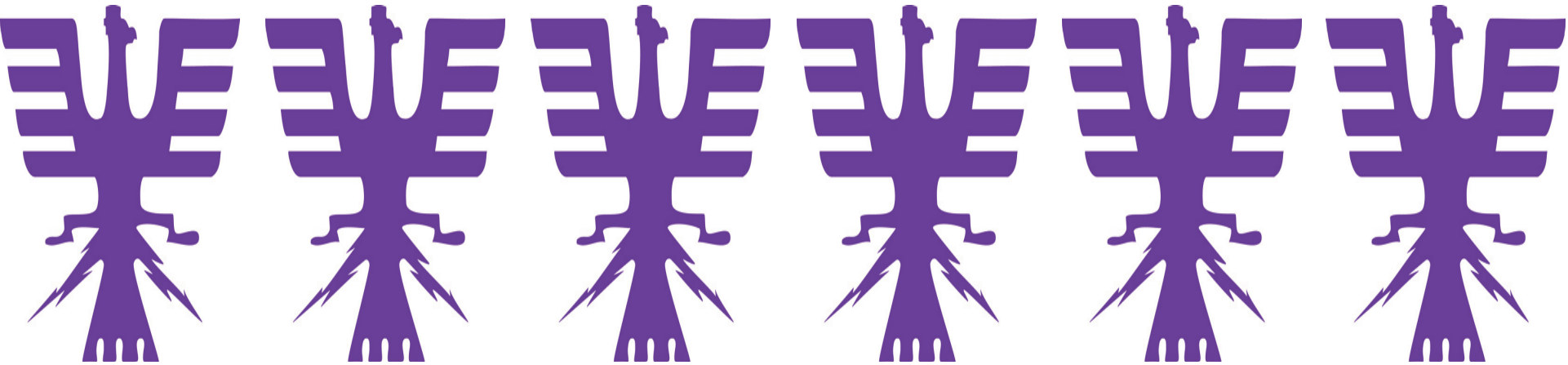
***Football Foundation Honors Scholar Athletes***

**Press release: National Football Foundation:**  
The Casey-O’Brien New Haven County Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame, for the sixty first consecutive year , has recognized young men who played football and excelled in the classroom.  
“We couldn’t deny worthy candidates of this prestigious honor just because they didn’t play football this past fall”, said Bill O’Brien chapter president. Last year we unfortunately had to cancel the awards dinner two weeks before it was scheduled. It was very disappointing for the scholar athletes and their parents.”  
A short reception was held at the Floyd little Athletic Center at the end of April .  
This year, twenty six were honored for their academic excellence and leadership.  
Since 1962 the chapter has honored 1283 student athletes.  
North Branford palced two students in this Elite club. Jamison O’Brien from North Branford High School and Aiden Stankiewicz from Notre Dame of West Haven.



Scholar Athlete Jamison O’Brien was captain of both the Thundersbirds football and lacrosse teams. He was a four year starter in both sports and never missed a game in either sport going back to his time in youth sports. He played on the offensive and defensive lines in football and was awarded the Co-Defensive Player of the Year Award in 2019. He was also selected All Conference in lacrosse in 2018 and was a member of the 2019 Shoreline Conference Championship team.  
An honors student, Jamison was nominated by his school for the 2020 National Leadership Forum at the University of Maryland for his “Academic Achievement and Leadership Ability”.  
He will attend Eastern Connecticut State University and will play lacrosse for the Warriors.  
He is the son of Amy & Greg O’Brien.  
He is pictured with his sister Mikella, mother Amy, scholar athlete chairman Kevin O’Brien and his father Gregory

In his junior Year, Aiden Stankiewicz became a two way starter who was known for always making the big play on either side of the ball. The son of Christopher and Deborah Stankiewicz, he also played lacrosse. His acaemic record featured taking Accelerated Courses in science, english, religion and social studies, as well as College courses in ECE biology and ECE English.  
He was a Peer Counselor in school and a member of the Math and Spanish Honor Society.  
During summers, he worked cleaning and waxing boats and helped at the Connecticut Sportsplex.  
Aiden will attend Quinnipiac University in the fall where he will major in Athletic Training and Physical Therapy.  
*He is pictured with parents Christopher and Deborah, scholar athlete chairman Kevin O’Brien and coach Joe DeCaprio*





## Climate Change Impact Project Looking to talk to Residents

Have you been affected by climate change? Have you seen changes in your property? Have you seen more devastating heat events? Have you been impacted by hurricanes, storms, and other extreme weather events? Has your health been affected by changes in the climate through asthma, allergies or increased ticks and mosquitoes?

Many people have stories and history in this area that show that climate change has had an effect on their environment, health, property, or way of life. The ESDHD (East Shore District Health Department) Climate Change Project would like to hear your stories in your voice - pictures are welcomed.

By sharing your personal stories and pictures, our project hopes to increase the discussion around climate change and perhaps find ways to decelerate the changes or find ways to manage/soften the impacts that climate change has on our local communities and each of our lives.

Please consider sharing your story with us. You can go onto <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ESDHDclimate> to leave your information for us to contact you or you can email Heather Soroko at [hsoroko@esdhd.org](mailto:hsoroko@esdhd.org) or call Barbara Naclerio at 203-481-4233 ext. 569.

**Send Press Releases to  
Totokettimes@Comcast.net  
For advertising information  
visit our website at  
[www.totokettimes.com](http://www.totokettimes.com)  
or Call Frank  
at 203-410-4254**

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**LASER TAG BIRTHDAY PARTIES**

**LASER TAG FIELD TRIPS**

**LASER TAG GROUP OUTINGS**

**NOW AVAILABLE BY RESERVATION**

**GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE ONLY**



203-484-4383

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



## 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 opened May 22nd  
for the 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,  
2021**

**Note: Center is closed for 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](mailto:ask.hazwaste@rwater.com) for  
more information**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Next Electronics Recycling

**Saturday July 10, 2021 9:00 AM - Noon**

**North Branford Recycling Center**

**(Public Works - Route 22)**

**290 Forest Road**

\*\*\*\*\*

## 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](http://recyclerfinder.com)

**Please put these common non-recyclable items in the trash:**  
garden hoses, paper, paperboard and corrugated cardboard contaminated with food residue,  
black plastic containers, Styrofoam, light bulbs, mirrors, window glass, ceramics, pottery

**Thank you for recycling responsibly**

**NEXT LEVEL  
NEUROFEEDBACK**

**Give your kids the *EDGE!***

Summer programs  
available at  
**Connecticut Sportsplex**

For more info please visit us at:  
[www.nextlevelneurofeedback.com](http://www.nextlevelneurofeedback.com)



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

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

**North Branford Congregational Church, UCC.** 1680 Foxon Rd., North Branford, CT, 203-488-8456 or nobfdcong@sbcglobal.net or [www.northbranfordcongregational.org](http://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 welcome 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://www.umcbranford.org) or (203) 488-0549. Sunday service 9:30am - both in-person and live on our website. “The Church on the Rock,” led by Pastor Kent Jackson. We invite you to discover the power of faith in Jesus Christ bringing God’s love to the world. Join us to worship, experience God’s word, and stay connected.

**Zion Episcopal Church,** 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. 203-488-7395 Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar. Please visit our Facebook page or our website [www.zionepiscopalchurch.org](http://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.

## OUTDOOR MARKET PLACE SALE

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish at St. Barnabas Church, 44 Washington Ave. North Haven is planning an outdoor Market Place Sale on Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to 3pm in the church parking lot. We will have for sale items that are gently used and will also have a great basket raffle. Mark your calendars and come to shop for and interesting item or two or take a chance on some lovely baskets. For further information, call 203-239-5378. In case of inclement weather this sale will be postponed for a future date that will be advertised.

## Accepting Applications for Nursery School Director

Zion Episcopal Church in North Branford CT is looking to hire a part-time director for the Nursery on Notch Hill. Nursery on Notch Hill is a well established school with wonderful and caring teachers and small class sizes. This is a 15 hour per week position. Candidates must have certification from the State of CT (CDA) have a strong understanding of child development, and have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Candidates may send letters of interest and any questions to the Rev. Lucy LaRocca at [zionvicar@att.net](mailto:zionvicar@att.net).

## Dignity of Life Seminars

*The Catholic Cemeteries Association Inc. (CCA)* will be sponsoring a presentation focused on educating families about the challenges and the importance of Advance Planning, Maintaining the Dignity of Life during end-of-life discussions, and information about our NEW service called the Catholic Funeral Plan®. *The CCA* will offer evening Seminars with the assistance of an Elder Care Attorney. Professionals will answer questions on how to manage the elements of the golden years. The Seminar is designed for those age 50+ and their adult children, but all are welcome to attend. Please give us an **hour and 30 minutes** of your time.

Seminars will be held at the Sacred Heart Cemetery Chapel in Meriden from June until November every other Wednesday evening beginning at 5:30pm until 7pm.

All interested, MUST register. Seating is limited. Refreshments and materials will be provided.

## Rosary Walk 2021 No. Haven Walking for a Purpose and a Cause



All are welcome to join us every Tuesday evening at 6:00 PM at All Saints Cemetery (rain or shine). Meet in front of the main building.

The Rosary Walk began on June 8<sup>th</sup> and will continue until October (with a time change in October).

We are praying for World Peace and for each of your intentions. This Season, we will be walking to benefit

the CT Diaper Bank in hopes to help families with children. Let us make a small change in the world through our prayers and a simple act of love for thy neighbor. Making changes from the bottom up!

Please visit our website EVENTS Calendar to learn more and to donate by click on the link provided.

*If inclement weather, please meet in front of the Mausoleum instead.* Programs will be provided. If you have questions, please call Barbara at (203) 780-8418 or visit our website for additional info. at [www.ccacem.org](http://www.ccacem.org).

## Sons & Daughters of Italy Resume

The Sons & Daughters of Italy have resumed indoor meetings and functions. Become a part of a growing organization that embodies the Italian culture,

The July meeting will take place on July 6, 2021at 7:00 in the St. Frances Cabrini Church Hall in North Haven. Come and visit to see what we are all about.

For more information call Frank at 203-410-4254 or go to [northhavenlodge2805.club](http://northhavenlodge2805.club)



## FOUND AT THE NORTHFORD POST OFFICE

A set of keys was found in the Maltby & Old Post Road area. Could possibly be a gun lock. Also a photo from 1987 of Brian & Christine on Memorial Day. Both these items can be claimed at the Norhford PO





## 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



Enrollment is now open  
for camp, grades 1-6!

Monday June 28 - Friday August 20

8:30am - 4:30pm

\$125 weekly resident rate

Daily lunch is included!

Weekly classes available at NO ADDITIONAL COST!

Register online at [www.nbrecreation.com](http://www.nbrecreation.com)



### MINI CAMPS: JUNE 21—JUNE 25

**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



For full program details visit [nbrecreation.com](http://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](http://nbrecreation.com) for full details and descriptions! And please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions!



### HOOPSTER TOTS

Ages 18 months - 5 years - STW Front Court

Tuesdays, June 22 - August 10

Grasshoppers(18 mo.-2yr): 4:00-4:45pm

Froggies(2.5-3.5): 5:00-5:45pm

Kangaroos(4-5yr): 6:00-7:00pm

\$109 res/ \$114 nr



**Instructor:** SuperTots Sports Academy

Learning basketball has never been more fun! These classes focus on dribbling, shot technique, passing and teamwork. Adjustable hoops and appropriately-sized basketballs are used to always provide just the right amount of challenge. Parent participation required for ages 18 mos.-3.5 years.

### MULTI-SPORT TOTS

Ages 18 months - 5 years - STW Front Court

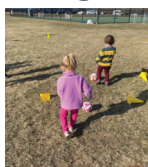
Saturdays, June 26 - August 14

Rookies(18 mo.-2yrs): 9:00-9:45am

All-Stars(2.5-3.5yrs): 10:00-10:45am

Legends (Age 4-5) 11:00-12:00pm

\$109 res/ \$114 nr



**Instructor:** SuperTots Sports Academy

Introduce your little superstar to sports in SuperTots Sports Academy's most popular program! This baseball and basketball class uses age appropriate games and activities to explore balance, hand/eye coordination, fitness, sports skills and child development. Parent participation required for ages 18 mos.-3.5 years.

## 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 22, 2021

Buffalo Chicken Biscuit Bomb & Strawberry Brownie Kabobs



## 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

Friday June, 25 - 10:00am

.25 per card

Space is limited, please register in advance!



## CAFETERIA RE-OPENING

Beginning, June 1st we will be re-opening our cafeteria for sit down meals Monday through Thursday. Seating will be limited and lunch will be served at 11:30am.

We will not be able to offer coffee or tea at this time, we will include juice with your meal. Feel free to bring your own water bottle/drink.

Please help us plan ahead, order your meals at the beginning of each week. The cost of each meal remains \$3.00 unless otherwise noted.

Limited transportation will be provided. Please let us know if you require transportation when you register, we will do our best to accommodate but there is no guarantee.

Masks must be worn properly, covering both your nose and mouth while in our building but can be removed once you are seated for lunch.

When reading the menu please note that the dine-in meal is in bold print under "Meal 1". Seating is limited, please register online at [www.nbrecreation.com](http://www.nbrecreation.com) or call (203) 484-6017.



Grocery shopping will be on Fridays for the month of June. Seating is limited, call to reserve your spot. \*Masks must be worn on the bus.

FOR ALL PROGRAMS PLEASE BRING APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT AND YOUR WATER BOTTLE



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

**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.  
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

TAG SALES

**Tag Sale.** 78 Wilford Rd. North Branford. June 12th, 9-2. Household items, tools, miter saw, bench grinder & phones. Rain date June 13th.  
**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.

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*Certified Information Systems Auditor*  
More than 45 Years Experience

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

**54 Deforest Drive, North Branford, CT 06471**  
**email [selzholz@snet.net](mailto:selzholz@snet.net)**  
**203-488-8649 (FAX) 203-488-1970**

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at no additional  
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Philip M. Appell  
Funeral Director & Managing Partner  
[phil.appell@carriageservices.com](mailto:phil.appell@carriageservices.com)

330 Notch Hill Road, North Branford  
(203) 481-3217



Jodie R. Vogt  
Funeral Director  
[jodel.vogt@carriageservices.com](mailto:jodel.vogt@carriageservices.com)

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

Keenan Funeral Home

[www.keenanfuneralhome.com](http://www.keenanfuneralhome.com) [wecare@keenanfuneralhome.com](mailto:wecare@keenanfuneralhome.com)

HELP WANTED

**LABORER I** - The Town of North Branford is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of Laborer I in the Public Works Department to perform all types of manual labor related to road and grounds maintenance. Requires High School diploma or GED, one (1) year of experience in construction and/or grounds maintenance or any equivalent combination of experience and training that demonstrates the ability to perform the duties. Minimum CT CDL, Class B, Class A license preferred. Starting wage is **\$14.71/hr.** plus benefits. Applications are available on-line at [www.townofnorthbranfordct.com](http://www.townofnorthbranfordct.com). Please submit application in person or by mail to Town Manager’s Office, 909 Foxon Road, North Branford, CT 06471 (no faxes or emails). EEO/AA  
**Part Time Experienced Pizza maker.** Carmine’s in Durham. Apply in person or call. 16 Main Street in Durham. 860-349-5411.  
**Drivers Needed.** Petals 2 Go Florist. Central Plaza, North Branford. Apply in person.

TAG SALES

**18 Farmington Drive (Bridgewater), Northford.** June 12 and 13, Saturday & Sunday. 10AM. Other neighbors may also have tag sales on Saturday.