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Volume 30 No 24, August 2, 2024

North Branford Legend Gone Way Too Soon



Thomas Charles Fair, 61, of North Branford, passed away suddenly in his home on July 22, 2024. He was a beloved father to his three daughters, Sydney Fair, Morgan Fair, and Bayley Fair. His loss will be deeply felt by all who knew and loved him.

Born on February 6, 1963, to the late Thomas M. and Joan D. Fair, Tommy cherished his family's close-knit bonds and their deep roots in North Branford. A proud graduate of North Branford High School's Class of 1981, Tommy was celebrated for his remarkable athletic achievements, including leading his team to a Football State Championship victory in 1979.

After high school, Tommy launched a successful business in hard-drive sales and followed in his family's footsteps by building a home on Valley Road in North Branford, a tradition spanning multiple generations. Tommy was a familiar face in the North Branford sporting community, frequently attending events to support his daughters, nieces, and nephews. He also took on coaching roles for both the football and teams. Tommy wore his purple NB hat every day with pride, as being a Thunderbird symbolized family, teamwork, trust, and a sense of belonging for him. North Branford was his home.

In recognition of his outstanding achievements as a student-athlete, Tommy was inducted into the North Branford High School Hall of Fame in 2023.

Tommy found joy in life's simple pleasures: dining at The Chowder Pot, scenic drives along the water, winters when it snow a lot, windows down to feel the breeze, lightening cracking in a thunderstorm, unpacking Pea Pod deliveries, 80s music in the background, wearing cozy socks and cotton Ts, Packers and The Red Sox, showing off his impressive memory, but more than anything just being with his family.

He is survived by his daughters, Sydney, Morgan, and Bayley Fair; his sisters, Linda Packard (John Gill), Kathy Galuski (Ed Galuski), Tracy Merola (Fran Merola), and Susan Campbell (Brian Campbell); his nieces and nephews, Timmy Shaw (Lilly Shaw), Ryan VanWilgen (Kate VanWilgen), Laura Shaw, Taylor Rose (Ben Rose), and Nicole Campbell; his grandnieces, Olivia Shaw, Alexis Shaw, Eleanora VanWilgen, Gwyneth VanWilgen, and Teigan Rose; along with numerous cousins and friends who were like family. Though we lost our Dad too soon, never to see his smile, hear his silly dad jokes, or hug him once more, many others have also lost a dear friend and loved one in Tommy. May his memory live on in our hearts and minds forever.

We love you, TF #34. Rest in Peace.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Tommy Fair Scholarship Fund via online or by check made out to Linda Packard and mailed to 36 Valley Road, North Branford, CT 06471. Access the QR code for donations and more information.



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September	6	September	13
September	20	September	27
October	4	October	11
October	18	October	25
November	1	November	8



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Table of Contents

Editorial	Page	2 - 4
Sports	Page	5
School	Page	5
Community	Page	6 - 9
Church	Page	10
Park Rec	Page	11
Classified	Page	12

Thanks to All Who Donated

Dear Editor

The Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, GFWC would like to thank the following sponsors for their incredibly generous support of their Third Annual Charity Golf Tournament. The day was wonderful and the golfers enjoyed a spectacular event.

The funds raised go directly to support The Cancer Council and other local charities: Twin Lakes Golf Club, Central Cafe, F. J. Dahill Co. Inc., Giovanni’s Restaurant, Branford Optometric Associates, Fairways Driving Range, Townline Wine & Spirits, Melillo’s Greenhouse & General Store, North Branford Wine & Spirits, Sanitrol Septic, J. Witkowski Tree Service, Sampson Electric LLC, North-

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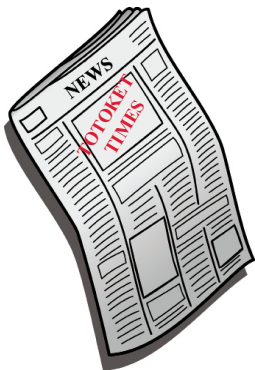
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State Representative Vincent Candelora



The horrific events that unfolded July 13 outside of Pittsburgh dramatically altered the course of political events, from the top of the federal ballot to under-ticket races. A former president of the United States running again for the highest office in our country comes within a sidelong glance of being assassinated on live television. But maybe we should not be surprised at the reaction to this once-in-a-generational event in American history. Democrats clinging to a fleeting strategy of getting their shell of a candidate/incumbent president across the Nov. 5 deadline have failed. Despite the deadly assault aimed at former President Donald Trump that killed a rallygoer and left others gravely wounded, Democrats are now left only with a new, untested candidate and their worn-out narrative that our democracy is under attack.

Meanwhile, it is the national Democrats who took a wrecking ball to democracy. They needed a do-over to undo the mess they created to retain and expand their power. They gutted the primary process and were forced at this late stage of the political season to vanquish the candidate they staged their entire Potemkin Village for in the first place.

The Democrats switched South Carolina’s primary to the head of the schedule, knowing it was the safe haven that saved Biden in 2020. Meanwhile, historically problematic states for Biden, such as New Hampshire and Michigan, were strategically scheduled to vote after the Biden ticket was already more or less set in stone.

In the aftermath of the disastrous June 27 debate, and failed follow-up attempts in the media to convince voters the president is not failing, Democrats panicked. Reports indicating that antsy big donors who were waiting on the sidelines with tens of millions in donations in abeyance, apparently proved fatal to his candidacy.

That and declining polls.
But if Joe Biden is not fit to run as a *candidate* for U.S. president as admitted during his July 24 prime time speech to the nation, how is he fit to *serve* as president until Jan. 20, 2025? A federal investigation has already determined that he is not fit to be charged federally for procuring and storing classified documents in his garage, citing “significantly limited” memory.

So, who, exactly, is the “threat to democracy”?
If Democrats won’t even acknowledge the economic pain caused to citizens by year-over-year inflation, gaslighting you and your neighbors by insisting inflation is down, how could anyone expect them to defend our democracy?

We can’t.
If they won’t protect our nation’s borders, and if they’re pushing to expand costly state services to illegal immigrants, is that defending our democracy?
No, it isn’t.

The message from Democrat pols couldn’t be clearer: Democracy is great, but only if they control it from a backroom somewhere.

Their problem with hypocrisy didn’t evaporate when party power-brokers resolved their ticket headache by dumping President Biden. The American public will expect details on who knew about Joe Biden’s declining capacity and when, and Connecticut residents will want to know how elected Democrats here feel about supporting candidates associated with an obvious coverup that threatens democracy.

If the fate of democracy is on the line this November, as our Democrat colleagues have claimed, then those questions surely deserve answers. And it’s up to all of us — the media included — to keep posing them as Democrats coalesce around Vice President Harris.

Rep. Vincent Candelora
House Republican Leader
86th Assembly District
North Branford, Durham, Guilford, Wallingford

Let’s Be “Frank”

Well brother, we closed the door on July and August seems to be roaring in like a lion. My father-in-law was right, “the older you get the quicker the time flies.”

Last Sunday, to celebrate Mary’s life on the seventh anniversary of her death, I had all her church family over the house for a cookout. We had a great time and Mary loved it. We told stories, we ate, we drank, we laughed, and we even cried a little. It was nice to get together and just celebrate the day. We don’t seem to do that often enough anymore.

Speaking of celebrating the day with friends and family, we will be going on the annual reunion trip to Lake George the second week of August. I’m not a big fan of Lake George. It’s overpriced and the food is not that good. But a large group of mommy’s family and cousins we grew up with like brothers and sisters will be there. Frankie and Ana are coming up from Florida to spend the time with us..

The four days are always filled with eating, drinking and tons of stories that we’ve all heard before at least 100 times and yet we still laugh at them. The funny thing is depending on the story teller they all change a bit from the real truth of what happened.

The weekend before that will be the Annual Potato and Corn Festival which has recently been called POCO. Most people don’t realize this or they have forgotten that it started out as a one day event to give the town folks a chance to meet the local businesses and eateries. After the first year, I questioned why a Potato Festival when we are surrounded by corn fields, Someone ran with it, took all the credit and got the local farmers involved and it was soon changed to the Potato & Corn Festival. People in the community with all the best intentions made it to a four day extravaganza with fireworks and high priced vendors. It sort of knocked out many of the locals who couldn’t afford the more expensive rates or to close their businesses for four days. My opinion is that the weekend takes away from the local restaurants and pizza places and the Town makes no profit on the event so it defeats the original people. However, the volunteers work very hard on this event and the townspeople do get together with their neighbors for a good old fashion hoe down so I support it.

This week and next, one of the big deals are the Olympics. As you know I was never a big fan of these activities. I can never understand why we fight with these countries and then for three weeks every four years they become our great friends. The parade has become a farce. I still can’t understand why Snoop Dogg has the honor of carrying the Torch.

Finally, August will be busy on the health side of things. The 10 year battery on my pacemaker is slowly dying after only seven years. Within the next month, I will need to have a new battery installed. A few tests will determine if I have to have an additional wire added, which will extend the recuperation a bit longer than normal. But it’s all good because all tests have already shown that my heart is very strong and I have no blockages, just an electrical problem. Who would of thunk with all the electricians in the family I need to go outside and get another one? I hope they use a better battery this time

I’m pushing my procedure to August because SueAnn will be getting a first hip replacement on September 10 to be followed by a brief recuperation period and then a second hip replacement. Hopefully, by the beginning of November, we will be able to take a little trip to Canada, enjoy Thanksgiving and Christmas and then take a trip to Florida and spend some time with Frankie and Ana.

Things at the church are going as normal. I just start to get pessimistic because after growing up in this church my entire life there is some writing on the wall that it is slowly being prepared for a full closing.I have no facts, just a gut feeling and my gut is uually right.

Well, that’s it. I hope everyone on your end is doing ok.
Give them a hug and I’ll see you soon.

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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

For the Health of it... Eat Cereal in Bed and Watch Cartoons— the Art of Scheduling Downtime



Do you often marvel at the energy of a person who seems to be a real go-getter with an innate ability to juggle multiple demanding life roles and a busy social life with ease? Whatever comes their way they just seem to get it done among an ever-growing list of responsibilities. If that reminds you of someone you know, I'm about to blow their cover. (If that someone is you, my apologies.) The truth is, they are either hiding the fact that they are running on fumes and exhausted or they are fortunate enough

to have put into practice a life lesson that most of us don't realize the true importance of. Often, it's a little of both. The valuable life lesson is one we can actually learn from a child.

Children know the importance of rest and play. They take breaks when they're tired and indulge in activities purely for enjoyment. Studies show the balance of rest and play is vital for maintaining energy, increasing creativity and productivity, renewing focus, and lowering stress. I find it interesting that as adults we need validation from research and studies to convince us of something we knew naturally, as children. So before another day of hurriedly drinking our morning coffee while scrolling through emails, it would serve us well to take a step back and relearn.

I too have been guilty of forgetting to slow down and had the good fortune of re-learning from my daughter who at the time was 11 years old. It seemed to come "out of nowhere" when she one day suggested that I take the day off, eat cereal in bed and watch cartoons! I was a bit surprised and admittedly amused but it truly was a wake up call that encouraged me to think outside of the box (no pun intended). And, although I have yet to actually "eat cereal in bed and watch cartoons," it is among some of the soundest advice I've ever received. It has stayed with me all these years and I use it as a reminder to step back and chill. As adults, we often get caught up in worries about the past or future or the "urgent" tasks at hand. I didn't even realize the routine of perpetual motion I was in, but she did. Our kids are watching us. They are natural masters of self-care, and as adults, we can learn a lot by observing their natural ability to prioritize well-being.

What about you? If you were to reach into your mailbox and pull out an "invitation to rest" would you accept, or would you simply toss it aside thinking, "I don't have time for this"? Taking a break is not a sign of weakness, it's a strength. It allows us to pause and be present. This mindfulness can extend to other aspects of life, helping us to make more conscious choices about how we spend our time. Sometimes it's just necessary to "check out" mentally in order to regroup. Our bodies and minds have limits. Ignoring those limits can lead to burnout and stress. A break is like a reset button, giving us the energy and clarity to tackle our tasks with renewed vigor.

For me, the concept of taking breaks throughout the day isn't new, but intentionally scheduling those breaks is. I recently learned the importance of being intentional about scheduled break time (10-15 minutes) from one of my mentors. In the past, if I had a blank space, I would fill it with a task, not downtime. I'm more of a "go with the flow" kind of person so schedules in general are hard for me to get used to. I've found outlining my day, either the night before or in the morning, is extremely helpful and now that I schedule breaks, it's even better.

Life isn't just about checking off tasks on a to-do list, so take a look at the list below and see what you might schedule into your day. The first set is more adult in nature followed by some whimsical kidstuff for when the mood strikes!

- Get up and move
- Drink water and have some brain food like nuts, blueberry, avocado, or dark chocolate
- Practice mindful breathing
- Stretch (do what you know you can do), perhaps lunges, stretching your hamstrings, or rolling your neck gently from side to side
- Rest your eyes, especially if you stare at screens all day
- Revisit some of your childhood pastimes and allow yourself to be a kid again, if even for a moment...
- Build a pillow fort
- Roll down a grassy hill - I once did this with a group of children while chaperoning a 5th grade field trip. I was not invited back to chaperone but we had fun :)
- Get lost in a fun puzzle
- Run through the sprinkler
- Watch cartoons and eat cereal in bed

What would you add to this list? Do you have any that you are already doing? If so, please share at joann@wellnessfusion.net and remember to give yourself permission to enjoy life's simple pleasures.

JoAnn Begley is a Holistic Wellness Practitioner, Certified Nutrition Coach and Reiki Master with 25 years experience in holistic wellness therapies.



Welcome to Ariel's Barbershop

The Town of North Branford is thrilled to welcome Ariel's Barbershop to town! Offering hot towel shaves and razor-fresh fades and tapers, Ariel's serves men and boys of all ages. They have a great team of experienced barbers to treat you to a modern and stylish haircut. They also have a nail technician on staff and will soon be welcoming a tattoo artist.

They are located at 999 Foxon Road, Suite 7 in the Twin Lakes Commons Plaza, open from 8:30 AM – 6 PM Monday through Saturday, and take appointments and walk-ins. Visit them on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/ariels_barbershop_203/, book an appointment online at Booksy, or give them a call today at (203) 589-8724.

Photos: Ariel Bruno and his team of barbers cut the ribbon at Ariel's Barber Shop this week with State Senator Paul Cicarella, Councilor Craig Miller, Town Manager Michael Downes and Assistant Town Manager Rory Burke.

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FRESHMAN ORIENTATION
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An orientation to welcome our Freshman Class of 2028 and newly enrolled students will be held on **Thursday, August 22nd from 10:00 to 12:00**. Both parents and students are invited and encouraged to attend.

This program is intended to help our new students make a successful transition to North Branford High School. During orientation, students and parents will receive important information about school policies and procedures, learn how to get involved in our school community, tour our new building, and hear directly from current NBHS student leaders about their own high school experiences.

In addition, all attendees will have the opportunity to pick up their school-issued Chromebook early (with a parent/guardian signature) and **enjoy lunch - at no cost -** in our new cafeteria.

We look forward to having your child join us as a **Thunderbird** at North Branford High School! We hope to see you at our orientation on August 22nd.

THEY MAKE US PROUD

Nolan Greene graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Jurist Doctorate Degree from Western New England University in Springfield, MA.

Dominick Langello and Dana Wray were named to the Dean’s List at Western NewEngland University in Springfield, MA

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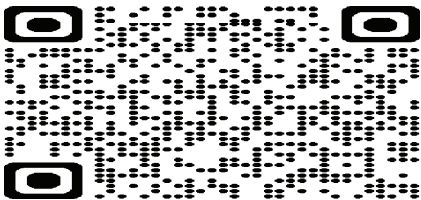
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Local legislators, friends turn out to endorse Cicarella

NORTH HAVEN - Current and former legislators and an enthusiastic crowd of volunteers turned out to support the Cicarella campaign at a rally on July 23, 2024, in North Haven.

Senator Cicarella thanked the large crowd of supporters and received endorsements from current State Rep. David Yaccarino, House Republican Leader Vincent Candelora and former state senate minority leader and mentor, State Sen. Len Fasano.

The PaulChic2024 campaign hosted the summer campaign rally and volunteer gathering in appreciation of the hard work and support the campaign has received, and to build on the team's enthusiasm and energy as they continue to work towards winning reelection, November 5.

Cicarella thanked his family and friends and applauded the legislators for their support.

"These are our mentors. I get to go to them for wisdom because they're experienced and dedicated to public service. They tell me how it is, and they continue to push me to be a better senator."

He continued, "We are energized, and the outstanding volunteers are ready to continue to share our message of 'common sense' with the good people of the 34th district."

Cicarella was first elected in 2020 and is the leading Republican on the legislature's General Law and Public Safety and Security Committees. He also serves on the legislature's Regulation Review and Veterans' Affairs Committees.

Cicarella led bipartisan legislative efforts that most notably resulted in historic tax relief for Connecticut residents. He also has been a consistent and prominent voice for public safety.

"I am looking forward to continuing the important work for families in the 34th District. We made positive steps forward during my second term, and the work is not done. Families continue to feel unsafe in our community and are struggling with the state's high cost of living. Parents want opportunities for their children to learn and get practical experience for well-paying jobs. I've been focused on finding solutions to these concerns and will continue to be your voice at the Capitol," he said.

For more information and to join the team visit www.paulchic2024.com

***Paid for by PaulChic2024, Christy Cicarella, Treasurer.
Approved by Paul Cicarella***

TOWN COUNCIL PASSES BLIGHT ORDINANCE

NORTH BRANFORD –The North Branford Town Council approved a new Blight Ordinance at their regular meeting in June, following a public hearing on the proposed ordinance where several residents showed up to express support for the measure. The ordinance is intended to protect the well-being and property values of residents should they have properties near them that are seriously neglected or have unmitigated deterioration.

The new ordinance regulates against cast off or discarded items such as motor vehicle parts, household appliances, furniture, equipment and building materials, or other materials that are unsanitary or hazardous to the safety and welfare of people, their property, or is causing a nuisance.

Under the ordinance, a property may be cited as blighted if:

- It poses a serious threat to the safety, health and general welfare of the community or is deemed unsafe by the Director of Health, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Fire Marshal or Building Inspector.
- Is attracting illegal activity as identified by the Police Department.
- There is improperly stored garbage and trash or the presence of a trash dumpster in excess of 5 yards for 30 or more consecutive days.
- It is not being maintained as evidenced by the conditions of structures open to the elements, collapsing walls, siding, roofs, windows, window glass, fencing, gutters and downspouts, doors, exhibiting damage, dilapidation, decay or severe animal infestation.
- There are abandoned, inoperable, or unregistered motor vehicles. One inoperable motor vehicle is permitted on a residential property provided it is safe and inaccessible, has a fully intact exterior, is covered and in an area free of brush and long grass and is located behind the building. Properties used for the sale, recycling and/or repair of motor vehicles are exempt from this provision.
- There is chronically overgrown grass, weeds, or similar vegetation that is allowed to reach and remain 12" in height or greater for more than 30 days. This provision excludes property that is classified as farmland, forest land, or open space.

Complaints should be filed with the Town Planner in his capacity as Zoning Enforcement Officer. Violators will receive a written notification of violation and will have ten days to either bring the property into compliance or submit an action plan that includes an estimated timeframe on remediation. If a property owner in violation fails to either remedy the blight or submit in action plan after ten days, penalties can be assessed in accordance with state law. Failure to pay penalties will result in a lien on the property to remedy the blight.

Special consideration will be given to individuals who are elderly and disabled, or active members of any branch of military service in remedying blighted property.

The new ordinance is in effect as of Friday, July 26th, 2024. From this date forward, forms can be found online on the town website, northbranfordct.gov, or available in paper format in the Building Department at Town Hall for residents who wish to file a complaint regarding blighted property.



Christmas in July!

North Haven Sons & Daughters of Italy #2805 Community Outreach Committee recently held its Christmas in July Toy Drive on the Town Green. A big thank you to the community members who donated toys and money. The toys will be given to the Children's Hospital at Yale for the Toy Closet.

Pictured left to right: Donna & Ralph Casciello, Charlene Logan Georgeann Hull and Lucille DeGregorio.

Photo courtesy of Donna Casciello

ATTENTION NORTH BRANFORD PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS

On Sunday, August 4th, 2024, there will be a brief ceremony at noon at the Annual Potato and Corn Festival recognizing our veterans who are Purple Heart recipients as the town receives designation as a Purple Heart Community. We would like you to be a part of the recognition!

If you are a veteran of the armed forces residing in North Branford and have been awarded the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the North Branford Veterans Service Commission would like to get in touch with you.

Veterans who have received the Purple Heart can contact Gina Cox in the Town Manager’s office at 203-484-6000 or gcox@northbranfordct.gov.

Attention Purple Heart Recipients



The Veterans Service Commission wants to get in touch with you!



203-484-6000
gcox@northbranfordct.gov

Join Us!

Come meet the Northford/North Branford Women's Club and find out what we are all about!

Northford Park Pavilion
August 13th at 6:30pm

We will have drinks, appetizers and deserts to share. We are looking for new members and would love to meet you!

Any questions, please reach out to courtneyclear45@gmail.com





★ FIREWORKS! ★ RIDES & GAMES TRACTOR PULLS FOOD TRUCKS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO HELICOPTER RIDES AND MORE!

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 SPONSORS!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT NBPOCOFESTIVAL.COM



TOTOKET VALLEY PARK

290 Forest Road, Rt. 22, Northford, CT



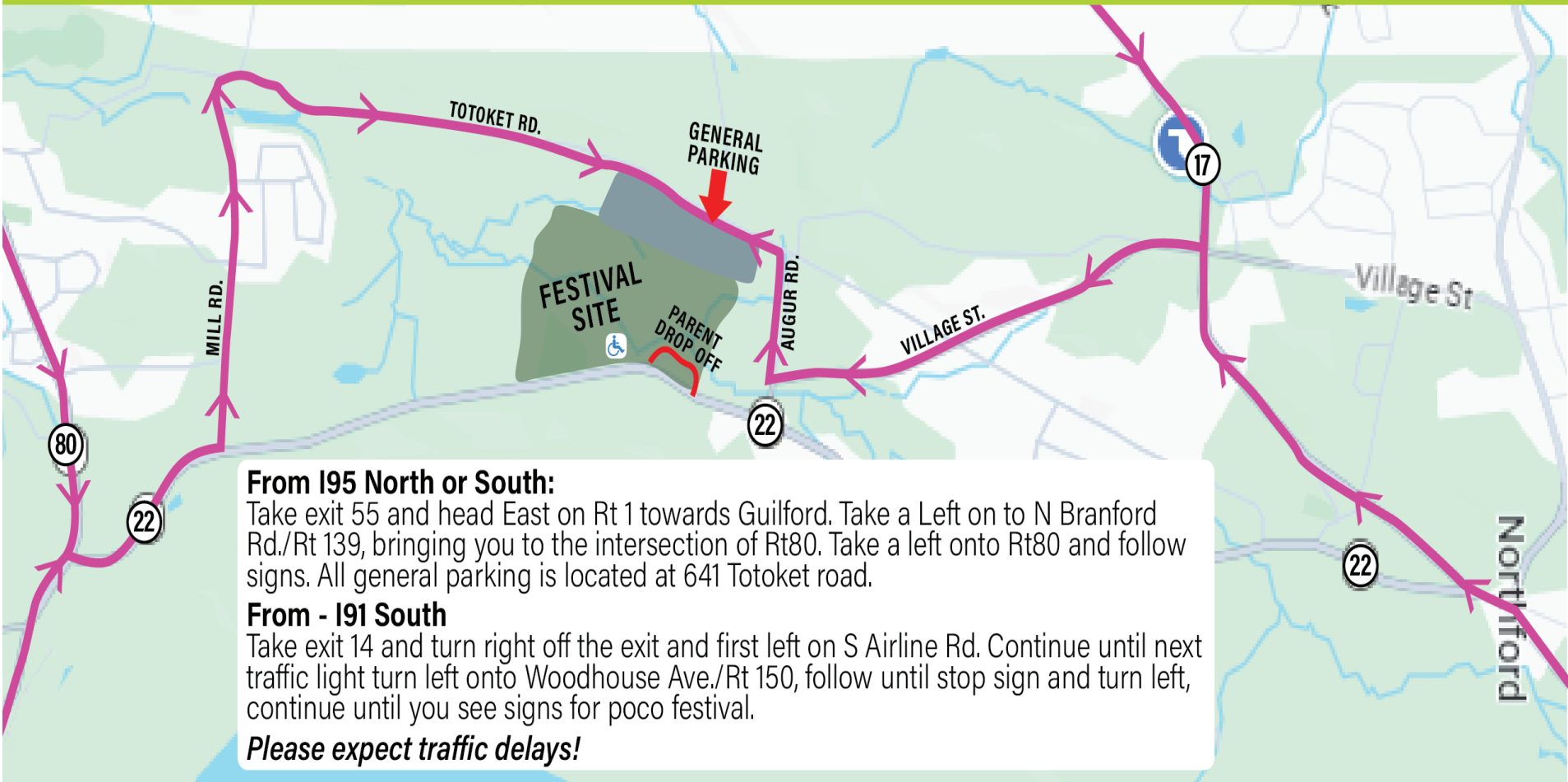
FREE SHUTTLES

STW Community Center, 1332
Middletown Ave. Northford.

Jerome Harrison School 335 foxon
Road North Branford.

GENERAL ON-SITE PARKING - \$20

641 Totoket Road, Northford, CT



From I95 North or South:
Take exit 55 and head East on Rt 1 towards Guilford. Take a Left on to N Branford Rd./Rt 139, bringing you to the intersection of Rt80. Take a left onto Rt80 and follow signs. All general parking is located at 641 Totoket road.

From - I91 South
Take exit 14 and turn right off the exit and first left on S Airline Rd. Continue until next traffic light turn left onto Woodhouse Ave./Rt 150, follow until stop sign and turn left, continue until you see signs for poco festival.

Please expect traffic delays!

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

Community Baptist Church. 53 Hopson Avenue, Branford, CT. Pastor Jon Bickel. Sunday Bible Class 9:30 a.m. and Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Nursery is provided. During the summer, adults meet for bible study and prayer meeting on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Mid-week clubs for children will resume in the fall. For more info.: 203-488-8581[; info@cbcbranford.org; www.cbcbranford.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, the white church on the hill in the heart of Northford, has been an integral part of Northford since 1763! Worship services are held Sundays at 10 a.m., except during the Summer are held at 9 a.m.(from June through Labor Day). Refreshments and fellowship always follows. Please join us - we’d love to get to know you! All are always welcome!! St. Andrew’s supports many community programs. The Food Pantry of North Branford is located in the lower level of St. Andrew’s Parish Hall. St. Andrew’s annually contributes to the North Branford Scholarship Program; North Branford Social Services Thanksgiving Basket Share and the Christmas gift and food basket share programs; Back-to-School backpacks; clothing donations (donation shed located at the back of the church parking lot); and more. A number of fundraising events are held throughout the year to help us help our neighbors, such as a Rhubarb Fest, Ice Cream Socials, and Harvest Supper. Also, the Parish Hall is available for rent for birthday parties, showers, receptions, etc. The Rev. Bryan Spinks is St. Andrew’s priest; Nan Monde is Sr. Warden. For more information please contact Nan at 203-710-7005.”

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

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

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

Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. Our vicar is the Rev. Lucy LaRocca. At this time, we have a single service at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday morning. Refreshments and fellowship to follow service in the parish hall. Please visit our Facebook page or our website zionepiscopalchurch.org. Zion is an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ. 203-488-7395



Recycling News

POCO is HERE!

Please be on the lookout for the recycling bins for your drink containers.

These recycling bins will be clearly marked. There are plenty of trash containers for your leftover food and other waste. Please don’t put your leftover food in the recycling bins. The charitable organization that will receive the proceeds from the drink containers needs to sort through the containers and rinse them out. Please don’t make this task more unpleasant than it needs to be.**When having your picnics, try to have a separate bin for recyclable bottles. Now that the deposits are 10 cents, someone will want to cash them in when the picnic is over. Or there are plenty of non-profits that would love to have them.**

=====
Thanks again to all that came out to the Electronic Recycling Event on Saturday July 13th. We had a great turnout even though it was raining for a while. Thanks for everyone that took the time to bring us your mattresses.

Some of the electronics were still in working condition. While we appreciate these items being recycled, if you have a working item please try to give it away to someone else who can use it. The Facebook page: North Branford & Northford Free Items works great for giveaways.

=====
Don’t forget that the next Bulky Waste isn’t until November!

If your stuff has been on the curb for weeks, no one is going to take it.

Please make other arrangements to dispose of your furniture.

=====
Hazwaste Central is open for the Season

The Regional Water Authorities’ HazWaste Central will be open on Saturdays through October. They are closed on the weekend of Labor Day.

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

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

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

Not Accepted at HazWaste Central: Asbestos, Commercial Waste, Electronics, Fire Extinguishers, Gas-Grill Size Propane Tanks, Medicine, Needles, Smoke Detectors.

=====
Plastic Film Reminder

Please remember to empty your plastic bags of food and liquids before placing in the collection bin. The best way to do this is to turn the bags inside out. It may just be water to you, but mixed with other things it becomes a sticky mess. Also, if you are putting the bags in another bag, please pack them loosely. Tightly packed bags tend to get smelly.

As a reminder, the town’s drop off locations are:

[Atwater and Smith Libraries, Northford Store, STW Community Center, The Food Pantry of NB, Country Paint and Hardware, T.J.’s Launderette](#)

Helpful Hints for Plastic Recycling

You can keep the caps on the bottles when putting them into the blue bin. Black plastic, as in plant pots and take-out containers, are not recyclable. The sorting machines don’t work on the black plastic. All other colors work fine.

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



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 AND INSTAGRAM! @NBPARK.REC.SENIOR



Parents & Caregivers Support Group

Please join us for a special grassroots collaboration between North Branford Parks, Recreation & Senior Center and the North Branford Public Libraries:

We are thrilled to be offering support for our families who have children (of all ages) with special needs.

This is a reoccurring group that meets every first Tuesday of the month at Smith Library, from 12:30pm - 2:00pm and the third Thursday of every month from 6:30pm - 8:00pm at the STW Community Center

Smith Library - 12:30-2:00pm: 8/6, 9/3, 10/1, 11/5

STW - 6:30-8:00pm: 8/22, 9/19, 10/17, 11/21

For more information or questions please reach out to Kerry Haynes - khaynes@northbranfordct.gov



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM TEAM POCO

***HELICOPTER RIDES ARE BACK!!**

***LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

***BEST FIREWORKS AROUND**

***MIDDLESEX TRACTOR PULLERS WILL BE BACK FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT**

***AND THIS YEAR WE WELCOME ONE OF THE LARGEST TRAVELLING EXOTIC PETTING ZOOS IN THE COUNTRY!**

****NEW THIS YEAR****

Only handicap parking will be at 260 Forest Rd.
All general parking will now be located at
641 Totoket Rd, Northford, CT 06472

****FREE shuttle parking will still be available from both sides of town!****



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
NBPOCOFESTIVAL.COM**

VICTORY SOCCER SUMMER CAMPS

Ages 5-13 Northford Park

FULL DAY - August 12-16 - 9:00am - 3:00pm

\$205 res/\$210 nr

HALF DAY - August 12-16 - 9:00am - 12:00pm

\$155 res/\$160 nr

Back by popular demand, Summer Soccer Camp will be offered by Victory Soccer in conjunction with the North Branford Youth Soccer Club & North Branford Parks and Recreation.

The Summer Soccer Camp will be held at Northford Park from August 12 to August 16. Half day and full day options are available

The Summer Soccer Camp will feature fun soccer activities, dynamic training, small-sided tournaments, contests, team spirit day and an awards ceremony on Friday.

Each player will receive a participation medal and a camp T-shirt. Please indicate T-shirt size when registering. Participants should bring a soccer ball, shin guards, cleats or soccer shoes, soccer attire, water bottle, snack and lunch.

Participants should bring a sneakers, sports attire, water bottle, snack, and lunch.



LACROSSE CAMP

Grades 3-8 STW Outside

August 19 - 22 5:00 - 7:00pm \$75 res/\$80 nr

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

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

SKYHAWKS CAMP (SPORTS & GAMES)

Ages 8-12 STW Front Field

August 19-23 - 9:00am - 3:00pm \$175 res/\$175 nr

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

MINI-HAWK (BASEBALL, BASKETBALL & SOCCER)

Ages 4-7 STW Front Field

August 19-23 - 9:00am - 12:00pm \$139 res/\$139 nr

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

ARTISAN SERIES: FRESH MOZZARELLA CLASS

Join master cheese maker and resident, Frank Angeloni in this hands on cheese making class. The class will include hand stretching and forming different sizes and shapes of fresh mozzarella. This class will also include the making of burrata.

FRESH MOZZARELLA MAKING

ADULT (18+) - \$25

Wednesday August 13, 2024 - 5:00-7:30pm

STW Gym/Cafe

FRESH MOZZARELLA MAKING

ADULT (18+) - \$25

Thursday August 14, 2024 - 5:00-7:30pm

STW Gym/Cafe

Sponsored by:



LIUZZI CHEESE

— SENIOR CENTER —



At the Goodspeed Opera House

Enjoy lunch at the Gelston House before the show!

December 4, 2024

\$110res/\$120nr

Departs 10:00am Returns: 5:00pm

The only thing little Ralphie wants for Christmas is a BB gun. But to get it, he must navigate all the obstacles of the yuletide season. Will a neighborhood bully, a strict school teacher, a distracted dad and a department store Santa thwart his quest? There's something for everyone in this hilarious love letter to Christmas past. A package of naughty and nice nostalgia to warm your winter!

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

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

*Parmesan Encrusted Bass *Sherry Mushroom Chicken

*Smoked Beef Brisket *Pasta Cavatappi

*Beef Burger

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



Please register by November 6th to reserve your ticket to lunch and this fantastic show!

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Personal, For Sale, Help Wanted, Tag Sale, and all non-business classified
1 issue \$9.00 2 issues \$12.00 3 issues \$15.00
20 words or less, not including phone #. \$.05 per word, per run,
after 20 words
Lost and Found FREE
Business Classified Ads & Real Estate
3 issues \$35.00, 6 issues \$60.00, 12 issues \$100.00
\$.10 per word, per run, after 20 words
Payment MUST accompany all ads. The advertiser must notify this
newspaper of any errors.
Send ad along with your check to:
Totoket Times P.O. Box 313 Northford, CT 06472
For more information call 203-410-4254

ELECTRICIAN

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

PLUMBING

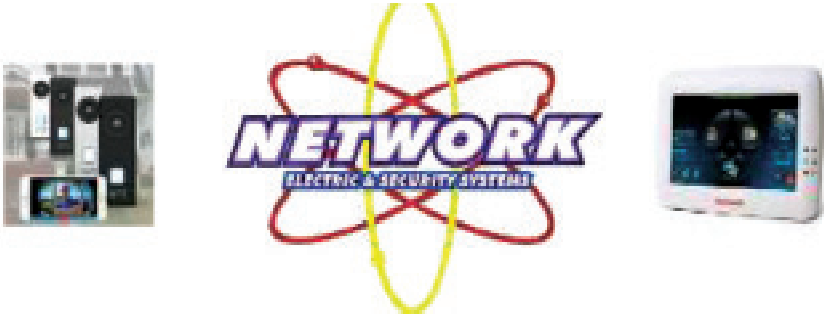
John DiMaggio Plumbing - Residential/Commercial repairs/remodeling.
Big or small. Water Heater Specials! Licensed & Insured.
Call 203 - 627 - 6826. References available.

HELP WANTED

Twin Lake Children’s Center in Northford is growing and looking for
some awesome people to join our toddler team. One full time position is
available in our toddler room along with part time morning (8-1) or after-
noon (1-5:30) positions. Pay ranges from \$17.00 an hour and goes up
depending on level of education and experience with this age group. Send
your inquiry to carol8615@sbcglobal.net

Put your ad here
for pennies a day.
Call Frank at 203-410-4254

“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:

Bubble wrap was originally
invented as wallpaper!

KEENAN
FUNERAL HOME INC.

238 Elm Street
West Haven, CT 06516
(203) 933-1217
www.KeenanFuneralHome.com

330 Notch Hill Road
North Branford, CT 06473
(203) 481-3217



Branford Compassion Club
Hosts Kitten Shower

Branford – Branford Compassion Club is hosting a kitten shower on
Saturday, Aug 17 from 2- 5 p.m. at the Branford Community House
located at 46 Church St.

An afternoon of fun is planned with refreshments, games and raffle
baskets to benefit kittens and mama cats under BCC’s care. While there
is no admission fee for the event, gifts of food, supplies, monetary dona-
tions and gift cards are greatly appreciated. A wish list for kittens and
moms can be accessed on BCC’s website at branfordcompassionclub.org/how-to-help/wish-list/.

Seating is limited, so please RSVP early to Peg at mjohnson27@snet.net
Also, please note that there will be no adoptions processed at the shower.
If interested in adopting a kitten or adult cat, please fill out an adoption
application found on the website at branfordcompassionclub.org/learn/adoption/. An adoption counselor will contact you upon review of your
application.