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Volume 30 No 3 September 22, 2023

THE OLD IS NEW...



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come..."

Our family at Northford Congregational Church has followed God's direction for our church and as the Bible tells us in **2 Corinthians 5:17**, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come..." So, we have been born again as Northford Community Church! Praise God!

And because we have been born again as Northford Community Church, that means we are now a Bible based, Bible believing, Bible focused, FULL Gospel, community and mission-oriented Church. In addition, we consider ourselves and ALL who join us, to be our church family. We were, for all intent and purpose, "dead" as a church just over a year ago. We had gone down to about 6 to 8 members attending church services, but by being faithful and obedient to God and His word, we are now blessed to be a growing church family, led by our Pastor John Vigneri.

Pastor John and our church family believe the Bible is God's "True and Holy Word" and that Jesus (Yeshua) is the Word, and because we believe in Jesus and His teachings, our services are centered and focused on the Bible, and its truth. Again, the Bible is the true Word of God and is sufficient unto itself. We also believe that we all must believe and practice the tenants, the commandments of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in our daily walk.

We understand that "No one is perfect, and we all have fallen short of God's glory" and that God LOVES you and He has a purpose, a plan for your life!

We also believe that your past does not matter, you are never too far gone, or have done something so awful that God will not forgive you, when you repent... we want ALL people to join us on Sundays to hear God's True Word and to feel the presence of God's Holy Spirit and His Agape LOVE..."

NCC believes the Bible is the "True Word of God" and as such we are called to LOVE God with all of our heart, our souls, our mind and our strength and love all others. We Believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord, our Savior, our Messiah, and our God and that is the cornerstone of our faith. Our church family believes in developing true disciples of Jesus, and as such we are called to carry the Good News, the Gospel, the Word of God, to the entire world and make disciples of ALL nations. ALL are always welcome to join our church family and to become part of God's family. All who join us will hear God's Word and the Biblical truth preached and taught here at our church. *Continued on page 2.*

Knights of Columbus Looking for Tag Sale/Flea Market Vendors

The Knights of Columbus, St. Ambrose Council 6801 is looking for vendors to fill 86 spaces 15'w x 28'd at their annual fall giant 80,000 sq. ft. tag sale/flea market on October 7th. (rain dates October 21th & 28th) at Doody's field 465 Foxon Road North Branford. It will run from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Free admission and off road parking. To reserve a space, call 203 484-9737. The cost is \$42 per space paid before 10/1, after this date +\$5 late fee. Vendors must provide their own tables and be in their space before 7:30am.



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TOTOKET TIMES

Deadline	Publication Date
September 29	October 6
October 13	October 20
October 27	November 3
November 10	November 17
November 24	December 1
December 8	December 15

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ATTORNEY AT LAW

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203-500-0201
MARC@ATTORNEYMARC.COM
222 RIMMON ROAD • NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473

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UNDER CONTRACT!

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continued from page 1

Our mission is to share God's Word, God's Spirit and as Jesus commands as well, our love, our faith, our peace, our joy, our kindness, our gentleness and all the fruits and the gifts of the Holy Spirit through:

- God's Word and Jesus's commandments as presented in the Bible.
- By becoming and making Jesus loving and obeying disciples.
- Providing our community and beyond with biblical knowledge of the Word, praise, worship, fellowship, love, compassion and manifesting the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives for other people to see and experience.
- Continuing to grow in our knowledge of God and His Word, our understanding of God and His Word and the Tenants of Jesus through reading God's Word, devotion, prayer, meditation on God's Word, Biblical education, worship, praise and fellowship.
- Educating, embracing, and nurturing children as a valued part of our church family and the future of our church as the bible directs us to.
- Sharing the gifts that God has blessed each of us and our church with.
- Serving and participating in and with our local and global communities as directed by God.

We pray the Holy Spirit will guide, direct, and powerfully move our services, our missions, our outreach and will foster continued growth and knowledge of God, in our God centered lives and His church.

Please feel free to come visit us in person for one of our Sunday services at 10:00 a.m. We also have some fantastic events coming up! Join us for our Annual Tag Sale on September 23, 2023 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a rain date of September 30, 2023. We will also be having our Fall Festival and Flower Sale on October 6th, 7th, and 8th with Craft Vendors, Food, Family Fun and Much More! All events are open to the public! For more information regarding our services, upcoming events, and a myriad of other things relating to our God, visit our website at <https://northfordcongregational.church>. Be blessed!



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Wednesday - Friday 9AM - 5PM

Saturday 9AM - 3PM



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State Representative Vincent Candelora



Two news stories related to a similar topic—the well-being of children—were published recently within 48 hours of one another, a coincidence that highlighted the tension between the two different faces of our state's varied institutions.

One story, a bit of a feel-good piece, covered an announcement from Gov. Lamont, who rolled out a “kids cabinet” comprised of officials across state government who will counsel him on policy and efforts to improve outcomes for children. It will be led by Vanessa Dorantes, Department of Children and Families (DCF) commissioner.

This type of press release has become synonymous with Gov. Lamont's tenure at the Capitol, and I have little doubt the resulting media coverage of such initiatives—all positive, with little to no follow-up analysis—has helped the governor achieve the popularity he enjoys today.

The second story was much less cheery, and in fact contained shocking revelations so disconcerting I contend they cannot be ignored by the legislature. An emergency shelter in Harwinton for at-risk girls in the custody of DCF—the organization headed by Commissioner Dorantes—fell into utter chaos, with repeated calls to local police and medical response teams squeezing the small municipality's modest resources. Among the incidents tied to the shelter, run by a DCF contractor, were physical assaults, runaways, theft, sexual assault committed by staff, injured police officers, and even an instance of sex trafficking. Worse even, are allegations that the shelter operated instructed staff to throttle back calls to law enforcement when problems arose—a claim the vendor denies. I encourage you to read the story (*A Grave Concern: A DCF Shelter for Girls Loses Control*), which can be found at [insideinvestigator.com](https://www.insideinvestigator.com)

Last week, I requested that the legislature's Committee on Children hold a hearing on the issue, which would provide the chance for lawmakers to secure information on a variety of issues tied to the situation, including details on how DCF chooses its vendors and the level of oversight the agency has on shelters and group homes operated by contractors it pays.

This issue can't be brushed off like so many others have been, including a handful that came to light recently through work from the state's non-partisan State Auditors of Public Accounts. Among problems highlighted: The Department of Social Services' failure to recoup \$120,000 in payment benefits issued to deceased clients, and the CT Paid Family Leave Authority's failure to provide contractual documentation or receipts for \$46,000 in payments made to various marketing and media consults. There's also the matter of the University of Connecticut overpaying the school's former president by more than \$335,000 for a one-year sabbatical.

Legislative committees that have cognizance over these and other agencies and organizations can have hearings to learn more about such problems but committee chairmen—Democrats—refuse to do it. After all, that would inject balance into a state news cycle flooded by news releases from the Governor's office promoting everything from free museum passes to the creation of a “Council on Women and Girls” to “uplift women and families.”

Perhaps that Council can take a peek into DCF policy tied to that Harwinton shelter. If anyone needed uplifting, it was those girls.

I appreciate the Governor's persistence in positive messaging, and I understand it isn't *entirely* about politics—I recognize the benefit to Connecticut maintaining a just-ducky façade.

Confronting and repairing problems, however, is critical. We need more of it.

When our state does that? For me, there's no better selling point.

Rep. Vincent Candelora
House Republican Leader
86th District

North Branford, Durham, East Haven, Guilford



North Branford Observes POW-MIA Recognition Day

On the morning of Friday, September 15th, local leaders joined in remembering North Branford's only MIA casualty, Army SFC James Edward Creamer, who went MIA on April 21, 1968 in Thua Thien Province in Vietnam.

Gathered at the North Branford POW monument to remember SFC Creamer's service and sacrifice were (L-R): Town Councilors Rose Angeloni and Nick Palladino, Mayor Jeff Macmillen, Army SFC Tomas Gomez, Veteran Andy Macmillen, Town Manager Michael Downes, and Veterans Bill Savastano and Chuck Larkins.

Andy Macmillen was close friends with SFC Creamer and they both enlisted in the Army together during the Vietnam conflict.



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-or-

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023
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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



Estate Planning for Everyone: The Power of Living Trusts

By Attorney Marc

A living trust, also known as a revocable trust, is a powerful estate planning tool that allows individuals to protect their assets, manage their affairs, and ensure the smooth transfer of wealth to their heirs. The power of living trusts lies in their flexibility, privacy, and ability to minimize the probate process, making them a popular choice for those seeking to secure their legacy and achieve peace of mind.

One of the most compelling advantages of a living trust is its flexibility. Unlike a will, which becomes effective only after your death, a living trust takes effect immediately upon its creation. This means that you, as the grantor, can maintain control over your assets and make changes or revisions to the trust at any time during your lifetime. You can add or remove assets, change beneficiaries, and modify the terms of the trust as your circumstances evolve. This flexibility allows you to adapt to changes in your family, finances, or preferences without the need for costly and time-consuming legal proceedings.

Privacy is another key aspect of the power of living trusts. When a person passes away and their estate goes through probate, the details of their assets, debts, and beneficiaries become part of the public record. This lack of privacy can lead to unwanted scrutiny and potential disputes among heirs. In contrast, assets held in a living trust remain private and confidential. The distribution of assets, beneficiaries, and the terms of the trust all stay out of the public eye. This privacy can be particularly valuable for those who wish to keep their financial affairs confidential or protect sensitive family information.

Minimizing or outright voiding the probate process is perhaps the most significant benefit of a living trust. Probate is the legal process by which a court validates a will, settles the decedent's debts, and distributes assets to beneficiaries. It can be time-consuming, expensive, and subject to delays, especially when disputes arise. By placing assets in a living trust, you can sidestep much of the probate process. When you pass away, your successor trustee can seamlessly take control of the trust and distribute assets to beneficiaries according to your wishes, without the need for court intervention. This not only saves time and money but also ensures a smoother transition of wealth to your loved ones.

Living trusts also offer a valuable layer of protection in case of incapacity. If you become unable to manage your financial affairs due to illness or injury, your successor trustee can step in and handle matters according to the instructions laid out in the trust document. This prevents the need for a court-appointed guardian or conservator, which can be a costly and intrusive process. It also ensures that your assets are managed and used for your benefit during your incapacity.

Furthermore, living trusts are an effective tool for minimizing estate taxes. While they do not provide direct tax benefits, they can be structured to include tax-saving provisions. By working closely with an experienced estate planning attorney, you can design a trust that maximizes the preservation of your wealth and minimizes the tax burden on your heirs.

The power of living trusts lies in their flexibility, privacy, ability to avoid probate, incapacity protection, and potential for tax savings. These benefits make them a compelling choice for individuals and families looking to secure their legacy and achieve peace of mind. However, it's important to note that while living trusts offer numerous advantages, they may not be suitable for everyone. Estate planning is a complex and individualized process, so it's crucial to consult with a qualified attorney who can assess your specific needs and help you create an estate plan that aligns with your goals and preferences. Ultimately, a well-structured living trust can be a cornerstone of your estate plan, providing you and your loved ones with the security and peace of mind you deserve.

If you would like to talk with me about living trusts- I offer a free consultation. Please call 203-500-0201 or email Marc@attorneymarc.com to schedule a complimentary consultation.

Marc Guertin is the principal at Marc Guertin, Attorney at Law, LLC. Located at 222 Rimmon Road, North Haven, Connecticut.

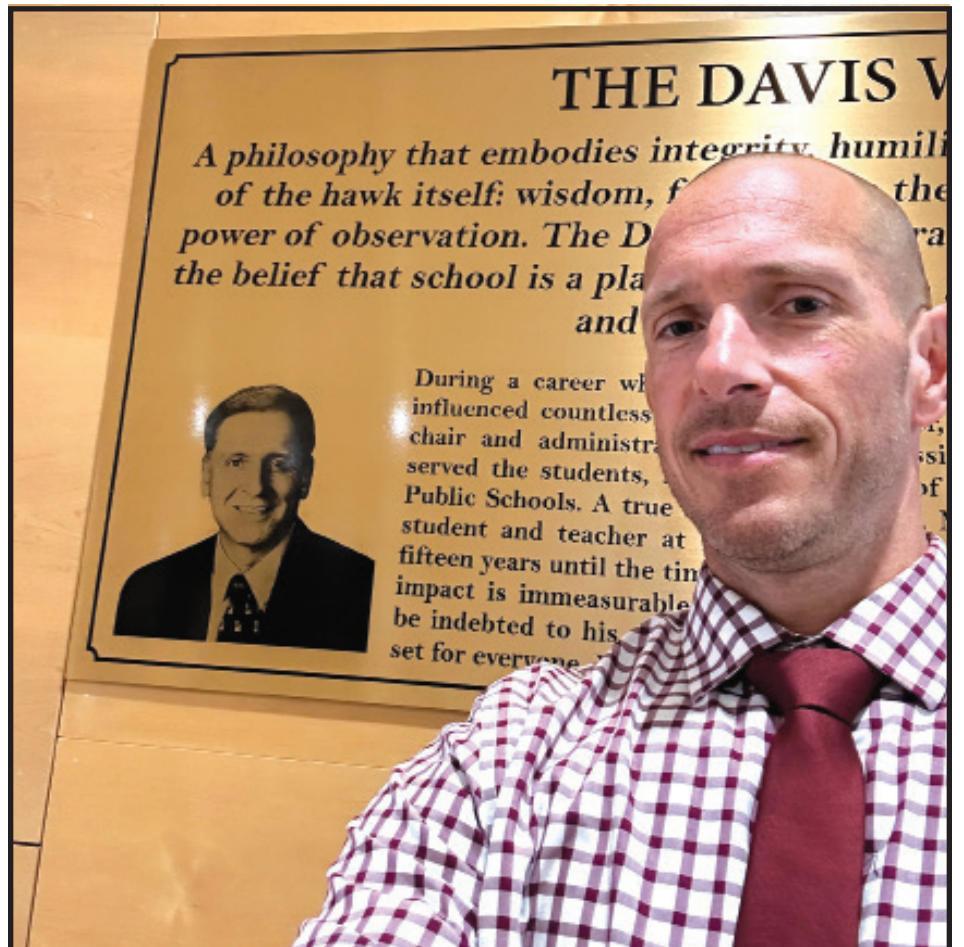
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Welch to Share in “The Davis”

The school year began at North Branford Intermediate School with staff, students, and families welcoming a familiar face, Carter Welch, to the role of interim principal. Welch takes over for the departed Principal O'Rourke, who left right before the start of school for a role closer to his home. Although Dr. Welch is less familiar to the staff at NBIS, having only served them as Director of Curriculum and Instruction in North Branford, he is very familiar to the students and families whom he worked with over several years as their principal at both JHS and TVES.

Principal Welch is excited to be working with the talented staff at NBIS including support staff, teachers, administrators, and some talented and passionate new teachers he assisted in hiring. When communicating with staff he was clear to state he would be leaning on their expertise regarding the middle school student and the many social challenges of that age, but that he would be an involved leader with students and families. Welch was also happy to be directly supporting NBIS in implementing the district instructional vision and approaches in Making Thinking Visible (Harvard's Project Zero) and Building Thinking Classrooms.

When asked about moving to NBIS, in addition to expanding “Thinking Classrooms”, Welch seemed most excited and enthusiastic about sharing in the “Davis Way” - a foundational philosophy that permeates the school and has for several years now. The “Davis Way”, named after longtime educator and administrator in North Branford Alan Davis, embodies integrity, humility, and the symbolic meaning of the hawk itself: wisdom, focusing on the task at hand and using the power of observation. In addition to these attributes, the “Davis Way” affirms that school is a place for learning, growing, laughing, belonging, and generosity of heart. Welch spoke with emotion as he talked about supporting this legacy in the name of Mr. Davis because Mr. Davis was an educator who helped shape Welch in his time in North Branford as a student when Davis was his high school Geometry teacher and Davis later supported and mentored Welch as a new administrator. To Welch supporting the “Davis Way” is an honor and humbling experience to carry on the legacy of such a wonderful man who positively impacted so many. He hopes to continue to establish the “Davis Way” as not just words, but rather a way of life and a way of being at NBIS that ensures everyone treats each other with respect, care, and acceptance.

Welch has his work cut out for him in 2023-2024 while serving as both the NBIS Principal and the Director of Curriculum and Instruction. He is up for the challenge and remains committed to serving the NBIS community while also continuing to support changes in instructional approaches across the district with the goal of improving student achievement across the district and ensuring students are ready for career, college, lifelong learning, and serving their communities. Welch is thankful for the students, staff, families, and leaders in the district who support him and he is committed to serving them all and helping North Branford soar! So far the start at NBIS and across the district continues to be very positive for staff and students and the work of “Making Thinking Visible”, making connections with students, and building positive climates will continue throughout the year.

Press Release and Photo submitted by Carter Welch

BOAT HANDLING COURSE AT INDIAN NECK YACHT CLUB

An in-person class offered by New Haven Sail & Power Squadron, part of America's Boating Club®, starts Mon., Oct. 9, for seven weeks. Sign up by Oct. 2. Location: Indian Neck Yacht Club, 87 Harding Ave., Branford. When: Mondays, Oct. 9 thru Nov. 20 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost: members \$81, non-members \$186. The non-member price includes a one-year membership in New Haven Sail and Power Squadron. Contact Treasurer John Noonan, ljgn1@comcast.net, and make checks payable to NHSPS. Mail to John Noonan, P. O. Box 523, Chester CT 06412.

The Boat Handling course is appropriate for people who have received their Connecticut Safe Boating Certificate and who want to learn more. The course contains material applicable to both power and sail, covering the following topics: rules of the road, docking and undocking, handling your boat underway, anchoring, emergencies on board, and knots and line handling.

New Haven Sail & Power Squadron (NHSPS), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization dedicated to making boating safer and more enjoyable by teaching classes in boat handling, navigation, and related subjects. For information on NHSPS, go to: www.nhsp.org.

NB Ed. Foundation Looking for Help!

The North Branford in Education Foundation, is looking for anyone interested in becoming a board member.

The members have six to eight meetings a year and 2 to 3 events.

All profits raised, go to grants and scholarships for the children in the North Branford and Northford community.

Anyone interested is asked to call Frank at 203-410-4254.



Ladies Take First Place in Bocce League

The Sons & Daughters of Italy Lodge #2805 recently finished their annual Bocce League. For the first time in the tournament's history, an all women team won the championship.

Pictured above are Donna Torre, Georgiana Hall, Angela Vitti & Regina Nejarin

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North Branford Welcomes Partyville

North Branford proudly welcomes Partyville to town! Local officials joined with Shoreline Chamber members for a ribbon-cutting and celebration of their opening on Thursday, September 7th.

Located at 999 Foxon Rd. in the Twin Lakes Commons plaza, Partyville is a great new local place to host kids' parties and events with a large variety of activities for kids ages 3-14. Staff assisted crafts are created in one of their spacious, colorful rooms. Each room has a chalk wall for expression and fun, and goodie bags can be filled from their numerous dispensers.

There to welcome owners Tina and Kate Evans were Town Manager Michael Downes, Mayor Jeff Macmillen, Asst. Town Manager and Economic Development Director Rory Burke, Economic Development Commission member Scott Small, Shoreline Chamber Executive Director Dee Jacob and Shoreline Chamber President Jim Fennell.

Check them out at partyvillellc.com or call 203-208-4261.



Closer to Free Ride Stops in North Branford

We were proud to have North Branford Town Hall once again serve as a rest station for riders during the annual Closer to Free Ride on Saturday, September 9th. Riders could pull in along their route for rest, refuel and repair.

The Ride fuels research and care at Smilow Cancer Center Hospital and Yale Cancer Center while giving riders of all levels the chance to experience five professionally-designed and fully-supported routes ranging from 10 to 100 miles long.

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Photos: Town manager Michael Downes visits with the great volunteers from Closer to Free, and riders resting at the North Branford Town Hall location.

Photos from Town of North Branford.

Recycling News

Important Dates for the Fall

Scrap Metal Pickup – week of October 23-27

Electronics collection at Public Works – Saturday 11-4.

Bulky Waste Pickup – week of November 6-10

Hazwaste Central is Open until October 28th

Go now to avoid longer lines in October

Located right behind the Regional Water Authority's headquarters, 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven

Hours are 9am to noon - Saturdays through October 28th.

Gather your household chemicals so they can be disposed of properly.

Accepted: Waste oil, antifreeze, cleaners, pool chemicals, oil-based paints, pesticides, compact fluorescent light bulbs and much more.

The water company collects these items so they don't go into the trash and pollute your local drinking water.

To find the complete list and the registration form go to Hazwaste at rwater.com or call 203-401-2712.

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

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.

Plastic Film Reminder

We receive a TREX bench every 6 months because of the amount of plastic film we collect. The last one went to Fire Company 4.

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 Packaging Recycling

Cardboard boxes can go into the recycle bin but the plastic bubble wrap cannot.

Bubble wrap is considered plastic film. You can drop this off at any of the town collection locations or your nearest grocery store.

Plastic shipping envelopes are also considered plastic film if the inside is plastic also.

Mixed media shipping envelopes (paper on the outside, plastic on the inside) need to go into the trash.

How to find good homes for your extra stuff.

You can post useful items on the Facebook page: [North Branford & Northford Free Items](#).

There is also Freecycle.org in East Haven or New Haven. You can look up your item in the **New Haven Downsizing Donation Guide**. It lists multiple organizations that want your stuff! Just Google 'New Haven Downsizing Donation Guide'.

Some places even pick-up large items.

Can I recycle it?

Connecticut has a website to help with recycling questions: www.recyclect.com.

They also have an app.

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

NBE Foundation to Recognize Alan Davis Shining Stars

The North Branford Education Founjation will recognize community contributors with th Alan Davis Shining Star Award Dinner. The Dinner will take place at Woodwinds on Tuesday, October 26 beginning at 5:30 and ticktes are only \$50.00 per peson. Ypou can obtain tickets by calling Frank at 203-410-4254.



Giovanni's in Northford will be represented by the two owners, Frank Bevilacqua and Jeff O'Connor. Frank opened the restaurant in 1991 and Jeff bought into the restaurant in 1997 after working there for a few years.

Frank went to Eli Whitney graduating in 1989, and Jeff went to North Branford graduating in 1996. Frank lives in North Haven with his three children and Jeff lives in Northford with his wife and two children.

They love running the business together and have a great partnership. Throughout the years, they have always supported the town in any way that the could. They sponsor sports teams, school functions, our town police, fire, and EMT.

North Branford is proud of the way Giovanni's is involved in our community and their committment to our town. In return they would like to thank the community and all their valued customers.



William Seward, III is a town resident who served as Fire Chief from 2005-2022. He is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of the University of New Haven with degrees in Occupational Safety and Fire Science Administration. He is a licensed Paramedic and Instructor with the CT Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – CT Fire Academy.

Bill's 45 years of emergency service experience includes working for the City of New Haven Fire Department (1978-2008) serving as a firefighter, firefighter paramedic, Lieutenant, Assistant Drill-

master, Captain and retired as the Director of Training. Just prior to retirement he was appointed as the town's fire chief where he was responsible for the management, administration and control of daily fire department operations. This included planning, coordination, organization, direction and supervision of fire suppression, prevention, rescue, training activities and a transport emergency medical service operation. Over his tenure he worked in cooperation and collaboration with his command staff, company officers and department personnel. He reported to a Board of Fire Commissioners. Bill improved the town's level of fire protection from an ISO Class 4/9 to a 4/4Y, implemented a fire department based paramedic transport service, initiated a joint police/fire investigative task force, acquired two new heavy rescue units equipped with specialized technical rescue and hazardous material response equipment. Additionally, his efforts to improve town services branched out to receiving more than \$1.5 million dollars in federal grants for equipment and training; activating a drone program and most importantly, spear-heading a project to construct a state-of-the art fire training facility for our volunteers using local bonding sources. Prior to his retirement he was instrumental in making way to acquire a new digital, state based communications system. He has served on numerous state and region homeland security committees, coordinating a regional hazmat team and serves as co-chair the regional communications group.

Brief highlights of his career in New Haven included responding to more than 350 multiple alarm fires and extraordinary incidents between 1985-2008 including (2) bombings; ship, high rise and church fires, fatal incidents, technical rescues and suspicious threats along with the New Haven and State Police Bomb Squads. He implemented many new training programs and improved the level of hazmat response following 9/11. Under the direction of the city's administration, he was designated as the Fire Department Coordinator for Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Program 2004-2006. This federal program awarded the City and contiguous jurisdiction approximately \$7.2 million dollars toward improving emergency response to critical incidents.

In his not so off time, Bill is a certified ice hockey referee, officiating high school, prep school, youth and college club levels of play. He also referees and play adult hockey. Above all, his favorite hobby is playing the bagpipes. He is the Pipe Sergeant with the New Haven County Firefighters Emerald Society Pipes and Drums.

Bill has been married to his wife Debra for 46 years, has two sons, a daughter and seven grandchildren. His wife is a retired nurse, son William VI is a firefighter paramedic in West Shore, Andrew is a telecommunicator for East Haven and his daughter followed her mom's footsteps as a nurse at Yale New Haven Hospital Smilow Cancer Center.

Cindi Tirollo has been a resident of North Branford for 19 years. After graduating from East Haven High School, Cindi attended the University of Hartford and Southern Connecticut State University, where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. She worked at the Hospital of St. Raphael for 18 years and in 2005 became a substitute school nurse for the North Branford Public School System.

She left hospital nursing to become the full-time school nurse at Totoket Valley Elementary School in 2007, where she has been for the past 16 years. Cindi is currently the district nursing coordinator while also serving as the school nurse at TVES. As school nurse, Cindi has cared for thousands of our community's children and has done so with a steady balance of love, care, and support for both students and families.

Like many, her role became increasingly chal-



lenging during the COVID-19 pandemic; for Cindi this extended her leadership and impact throughout our entire community and beyond. With the assistance and support of the entire North Branford Public School staff she supported the families in our community as we navigated the pandemic. During this time she served our community in her role as a school nurse at TVES, and as the district nursing coordinator as she worked extensively with the other schools, their nurses, their administrators, and their staff, as well as consulting with other CT school nurses and the Connecticut State Department of Education on a weekly basis. Further, she worked closely with the health department to develop and implement our local school practices while also extending herself to vaccinate residents on several occasions at clinics throughout town. Cindi spent long hours contact tracing for the children and families in the school system and assisted daycares, businesses, athletic teams, and others within the community with COVID-19 questions and support. Throughout the pandemic, Cindi made herself available to all who contacted her with concerns, issues, or simply just to talk. Her leadership, expertise, and steady presence throughout the pandemic served as a model for others while also providing the needed comfort and care during this very challenging time.

Throughout her lifetime Cindi has actively participated in athletics and she maintained her engagement in youth and high school sports when it came to her two sons, taking on roles as a parent volunteer for fundraising, school, and community activities. In her role as school nurse she has partnered with school staff, the PTO, and families contributing to countless fundraising and community events such as the Color Run, the Little Red Schoolhouse, and numerous others. Cindi has also been a supporter of various community and neighborhood events including Light the Night, Hope for Tomorrow, as well as North Branford Police and Fire Department appreciation events and parades, supporting our essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has also volunteered for and led very successful Project Graduation campaigns on two occasions.

Cindi resides in North Branford with her husband Michael and their two sons, Alessandro and Giovanni, both North Branford High School graduates.



Sons & Daughters of Italy #2805



Italian Heritage Month



October 4, 2023 7PM

*Frances Calzetta - President American Italian Women
of Greater New Haven*

Discusses Christopher Columbus - Past & Present

October 14, 2023 6PM

Meat Loaf Dinner \$10.00

October 20, 2023, 6:00 PM

Enzo Boscarino

Singing Story Teller

Fried Dough Pizza, Salad

Show and dinner \$10.00

Pizza to go \$6.00 each



October 27, 2023

**Italian Pasta Sauce Competiton
& Ziti Dinner \$10.00**

Coffee & Dessert and Bottled Water at all events!

For more information call SueAnn at 203-710-4186

E-mail sueann.mentone@yahoo.com

All events at St. Frances Cabrini Church

Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, GFWC

Military Whist Card Party

The Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, GFWC is sponsoring a Military Whist Card Party on Friday, October 20th at the Stanley T. Williams Community Center, 1332 Middletown Avenue, Northford. CT. Doors open at 5:30PM and games start at 6:00 PM. We are collecting can goods for the food pantry. Anyone bringing a canned food item will receive one free ticket towards our raffle. There will be fun door prizes and the club will raffle off beautiful gift baskets and other donated prizes. Refreshments, including

delicious appetizers and desserts, will be served. Entry is \$12 per person. Proceeds benefit various charitable organizations in the local area.

For tickets or more information, contact Elissa at 203-793-7180 or Venmo at NorthfordWomens-Club. The Northford-North Branford Women’s Club is a civic organization dedicated to promoting deeper friendships among women of our town and surrounding areas, participating in community service, and cooperating with the club work of the Connecticut State Federation of Women’s Clubs. Check us out on Facebook: Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, GFWC.

St. Patrick’s Parade Committee

Announces Grand Marshall & New Officers

(New Haven, CT) – The Greater New Haven St. Patrick’s Day Parade committee has announced their newly elected slate of officers. Michael dePascale will serve as Chief of Staff, Fiona Stewart takes on the role of Secretary and Cathleen Steinau Buckheit will serve as the 2024 Parade Chairman. Long-time committee member Bernadette Canning will serve as the 2024 Parade Grand Marshal.

The 2024 parade will be held on Sunday, March 10th. The parade will step off at 1:30pm from Chapel Street at Sherman Avenue continuing down Chapel Street toward the New Haven Green and passing by the grandstand in front of New Haven City Hall.

The Greater New Haven St. Patrick’s Day Parade is New England’s premiere Irish cultural event. The free, single day spectator event attracts thousands of people to the streets of New Haven. The parade committee is comprised of all volunteers. The committee has been active in philanthropic endeavors and conducts numerous community outreach programs and fundraisers throughout the year to preserve and celebrate Irish culture both globally and in New England. The primary focus of the all-volunteer committee is to ensure the future and legacy of the parade. The Greater New Haven St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Associated Irish Societies is a 501(c)(3) organization. New committee volunteers are always welcome to join the organization which has a very active year-round calendar of events.

For more information, go to: stpatricksdaysparade.org.

Annual Lake Gaillard Walk Returns!

The Northford-North Branford Women’s Club GFWC, in conjunction with the Regional Water Authority, is sponsoring its 23rd Annual Lake Gaillard Walk in North Branford on Sunday, October 1st 2023 from 9 am to 1 pm, rain or shine.

Lake Gaillard is normally closed to the public and is not included in the Regional Water Authority’s pass, so this is a once-a-year opportunity to enjoy a walk around this beautiful property. The distance around the lake is 7 miles, walkers can choose to do the full loop or a partial section. Participants must start on the trail by 11 am to allow enough time, all walkers have to exit the property no later than 1pm.

Buses will be available to transport participants to the Lake Gaillard property from **ATWATER LIBRARY** beginning at 8:30 am. Access to the Beech Street entrance will be by bus or on foot only. Parking on Beech Street and Poms Lane will be prohibited where posted. Sturdy strollers and wagons are welcome. Bicycles, roller blades and pets cannot be allowed on the trail.

Registration fee is \$10.00 for ages 3 and over. **Pre-registration is strongly encouraged!** Participants may also register on site the day of the walk for \$15. Payment can be sent through Venmo @NorthfordWomens-Club, please include your full name and a contact phone number, or by check made out to the Northford-North Branford Women’s Club. For additional information send an email to VictoriaLanza2017@gmail.com.

LAKE GAILLARD WALK REGISTRATION

Simply complete the following pre-registration form and mail it with your registration fee by September 25th to:

Lake Gaillard Walk, 65 Skylark Dr.,Northford, CT 06472

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Individual Registration Fee \$10.

Participant Name & Phone _____

Totoket Historical Society, Inc.

\$30. per person

Grace Marx

Colonial Dinner

Dinner includes:

Raosted Cornish Game Hen with Cider sauce

Parsley Potatoes Cucumber salad

Succotash Apple-Squash Bake

Pear and Cranberry Breads Pumpkin Cake

cider, coffee, tea and condiments (in house)

SUNDAY, OCT. 8, 2023

1:00 - IN HOUSE SEATING

4-5:45 TAKE OUT PICKUP

HISTORIC REYNOLDS-BEERS HOUSE

1740 FOXON RD.

NORTH BRANFORD

Reservations: Helen 203 481-5268

Fall Shred Event

Rotary Club of North Branford

Declutter your home and office!

Get rid of old documents!

Create more space!

Spark joy and less stress!

Safe, secure onsite shredding.

Saturday, September 30, 2023

North Branford Town Hall

909 Foxon Road, North Branford, CT

9am – 12pm

\$10/banker’s box

NorthBranfordRotary@gmail.com

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

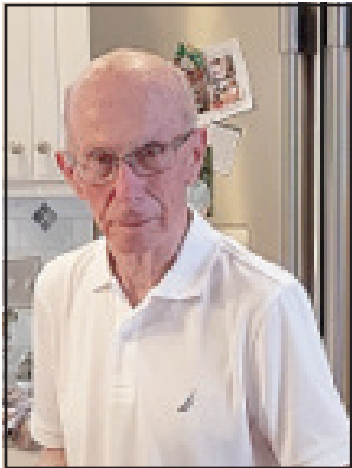
The pastor is Rev. Robert L. Turner. All are welcome and invited to join us for Mass! Summer Mass times include: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 9:00 AM at St. Augustine. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4:30 PM at St. Augustine (English Ordinary no incense used), Sunday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

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 1382 Middletown Avenue - The White Church On The Hill In The Heart Of Northford (at the intersection of Rtes. 17 & 22). Sunday worship at 10:00 a.m. Coffee and fellowship always follows. The Rev. Bryan Spinks is Priest-In-Charge. St.Andrew’s is a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry Network (MACM Network), along with St. James (Higginum) and Emmanuel (Killingworth). Please join us - we’d love to get to know you! All are welcome! St. Andrew’s is the proud home of the Food Pantry of North Branford - a vital community resource serving families in need in Northford and North Branford. St. Andrew’s also partners with St. Pauly Textile in a broad outreach program to help people in need here in the U.S. and around the world. Donations of usable clothing, shoes, boots, belts, purses, sheets, blankets, curtains and stuffed animals may be made at the donation shed in the church parking lot, available 24x7. Visit our website at <https://www.saintandrewsnorthford.org> Like us on Facebook - St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church of Northford, CT. For more information contact us at 203-484-0895; Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-710-7005; Rev. Spinks, 860-304-5266; or MACM office, 860-345-0058.

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

DEATH NOTICE



Retired New Haven Fire Captain George P. Lynch, 88, of Northford, passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 14th, 2023, at the Madison House. He was the beloved husband of 39 years to Lucille Cuomo Lynch. George was born in New Haven on June 29th, 1935, and was the son of the late George and Gertrude Holmes Lynch. He served his country faithfully in the US Army and as a New Haven Firefighter for 37 years, retiring as a Captain. George enjoyed traveling, especially to Europe, River Cruises and his annual trips to Maine and Vermont. George was a UConn

Women’s basketball fan. Father of Dana Lynch, Sharon Shea (Neil) and Richard Lynch (Michele). Grandfather of Christina Pivrotto (Tim), Richard Lynch, Jr., Kristin, Rocco and Mateo DiBiasco. Great Grandfather of Francesca Pivrotto. Predeceased by his sister Rita Darney and his brothers and sisters-in-law Kenneth Lynch (Anne) and Clifford Lynch (Elizabeth).

All Souls Mass

All Saints Cemetery Mausoleum



North Haven-Thursday, November 2nd, 2023 at 10:00 am. Please join Archbishop Blair as he celebrates Mass on the **Solemnity of All Souls Day.** Mass will be offered for all our dearly departed loved ones. Program books will be provided. Handicapped parking is available around the entrance of the Mausoleum. All are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact our Outreach Coordinator, Barbara at 203 780-8418 or emailing her at bgode@ccacem.org. We hope to see you there.

ST. AMBROSE PARISH

BLUE MASS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

St. Monica Church | 5:30 PM

1321 Middletown Ave. Northford

Join us in showing our gratitude to our dedicated heroes. All active and retired members of police, fire and emergency services in our community are encouraged to come with their families and in uniform. Blessings will be bestowed upon all who contribute to public health and safety and prayers will be offered for those who have given their lives in the line of duty.

Reception Following Mass
Fried Dough/Salad \$3 pp | Men/Women in Uniform - Free
Purchase your tickets by calling 203-484-0403 or you can stop by St. Augustine or email Cyndie.Baker@nbcatholics.org

Saint Anthony Church Military Whist



St. Anthony’s Society will have our 7th annual Military Whist on Friday, October 13, 2023 at St. Anthony Parish Center, 70 Washington Avenue, New Haven.

Doors open at 6 pm, Game begins at 7 pm promptly. Refreshments served from 6 to 7 pm. No outside food please. Raffle prizes. Admission is \$12. For tickets call Anna Simeone 203-710-5004 or the Parish Office 203-624-1418.

EAGLE PAINTING

Sergio
(203) 996-5274
(203) 415-8762

Interior / Exterior
Popcorn Removal
Decks Stained or Painted
Power Washing

NORTH BRANFORD PARKS AND RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER

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

TRUNK or TREAT

Saturday October 14th

STW Community Center Parking Lot

2:00 - 3:30pm

Rain or Shine

THEY'RE HERE

Nightmare in North Branford

HAUNTED CINEMA

OCTOBER 14TH 7:00PM

Totoket Valley Park • 290 Forest Rd. Northford

\$20 pre-registration (before 10/10) (per car) \$25 at the door

Register at nbrecreation.com

FIVE NIGHTS AT PARKS AND REC

TEENS, COME CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN ALL MONTH LONG!

For each event attended, receive a raffle ticket to win a movie night basket that includes a \$25 gift card which may be used for the new Five Nights at Freddy's movie, coming out on 10/27!

WEDNESDAY 10/4 Mummy Jars	WEDNESDAY 10/11 Spooky Chocolate Covered Pretzels	MONDAY 10/16 Creepy Bug Picture Frames
WEDNESDAY 10/18 Halloween Cookie Decorating	MONDAY 10/23 Pumpkin Decorating	5:00-6:00 P.M. GRADES 5-8 \$5/PER REGISTRATION WWW.NBRECREATION.COM

FAMILY ASTRONOMY NIGHT:

A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

Join us for a night under the stars at Northford Park. We will learn about different stars and constellations and get star gazing tips from local experts at the New Haven Astronomical Society!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2023 7:00 PM

NORTHFORD PARK

Recommended for all ages

Registration required.

Visit nbranfordlibraries.org or call 203-484-0469

TEEN GUITAR 101

- Tuesdays October 10-31
- STW Community Center
- Senior Room
- 4:15-5:00pm
- \$40 res/\$45 nr

Learning the fundamentals of guitar will help you develop a greater appreciation for music - and it's a lot of FUN! Topics covered include notes, right/left hand technique, beats, chords/chord theory, and basic song structure. *Class is intended for students with little or no instrumental experience. Instructor: Carl Fazzio

Equipment: *Please bring a guitar (style is unimportant; acoustic or classical, even electric - if student brings an electric, an amp is NOT required). *Notebook and pen to take notes.

— SENIOR CENTER —

SENIOR CENTER HOEDOWN

Come to our Hoedown! A great time with fabulous food, friends, live music & a Square Dance demonstration.

OCTOBER 6, 2023

12:00pm - 2:00pm

STW Community Center

\$10res/\$12nr per person 55+

Pulled chicken sliders, mac n' cheese, cornbread, cowboy salsa and apple crisp!

Pre-registration required by September 29th

2nd Annual OPERATION CARE KIT

For CT National Guard Service Members currently stationed overseas.

Let's come together as a community and provide care kits to our hometown heroes!

Some examples of items to purchase are personal care items, drink mixes, energy bars and other snack foods.

Please no chocolate or anything perishable

We will be collecting donations until 10/31/23

CHAIR YOGA

Tuesdays Sept 26-Nov 14 10:30 - 11:30am \$45 res / \$50 nr

Instructor: Bhogah Yoga

Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is done while sitting and using a chair for support. Chair yoga helps build strength, improve coordination, and promotes relaxation, reduces stress.

SENIOR CENTER MEDICARE SEMINARS

Jeffrey Comen, your local Medicare Advocate/Broker, will cover what is new for Medicare in 2024. This is an Educational Seminar only; no plan or carrier specifics will be discussed. This Seminar is FREE, bring your questions and a friend to this Educational Seminar.

October 3, 2023 Seminar 1:00 pm - Senior Room

What's new for Medicare in 2024 - Preparing for the upcoming Annual Enrollment Period - Register by 9/29

October 17, 2023 Seminar 6:00 pm - Senior Room

Medicare Made Clear - Don't Go Through It Alone - Register by 10/13

CARDIO DRUMMING

Thursdays Oct 5 — Nov 30 1:00—1:45pm \$12 res / \$15 nr

Instructor: Senior Center Staff

Cardio drumming brings together drumsticks, an exercise ball, and a stand to create one of the most fun workouts you'll ever do! Cardio drumming can be done while standing or sitting in a chair. Registration required.

COFFEE WITH A COP

Join us and some of the North Branford Police Officers for coffee (and donuts) and conversation at STW! No agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions and get to know the wonderful officers in our Town.

October 11, 2023

STW Senior Room 10:00-11:30am Register by 10/6

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

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


CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Southern CT Restoration. Insurance restoration and general contracting services. New construction, remodeling, kitchens, baths, roofing, siding, windows, doors, decks and painting. Call 203-239-9600.

PLUMBING

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

TREE SERVICES



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

HELP WANTED

Groundskeeper- The Town of North Branford is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of Groundskeeper in the Public Works Department to perform a variety of activities within the parks and grounds operations. Operates a wide variety of grounds maintenance equipment, and works on installing fields, field maintenance, parks maintenance, fence maintenance, and applying fertilizer, striping fields, brush cutting, and irrigation operation and repair. High School or GED diploma required. Three to five (3-5) years of experience in the operation of parks and grounds maintenance and maintenance of equipment or any equivalent combination of experience and training that demonstrates the ability to perform the duties. As a minimum, the employee must have a valid State of Connecticut CDL Class A and be able to drive a standard transmission vehicle. Starting wage is \$28.46/hr., after a year the wage is \$30.66/hr. plus generous benefits. Applications are available on the Town’s website www.northbranfordct.gov. Please submit applications via Town website, in-person at 909 Foxon Road, by mail, or email: rburke@northbranfordct.gov. The position is open until filled. EEO/AA

Regional School District 13 (Durham, Middlefield) has immediate openings for the following positions: **FOOD SERVICE WORKERS (PART TIME), SUBSTITUTES, SUBSTITUTE SCHOOL NURSES AND SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS (DATTCO).**
To apply for any of these positions or for more information please visit the website at www.rsdc.org. Click on the Central Services, Human Resources, current opportunities. For additional information please contact Ashley Hiller at ahillier@rsd13.org.

Live streaming available at no additional cost



Burials ~ Cremation ~ Pre Planning



Philip M. Appell
Funeral Director & Managing Partner
phil.appell@carriageservices.com

At Keenan Funeral Home we work with every family’s budget to give your loved one the dignified memorial they deserve.



Sarah L. Rivera
Funeral Director
sarah.rivera@keenanfuneralhome.com

330 NOTCH HILL ROAD, NORTH BRANFORD
(203) 481-3217

238 ELM STREET, WEST HAVEN
(203) 933-1217

KEENAN FUNERAL HOME
www.keenanfuneralhome.com

NARFE October Meeting

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association monthly meeting will be held Monday, October 2, 1:00 pm, at the North Haven Congregational Church, 28 Church St. All active and retired federal workers are invited to attend.
The guest speaker will be Michelle Bourdeau, Director of BBB Foundation of CT. She will speak on how to protect yourself from scams and frauds targeting older adults and provide tips and pointers for not becoming a victim.
NARFE is dedicated to protecting and preserving the earned benefits of federal workers and retirees.

CRAFT FAIR

CRAFTERS CARE

An Event That Stocks The Food
Pantry of North Branford
Saturday, Oct 14, 2023
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Handcrafted vendors, raffles, and
more! NO FOOD DRIVE THIS YEAR

DOODY’S INN
465 Foxon Rd. North Branford