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Volume 31 No 1, September 27, 2024



WELCOME TO POPPY'S COFFEE & KITCHEN

The Town of North Branford is excited to welcome Poppy's Coffee & Kitchen. They are located in the plaza at 5 Foxon Road, right before the East Haven border.

This is Poppy's second location, building off their popular location in New Haven's East Rock neighborhood. They offer fresh, healthy breakfast and lunch during the week and will be offering brunch specials on the weekends.

They offer an array of specialty espresso & drip coffee drinks and are currently featuring a special fall drink menu. Stop by and welcome them to town and get your pumpkin spice latte fix!

Photo include Chris Henry (GSB), Jose Olivar (owner), Town Manager Michael Downes.



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TOTOKET TIMES

Deadline		Publication Date	
October	4	October	11
October	18	October	25
November	1	November	8
November	15	November	22
November	29	December	6
December	13	December	20


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Response to Candelora Column
Dear Editor:

I am writing this in response to State Representative Candelora’s article from the August 2, 2024 edition of the Totoket Times. It is disappointing that Rep Candelora makes issues about Democrats versus Republicans which contributes to the divisiveness in this country instead of focusing on the important issues and where he stands on them. I want to focus on some facts people need to consider when voting this November.

1. **DEMOCRACY VS DICTATORSHIP:** The former President has promised to be a dictator on his first day and punish those who were against him. Only dictatorships punish dissidents and ignore our constitutional right of freedom of speech. Project 2025 calls for the Justice Department to prosecute district attorneys who disagree with the

President by having the President invoke the Insurrection Act to shut down protests and mobilize red- state national guards units against blue states that resist his agenda.

2. **PROJECT 2025**, which was produced by the Heritage Foundation, is a 900 page playbook for a Republican Presidency and Party which was written by 140 Trump staffers including two of his top administrators. His running mate JD Vance has called the group that produced Project 2025 ‘The de facto institutional home of Trumpism and the most influential engine for ideas for the Republicans’.

3. **EDUCATION:** Trump in his Agenda 47 and Project 2025 plan to A) eliminate the Department of Education. B) eliminate head start C) violate the separation of church and state by: 1) using

continued on page 3



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State Representative Vincent Candelora



I find it deeply concerning that, four months after Democratic legislators failed to formally balance the state budget with significant short-falls by instead passing a “stabilization” bill, we are still waiting for an opinion on the legality of that maneuver. The Democrats’ decision to leave key budget accounts underfunded by hundreds of millions of dollars was not only reckless but may also violate state statutes. Despite our efforts to bring these issues to light, including letters to Attorney General William Tong in May, no official opinion has been issued.

This delay raises serious questions, particularly as we approach an election year. It’s no surprise that, with political stakes at an all-time high, there has been no ruling from the Attorney General’s office. Medicaid, a vital \$3.3 billion program for our state, is in crisis, worsened by the Democrats’ decision to ignore warnings from Governor Lamont last spring. As reported by the news media, Governor Lamont’s office at that time highlighted a significant shortfall in contributions to pension and retirement benefits, with more than \$150 million underfunded. Additionally, the Medicaid program was already experiencing a \$165 million cost overrun, yet the 2024-25 budget accounted for less than 60% of this growth.

Instead of revising the budget responsibly, my Democrat colleagues chose to use a technicality to use federal pandemic aid—outside the budget process—to temporarily prop up areas like higher education and social services, leaving the real problems unaddressed. I contend that this maneuver subverts the spirit of the fiscal guardrails that have been in place since 2017, controls that have helped the state save over \$12 billion and pay down pension debt.

While the Democrats passed their “stabilization” bill back in May of this year, they relied on the notion that the two-year budget was balanced when it was adopted in 2023 and ignored the reality of a brewing budgetary storm. Seven weeks into the new fiscal year, the Governor’s administration’s own budget assessment revealed that the projected operating surplus had dropped from nearly \$300 million to just \$113 million, with Medicaid facing a \$210 million overspend. Yet the Democratic leadership continues to argue that the budget is sound, relying on a surplus that is quickly disappearing.

Democrats’ solution to this issue is to create more budgetary flexibility by loosening the fiscal guardrails that put the state on solid footing after years of financial malaise.

This is not just a numbers game. The decisions being made by Democratic leaders impact the financial stability of Connecticut, and ultimately, the household budgets of residents. It’s crucial that we act responsibly. Republicans have consistently called for fiscal responsibility, and we will continue to do so. The people of Connecticut deserve transparency and a budget that upholds the law, not a hastily cobbled-together solution that fails to address the underlying issues. It’s time for answers and accountability, not partisan delays. The fact that it’s an election year should not be an excuse to avoid difficult decisions or delay critical rulings.

Rep. Vincent Candelora - House Republican Leader 86th District
North Branford, Durham, East Haven, Guilford

Let’s Be “Frank”

Well brother last week was another roller coaster ride. It started with a Tuesday morning trip to Midstate Hospital so SueAnn could get a new hip. The people there were tremendous. The hip surgery took 45 minutes. Within two hours they had her up and walking and they we’re doing physical therapy. They suggested she stay overnight so she would be able to take advantage of another set of therapy next morning. On Wednesday. I picked her up in she walked up the steps rather rapidly. I went in the bedroom to change and came out to make some dinner. She was already at the stove. After I tripped over her walker three times instead of her, leaving the kitchen, she decided to get rid of the walker which she hasn’t use since.

On Friday, I went in for a routine battery change on my pacemaker. As you know nothing is routine for me. With Gina and I talking SueAnn into staying home we went to the hospital. I thought Gina was just going to drop me off, but she decided to stay. The doctor came in and ran a few tests and told me I was getting great use out of my pacer. So good, that I was going to need a wire inserted through my groin to hook up a portable/temporary pacemaker. Apparently, they were afraid my heart would stop when he took the battery out. He told me I’d have to stay an extra three hours. He mentioned that he had never seen a patient more upset about staying for three hours then getting a wire put up the groin. Once again, I told him I wasn’t routine.

Onto the operating room they talked to me about the anesthesia and I insisted I didn’t need any. “No one says they don’t want anesthesia. Why would you want to stay awake?” “to kleep an eye on you guys” was my snerky response. Once again, I’m not everyone. following a few needles to the groin, they asked me if I was OK I said yes then several needles to the chest area. Again they asked me if I was OK.

The nurse asked me if I would like to hear music. I didn’t really care one way or the other so I said fine. “You look like a Sinatra guy” he announced. As the music started, he chose “My Way”. Here I am lying on my back with oxyen and wires coming out of me and the song begins. “And now the End is Near”. My response to the doctor was “ he’s gotta be kidding me twthh that -----song.” Frankie said Sinatra’s theme song for a pace maker should be “I’ve got you under my skin, I’ve got you deep in the heart of me”.

Instead of getting home at 12:30 I got home at 3:30 with the instructions not to lift anything more than 25 pounds for at least a week. SueAnn is surprised at the fact that in my house everything is 24.3 pounds. She thinks I’m making it up, but I insist I am not. I’m not a very good patient.

The anxiety is over. In one short week we have been to a picnic, a garlic festival and gone shopping a few times. I am trying to help SueAnn a little but she is as thick headed as I am. With the help of God and the kids we are doing fine. I try to go easy on them because I’m sure there will come a time when we really need them.

So there you have it. SueAnn is still kicking and I’m stillt ticking. We come from good stock.

Take care. Give everone my best and I’ll see you soon.

letter continued

tax payer dollars to fund private schools including religious schools 2) institute prayer in public schools. D) violate freedom of speech by 1) banning books 2) Project 2025 plans on jailing teachers and librarians over banned books 3). Not allowing critical race theory , or civil rights, or the fact our culture has a diversity of race, religion, sex , disabilities, and cultures to be taught.

4. ECONOMY, JOBS AND UNIONS: . Project 2025 is pro business and anti union and workers as evidenced by stating the following policies: A) allowing states to ban private sector labor unions, B) gutting overtime pay rules C) allowing corporations to fire workers involved in collective action and organizing D) permitting corporations to dissolve unions even when there is a contract. E) disregarding minimum

wage F). scraping the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program. G) replacing federal government employees with loyalists instead of merit based staffing. H) removing child labor protections in hazardous industries. I) extending tax breaks for the wealthy at the expense of lower and middle class programs.

5. HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS: . A). Republicans are calling for cuts in Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid B)the elimination of the negotiated limit on prescription drugs including insulin, and the \$2000 cap on the Medicare prescription drug donut hole C). Project 2025 calls for ‘abortion surveillance’ and strips Americans of their reproductive freedom. D.) The Republicans want a National ban on abortion. (Fact: the old testament considers life beginning at birth and the mother’s life as more important than the

embryo/baby) The abortion issue violates the separation of religion and state and the civil rights laws E) Project 2025 wants the government to prioritize ‘married men and women’ over other types of families and defines who is male and female. This violates our civil rights and the separation of church and state. F) The Republicans want to end the Affordable Care Act 6. ENVIRONMENT: The former president has denied climate change is real despite scientific evidence. He wants to increase fossil fuel production and said ‘we are going to drill baby drill’. This is in support of big business versus healthy earth, air and water and our future life. Jobs can be created by developing alternatives to fossil fuels Project 2025 also callks for the privatizing nuclear waste disposal.

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The publisher assumes no responsibility for typographical errors. In the event of an error, the publisher will issue a credit adjustment on only the incorrect portion of the advertisement, as well as a retraction in the next issue.

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: Minimizing Probate with a Living Trust

By Attorney Marc Guertin

I meet with a lot of people who tell me they “want to avoid probate.” For many reasons, ranging from time and expense to privacy and control, it may be a good thing to minimize interactions with the Probate Court. If you die in Connecticut and you own stuff and you have a Will (or even if you don’t) your estate will need to be probated.

Probate is the legal process of moving assets from your estate and distributing them to your heirs/ beneficiaries. It involves several steps and can be time consuming and costly. Living Trusts are often used utilized to minimize probate.

Imagine a Living Trust as a box that holds your assets. Because it is revocable, you can put assets into the box, and you can take assets out. You can manage the assets in the box or appoint someone else to do that. You have total control- just as you would if you owned the assets outright (outside of the trust). Because the Living Trust owns your assets they will not have to be probated when you die- because you don’t own them- the Trust does.

Living Trusts are a great method of minimizing the costs, time and lack of privacy associated with probating an estate. By using a Living Trust, you can put your assets into your beneficiary’s hands in days instead of months, minimize the cost of transferring the assets, and do so privately.

If you would like to learn more about how Living Trusts minimize the probate process, I offer free initial consultation. Virtual, phone and in person consultations are available. Call me at 203-500-0201 to schedule an appointment.

Marc Guertin is the principal at Marc Guertin, Attorney at Law, LLC. Located at 222 Rimmon Road, North Haven, Connecticut. Visit AttorneyMarc.com Call: 203-500-0201 or email Marc@attorneymarc.com to schedule a complimentary consultation.

more letter

7. IMMIGRATION: There was a good bipartisan immigration bill that the former President told Republicans not to support it. He was instrumental in separating families from children and helped to create a humanitarian crisis for children. He has opposed DACA. We are a country of immigrants. His own wife is an immigrant. FACT: Employers are having trouble filling jobs. Immigrants aren’t taking them. Violence is being created by our citizens more than illegal immigrants. The average immigrant just wants a better life and are not criminals or bad people.

8. GUN CONTROL: We have had violence in our schools and elsewhere mostly with assault weapons and our own citizens. The Republicans have not supported gun control. How does banning assault rifles and requiring guns to be locked up in homes, and requiring background checks infringe on our rights to bear arms?

9 VOTING RIGHTS: The former President’s attorney general stated there was no evidence of fraud. All the court challenges found no evidence of fraud. Since 2016, the former President has said if he loses it is fraud but not if he wins. He tried to get an elected official to change votes in Georgia in 2020. The Republicans in many states have re drawn district lines and made it difficult for people to vote so as to win the election. Election officials have been harassed and threatened by the former President’s supporters.

10. PANDEMIC FACTS. The former President knew about Covid 19 over a month before letting the country know. He supported unorthodox cures as Ivermectin and Bleach. He got his vaccine in secret and did nothing to encourage citizens to get the vaccine or to wear masks. He minimized how bad it was for him to have Covid 19.

10 . January 6, 2020

Our former President encouraged a mob to march on Congress on January 6, 2020 in order to prevent the peaceful transition of government. Because of his comments about VP Pence’s refusal to violate the constitution, the mob wanted to ‘hang’ his Vice President . He sat in the White House and watched the events on TV and did nothing to stop the riot.

Sincerely,
Mrs. L. Gennett,



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HAPPY 105th BIRTHDAY EVELYN SURPRENANT



This past weekend Mayor Rose Angeloni presented a citation from the North Branford Town Council congratulating Evelyn Surprenant who is celebrating her 105th birthday!

Born on September 19, 1919, Evelyn is a life-long North Branford resident. She married Emerson Surprenant in 1941, and they have four children. She worked for A.C. Gilbert during WWII while her husband served in the war, as well as McKesson and Robbins, and

the North Branford Public Schools. Her hobbies include riding motorcycles, swimming, gardening, sewing, quilting, baking, and at the age of 104 she took a ride on a motorcycle and swam in Long Island Sound.

The name Surprenant means “surprise,” and Evelyn is just as surprised as everyone else that she continues to enjoy life. She says her secret to long life is to “just be kind to everyone and love your family” which is evident in the weekly Sunday dinner ritual she enjoys with her family where she maintains her place at the head of the table.

Citation presented on behalf of the Town Council – Mayor Rose Angeloni, Deputy Mayor Jeffrey Macmillen, Bruce Abelson, Marie Diamond, Walter Goad, Craig C. Miller, Nicholas Palladino, Ron Pellicci, and Thomas Zampano.

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NBHS Football Team Wins opening Match



Senior Tommy Hansen rushed for 198 yards and caught three passes for 66 yards to lead the North Thunderbirds to a 54-13c victory over Weaver.

Hanson averaged more than 13 yards per carry and 22 yards per reception. He also had four touchdowns.

Junior quarterback, AJ Siegel was seven for seven with 147 yards and rushed seven times for 140 yards.

Senior Matt Gatari had a 41 yard touchdown reception and junior Greg Ferraro had three receptions for 40 yards and a touchdown

On the defensive side of the ball Tommy Hansen also lead with five solo tackles and four assists. Siegel had eight tackles, sophomore Landon Burnshad six as did sophomore Craig Miller

The T-Birds added one interception and four recovered fumbles

Photo: Hansen and Siegel preparing for game two!



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TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD OFFICE OF SOCIAL SERVICE THANKSGIVING BASKET SHARE

The Thanksgiving Basket Share Program will take place on Monday, November 25th, 2024

For those that need some assistance with their Thanksgiving Dinner, you only need to call the Office of Social Service and request to be a recipient in the Thanksgiving Basket Share. The only requirement is that you are in need, and that you reside in Northford or North Branford. Your information is protected, and your name will not be disclosed. You must be able to pick up your basket or arrange for someone to pick it up for you. We are unable to deliver or bring it to your car.

For those wishing to donate a basket or grocery store gift card, call or email the Office of Social Service and express your desire to donate a Thanksgiving Dinner Basket or a grocery store gift card. You may choose the family size you would like to adopt. You may choose to do this alone, or as a group, with neighbors or co-workers.

Although names are not disclosed, a number will be given to both the recipient and the donor. This is used to identify which family is the recipient. All commitments by the donor and recipients will receive written confirmation.

The Thanksgiving Basket Share is scheduled for Monday, November 25th, 2024. Should you have an interest in being a recipient or a donor please contact the Office of Social Service by email, lbreen@northbranfordct.gov or ksperry@northbranfordct.gov or by phone at 203.484.6006 or 475-655-0412 by **10/31/2024 for recipients, there is no end date for donors.**



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Please contact Jamie Abelson
at 203-530-7616 with any questions

NORTH BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

35th ANNUAL COMMUNITY ROUND UP

Each year, the North Branford community celebrates **Make a Difference Day** by holding a food drive. For the last thirty-four years students and parents from NBPS have traveled through the community collecting nonperishable food items and monetary donations which were then gathered, sorted, and sent to our town's food bank.

The food bank distributes the items to our neighbors in need of a little help maintaining nutritious meals for their families. Over the years, thanks to the support of our students, their families, and the staff of North Branford Public Schools, the food pantry shelves have been well-stocked and able to support the needs of our town members.

Always there for us, we try to support the food pantry as best we can. For the entire month of October, we are asking for donations of gift cards to supermarkets such as Stop & Shop, Big Y, ShopRite, Aldi's or T&J Market or cash gift cards for the food pantry to purchase needed items. Donation boxes will be located in the main lobby of our schools for you and your child to drop off the cards.

When making a donation, please ensure the monetary amount is listed clearly. Donations will be accepted throughout the month. At the end of the month, all donations will be given to our food pantry for their use in supporting those in the town who need them.

In addition, on October 26, 2024, starting at 8:30 am, we will hold the traditional community food round up. Teams of students collect canned goods, pasta, and personal hygiene items from all segments of the community. **Please remember to check expiration dates of food items prior to donating them.**

You can assist by placing items by your mailbox on the morning of October 26th

When teams have completed their route, each team will return to the N.B.I.S. cafeteria and present their items for the official tallying. The three teams with the most donations will receive prizes.

The drive is spearheaded by North Branford teachers, administrators and students. In addition, the North Branford Public Works Department has volunteered their services to help deliver the food to the local food pantry.

We appreciate and are very proud of the North Branford community who have made this event such a great success for the past 34 years!

Thank you for your generous support!



Celebrate Heritage Month with the North Haven Sons & Daughters of Italy

The North Haven Sons and Daughters. of Italy will be celebrating Heritage Month throughout the entire month of October.

Regular meeting on **October 1** will feature Matt Gurnieri talking about the statue of Christopher Columbus that was removed from the New Haven Green as well as the positive contributions that Columbus had on the United States in the Christian faith. Admission to this event is free and you can join us for our meeting which pecedes the event and see what we’re all about. Will take place at 7 o’clock.

On Friday, October 11, we will have a **fried dough pizza night** featuring Al Clemente talking about Italian music and singers. The donation for that event will be \$10 for fried dough pizza, salad, water and desserts beginning at 6:00.

Saturday, October 19 will feature a **bus trip to Garibaldi Meucci Museum and Italian Cultural Center and Arthur Avenue** . \$65. for members and \$75. for non-members. Coffee & breakfast sandwiches.

Saturday, October 26 will feature bruschetta appetizers and desserts as well as Italian game and trivia night. Donation is \$10.00.

All these events will take place at Saint Frances Cabrini Church Hall on Pond Hill road in North Haven. For more information on any of these events as well as information on the many activities and charitable donations, extended by this group, contact SueAnn Mentone at 203-710-4186.



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www.northhavenlodge2805.club

Contact: Georgianna
Committee Co - Chairperson
203-988-8006

Recycling News

Important Dates for the Fall

Leaf Drop-Off opens – Saturday October 19th.

Scrap Metal Pickup – week of October 21st.

Electronics Collection at Public Works – Saturday 11/2

Bulky Waste Pickup – week of November 4th.

Hazwaste Central will be closing in October 26th

The Regional Water Authorities’ HazWaste Central will be open on Saturdays through October.

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.

Recycling of Household Batteries

Staples will take your small household batteries for recycling.

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](#)

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

Thank You for Your Participation

**ENERGY ASSISTANCE
2024-2025 HEATING SEASON
TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD
OFFICE OF SOCIAL SERVICE**

This Office of Social Service energy assistance season will begin on October 1 for Northford and North Branford residents. It is preferred that those that heat with a deliverable fuel such as oil, propane, or pellets are seen initially followed by utility heating customers. Utility heating customers should participate in a program offered by the utility company, there are several programs to choose from. The programs offered are medical protection, matching program, balance forgiveness and the like. Information regarding programs offered by the utility companies is available in the Office of Social Service lobby. Although applications appointments begin October 1 the program begins on November 1.

There are two ways to apply, you may apply online beginning September 1, following this link: <https://portal.ct.gov/dss/economic-security/winter-heating-assistance/energy-assistance---winter-heating/how-to-apply> or in this Office, by appointment beginning October 1. You must bring to your appointment copies of your required documents. This office **cannot** make copies for you. **Please bring all required documents. Applications can not be completed without the required documents, incomplete documents will result in a delay or denial.**

If you are interested in applying for Energy Assistance, you may call North Branford Social Service at 203.484.6006 to make an appointment. A list of required documents needed to complete your application is available in both public libraries, online at <https://www.northbranfordct.gov/252/Social-Services>. and the Stanley T. Williams Community Center, Social Service Lobby. There are significant changes to the program.

This program is based on income and not assets. This is not an entitlement program. The program is designed to assist persons offset the cost of heating during the winter months, weatherize the home as well as assist with a replace or repair of a non operating furnace or boiler. The program no longer offers a clean, tune and test of the furnace.

**Operation Fuel Town of North Branford
Office of Social Service**

The Summer/Fall Operation Fuel Program will begin accepting applications on September 16, 2024. Operation Fuel is not an entitlement Program, you must apply for assistance and meet the eligibility criteria. The program offers a one-time annual grant of up to \$500 toward a utility bill or future fuel delivery. The program will apply the grant to the past due utility balance, it will not provide a credit balance. For example, if your utility balance is \$300, the grant will apply \$300 towards your bill, you will not receive the \$500, which would result in a \$200 credit. The program is income based, with a maximum allowable gross income of 75% of the State Median Income, for a family of 2 the cap is \$67923 per year. There is one grant allowed every 12 months. If you apply on September 20 of 2024, you can not apply again until 9/20/2025. All applicants must provide proof of income for each person in the home that is age 21 or older and at least one email address is now required. If you do not have an email, please have a friend or family member create an email address for you. You will not be able to apply without one. Utility customers need to also provide a current utility bill showing a past due balance of at least 30 days or a shut off notice and proof of 4 payments in the last 12 months. This program is a separate program from the CRT Energy Assistance Program. You may apply for both.

There are two ways to apply. To schedule an appointment residents may contact the Town of North Branford Office of Social Service at 203-484-6006 or by email at lbreen@northbranfordct.gov To apply online for Operation Fuel go to www.operationfuel.org/gethelp/; to apply online for CRT Energy Assistance go to www.ct.gov/heatinghelp/apply.

Flyers for both programs are available at Smith and Atwater Libraries as well as the Office of Social Service lobby at STW Community Center. Flyers may also be accessed online at www.townofnorthbranfordct.gov

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6801
HELPING THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY**



MYSTERY "KNIGHT" K of C 6801

The Council put together a mystery night and dinner using their own members as the actor. The event was a huge success with proceeds going to the Church as well as the Children's Hospital.

K of C Council 6801 Presents

COMEDY NIGHT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024

6:30 PM

ITALIAN AMERICAN CLUB

40 HAMRE LANE, BRANFORD, CT

HEADLINER

CHRIS MONTY

ALSO FEATURING

DAN ALTANO

NICK SCOPOLETTI

DINNER

SHOW

RAFFLE

BYOB

TICKETS: \$50

ONLY 100 TIX AVAILABLE

CALL:

FRANK: 203-623-1734

WAYNE: 203-410-3885

EMAIL: KNIGHTS6801@GMAIL.COM

**K of C looking for Vendors for
Annual Tag sale/Flea Market**

The Knights of Columbus, St. Ambrose Council 6801 is looking for vendors to fill 86 spaces 15'w x 28'd at their annual fall giant 80,000 sq. ft. tag sale / flea market on October 5th.. (rain dates October 12th, 19th & 26th. 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 9/30, after this date +\$5 late fee. Vendors must provide their own tables and be in their space before 7:30am.



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 Classes 9:30 a.m. and Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Nursery is provided. Adult bible study and prayer meeting, and children’s clubs on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. For more info.: 203-488-8581; info@cbcbranford.org; www.cbcbranford.org

Hope Christian Church (we are an Assemblies of God affiliated church) 211 Montowese Ave., North Haven CT www.hopeag.com. Sunday Service 10:00 AM, Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM. Follow us on Facebook. “realpeople realhope reallife” (203) 234-7328

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.”

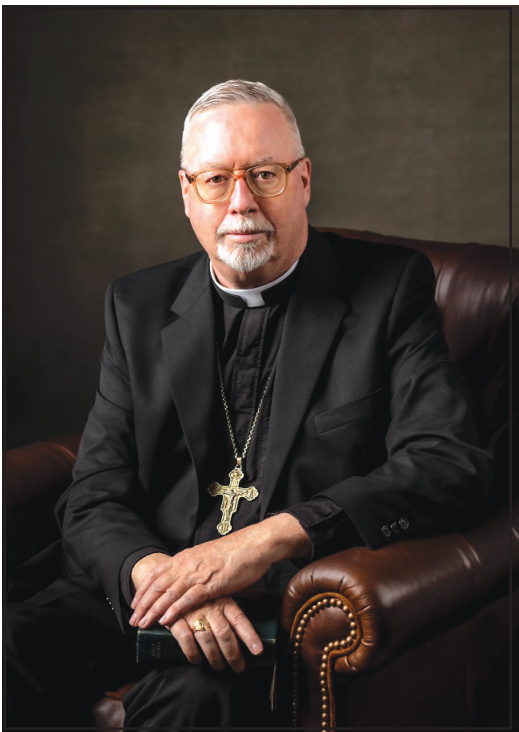
Please join us for worship at **St. John’s Episcopal Church** at 129 Ledge Hill Road in Guilford, CT 06437. Our services are at 10 am each Sunday with Youth Spiritual Foundation for ages 5 and up every first and third Sunday. Coffee hour after our service in our parish hall. See our Facebook page St. 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. While we are in transition, we continue to hold services of Morning Prayer following Rite 2 in the Book of Common Prayer, and do have services of Holy Eucharist when we are fortunate to get a supply priest. 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

All Souls Mass-All Saints Cemetery Mausoleum



North Haven-Saturday, November 2nd, 2024 at 10:00 am. Please join Archbishop Coyne as he celebrates Mass for **The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed.** 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 Barbara at (203) 780-8418 or email her at bgode@ccacem.org. We hope to see you there. No registration is required to attend.

The African Children’s Choir is coming to North Haven!

Sunday, October 6, 2024 at 7:00 pm
The internationally acclaimed African Children’s Choir performing at Hope Christian Church, 211 Montowese Ave



The African Children’s Choir melts the hearts of audiences with their charming smiles, beautiful voices and lively African songs and dances. The “Just As I Am” tour combines traditional hymns with African cultural sounds and a stunning visual story of God’s faithfulness. Concerts are free and open to all. A free-will offering is taken at the performance to support African Children’s Choir programs, such as education, care and relief and development programs.

Music for Life (the parent organization for the African Children’s Choir) works in seven African countries such as, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Nigeria, Ghana and South Africa. MFL has educated over 52,000 children and impacted the lives of over 100,000 people through its relief and development programs during its history. By focusing on providing education, MFL’s purpose is to help Africa’s most vulnerable children today, so they can help Africa tomorrow.

The African Children’s Choir has had the privilege to perform before presidents, heads of state and most recently the Queen of England, Queen Elizabeth II, for her diamond jubilee. The Choir has also had the honor of singing alongside artist such as, Paul McCartney, Annie Lennox, Keith Urban, Mariah Carey, Michael W. Smith, and other inspirational performers!

Promotional support of this community concert is greatly appreciated.
The African Children’s Choir is a nonprofit humanitarian and relief organization dedicated to helping Africa’s most vulnerable children today so they can help Africa tomorrow.

Publicity Coordinator:
Lydia Sherwood Lydia.sherwood@prestopublicrelations.com 360-733-2149

Totoket Historical Society presents...

The Grace Marx Colonial Dinner



Historic Reynolds-Beers House
1740 Foxon Road
North Branford

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024
\$30 PER PERSON
1 PM-IN HOUSE SEATING
3:30-5:45 PM TAKE OUT/ PICKUP

RESERVATIONS: BARBARA (203) 640-3656

Dinner Includes: Roasted Cornish Hen with Cider Sauce, Parsley Potatoes, Cucumber Salad, Succotash, Apple-Squash Bake, Pear and Cranberry Breads, Pumpkin Cake
In house: cider, coffee, tea and condiments





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

PURPOSEFUL PARENTING

Family to Family Networking Group

If you are a parent, caregiver, guardian, etc. please join us for this family to family networking opportunity.

- Connect and engage
- Share experiences and resources
- Provide support and encouragement
- Develop meaningful relationships

Purposeful Parenting will meet at the STW Community Center on the first Tuesday of every month from 11:30-1:00pm as well as the third Thursday of every month from 5:30 - 7:00pm. Begins 10/1

Finding **STRENGTH** in your community!

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



1332 Middletown Ave. Northford
nbrecreation.com



Mary's Culinary Classes

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

Grades 3-5 at STW Community Center **On Early Dismissal Days**
1:00 - 3:00pm Cost \$40 res/ \$45 non-res per class

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 16, 2024

SEVERED FOOT MEATLOAF AND
ZOMBIE BRAIN BROWNIE BITES



PUMPKIN PATCH PARTY

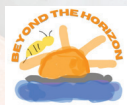
A sensory friendly event for individuals in our special needs community.

**Saturday October 26th
10:30am - 12:00pm**

**STW Community Center
1332 Middletown Ave. Northford**



**Ages 12 and under
FREE event**



Come pick a pumpkin from our accessible "pumpkin patch" and decorate it with friends!

Due to allergies/special dietary needs please bring your own treat or goodie bag
Kindly register at nbrecreation.com by 10/18

AUTUMN NIGHTS AT AUGUR

FALL CONCERT SERIES



JUICE BOX

Thursday, October 3rd 6:00-8:00pm
Augur Park - 290 Forest Rd

— SENIOR CENTER — COFFEE WITH A COP DAY

Join us and some of the North Branford Police Officers for coffee (and donuts) and conversation! A chance to ask questions and get to know the wonderful Officers in our Town.

October 4, 2024

STW Senior Room 10:00-11:30am
Register by 10/01



PUMPKINTOWN USA

OCTOBER 23, 2024 - \$20RES/\$25NR

Enjoy an Autumn visit to Pumpkintown USA in East Hampton where we will take a ride through Pumpkintown Forest while enjoying some delicious apple cider donuts, stroll the Village, and visit the Harvest Store and garden center! Register by 10/16



AQUATURF

Tuesday November 12, 2024

10:15am—4:00pm \$57res / \$62 non-res

Armed Forces Tribute & Downtown 6 Band

The Hartford Brass Ensemble pays tribute to the Armed Forces in honor of Veterans Day, and Downtown 6 brings their high energy as they cover some of your favorite bands!

Menu: Roast Beef/Pan Seared Salmon
Register by 9/2



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.

Attend the Shoreline Men Over Sixty Meeting



The 2024-2025 season of the Shoreline Men Over Sixty begins on Friday, October 4 beginning at 11:30am at Hubley Hall at 26 Meeting House Lane in Madison.
If you are a male, 60 or older, and you'd like to partake in a meal prepared and served by the culinary students from Emmett O'Brien Tech, why not join us.
October's meal is fruit plate, lemon chicken with linguine, grilled zucchini, apple pie with whipped cream, rolls and butter. The meal is followed by an interesting talk.
The talk for October is about the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge, as presented by retired ship pilot Joe Maco.
SMOS has been in existence since 1971 and currently has about 100 active members. It is a non-profit, non-sectarian, non-partisan, and non-political organization. There is no cost to join, you just pay \$15 for each meeting you attend. That covers the cost of the food and hall rental.
For more information, please call Hank Petroskey at 203-484-9002.

Northford-North Branford Women's Club
Military Whist Card Party



October 11, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
Stanley T. Williams Educational Department 1332 Middletown Avenue,
Tickets are \$12. Doors open at 5:15pm. There will be raffle baskets,
food and coffee/tea. Bring your friends and play a few hands! For
advanced tickets and to save your spot, reach out to Elisa Orio @
elissa.08@comcast.net. Or Venmo@NorthfordWomens-Club. Tickets
also available at the door.

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

Sarah L. Moore
Managing Partner & Funeral Director
Sarah.Moore@CarriageServices.com

Estavia R. Lockett
Funeral Director & Embalmer
Estavia.Lockett@CarriageServices.com

CELEBRATING LIFE · HONORING MEMORIES · PROVIDING PEACE
PRE-PLAN AND SAVE NOW!!

North Haven Camera Club News

North Haven Camera Club is delighted to be hosting a presentation on 'Macro Photography' on Tuesday, October 8th at 7pm by special guest speakers Lisa and Tom Cuchara at the club's meeting room at 211 Montowese Ave. North Haven. Attendees will thoroughly enjoy Lisa and Tom's relaxed atmosphere and will learn how they can take their macro and close up photography to the next level.
Lisa and Tom are Olympus Camera photo ambassadors and masters at photographing all things small from tiny bugs, to creative frogs, to dreamy butterflies in the most creative way. They are passionate about photography and love to share, motivate, inspire and teach. Their motos are <Creativity is contagious, pass it on! > and <Life is not measured by the number of breaths you take but by number of moments that take you breath away >.
North Haven Camera Club welcomes guests to attend this event so that, you too, can learn more about the wonderful world of macro photography.
NoHCC wants everyone to know that there has been a change in the club's meeting dates. North Haven camera club now meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month for 'in person and online presentations' and the 4th Tuesday of the month for online photo competitions which encourages attendees to learn how to better compose and edit their photos. NoHCC also had three competition entry levels. Level B is for beginners, level A is for skilled photographers and Level M is for master photographers.
If you are interested in attending this presentation and/or joining the club please visit the club's website at www.northhavencameraclub.com or send an email at northhavencameraclub@gmail.com.

