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Volume 23 No 22, January 6, 2017



North Branford Landmark Closes Its Doors

In 1991, Sisto Melillo opened his “closeout” store in North Branford. After 10 years of selling insurance, he decided to fall back on his roots follow in his parents footsteps and go into retail. “I worked with my parents since I was a kid and I always had a burning desire to be an entrepreneur”, he offered.

Eight years later he realized more was needed so he re-invented himself and began selling flowers which became the bulk of his business. Now at the close of 2016, Sisto has decided it’s time to re-invent himself again and he has closed the doors Save & Discount, a staple in North Branford.

“I have enjoyed every minute of this experience. I met my wife here, I raised my kids here and I met many friends in this store,” he said with sadness in his voice. I have been here for births, graduations, weddings and even deaths of family members. I am most proud of the more than 200 employees I have had, most of them being high school kids which I am most proud of. I’d like to think I made a difference in their lives as they certainly have in mine.”

Sisto has been a contributor to the town in many different ways offering both financial and physical assistance. He has been involved in youth and high school football, youth baseball and any other organizations that needed his help.

As friends poured in to wish him well, he offered them he wouldn’t let them shed a tear. “It will be all right,” he told them. “It’s been a remarkable ride and as Arnold Swartzenegger said, ‘I’ll be back’”.

Above photo was a gathering of past employees who stopped in to wish him well.

Last Chance For Voluntary Payment

Once again, thanks to all who participated in our voluntary payment program. As you know it helps keep the advertising rates down so our businesses can still operate while supporting our local newspaper. In the past, I have asked if you want your names published in the paper and the vast majority said no so I will continue to respect that privacy.

This will be the last notice until next year so if the holidays have tied you up, there is still time to send in your payment.

Totoket Times, PO Box 313, Northford, Ct 06472

Name _____

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Comments _____



Back by Popular Demand

The Harlem Superstars

Friday, January 13, 2017. 7:00 NBHS Gym

Ticket Prices are \$8.00 in Advance \$10 at the Door

Advanced Tickets may be purchased at

North Branford Intermediate School

Jerome Harrison

Totoket Valley Elementary School

North Branford Schools - Central Office



2016 Emergency Medical Responders Recognized

Recently, the class of 2016 Emergency Medical Responders were recognized by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Pictured (L-R) back row Fire Chief William H. Seward III, Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito, Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners Ed Prunier, EMR’s Lee Smith, Rebecca Santos, Nick Olsen, Matt Gillis, Louis Romano, Lev Torgerson IV and Deputy Chief Robert Colangelo. Front row (L-R) EMR’s Jason Ash, Jack Mascari and Pat Ward. Missing from the photo were EMR’s Melissa Agro, Jake Conway, Alyssa Franco, Alicia Glifort, Ryan Meehan and Carolann Nemergut. Congratulations to all!

Publication Date

Publication Date	Deadline
January 20	January 13
February 3	January 27
February 17	February 10
March 3	February 24
March 17	March 10
March 31	March 24
April 14	April 7

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LOVE FOR LYLA






NBYB NORTH BRANFORD YOUTH BASKETBALL

****LOVE FOR LYLA****

All proceeds will be donated to the family of Lyla Bogardus



Support the North Branford Youth Basketball
“Super Bowl” Stuffed Bread Fundraiser
in memory of Lyla Bogardus.

Stuffed Breads will be sold from now until Friday, January 27th by all NBYB recreation and travel basketball players and coaches.

Please reach out so someone you know as all proceeds will be donated in memory of Lyla, to her family.

To get in touch with someone, you can e-mail
www.northbranfordyouthbasketball@gmail.com.

All bread orders will be picked up at Jerome Harrison School cafeteria on Sunday, February 5th (Super Bowl Sunday), between 10AM & 2PM.
There will be no refunds for breads that are not picked up by Sunday at 2PM>
Make checks payable to Venice Bakery.

State Representative Vincent Candelora A New Session, But Same Challenges



With hopes of a better new year, the legislature is being sworn in this week. The House of Representatives will look different with 8 new Republican seats joining 64 others to bring the balance to 72 Republicans and 79 Democrats. With such close margins, I believe the process will become more thoughtful and deliberative, but will bring

more work. It's a big change from 2008 where Democrats outnumbered Republicans 114 to 37.

The budget is obviously a huge issue, and we are beginning to hear about midyear cuts to cities, towns and programs throughout the state. Fortunately, North Branford was spared significant cuts compared to other towns and cities. State agencies are being asked to cut ten percent from their budgets which prompted the Department of Military Affairs to cut the Honor Guard for military funerals. While I do not support this cut, it certainly is foreshadowing to how difficult the budget is going to be, and I am cognizant of the fact that the next state budget will contain very difficult decisions. I believe a budget can only happen if Republicans and Democrats come together and support it. Republicans, therefore, cannot sit back and throw stones, and Democrats must listen to and incorporate Republican ideas. Ultimately, both sides are going to have to think twice before speaking publicly, and in short, I predict that no one will like the proposed budget in the spring, but I am hopeful that it will be a budget that moves Connecticut in the direction of job growth and prosperity.

I will be returning as Deputy Republican Leader where I help in crafting policy and chair the Screening Committee. This committee reviews the bills before they are set for final votes in the House. Every bill will likely need bipartisan support to move through the process and, therefore, will undergo heavy scrutiny. We are in uncharted waters, and I look forward to the work.

In this long session, individual legislators can propose their own bills so I welcome any emails or phone calls with suggestions. One bill I plan to propose will attempt to change the culture of the way government treats business. All too often, we hear companies complain that there is uncertainty in our laws, the rules change, or government is heavy handed. To help bring certainty to the process and to change the culture from predatory to cooperative, I'm proposing a bill that would allow companies to seek declaratory rulings from the attorney general when there is a bona fide dispute over the interpretation of a regulation. I believe that such a process can keep both parties out of court and possibly save the state money, but most importantly balance the power between heavy-handed agencies against the private sector. Secondly, we need to provide companies an opportunity to cure some violations before a fine or penalty is handed down. All too often, I hear from businesses that innocently fail to comply with a law or make a clerical mistake, which turns into a hefty fine from the state. Government and private business need to work cooperatively to grow Connecticut, and I hope these proposals begin a dialogue on how government can be a partner rather than a predator to job growth.

Let's Be "Frank"

Well brother, as dad use to say, "Another year shot to hell". Personally, it wasn't a bad year. I went on a couple of vacations, lost a few pounds, got a new grandson and the NBHS baseball team made the playoffs again.

Christmas was great as my two grandsons were in the Church pageant with the five week old Nico playing the baby Jesus. Following the Mass we had a great meal, and then watched the kids open gifts for what seemed like three days. We did cut down this year but Johnnie (almost four) enjoyed it so much it took him forever to open as he played with each one before moving on to the next one. Times like this makes me realize how fortunate I am. To be able to share a beautiful Church service with a parish family, a meal with family and friends and two healthy grandchildren has to wake you up to the reality of how good your life is, even with all the setbacks throughout the year. I did make the mistake of taking Frankie back to New York the day after Christmas. The round trip took about 7 hours (normally 3.5) but even that was tolerable. Santa was good to me as I hope I was to all.

I will say, I am glad the holiday season is over. It's a lot of preparation for a few nice days. The bad news is we are another year older. I know that because as I watched the New Year's Eve festivities on TV, I realized I did not know who any of the performers were in Times Square. I was in bed by 10PM. The good news is that we are another year older and New Year's Day was the best I've felt on New Years day in a very long time.

The town had a full year under a Democratic majority after a long time with the Republicans in charge. There were promises of transparency and change and although it's only been a year, I haven't seen many changes. Many of the victories they are claiming were already in place and we still seem to be the same. I still feel that we need to go to the style of government that is followed by most towns with a paid elected mayor. With this system we have so many people claiming to run the town, that we don't know who is really accountable and who is really in charge. Everyone can point fingers at everyone else and the buck never seems to stop anywhere.

On the National front the upcoming Trump presidency has the country in an uproar. Claims are going from "the end of the world" to "a time of prosperity and growth". I myself, like my views on local politics, feel that little will change. Some might call me a pessimist. I look at it more as a realist. Unless we change our attitudes, the few people at the top can't change anything.

Speaking of attitudes, North Branford lost a hero on Christmas Day. Lyla Bogardus, a nine year old who had been fighting cancer finally lost her battle. I did not know Lyla but like everyone else in town, I knew of her. She was a courageous young girl who taught a small town like ours to never quit and always face challenges with a smile. Upon her death the community joined together with "Purple for Lyla". Purple ribbons, on mailboxes trees and firehouses and fire trucks and purple lights on homes and the town Christmas tree. Any person who can bring a town together and in her death, teach us all what life is about, is a hero.

Happy New year brother and I'll see you soon.

**Send letters and press releases to totokettimes@comcast.net.
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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
PO. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472

North Branford Land Conservation Trust, Incorporated

It's About the Land

On Sunday, December 4, we hosted a celebration for the entrants of our 2nd Annual Art contest. This is an event which NBLCT organizes to encourage residents of all ages in our town to share their artistic talents. The judges gave extra weight for artwork related to plants, flowers, trees, animals, or other features native to North Branford. Cash prizes, made possible by donations from businesses and residents of the town, were awarded to winners in categories ranging from grammar school to adult. David Sargent, President of the land trust, noted that although cash prizes could not be awarded to every entry, everyone was a winner! Perhaps the greatest winner is our town, because an event such as this helps strengthen our community spirit and brings attention to the land and its importance to all of us. Each of the entries will be on display for two weeks at the Atwater Library and then displayed at the Smith Library for an additional two weeks.

The art contest was a success and we hope that it will continue to be for many years to come! It was a success because of a handful of dedicated volunteers. But we can always use more help. Not just help growing the contest, but help with building trails and leading hikes. We need people with knowledge and experience in accounting, legal matters, business organization, fundraising, publicity, public speaking, teaching, technology, writing, art, and natural resource management. All are needed to successfully run an all-volunteer non-profit land trust.

Volunteering in your land trust is a rewarding experience; an experience where you can see what you have accomplished for your town. It can also help you learn about nature, grow your skill sets or just get outside more often. Working with the land trust is a noteworthy achievement and for high school students, it's a great entry on your college application.

For those who don't have time to donate, we understand. Your financial support is equally welcome and just as essential. Besides operating expenses we have expenses associated with acquiring new land in town.

We had scheduled a hike to be led by Geoff Smith on December 17. The snow and rain on the 17th and 18th forced us to cancel the hike. That hike will be rescheduled for another day in the future. The rescheduled date will be mentioned in a future article and/or posted on the web.

Check us out at NBLandTrust.org & Facebook.

Contact us at Info@NBLandTrust.org or NBLCT, PO Box 378, North Branford, CT 06471.

Otto Schaefer, Secretary

North Branford Land Conservation Trust, Incorporated

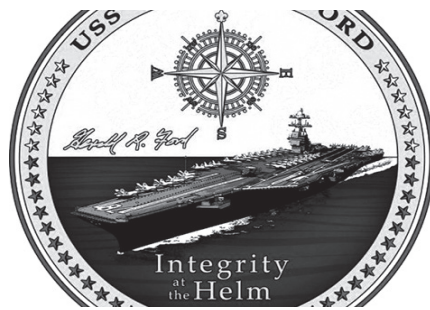
WIT & WISDOM

Governor Malloy's threat to refuse the ending of Sanctuary City status if Trump denies that as a local effort to circumvent national laws in which illegal immigrants are granted special consideration in that they are protected from deportation and excused in every possible way from illegal activities, other than murder and such horrific crimes. I will relate how all this ties in with the refusal to make English our official language.

Some thirty or more years ago there was a very concerted effort to get English declared our Official Language by a substantial number of us, and yes including me. I saw what Canada was experiencing with the French trying to ignore everything proposed by the English speaking Canadians although outnumbering the French, both in number and territory. While operating in a sort of truce the problems this has created are evident if you try to visit the Montreal Quebec area. where all signs are in French and even English merchants are forbidden to display their merchandise in English, I noticed how this is a problem world wide,

I was made aware of what a frightening experience it can be when on returning from a trip to the west coast several years ago decided to return through the beautiful Canadian Rockies and the unbelievable mile after mile of farm land as smooth as a billard table. In fact, so level it made our acres of flat land almost hilly in comparison. After days of this monotony we looked with great anticipation to driving in a Canadian city. What drew my attention was that the directional signs started being printed in French under the English. This gave me me comfort in that now at least I learned what east, south, west and similar signs would mean to me when I reached Montreal. But little did I realize the resentment they hold for any person speaking English in their refusal to speak to you in English even when they could. Looking for Route 89 to Vermont and the U.S. I was answered with shrugs. Finally when I stopped for gas I asked this young fellow directions and he laughingly told me how to go. He was an American student. But my troubles were just starting. Somehow I got on a road that took me into a devel-

Small North Branford Business Large U.S. Contributions



It won't be long before the US Navy's newest aircraft carrier *The Gerald R. Ford* will join the Navy Fleet. The most advanced warship in the world will be put into action with a great amount of help from Prime Technology LLC right here in North Branford.

The Ford, the first new carrier designed in 40 years reflects concepts matured during the last 100 years of Navy operations. Prime Technology is one of nine companies in Connecticut that provided parts and services for the *Ford-Class Aircraft* as well as others.

Prime Technology LLC is a small engineering and manufacturing company. With more than 35 years of experience in the military and commercial market, the strength of the company is in the electrical processing of measurement of operational and physical parameters like volume, pressure, temperature and other factors as well. Every new ship design, submarine or surface ships since 1985 has some type of equipment designed and manufactured by Prime Technology LLC.

Prime Technology LLC has 44 employees. Among some of their specialties are; Indication of fluid in the reactor vessel, Seal delivery systems, Weapons launch indicators, Weapons stowage, Vertical launch tubes and Emergency diesel generators to name a few.

"I'd like to say. "We are a small company that does some very big things," said vice President Keith MacDowell. "While most people may not be aware, Connecticut contributes to the power and strength of the great U.S. Navyships are substantial".

opment of 5000 summer homes bordering Lake Champlain that I later learned the residents moved into for the summer; but this was not summer and there wasn't a resident to be seen or found. With the streets winding in every direction it was like finding my way through a corn maize. Seeing a young woman in the distance I reach her just as she was entering a house. I jumped out and ran full speed just as she was opening the door. Asking her how I could get to Route 89. I was greeted with a blank look as she shrugged her shoulders. I asked her if she could speak English and she said, holding her thumb and first finger about an inch apart, "A little bit". Finally, I found a little store run by an American and he guided me or I would be still there.

Visioning what this country was destined to be I supported several English First organizations. I wrote Rosa DeLauro and she praised the benefits of other languages, especially Spanish. And fought every effort to make English our official language. Now I tell you one example the welcoming of Spanish speaking people has done to our workers and how the employers use it to keep our workers in servitude.

A care worker told me a heart rendering story just yesterday. This woman of about 50 had been happily employed as a care worker for many years. She loved the work. Helping people was her calling, but when her mother became indigent she took a leave of absence to care for her. On her mother's death after 2 years of devoting all her time to her care she attempted to find work, only to be greeted at every employment agency, and she approached everyone she could find with, "do you speak Spanish fluently?" Born here and speaking only English, she was turned away. Thinking this was only a short deterrent, she kept searching, finally having to sell her home to live. Now she lives every day worrying that it's only a matter of time till her present employer will tell her, "I'm sorry, but I have a Latin that needs care and I need someone who speaks Spanish fluently."

More to come. Alton Eliason

Northford Creative Writers Group

We are a social group with interest in writing poems and short stories as a hobby, sharing our original work and enjoying what others have written. If you enjoy creative writing – or desire to learn basic skills, come join us. There is no charge.

Along with reading any of your writings, we will explore simple ways to create a literary masterpiece... all you need is to show interest, and imagination. There will be fun exercises in description and verbal expression, envisioning, metaphor, and symbolism. Sessions will also feature interactive play-acting, improvisation, and script writing. You are asked to bring pen, paper, any written work, and your own beverage/snacks.

Weekly Saturday sessions will resume on January 7th –
9:30 -11:30 am Schafer Community Room Edward Smith Library/3
Old Post Rd. Northford

For more info. and RSVP: (203) 484-5155 or Telliss@sbcglobal.net

Knights of Columbus Makes Donation to Little Miracles Resource Center



The Northford Knights of Columbus Totoket Council 6801 made a donation of \$500 to Little Miracles of Madison and Guilford. Little Miracles is a local crisis center pregnancy program that counsels, provides food, clothing, baby accessories and furnishings, as needed, for pregnant women who chose life for their child.

The Council has made 2016 a year of donating to local PRO Life Organizations in the area. The money for the donations came from two tag sales at Doody's field on Route 80 and the food concession at the POCO Festival in North Branford.

Receiving the check is Lilly Molloy, Left to right in the photo: Bill Ceder (Grand Knight), Lilly Molloy, Maria Prete, Betty Sousa (all three women from the center) and Mark Schairer (trustee).

Photo by Frank Karsmarski

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Brownie Troop Hosted Local Author

Brownie Troop #60139 out of Northford hosted a local author visit at Edward Smith Library. Author Lauren Page from Wallingford visited the Brownie troop meeting on December 8th. She read her book, The Light Sprites and educated the girls on what's involved in becoming a published author. She also autographed a copy of her book for each Brownie. In addition, Brownie Troop #60139 donated a copy of Lauren's book to the Edward Smith Library. Visit the children's area to check out the book.

For more information about Lauren Page's book contact troop leader Melissa Kowalewski 203-913-5530 or visit Amazon.com or contact Lauren Page out of Wallingford at 203-848-5241.

Participating Girls - Madeline, Gianna, Sofia, Kaylee, Janae and Abigail
Photos courtesy of Melissa Kowalewski - Troop Leader

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017



ED Foundation Helping a Positive Climate

The North Branford Education Foundation recently granted funds to North Branford Intermediate School for a program "Promoting a Safe School Climate". The program is run in conjunction with the Anti-Defamation League and it is designed to work with student leaders to bring the message to the rest of the students. The goal is to enhance students tolerance and understanding of other people's differences, and to be aware of the school culture and to continue to foster a positive accepting school climate at NBIS. Pictures above are Principal Alan Davis and teachers Joan Williams and Danielle Johnson.

Zulawski Boys Home for the Holidays

The Zulawski boys of North Branford were both home for Christmas for the first time in two years, much to the delight of their families and especially their younger sister, Katherine. Dan, class of 2010 and currently active duty Army at Fort Campbell, KY, is bringing his first child Zoey



to meet the Zulawski and LaFrance families for the first time, and to celebrate her birthday on January 2. She is the first great grandchild on the LaFrance side.

Chris, class of 2013 and currently active duty Navy at Naval Base Kitsap, WA, returned from his ship underway to attend Christmas family festivities.

NBHS Named to College Board Honor Roll

NBHS has once again been recognized by the College Board as one of 433 schools nationwide to be named to the 7th annual College Board AP Honor Roll for student success and participation in Advanced Placement courses. This is the third time in 6 years, 2011, 2015, 2016 that NBHS has been recognized by the College Board for progress with the Advanced Placement Course Program. It is the first time ever that NBHS has been identified by the College Board during 'back to back' school years for this sort of recognition. Principal Stoeffler, "Congratulations to our students and thank you to their parents for their support and for keeping 'North Branford' kids in North Branford at NBHS. Congratulations to the NBHS AP Instructors for their dedicated work and persistence while meeting the needs of our most dedicated and gifted students. Congratulations to the NBHS Leadership Team, Data Team and Guidance Department for their coordinated efforts that have better ensured student participation and success in the AP course"

Visits From Santa



Families from the Nursery at Notch Hill, recently received a visit from Santa at their 6th Annual Pancake Breakfast.

NBEF Breakfast and Concert Hosts 400

North Branford Education Foundation sponsored a Breakfast with Santa and more than 400 people attended to listen to concerts by musicians and vocalists representing each school in the district. Special recognition also goes out to Chef Michael Augur and his staff for another excellent job.



The children greeted guests with some great songs (above photo). Michael Augur and Gina (left) fed 400 people like it was 20.

Anyone wishing to get involved with the NBEF or make a donation, can call Frank Mentone at 203-410-4254.



Wee Care of North Branford, Inc. Daycare and Preschool

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

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- Teacher directed learning centers
- Morning lessons reinforced by afternoon activities
- Extracurricular activities at no extra cost including Yoga, Music, Library visits, and Science classes

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Hogan Signs Letter of Intent for Two Sports at Post University in Connecticut

Sydney Hogan of North Branford High School recently signed a "Letter of Intent" to play Ice Hockey and Lacrosse at Post University. Sydney was a three sport athlete at NBHS playing Field Hockey, Lacrosse and Ice Hockey.

She was joined at the signing by her sister (left), Athletic Director Kory Kevorkian, her mom and several of her teammates. Her grandparents (not pictured), were also on hand for the signing.

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CT Whale Women's Hockey Team

Inspiring to Live your Dream

The newly formed National Women's Hockey League has brought some of its talents to the Northford Ice Pavilion in the form of the CT Whale. The league which started last year is comprised of four teams: the CT Whale, Boston Pride, Buffalo Beauts and the New York Riveters.

One of the functions of the league is to serve as a training ground for the National Team. The Whale is no exception as its' roster has two time Olympic Silver Medalist Kelli Stack and newcomers to the National team, Dana Trivigno and Haley Skarupa.

"It's more than just an Olympic showcase" insisted coach Heather Linstad. "It's a place where women can continue their passion for a game they love as well as give back to the community in a sport they grew up in."

"The Northford Ice Pavilion and the local people have been great and it is our plan to work with the community," continued coach Linstad. "Our players have a meet and greet after every game. We want to be a part of the community by getting involved with the people. Teaching youngsters to skate, getting involved in activities like the Food Pantry, the schools and youth organizations are what we are all about"

"We want to inspire others to do great things," added defenseman Anya Battaglino. "If people come out to see us play, they may be motivated to write, or paint or try something they normally wouldn't do. We all believe in a dream and hopefully we can lead them to making that dream a reality."

The CT Whale has upcoming games against Buffalo on Saturday, January 7th at 7:00. They will then host the Boston Pride on the 15th at 3pm and the 27th at 7:00. Boston currently has 10 National players which can give the spectators a preview of what might come in the Olympics.

For information on becoming a part of the CT Whale family, contact Game Day operations Heather Rancourt at hrancourt@NWHLHQ.com. To join the Whales for a community event contact coach Linstad at 860-617-5907 or hlinstad@nwhlhq.com.

For ticket information go to NWHL.zone/tickets.



NBSC WINTER SOCCER CLINICS

NORTH BRANFORD – TVES GYM – JANUARY 8TH to March 5TH

COST: \$95.00



8 week training and game play program

SUNDAYS:

- 12:00 to 1:00 – boys & girls ages 3 to 4 (U4)
- 1:00 to 2:00 – boys & girls ages 5 to 6 (U6)
- 2:00 to 3:00 – boys & girls 1st & 2nd grade (U7/U8)
- 3:00 to 4:00 – boys & girls 3rd to 6th grade (U9-U12)
- 4:00 to 6:00 – boys & girls 7th to 12th grade (U13-U19)



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Register at: www.nbsoccer.com under Registration tab select the appropriate "Winter Clinic 2017" registration

NBSC Registrar Rhonda Yeager can be reached at: rhondayeager15@gmail.com with any additional questions

Never Go Through Life Without Goals

Like us on Facebook | Instagram: [@northbranfordsoccerclub](https://www.instagram.com/northbranfordsoccerclub) | Visit us on the Web @ www.nbsoccer.com



Online Registration Now Open!

nbylax.org

Join America's Fastest Growing Sport!

Open to Boys & Girls in Kindergarten to 8th Grades

Register before January 22, 2017 – To Avoid Late Fees

Registration closes February 5, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOYS OR GIRLS PROGRAMS PLEASE CONTACT:

Jason Taylor, Boys Coordinator: boyscoordinator@nbylax.org

Joe Amatore, Girls Coordinator: girlscoordinator@nbylax.org

Neil LeBeau, President: president@nbylax.org

FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT: info@nbylax.org

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Fowler Is All League at Tilton School

North Branford graduate Tristin Fowler was recently named to the All League Team, representing the Tilton School in New Hampshire. Fowler, a junior was part of an 8-0 undefeated season where the team finished as runner ups in the Sean Brenna Bowl.

Rabuffo Takes Third in the Long Jump

The North Branford High School Boys/Girls Indoor Track Team competed in the Shoreline Developmental Meet on Wednesday, December 14th at the Floyd Little Athletic Center.

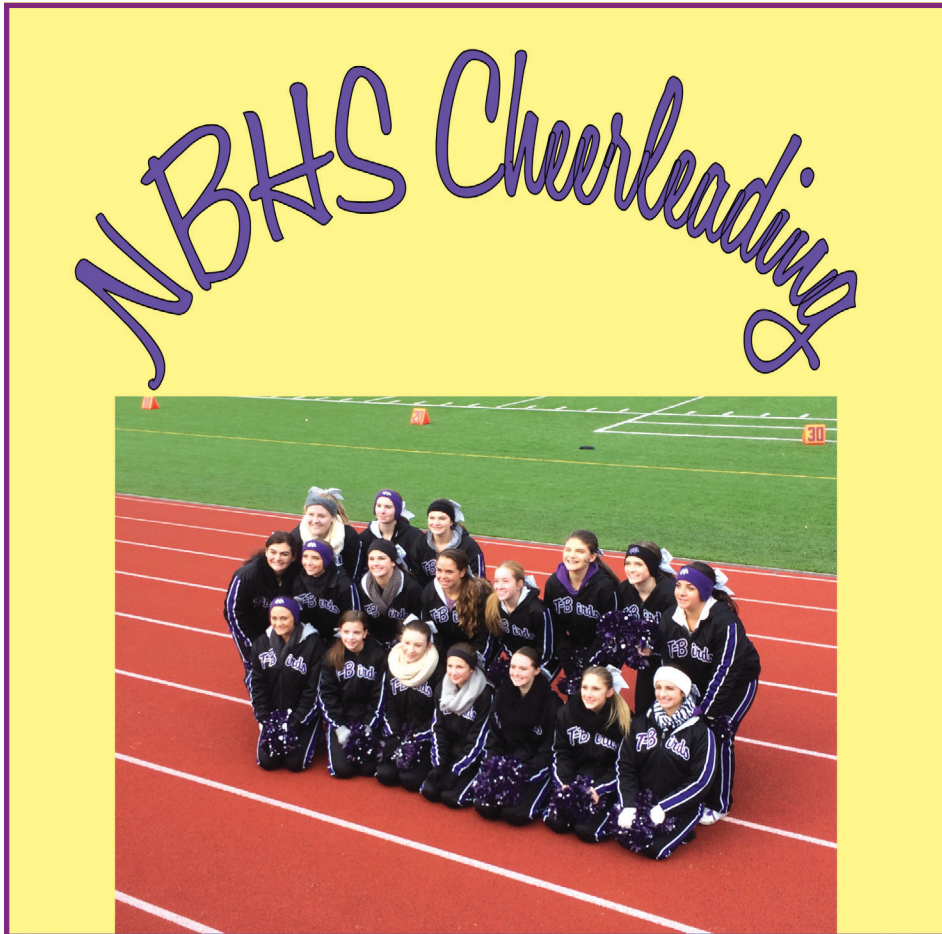
In the relays the boys 4x800 Relay Team of Joey DeLucia, Jason Ash, John Pellegrino, and Tony Pavic finished at 10:13.65 and the girls team of Erika Roof, Caitlin May, Sarah Sullivan and Jillian Damiani finished at 12:06.43. The boys 4x400 Relay Team of Michael Madoule, Austin Gibilisco, Michael Rabuffo and Jacob Marshall finished at 3:51.92 and the girls team of Jenna Bryden, Grace Little, Sarah Criscuolo and Lydia Mattson finished at 4:46.44. The girls 4x200 Relay Team of Grace Little, Jenna Bryden, Sarah Criscuolo and Gabbie Sarmiento finished at 2:04.27 and the boy's team of Jacob Marshall, Aaron Beisaw, Pat Miconi and Anthony Sarmetno finished at 1:49.49.

Individual top places were earned by Michael Rabuffo in the Long Jump taking 3rd place at 17'9" and in the High Jump placing 2nd at 5'6". In the 55m Dash Jacob Marshall placed 1st for the boys at 6.58 and for the girls Jenna Bryden placed 2nd at 7.27 and Grace Little placed 9th at 7.91. In the Girls High Jump Winnie Chan placed 1st at 4'10" and Joselyn Streeto placed 2nd at 4'6". In the Shot Put event, Emily Muzyka placed 5th with a throw of 29'02.5" and Carly Monge placed 7th at 24'11".

On December 19th, the team competed at the inaugural Old Saybrook Invitational Meet. Schools entered in the varsity meet were from the Class S Division of the CIAC. The Girls Team placed 3rd and the Boys Team placed 10th.

Top individual athletes for the Girls Team were: Grace Little placing 1st at 7.4 and Jenna Bryden taking 7th place at 7.7 in the 55m Dash, Winnie Chan placed 1st at 4'6" and Joselyn Streeto placed 3rd at 4'4" in the High Jump, Emily Muzyka placed 2nd in the Shot Put at 33'01.5", Deanna Sgambato placed 3rd in the Pole Vault at 7'0" and Grace Little placed 2nd at 46.9 and Jenna Bryden placed 4th at 47.6 in the 300m Run. The Girls 4x800 Relay Team of Mackenzie Glenn, Caitlin May, Jillian Damiani and Erika Roof placed 7th at 11:30 and the 4x400 Relay Team of Sarah Criscuolo, Lydia Mattson, Gabbie Sarmiento and Jordyn Franco placed 6th at 4:45.1.

Top individual athletes for the Boys team were: Jacob Marshall taking 6th place in the 55m Dash with a time of 7.1, Michael Madoule placing 4th at 1:32.2 and Austin Gibilisco placing 8th at 1:35.1 in the 600m Run, Michael Rabuffo in the 300m Run placed 4th at 40.1 and also placed 4th in the High Jump at 5'06". In the relays, the boys 4x800 Relay Team of Parker Nadeau, Joey DeLucia, Tony Pavic and John Pellegrino placed 8th at 10:04.4. The 4x400 Relay Team of Aaron Beisaw, Freddie Little, Tony Pavic and Noah Taylor placed 6th with a time of 4:09.6.



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Hitting - Sundays 1pm

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203-484-6017 - www.nbparkrec.com

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Family & Adult Activities

Ballet & Tap Combo

Who: Ages 3 - 5
Session: Jan 7 - Feb 18
Time: Saturday, 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Location: STW Gym
Fee: \$35 res/\$40 nr

Archery

Who: Grade 4 - 8
Session: Jan 11 - Feb 15
Time: Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Location: STW Gym
Advanced Skills, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Fee: \$45 res/\$50 nr

Learn to Skate

Who: 3+ Beginner to Advanced
Session: Jan 14 - Mar 4
Time: Saturdays, 1:45 - 2:45 p.m.
Location: Northford Ice Pavilion
Fee: \$165 res/\$170 nr

Babysitter's Certification

Who: 11-15 Years old
Session: January 16 NOTE: NO SCHOOL DAY
Time: Monday, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Location: Ambulance Co. 4, Northford
Fee: \$65 res/\$70 nr

Toddler Ice Skate Lessons

Who: Ages 3 - 6
Wednesdays
Session: Jan 18 - Feb 15
Time: Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Thursdays

Session: Jan 19 - Feb 16
Time: Thursdays, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Location: Northford Ice Pavilion
Fee: \$95

Jazz & Hip Hop

Who: Grades K - 4
Session: Jan 18 - Mar 8
Time: Wednesday, 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.
Location: STW Clarino Room
Fee: \$40 res/\$45 nr

Intro to Drums

Who: Grades 1 - 8
Session: Jan 19 - Mar 9
Time: Thursdays, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.
Location: STW Candelora Room
Fee: \$45 res/\$50 nr

Learn to Sing

Who: Grades 1 - 8
Session: Jan 19 - Mar 9
Time: Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.
Location: STW Candelora
Fee: \$45 res/\$50 nr

Intro to Guitar

Who: Grades 1- Adult
Session: Jan 19 - Mar 9
Time: Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.
Location: STW Candelora Room
Fee: \$45 res/\$50 nr

We are proud to announce that we are now offering

OPEN GYM

for multiple activities at the STW Community Center!

Pickleball: Thursdays 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Basketball: Fridays 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Table Tennis: Fridays 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.
(please bring own equipment)

North Branford Senior Center

8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

* Senior Hot Lunch available –

Check out the menu at nbparkrec.com

Monday – Friday, 12:00 p.m. \$3

*Now offering a different hot soup weekly

*As a reminder, we offer weekly grocery shopping trips every
Tuesday at 12:30.

Come by or call the Senior Center to register.

*Thank you to John and Anthony Leone for turning our gym into
a gorgeous winter wonderland for our annual Senior Holiday
Luncheon! Bob Mel provided the entertainment, and we all had a
fabulous time singing along to classic Christmas carols.*

Bon Ton & Lunch – Friday, January 13, 10:30

Bon Ton in Hamden is closing at the end of the month. Join us as we shop for some deals and then enjoy lunch together. Van departs the senior center at 10:30. Please sign up in advance.

Fired Up! – Thursday, January 19, 10:30

Fired Up! of Branford is bringing the fun of painting ceramics here to the Senior Center!

2 different winter themed items to choose from, be creative and have fun with friends. Seats are limited, so please sign up early and indicate which item you would like to paint. Cost is \$15.00.

Seven Angels Theater: George and Gracie, The Early Years – Thursday, February 23, 2:00 p.m. performance Cost: \$50

resident/\$55 non-resident

Join us for this nostalgic and hilarious look back at the early years of the famous husband and wife comedy team: George Burns and Gracie Allen.

Cake Decorating Contest

Thursday, January 26, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at STW, co-sponsored by
your local bakeries.

\$10.00 Entry Fee for individuals age 12 and older

Not a cake decorator? No problem! Come by to watch, cheer on contestants and of course, eat cake! Call or stop by for entry guidelines.

Wishing everyone a Happy, Healthy New Year

Cookbook Club To Meet In January

For home cooks, the December cookbook selection was stunning. "Great Peasant Dishes of the World" by Howard Hillman features 77 recipes from 52 countries. Beyond that, Mr. Hillman, also author of "Kitchen Science," accurately captured fragrant and inexpensive ethnic dishes both comforting and exotic.

Scotch Broth, hearty with barley, leeks, carrots and turnip was soothing. Kottbullar, which we know as Swedish meatballs, were offered as an appetizer and, with a combination of beef, pork and veal were light and succulent. Main courses included Somen, a Japanese noodle that was cool and refreshing, and Sarma, a Yugoslavia style stuffed cabbage that was warm and satiating. Gnocchi di Patate, a poached potato and flour dumpling and Bacalao a la Vizcaina, a cod with sweet peppers, mint and lemon, were supported by an English Bubble and Squeak (cabbage and potatoes) which is sometimes an entree itself. A Lebanese Tabbouleh with bulgar, mint, cinnamon and ripe tomatoes and a curried cauliflower served as side dishes. Finally, the entire feast was supported by a simply terrific Irish Soda Bread recipe accompanied by marmalade and Irish butter.

Dessert? Swedish Apple cake (Appelkaka), more a casserole than a cake in the traditional sense, was available with vanilla ice cream. While this particular cookbook is decades old, the recipes sing and would delight anyone. And it is entirely readable.

The Cookbook Club meets again in January and information may be obtained at the Atwater Library on Route 80. New members are welcomed.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

Northford Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. Church is located on Old Post Rd., (corner of Rte 17 and Rte 22), PO Box 191 Northford. Phone 203-484-0795, Fax 203-484-9916.. email; ncchurch@snet.net. Rev. Robin Blundon, Interim Pastor. Jane K. Leschuk Minister of Music. Worship service and Sunday School, 10:00AM (9:00 Summer). Join us for coffee hour following worship. Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Office hours, Monday an Wednesday 10am - 1pm. Like us on Facebook. Our website is www.northfordcongregationalchurch.com

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Middletown Ave. (Rte 22 & 17) Northford. 203-484-0895. or <http://standrewsnorthford.org> We are a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry. The Reverend Jim Bradley, Interim Missioner in charge of MACM, 203-525-6846. The Cluster office is 860-345-0058. Sunday morning Eucharist is 10:00am. We have a rotating clergy during the academic year. Join us for coffee and fellowship following service. All are welcome. Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/standrewsnorthford>,

St. Ambrose Parish is a Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Hartford comprised of two church locations; St. Augustine Church located at 30 Caputo Rd in North Branford and St. Monica Church located at 1321 Middletown Ave. in Northford. The Pastor is Reverend Robert Turner. Weekday Masses are celebrated on Monday and Wednesday at 9am at St. Augustine Church and on Tuesday and Fridays at 9am at St. Monica Church. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4pm at St. Augustine Church and 5:30pm at St. Monica Church and on Sunday at 9am at St. Monica Church and 11am at St. Augustine Church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday afternoon from 3:00 to 3:30 at St. Augustine Church or by appointment by calling the parish office at 203-484-0403. If you are new to the area and are looking for a parish family to join, please visit us! The office is open M-F from 9am-1pm at 30 Caputo Road in North Branford.

Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, No. Branford. 203-488-7395 Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar. Sunday Holy Eucharist services 8 & 10AM ealing Prayer and Compline 7PM, second Tuesday of the month. Two babysitters available downstairs during the service. Coffee hour after the service. Visit our Facebook page or website at zionaepiscopalchurch.com.

Bingo at the Guilford K of C

Guilford Knights of Columbus Council 3928 is a nonprofit Bingo Every Monday night. \$5.00 dinner at 5:30 to 7pm. Games start at 7pm. Games include 50/50, winner take all and progressive games. All welcome to a friendly game at 390 South Union street Guilford 06437. Contact Ken at 203 621-4673 or Carl at 203-453-3330 for additional information



NCC Helps Jerome Harrison School

Aloha Mosier of Northford gives boxtops donated by church members to Judy Bannon of Jerome Harrison School. General Mills gives the school 10 cents for each "Box Top for Education" coupon that they collect. The coupons appear on various products such as cereals, paper products, snacks, and numerous other items. At Jerome Harrison, teachers are able to spend that money as they see fit for their classrooms. In the past, teachers have used the money for many items like books, additional classroom supplies, t-shirts & classroom parties.

Other missions (outreach) that church members help are: Food Pantry of North Branford, Neighbors in Need, soda can tab tops to Shriners, manufacturers coupons to a soldier in Germany, scholarship to a high school senior, and the Covenant to Care Adopted Social Worker Program. Additional outreach is done in conjunction with other local churches.

The historic church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Route 22 and Route 17 in the Northford section of North Branford. Church office hours are Monday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., email ncchurch@snet.net, website: www.northfordcongregationalchurch.com. Like us on Facebook.

Death Notice



Lyla Ann Bogardus, beloved nine year old daughter of William C. Bogardus and Jana Balsamo of Northford, passed away peacefully early Christmas morning at her home with her loving family by her side. Lyla was born in Freehold, New Jersey on April 1, 2007, was a 4th grade student at the Totoket Valley Elementary School (TVES), loved to play games with her brothers, loved her pets, all animals and horseback riding. Loving sister of Grant W. and Bennett R. Bogardus. Beloved granddaughter of Salvatore and Janet Balsamo, William and Elizabeth Bogardus. Also survived by aunts, uncles and cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Tommy Fund, 20 York Street, New Haven, CT 06510 or to A Place Called Hope, 154 Pond Meadow Road, Killingworth, CT 06419.

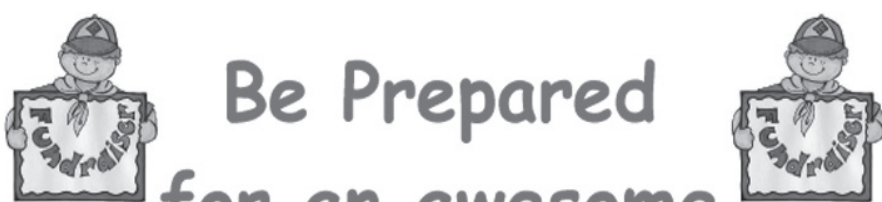
Bell Tower Appeal

Northford Congregational Church has raised approximately 80% of the necessary funds needed to build the new bell tower and steeple. It will be built to its original design in modern materials and the bell will be refurbished and returned to the tower. Architect Daniel Webster Lyon has designed the replacement to replicate Yale architect Henry Austin's design.

In recognition of donations of \$750 or more from individuals, organizations, businesses, and groups, a bronze plaque with the name of the donor(s) will be permanently placed on a monument at the base of the tower. Tax-deductible donations can be made payable to Northford Congregational Church Bell Tower Fund, P. O. Box 191, Northford CT 06472. For any questions or more information, call 203-234-7794.

Your help is needed so that the sound of the bell will again be heard throughout the village of Northford. An electronic striker will be used to sound the bell without swinging the 2,000 pound bell.

The historic Northford Congregational Church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Route 22 and Route 17 in the Northford village in North Branford.



Be Prepared
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Pancake Breakfast



Saturday Jan 14, 2017
From 7:30-11:30am

At the North Branford Congregational Church



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HELP WANTED

North Branford Public School System seeking teacher, paraprofessional, cafeteria and custodial substitutes. Please complete your online application at: www.northbranfordschools.org.

Mystery Days Book Sale

The Friends of the North Branford Libraries MYSTERY DAYS BOOK SALE is scheduled for Friday, January 13th, Saturday, January 14th and Sunday, January 15th at the Atwater Memorial Library, 1720 Foxon Road, (RT 80) North Branford. The sale will be held during regular library hours. Mystery books galore will be for sale by such popular authors as: James Patterson, David Balducci, Mary Higgins Clarke, J.D. Robb, Barbara Delinsky, Michael Connelly and Sue Grafton, to name a few. All proceeds benefit both of the Town libraries.

For further information call: 203-315-6020 or visit: nblibraries.wixsite.com.

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jferraro@acelleron.com

**Programs at the Edward Smith Library
 3 Old Post Rd. Northford**

***Stop in or register by phone (203) 484-0469**

Saturday Mornings beginning on Jan. 7th (9:30-11:30) Writers workshop- Fun exercises in description, verbal expression, envisioning, metaphor, and symbolism. Bring your pen/paper, any written work, beverage/snacks. RSVP Ted Ellis (203) 484-5155 or Telliss@sbcglobal.net

Saturday Jan. 14th (1 pm) History and Culture of Korea-"A screening of documentary on relatively unknown but truly unique and extraordinary works of Korean artifacts & industrial achievements." Reenactment of Korean Traditional wedding and a complimentary Korean traditional meal will follow.

Wednesday Jan. 25th (6:30-7:30) Wellness Patriots "How to Implement a Successful Corporate Wellness Program" Join Dr. Iorio for a FREE Educational presentation!

Also on Wed. Jan 25th - (6-7:30) Ask A Lawyer- 15 minutes of free legal advice from the New Haven Bar Association Lawyers.

***Sunday Feb. 26th (1 pm) Author Visit** "Extra Credit" for your book club. Read "The Violet Season" and then join author Kathy Leonard Czepiel to discuss her book. Kathy teaches writing at Quinnipiac University. This book was chosen as one of the Best Books of 2012 by Kirkus Reviews!



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North Haven Camera Club First 2017 Meeting
 North Haven Camera Club will hold its first meeting of the new year on Tuesday, January 10, 7:00 p.m., at Hope Christian Church, 211 Montowese Ave., North Haven.



This meeting's workshop will cover and demonstrate depth of field, and how to focus for maximum depth and total or select sharpening. Members and guests are encouraged to bring their cameras and other equipment for this workshop.

North Haven Camera Club welcomes new members and guests at all meetings. The club, now in its sixth year, offers instructional meetings, workshops and field trips for photographers at all skill levels. Camera ownership can range from cellphones to advanced dSLRs.

The club's monthly photography competition for January will take place at Hope Christian Church on Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m.

For more information about North Haven Camera Club, visit the club's website at NorthHavenCameraClub.com.

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