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Volume 21 No 21 November 14, 2014

SHORELINE CHAMPIONS



*North Branford High School Field Hockey Team recently took the Shoreline Championship with a 2-0 victory over Westbrook.
(Submitted photo, courtesy of coach Babby Nuhn)*

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

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Saturday, December 13, 2014

8:00 AM - 10:00AM

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Saturday, November 22nd

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11/13, 11/17, 11/18, Auditorium Lobby from 4-7 PM

*All remaining tickets will be on sale at the door
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Deadline		Date of Issue	
November	21	November	28
December	5	December	12
December	12	December	19
December	28	January	4
January	11	January	18
January	25	February	1
February	8	February	15
February	22	March	1

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Fire Commission Supports Chief Seward

Dear Editor:

The purpose of this letter/Press Release, authored by the North Branford Board of Fire Commissioners, is to support Fire Chief William Seward, III in his ability to perform the required duties assigned to his position. These duties include but are not limited to responsibilities outlined in the North Branford Town Code Chapter 40-7 and the position description for Chief of Fire Services authorized by this Board.

As many townspeople have heard, the possibility exists that a propane storage facility may be constructed at 40 Ciro Road. As part of this process the applicant applied to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a regulation change that would allow for the storage of propane. It was during this process that Fire Chief William Seward, III was called upon by the Commission to seek his professional advice on this project. Before we begin to explain our position on this matter, we assembled some facts about our fire chief.

The North Branford Board of Fire Commissioners hired Chief Seward based upon his impeccable employment history, college degrees, many years of experience in a career fire department, his skill, knowledge and abilities related to emergency medical service operations, a comprehensive list of fire, EMS, hazardous materials and homeland security certifications and, his ability to lead a professional volunteer fire department into a new era of service delivery. Additionally, he is involved in regional activities as Fire Chief serving as the Chairperson for the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security's Region 2 Hazardous Materials Team. Since becoming fire chief in 2005, Chief Seward has demonstrated a high level of administrative competence, communicates clearly and concisely, effectively blends management skills with technical expertise and has effectively developed individual, departmental and organizational goals to meet the objectives of the North Branford Fire Department. Most recently he has led the Department into a new service delivery through the implementation of a fire department based paramedic service that in just a short time has been instrumental in saving residents lives. Even though the position is part-time, it holds full time responsibilities. To those few points, the Board of Fire Commissioners realizes they hired the right person to lead the town's fire service.

The matter of opening a propane storage facility in this community has brought to the forefront many faces in our town – some have smiles others frowning with frustration. It has forced some to form a unified front to stop such projects while others freely voiced their opinions toward the proposal, potential occupant, town officials and our fire chief. In particular, a small but boisterous select group of residents have taken the opportunity to humiliate, defame and spread rumors about Chief Seward. As the Chief's superiors, we empathetically disagree with this type of public behavior focused against our department leader. More importantly, his professional opinion and facts that he has presented to the Town Council, Planning and Zoning Commission and the Inland and Wetlands Agency is based upon national standards for the propane industry. He has stated numerous times that the proposed project meets and or exceeds National Fire Protection Association 58, "Standard for the Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases" and similar Connecticut Fire Safety Codes. Furthermore, town fire officials (Fire Chief Seward, Deputy Fire Chief Esposito, Fire Marshal Bunnell, Deputy Fire Marshal O'Brien and Deputy Chief of Training Colangelo) along with other town staff met with Jody Pratt Ameden of Energy Consulting, LLC to formulate the required propane facility fire safety analysis. This written document substantiates and supports the ability of the town's fire department to meet the minimum requirements set forth under applicable codes and standards to plan, prepare, respond, mitigate and recover from a propane incident. However, during a recent town meeting members of the public accused the fire chief of lying about the departments capabilities to handle such an emergency based upon their interpretation of a February 2014 Insurance Services Office Public Protection Classification survey. The community should realize this report was very positive for our department and taxpayers alike since the results in fact demonstrated an improvement in the level of fire protection delivered by the North Branford Fire Department. Our changes in operational procedures, training, equipment, and mutual aid agreements moved us from a Class 4/9 to a new category of 4/4Y (4/8b). Residents and business owners may witness a decrease in their fire insurance premiums with this new rating schedule. As a Board, we recognize that the average citizen would not understand the actual rating schedule or grading that goes into this process. Furthermore, certain sub categories may be viewed as deficiencies but this is due to the lack of a dedicated training facility for the fire department, lack of town infrastructure for water mains and a single dispatcher to handle fire, police, EMS and public works communications. Each of these areas can be improved and as the Board of Fire Commissioners, we fight yearly for service upgrades during the budget process.

In addition to the facts cited above, Chief Seward has maintained an open line

of communications between him and representatives from the fire marshal's office and has presented related information to this Board during our regular monthly meetings. He has continually stressed the fact that this proposed project exceeds fire safety requirements stated in NFPA 58. It is a fact the fire safety consultant listened to the Chief and his staff, implementing a fire protection system that provides a high level of safety for the public. In return the proposed site owners agreed to provide additional training for fire personnel and provide supplemental equipment that may be employed for suppression operations. A representative from the Propane Education and Research Council (PERC) also offered their expertise into supplemental training for our members.

Another point brought forward during a recent public meeting from an angry citizen focused on the "Nexgen System" not working and thus the Chief lied again about the department's response. It is a fact that the Nexgen system referred to is managed and controlled by the towns' emergency communications system within the police department. As the Chief advised this Board, there have been some periods where this information management system has failed. However, this is not our radio communications system and dispatching units to calls has not been disrupted. As a Board, we must place emphasis on the fact that many citizens within this community are unaware of the intricacies pertaining to fire service delivery. We must state strongly, today's fire department is not like that which many remember. We must conform to state and national standards and there is no difference between those requirements whether one is a career or a professional volunteer firefighter or fire officer. More importantly, comments made during public meetings by the untrained, uninformed person against our men and women should not be entertained. Moreover it is not the Fire Chief's responsibility to provide an evacuation plan for residential and or health care facilities. It is however that owners responsibility working in concert with the town's emergency management officials to devise such plan. Most similar occupancies in this state have instituted an all-hazards plan approach following federal recommendations and guidelines.

We are all concerned about prudent fiscal management, providing good reliable services to the public and maintain taxes that we all can afford. The community should know that since 2005, the North Branford Fire Department has received more than \$1.1 million dollars federal grants that aid in sustaining our comprehensive operations. Without the grant funds that were applied for by Chief Seward, two things would have occurred – first, the town would have been responsible for the full amount or worse, the department would not be in a position to respond to fires and other emergencies due to the lack of proper training and equipment required by NFPA and OSHA. To that point, we are most grateful to have Chief Seward lead our 110 person department.

Finally, every now and then the news media generates frenzy over what is statistically a very rare occurrence – cameras can make drama. As a town appointed Board responsible for the fire service, we have established high standards for its administration starting at the top. Firefighter safety and well-being has always been a top priority. There are over 60 propane storage facilities in this state; some are protected by career personnel while others by volunteer departments. Facility installations must all meet the same criteria, a fire safety analysis must be developed which includes fire service delivery capabilities. It is our belief that similar facilities are no more disruptive to the community that any other facility in that zoned location. Excessive noise is not an issue; these facilities are neat and clean and may be visually superior to many other industrial locations nearby. Therefore, the North Branford Board of Fire Commissioners hereby supports and will continue to support Fire Chief William Seward, III in his endeavor to provide the highest level of fire service delivery to the citizenry of this community.

Respectfully Submitted, Joseph Civitello - Chairperson, Ed Prunier - Vice Chairperson, Anthony DellaCamera- Board Member, Kenneth Ash-Board Member, Andrew Campion - Board Member

To all 4 North Branford Fire Department Companies

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Bellonio family, I want to express our deep gratitude for all the love and respect shown for Joe. Numerous people have commented on the touching displays of respect shown at the funeral home and on the day of the funeral. I truly appreciated all the kind words and deeds. Being a volunteer fireman was something Joe enjoyed doing.

Thank you all so very much.

Sincerely,

Gloria Bellonio & Family

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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



WIT & WISDOM

Radio was just making it's appearance when I was 6 years old. My oldest brothers, Edwin and George were involved in making their own sets and while I don't remember much about their activities I remember seeing the tubular oat meal boxes with the wire wound closely round and round and then shellaced, creating a coil. My mother said my brothers were busy every night working feverishly to be the first in the neighborhood to have a radio. I don't remember them ever making a radio, but my mother said it was an exciting time with them all gathered around hoping to hear something coming from miles away. She said, they monkeyed around with their "cat whiskers" until they did hear music so softly they each had to lean real close to hear it. With commercial sets soon on the market their interest waned and only the oat meal boxes remained.

Among my client when I ran my gym over the Lowes Poli Theatre were several of noted political importance. Pat Goode, came every week for his steam bath and massage. Pat was the Postmaster which in those days meant he was the leading Federal official in New Haven. He was the titular head of the Democratic Party and of radio station WELI.

Pat was a tall distinguished looking gentleman and respected by everyone. During one of our conversations I laughingly told Pat of my brothers saying the first radio station in New Haven was WPAJ and they called it the wops, Pollacks and Jews station. Pat said, "That was no joke, that's what they used to call it. That's why they went to Hartford and changed their call letters to WDRC". WPAJ started in 1923 moving to Hartford in 1930.

Pat's importance in, not only New Haven, but the Democratic Party nationally is best told when in September 1941 he told me he had been called to Washington for a very important meeting. When he came back the first thing he said to me was, "We're going to get into this. Let me get you a job in Winchester". I went to work there in two weeks.

Thanks to my working in the defense industry, having children before the War and a high draft number I missed serving by two weeks. Ordered to report August 21, 1945. With the War ending the 14th I was never called.

Further evidence of Pat's political clout was when a group of local men, some of whom patronized my gym, were trying to establish the first television station in New Haven. After more than a year of efforts, including bribery, with no success they approached Pat for help. Pat went to Washington and within a month they had the approval with Pat the majority stock holder.

Pat taught me much that influenced my life. One thing he taught me was to never fail to greet someone no matter how bitter their actions were toward you and he told how when he was head of the Young Democratic Party he had a very bitter confrontation with Mayor Dave Fitzgerald the evening before. They passed each other every morning on their way to their offices. The next morning he said, "Good Morning Dave" and Fitzgerald walked gloomily by. This went on for about a month when Fitzgerald started responding and their old friendship was renewed.

Alton Eliason

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

By Attorney Marc P. Guertin

A lot of people are very concerned with avoiding probate. Many people believe that as long as they have a valid Will, they can avoid Probate. This is exactly the opposite of what actually happens when you die with a Will. A Will is often called "a ticket to Probate." If you really want to avoid the time, expense and public nature of the Probate process, a Will always falls short of the mark.

Many people look to Revocable Living Trusts to avoid probate. Probate is the process of removing a decedent's name from property and assets that person owned when they were alive. So, it follows that if your name is not on any property or assets when you die- there is no need for probate. Revocable Living Trusts help people to do just that.

A Revocable Living Trust acts as a legal container that holds property for the benefit of the beneficiary of the Trust, who is usually a person, an institution or a charity. Trusts are legal agreements between three different parties: The Grantor (sometimes called a Trustmaker or Settlor) who establishes the Trust, the Trustee who administers the Trust, and the beneficiary, who receives some sort of benefit (usually income) from the Trust.

Imagine a Revocable Living Trust as an "open box." You can put assets into the box and you can take assets out of the box. The box is a alter ego for yourself. You can manage the assets in the box or appoint someone else to do that for you. You have total control- just as you would if you owned the assets outright (outside of the trust). Assets owned by the Trust (most likely managed by you for your benefit) will not have to be probated when you die- because you don't own them- the Trust does.

Revocable Living Trusts are a great method of avoiding probate and the costs, lack of privacy and time associated with probating an estate. By using a Revocable 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 Revocable Living Trusts work to avoid probate, and minimize estate taxes, Guertin and Guertin, LLC is offering a no cost workshop on December 6th at 10am. Seating is very limited. Please call my office at 203-234-7400 to reserve your space.

If you have estate planning questions that you would like answered in this column, email me at marc@guertinlaw.net.

Marc Guertin, is a partner at Guertin and Guertin, LLC. Guertin and Guertin, LLC is dedicated to Estate Planning, ElderLaw, Trust and Probate Administration. He is co-author of Planning for the Future: A Practical Guide to estate Planning and Avoiding Bad Heir Days. Visit Guertin and Guertin, LLC on the web: www.guertinandguertin.com.

"How Safe Are You From Identity Fraud?"

Wallingford, CT November 4, 2014... On Monday, November 17, at 11:30 a.m., at the Meriden Senior Center, 22 West Main Street, Howard Schwartz, Executive Communications Director for the Better Business Bureau serving Connecticut, will present a program entitled "How safe are you from Identity Fraud?"

Mr. Schwartz will review specific actions you can take to help prevent becoming a victim of identify fraud, including what personal documents to keep or shred, and available on-line and agency resources.

Mr. Schwartz is the media and public outreach educator for the Better Business Bureau in Connecticut. Prior to joining the Better Business Bureau in 2007, he was an award winning television correspondent and anchorman.

The free program will begin at 11:30 a.m. and includes a complementary lunch. Reservations are required, however, so please call the Meriden Senior Center at (203) 237-0066 by November 14.

Masonicare of Wallingford provides Lunch and Learn programs for adults and caregivers as a public service to the community.

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Quilt to be Raffled at Holly Fair

Jeanette Linsley, a long time member of the North Branford Congregational Church is holding a quilt which was hand made by her daughter Marilyn Stone. The quilt will be the first prize in a raffle held by the NCC at the Holly Fair on November 22. the second prize is a \$100. BigY card and the third prize is a \$75 gift certificate to the Chowder Pot.

Also featured will be a jewelry table in addition to several other unique and interesting tables. For more information concerning the Fair, call the Church office at 203-488-8450.

Christmas with the Chorale

On Saturday, December 6th, the Branford Choral will present its 39th Winter Concert entitled, “Christmas with the Chorale”, under the direction of Michael Carnaroli. The concert will be held at St. Therese Church on Leete’s Island Rd. in Branford at 7:30PM.

A wide variety of music will be presented including traditional carols, popular favorites from “Frozen”, and “Sister Act”, as well as a variety of multi - cultured pieces. All the selections were chosen as favorites of the Chorale membership. It will surely be an evening to please every level of interest, and one that the Chorale looks forward to presenting.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$10.00 (\$8.00 for seniors and children), or they can be purchased in advance for \$8.00 at the Village Shoppe in Branford.

More information can be obtained by calling 203-488-8363.

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So I Was in a Show This Weekend...
by Lindsay Lee Wallace

“I think I’m going to throw up. And I don’t mean that like when I’m nervous and I say it to demonstrate the extent of my nerves. I mean I actually might puke, like, everywhere.” My fellow cast members eyed me dubiously, inching backwards out of the splash zone like guests at some horror show gastrointestinal Sea World. On stage, the lights were dimming. The director’s voice piped through the speakers, admonishing members of the audience who had planned on engaging in flash photography to reconsider. The dull roar that had filled the room lowered to an anticipatory chatter. In the last moments before the theater went dark, my friends overcame their fears—or perhaps I’d imagined their fright to begin with—and pressed in around me. Our shaking hands clasped, we whispered furiously as the seconds ticked down, straining to push our words past the hearts that were beating in our throats.

Whenever I am in a play, I struggle with doubt. I wonder whether the audience will like our show, whether they will understand it and appreciate the subtleties that we have spent months capturing, painting in the finest of strokes. If the moments that ought to spur laughter will clunk awkwardly into silence, and those cast from more serious cloth will fail to inspire thought and emotion. Selfishly, cynically, I wonder if the audience will think us fools for throwing ourselves so whole-heartedly into a glorified game of a make-believe. I am, at times, tempted to stifle my performance, for if you do not apply yourself fully to a task, then its failure will not appear to be a surprise to you. If I pour my soul into a tear-jerker that gets laughed offstage, I am more embarrassed than if I appear cool and distanced, clearly just as aware of my ridiculousness as those observing me.

In these moments, I have a talk with myself—and when that fails, I have one with my fellow cast members, my friends. Never, in my lifetime of acting, have I ever actually been laughed offstage. Never have I been booed into oblivion, and never have I felt the rotten squelch of an overripe tomato. And what’s more, neither have any of those with whom I perform. So much of performing is trust—that the actor from whom you expect your cues will deliver them, that the lights will change to indicate the next scene, that the phone will ring in time to interrupt a line that trails into an ellipse. And when these things do not go as scripted, the trust in yourself to improvise, to pull it off anyway by the skin of your teeth.

There are times when I forget why I act: when it’s the week of late-night, multi-hour technical rehearsals colloquially referred to as “Hell Week”; when I forget a line, and suddenly every drop of blood in my body is glowing in my hot cheeks; when the restaurant scene is punctuated by the surprise shatter of a wine glass, right before the scene in which I must lay on the stage. But when it’s all said and done, and the lights go down and we run into the wings whooping and leaping for joy and relief, it all makes a kind of imperfectly perfect sense. I act because I love the places I find within myself through exploration of a character, places I did not know existed, places I can then use to show an audience an emotion—and make them feel it too. I act for the people I have met, the kindest, funniest, smartest, and most willing-to-burst-into-song-in-any-given-public-place people I could possibly imagine, who infuse me with their exuberance. I act because it forces me to confront those doubts, and overcome them. I was in a show this weekend, and it made me a better person.

Lindsay Lee Wallace is a local student giving her view points of interest for both parents and students.

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Troop 60311 Giving Back to the Community

On November 8, 2014 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Troop 60311 volunteered their day to help with the Northford Leaf Collection. Troop members, Marlena Karsmarski, Alexis Betzner, Taylor Kaminski, Christina Riggione, Alyssa Nero, Riley Kendall, Johanna Wethly, Avery Kendall also assisted the girls were Michele Karsmarski and Dan Rivellini. Led by Troop Leader, Estela Karsmarski.

Total of 105 trucks and cars came by and utilize the town leaf collection. The girls were able to pull leaves from the truck beds or unload the bags from customers cars. I am so proud of my girls for working so hard and assisted with emptying the trucks as well as the cars. Extra thank you to both Marlena Karsmarski and Alexis Betzner who worked very hard and stayed for the full day.

I am so proud of all my girls for giving back to our Community. It's not all about Girls Scout Cookies; it's what we can do to better our community.

Artist Exhibits at Edward Smith

North Branford artist, Diane Lewis, will be exhibiting assemblages, dolls, and drawings for the month of November in the Edward Smith Memorial Library, 3 Old Post Rd., Northford. Works include illustrations of B.W., the Beluga whale that made the New Haven harbor her home. Show opening will be on Sunday, November 16th, from 1-4pm.

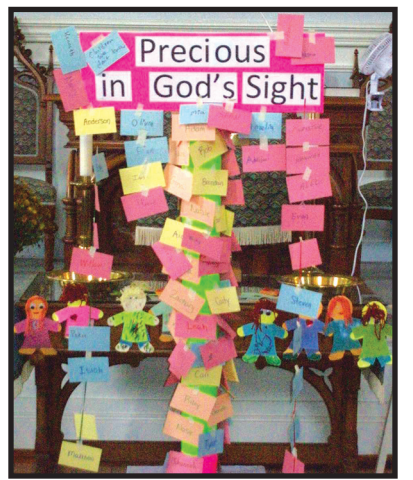
PRECIOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT

Children were the focus during a recent Family/Mission Sunday at Northford Congregational Church. They made a colorful display consisting of the names of children written on pieces of paper and hung from ribbons. During the Sunday service various members of the church wrote down the names of children they knew, and the children of the church placed the names on the display. Prayers were offered for all the children listed.

After the service, the children and adult helpers made bagged dinners in the social hall for the Midnight Run Mission after worship. The bags were delivered to the homeless the following evening.

For information on Sunday School, contact Kathy Grant, Christian Education Coordinator, at 203-823-1023.

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 section of North Branford. Website: www.northfordcongregationalchurch.com. Email address: ncchurch@snet.net.



North Branford Fall Leaf Collection

North Branford residents can bring their leaves to the leaf drop off center located at the Public Works Garage on Route 22 from 9:00am to 3:00pm on the following Saturdays this Fall: **November 15** and **22**. Please place leaves in biodegradable leaf bags (no tape please) or empty them loose onto the ground.

Curbside leaf pickup takes place for 2 weeks: **Nov 24th** thru **Dec 5th**. Please also use biodegradable paper bags without any tape. For more information, call the recycling hotline at **203-484-4091**.

Used Textiles: Donate, Recycle, Don't Throw Away

Textiles are the "forgotten recyclables"

help keep them out of the waste stream, and the landfill.

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the average person throws away 70 pounds of clothing per year; only 15 percent is reused and recycled.

Please help increase the current textile recovery rate by donating all clean and dry textiles (items made from cloth or artificial fabric) for reuse and recycling. Drop off used textiles at local metal collection boxes (Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries, etc.).

Visit Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles Association (SMART) - www.smartasn.org or www.ct.gov/deep for more information.

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FRC Hosted "Meet & Greet"

North Branford Family Resource Center Families in Training Program welcomed our new and returning families for a Breakfast Meet and Greet on September 25th. Our State Rep Vincent Candelora and Superintendent of North Branford Schools Scott Schoonmaker joined us on this day. If you would like to learn more about the Families in Training program, you may contact Erin Collins: Program Assistant/Parent Educator (203) 484-2609 ecollins@northbranfordschools.org

Community NIGHT TO CARE

Our annual Community Night to Care will again be hosted by Jerome Harrison School on **Wednesday, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m.** For those individuals that may be new to the town of North Branford or who have not had the opportunity to participate, this is an annual event where we come together to celebrate the collection of food and gift donations for Northford and North Branford families in need. To get ready for the event paper snowmen will be posted on a large snowman in the main lobby of Jerome Harrison School (beginning the week of October 20th) for you to take and *sign out* by recording your information on the sheet posted by the large snowman. Each snowman lists a child's age and gender and represents *one* gift (which may be more than one item totaling approximately \$25); there will be two snowmen, or two gifts, for each child. Please feel free to take as many snowmen as you like.

In the past, gifts have included: games, toys, books, art and craft supplies, glamour items, sporting equipment, etc. Gift certificates are also a great idea for any age, especially teenagers (i.e., Barnes & Noble, Target, and Toys R Us). Your generosity on behalf of the families of Northford and North Branford is very much appreciated.

This year, we are welcoming everyone to bring their unwrapped gifts **with the snowman securely attached** (*as this identifies the recipient of the gift*) to our Night to Care event on December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. That evening we will have crafts, card-making, holiday entertainment, refreshments, and a performance by the JHS chorus! We hope you can join us. If you are unable to attend on the 3rd, you can **drop off** gifts to JHS on Thursday, December 4th or Friday, December 5th.

In addition to the gifts, the families will receive non-perishable food items that will be collected during the upcoming food drive/collection scheduled for Sunday, November 16th at the Branford Stop & Shop. Each family will also receive a Stop & Shop gift card as a gift from Matt's Mission. Your generosity on behalf of the families of Northford and North Branford is very much appreciated. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lisa Manning at lmann4767@yahoo.com, Nicole Park at parknicole@comcast.net or Jackie Rodriquez at jnr31@comcast.net.

NBHS Class of 2004 Ten Year Reunion

Who: NBHS class of 2004 plus guest

When: 8:00pm on Friday, November 28, 2014

Where: Anna Liffey's Irish Pub, New Haven

Cost: \$40 per person includes: buffet style appetizers, tax & gratuity and 3 drinks per person.

RSVP: Purchase tickets by 11/16 at www.payitsquare.com/collect-page/52489 or contact Deirdre Darrah at dcdarrah@gmail.com

Halloween Night at Jerome Harrison

On Friday, October 24, 2014, Jerome Harrison Elementary School was transformed into a festive Halloween event for students and families. Students came dressed in Halloween costumes for a night filled with storytelling and pictures. Other events offered included crafts, games, dancing to music by a DJ, and a haunted room. Many thanks to all the donors that truly made this event possible: Country Farms II, Country Paint and Hardware, DJ Anthony Esposito, Giovanni's Balloons, John & Maria's Pizzeria, Louie's Slice Pizzeria & Restaurant, Tony Z's Pizza, PestRx, Shoprite, Target, Tom Smith's Chinese Kempo Academy.



Hockey Teams Compete for Concussion Research

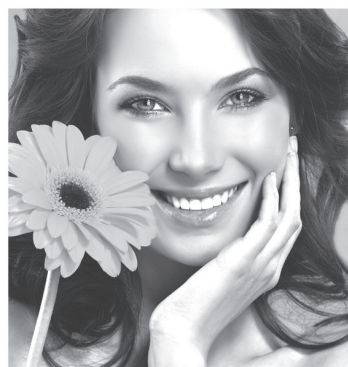
On Friday, November 28th, MB Sports Training will be hosting the 4th annual 'Your Best Season Yet Challenge' for area high school hockey teams. The competition will be located at the North Branford Sportsplex Dome. These are some of the area's best athletes competing head to head to determine which team is most athletic. Proceeds will go to Sports Legacy Institute, the authority on concussion research and education. To date, MB Sports Training has raised \$4000!

This year will feature the best from West Haven, Hamden, North Haven, North Branford, and Notre Dame of West Haven. MB Sports Training is hosting this event by evaluating all the athletes using special tests to determine athleticism. Located in Northford at the Northford Ice Pavilion, MB Sports Training works with athletes of all ages to better prepare them and improve their athleticism.

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Little League Softball “Pumpkins to Scare Cancer”

The North Branford Little League Girls Majors Softball Team decided to take the season a bit further with “Paint the Pumpkins to Scare Cancer”. After beating Guilford 17- 11, the girls worked as a team to fulfill their community service project. All of the girls brought their own pumpkin to paint and decorate for a cause, to provide words of HOPE and inspiration to children battling cancer. The Team and siblings decided to paint/ decorate their pumpkins and donate them to the Children’s Cancer Unit at Yale New Haven Hospital. All of the girls were passionate and took careful precision of the pumpkins they were designing to provide happiness & joy to brighten another child’s day.

A special “ Thank you “ goes out to Mrs. Michelle Ackerman, Team Mom, for assisting in the planning of the Community Service Project as well as all of the parents who so willingly donated all of the supplies. They donated paints, brushes, decorations, craft stick on’s, & stickers for the girls to use on their pumpkins. The parents also brought some food to go along with the Team Party that the coaches provided to all who attended. Coach Chris Hills & Dave Anderson along with Coach Brent Aiken also helped out by providing additional foods and beverages to the Pizza party that was had during the event.

Sixteen pumpkins were delivered for “Painted Pumpkins to scare Cancer” to the Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital for the “CHILD LIFE UNIT”. Overall, I am very glad to have been a part of this Fall Ball Team. The team was comprised of: Ashley Anderson, Maire Aiken, Samantha DeAngelo, Payton Hebert, Isabelle Hills, Kelli Jacobson, Sophia Oullette, Lauren Ackerman, Gianna DePino, Emily McCormack, Isabelle Fortier, Rachel Vitarisi, Mia DeLoughery, and Abigail Vollano,

Girls Soccer Finishes on High Note

NBHS Girls Soccer stunned division leading Morgan Huskies and put a damper on their senior night, closing out their own season with a 1-0 victory. Morgan dominated the first 10 minutes of the game but the Thunderbirds defense of Holly Dulak, Leah Martone, Kelly Oliver and led by senior Sara Olsen and goalie Julie Castillo kept Morgan off the scoreboard.

North Branford’s speed began to take over and went to halftime 0-0. The lone goal came 8 minutes into the second half as Katie Stevens connected with Jess Zumbo who sprinted through the Morgan defense. The Morgan goalie made the initial save. Jess battled the goalie and a defender and slid the ball into the back of the goal for 1-0 lead.

The signature play of the game came with 4 minutes left in the game. On a Morgan corner kick, the ball ricochet to a open mid-fielder just outside the goal box. The shot was a rising blast headed for well inside the right post. Out of no where Julie Castillo made a flying lunge to push the ball just outside the right post. Preserving a 1-0 victory for North Branford.

Freshmen Cross Country Compete in Meet

Freshman from the North Branford Cross Country Team competed at the Shoreline Conference Freshman Meet at Jonathan Winthrop Middle School in Deep River on Monday, October 27th. In the boys’ race, Michael Madoule placed 6th at 18:38.3. In the girls’ race, Olivia Hemstock was the lead runner for the Lady T-Birds by placing 10th at 22:48.9. Also finishing for the girls was Marie Zampano 13th (24:06.9), Theresa Guadagnino 15th (24:12.4), Grace Little 19th (25:59.7), Hayley Murphy 26th (28:14.4) and Britney Beardsley 30th (31:40.6).

Football Team Takes Two More

Going into the game against Coginchaug with identical 6-1 records the contest looked to be a battle. However, the Thunderbirds scored a touchdown in each quarter to defeat the Blue Devils 27-0.

On a soggy field, the T-Bird’s Joe Ferreira blocked a punt that was recovered for a touchdown by fellow senior Exavier (The X Man) Santiago. As the defense continued its tenacity, the Birds scored in the second quarter on a 53 yard TD run by speedster Shelby Franklin to give the Thunderbirds a 13-0 half time lead.

With the field getting increasingly worse, the passing game became almost non-existent with North Branford running the ball 40 times. But on the 6 yard line, junior Paul Pastet surprised them with a 6 yard touchdown completion to his favorite receiver, senior Austin Calamita.

As NB continued to work the clock, Corey Seymour who carried 11 times for 59 yards completed the scoring with a 14 yard touchdown run. Franklin carried 6 times for 97 yards and junior Ryan Reilly had 39 yards on four carries.

The big story was the defense which was led by senior Mike Kaiser who had 14 tackles and 5 assists. Senior Lou Distasio pitched in with 8 tackles and 3 assists, junior George Poleschuk had 8 tackles with 2 assists and Nick Sagnella had 6 tackles with 3 assists as well. Seymour had a sack and Sagnella had an interception.

After giving up 13 points in a non - conference game against Gilbert Northwestern Regional High School, the defense shut them down the rest of the way and led the Thunderbirds to a 62 -13 victory. Leading the way with 3 sacks was Joe Ferreira as Corey Seymour, Nick Sagnella and Mike Kaiser all added one each for a total of 6 sacks. Shelby Franklin also recovered three fumbles. The 8 - 1 T-Birds will take on the 7 - 2 Huskies of Morgan on Friday, November 14, at 6:30 at Morgan.

Annual Powderpuff Football Game

The Annual Powderpuff football game will take place on Sunday, November 30th beginning at 4:00PM. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. Refreshments will be available including chili and chowder bowls as well as a bake sale and raffle.

All proceeds will go to benefit the 2015 Project Graduation Program.



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Teen Ski - Snowboard

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January 9 – February 6
Must register by Nov. 20

Events**Holiday Fair at STW CC**

Saturday, Dec. 6th 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Cookie Swap

Monday, Dec. 15th 11:00 a.m.
Sign-up required

Senior Van Trips**Lyman Orchards****Trees of Hope @ the Maritime Center****Holiday Wishes at Aqua Turf****Wadsworth Anthenum Festival of Trees**

Thursday, November 20th

Monday, December 8th

Tuesday, December 9th

Thursday, December 11th

Chartered Bus Trips**Stocking Stuffer Holiday Romp**

Receive a free stocking and fill it with free gifts given along the way. Enjoy a buffet luncheon during your shopping excursion.

Sunday, December 7th
\$83

Radio City Christmas Spectacular

15 seats left – GET YOUR TICKETS NOW
See the Rockettes in all their glory while visiting Rockefeller Center, shopping 5th Ave and more.

Monday, December 8th
\$100 includes motor coach & driver gratuity

Chocolate Buffet Trip & Quincy Market

Celebrate Valentines Day at a magnificent Chocolate Bar at the Langham Hotel's Café Fleuri in Boston. All you can enjoy buffet... YIKES!

Saturday, February 14th
\$110 motor coach, driver gratuity included

**Happy Holidays**

from the STW Community Center Staff

www.nbparkrec.com

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***Women's Clubs are Grateful***

The Northford and North Branford Women's Clubs would like to thank our community for making the Domestic Violence Awareness day a big success! Over 175 local businesses participated by flying a purple balloon on October 25, 2014. 26 Club members devoted their time and energy to this worthy cause. We would especially like to thank Mario Apuzzo and Martha Holquist from the Northford Rite Aid, the North Branford Rite Aid and Save & Discount for inflating the balloons for the event.

Northford Women's Club

The Northford Women's Club, GWFC, will be meeting on Tuesday, November 18th at 7:00 PM. The meeting will take place at the Stanley T. Williams Community Center on Middletown Ave, Northford. Please join us as we learn more about the culture, food and costume of Bangladesh and Nepal. Any woman over the age of 18 is welcome to attend.

The Northford Women's Club is a community service organization with a friendly and fun loving membership which enjoys participating in charitable events in our community and is always looking for new members. If interested in becoming a member or simply looking for further information, please contact Mary Smith at 203-484-9157. You can also go to our website at www.northfordwomensclub.org or check us out on Facebook!



Did you know....that The Regional Water Authority owns a third of the town of North Branford?.

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TotoketHistoricalSociety.Org

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Branford Hill Chapel. 212 Branford Rd., corner of Twin Lakes Rd. 203-488-3586. Breaking of Bread, 9:15am. Sunday, Ministry and Sunday School, 11:00am. Nursery for infants and toddlers at both meetings. Mid-week Bible studies. For spiritual help, call 203-239-9845.

North Branford Congregational Church, UCC. 1680 Foxon Rd., North Branford, CT, 203-488-8456 or nobfdcong@sbcglobal.net or www.northbranforducc.org. Acting Pastor Rev. Price van der Swaagh. Daniel Jared Shapiro, Music Director. 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. Reverend Kathryn King. Pastor. Jane K. Leschuk Minister of Music. Sunday worship service and Sunday School, 10:00AM. 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 10am. We have a rotating clergy & choir during the academic year. Join us for coffee and fellowship following service. All are welcome.

St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church. The church is located at 30 Caputo Rd., North Branford. The Parochial Administrator is Reverend Robert Turner and Deacons are John Hart & Robert Macaluso. Daily Mass and Homily are celebrated Mondays & Wednesdays at 9am. On weekends, Mass is celebrated on Saturday at 4pm & 11am on Sunday mornings. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday afternoon from 3:00 - 3:30PM In addition, you can make an appointment for reconciliation 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. You can contact the church office at 203-484-0403 or fax 203-484-0132 weekdays, 9am to 1pm or visit us online at www.staugustinenobfdct.com

St. Monica Roman Catholic Church. The Church is located at 1331 Middletown Ave. Northford. The Parochial Administrator is Reverend Robert Turner and the Deacons are William B. Bergers, Louis P. Fusco and Joseph Marenga. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturdays at 5:30pm and Sunday at 9am. Weekday Masses are Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 9am. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated Saturday morning from 8:30 - 9:00AM. In addition, you can make an appointment for Reconciliation by calling our parish office. You can contact the parish office by calling 203-484-9226 or fax 203-484-1189 Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10am - 2pm. You can contact the Education Center at 203-484-2434 Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9am to 2pm.

Zion Episcopal Church. 326 Notch Hill Rd., North Branford. 203-488-7395. The Reverend Lucy LaRocca, Vicar; Sunday Holy Eucharist 8 & 10:00am. Coffee hour follows both services. Child care available. Email; www.zionepiscopalchurch.org.

Death Notice - Margarita Lucatino Fiondella, 78, of Northford, passed



away peacefully on Sunday, November 2, 2014 at Yale-New Haven Hospital with her family by her side. She was the wife of Angelo Fiondella. Margarita was born in Gioia Sannitica, Italy on December 21, 1935; daughter of the late Vincenzo and Rosa Troiano Lucatino. Margarita was dedicated to her family whom she loved unconditionally. Mother of Anna (Mario) Perrone, Marie (David) Sintay and Gennaro (Micheline) Fiondella. Grandmother of Michael (Ashley) Perrone, Marissa Perrone, Tyler and Deanna

Sintay, Angelo, Ariana and Andrew Fiondella. Sister of Livia (Raffaele) D'Antonio, Josephine (Livio) Zurlo, Lorenzo Lucatino, Emilio (Maria) Lucatino, John (Regina) Lucatino, Enrico (Alfonsina) Lucatino and the late Giuseppe and Michele Lucatino. Sister-in-law of Nancy and Micheline Lucatino. Also survived by several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Donadio "Irish Man of the Year"



Edward Donadio of Northford along with Wendy Mackey of Guilford will be the featured honorees at the New Haven Gaelic Football & Hurling Club 31st Annual Banquet as their Irish Woman and Irish Man of the Year. The event will be held on Saturday, November 22 from 7 pm to 12 am at Cascade, 480 Sherman Avenue, Hamden.

Tickets are available for \$65 and include an open bar, a 4 course dinner and an evening of dancing to music provided by the Sharon and Pat Burke Band. To purchase tickets, contact Maureen Rynne (203) 318-8723 or email Brendan McCaffery at brendan@insurewithbrendan.com



Holiday Events Community Dining Room Annual Thanksgiving Feast

The Community Dining Room (CDR) will serve a full, traditional Thanksgiving feast on Thursday, November 27, beginning at Noon thru 1:30. All members of the community are invited to join the feast. Empty nesters, older adults, neighbors who would enjoy sharing a Fancy Thanksgiving Dinner with neighbors are encouraged to attend. If you know someone who would enjoy and benefit from this wonderful community event, please do invite them to join us!

If you're interested in contributing a favorite dish or a gallon of cider or milk, please contact Pat Reilly at 488-2791 or Melissa Branch at 488-0447 (please leave a message).

Zion Episcopal Church in North Branford hosts its holiday fair on November 22, featuring crafts and homemade goodies, basket raffles and a White Elephant Sale of attic treasures in the church basement.

Zion's very popular cookie walk, Cabot cheese, homemade jams and jellies and delicious chocolate treats will be sold at the fair. Come at lunchtime and sample fried dough pizza, homemade chili and hot dogs.

St. Nicholas will make his yearly appearance, posing for photos with the children. Craft making will also be offered in the children's area.

The fair will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parish hall. Zion is located at 326 Notch Hill Road (Route 22 South) in North Branford.

The Totoket Historical Society will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 22 from 9 - 2 p.m. at the Reynolds-Beers House in North Branford. The House is located at 1740 Foxon Rd. on the campus of the Atwater Memorial Library.

This year the Holiday Bazaar will feature small "attic treasures", costume jewelry, small Christmas items, handmade articles, baked goods, jams, pickles and condiments. The Miller Barn, as well as the Reynolds-Beers House, will be open for visitors.

Donations for the sale are still welcome at the Reynolds-Beers House on Wednesdays from 2-4:00 p.m. For pick-up, call 203-488-0423 or e-mail totokethistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

All proceeds from the Bazaar will go towards expenses and maintenance of the buildings under the Society's care: the Reynolds-Beers House, The Little Red School House, the Miller Barn and the Little White Gas Station.

Lyman Hall High School Holiday Craft Fair, supporting the Music Department is being held at the HS, 70 Pond Hill Road, Wallingford. The Fair is Saturday, November 22nd from 9-12. Food will be served at this indoor fair. Still accepting applications so please contact Roseann Augur at 203-294-1062 or roseann.augur@gmail.com.

Our Lady of Mercy School presents it's annual two-day Christmas Boutique and Craft Fair, Saturday, November 22nd from 9:00AM to 5:00PM, and Sunday, November 23rd from 9:00AM to 3:00PM, at 149 Neck Road, Madison. With over 50 booths, we feature high-quality, hand-made items, as well as merchandise from specialty retailers and distributors. Raffles, breakfast and lunch at our cafe, children's entertainment, and performances by local musicians round out this perfect holiday shopping experience. Admission is always FREE. For more information, please visit us at www.olmschool.com.

Masonicare Health Center, 22 Masonic Avenue in Wallingford, cordially invites the community to attend this year's free Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair on Saturday, November 29, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Auditorium and on the indoor "Main Street" at the Health Center.

Gifts will include kitchen items, cosmetics, jewelry, hand-poured candles, fresh and dried florals and wreaths, ornaments, pet toys and ornaments, holiday decorations, hair accessories, scarves, shawls, hand-made soaps, woodwork, and more. Residents and Masonicare volunteers will also have their own hand-crafted items available for purchase. Food and drinks will be available. Mr. & Mrs. Claus will be on hand for the children and there will be a free "make and take" ornament table. A highlight of the day is a special drawing that will be held for a beautifully decorated, 3-ft tall Christmas tree. Tickets will be on sale in the Health Center lobby.

For additional information, please contact the Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997. A few vendor spots are still available. Interested vendors should contact Carla Young at 203-679-6253 or Maria Santiago at 203-679-5980 as soon as possible to make arrangements. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut.

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TAG SALES/FLEA MARKETS

Moving Sale. 238 Parsonage Hill Road, Northford. Saturday & Sunday, 11-15 & 11-16. 9AM - 3PM. Furniture, clothes, knic knacks & more.

HELP WANTED

Drivers & Floral Designers Needed. Deliver flowers after school. Must have your own vehicle and a good driving record. Call Dave at Petals 2 Go, 203-484-7800.

Servers, Cocktail Waitresses and Parking Attendants for a private party at 6PM on December 6th. Call 203-481-9869.

Hair Dresser Needed. Must have experience and flexible hours. Call Maryann at Hair Designs. 203-488-6959.

FOR SALE

Fence by Atlas. White Vinyl, 2- rail. (11) 8 foot sections. Excellent condition. Cleaned & stored. \$1000. new, \$250 Firm. 203-484-9739.

Fitness Equipment. Nordic Track Pro - \$40. **Waters Tsunami Pro Spinner.** 1 year old. 50 pound fly wheel, computer, \$1,000. new, \$650. Call 203-640-8370.

Wood Burning Stove. "King" stove with automatic thermostat. Asking \$595. Used 3 seasons. Call 203-481-5133.

SEASONED FIREWOOD. \$250 a cord. \$475. for two cords and \$140 for half. Call Josh for the Seasoned Wood at 203-619-3414.

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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

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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



North Branford Women's Club Inc. GFWC/CT recently installed new officers for 2014-2016. Pictured back row left to right: GFWC/CT President Joan Duffy, NBWC President, Betty Anderson, Secretary Mary Ellen, Treasurer, Maggie Delaney. Front row: Vice President Barbar LaFrance.

Public Stargazing at Young's Pond Park in Branford

The Astronomical Society of New Haven members will host the final stargazing event at Young's Pond Park in Branford for 2014 on Saturday November 15th at 6:30. Admission and parking are free. All members of the family are welcome to look through the telescopes. This month, telescopes will be pointed at the Hercules star cluster, the Andromeda Galaxy and the Ring Nebula. Members will also point out the constellations and satellite passes. ASNH can assist you with your own telescope or binoculars. Dress for cool weather. Directions and cancellation due to weather (including clouds) will be posted to our website, www.asnh.org or call 866-808-ASNH

DESSERTS FOR

Serving delicious seasonal desserts is as EASY-AS-PIE!

thanks & giving

HOMEMADE PUMPKIN CAKE ROLL



\$12.⁵⁰

Moist, pumpkin cake combined "jelly-roll" style with creamy-cheese filling.



\$17.⁹⁵

PUMPKIN-CARAMEL ICE CREAM PIE

Pumpkin-Caramel ice cream topped with rich, buttery caramel in a graham cracker crust.



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Holiday Pies			
Pumpkin	\$14.50	Apple Cranberry	\$14.50
Apple	\$14.50	Banana Cream	\$14.50
Apple Crumb	\$14.50	Chocolate Cream	\$14.50
Coconut Custard	\$14.50	Fruit of the Forest	\$14.50
Chocolate Lemon	\$14.50	Apple Maple Walnut	\$15.00
Pecan	\$14.50	Italian Cream	\$22.00



Pumpkin Pie



Giant Stuffed Cannoli

Pumpkin Cheesecake
available in 8" (\$20) or 10" (\$28)

NY Style Cheesecake with Strawberries
available in 8" (\$20) or 10" (\$28)

Cannoli Chip Platter
Cannoli chips with a tub of cannoli cream
Small platter serves 10 (\$20)
Large platter serves 20 (\$40)



Cannoli Chip Platter



Giant Stuffed Cannoli
Large cannoli filled with 2 dozen mini cannolis (\$40)

To ensure availability, please place all orders (including cakes and stuffed breads) by Monday, November 24th.

Thanksgiving Schedule

11/24 Mon	7am - 5pm
11/25 Tues	7am - 5pm
11/26 Wed	7am - 5pm
11/27 Thurs	8am - 12pm
11/28 Fri	8am - 4pm
11/29 Sat	8am - 4pm
11/30 Sun	8am - 1pm



Pumpkin Cheesecake



Coffee and Donuts

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