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Volume 24 No 17, November 3, 2017

REST IN PEACE ALAN DAVIS

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.

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Publication Date

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December 15
December 29
January 19
February 2

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November 24
December 8
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January 12
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Bring Back Fiscal Responsibility

Dear Editor;

We would like to clarify a few points that were mentioned at the League of Women Voters candidate forum held on Oct. 23rd. The Democrats talked about the need of a grant writer to apply for STEAP grants which are offered through the State of CT. The fact is the town has submitted a STEAP grant application for many of the rounds of funding and we have received grants for Wall Field, STW Community Center, and Memorial Field/Tennis Courts.

In reference to North Branford's 2017-18 budget, the Republicans voted against it for several reasons. In fiscal year ending 2014, 2015, 2016 the unassigned fund balance (town's rainy day fund) has grown from 10.05% to 13.18% of the town's budget. In each of those years we used \$350,000 from this balance to help offset taxes. In the current budget, the Democrats

voted to increase the amount taken from the rainy day fund to \$750,000. This practice is not good policy and is not sustainable over time. The Democrats also proposed adding a position to the budget and funding it from an account that was underfunded. In the 2016-17 budget, the Democrats added a position to Public Works, funded it, did not fill the position, and then eliminated it from the current budget.

We believe that in these economic times, the town should not be adding positions and growing government. North Branford needs to live within its means like all of the residents do. Please vote the Republican ticket, Row B on November 7th!

Sincerely, Rose Angeloni, Anthony Candelora, Michael Doody, Alfred Rose, Bob Viglione, Thomas Zampano, Republican Candidates for the Town Council



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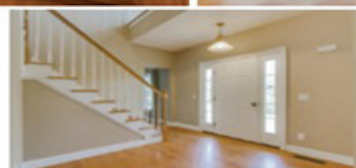
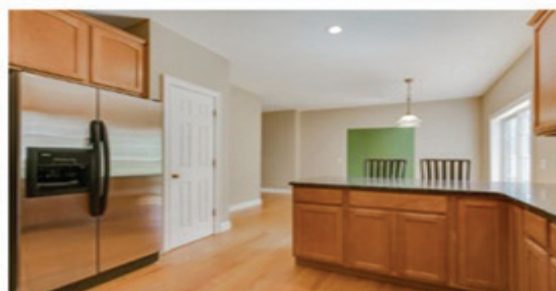
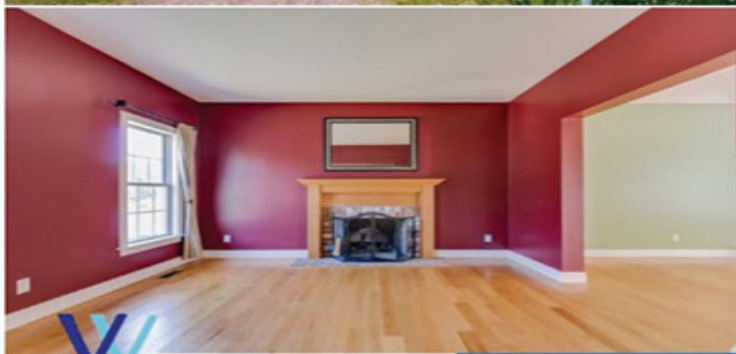
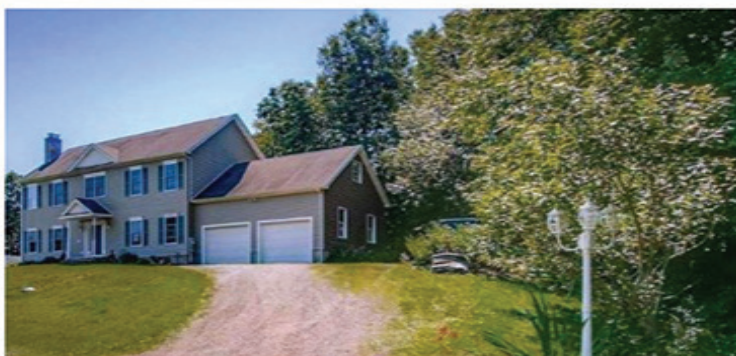
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Vicky Welch

Vicky & Company WILLIAM RAVEIS

State Representative Vincent Candelora White Smoke At the Capitol, Connecticut now waits on the Governor



About five weeks ago, legislative leaders took the giant step of walking away from negotiations with our Governor, and eight Democrat and Republican legislative leaders came together to craft a compromise budget for Connecticut. I am proud to have had the opportunity of being one of those eight legislators. Compromise didn't mean giving up on our principles, rather we worked together to

understand each others priorities and accept or reject cuts, taxes and policy changes that did not compromise our beliefs.

We began the process by drawing a line in the sand on taxes. Income, sales and corporate taxes were taken off the table. No cell phone taxes, second home taxes, restaurant taxes or hotel taxes were accepted. We also believed that we needed to remove the income taxes on social security and pensions because that tax is driving our seniors out of Connecticut. We also believed in protecting certain core services and programs, like local education funding, programs for the developmentally disabled and Care 4 Kids. Most importantly, we focused on structural policy changes that will help Connecticut build budgets off a new foundation. I am pleased that all of these priorities are in the budget.

It's been ten years since I have been able to vote in favor of a budget. I was unable to support past budgets because I saw how spending was outpacing revenues and Connecticut was getting into fiscal trouble. Rather than focus on our \$3.5 billion deficit, we focused on policy to create a framework for economic stability. Some of the highlights of the budget includes; enacting the constitutional spending cap that was first approved by voters in 1992 and never adopted; imposing a \$1.9 billion cap on borrowing which is \$500 million less than what was borrowed last year; implementing a revenue cap, which limits up to 5% of revenue from being spent in the budget; restoring municipal and education funding cut by the Governor's executive order; protecting core social services, such as day care funding and programs for developmentally disabled; supporting seniors by phasing in a tax exemption on social security and pensions; imposing a state employee hiring freeze on non-essential services; limiting all future state union contracts to being no longer than 4 years so that Connecticut can no longer be locked into 20 year contracts; requiring certain state departments to approve permits within 90 days of submittal; providing municipal

mandate relief by reducing construction costs, reforming the arbitration process, and providing greater transparency to boards of education budgeting.

I will likely be spending the next few months writing and explaining some of these significant policy changes achieved in this budget. In the meantime we await the Governor's decision on whether to veto or sign the budget. The plan passed the Senate 33-3 and by 126-23 in the House of Representatives so even if Governor Malloy vetoes the budget, the General Assembly has enough votes to override his veto.

Armin is Asking for your Support

Dear Editor;

I am writing this letter solely from my perspective. This letter is not endorsed by either political party, or any board or commission. I choose to share the following thoughts with my friends and neighbors, as it is important the voters know my thoughts on a few issues we have been discussing lately.

When I was elected to the Council I became the voice of over 15,000 North Branford residents. I have become immersed in the financial situation the town finds itself in. In this capacity I firmly believe that this town is suffering the "perfect storm." For many, many years, the Council has neglected to operate with foresight and has failed to consider the future needs of the town – a future which is now the "present". The town currently has a stagnant grand list and an inadequate tax base. The problems with the state budget have cost us almost \$3 million just this year in state grants, and there is no indication things are going to get better any time soon. We have desperate infrastructure needs, our buildings and machinery are maintenance intensive, inefficient, and in some cases dangerous to occupy or use. These problems didn't just appear yesterday, but are the result of a lack of communication and planning. Who bears the burden here? We, the homeowners bear the major tax burden for revenue for this town. I truly feel we need more economic development to offset this burden, and should not neglect options or opportunities that are available.

One of the options that is available and that the Council needs to consider is the development of 1599 Foxon Road (Route 80). This property is only one of two properties owned by the town that is zoned for commercial development. We have already addressed the open space needs for the town, we have North Farms Park on Route 139, Northford Park on Route 17, baseball, soccer, and football fields, tennis and basketball courts, and the Augur property that is only used four times a year by the town – during the POCO festival and one night for the holiday tree lighting.

We should send out Requests for Proposals to developers for mixed use of 1599 Foxon Road. We can control how the property is developed by defining specific criteria for development. Any proposed project should provide access to the trails behind the property and an area with benches and sidewalks that residents can use for walking and meeting with their neighbors. Successful developers invest in properties that both make money for them, and accommodate the needs of the area, especially seeing that a project would need to meet our development parameters.



This appropriate development will have a positive collateral effect that is also desperately needed. Essentially creating a unified look and feel to this area, and creating the draw we need to give the adjacent commercial property owners incentive to either fix up the strip malls and other developments on Foxon Road, or to sell them for a new owner to do what is so desperately needed. This vision provides incentive for people who travel Route 80 to stop and partake of the services and products that could and should be available here, in North Branford. The development will also provide additional revenue to the town, and help stabilize our grand list.

The other issue that I want to address is the direction that the Town Council has taken recently during discussions and decision-making. I have been disappointed and find it disheartening when disagreements at the Town Council level do not remain respectful, but rather deteriorate into personal attacks and accusations. I have always approached issues with an open mind, a desire to learn, understand and have a goal of finding a solution. We have a duty to engage in open, respectful, positive dialog that results in constructive decisions for all residents. When we do not agree, we cannot vilify one another, and that is what I see, and have felt, all too often.

I am convinced we can find solid, proactive solutions to these and other issues when we work together. I am also convinced nothing good results from the above-mentioned behavior.

As the election approaches, I wish to show my appreciation for all the town employees and volunteers. It is the people that live, work, and play here that make it the place we all love to call home. I ask for your support as you consider my proposals and suggestions for North Branford now and in the future. Feel free to contact me with your thoughts and observations.

Sincerely,
Daniel M. Armin

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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



White Christian Men

Can we give credit where it is due? A bunch of white, Christian men wrote our Declaration, Constitution and Bill of Rights. Did this serve the greater good or was it a manifestation of evil? Some of these men participated in the ghastly act of slavery while others were devout abolitionists and fought fiercely for universal freedoms. Thankfully, either through some manner of genius or dumb luck, the text of these documents provides the guideposts of freedom and equality that we struggle for to this day. But what was the intent of these men?

These white Christian men, protestants all, debated whether the United States should be religiously plural or strictly Christian -- whether the full rights of citizenship, including its highest office should extend to religions that did not provide the same freedoms. They chose to follow the tenets of John Locke’s “civil rights,” allowing all religions the full rights and protections of citizenship. It took them a bit longer to get it more right: they abolished slavery on December 6, 1865; gave voting rights to all races, creeds and colors on February 3, 1870 and; gave voting rights to women on August 18, 1920. So, on the grand scale of things, the guiding principals and system of government adopted by these white, Christian men allowed some good things to happen relatively quickly.

But did these white Christian men create a system of government that somehow cemented their controlling cabal in perpetuity? Did this system provide for white Christian male control of the banking industry, Hollywood, the legal profession, the music industry, mainstream media and the Internet? No, the irrefutable truth is that the system they created insists that it favor none; their guiding principals require that we be governed by the rule of law and not ruled by men. The problem is that any rules – no matter how perfect - must be implemented by human beings. But are white Christian men the only ones subject to the human flaws of racism and will to power? Such an argument would disregard history and is probably racist.

Mr. Westfall graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a major in history and sociology of science. He and his wife and law partner, Theresa Behrens, settled in North Branford in 1994 and have run their law practice from here since 2010. They appreciate the small town oasis that is North Branford and offer their thoughts and insights into our contemporary social issues.

Farmland is not Open Space

Dear Editor;

The words you use make a difference in how you understand things. Words express feelings and attitudes. Word choice guides thinking, behavior and action. And word selection is part of what confuses the controversy and opinions surrounding the development of the “old town hall-Wall field” discussion for the 1599 Foxon Road. The word selection I am referring to is “open-space.”

People who suggested that the town has enough “open space” often include the various farm properties in their conception of community open space. That is a major error in understanding what is available in our community. Such thinking, reduces the magnitude of loss that development of the Route 80 property would signal.

Farm land is not “open space”. Farm land is private property. It does not offer public access or public use opportunity. It is certainly pleasurable to view, comforting in its open appearance (in a way that a factory is not), but it is property that can change.

On Route 80 alone, in just the years I have lived in town, an enormous privately owned recreational area, a golf range opposite Doody’s restaurant, I changed into a massive tract of one-family housing. And that brought requirements for more town services and more of tax dollars.

So, too went the majestic farm, now Doral Farm Road and water company property. Acres and acres of farm developed land. In my own residential area, off of Sea Hill Road, a private bird sanctuary became a housing development. While I welcome each and all of these families, the land they reside on I used to think of open space.

And these are just three of many examples during my residence in town. Pre-dating my residency are many others, including Lake Gaillard.

Last night, I testified before the town council asking them to consider keeping the Wall Field property as a town green, a “Park” where our townspeople can gather. It is the only way to keep an area for the future. It will enhance the quality of life, critical in communities in Connecticut.

Over the past year, two members of our town council have, at various times, seemed to be inclined toward retaining the Wall Field property as a town green as had been expressed by many in attendance. For the Republicans, Al Rose seems to favor that resolution and, on the Democratic side, George Miller similarly seems to favor it. I am impressed by their willingness to avoid a short term gain of what seems to be very few tax dollars for a long view of keeping North Branford green for public use.

Sincerely, Art Caplan

Viglione Looking to help his Neighbors

Dear Editor;

I was very disheartened last Monday night, at the League of Women Voters forum. I listened to the Town Council Democrats talk about how “we need to work together for the people of North Branford, in a bi-partisan manner” However, 20 minutes later, instead of talking about ideas and solutions, the Democratic candidates started blasting Republicans for everything that ails North Branford, and the State of CT as well.

Apparently, the Democrat Council members are unaware that they have been the majority in North Branford, as well as in the state house. I also noticed at the forum, that when I looked around, I saw on the democrats side, lawyers, and politicians. On the republican side, I saw business owners, neighbors, and average working citizens just trying to do whats right. I feel that we can do a better job listening and helping our neighbors through tough economic times, and I hope to get your vote on Nov, 7th, along with the entire Republican team.

Sincerely,
Bob Viglione.

Vote for Bob Viglione

Dear Editor;

For the upcoming election I feel we need new ideas and energy. Bob Viglione fills this need.

He is the owner of the North Branford Barber Shop on Route 80 for the last fifteen years and is aware of the many problems and issues that face this town.

He served in the United States Navy from 1965 to 1968 in damage control. He was a Hamden Firefighter with the rank of Captain. He earned an associate degree from South Central in 1982.

He is married to his wife Linda for fifty years and has a daughter and three grandchildren.

With his wide experience I think he will serve this town well.

Sincerely, Alice Lehr

Time the citizens of North Branford knew the truth

Dear Editor;

Recently, the Democrats in town, have tried to mount a social media campaign, alleging bullying and intimidation tactics by the Republican Town Council members.

I take exception to this slew of mudslinging by the Democrats, criticizing the North Branford Republicans for investigating the misuse of hundreds of thousands of dollars of Town Funds by the Board of Education. The Republicans are simply looking out for the taxpayers of North Branford by investigating the Board of Education’s decade long practice of giving perks, raises, and contract extensions to the Superintendent and the School Business manager, all without any public notice, public discussion, or public vote.

This practice has cost the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars, in secret; and must stop!

The Republican Town Council members called for an investigation into the unexplained and undocumented expenditures at the September 5th, 2017 Town Council meeting. They indicated that this was a “blatant misuse of funds”, and garnered bipartisan support to send the information they gathered to the State’s Attorney’s Office , Public Integrity Unit in Rocky Hill, Connecticut.

As the investigation uncovered more and more money being misspent by the BOE, the Democratic Council members began to waver under the pressure of the well meaning Superintendent supporters. But the Republicans dug deep, and held true to their fiduciary responsibility.

The Republicans, on both the Town Council and the Board of Ed, have made it clear that the decade long practice of the BOE Chair modifying contracts, giving raises, and changing health benefits for the highest paid town employees, without the tax payer’s knowledge, without proper notice, without a vote, and often without the rest of the BOE being aware, must stop immediately.

This problem is so systemic, that even the State Legislature is demanding more transparency, and included such measures in their new budget:

Sec. 157 (New) Effective from passage) Any local board of education shall file forthwith a signed copy of any contract for administrative personnel with the town clerk, which town clerk shall post a copy of any such contract on the town’s Internet web site.

The legislature is demanding more transparency. The North Branford Republicans are demanding more transparency. This isn’t bullying, it’s simply what good governance looks like!

Vote for transparency, fiscal restraint, and good governance; vote Republican this November 7th!

Sincerely,
Edward J. Boughton, Chairman, North Branford Republicans

What Our Country, Our Flag and Our National Anthem Means to Me

Dear Editor;

This country was founded on the remarkable ideas of freedom and liberty for all, a democratic representative republic, independent from the power and influence of any religion. This is the ideal that I honor when I think about our great nation.

Our flag and anthem do represent “We the People.” Sadly, not all people have been equally represented throughout history. Our Bill of Rights guarantees freedom of speech, which means that all our opinions are protected speech. The Supreme Court has repeatedly found that protest, including offensive actions like flag burning, is guaranteed free speech.

These freedoms are exactly what make the United States great. The march of history has resulted in the inclusion of more formerly marginalized citizens; however, there is little question that many continue to be marginalized and are not afforded the equal protection under the law that is also guaranteed in our Constitution.

When the ideals of our freedom and liberty do not extend to all, protest may be the only way to shine a light on liberties denied. Protest brought us universal suffrage and the civil rights act. These liberties may be symbolically enshrined in our Constitution and Bill of Rights, but they are still not equally available to all.

The right to peacefully protest is an inherent part of the unique greatness of the American ideal – and one I will defend, no matter how repugnant I may find the opinion of the protester.


Sincerely, Susan DeSilver

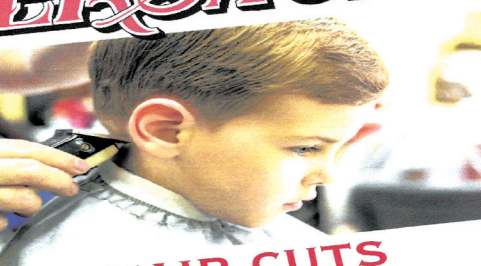
NBHS Participates in Old Saybrook HS- Freshmen-Sophomore Cross Country Race

The heavy rains did not deter our North Branford Freshman and Sophomore runners who participated in the annual race at Old Saybrook HS. The team has been preparing all season since August, and obviously the poor wet weather had no effect on stellar performances by our men and ladies participating today.

Our Freshman-Sophomore Ladies team consisted of three runners as the first race of the day and they experienced heavy rain downspouts during the race, however the bad weather did not diminish the first class results which represent a team peaking at the championship week of our season. Our team was led by MACKENZIE GLENN- ONNA GOTT and RILEY KENDALL. Our ladies ran “lights out” as they finished the race as numbers 5-6-11th places overall in this 60 runner race with nine teams participating. Excellent results, as our Ladies experienced season best times on this course.

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Our Freshman- Sophomore Men's team consisted of 5 runners, and also had excellent- season best results. The Boy's team was led by Roberto Didiano and Joey Delucia closely followed by Josh Brigido, Conor Lette and Nick Bonaldo. North Branford HS Cross Country is a TEAM known for devastating finishing kicks and our runners did not disappoint as precious team spots were achieved by these last minute drives to the finish line. The full team was there to cheer on the underclassmen, and all went home with high spirits, a strong sense of accomplishment and slightly wet for the bus ride home. Overall, an excellent race for the North Branford Cross Country Team.

This race is important since it provides our young runners an opportunity to match up against runners of their same grades. It is obvious by our results that the future for NB- HS Cross Country is very bright and a tribute to the program which was built under the tutelage of Coach Floyd Parness.

Coach Doohan



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NORTH BRANFORD PROJECT GRADUATION

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Class of 2018

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Questions? Email Rosemary Phillips at irishrosie8@sbcglobal.net



Rotary Recognizes High School Students

North Branford Rotary is pleased to recognize three students in the North Branford High School for their achievements. Amy Norton for her academic success in science, Julia DeWitt for her academic success in social studies, and Bailey Fair for her academic success in the arts. They are photographed here with their family members. Proud to have them as part of our community.

The Northford Women's Club

Is Accepting Scholarship Applications

The Connecticut Federation of Women's Clubs has announced two scholarships that are available to Connecticut women pursuing advanced courses of study at Institutions of higher learning. Awards are granted on the basis of future promise, scholastic ability and financial need.

The Dorothy E. Schoelzel memorial scholarship has a maximum award of \$2,000. Candidates must have completed three or more years of undergraduate work in an accredited institution with a 3.0 average or higher in the field of Education.

The Phipps scholarship has a maximum award of \$1,000. Candidates must have completed two or more years on undergraduate work in an accredited institution with a 3.0 average or higher toward a Bachelor's or post graduate degree.

Completed applications, including general and personal information, a financial statement, instructor/employer references, official transcript of at least the most recent two years of undergraduate or graduate work must be received by February 10, 2018.

The application may be obtained by visiting the Northford Women's Club, GFWC website at www.northfordwomenclub.org. For further information, contact Mary Connolly at 203-484-0722.

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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:

- Two licensed Preschool Teachers
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- Teacher directed learning centers
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203-481-3909

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SENIOR MOMENTS



North Branford High School seniors on the girls soccer team were recently honored. Left to right; Hanah Diedwards, Amanda Bouffard, Sara Criscuolo, Morgan Violette, Mackenzie Macgowan, Madison Sullivan and Jenna Bryden.

at presstime, the girls were headed to both the Shoreline and State Tournaments.



NORTH BRANFORD SOCCER CLUB WINTER 2017-2018 SOCCER CLINIC @

The Connecticut Sportsplex

December 1, 2017 - February 2, 2018

COST: \$105.00



10 week training and game play program

FRIDAYS:

Location is the Connecticut Sportsplex D Field 1 in the Dome
216 Foxon Rd, North Branford, CT 06471

6:00pm to 7:00pm - Boys & Girls U4 & U6 divisions

7:00pm to 8:00pm - Boys & Girls U8 & U9-U12 divisions



Train with professional coaches
provided by Victory Soccer School
Fun and positive playing environment
Improve technique and 1st touch

Register at: www.nbsoccer.com under Registration tab select the appropriate "Winter Clinic 2017-2018" 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 | Visit us on the Web @ www.nbsoccer.com



North Branford Soccer Club Presents:

Spring 2018 Programs

Spring soccer begins in April 2018

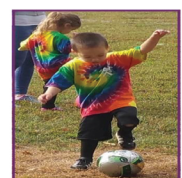
Join today & make a difference in your child's soccer life.

REGISTER NOW AND PAY LATER!

Come join one of the most popular and fast growing sports in America. Not only is soccer fun but it will also help your child discover fundamental soccer skills. Helping to develop their motor, social, and psychological skills through our youth programs instructed by professional coaches.

Tiny Feet

- 8 week soccer & exercise program
- Parent Participation Encouraged
- Ages 3 to 6



In-House

- 8 weeks of fun games and activities
- Mini-League
- Mid-week practices with professional coaches
- Ages 7 to 10



Travel Teams

- Available to Players Born 1999-2009
- Friendly and League Games
- Saturday morning inter-town games and mid-week practices with professional coaches
- Tournament

Registration Now Open!

Programs available for boys & girls Age 2-12th Grade for School Year 2017-2018

www.nbsoccer.com

"Never Go Through Life Without Goals"

Like us on Facebook | Instagram: @northbranfordsoccerclub | Visit us on the Web @ www.nbsoccer.com



Photographer Tom Zampano caught the NBHS cheerleading squad for a team photo.



Volleyball Teams Unite to Fight Breast Cancer

The North Branford High School Volleyball team participated in a Breast Cancer Awareness Event as part of their game at Coginchaug High School in Durham. JV and varsity squads are pictured wearing pink jerseys in solidarity in the fight against breast cancer.

NB-HS Cross Country- Shoreline Championships

On 10/20 the NB_HC XC team ran in the annual conference championship at Old Lyme HS. This is the second running of this difficult course in two weeks, and the second running did not lessen the difficult hill to the "Tower" which was required of our squad of runners. Once again, NB-HS is making its mark known among conference Shoreline coaches who provided positive feedback on the squad and their running this year.

In the Boys Varsity race we were again led by seniors Mike Madoule (42nd/20:46) and Jared Jamieson, who both finished among the top runners in the conference. Our seniors were followed by Roberto Didiano, Joe DeLucia, Joshua Brigido, Patrick Miconi, and Jason Ash. Our runners finished 11th of 12 strong Shoreline League Varsity teams and are well poised for the State Championship meet next Saturday with the expected return of Senior runner Zach Jamieson.

In the ladies race, we have improved the depth of our team this year and have been able to field a full ladies squad in 2017 with the addition of several underclassmen and senior runners. Today our ladies team was led by Sophomore Mackenzie Glenn (34th/24:37) and the freshmen duo of Onna Gott and Riley Kendall. Solid performances also provided by Seniors Sarah Sullivan and Bianca Castelan resulting in a 10th place finish out of 12 Shoreline Teams.

On the JV Boys side, we were led by Hunter Boni and followed by strong performances by Nick Bonaldo, Noah Taylor, Ryan Mingione and Conor Lette.

Next up for the NB- XC team are the following meets for our varsity squads and for the development of our "next generation" of NB champion level runners. 10/24- Freshman- Sophomore Meet-Old Saybrook HS

10/28- CIAC State Class SS Championship meet- Wickham Park, Manchester
10/31- Valley Freshman Championship Meet- Middle School, Deep River

So far the 2017 XC season has been a positive year for our team who continue to move forward following the passing of legendary Coach Floyd Parness. Their dedication to the lessons learned from coach over the past years have paid dividends as our runners continue with their athletic and scholastic careers. In 2017 we continue to field a full ladies squad as NB runs against many of the best Class SS level teams in the state as part of the Shoreline League. Team members continue to demonstrate a great desire to improve, and our freshmen and sophomores have improved tremendously having run Varsity at times in a full schedule of races this Fall.

Our team is ready to run in the State Meet and we expect to have positive results. The continued support of NB-HS, NB Community and parents has contributed to make this another successful season for our athletes and managers. Without the support of so many members of the greater NB community, the team would not be on the positive note it is at this time. For the future 2018 season, with the introduction of another crop of talented middle school runners to the squad, the future is positive for the cross country team. ***NB-HS Let's RUN.....Coach Doohan***

Zumbo Signs Commitment Letter with Franklin Pierce

Paul Zumbo starting playing soccer at the age of 4. When a friend of his mom's mentioned he had the body of a goalie, he worked with him for months to get him started. When Paul was 9 we moved to Northford where he joined the U10 he played for Coach Dave Johansen and Brian Haeckel.

Brett Gagliardi, who is now Paul's High School coach also coached Paul for youth soccer naming him "Brick Wall Paul" Paul was also coached by Joe DaSilva and Jim Selitto. Former NBHS girls soccer goal keeper worked with Paul twice a week and he began to blossom into a seasoned goal keeper.

Paul went on to play club soccer for CT Sporting for 4 years during which time Paul was really coming into himself as a goalie. He was then introduced to a professional keeper trainer Drew Esposito who has been Paul's keeper coach now for 3 years.

Drew saw that Paul was not your typical keeper and told him he was good enough to play on a high division college league. Paul was called by Coach Frantz Innocent, who is in the New England Hall of Fame, to be his goalkeeper for the CFC North Wolves. Paul saw this as an opportunity to grow more. It turns out that this was his best decision ever. Coach Innocent made him Captain.

Paul attended many college showcases, and was being recruited by 4 colleges. His first choice was to play at Franklin Pierce University. They play in the Northeast-10 Conference which is a highly competitive league. Paul was given an Official Overnight Visit invite from Coach Fink at FPU and at the end of the visit was offered a roster spot on the team. Paul called Coach Fink and accepted his offer where he will receive a \$88,000. Provost Academic Scholarship. He plans to major in Business Management. Paul went to Xavier for his freshman year where he was the freshman starting goalie and he has been the starting Varsity Goalie at NBHS for 3 years. Paul scored his first highschool career goal with a free kick from the 50 yard line rainbowing the ball over the Old Lymes goalkeepers head. Paul had his 2nd goal during a game against Amistad where he headed a corner kick into the goal. He has had 5 shut outs this season and helped the team to record is 7-7-2 9at press time) and they will be going to the state tournament for the first time in 7 years.

It has been his lifelong dream to play college soccer and like many other kids, he has dreams of playing professional soccer. Paul is a true testament that hard work and dedication pays off and a lifelong dream can become your reality.



Front row: Joe Hande, Paul and Traci Handi.

**Back row: NBHS AD Trevor Borwn, Coach Brett Gagliardi
Asst. Principal Greg Gwudz and Superintendent Scott Schoonmaker**

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North Branford Parks & Recreation and Senior Center

STW Community Center 1332 Middletown Ave Northford
www.nbrecreation.com • call (203)484-6017

ACTIVITIES

Archery

Who: Ages 8+
Session: November 15 - December 20
Time: Beginner - Wednesday, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
 Intermediate - Wednesday, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Location: STW Gym
Fee: \$45 res/ \$50 nr
Instructor: Debbie Gibilaro
Description: Learn basic skills using the classic recurve bow. Practice great shooting habits and learn to put your arrow in the bullseye every time, all in a safe and supportive environment.

Ballet & Tap Combo

Who: Ages 3-5
Session: December 2 - January 20
Time: Saturdays, 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Location: STW Community Center
Fee: \$35res/ \$40 nr
Instructor: Brittni D'urso
Description: Learn the basic techniques and fundamentals of both ballet and tap as well as the vocabulary of each style. There will be creative movement along with learning basic skills. Wear dance-able clothing, appropriate shoes and bring water. Children learning to dance while having fun is a plus!

Youth Ski Club @ Mt. Southington

Who: Grades 6-12
Session: January 5 - February 2
Time: Fridays, 2:15 - 9:00 p.m.
Location: Pickup & Drop off at STW Lot/NBIS Lot
Fee: \$245 - \$340 depending on package
Description: Price includes transportation, lift ticket and supervision. Lessons and equipment and rental available. Must register by November 10. Call (203)484-6017 for more information.

BUS TRIPS

Westchester Theater-Christmas Voyager

Thursday, December 14 Cost: \$80 resident / \$85 non-resident
 This holiday musical is a true celebration of the season. The holiday songs we all know and love are wrapped up in a celebration of spirit that will delight audiences of all ages. Lost in a future time and desperate to get back to his home galaxy, the main character travels through Christmas in the searching for that magical December 24th night.

The DiLungo Fitness Room
 Is now open until 8:00 pm Monday – Friday
 Saturday & Sunday 6:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Now offering personal training.
 Call to sign up!



Scarecrow Contest 2017



North Branford Senior Center

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

* Senior Hot Lunch available – Check out the menu at www.nbparkrec.com

Soup option now available for lunch!
 Monday – Friday, 12:00 p.m. \$3



*As a reminder, we offer a weekly grocery shopping trip at 12:30.



Come by or call the Senior Center to register.
 Please sign up for activities in advance to guarantee your spot for enjoyment!

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Lisa Navarra, LCSW

Monday, November 6, 1:00, FREE

Lisa is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and provides home-based counseling/therapy for the adult/elder population and will be facilitating a discussion on depression and anxiety.

West Haven's Veteran's Museum

Thursday, November 9, 12:30, FREE

Visitors learn about the courageous sacrifices our military has made to preserve our freedoms and way of life.

Art with Karen

Monday, November 13, 11:00, FREE

A one hour class of guided art projects. Have fun with friends while creating a masterpiece! Materials supplied.



East Shore Self Care Group

Wednesday, November 15, 1:00, FREE

Join the conversation with the East Shore Nurse Educators as we discuss taking care of ourselves while caring for another.

Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon

Thursday, November 16 ~ 12:00 p.m. Cost: \$3

Enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving feast with your friends at the Senior Center. Please make your reservation by Friday, November 3.

Let's Play! Game Day

Friday, November 17, 12:45, FREE

Let's get together and play corn hole, giant Yatzee, Jenga, checkers, puzzles and other fun games. Let's keep our minds sharp and spend fun times with friends.



Slightly Used Bag Sale

Thursday & Friday, December 7 & 8
 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Gently used pocket books, backpacks and duffle bags for sale. Come support the Senior Center and purchase an almost new, quality bag as a gift or for yourself! We are accepting donated bags now!



We hope everyone enjoyed our annual Trunk or Treat!

Thank you to all of those who participated and made our event a great success!
 And a HUGE thank you to John & Ant Leone and Crew for putting on a spectacular Haunted maze!

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

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

North Branford Congregational Church, UCC. 1680 Foxon 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, Acting Pastor. Jane K. Leschuk Minister of Music. Sunday Worship service at 10am and Sunday school.. 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.org

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church. 1382 Middletown Avenue - the white church on the hill, in the heart of Northford (at the intersection of Rtes. 17 & 22). Celebration of the Holy Eucharist every Sunday will start at 10:00 a.m. Coffee and fellowship always follows. All are welcome. Please join us - we’d love to get to know you! St. Andrew’s is also the proud home of the Food Pantry of North Branford - a vital resource serving families in need in the communities of Northford and North Branford. St. Andrew’s is a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry. The Rev. Jim Bradley is Missioner In Charge of MACM, and we have rotating clergy serving the parishes of St. Andrew’s, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Killingworth and St. James Episcopal Church, Higganum. Visit our website at <http://standrewsnorthford.org>. Like us on Facebook - St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church of Northford, CT. For more information contact us at 203-484-0895; Nancy Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-481-9472; MACM office at 860-345-0058; Rev. Bradley at 203-525-6846.

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. During the summer we will have a single 9am service of Holy Eucharist in our newly air conditioned sanctuary. In September we will go back to two services at 8 & 10AM. Healing Prayer and Compline 7PM, second Tuesday of the month. Two Safe Chruch trained babysitters available downstairs during the service. Visit our Facebook page or website at zionepiscopalchurch.org.



Youth Mental Health First Aid Course a Success

Northford Congregational Church, “A Little Church with a Big Heart,” has been sponsoring free eight-hour interactive courses in youth mental health first aid which have earned participants certification. The course was developed by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration), a federal agency and was delivered by certified trainers. The course was held at Northford Congregational Church and at North Haven Congregational Church.

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. Email: ncchurch@snet.net. The church has a new website: www.northfordcongregationalchurch.org. Like us on Facebook.

ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY PARISH HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

We are happy to announce that the merger of our three local churches, namely St. Barnabas Church, St. Frances Cabrini Church and St. Therese Church now called St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish will be having a bigger and better **Holiday Festival** this year, taking place at St. Barnabas Church location of 44 Washington Avenue, North Haven on Friday, November 10th from 5-8pm and Saturday, November 11th from 9am to 6pm. We welcome all to come and have lunch while shopping at our Country Store Booth, Cake Booth, Jewelry Sale Booth, Book Sale Booth, Yesterday’s Treasures and Christmas This & That Booth, and take a chance on winning a homemade afghan or a lovely basket. We will also have vendors selling homemade items to purchase, such as chocolates, varied magnets, and homemade Christmas and varied sewn items. There will also be an area for the kids to come and have fun making a craft. So come one and all and start your holiday shopping and have a fun time! For more info please call Sharon at 203-239-5700 or Nathan at 203-530-8291.

NB Congregational Church Holly Fair

Stop by and join in the festivities as you shop at our jewelry booth, handmade items, and look through all the treasures in the White Elephant Room. The event will take place on November 18th from 9am to 2pm. We will always have something for you to take home from our Baked Goods table and for cookie lovers you can pick from our Cookie Walk! After taking chances on our wonderful Raffle Baskets stop by Noel Café for something to eat before heading home. There is so much more so please join us! Any questions please call the church office, 203.488.8456.

Holiday Craft Fair

St. Ambrose Ladies Guild will be having their annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, November 11, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Monica’s, 1321 Middletown Ave., Northford. The fair features all handcrafted items by local artisans such as wood crafting, painted glass items, jewelry, quilted items, etc. There will be a baked goods table, basket raffles, and a basket door price, and more. Breakfast and lunch are available. Come and enjoy great food, crafters, raffles, and much more. Tables are still available. Call Lucille for application at (203) 484-9737.

Animal Haven Holiday Fair

The Animal Haven’s 2017 Holiday Fair will take place on Saturday November 25, 2017 from 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. at the North Haven Congregational Church, 28 Church Street (across from the Town Green) in North Haven. Admission is Free. All proceeds benefit The Animal Haven of North Haven. There will be handmade goods and gifts, a bake sale, refreshments and the ‘spin the roulette wheel’ prize game. Come and see some of our finest local crafters. This years’ raffle prize is a hand-made afghan. Donations of canned & dry cat & dog food will be accepted at the fair. Volunteers are needed to work at the fair, or to donate new handmade items or baked goods to sell. Baked goods should be wrapped for individual sale. To volunteer or donate contact Chris, Chairperson, at chriskat32@aol.com or 203-484-9648

The Animal Haven is a private, nonprofit, 501(c) (3) charitable organization serving the greater New Haven area since 1948. It is a no-kill shelter whose mission is to provide a temporary, safe, caring and humane refuge for homeless, adoptable cats and dogs, and to subsequently place those animals in quality, adoptive permanent homes.

The Totoket Historical Society, Inc.

The Totoket Historical Society will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar in the historic Reynolds-Beers House at 1740 Foxon Rd., in North Branford. on Saturday, Niovember 18th from 9am - 2pm. All proceeds from the Bazaar will go towards expenses and maintenance of the buildings under the Society’s care.

Zion Church Holiday Bazaar

Please join us on Saturday, November 18, from 9-2 for good fun, good food and the joy of sharing the holiday with each other. Start with our amazing Cookie Walk featuring over 50 choices of homemade goodies and continue on to our chocolate and baking section with wonderful selections for the individual, as well as large families. Next is our Cabot Cheese, cut into pieces for your eating and cooking needs and brought fresh from Vermont, days before the fair. Our kitchen will be offering pizza, chili, soup, hotdogs, drinks and other goodies. We will have our basket raffle, offering many choices of family and adult items. For gifts, we have a large selection of beautifully made clothes for 18”dolls, including hand-smocked dresses, outfits, pajamas, nightgowns, sweaters and the like, all priced well below market. We offer many reasonably priced gifts for family, teachers, neighbors and friends, all wrapped for gift giving. There also will be a jewelry table with a range of prices. The children’s room has kindness rocks for the children to paint for family gifts or to place throughout their communities. We will also have inexpensive gifts to purchase for family or friends. St. Nicholas will be visiting between 11-1 and would love to see you all. Come and spend the day! Zion is located at 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. More info, contact Lisa Latham, wdwlila@yahoo.com,

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HELP WANTED

Waitress Help Needed. Apply in person at Tony Z’s in Northford. No walk ins please/
Drivers needed and counter help wanted for the holidays. Please asply in person. Petals 3 Go Florists, Central Plaza, North Branford.
HELPER/ASSISTANT. Tues.& Fri 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Light house-work & errands.Ethical, responsible, nonsmoker, logical, Energetic, pristine driving record, references. \$15 Hr. Please call 203-481-4524

Branford MS Support Group

Date:November 15, 2017 (Wednesday)

Time:5:30 P.M.-7:00 P.M.

Speaker:Ms. Tina Garrity

Happiness Club, Madison, CT

Topic:Five Important Things For Living A Happy Life

Place:James Blackstone Library

758 Main St., Branford, CT

This event is free to the public.

The contact person for this event is Cheryl at (203) 535-3053..

“Operation Purge Invasives” Continues



On Saturday, October 14, the North Branford Land Conserva-tion Trust (NBLCT) continued the invasive plant clearing operation, nicknamed “Operation Purge Inva-sives,” at the Land Trust’s property on Village Street near Clintonville Road in Northford. Five members of NBLCT took part in cutting and clearing multiflora rose, burning bush, and Japanese barberry, invasive plants that choke out native plants and overtake woodlands, from the more than twenty-six acres of wetland and woods owned by NBLCT. Volunteers will return to the site in the future to continue to control invasive plants and work towards providing a more welcome space for the public to enjoy. NBLCT is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to acquire and maintain open space and to promote the conservation of land and natural resources within the Town of North Branford and environs. If you are interested in helping to preserve and protect open space in North Branford and for more information about NBLCT, go to www.nblandtrust.org or visit us on Facebook.
Photo: Front, from left to right: Mike Ferrucci, Scott Small, Bonnie Symansky; Back: Jim Paine and Susan DeSilver of NBLCT.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

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1 issue \$9.00 2 issues \$12.00 3 issues \$15.00
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3 issues \$35.00, 6 issues \$60.00, 12 issues \$100.00
\$.10 per word, per run, after 20 words
Payment MUST accompany all ads. The advertiser must notify this newspaper of any errors.
Send ad along with your check to:
Totoket Times P.O. Box 313 Northford, CT 06472
For more information call 203-410-4254

Military Whist Card Party

The Northford Women’s Club GFWC is sponsoring a Military Whist Card Party on Friday, November 17th at the Stanley T. Williams Community Center, 1332 Middletown Ave., Northford. CT. Doors open at 6:30 PM and games start at 7:00 PM. The club will raffle off beautiful gift baskets and other donated prizes. Refreshments, including delicious desserts, will be served. Entry is \$8 per person. Proceeds benefit various charity organi-zations in Northford and surrounding towns. A limited number of tickets are being sold. For tickets or more information, contact Kathy at 203-484-9521. The Northford Women’s Club is a civic organization dedicated to promoting deeper friendships among women of our town and surrounding areas, participating in community service, and cooperating with the club work of the Connecticut State Federation of Women’s Clubs. <http://www.northfordwomensclub.org>.

NB Women’s Club Monthly Meeting

The North Branford Women’s Club, Inc., GFWC/CT will be holding its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2017. It will begin at 7:15 p.m., at the Zion Episcopal Church’s hall located at 326 Notch Hill Road in North Branford.
There will be a presentation from Mr. Hank Petroskey, a member of the North Branford Conservation Committee. A business meeting and refreshments will follow. This event will be open to the public.
The contact person for this event is Sheila at (203) 481-2677.

WARNING OF ELECTION

The electors of the Town of North Branford are hereby warned to meet at their respective polling places in said Town on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, for the following purpose:

I. To cast their votes for Town Council and Board of Education.

Notice is hereby given that the location of the polling places is as follows:
District 1: **Jerome Harrison Elementary School**, 335 Foxon Road – Route 80
District 2: **Stanley T. Williams Community Center**, 1332 Middletown Avenue – Route 17

Voting tabulators will be used. The polls will be opened at six o’clock in the morning (6:00 a.m.) and will remain open until eight o’clock in the evening (8:00 p.m.).

Dated at North Branford, Connecticut, this 17th day of October, 2017.
Lisa A. Valenti, MMC
North Branford Town Clerk

Ask about our **One Month FREE Storage**

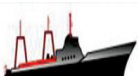


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“Cooking demonstration of Korean Traditional Cuisine-

*A Taste of Korea: Korean cuisine, full of
wisdom and nature”*

Atwater Library Saturday, Dec. 9 - 11:00am

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

We will demonstrate 4 dishes and serve a full meal (including dessert) to the participants. Also, we will hand out recipes and free books on Korean history and culture..

Art Exhibit Announcement

Patty Meglio, Northford artist, will be exhibiting her artwork at the Guilford Free Library during the month of November in the Main Meeting Room. Patty's modern impressionistic style oil paintings depict local scenes of Connecticut and various locations in New England. She is a past participant in juried competitions for the Clinton Art Society, Madison Art Society, Artwalk for the West Hartford Art League, and the Mavis Fenner Memorial for the Rowayton Arts Center, and is a winner of the Merchant's Prize at the Madison Art Show. She has exhibited in numerous venues throughout the state of Connecticut and New Hampshire. Patty is a member of the Hamden Art League and the Madison Art Society. For more information, visit her website at www.pattymegliostudio.com or email; pmser51@hotmail.com.

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Wine Tasting
Come join us

*Sunday, November 12, 2017
12 p.m. – 3 p.m.*

*Cost \$35.00 per Ticket
Food and Wine*

*John & Maria's Restaurant
280 Foxon Rd, East Haven*

*Questions please call
Wayne – 203-410-3885 or Damian – 203-215-7699*

***Proceeds go to making Thanksgiving food baskets
for local residents.***