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Volume 22 No 20, November 6, 2015

Bare Plain Cemetery....A 138 year stroll



I recently took a stroll of nostalgia through the Bare Plain Cemetery (located across from Jerome Harrison School). As a boy living nearby I would regularly wander through this quaint little cemetery viewing the head stones and wondering what life would have been like for some of those interned over 100 years ago.

Bare Plains Cemetery was established in 1877 by Jerome and Lydia

Harrison. After burying their 17 year old daughter Amoret on a corner of their property, they later deeded the property to the Bare Plains Cemetery Association, in an area commonly known as Totoket. Later, more property was deeded to the association by Jerome Harrison's nephew John Merrick.

One lasting memory of Bare Plain Cemetery from my childhood is on "mischievous night" October 30th. All of the kids in the neighborhood would gather together and walk through the cemetery, almost as a dare. We had to remain silent, stay on the roadway, and NEVER step on one of the grave sites. I suppose the idea was that it would be a "spooky" thing to do on the night before Halloween.

One grave I clearly remember from my childhood is the Hill headstone. Erected over the gravesite of Alden Hopson Hill who was renowned in the ship building industry and who operated a saw mill in town, his grave stone is a replica of an old tree trunk. So good is the workmanship, that as a boy I truly thought it to be a real tree. Another grave of notoriety was that of Ellsworth Bishop Foote. Born in North Branford in 1898, Mr. Foote served as a State Court Judge, and in the U. S. House of Congress from 1947-1949. I am told that the children from Jerome Harrison Elementary often visit the cemetery and take tracings of his and other headstones.

The names on the headstones are very recognizable to even the most recent North Branford resident. Names which have roads, schools or lakes named after them (Harrison, Caputo, Fowler, Bailey, Loeber, Linsley, Chidsey, etc.) Venerable North Branford names like Auger, Rose, Page, Moore, Baldwin, Canon, and Foote. Other names that have special memories to me. Mr. Holabird who was the janitor at Jerome Harrison Elementary School when I was a student there in the 1960's or Dick Page who delivered milk to our Kindergarten class, from his dairy on Totoket Road. Several of my childhood friends have buried their parents and grandparents there. And sadly even a few school mates who died untimely deaths.

I have always felt that I would like Bare Plain to be my final resting place, close to my childhood home in the community where I was raised. However, I assumed that a small cemetery of this age was filled and closed to further internments. I was wrong! I was pleasantly surprised to learn that there are still many plots available. (For information on regular and cremation plots, contact Tom Smith at 203-484-0844).

With just over 1,000 internments, Bare Plain Cemetery is not a large expansive cemetery, replete with mausoleums, chapels and people of fame. (Although it did have a chapel at one time). It is however the final resting place of many fine, salt of the earth, residents of North Branford and surrounding towns, who built a small community here in Southern Connecticut. A place and people I would be proud to lay at rest with. Who knows, perhaps some students from Jerome Harrison Elementary will be tracing my headstone one day! **Dean McGlynn**



OPEN HOUSE

November 14, 2015 - Noon - 3:00PM



Owner/Stylist Maryanne & Stylist Giexsell

As a Salon owner, serving this community for 20 years, improving my business is an everlasting practice.

Being able to reflect upon the journey while meeting amazing people daily and being in contact with year long clients whom I consider friends and family, is a blessing.

To thank my staff and faithful clientele, I am holding an Open House and inviting those who have been a part of this journey and anyone interested in joining us, November 14th, from Noon to 3:00PM.

Please come and enjoy an afternoon of snacks & refreshments with a chance to win our Door Prize.

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Publication Date

November 20
December 4
December 18
January 1
January 15
January 29
February 12
February 26

Deadline

November 13
November 27
December 11
December 23
January 8
January 22
February 5
February 19

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Fourth Annual Hearts of Hope Holiday Shopping Night

The Caruso/Bode family will open their home to the community for an all day event to benefit the Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance. The event will feature food and beverages, vendors, a raffle and local musician Billy Twyford & friends. It will be a night of spirit, friendship and kindness as friends come together to celebrate life help put an end to FA.

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Friedreich's ataxia is a disease that not many have heard of, although one in one hundred people carry the gene that can pass on the disease. In 1995 when Caruso heard the words Friedreich's ataxia as a diagnosis for her then eight-year-old daughter it filled her mind with confusion, fear and disbelief. As they made it through the initial mourning phase and onto the second diagnosis of her younger daughter their lives were forever changed.

Friedreich's ataxia is a life shortening, progressive and devastating disease. It robs people of their ability to walk, talk and use their hands appropriately. It causes heart disease, diabetes, hearing loss and blindness. Although the road has been challenging as a family they continue on in efforts to find a treatment and a chance for the girls and so many others to fight for their lives.

This year's local celebrity host will be Author Sandi Kahn Shelton. Shelton is known best for her novels as well as her quirky and wonderful sense of humor. Her numerous accomplishments as well as her humble personality will add to this uplifting evening. Come by, meet Sandi, have a laugh and have one of her books signed.

Some vendors include; Pampered Chef, Silpada Jewelry, Keelin Bret Jewelry, Lovet Shop, Perrottis Country Barn and Christmas Shop, Mad Hatter and Eve's Apparat.

Please plan to attend this embracing evening: November 14th from 4 pm to 9 pm. 1 North Street North Branford. With a \$5.00 donation you will receive a raffle ticket. For questions or information please call 203-889-6484

The Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA) is a national, public, 501(c) (3), nonprofit, tax exempt organization dedicated to curing Friedreich's ataxia (FA) through research. www.curefa.org

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Why are Schools Open on Veteran's Day???

Dear Editor:

I am a veteran that has served in Viet Nam. I joined a Veterans group in New Haven that is dedicated to making sure all veterans get the proper respect they are due. Our group makes sure that the Veterans on 11/11 each year are honored. The November ceremony honors veterans from all wars that are alive and to help the public realize what these veterans have been through. We need to honor them. Veterans Day is for veterans....

Why are schools open on Veterans Day? Have they forgotten the importance of this day? They hold school on this special holiday and make it seem less special. Ho hum just another workday. Nothing could be farther from the truth. School employees who are veterans are not given a day off to be honored for their service. School kids can't go to special ceremonies and see their relatives receive honors they deserve. The kids are stuck in school. How many schools administrators have served our country in uniform? Perhaps they would think different if they had served in the military.

There is a new group of veterans since the Gulf war, Iraq and Afghanistan war. They served proudly. Some have died for their country. Some have come home physically scarred, some mentally scarred. We should not become hardened to these facts. Veterans defended us and now let's honor them on Veterans Day.

Schools system need to change their priorities and put Veterans Day on the list of days off for these special reasons. Thank goodness Veterans Day is still on 11/11, and has not become one of the Monday holidays we have created. It is a very special day, keep it that way.

Regards

Cliff Potter, (US Army/ US Air Force Ret.)

Let's Be "Frank"

Well brother, it's going to be short and sweet this time. Well, it's gonna be short, I can't promise the sweet. When this paper hits the mailboxes we will have a new Town Council. There have been a few small groups of unhappy people but for the most part it's been a rather quiet election. Very few signs, very little advertising and pretty quiet. I guess by the time you read this, we'll know what that means.

We went to Erica's for Halloween and their neighborhoods get pretty intense. Fire pits in the driveways, movies on the front porches that are fully decorated and kids all over the place. Maybe it was the weather or maybe it was Saturday night but it really reminded me of the old days at Aunt Tess's house. Families spending time together was what it was all about and we have to get back to stuff like that or our kids and grandkids are going to suffer. My grandson wanted me to be Peter Pan. Not sure I looked like the legendary Never Land dweller but I do fit the mold of the kid that never wants to grow up.

My morning job is starting to get a bit monotonous but it does put a few bucks in my pocket to compliment the millions I make with this paper. Every morning the same people come in with the same talk about the weather the traffic and the day. They are: "doing fine for a Monday morning. Happy that at least it's not Monday on Tuesday. Dealing with hump day on Wednesday. One Day away from Friday on Thursday. And gearing up for the weekend on Friday..

I find it amusing that people aren't happy with the day it is. At this stage of the game every day is a bonus and I am never in a rush for the next one. Just happy to be living the one I'm in. Well, I said it would be short so that's it until next time. Take care and I'll see you soon.

ELECTION RESULTS

Publications dates of this paper prohibited us from reporting the full election results for our Town Council.

**For Complete results, go to
www.totokettimes.com**

State Senator Ted Kennedy

Educating and Protecting Against Youth Concussions



Students across Connecticut have settled back into their classrooms and football, soccer, hockey, and other fall sports seasons are well underway. This year Connecticut has implemented new trainings and procedures to keep student athletes safe from concussions so that they can continue to excel on the field and in the classroom.

As the result of a law passed by the General Assembly, the State Department of Education (SDE) released their "Concussion Plan and Guidelines for Connecticut Schools" and will begin ensuring that coaches, parents, and athletes are familiar with its contents. This document provides comprehensive information on the signs and symptoms of a concussion, the risks posed by a concussion, how to obtain medical treatment, and how to allow for a complete recuperation.

The symptoms of a concussion often do not appear until hours after the initial injury. Beginning this year, student athletes and their parents will be provided with a document familiarizing them with the symptoms of a concussion, and how to safely help someone with a concussion. By providing parents with this information we can ensure concussed athletes receive the care they need quicker than they have in the past and help avoid further injuries. All student athletes and their parents or legal guardians will now need to sign a consent form acknowledging that they have received the concussion education materials before the start of any athletic season.

It is required that all interscholastic and intramural coaches take a concussion education course in order to receive their coaching permit. Beginning this year, coaches will be required to review concussion and head injury materials prepared by the SDE in order to ensure they are familiar with current concussion safety protocols.

A concussion is a traumatic brain injury characterized by a temporary loss in brain function, and frequently resulting in subtle or significant cognitive and emotional symptoms. Concussions can be caused by a direct blow to the head or as the result of rapid acceleration or deceleration of the body or rotational forces significant enough to shake the brain.

Not giving the brain enough time to heal after a concussion can be extremely dangerous. Athletes who have had a concussion have a greater chance of suffering a repeat injury. A second concussion received before the brain fully heals from the first can slow recovery and increase the chances for long-term health problems. Long-term consequences can include permanent changes to how the athlete, thinks, feels, or acts, as well as their ability to learn and remember. A repeat concussion can even result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage, or death.

All concussions are serious injuries to the brain, and it is important that they be treated that way. The new protocols released this year will help give parents, athletes, and coaches the tools they need to manage concussion risks and help keep students healthy on the field and in the classroom.

Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year Deadlines

*There are only three issues left in 2015.
If you need to advertise please call Frank
at 203-410-4254.*

Publications	Deadlines
11/20	11/13
12/4	11/27
12/18	12/11

*Call early and let's put something together to
make your ads work this season!*

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

Letters to the editor...

This paper encourages all readers to voice their opinions and comments. The Totoket Times is not responsible for erroneous information or statements in letters to the editor. Letters should be as brief as possible.

All letters must be signed. A telephone number should be included and no personal attacks.

This paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

All letters should be addressed to :

The Editor

P.O. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472



WIT & WISDOM

I, and I assume everyone else, received an announcement from a local church announcing a series of lectures to convince you they have a biblical plan to make money without risking God's warnings. There, are a few questions I would like to ask, like the Bible stating, "the love of money is the root of all evil", Timothy 6;10 and "it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven", Mark 10:25.

Now I had a little experience with the latter when I was very young. My Sunday School teacher read it from his Bible and I didn't pay much attention to it since getting rich was the last thing on my mind. But when I was in high school the same teacher brought it up again and I guess he thought he should ease our concerns over becoming rich and not going to heaven or to make a lot of money and hoping God would be so busy when we got there, he passed judgement before he knew how grievously he had erred. But, our teacher told how God came down. I don't remember if he used those exact words, but since the Bible is God's word, I don't see how any ordinary being could change his words without he being here. God, I guess must have been here on the QT" since the Pope's coming is getting much publicity and if Congress had invited God we sure would all like to know about it.

My teacher said the meaning of a "needle" didn't mean the little slit in a needle for threading the thread through. First let me explain cities in ancient times were enclosed in high walls with one large entranceway. for chariots and large vehicles of other sorts to enter with huge doors to close if under attack. Next to this main entranceway was a smaller opening for people to use and I suppose their camels could make it through, but it wasn't easy as they had to squat and might have even needed a push to make it. They had decided this was called the "Needle". But even with this easing of their ticket to heaven making it possible for the Morgans and the Rockefellers, I almost said to make it into heaven, a huge donation in the form of a cathedral, like the Presbyterian Church on Riverside Drive in New York the Rockefellers happily built as an example of their devotion and true believers, and of course with the help of the Sunday Merchants prayers eased their journey to eternity.

Now I wonder if God, seeing through this hypocrisy, hasn't changed Heaven and moved it further away. When I was young Heaven was just up in the blue above you that you could see with your naked eye and paintings showed God as a bearded old man on a throne sitting in judgement. Now we can see millions of miles in space and they haven't found Heaven. I wonder if God didn't do this just to make it harder for you to buy your way into Heaven.

As for me, I lost faith when my prayers weren't answered and decided to stick around here as long as I can tolerate the pain. Now I don't want to discourage anyone, but if God had a Biblical Plan for financial success why did he make it so hard for a rich man to get to Heaven and warn of money being the "Root of all evil". If it makes you happy paying a Sunday Merchant to read from a book you can read as well as they, far be it from me to discourage you, but it always arouses suspicion in me this guy or gal has found an easier way to make a living.

Which reminds me of a time many years ago when my father-in-law came home from tuning the piano in one of New Haven's Sunday edifices where the minister was entertaining one of New Haven's richest maidens for obvious reasons when I said, "I don't think that's such a hot job". when he said, "It beats working for a living".

I think it was this maiden that went to California and built a mansion with

stairways deadending to a wall and doors opening to nowhere and other devious architectural changes apparently to confuse the demons hot on her trail.

Alton Eliason

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

By Attorney Marc P. Guertin

The new mantra of the baby boomer generation is beginning to sound something like: "I'm getting older, I'm not in the best of health, I'm worried about the costs of long term care, and I'm scared to death." This is the kind of stuff that keeps people (including myself) up at night. It's enough to make you crazy. I wish that I could tell my clients not to worry, that it's going to be alright, but often times it's not alright, the effects of aging take over and many people end up in a nursing home and then the financial pain begins. A long term stay in a nursing home can completely exhaust your estate, leaving nothing for your heirs.

The sooner you plan for this possibility the better. Time can be both your worst enemy and your biggest ally, depending on how you approach the problem. Often, I am contacted by the families of people who are literally on their way to a nursing home- at this point time is not on their side. Sure, we can preserve some assets but only a fraction. I call this approach the "emergency planning mode." It is kind of like being on a game show, but the prize is your own "stuff" and you win by getting the privilege of keeping some of your own "stuff." Emergency Planning Mode is, of course, not the best approach to the problem.

The best time to plan is well in advance of needing nursing home care. Given enough time and proper planning all of your assets can be preserved and sheltered from the costs of nursing home care. Many people utilize irrevocable trusts to protect and preserve assets long term. This is the best option for dodging the nursing home cost bullet, which can be financially devastating for you and your family. Irrevocable trusts are also a great way to avoid probate and to ensure that you can pass something on to your heirs or favorite charity.

If you're worried about the cost of long term care, get out in front of the problem. Make an appointment with a qualified estate planning attorney and see what can be done to protect your assets. Just because you can't take it with you doesn't mean that you have to give it to the nursing home.

If you would like to learn more about long term asset protection, Guertin and Guertin, LLC will be hosting a workshop on long term asset protection on Saturday, November 7th at 10am. Seating is limited. Please call my office (203-234-7400) to reserve your seat.

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, Elder Law, Trust and Probate Administration.

Looking for Members

The North Branford Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Club's founded in 1890. We are a volunteer group who donate our time and talents helping our community and surrounding towns.

We are involved with the Veterans, Atwater Library Story Hour, Local Schools, Ronald McDonald House, Food Banks, Midnight Run, Battered Women, Local Fire and Police Departments, Scholarships, and more. We meet the second Tuesday of the month at the Zion Episcopal Church's Hall, 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. The meetings start at 7:30 p.m. with a business meeting followed by a monthly program and refreshments.

If you are new to North Branford, Northford, and surrounding areas, this would be a great opportunity to learn about our community and to meet other women. For additional information, please contact Barbara at (203) 444-9998.

Last Public Stargazing for this year at Young's Pond Park in Branford

The Astronomical Society of New Haven will host a public observing event on Saturday November 21st starting after 7pm at Young's Pond Park, 60 Blackstone Ave. in Branford. Admission and parking are free. All members of the family are welcome to look through the telescopes to have a closer look at the stars and the planets. This month, the telescopes will be pointed at the Andromeda Galaxy, the Ring Nebula and the Pleiades star cluster. Members will also point out the constellations and satellite passes. Directions and cancellation due to weather (including clouds) will be posted to our website, www.asnh.org or call 866-808-ASNHE.

The Astronomical Society of New Haven, Inc. is a non-profit, scientific and educational organization which fosters new and continuing interest in amateur astronomy.



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Friends of North Branford Libraries Host Mini Book Sale

The Friends of North Branford Libraries will host a Mini Book Sale on Saturday, November 7 from 8:00AM to 3:00PM. The event will take place at the Edward Smith Library on 3 Old Post Road in Northford.

Hundreds of gently used books for sale from the following select categories:

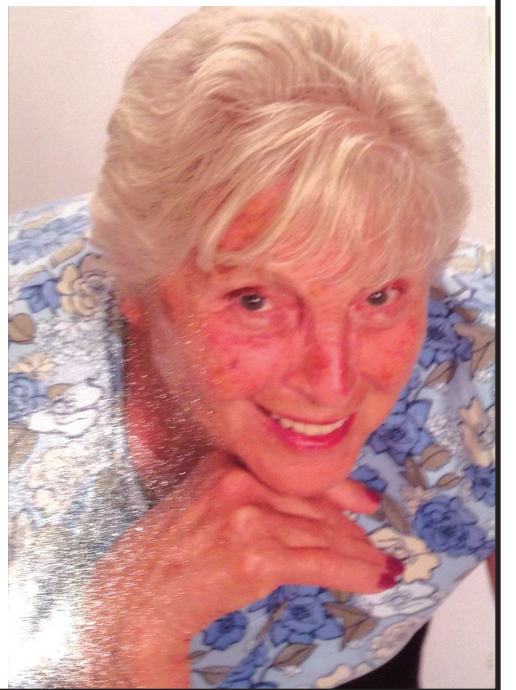
Cooking, Holidays, Fiction, Crafts and Hobbies, Childrens, Military, and Coffee Table books.

Watch for other "Mini" Book Sales in January and March 2016, also at the Edward Smith Library. Call: (203) 481-2730 for further information.

Vivian Cuomo

Celebrates 90 Years

On August 5th, Vivian Cuomo celebrated her 90th birthday. A party in her honor was given by her children at Bellini's Restaurant. Vivian has 10 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. Vivian and her husband Louis were former owners of Cuomo's Northford Store.



Zukunft Weds Paulsen

Nastassia Zukunft recently was married to Matthew Paulsen. Nastassia attended North Branford High School and the University of New Haven. Her husband is from Madison.

The couple took a trip to Barbados for their honeymoon.



Fairy Tea Party and & Author Visit Sunday, November 8th - 2:00 pm Edward Smith Library

Join us for a magical mid-afternoon tea party in the Children's Room, as local author Cheryl Kling reads her picture book 'Nature's Royal Tea Party'. Participants are encouraged to come dressed in their best OR as their favorite magical creature (like a fairy or gnome)! A book sale and signing will take

Nature's Royal Tea Party



Written & Illustrated by Cheryl Kling

place after the reading. (Books cost \$17.95)

****Registration is required.**

Please sign up in person or by phone: 203-484-0469

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Another Successful Community Round-Up

North Branford Intermediate School recently hosted their 26th Annual Community Round-up. Principal Alan Davis reports participation from more than 100 students as well as parents, teachers, Public Works employees and community volunteers. More than 8700 items were collected as well as \$100 in cash donations. All items were transported to the North Branford Food Pantry.

JHS Celebrates Early Reading

In keeping with the goal to improve our students' reading ability and to continue to expose them all to the benefits and enjoyment associated with reading we will again celebrated recognize student effort. It is noteworthy that JHS has steadily increased its participation in the summer reading program during the past three years...2013: 25% participation, 2014: 52% participation, and 2015: 65% participation. This past summer our kindergarten students read a total of 1750 books, our first grade read a total of 2319 books, and our second grade read a total of 2364 books. Students who read the most books for Jerome Harrison were Taylor Bliven, Alyssa Bliven, Natalee Wang, and Liam Paul. Jerome students will continue to be honored a recognized throughout the year in conjunction with our local libraries as "All Star Readers". Please continue to look for their success throughout year and help us in celebrating early reading.

Jerome Harrison School Principal Carter Welch

BE OUR GUEST

North Branford High School choir recently hosted a "Be our Guest" concert with the sounds of Disney. Tunes were performed by the Concert Choir, the Chamber Choir and soloists as well. *(Photos by Laura Castiglione Parisi)*



Town of North Branford Community NIGHT TO CARE

Our annual Community Night to Care will again be hosted by Jerome Harrison School on **Wednesday, December 2nd 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 19th) 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 2nd 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.

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 22nd at the Branford Stop & Shop. Your generosity on behalf of the families of Northford and North Branford is very much appreciated. Please contact Danielle @ pannanone341019@msn.com or Wendy @ gwendolynnsflynn@gmail.com with any questions.



Another Award for EHHS/NBHS Co-op Marching Band

Recently, the East Haven/North Branford High School Marching Band, took second place in the "Music of the Knight" competition at Southington High School. The team has taken 4 first place and 1 second place award for the season.

At press time, the team will be taking the field to compete in the New England State Championship at the Veterans Memorial Stadium in New Britain.



Rotary Student of the Month

Senior Michaela Tiani (center) recently received the Rotary Student of the month award. She is pictured above with NBHS Principal Todd Stoeffler and Rotarian Susan Visken-Diaz.



MATH NIGHT AT TVES

TVES recently hosted a Math Night with parents, students, teachers and administrators from grades three to five. The evening was geared to educate all involved in in Common Core math standards. The program was funded in part by the North Branford Education Department.



Wee Care Hosted NB Senior Center

Recently, the preschool at Wee Care of North Branford Inc., hosted the North Branford Senior Center for homemade chocolate chip cookies they prepared. Seniors and students enjoyed snacks, songs and a parade featuring the fire fighter costumes they had been working on in anticipation of Halloween.



Grace Anne Singer Receives Award At Arch Bishops Columbus Day Breakfast

North Branford resident, Grace Anne Singer, 8th Grade student at Our Lady of Mercy School was honored to receive recognition for Scholarship, Sportsmanship and Volunteerism at the Arch Bishops Annual Columbus Day Breakfast at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven. Grace was one of 13 New Haven area Catholic school students honored. National Junior Honor Society Member, Softball player and avid volunteer, Grace is ongoing in her efforts to help others. Volunteering at the OLM car wash to raise money for an orphanage in Haiti, playing piano at Ronald McDonald House Trees of Hope, St. George Bible Camp Counselor, helping at the Madison Food Bank or assisting her elderly neighbor with yard work among many other things, Grace is always happy to help out those in need.

Attached picture of Grace Singer and Most Reverend Leonard Paul Blair



Northford Preschool Academy visits Company 2 to learn about Fire Safety.

NBHS Graduate gets Masters at UMASS

Laura Mancini Curioso graduated with a Master of Science Degree in Biomedical Engineering and Biotechnology from the University of Massachusetts, Lowell in May, 2015. She received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electromechanical Engineering at Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Massachusetts in May, 2009. Laura is a 2003 graduate of North Branford High School.



She and her husband Andrew reside in Nashua, New Hampshire.

Wee Care of North Branford, Inc. Daycare and Preschool

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

- Two licensed Preschool Teachers
- Curriculum and disciplinary procedures aligned with local kindergarten classes
- Teacher directed learning centers
- Morning lessons reinforced by afternoon activities
- Extracurricular activities at no extra cost including Yoga, Music, Library visits, and Science classes

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Birds Win Big - 56 -12



Ryan Reilly had 97 yards on the ground and Shelby Franklin added 62 with 138 yards in receptions as the T-Birds destroyed Windsor Locks/ Suffield/ East Grandby 56 -12. With 2 scores in each of the first two quarters and 4 in the third, North Branford added 1 more in the fourth and George Poleshuk led a shutdown defense to never put the win in doubt as NB celebrated Homecoming in typical fashion.

Complimenting the Reilly /Franklin show, Pastet was 8-17 for 186 yards and he ran for 34 as well. Matt Chamberlain added 39

yards in receptions. Franklin also returned a kickoff for a 90 yard touchdown. Franklin scored 3 touchdowns and Reilly and Chamberlain added 2 each.

On defense, Poleschuk had 4 sacks, 6 tackles and 3 assists. Franklin had 7 tackles with 6 assists, Reilly had 7 tackles with 2 assists and Chamberlain had 5 tackles, 2 assists.

The T-Birds will travel down the road for an out of conference game against East Haven on November 5th and return home for senior night on the 12th. *(Franklin on the run. Photo by Bob Parisi)*



NBHS IS AWARDED “MICHAEL’S CUP”

The CIAC has announced that North Branford High School Athletics has been recognized as an Exemplary Michael’s Cup Award Recipient. This award is one of the highest awards provided to schools and athletic departments.

The criteria for this award includes: won/loss records for all athletic teams, sportsmanship ratings by opposing coaches, player and spectator conduct, and efforts and programs to encourage good sportsmanship as well as addressing substance abuse education.

The award reflects the efforts of all staff, students, coaches and parents under the direction of Athletic Director Kory Kevorkian who have created a culture at NBHS to develop the athletic programs in a positive fashion.

Cross Country Competes in Championships

The North Branford Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams competed in the Shoreline Conference Championship Meet on Thursday October 22nd held at the Indian River Complex in Clinton hosted by the Morgan High School Cross Country Team. The boys finished 10th out of the 11 team competition. Top finishers for the boys were Michael Madoule 32nd (19:13.6), Richard Hernandez 33rd (19:14.4), Parker Nadeau 52nd (20:18.1), Austin Gibilisco 61st (20:54.2), Zachary Jamieson 66th (21:07.4), Pat Fisher 73rd (23:07.6) and Isaac Cammarata 74th (23:07.9). In the JV race Jason Ash placed 80th (24:26.1), Patrick Miconi 97th (25:35.9), Hunter Boni 98th (25:36.1) and Aaron Beisaw 105th (27:19.1).

The girl’s team finished 11th out of the 11 team competition. The top finishers for the girls were Jillian Damiani 46th (24:36.3), Winnie Chan 55th (25:36.3), Olivia Hemstock 59th (26:25), Victoria Pawlak 60th (26:31.3), Grace Little 67th (28:44.5) and Theresa Guadagnino 68th (28:44.5).

As a team the kids underperformed at the championship as compared to the past season due to illness and a plague of injuries. I am proud of the way they performed even with all the setbacks this season. Last season at the conference championship the top five boys came in at 1:33.50 and this season at 1:40:47.7. The top five girls came in at 1:59.56 last season as compared to 2:11.52.4 this season. The team is looking to rebound at the states next week at Wickham Park.

The Boys North Branford Cross Country Team competed in the CIAC Division SS Cross Country Championship Meet on Saturday, October 31st at Wickham Park in Manchester Connecticut. The boys finished 12th out of 22 teams (164 runners) with a total time of 1:36.48. As in previous races throughout the season, the kids put in a great effort for the final race. Each of the North Branford runners set a personal record on the challenging course. On the average, each bettered their time by 45 seconds or as a team over 5 minutes.

Lead runner for the boys was Michael Madoule at 18:33 (27th). Also, finishing for the boys were Richard Hernandez 19:19 (54th), Isaac Cammarata 19:34 (63rd), Zachary Jamieson 19:37 (64th), Parker Nadeau 19:45 (72nd), Austin Gibilisco 20:09 (89th) and Patrick Fisher 21:12 (123rd).

NB TOUCHDOWN CLUB WITH NBFD

1st annual T-BIRD DROP

NBHS SENIOR NIGHT GAME 11/13/15

1ST PRIZE \$1500 - 2ND PRIZE \$500 - 3RD PRIZE \$250

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For the month of November we are featuring:
Our new Grab – N – Go Snacks
Carrot Raisin or Apple Cinnamon Muffins
Blueberry Scones
Apple Caramel Crumb Cake
All for only \$1.00 each
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We will also have A La Carte items available for purchase.
This month features:
2 slices of vegetable lasagna
2 stuffed cabbages
A La Carte items are only \$5.00 each
Available Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Holiday Season Makeovers for Moms

We want to hear about your mom! Write us an essay (age categories: Grades K-3; Grades 4-6; Grades 7-8) telling us why your mom deserves to be pampered this Holiday Season and she could win one of three makeovers and a three-month fitness membership at the STW Community Center. Include name, address, contact number and grade category with essay and return to STW Community Center by November 30. Presented by Legacy Salon & North Branford Parks & Recreation Departments.

BUS TRIPS

RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SHOW - MONDAY, DECEMBER 7
Cost: \$100 resident / \$105 non-resident
Bring on the sparkling costumes, long legs and high kicks! See the Rockettes in all their glory and visit Radio City Music Hall to witness this awe-inspiring tradition. Take some time to see the Rockefeller Center Tree, shop along 5th Avenue and get your holiday off to a spectacular start! Includes round-trip motor coach transportation and Orchestra ticket to 2 p.m. Show.
FOXWOODS CASINO - MONDAY, JANUARY 11
Cost: \$32 resident / \$37 non-resident
Come and play for the day! Visit over 6,300 slot machines and test your luck. Your package includes round-trip motor coach transportation and package that includes free bets and retail/meal voucher.
WESTMINSTER DOG SHOW - NYC - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Cost: \$92 resident / \$97 non-resident
This show is a dog-lover's paradise! Meet the dogs and the handlers in the benching area, watch the dogs being groomed, and pick your dog of choice. See the Best of Breeds all in one location.

ADULT PROGRAMS

NRA PISTOL SAFETY COURSE
Who: Ages 21 & over
Session: November 14
Time: Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Fee: \$150 resident /\$155 non-resident
Acquire knowledge, skills and attitude needed to safely handle handguns. Live fire of assorted pistol calibers. Upon completion of this one day course, you'll earn a certificate as part of the requirements to apply for a pistol carry permit.

PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

INNER ARTIST
Who: Grades K - 2
Session: November 18 - Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fee: \$18 resident / \$23 non-resident
Instructional and fun after-school art classes using ink, water and diffusion paper.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

MOUNT SOUTHLINGTON TEEN SKI TRIPS
Same prices as last year – no increases!
Who: Grades 6-12
Session: January 8 – February 5
Time: Fridays, 2:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Where: Mount Southington Ski Area
Fee: Lift only \$235
Lift & Lessons \$275
Lift & Rentals \$305
Lift, Lessons & Rentals \$332

Enjoy the evening skiing at Mount Southington! Supervision as well as roundtrip school bus transportation with a pick up and drop off at NBIS and STW Community Center.
Registration needs to be done by November 13.

INNER ARTIST
Who: Grades 2 - 4
Session: November 18 - Wednesday, 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Fee: \$18 resident / \$23 non-resident
Instructional and fun after-school art classes using ink, water and diffusion paper.
CUPCAKE DECORATING
Who: Ages 9-12 – Boys & Girls Welcome!
Session I: Friday, November 20 - 6:00 p.m.
Fee: \$10 resident / \$15 non-resident
No previous experience necessary! You will transform ordinary cupcakes into sharks, sunflowers, and other amazing creations! We will provide the cupcakes and any other supplies that are needed!

ALL AGES PROGRAMS

MOTHER/DAUGHTER WET FELTING JOURNAL
Who: Teens - Adult
Session: November 13
Time: Friday, 5:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Fee: \$28 resident /\$33 non-resident
Using wool, silk, novelty yarns and flowers – create a journal using the wet felting technique. Bring your own refreshments (no alcoholic beverages please) and make it a party!

Don't forget....we have NEW extended hours for the FITNESS ROOM and COMMUNITY CENTER!

Monday through Friday 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

These are just some of the many trips and programs we have to offer!
For further descriptions and information check out our Fall / Winter 2015-2016 brochure, or call 203-484-6017

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

Northford Congregational Church. United Church of Christ. Church is located on Old Post Rd., (corner of Rte 17 and Rte 22), PO Box 191 Northford. Phone 203-484-0795, Fax 203-484-9916.. email; ncchurch@snet.net. Reverend Kathryn King. Pastor. Jane K. Leschuk Minister of Music. 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 on 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. Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/standrewsnorthford>,

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 Marenn. 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 9am. Coffee hour follows both services. Child care available. Email; www.zionepiscopalchurch.org.

Holiday Craft Fair

St. Monica’s Rosary Society sponsors the Northford Handcrafters Guild’s annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Monica’s, 1331 Middletown Ave., Northford. The fair features handcrafted items by local artisans such as pottery, wood crafting, painted glass items, hair ribbons, American Girl doll clothes, jewelry, delicious homemade baked goods, raffles and more. Breakfast and lunch are available. Come and enjoy great food, crafters, raffles, and much more. Tables are still available, call for application (203) 484-9737.

NBCC Holly Fair

Please join us on Sunday, November 21st from 9:00AM - 2:00PM and maybe finish your Christmas shopping. There will be gift baskets, handmade items, raffles, and a jewelry table. There will also be a room filled with Better Treasures as well as your White Elephant Room. Please join us and have lunch at our Café Noel!

Evergreen Woods Annual Holiday Fair

Evergreen Woods, The Shoreline Retirement Community, will hold their 21st annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 9am to 2pm. This fair is one of the most popular fairs on the shoreline, featuring works of aspiring artists and local craftsmen. Items for sale will include: children’s apparel, knitted items, ornaments, candles, fashion accessories, pure maple syrup, all natural skin products, jewelry and much more. What a great place to do all your holiday shopping. All proceeds this year from the vendor registration fees, raffles, food court, cookie walk and white elephant sale will go to the Food Pantry of Northford/ North Branford and CT Special Wishes! Evergreen Woods is located at 88 Notch Hill Road in North Branford. If you are an interested vendor please contact Jaclyn Martinelli at 483.3231 or email jmartinelli@evergreenwoods.com

Winter Wonderland Bazaar

International Christmas Tree Decorating Contest and Bazaar, Sat., Dec. 5, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Northford Congregational Church. Most original tabletop tree will be awarded cash prize; 2nd and 3rd prizes also awarded. Registration fee \$10; deadline, Tues., Dec. 1 at 12 noon. Contact Tanya at 203-484-9155. Space limited, call early. Original handmade ornaments, refreshments, and baked goods will be available for purchase at this fundraiser for the church Bell Tower Fund. The historic Northford Congregational Church 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.

Toy Program for Children

Each year this Office of Social Service offers a toy program for children that live in Northford or North Branford. The Program allows parents to see the toys that have been donated and choose the toys that they feel their children would enjoy. The Program also allows grandparents living in the community to choose toys for their grandchildren. All toys are new and unwrapped. We ask that you show proof of residency, such as a photo ID with your address and two (2) utility bills in your name and that you be reasonable. Toys will be distributed at the Stanley T. Williams Community/Senior Center located at 1332 Middletown Ave, Northford, Ct.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 9th, 2015, 9:30 am – 12:00 Noon, Parents Only

Thursday, December 10th, 2015, 9:30 am – 12:00 Noon, Parents & Grandparents

If you are interested in donating a toy for the program, we offer three drop-off sites. You may do so at the North Branford Town Hall, North Branford Police Department, and the Stanley T. Williams Community/ Senior Center. All toys should be new and unwrapped. Toys may be dropped off in the Collection Boxes located at all sites between November 3rd , and December 4th, 2015

Holiday Bazaar at the Reynolds-Beers House

The Totoket Historical Society will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 21 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 1-3 p.m. when the house is open. For large item pick-up or information, 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.

Crafts, Baked Goods & More

St. Therese Church, 105 Leetes Island Rd., Branford will hold a Holiday Crafts Bazaar on Saturday, November 21 from 8:30 AM to 4 PM & Sunday, November 22 9am to 12 noon.

More than 20 vendors, handcrafted items, penny auction, home baked goods, jewelry and a giant tag sale. Breakfast and lunch are available for purchase. For more information, call 203-488-2998.

Zion Episcopal Church Holiday Fair

Zion Episcopal Church in North Branford hosts its Annual Holiday Fair on November 21, 2015. Come join us - we’d love to see you and share our joy in putting on this event with the community at large.

We will be offering a beautiful handmade assortment of 18-inch doll clothes – smocked dresses, robes, nightgowns, hats, boots and pretty outfits, all reasonably priced. This is a perfect place to begin your shopping.

Our amazing cookie walk has grown – we will be offering more than 50 kinds of homemade cookies. This year, we are also offering cookie trays made up to have for your Thanksgiving dinner, a perfect hostess gift.

We have an entire section of Beanie Baby gifts – themed sets for little more than the price of one. These are adorable gifts for grandchildren, neighbors and friends. They are very affordable, nicely packaged and ready for giving.

We have a tasty selection of jams, baked goods, candies and the like. Many items are packaged and priced for one or two people. Our volunteers are heading to Vermont to get fresh Cabot cheese, always a favorite.

We have some new themes for raffle baskets this year – always worth a ticket or two! We will also have a new selection of crafts this year that you will want to see.

Take a peek at our White Elephant tables with many Christmas items as well as general household goods.

Finally, come join us for lunch – homemade chili, pizza, hot dogs – make it a day of fun! The fair will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parish hall. Zion is located at 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford.

An Evening of Song, Wine & Hors D’oeuvres

Saint Andrew’s Episcopal Church will present *An Evening of Song, Wine & Hors D’oeuvres* with the Yale Class of 1954 Whiffenpoofs. The event will take place on Friday, November 20th with a reception at 5:45 and the concert at 6:30. It will be held at the Church, 1382 Middletown Ave, Northford.

Donations are \$15. and you can obtain tickets by contacting Nancy Monde at 203-481-9472. All proceeds will benefit St. Andrew’s outreach program.

Sacred Heart Academy Memorial Mass

The Sacred Heart Academy “Chapel Bells” Annual Memorial Mass & Reception will be held on Thursday evening, November 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mount Sacred Heart Chapel, 265 Benham Street, Hamden. This liturgy is held in remembrance of and to honor deceased alumnae, family, and friends of the Sacred Heart community.

All members of the greater Sacred Heart Academy community, especially families and friends of deceased alumnae, are invited to attend the “Chapel Bells.” To register or for more information, contact Alumnae Director Sr. Mariette Moan, ASCJ, ’77 at alumnae@sacredhearthamden.org or 203-288-2309, x313.

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Handyman Services - Electrical work, plumbing repair and installations, carpentry work, dryer vents cleaned or repaired, yard work, dump runs etc. All general home repairs. Call Pete at 203-804-6373.

TAG SALES

Vendors are needed for The Animal Haven's Holiday Fair (vendors selling all types of handmade or new gift-type items are welcome). The fair will be held on November 28 (Saturday) from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the North Haven Congregational Church, 28 Church Street, North Haven, CT. The cost of the vendor space is \$30 and vendors must supply their own table. We are also looking for donations of new, handmade items or crafts to sell.

Payment deadline is November 15, 2015. For a vendor application or for more information, contact Chris at: chriskat32@aol.com or 203-484-9648. The Animal Haven 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.

HELP WANTED

Floral Designer, part time counter help and part time seasonal drivers as needed. Must have experience. Sign up now at [Petals 2 Go](http://Petals2Go.com) Florist in Central Plaza, North Branford.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Personal, For Sale, Help Wanted, Tag Sale, and all non-business classified
1 issue \$9.00 2 issues \$12.00 3 issues \$15.00
20 words or less, not including phone #. \$.05 per word, per run, after 20 words

Lost and Found FREE

Business Classified Ads & Real Estate

3 issues \$35.00, 6 issues \$60.00, 12 issues \$100.00

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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

Masonicare Names Northford Resident New Director of Nursing

Masonicare is pleased to announce that Michele Gerard Ackerman, RN, RAC-CT, has been named Director of Nursing at Masonicare Health Center in Wallingford. A Northford resident, Ms. Ackerman received an A.S. in Nursing at Wilcox College of Nursing and her B.A. in Science from Manhattanville College. She has been with Masonicare for over 16 years, beginning as a staff nurse and Clinical Nurse Manager, and most recently was Assistant Director of Nursing.

Masonicare Health Center has 375 beds providing short-term and long-term care, as well as dementia care and many specialty services. In making the announcement, Melinda Schoen, Vice President of Administration, said: "Michele has made significant contributions to the health center community on behalf of our residents and team members. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her new role, and shares our deep commitment to providing the highest quality patient care."

Masonicare is Connecticut's leading not-for-profit provider of healthcare and retirement living for seniors. In addition to Masonicare Health Center, affiliates include Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Masonicare at Newtown, Masonicare Home Health & Hospice and Masonicare Partners Home Health & Hospice, Masonicare Primary Care Physicians, Masonicare Behavioral Health, Masonicare at Home and The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut.

North Branford Women's Club Afternoon Tea

The North Branford Women's Club, Inc., will be hosting an afternoon tea on Saturday, November 14, 2015, 1:00 p.m., at the Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford CT.

Our guest will be Ms. Donna Lasko who will present "Romance of the Hat". Tickets must be purchased in advance for \$25.00.

If you would like to purchase a ticket or need additional information, please call Sheila at (203) 481- 2677 or Judy at (203) 484- 0586. All proceeds of this event will benefit local and state community programs.



Community Action Accepted

we Accept Check - Cash - Credit Cards

\$10.00 OFF DELIVERY OF 150 - 200 GALLONS

Expires 3/31/16. 1 Coupon per delivery

Not to be combined with any other offers

203-468-6966



Hours: M - Thur 11am - 9pm, Fri-Sat 11am - 10pm, Sun 11am - 9pm