



Totoket Times

www.totokettimes.com

For Our Town From Our Town

PRST/STD
U.S. POSTAGE
Paid
Branford, CT 06405
Permit # 131
Car-Rt-Sort

Postal Customer

Volume 26 No 19, March 6, 2020



Country Paint and Hardware Receives Plastic Film Program Bench

On Friday, February 14, Country Paint and Hardware was presented the latest bench NB has earned from the Plastic Film Recycling Program, sponsored by Trex and supported by our NB Big Y. Its NB's sixth bench.

NB Solid/Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee members Bill Savastano and Hank Petroskey made the presentation.

Thanks to Earl Norwood, Rae Regan, Pat Connolly, and the entire staff at CP&H for their dedication in collecting plastic film. In the three years of the program, CP&H has collected 2,200 pounds of plastic film. Wow, over a ton of film.

Thanks to everyone who participates in the Plastic Film Recycling Program and please continue to be diligent in placing only acceptable items in the collection bins. That will help greatly when sorting the material.

The unacceptable items we see the most continues to be pet food and mulch bags, potato chips, popcorn, and other snack bags, and grape bags.

If you are not sure what type of plastic film can go into the bins, please reach out to us.

The purpose of North Branford's Solid/Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee is to develop and implement environmentally sound solutions and best practices for solid waste disposal and recycling management on behalf of our town.

Earl Norwood is the first to try out the bench in front of Country Paint and Hardware (photo by Hank Petroskey)

Totoket Mountain/Mattabesett Trail Hike

Come explore the highest peak in North Branford with the North Branford Land Conservation Trust on Saturday, March 14, 2020, from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm.

Follow a steep ravine through an old vineyard and hemlock grove up to the high point, which is 720 feet (a 360 foot elevation gain). This is the junction of North Branford, Durham, and Guilford. Look for old border markers. Pass intermittent streams and a waterfall. There will be at least one stream crossing. Due to the terrain, this hike is not recommended for young children. No pets please. Rain date March 15, same time. Approximate round-trip distance: 2.5 miles.

Meet at: Stage Coach Rd, off Route 17, in Durham. From Northford Center, go 4.1 miles north on Rte 17. Turn right onto Stage Coach Rd. Go 300 yards to a sharp left turn. The trailhead is on the right at the turn. Please do not block the entrance for emergency vehicles. Park along the road wherever possible. Meet by 9:15 am.

The mission of the North Branford Land Conservation Trust is to acquire and maintain open space and to promote the conservation and enjoyment of land and natural resources within the Town of North Branford.

Alan Davis Shining Stars 2020

Last Call for Tickets

The North Branford Education Foundation will be honoring four community servants with the Alan Davis Shining Star Award. The dinner will take place at Seasons in East Haven, on Thursday, March 26th beginning at 6:00.

There will be a full dinner with appetizers and a cash bar. Tickets are only \$50 per person and can be purchased by calling Frank Mentone at 203-410-4254.

Honorees are Brian Lynch, David Palumbo, Tom Smith and Marcey Onofrio. For complete information visit our website at northbranfordeducationfoundation.org

Chat Chew

531 Forest Rd., Northford.

No Waiting, Call in advance! Eat in or Pick up!

203-208-0097 Open 7 days per week. 6-2:30!

Breakfast Specials - 6-9AM Only

2 Eggs, Toast & Coffee \$5.50 or 2 Eggs, Toast, Bacon or Sausage \$6.50

Lunch Special

8 oz. Cheeseburger, Fries & Soft Drink \$11.75

Look for the Date in a future issue of the Totoket Times

Kicking off the new season with a **FREE Soft Serve Ice Cream!**

Publication Date

March	6	February	28
March	20	March	13
April	3	March	27
April	17	April	10
May	1	April	24
May	15	May	8
May	29	May	22
June	12	June	5

Petals2Go Florist
484-7800 www.Petals2GoCt.com

Central Plaza
Jump into Spring
**Oder a flower arrangement and
save \$10.00**
(minimum required)

In this issue of the Totoket Times.....

Editorial	3 & 4
School & Youth	6 & 7
Info	8
Recreation	9
Church	10
Classifieds	11
Events	11 & 12

BELL TOWER AND STEEPLE INSTALLED

All the planning paid off. The job on February 28 went like clockwork. The bell tower and steeple were delivered on Wed., Feb. 26, and although the installation had to be postponed a day due to high winds on Thursday, the work was completed Friday morning. The steel base was in place along with the permanent roof and bell

platform, so the crane placed the bell first, followed by the bell tower (in photo) and then the steeple (in photo). A weather vane was installed on top last. Campbellsville Industries and Petra Construction worked together. The final remaining job to be completed is for the bell company to hook up the electronic striker.

The church is grateful for all the help from its members and from members of the community and others who heard about the project.

The historic Northford Congregational Church, "A Little Church with a Big Heart," (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. Office

hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday and other days by appointment. Church website: www.northfordcongregational.church. New email: northfordcc@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook.



KEENAN
FUNERAL HOME INC.

238 Elm Street
West Haven
(203) 933-1217

330 Notch Hill Rd.
North Branford
(203) 481-3217



Providing a full-spectrum of products and services, both traditional and alternative, preneed and at-need.

Our professional staff is a group of compassionate and dedicated funeral directors experienced in discussing customized options with families. We are available to assist families at the time of immediate need or to help families make prearrangements.

Philip M. Appell, Funeral Director
Phil.appell@carriageservices.com

www.keenanfuneralhome.com



hair designs

**Gift Certificates
Available!**

Walk Ins Welcome!

Hours of Operation:
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 - 5:00

Thursday, 9:00 - 6:00

Saturday, 9:00 - 3:00

Sunday by appointment only



**1717 Foxon Rd. (Rte 80) -
North Branford
(in The Keybank Plaza)
488-6959**

W VICKY & COMPANY 2020
Your Real Estate Vision Is Our Mission



KIMBERLY O'MEARA ROBISON
C. 203.464.0860

Kim.Robison@Raveis.com

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE
KimRobison.Raveis.com

1080 MAIN STREET | BRANFORD

The Dancer's Studio

855 Forest Road - PO Box 536
Northford, CT 06472

484-2100

Ballet - Tap
Jazz - Modern
Lyric - AcroGym
Hip Hop and more!

Toddlers - Pre School
Children - Teens
Adults
Recreational or Competitive

VISIT OUR WEBSITE - WWW.THEDANCERSSTUDIO.COM

J. Chris Keinz
Owner
Lic. # 614767



203-488-1901
8 Brook Rd.
North Branford

CNM Landscaping LLC

Mowing - Cleanups - Photo Landscape Design
Planting - Trimming - Snow Plowing
WWW.

Licensed & Fully Insured
Residential & Commercial
Free Estimates



cnmlandscaping.com

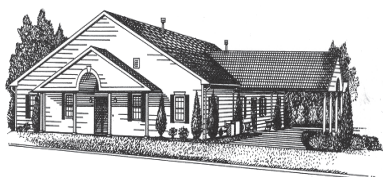
Sit & Stay
Dog Grooming, LLC

\$5.00 OFF
\$40. Service
Expires 3/31/20



1387 Middletown Ave.
Northford, Ct 06472

Phone: 203-484-PAWS - (203-484-7297)



PORTO FUNERAL HOME

234 Foxon Road (Rt. 80) /East Haven

467-3000

Offering assistance with PRE-planning and PRE-financing
Burials ~ Cremation

Directors:
Anne Marie Porto DeLucia
Clement L. DeLucia
Albert M. DeLucia



State of the Art Dentistry
Emphasizing Cosmetics in a
Therapeutic Environment



Don't wait any longer.
Call for an appointment today
Let us show you what our all female
state-of-the-art cosmetic dentistry
can do for you.

- Whitening - Smile Design
- Painless Gentle Dentistry

Varsha Salani, D.M.D., LLC
10 Broadway, North Haven, CT
(203) 234-1901

GUERTIN AND GUERTIN, LLC
Attorneys and Counselors

ESTATE PLANNING,
PROBATE, ELDER LAW
26 Broadway
North Haven, Ct. 06473
203-234-7400

WWW.GuertinandGuertin.com



Arnie Willhite, Owner

1179 Foxon Rd. (Rt. 80/22)
North Branford, CT 06471
(203) 484-7474

New and Used Guns • Bought • Sold • Traded

State Representative Vincent Candelora Arrogance Hurting Government Transparency



In state governments, there's sometimes an arrogance that comes with being in power for a long time. That attitude has been on display in our legislature a lot this session, and certainly over the few days before I submitted this column. It's a trend that should concern everyone.

Consider a recent meeting of the Labor Committee, a breeding ground for punitive policy that's made our state among the most difficult places in the nation to run a business. Democrats who control the committee held a meeting recently, and legislation under consideration would've affected the business community. Problem is, there were questions about whether the meeting was properly noticed and, even worse, the meeting's agenda wasn't made public until a few hours before the meeting.

If you're an employer that would be affected by a proposal with potential to eliminate employee non-compete agreements, and if you were lucky enough to figure out there was a Labor Committee meeting, would you have gone if you had no idea what was up for discussion?

Naturally, there was committee debate between Democrats and Republicans about how to interpret the rule about providing a day's notice of the time and location of a meeting. As long as it's done before midnight, it seems, is good enough. Conversation eventually turned to when committee leaders posted this meeting's agenda for public consumption, with one claiming it was posted to the web at 10:01 p.m. before her colleague contradicted her by indicating it had been sent at 10:01 p.m. for posting.

Turns out the meeting's agenda wasn't made public until 7:30 a.m. the day of the meeting. Eventually, after a closed-door caucus, Democrats abruptly adjourned the meeting without action. It was a small victory for transparency.

A proposal to eliminate the religious exemption from vaccinations has triggered passionate debate in Hartford, attracting thousands to the capitol for a public hearing that lasted 22 hours. For me, the biggest issue is the path taken to move the bill toward House and Senate votes. A bipartisan working group tackled the complex subject over a six-month period, but when members of the Public Health Committee began their work last month they received an unexpected surprise: a half-baked bill that not only eliminated the exemption, but one that would kick as many as 8,000 kids out of school without a plan to honor their constitutional right to a public education.

As you can imagine, that mammoth hearing produced a lot of testimony. Instead of allowing committee members to digest any of that public comment, to have discussions about the topic, or even get answers to critical unanswered questions, Public Health Committee leaders held a quick-pitch vote on the controversial bill a month before they needed to. Even worse, that vote came after a day of rushed backroom scheming necessary to win support for the eventual 14-11 vote that advanced the bill.

The entire affair was a slap in the face to the people who testified and to committee members who respect a deliberative process that used to be a hallmark of our legislature.

Little by little, residents are losing their say on a wide variety issues that affect them deeply. That reality is among the factors that fueled the sustained opposition to tolls. Citizens saw the herky-jerky approach from a tone-deaf majority desperate to get a bill passed and, clearly, they didn't like it.

Arrogance is eroding transparency and accessibility—the lifeblood of good government. Ensuring deliberation about complicated issues is a concept all lawmakers should work to protect.

Let's start with making sure public meetings come with agendas that you can review ahead of time.

Let's Be "Frank"

It's Lent. It's not for me to judge but I will anyway. Growing up, mom was very strict on how we prepared for Easter. It was important to sacrifice, pray, and concentrate on how we could be better people.

Ash Wednesday would begin with a church service and ashes. We didn't have drive through ashes. We weren't getting ashes to show the neighbors that we were good Catholics. We needed to be reminded of the circle of life and why we were on this earth. "Remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return", was the prayer as the priest annointed us. A simple reminder of our beginning and our end. "It doesn't matter what's on your forehead," mom would warn. "It's what's in your heart."

Throughout Lent we would prepare for Easter "the Resurrection Christ. No meat on Fridays, give up something for Lent and prayer time every day. Friday would also be the Stations of the Cross. A reminder of what Jesus went through to save us. A demonstration of what sacrifice was all about. How we could make our lives better as well as the lives of our brothers and sisters. "We are here for each other," she would remind us. "Don't just give up something to show others what you did. Give up something that will help other benefit. Meatless Fridays did not mean lobster or shrimp. It meant eggs, or potatoes or what she called tuna on toast (we called it something entirely different on toast).

Holy Thursday was a day of preparation for the long service of prayer. Following our church visitation we would begin a walking trip to five churches to pray, and worship. We walked even when we had a car. If you wanted to walk to five churches now, you'd have to go to five different towns. That wouldn't do any good either because most of the churches close right away after their own services.

Finally came the celebration of Easter. The Resurrection of Christ. First a long Saturday vigil with bells, clappers, processions and music. In many churches this too has been limited as we don't want people have to spend too much time with God.

We would return to Church for the Sunday Mass even though we were not required to do so. Following the Sunday service it was off to visit all our aunts and uncles as well as the cemetery. It was time to celebrate with our family as well. We never ate until all the visits were completed. Now a days church is often skipped so there is more time to visit and celebrate. Like some of our new traditions, it seems like the point is often missed.

On a different note, my brother. I was recently talking to a friend about all the money our town must spend when FOI is requested. It get's lawyer's involved as well as OT hours to do the research to supply this information. From what I've seen, nothing substantial is ever found. It appears as though someone with an axe to grind either requests the information themselves or drops a dime (I guess a quarter now) on someone from the media and the investigation begins.

I guess I have presented this many times in my letters. We are all neighbors and should be acting for the good of our community. Instead of trying to prove someone is "crooked" why not just sit and talk with each other. Work out the issues and move on without making our town look stupid and wasting tax payers' dollars.

Whatever religion people follow, they are all basically about being good and honest people. Maybe this Lent we should stop the mud slinging and work together to make the community a better place.

Take care my brother. Say hi to the family and I will see you soon.

Notice of Public Hearing

The North Branford Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. in the **North Branford Intermediate School** cafeteria.

The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to hear comments on building a new Police Station on a proposed site at 305 Forest Road, formerly known as the Mooney property.

Public comments on this matter are welcome.

Dated at North Branford, Connecticut this 19th day of February, 2020.

North Branford Town Council

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



This publication is published bi-weekly by

Doss Enterprises LLC

PO Box 313 Northford, CT. 06472

Tel; 203-410-4254 Fax 203-484-4729

email: totokettimes@comcast.net

PUBLISHER - FRANK MENTONE JR.

founders - Bert Bunnell Jr. & Anthony Esposito Jr.

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.

State Senator Christine Cohen



As vice-chair of the legislature's pro-business Commerce Committee, and as co-chair the legislature's Bioscience Caucus (which seeks to strengthen and promote Connecticut's robust life sciences and biotech industries), I get pretty excited when I hear about growth opportunities in one of Connecticut's most promising job sectors.

That was the case recently when our Bioscience Caucus was briefed by Dawn Hovevar, the President & CEO of New Haven-based BioCT.

Dawn presented us with a 21-page report that notes Connecticut employs 17,000 people in the bioscience industry and ranks second in the country in academic bioscience research and development, fourth in bioscience patents and bioscience venture capital investments, and eighth in science and engineering doctoral degrees. She believes this industry – which is heavily concentrated around our area – can grow to more than 30,000 jobs with the right planning.

What will that take? Building more lab space, training more bioscience graduates and recruiting executive bioscience talent, securing more venture capital investments, improving transportation options like airports and trains, and creating a state entity to manage a five-year bioscience investment plan.

The reward is employment at Connecticut companies like Pfizer, Boehringer Ingelheim, Alexion, Sema4, The Jackson Laboratory, Tangen and Medtronic, where wages average \$68,000 to \$163,000 a year, far exceeding the average annual private-sector wage in Connecticut of \$64,783.

The state legislature recognizes the tremendous growth that the bioscience industry has already had in Connecticut, and we want to ensure that it continues to develop and thrive. Think back to 2011, when the state legislature voted to bring The Jackson Laboratory to Farmington after the State of Florida rejected the company's proposed expansion there.

As you probably already know, The Jackson Laboratory specializes in genomic medicine: creating personalized medicines to combat disease based on your own individual genetic makeup. State construction loans and research grants were based on The Jackson Labs creating 300 jobs by 2021; by 2018 they had already easily surpassed that goal and were employing 385 people with an average annual salary of \$90,000.

Now we are learning that a major biotech developer in New Haven is planning to bring 325,000 square feet of new lab incubator space to the city. Two other developers are looking to put \$25 million into renovations at another building and create 75,000 square feet of lab space. This is all in addition to a new \$800 million neuroscience center approved for the St. Raphael's campus of Yale New Haven Hospital, the success of biotech companies like Biohaven and Arvinas going public, and Yale University's Office of Cooperative Research adding 10 new venture-backed startups in just the past three years alone.

Like I said, the greater New Haven area and Connecticut's 12th Senatorial District are a hotbed of bioscience and economic development, and I will do everything in my power on the Commerce Committee and as co-chair of our Bioscience Caucus to ensure that Connecticut is making the smart, public investments that will pay off with jobs and income for our state residents for decades to come.

Northford Homebound Delivery in Full Force

Dear Editor:

As a Board Member of the Community Dining Room, I wanted to take a moment to express our thanks and gratitude to the North Branford Congregational Church for the gracious donation of space for our North Branford/Northford Homebound Delivery Program.

Under the direction of our former CDR Director and now current Director Judith Barron, the program began small with collaborations of volunteer community members, the VNA, the North Branford Senior Center, and North Branford Social Services as a satellite to our current Branford Homebound Delivery Program to help older adults in need of nutritional support.

Since its inception it has steadily grown. We are excited to collaborate with St. Andrews Church and the Food Pantry of North Branford to continue and develop this needed program. We express our thanks to those who helped begin this program and to those that remained to continue this new transition and expansion for our community.

If interested in volunteering and joining us please contact our Volunteer/Program Coordinator Tabitha Brown – 203-488-9750 (ext.2). For those in need of services please contact Kathy Poston, North Branford Senior Center – 203-484-6017.

Sincerely,
Dan Armin

A 2020 ELECTION ISSUE

The 2020 Democrat presidential candidates have called out Trump's drone strike on an Iranian terrorist as an "assassination" and decry his authority to do so without consulting Congress and our allies. On 1/3/20 Soleimani was killed in retaliation for an assault on US defense contractors on 12/27/19 (1 killed, 4 wounded) and an attack on our Iraqi embassy on 12/31/19. He had been on our terror list since 2011 in part because he was in charge of Iran's "extraterritorial military and clandestine operations" (i.e., terrorism?). This warrants an examination of the precedent for such action.

The previous administration used strategic drones as its principal means of controlling terrorists. In his first year as president, Obama ordered more drone strikes than Bush in his eight. (Bureau of Investigative Journalism, 1/17/17). On one day in 2013 covert CIA drones executed Mullah Wazir in Pakistan and 3 "suspected" Al Qaeda in Yemen. By 2012, US drones in Pakistan had killed 881 civilians, including 176 children. (CNN Wire Staff 9/25/12). Obama ordered US citizens killed overseas without trial or warning. In the spring of 2013, CIA director Brennan justified these drone strikes: "There is nothing in international law that bans the use of remotely piloted aircraft for this purpose or that prohibits us from using lethal force against our enemies outside of an active battlefield, at least when the country involved consents or is unable or unwilling to take action against the threat."

Droning of terrorists was accepted with perverse statistical optimism: "civilian casualties began to fall as Obama's first term progressed, both in real terms and as a rate of civilians reported killed per strike." (BOIJ 1/17/17) In 2016 the ACLU filed a lawsuit seeking information: "The government continues to conceal the identities of people it has killed, the specific definitions it uses to decide who can legitimately be targeted, and its investigations into credibly alleged wrongful killings." After 7 years and 8 months of droning, Obama issued an 18-page report of his drone approval process, justifying drone killings when "individual's activities pose a continuing, imminent threat to US persons." Labeled the "President's Policy Guidance," it described how executions were reviewed internally by the agency performing them (the CIA), then by Obama's NSC, with the president having final say. Neither Congress nor any US ally was in the loop. No one complained.

Critics have described Obama's policy as "Lethal sterility: innovative dehumanization in legal justifications of... drone policy," and criticized his attempt "to unilaterally rewrite the law of armed conflict to permit the killing of 'terrorist suspects' and 'suspected terrorists' outside of an active battlefield." (Bachman & Holland, 3/15/19). Obama's policy thus left a legacy of thousands of unexplained and never-justified drone killings, a complete absence of any external control and the acceptance of collateral damage in the form of innocent civilians and children.

Thankfully, the complaint about Soleimani concerns only the single killing of a confirmed terrorist that caused absolutely no collateral damage. In this light, perhaps the recent complaint has more to do with excusing Obama's failure to count this Iranian terrorist among his targets.

© D. Kirt Westfall 2/9/2020 with special rights of republication to the Totoket Times.

"Loyalist will say anything..."

Dear Editor;

It now seems the shameless loyalist right will say and do anything to defend a rookie public servant with a 40 year career of bankruptcies, lawsuits and fines for fraudulent business practices.

(A) To help his OWN 2020 campaign, this guy dangled \$391 Million of OUR tax dollars to pry an anti-Joe Biden statement out of Ukraine's President Zelensky.

(B) When he was caught, this LCB* obstructed Congress by ordering his inner circle to disobey all bipartisan House Committee requests for sworn testimonies.

Any sharp high schooler can read Article II Section 4 of our Constitution (plus widely-published Supreme Court interpretations) and explain to you how (A) and (B) above are clear grounds for presidential impeachment.

The "Duck Soup" essay by D. Kirt Westfall in the February 21, 2020 Totoket Times simply regurgitates the unsupportable deflections used by the right wing defense team during the Senate Impeachment trial.

Sincerely,
Jack Hearn Jr.

A Paranormal Experience with Trance Medium Chrystyne Mcgrath

PRESENTED BY THE SMITH LIBRARY
APRIL 8TH AT 6PM

Everything you want to know about the "Other Side". Chrystyne will discuss her experiences as a Medium, Paranomal "Cleaner", Dowser and Healer.



Register ahead of time with the Smith Library
Call (203) 484-0469
Or visit us at 3 Old Post Rd Northford.

NORTH BRANFORD BARBERSHOP



HAIR CUTS
MEN \$12.00
SENIOR &
KIDS UNDER 10
\$10.00

TUES. 8:30 - 5:30 WED. 8:30 - 5:30
THUR. 8:30 - 5:30. FRI. 8:30-5:30
SAT. 8:30-3:30 CLOSED SUN. & MON.
~ WALK-INS ONLY ~

OWNER- ROBERT VIGLIONE
1179 FOXON RD, NORTH BRANFORD | (203) 484-6789

North Branford Joins Sustainable CT

PRESS RELEASE On February 27th, the Town of North Branford registered to join a growing number of communities across the state participating in Sustainable CT, an exciting program to support Connecticut’s cities and towns. The statewide initiative, created by towns for towns, includes a detailed menu of sustainability best practices, tools and resources, peer learning, and recognition. Over 50% of Connecticut’s municipalities are now registered to participate in Sustainable CT. The second cohort of certified communities was announced in October of 2019. Collectively 27% of the state’s cities and towns have achieved certification.


“Achieving Certification will ensure several of the objectives of the Town’s Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) are met” according to Roger Salway, Economic Development Coordinator. .

The Sustainable CT platform supports a broad range of actions, such as improving watershed management, supporting arts and creative culture, reducing energy use and increasing renewable energy, implementing “complete streets” (streets that meet the needs of walkers and bikers as well as cars), improving recycling programs, assessing climate vulnerability, supporting local businesses, and providing efficient and diverse housing options. There is no cost to participate and communities voluntarily select actions that meet their unique, local character and long-term vision. After successful implementation of a variety of actions, municipalities are eligible for Sustainable CT certification.

The initiative was developed under the leadership of the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University in partnership with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. Three Connecticut philanthropies - The Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, the Smart Seed Fund, and the Common Sense Fund – have supported the program’s development and launch.

“We are thrilled that North Branford has registered to join Sustainable CT. The program builds on many current success stories in our communities to create and support more great places to live, work, and play,” said Lynn Stoddard, Director of the Institute for Sustainable Energy. “We are looking forward to working with the Town as they pursue Sustainable CT certification.”

For more information on Sustainable CT see the program’s website: www.sustainablect.org.



Ungardening 101


Living in Harmony with Native Flora and Fauna

Ecologist Aubree Keurajian will be at the
Smith Library to discuss the benefits of "ungardening".
She'll help answer:

- How we can maintain our yards in a more ecologically friendly way?
- What's the importance of native plants, especially those we may consider weeds?
- What are the problems with invasive plant species?
- Why you might want to start "ungardening"?

Tuesday March 17th at 6:00PM
Register with the Smith Library
3 Old Post Rd Northford 203-484-0469

A follow up plant identification workshop will be held June 9th!



Lee J's Auto Sales & Service

1239 Foxon Rd. (Next to Big Y)
203 - 484 - 7371

See **CARFAX** & Pictures online at Leejsautos.com

No Dealer Fees!
No Waiting at DMV. We have Plates Here!



This Week's

2004 Honda Civic 4DR SDN EX Auto	\$2,995
2004 Toyota Camry SDN LE AT	\$3,995
1998 BMW 7 Series 4DR SDN	\$3,995
2005 Honda Civic SDN LX MT SE	\$3,995
2007 Honda Civic SDN 4DR AT LX	\$4,495
2010 Honda Civic SDn 4DR AT DX -VP	\$6,995
2008 Honda Fit 5DR HB Auto	\$4,995
2012 Mazda 2. 4 DR HB Auto Sport	\$4,995
2009 Honda Civic SDN 4 DR Auto LX	\$5,995
2004 Highlander Limited w/third row	\$5,995
2009 Toyota RAV 4 4WD 4DR AT Sport	\$6,995
2012 Honda Civic SDN AT LX	\$7,495
2005 Toyota Sequoia Limited 4WD	\$8,495
2011 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4WD	\$11,500
2004 Lexus LS 430	\$10,995
2015 KIA Optima 4 DR SD EX	\$11,995
2008 Ford 150 4x4 quad Cab 119K	\$10,995
2011 Ram 1500 4WD Quad Cab 140.5"	\$11,995
2013 Lexus ES 350 4 DR SDN	\$12,995



I recently purchased a Toyota Sienna from Lee J's and I am very pleased with it. The car is as advertised/described, and I was able to drive it off the lot with full registration the same day. I would recommend this smaller dealership if you need a car in a more affordable price range and you need to know the price up front rather than having fee after fee tacked on as other places commonly do. I was allowed to bring my mechanic in to verify the car before purchasing, and that was important to me. I look forward to many years driving my sweet minivan, and will send my friends and family to Lee J's if they need a quality used car. Therese Dillon.

At a recent joint meeting (open to the public), of the North Branford Town Council and Board of Education, the architectural firm of QA + M presented three options for improving our high

The options included; renovate as new, renovate as new with added building expansion or tear down and build new completely.

The information below was taken from the North Branford Board of Education website, where the complete presentation and details can be found.

MAINTAIN EXISTING FACILITY - LIMITED STATE REIMBURSEMENT

- Update the building to meet all Codes including Health, Life Safety, Building, Fire and ADA deficiencies
- HAZMAT Remediation
- Address educational program deficiencies and NEASC Citations
- Evaluate and Update the building MEP & FP Systems and Infrastructure
- Analyze energy utilization and develop a solution that meets High Performance Building Standards
- Address School Safety & Security
- Address Title IX deficiencies
- Minimize disruption to education during construction
- Maximize State Reimbursement
- Provide a 21st Century Learning Environment

APPROACH

- Develop a Phased Approach to Renovating the building and minimize disruption to education
- Right Size the building to limit sprawl and maximize state reimbursement
- Remediate HAZMAT and address all Codes including Health, Life Safety, Building, Fire and ADA
- Replace the building MEP & FF Systems and Infrastructure
- Address Moisture / Vapor Infiltration
- Analyze energy utilization and develop a solution that meets High Performance Building Standards
- Address School Safety & Security & comply with Title IX
- Address NEASC Citations and provide a 21st Century Learning Environment



RENOVATE AS NEW - STATE REIMBURSEMENT (51.07% OF ELIGIBLE WORK)

- * The Building, Site and Infrastructure must meet an "As New" Level
- * Requires application and approval from the State OSCG&R
- * Update the building to meet all Codes including Health, Life Safety, Building, Fire and ADA deficiencies
- * HAZMAT Remediation
- * Address educational program deficiencies and NEASC Citations
- * Evaluate and Update the building MEP & FP Systems and Infrastructure
- * Analyze energy utilization and develop a solution that meets High Performance Building Standards
- * Address School Safety & Security
- * Address Title IX deficiencies
- * Minimize disruption to education during construction
- * Maximize State Reimbursement
- * Provide a 21st Century Learning Environment

APPROACH

- ❖ Develop a Phased Approach to Renovating the building and minimize disruption to education
- ❖ Right Size the building to limit sprawl and maximize state reimbursement
- ❖ Remediate HAZMAT and address all Codes including Health, Life Safety, Building, Fire and ADA
- ❖ Replace the building MEP & FF Systems and Infrastructure
- ❖ Address Moisture / Vapor Infiltration
- ❖ Analyze energy utilization and develop a solution that meets High Performance Building Standards
- ❖ Address School Safety & Security & comply with Title IX
- ❖ Address NEASC Citations and provide a 21st Century Learning Environment



NEW HIGH SCHOOL - STATE REIMBURSEMENT (41.07% OF ELIGIBLE WORK)

- Update the building to meet all Codes including Health, Life Safety, Building, Fire and ADA deficiencies
- HAZMAT Remediation
- Address educational program deficiencies and NEASC Citations
- Evaluate and Update the building MEP & FP Systems and Infrastructure
- Analyze energy utilization and develop a solution that meets High Performance Building Standards
- Address School Safety & Security
- Address Title IX deficiencies
- Minimize disruption to education during construction
- Maximize State Reimbursement
- Provide a 21st Century Learning Environment

APPROACH

- ❖ Develop a Two Phased Approach to construct a new facility and demolish existing building
- ❖ Right Size the building to limit sprawl and maximize state reimbursement
- ❖ Address all Codes including Health, Life Safety, Building, Fire and ADA
- ❖ New building MEP & FP Systems and Infrastructure
- ❖ Address Moisture / Vapor Infiltration
- ❖ Meet High Performance Building Standards and potential for NET ZERO Building
- ❖ Address School Safety & Security & comply with Title IX
- ❖ Address NEASC Citations and provide a 21st Century Learning Environment
- ❖ Improved Parking, Circulation and Building Presence



Hard Costs - Construction	\$ 46,495,616
Construction - \$40,500,574	
Design & Bid Contingency - \$2,951,442	
Escalation - \$2,394,600	
Phasing - \$649,000	
Soft Costs	\$ 8,364,274
Contingency - \$2,612,376	
Project Development - \$5,751,898	
Total Project Budget	\$ 54,859,890
Estimated State Reimbursement	<u>\$ 12,869,769</u>
<i>Estimated Cost to North Branford</i>	<i>\$ 41,990,121</i>

- Estimated 37.0% Ineligible
- Space Standard reduction Rate 43.83%
- Reimbursement Rate: 51.07%(2017-18)
- 8 Year High Enrollment: 524 in Year 2019-2020

RENOVATE "AS NEW"	
Hard Costs - Construction	\$ 52,381,752
Construction - \$45,249,513	
Design & Bid Contingency - \$3,326,592	
Escalation - \$2,677,847	
Phasing - \$1,127,800	
Soft Costs	\$ 9,459,608
Contingency - \$2,944,827	
Project Development - \$6,514,781	
Total Project Budget	<u>\$ 61,841,360</u>
Estimated State Reimbursement	<u>\$ 23,970,268</u>
<i>Estimated Cost to North Branford</i>	<i>\$ 37,871,092</i>

- Estimated 2.0% Ineligible
- Space Standard reduction Rate 43.83%
- Reimbursement Rate: 51.07%(2017-18)
- 8 Year High Enrollment: 524 in Year 2019-2020
- * Requires approval from State OSCG&R

NEW CONSTRUCTION	
Hard Costs - Construction	\$ 51,275,293
Construction - \$46,377,171	
Design & Bid Contingency - \$2,220,275	
Escalation - \$2,677,847	
Phasing - \$0	
Soft Costs	\$ 9,658,484
Contingency - \$2,901,626	
Project Development - \$6,756,858	
Total Project Budget	\$ 60,934,140
Estimated State Reimbursement	\$ 21,046,265
<i>Estimated Cost to North Branford</i>	<i>\$ 39,887,876</i>

- Estimated 3.0% Ineligible
- Space Standard reduction Rate 37.81%
- Reimbursement Rate: 41.07%(2017-18) For New Facilities
- 8 Year High Enrollment: 524 in Year 2019-2020

The North Brnaford Education Foundation will feature stuffed breads for Easter.

Simply fill out the form and mail it in the the North Branford Education Foundation, PO Box 504, Northford, Ct 06472

Breads will be provided by Venice Bakery. All breads are priced at \$10 each and 50% of that will be donated to the Ed Foundation.

Make checks payable to NBEF and you will be called for pickup and delivery arrangements.

All orders must be in by April 4th.



VENICE BAKERY
STUFFED BREAD FUNDRAISER
North Branford Education Foundation

[illegible]



Ed Foundation Grants \$2,000

The North Branford Education Foundation recently awarded a \$2,000 grant for an outdoor classroom at Jerome Harrison Elementary School. The funds will be used to create an outdoor classroom for all the students from Pre-K to second grade. There will be an area to fully harvest fruits and vegetables, all to be harvested by the end of the school year.

The second area would involve a space to investigate as they learn. There will be magnifying glasses, prisms, measuring tapes, bug observation boxes and much more, the children will have this special education on how nature works.

Thirdly, there will be a section for the children and teachers to create natural art. There will also be an area for play and pretend, and lastly a space to meditate and relax in the midst of some of their own creations.

Picture left to right are PTO President Jillian Shove, Project Chairperson Melissa Gionfriddo and School Principal Beth Parker.

North Branford Scholarship Association Looking for Applicants & Sponsors

The North Branford Scholarship Association announces that applications for scholarship awards are available at the town libraries and the North Branford High School Guidance Office. Graduating high school seniors living in North Branford regardless of what school they graduate from are eligible. Applications must be in by March 30, 2020. Our fund drive is also being run at this time. If anyone would like to make a donation or help us raise monies for the students please call Lars Selander at 203 483-1311.

THEY MAKE US PROUD

Rachel Helwig was named to the Dean's List at Jacksonville University in Jacksonville FL.

Michelle Theilgard was named to the Dean's List at Stonehill College in Easton, MA

Daniel McCormack was named to the Dean's List at Bryant University in Smithfield, RI.

Miles Pappolla, Noah Ackerman and Ethan Despres were named to the Dean's List at the University of Hartford in West Hartford,

Israel Hart has been named to the Dean's List at Purchase College in Purchase, NY.

Lauren Madoule was named to the Dean's List at Husson University in Bangor, ME.

Paige Megill Art Exhibit at WCSU

Amanda Paige Megill a painter from Northford, CT will be in an upcoming thesis exhibition at WCSU on March 26, from 6 to 8PM. Amana earned her BA in Studio Art from Western Connecticut State University where she is also receiving her MFA as well.

Her group exhibition will include her most recent works, in oil paint on canvas or board and her charcoals on board or paper. She has worked very hard these past two years, creating subject matter reminiscent of those she was close to and lost. Her current series incorporates chairs, painted from observation at odd, unexpected angles and cropped to focus on surprising details. They become otherworldly and often abstract, executed with brushes and pallet knife. her works have been exhibited throughout Connecticut and most recently in Newport, Rhode Island.

Superstars Rescheduled

Save the date April 24, 2020

**The Harlem Rockets will be playing
the North Branford All Stars
on April 24, 2020 High School Gym at 7:00PM.
Tickets will be \$8.00 in advance and
\$10. at the door.**

**Tickets will be available at the schools in a few
weeks but save the date.**

for quesstions, call Frank at 203-410-4254

J Cakes
St. Patrick's Day at JCakes



Cupcake Flavors:
Guinness
Bailey's
Mint
Green Velvet
Pot of Gold

Please call to place an order

www.j-cakes.com • 203-488-2800

5 Foxon Road, North Branford (Farm River Plaza)

Connecticut Sportsplex Fieldhouse Family Fun Center

**LASER TAG • CYBER SPORT
PLAYSCAPE • ARCADE**

PIZZA • BURGERS • HOT DOGS • FRIES • NACHOS

SOFT SERVE - ICE CREAM • FOXON PARK SODA

*****AND A WHOLE LOT MORE*****

**BOOK YOUR BIRTHDAY PARTY TODAY
LASER TAG • PLAYSCAPE • SPORTS PARTY**

For more information
Call 203-484-4383 or visit www.ctsportsplex.com



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

**Openings currently
available.**


1680 Foxon Road (Rt. 80)

North Branford, CT

203-481-3909

www.weecarenb.com





More Buzz on the Pollinator Pathway!

Enhance your Sunflowers with Ever Blooming Wildflowers

So, what is a Pollinator Pathway? It is a wildlife corridor providing habitat and nutrition for pollinators. It includes healthy yards and public spaces for pollinators, pets and families. Our native pollinators (bees, moths, butterflies, etc.) are in trouble. Like us, they need food, water, shelter and places to raise their young without pesticides. Native flowers are needed all season long to create a succession of blooms for food and reproduction. Leaf litter along the edge of your yard or under shrubs is shelter in fall and winter.

You can “Bee” part of the Pollinator Pathway by planting native plants, going pesticide free and rethinking your lawn.

The CT Department of Transportation announced in May that they are establishing pollinator corridors in select locations along our highways as well as adding over 50 locations statewide to serve as “Conservation Areas” for pollinators, allowing existing wildflowers to bloom, set seed and propagate themselves, thus increasing food and habitat for pollinators. Some early blooming plants that attract pollinators are pussy willow and red maple trees, high bush blueberry shrubs and wild geranium flowers (geranium maculatum).

Did you know that 35% of our food grows as a result of the work pollinators do? You are invited to learn more about how to help and protect pollinators on **March 17th at 6 pm** at the Edward Smith Library, where Aubrey Keurajian will speak about Ungardening, how we can make safe places for pollinators. Mark your calendar for our other upcoming programs: Emily May from the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation will speak on **April 21st at 6:30 pm** at the Atwater Library; Mary Hogue will give an overview and history of the Pollinator Pathway Program on **May 19th at 6:30 pm** at Atwater; Aubree from Ungardening will speak again on **June 9th at 6:00 pm** at Edward Smith Library, this time about plant identification.

All programs are sponsored by the North Branford Land Conservation Trust and our wonderful NB Libraries.

It’s Pickup TimeAgain

The **March 20**, issue of the Totoket Times will not be mailed. Once again, our readers can pick it up at any of the following locations. **The paper will go back to mail home delivery for April publications.**

North Branford

North Branford Town Hall
Atwater Memorial Library
Hair Designs
MT Cobbler
Townline Wine & Spirits
RV’s Quick Mart Cafe & Cigar Gallery
Patco Mobil
Cumberland Farms
North Branford Post Office
North Branford Barbershop

Northford

Rte 22 Chat N Chew
Patco Mobil
Edward Smith Memorial Library
TJ’s Launderette
North Branford Park & Recreation
North Branford Education Central Office
Townline Wine & Spirits
Northford Post Office

If you are unable to get out to pickup the paper, you can read the entire edition by going to

www.totokettimes.com

call Frank with any questions at 203-410-4254.

Recycling News

Next Electronics Recycling

Saturday March 7, 2020 9:00 AM - Noon

North Branford Recycling Center (Public Works - Rte.22)

Please do not leave e-waste (including TVs, computers, printers) curbside; it will not get picked up!

Residents may also drop off: cell phones, empty propane tanks* and batteries (rechargeable and alkaline).
Helium tanks no longer accepted.

Propane Tank Fees*	
1 lb (camping), 5 lb, 20 lb (std gas grill)	\$2
10 lb	\$5
30 lb	\$8
40 lb	\$10

Call for more info at recycling hotline: 203-484-4091

Take 2 Electronics, has a site open to all CT residents to bring electronics for recycling.

Located at 122 Avenue of Industry in Waterbury; no charge.

Hours are Monday thru Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Saturdays from 8:00 AM till Noon.

You may also attend another recycling event listed on their website; check under One-Day events for a date/location convenient for you.

For more information call 800-209-9322, or visit their website: take2recycle.com

Simple Recycling Weekly Curbside Collection Program

Started in North Branford in November

If you would like to participate in this program, please use the Simple Recycling pink bags you received with the program info. Fill with unwanted clothing, shoes, accessories, toys, small usable household items and more to help keep these items out of our trash.

Place bags next to your recycling bin at the curb on your regular trash pickup day by 7am.

A Simple Recycling truck will pick up your pink bags between 7am and 5pm and leave new bags.

If you have not received your program info in the mail, need additional bags or want to see a full list of accepted items, go to www.simplerecycling.com or email at info@simplerecycling.com

This program is free to our town and to our residents and offers an easy, convenient way to recycle.

BULKY WASTE PICKUP (TWICE A YEAR)

Week of April 20th and November 9th on your scheduled pickup day

No home cleanouts

Earth Day 2020

Celebrate Earth Day’s 50th anniversary; this year’s theme is climate action.

Stay tuned for our town’s Earth Day date and more info.

Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, GFWC presents program on Geriatric Care Management

Bernadette DiGiulian, a Geriatric Care Manager, will be speaking on Tuesday, March 17th at the General Assembly meeting of the Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, GFWC and the public is invited to attend. Geriatric Care Management is a comprehensive approach to help older adults and their families. Bernadette is the owner of Elder Caring LLC, which provides assessments, consultations, care management, help with placement, advocacy and help with home care. The meeting starts at 7pm at the Stanley T. Williams Community Center, 1332 Middletown Avenue, Northford. For more information about the Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, GFWC, contact Stephanie Thaller at StephanieThaller@gmail.com, visit our website at www.northfordwomensclub.org or check us out on Facebook.

North Branford Parks & Recreation and Senior Center

STW Community Center 1332 Middletown Ave Northford

www.nbrecreation.com • call (203) 484-6017

Follow us on Facebook! @NBParksandRecreation



THE 2020 SPRING/ SUMMER BROCHURE IS HERE!!

ACTIVITIES

YOGA TO RELEASE THE WEEK

Who: Ages 13+
When: March 12 - April 30
Time: Thursday, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Fee: \$75
Instructor: Bhogah Yoga Staff
Description: Appropriate for all ages and levels. A fluid (vinyasa) class taught with basic foundation poses, alignment and options for the beginner students, as well as, seasoned practitioners. This class will focus on releasing the stress of your busy week in both the mind and body leaving all students with more space to breathe, ease in their body and calm in their mind. All classes will be specifically designed to the students' needs who are attending.

GENTLE YOGA

Who: Ages 13+
When: March 13 - May 1
Time: Friday, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Fee: \$75
Instructor: Bhogah Yoga Staff
Description: A gentle yoga class designed to softly open tight areas of the body while strengthening muscles and reinforcing balance. Breathing and relaxation techniques will be taught to assist in releasing stress and finding mental clarity. Much of this class is taught on the floor with very little transitioning between standing and sitting. The use of props serves to make the yoga poses more accessible to those attending the class. This class is supportive of people working with injuries or chronic conditions. This practice is suitable for all ages and levels.

TODDLER TIME ART

Who: Ages 3 - 4
When: March 31 - April 21 (no class 4/14)(\$42)
Time: Tuesday, 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Fee: \$55
Instructor: Elena Bigio, Kidscapades
Description: Does your child like to glue, paint, and use glitter but you don't want the mess at home? In this class we explore different materials and the mess stays here! Creativity is encouraged and unique art projects are made based on seasons, holidays, books and characters.

SIZZLING SCIENCE

Who: Ages 5 - 8
When: March 31 - April 21 (no class 4/14)(\$42)
Time: Tuesday, 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Fee: \$55
Instructor: Elena Bigio, Kidscapades
Description: Come fizz, pop and boom with Sizzling Science! Each week children will discover the fun and fascinating world of science through amazing hands-on experiments, some with an eruption component. Future scientiss will be engaged and inspired!

NEW TODDLER SENSORY SCIENCE

Who: Ages 3 - 4
When: March 31 - April 21 (no class 4/14)(\$42)
Time: Tuesday, 11:00 - 12:00 pm
Fee: \$55
Instructor: Elena Bigio, Kidscapades
Description: Squish, pop, mix, and fizz with Toddler Sensory Science! Toddlers will discover the fun world of sensory and science through hands on science experiments and messy sensory explorations!

IMAGINATION STATION

Who: Ages 2 - 3
When: March 18 - May 6
Time: Wednesday, 9:00 - 9:30 am
Fee: \$35
Instructor: Sharon DiCrosta, Owner of The Dancer's Studio
Description: Imagination Station is a creative movement class that introduces children to the joy of movement and music. Basic motor skills will be challenged as we develop rhythm and imagination in an atmosphere of fun!

TRANSFORM LIVE/PIYO

Who: Ages 16+
When: March 25 - May 13
Time: Wednesdays, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Fee: \$65
Instructor: Jennifer Arabolos
Description: Get ready to sculpt your core, legs, glutes, and upper body through the use of a step! Transform LIVE offers progressions and regressions that make the class accessible and effective for everyone. Modifications can be made for those who cannot use a step.

North Branford Senior Center

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

Senior Hot Lunch available - \$3 - Monday – Friday, 12:00 p.m.

Check out the menu at www.nbrecreation.com

Lunch orders need to be placed by 10:00 am



Weekly grocery shopping trip on Tuesdays at 12:30.

Now going to Shoprite twice a month!



Never miss a monthly newsletter and sign up for email or snail mail delivery (snail mail \$8 for the year).

Weekday transportation to the Center available to town Residents

Please call by 9am

BUS TRIPS

The Hearth at Gardenside, Friday, March 20, 11:00am, LIMITED SEATING, Sign up required - We will be treated to lunch prior to playing BINGO, .10¢ a card!

Dollar Tree, Friday, March 27, 12:45pm, FREE

Get your dollar items at the Dollar Tree in Branford!

ACTIVITIES

Social Service Programs, Thursday, March 12, 12:45pm, FREE

Luisa Breen, Assistant Director of Social Services will explain the social service programs offered within our town and answer any questions you may have.

Effective Communication Strategies Friday, March 13, 12:45pm, FREE

- Communication is more than just talking and listening, it's about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. Join us to explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Presented by the Alzheimer's Association.

VNA Sittercise Program, Mondays, March 16-June 8, 12:45pm, \$15 payable to the VNA

- A specially designed program for those 60 and older who are at a risk for falls. Exercises can be modified for each person's fitness level. Increase your muscle strength, improve flexibility, gait and balance.

Mohegan Sun, Wednesday, March 25, 8:00am, \$15

Enjoy a day at the casino, shopping, gambling, and eating! Receive a free \$10 bet and a \$15 food voucher. Reserve your seat today.

Hot Topics, Monday, March 30, 10:30am, FREE

The East Shore Health District Nurse Educators will present this month's The Hot Topic.

Who wants to solve a mystery?

Do you enjoy a good crossword puzzle, Sudoku, or reading a good mystery? Are you an armchair detective, a board game enthusiast, a fan of the crime genre? This new group may be just what you are looking for.

It will be a 3 month biweekly program that will exercise mental agility while having fun with friends.



*Please sign up at the front desk
if you are interested.*

The Arm Chair Detectives



Curious what TAI CHI is all about? Try one class for FREE!

INTRODUCTION TO SENIOR TAI CHI

Instructor: Martin Reichgut, MD

Marty will use the flowing, meditative movements of this ancient Chinese martial art to improve balance, strength, endurance, flexibility, coordination, concentration, and memory. He will demonstrate how we can use Tai Chi's self-defense strategies to reduce our stress and protect ourselves from the repeated assaults of everyday life.

New Session begins March 18th!

Wednesdays 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Fee: \$40

We are looking for Camp Counselors for Kids Camp!!

Looking for a summer job?

Stop by the STW Community Center and pick up an application!

Camp begins June 22! (Must be 16+)

Please submit applications by April 10th

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; northfordcc@gmail.com Office Hours: Tuesday 9am - 1pm; other days by appointment. Rev. Robin Blundon, Acting Pastor. Jane K. Leschuk Minister of Music. Worship Service 10am. Join us for coffee hour following worship. Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Like us on Facebook. Our website is www.northfordcongregational.church

St. Ambrose Parish 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, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday at 9:00am 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.

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). We celebrate the Holy Eucharist every Sunday at 10:00am. Coffee and fellowship always follows. All are welcome. Please join us - we'd love to get to know you! St. Andrew's is the proud home of the Food Pantry of North Branford - a vital community resource serving families in need in Northford and North Branford. St. Andrew's also partners with St. Pauly Textile in a broad outreach program to help people in need here in the U.S. and around the world. Donations of usable clothing, shoes, belts, purses, sheets, blankets and stuffed animals may be made at the donation shed in the church parking lot. We are a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry. The Rev. Jim Bradley is Missioner In Charge and we have rotating clergy serving the parishes of St. Andrew's as well as 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; Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-710-7005; MACM office, 860-345-0058; or Rev. Bradley, 203-525-6846.

Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. 203-488-7395 Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar. In June we begin with single summer service of Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.. The first Sunday in September we return to two services of Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 a.m. Music and two safe church certified babysitters are available for childcare during the 9 a.m. service and at the latter service September – May. Healing prayer is offered after each service on the second Sunday of each month. Please visit our Facebook page or our website www.zionepiscopalchurch.org. Zion is a registered Integrity Episcopal Believe Outloud Congregation, a designation earmarking Zion as an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ.

Death Notice - David Charles Batty

David Charles Batty, 64, of Northford, CT passed away on February 15, 2020 at Branford Hospice after a long illness.

The son of Joseph and Shirley (Harrison) Batty, also of Northford, he was predeceased by his own son, David C. Batty Jr. He is survived by his wife Marta Gonzalez, and his sisters, Joan Rice and Cindy Prodotti, of Northford, and Carol Cove, of Wrentham Massachusetts. David also has four loving nieces, three great nephews and a great niece.

David graduated from Eli Whitney Technical High School. He then served our country for four years in the United States Naval Construction Battalions, better known as the Navy Seabees. After discharge, he worked as a plumber, first for Petry Plumbing of Northford, and later for 25 years at Yale University, until he retired in 2018.

A life long resident of Northford, David truly loved the town. He volunteered his time coaching in youth baseball and football programs. Later, he also became a member of Northford's Company 3 Fire Department and an EMT for Ambulance 4.

David was a caring, sensitive man of great integrity who deeply loved his family and friends. He had a great sense of humor. His motto was “ find something to laugh about every day.” He loved to travel and was especially fond of his trips to Rio de Janeiro, Paris and Uruguay. He also loved black jelly beans, red wine, The Rolling Stones, and was an avid fan of The Minnesota Vikings.

Donations in David's memory can be made to Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, 1 Park Street, New Haven, CT.



STOVE CIRCUITS RE-WIRED AND UPGRADED FOR ST. PATRICK'S DINNER

All we need are people to fill the table settings in the photo. **Stove circuits were re-wired and upgraded** in time for the community corned beef and cabbage dinner to help raise funds for Northford Congregational Church, “A Little Church with a Big Heart.” This year's dinner will be on time. It begins at 5:30 p.m., Sat., Mar. 14, and is limited to 50 people in the church's social hall. Take-out dinners can be picked up at 4:30 p.m. if ordered in advance. The menu includes corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, dessert, coffee, and tea.

The **deadline for reservations and advance payment is March 7.** Adults are \$18 and children under age 12 are \$10. For reservations and questions, call 203-234-7794 (Peter) or 203-484-0794 (Aloha). Checks payable to Northford Congregational Church should be mailed to: Peter Jenkin, 32 Fieldstone Ct., North Haven CT 06473-2892, before the Mar. 7, deadline. All meals must be paid for in advance.

The historic Northford Congregational Church, “A Little Church with a Big Heart,” (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. Website: www.northfordcongregational.church **Note new email address:** northfordcc@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook.

Bible Study at NCC

Northford Congregational Church, “A Little Church with a Big Heart,” welcomes everyone to Bible Study on Mondays at 10 a.m. downstairs in the church social hall. The book of Romans will be studied. Contact Aloha at 203- 484-0794 with any questions.

The 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. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday and other days by appointment. Website: www.northfordcongregational.church **Note new email address:** northfordcc@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook.

North Branford Congregational Church

CHICKEN PIE SUPPER

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Please join us for our original Chicken Pie with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, dessert and coffee. Tickets - \$18 per person, children 7-14 - tickets \$9 each and no charge for children under the age of 5. Seating - 5:30 To reserve tickets or any questions please call Carol Sabia at 203.208.2944.

Soul Thirsts: Lent 2020 at North Branford Congregational Church, 1680 Foxon Road, North Branford

Is your soul thirsty? Come be refreshed and renewed this Lent with services and teaching that will help your thirsty soul find living water. Need an oasis of calm in life's busyness? Try our meditative midweek Taizé services. Longing for healing from life's hurts? Be blessed at our healing service. Craving more forgiveness, love, hope, patience, peace and trust in your life? Explore with us on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM as we see what Scripture says about these Lenten topics. Any questions please call the church office at 203.488.8456.

Schedule of Services

WEDNESDAY SERVICES are at 7:00 PM

March 18 & April 1 – Taizé Service (a reflective service with meditative music)

March 11 – Prayer Stations (a hands-on engaging prayer experience)


March 25 – Healing Service (seek God's healing through prayer and oil anointing)

Public Stargazing at Young’s Park in Branford

This is the first public viewing event for 2020! The Astronomical Society of New Haven is hosting a free stargazing event on Saturday March 14th at 7pm at Young’s Park, 60 Blackstone Ave. in Branford.

Admission and parking are free. All are welcome, including children and grandparents. The telescopes will be pointed at Venus and the Orion Nebula and you will learn how to find them when you get home. It will be a dark night so there will be some nice deep sky objects to find through the telescopes. The other 2020 dates are April 25, May 16, June 13, October 24 and November 14. Directions and cancellation due to weather (including clouds) will be posted to our website, www.asnh.org or call 866-808-ASNH.

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



ENGAGE EDUCATE ENTERTAIN

Atwater Memorial Library
1720 Foxon Road
North Branford, CT 06471
203-315-6020

Edward Smith Library
3 Old Post Road
Northford, CT 06472
203-484-0469

www.nbranfordlibraries.org

MONDAYS	6:00-8:00	Let's play Mah Jongg! Monday Night Mah Jongg is for those looking for someone to play the game with, or a group of players looking to join! Players of all skill levels welcome
MAR 17	6:00PM	Ungardening 101: Living in Harmony with Native Flora and Fauna. Ecologist Aubree Keurajian will discuss how we can maintain our yards in a more ecologically friendly way, the importance of native plants, especially some we may consider “weeds”
MAR 18	6:30PM	Local author Janet Barrett returns to discuss her new book, Comanche & His Captain: the Warhorse & the Soldier of Fortune. Against the fury of the Civil War, she tells the intertwined stories of the tough mustang Comanche and Capt. Myles Keogh
MAR 21	2:00PM	Titanic for Dummies author & University of New Haven Prof. Stephen Spignesi presents a fascinating illustrated lecture about the most famous shipwreck in world history
MAR 11	10:30AM	KIDS! St. Paddy's Day Story Time. Help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a morning of St. Paddy's stories, craft, songs & snack. Please register by calling 203-315-6020
WED	10:30AM	KIDS! Baby & Me. Join us Wednesdays for a playful morning of songs, bouncy rhymes, reading along to fun board books and sharing ideas about parenting issues. For babies birth to 18 months
M W TH	10:30 M, TH 4:30 WED	KIDS! WeeRock Toddler Time. Join Miss Donna for a playful 30-minute session of music and movement, fingerplays, songs and stories! For ages 6 months-5 years. No registration

EGG MY YARD!

SUPPORT THE NBFD C04 AMBULANCE

THE EASTER BUNNY IS VISITING NORTH BRANFORD!

WE WILL DELIVER A BASKET FULL OF EASTER EGGS ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL 11TH, 2020 BEGINNING AT 6PM.

THE EASTER BUNNY WILL LEAVE A NOTE WITH A BASKEET FULL OF CANDY FILLED EGGS BY YOUR FRONT DOOR.

\$20 FOR FIRST 2 DOZEN EGGS WITH 1 BASKET : \$8 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL DOZEN : \$5 FOR ADDITIONAL BASKETS

BASKETS CAN ONLY BE DELIEVERED IN NORTH BRANFORD/NORTHFORD
PLEASE MAKE SURE CHILDREN ARE AWAY FROM WINDOWS FACING THE FRONT DOOR AFTER 6PM

FOR MORE QUESTIONS AND TO ORDER PLEASE CONTACT:
SHANNON CELATA (EMAIL PREFERRED)
SHANNON.KILBURN53@GMAIL.COM
203-215-9447 (TEXTS OK)

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT NBFD C04

PLEASE HAVE FOLLOWING INFORMATION INCLUDED IN YOUR EMAIL:

NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE NUMBER
EMAIL
NAME OF CHILDREN PARTICIPATING
HOW MANY DOZEN EGGS (AFTER FIRST 2 WITH BASKET)
ADDITIONAL BASKETS IF NECESSARY
ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Deadline to Order March 20th

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

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

Lost and Found FREE

Business Classified Ads & Real Estate
3 issues \$35.00, 6 issues \$60.00, 12 issues \$100.00
\$.10 per word, per run, after 20 words

Payment MUST accompany all ads. The advertiser must notify this newspaper of any errors.

Send ad along with your check to:
Totoket Times P.O. Box 313 Northford, CT 06472
For more information call 203-410-4254

ELECTRICIANS

TJC Electrical Services - No Job too small or big. Service upgrade & Generator Specials. Call Tom Cassella at 203-619-2823. Licensed & Insured.

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Southern CT Restoration. Insurance restoration and general contracting services. New construction, remodeling, kitchens, baths, roofing, siding, windows, doors, decks and painting. Call Pat Zichichi @ 203-239-9600.

HOUSE CLEANING

Free Estimates to clean your home. Reliable, experienced & affordable. Call D &D Cleaners at 203-484-7847

PET SERVICES

Wagging Good time Pet Sitting Services. Overnights, dog walks, potty breaks. Extremely flexible. Call me at 203-494-9925.

HELP WANTED

Program Coordinator/Van Driver– The Town of North Branford is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of Program Coordinator/Van Driver to work at the Community Center/ Senior Center. A minimum of five (5) years of experience in recreation or senior activity programming; graduation from high school or GED equivalent; CDL with F & P endorsements preferred. Wage of \$22.00 per hour with benefits; 27.5 hrs/wk.

Applications are available at the Town Manager’s Office, 909 Foxon Road, North Branford, CT during regular business hours and on-line at www.townofnorthbranfordct.com. Applications due to the Town Manager’s Office. This position will remain open until it is filled. EEO/ AA. (No faxes or emails).

LANDSCAPING

J & M Landscapes LLC.Complete Lawn Care { Mowing , Edging , Weed whacking & Blow off }Tree, hedge & shrub Pruning - Property cleaning & debris removal - Landscape Design { Mulch, shrubs & flower beds} - Stone, Gravel & Mulch delivery –Install Stone shed foundations - Small Backho { excavation work } – Driveway sealing – Power washing – Spring & Fall Yard clean –ups. Winter Snow plowing.

Vet & Senior discount. For a free quote call John (860) 349-8135 .

PLUMBING

John DiMaggio Plumbing - Residential/Commercial repairs/remodeling. Big or small. Water Heater Specials! Licensed & Insured.

Call 203 - 627 - 6826. References available.

TREE SERVICE



Tree Service - A Better Cut, Tree Service - Local, full service tree company - we provide tree removal and trimming, chipping, and grinding. Please call for a free estimate - Contact Pat Zichichi (203-945-1808

Kitties offer Big “Thank You” at March Open House



NORTH BRANFORD – It’s party time at the Branford Compassion Club Feline Rescue & Adoption Center.

Yes, the cats are throwing an open-house party Sunday, March 29 from 1-3 p.m. at the 2037 Foxon Road venue to thank their donors and sponsors and celebrate the shelter’s 9th anniversary. Visitors will be greeted by volunteers, a glass of wine or Shirley Temple and plenty of nibbles to nosh.

The shelter had a rough year financially in 2019, but its gener-

ous supporters answered the call for support to help keep open the doors of the 22-year-old feline rescue and adoption nonprofit.

“Our sustaining sponsorship program really made the difference,” says BCC President Peg Johnson. “If it weren’t for our supporters committing to regular monthly or yearly donations, we might not be able to celebrate this anniversary. If you’ve never visited our shelter, I encourage you to stop by the March 29th party or during our regular Saturday hours of 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“Our cats are happy and well cared for, thanks to our dedicated volunteers and our even more dedicated Shelter Manager Lianne Soucy. I’m proud of our organization and the wonderful work we do.”

BCC not only helps cats, but also helps people who care enough about cats to seek help for an abandoned cat living outside or help those who are no longer able to physically or financially care for their own cats, which can be a heartbreaking and stressful situation.

While no donations will be solicited at the open-house party, information about becoming a sustaining sponsor or donating to BCC may be found at its website at www.branfordcompassionclub.org.

STEVEN J. ELZHOLZ

Certified Public Accountant

Certified Information Systems Auditor

More than 45 Years Experience

“Accounting, Bookkeeping & Tax Planning Services”

“Estate & Trust Accounting & Tax Services”

“Computer Consulting, Training & Support Services”

ALL TAX RETURNS PREPARED

Federal & State Electronic Filing for FAST REFUNDS

Federal & State Tax Audit Representation

Day, Evening & Weekend Appointments

54 Deforest Drive North Branford, Ct 06471

email - selzholtz@snet.net

203-488-8649 (FAX) 203-488-1970

Community Dining Room Announces 35th Anniversary

PRESS RELEASE - The Community Dining Room is proud to announce a new 35th anniversary fundraising partnership initiative between Real Living Real Estate in Branford, Sweets on Main in Branford, Special Events Screenprinting in East Haven, and the Community Dining Room in Branford.

FACT: The Community Dining Room serves the towns of East Haven, Branford, North Branford, Guilford, Clinton, Madison, and Old Saybrook along the Connecticut Shoreline by feeding the hungry and helping with other basic human needs. We strive to promote public awareness of the impact of hunger and isolation in our society.

With 35 years of serving neighbors in need, the Community Dining Room is kicking off their \$35,000 campaign.

Anyone who donates \$35 or more will receive a one of a kind SHORE-LINE t-shirt created by celebrated graphic artist Matt Miklus of Special Events Screenprinting!

These t-shirts represent all of us along the Connecticut Shore and the great work being done by our community members, and you can have one by simply donating for \$35 or more to the Community Dining Room located at 30 Harrison Ave. Branford, CT 06405. Or you can make a donation through www.communitydiningroom.org.

Have your antiques appraised!

The Totoket Historical Society is holding an Antiques Appraisal Day on Sunday, March 22 from 1 – 4:00 p.m. at the Awater Memorial Library in North Branford.

Hans Stritbycky from Branford Antiques and Home Design will be our appraiser and the cost will be \$5. for each item or \$10. for 3 items.

For further information, contact Helen Glassen at 203 481-5168.

Snow date will be March 29.

Company I Easter Flowers are Back!

North Branford Volunteer Fire Department Co1, Easter Flower Sale RETURNS. 1535 Foxon Rd .Good Friday 8 am till 4 pm. Saturday 8 am till 4pm Azaleas , Daffodils , Hyacinths , Hydrangeas , Asiatic Lily , Mona Lisa Lily , Lily , Tulips.

**“Security Systems are best when installed by
a professional not the internet.”**



(203) 288-1000

355 Sackett Point Rd North Haven, CT 06473

Did you know:

**The Fortune Cookie was invented in
San Francisco**

**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 6801**



*Accompanied with Heavy Appetizers
Sample the flavor of International Wines*

*For an Elegant Afternoon
Of Wine and Food*

Sunday, March 29, 2020

1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

*Seasons
990 Foxon Road
East Haven, CT*

\$55.00 per person

For questions or tickets, please call:
Wayne-203-410-3885 or Damian-203-215-7699
or email:
knightout6801@gmail.com