



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 24 No 25, March 16, 2018

Squeaky Clean Car Wash & Lube Center Is Under New Management



Squeaky Clean Car Wash is now under new management. It's time to stop in a have a cup of coffee with new manager Thomas Desmarais, meet the staff and learn about all the changes and new services.

"I am looking forward to meeting the people in the community as we work together to help them with all their automotive needs," commented Desmarais.

Squeaky Clean is located at 2381 Foxon Road., or you can find out more about the services by calling 203-315-8900 or visit the website: squeakycleancarwashct.com

New State of the Art Equipment

Full Service Automotive Center

Daily & Weekly Specials

**Full Selection of
On & Off Road Tires**

**Custom Wheels and
A full Line of
All Automotive Accessories.**

Conveniently Open 7 Days a Week

**Complete Automotive
and Marine Detailing**

Totoket Times Wants You To Meet The Merchants

Spring will be here with our next edition so it's time to get out and meet the merchants.

For this reason the 3-30 issue of the Times will not be mailed to your homes. Get out to our local businesses, pick up a paper and say hi to our friends who help bring this paper to your mailbox with every issue.

Here are the locations where you can grab it:

North Branford:

Patco

MT Cobbler, Hair Design

Guilford Texaco

North Branford Barbershop

Towne Barbershop

North Branford Post Office

Atwater Library

Northford

Sit & Stay Dog Grooming

Patco

TJ's Launderette

Smith Library

North Branford Recreation Center

BOE Office

Northford Post Office

www.totokettimes.com

NBIS Brings the Arts to our Community With a Team Effort



Seven years ago, on the same day, Sharon Monnes and Meredith Zoll were hired to teach at North Branford Intermediate School. With Sharon teaching Theatre Arts and Meredith taking over as Band Director, the two teamed up to form The NBIS Spotlight players.

With Mrs. Monnes in the role of Director and Mrs. Zoll as Music Director, this duo has collaborated on a yearly theatrical production since they began working at NBIS, culminating with one of their greatest success stories to date. On February 23rd and 24th, the students performed "The Music Man Jr." The two showings were viewed by more than 1000 people from the community, and the teamwork to put this event together is nothing short of sensational.

We start with more than 30% of the NBIS students, more than 2 dozen volunteers from the high school, a couple of dozen staff members and many parents and friends helping to build the set. Put all these people

together and you have a remarkable success.

The Spotlight Players are made up of actors, stage crew, and "techies" who work as front-of-house crew, ushers, and hair and makeup stylists on show nights. The Spotlight Players partner with The Paul Mitchell School in North Haven for hair and makeup. Juliana Candelora and Jordan Pappolla, both former NBIS Spotlight Players and current NBHS sophomores, have returned to volunteer their time as student choreographers. These two are credited with designing the choreography of each dance and teaching the students each dance number. Additionally, senior Matti Colavolpe has made her work as student assistant director/stage manager her senior project for graduation from NBHS. This year, a team of parents helped to build the sets under the direction of Dan and Melissa Camp. NBIS teachers also play a big part in putting this event together. Dean of students Eric Bickelhaupt had on onstage role, and other teachers helped in various capacities on show nights, including Interim Assistant Principal Meghan Rusczyck on stage crew!

The play is a year-round task for Mrs. Monnes and Mrs. Zoll. They begin working on next year's show as soon as the current show ends. The children practice nearly everyday during production season to hone their skills. This year, the twin sisters Ava and Sophie Gambardella played the part of Marian Paroo (grade 7), and Alex Shadman (grade 7) shone in the classic role of Harold Hill.

All music under the direction of Meredith Zoll is performed by an incredible pit band comprised of

NBIS and NBHS students, an even NBIS teacher Dana Zambellietti who played the flute alongside her students. "It's the greatest experience to work with my best friend (Sharon) and have a great deal of our spotlight family join us every year," beamed Meredith.

"There is nothing quite like watching students of such varied ages and experience come together to put on the musical every year. It is a true community experience. For many of these kids, this is their favorite part of the school day, and it's so exciting to watch them gain confidence throughout the process," added Sharon.

Superintendent Scott Schoonmaker could not contain his excitement. "The teachers and kids work hard all year and this experience rounds out the total education experience, helping them maintain their focus throughout the entire year."



Publication Date

March	30	March	23
April	13	April	6
April	27	April	20
May	11	May	4
May	25	May	18
June	8	June	1
June	22	June	15

Deadline

March	23
April	6
April	20
May	4
May	18
June	1
June	15

Petals2Go Florist
484-7800 www.Petals2GoCt.com

Located in Central Plaza
15% OFF All Plant Purchases
With FREE Local Delivery!

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

Editorial	3 & 4
School	5 - 7
Sports	8
Recreation	9
Church	10
Society	10 - 12
Classifieds	12



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



GUERTIN AND GUERTIN, LLC

Attorneys and Counselors

ESTATE PLANNING,
PROBATE, ELDER LAW

26 Broadway
North Haven, Ct. 06473
203-234-7400
WWW.GuertinandGuertin.com



Helping Hands

Home Care Companion

assisting with appointments,
errands, food prep & light
housekeeping.

BONNIE MULLER
203-605-2611

The Dancer's Studio

855 Forest Road - PO Box 536
Northford, CT 06472

484-2100

Ballet - Tap
Jazz - Modern
Lyrical - Acro/Gym
Hip Hop and more!

Toddlers - Pre School
Children - Teens
Adults

Recreational or Competitive

VISIT OUR WEBSITE - WWW.THEDANCERSSTUDIO.COM



Connecticut

Sporting Arms, LLC

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

Arnie Willhite, Owner

New and Used Guns • Bought • Sold • Traded

E.N.T.

Ct lic. S-1 # 0404087

HEATING & COOLING CO. INC.

HEATING - AC - RADIANT - SHEET METAL
Commercial & Residential

160 South Turnpike Rd. Unit 4
Wallngford, CT 06492

Toll Free: 800-570-4520
Phone: 203-284-8881
Fax: 203-284-8891

1

2

3

4

5

Receive One Free Refill with every 10

SELF STORAGE

SPA's - Propane
Truck Rentals

79 Ciro Road
North Branford, CT
203-315-1225



PROANE
REFILLS

6

7

8

9

10



hair designs

*Hair Care
for the Entire Family!
Cuts and styles for all.
Time to think about
a new Spring Look.
Walk Ins Welcome!*






Hours of Operation:
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday - 9:00 - 5:00
Thursday, 9:00 - 6:00 Saturday, 9:00 - 3:00

1717 Foxon Rd. (Rte 80)
North Branford
203-488-6959

Sit & Stay
Dog Grooming, LLC

**\$5.00 OFF
\$40. Service
EXPIRES 3-31-18**

1387 Middletown Ave.
Northford, Ct 06472
Phone: 203-484-PAWS - (203-484-7297)



Anthony PIZZERIA

John's

SUBS DINNERS STUFFED BREADS
PARTY TRAYS

Call: **203-484-0433** N. Branford Ct

It's Always Bigger & Better!
We Are Second to None!
5 Foxon Rd. North Branford.
Order online at www.anthonyjohnspizza



Early Bird Special

Dining Room/Party Room Now Open

Early Bird Special -Dine In Only- 4 -6 PM

Dinner - Soup or Salad - \$13.95
(Excluding Fish)
B.Y.O.B. No Cork Fees.

GET A FREE SMALL PIZZA
with the purchase of any large pizza.

Order Easter Ham Pies (Pizzagaina) \$45.00
Closed Easter Sunday - Must Pick up Saturday






Hours of Operation - we are always here for you!
Sunday - Thursday 11 -9. Friday & Saturday 11-10, Closed Mondays



Early Bird Special




State Representative Vincent Candelora

Connecticut's Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth



During the bipartisan budget negotiations this past fall, members from the business community offered their expertise to help solve Connecticut's long term fiscal problems. We crafted a provision creating the Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth, which met through the winter and provided a comprehensive report on March 1.

The Commission's recently released report found that Connecticut's real gross state product remains 8% below 2007 levels and lags neighboring states and national averages. Almost all New England states have recovered from the 2008 recession, except Connecticut. According to the report, General Fund expenditure growth is projected to increase by 3.7% while revenue is only projected to increase by .7%; therefore, budgeted fixed costs will steadily grow to reach 53.1% by 2020. As of June, 2016, our total debt liabilities, including borrowing and unfunded pensions and health care exceeded \$85.6 billion. Annual contributions to keep the Teacher's Retirement Fund afloat, using a realistic discount rate of 5.5%, will reach \$4 billion by 2023 trending upward to \$8.4 billion by 2032. While 26.5% of our revenue goes toward paying this obligation, the highest in the country, Connecticut will need to spend 35% of its annual tax revenue just to cover this debt over time.

It goes without saying that Connecticut's taxes are higher than the United States average. Beginning in 2009 through 2015, Democrats led the charge with significant tax increases on corporations, high income earners and the middle class attempting to raise more revenue. Since 2011, Connecticut has seen an out-migration of wealth totaling over \$6 billion dollars through 2016. Despite these losses, they approved a state union contract that provide some short-term savings, but long-term expenses, including pension increases, raises, bonuses and job security for the next four years. That agreement failed to acknowledge or consider the needs of Connecticut residents.

Over the last ten years, Democrats have accused Republicans of routing for failure, being negative and anti-union. I have written many articles regarding our fiscal health which advocated reductions in borrowing and spending. Sadly, as the Commission conducted its work, members said that they didn't

realize how bad our fiscal health is. The Commission's report among other things, recommends an overhaul to our tax structure, develop a plan to cut \$1 billion out of annual operating expenses, provide legislative control of health care and pension benefits, thus removing it from collective bargaining, and develop certain pro-growth job plans. The legislature will begin the public hearing process on this report, and I hope our colleagues do not revert to their old bad habits.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

By Attorney Marc P. Guertin

According to research conducted by The Hartford Insurance Group, it seems like most baby boomers would rather go to the dentist for a root canal than talk to their aging parents about estate planning. The research indicated about 71% of parents of baby boomers were comfortable discussing estate planning with their children, whereas only 54% of their children were comfortable having such discussions. It turns out that parents are more comfortable discussing estate planning than are their baby-boomer children-who knew? This "communication gap" can have serious consequences for your parents and family.

Talking about your parents dying is not a fun topic to explore. Although it may be a hard conversation to have, it can make such a difference after your parents are gone. This is too important of a conversation not to have.



Getting the conversation started is the hardest part. A few simple guidelines can help turn this conversation into a positive experience. The most important rule is to include ALL of your siblings in the conversation. Nothing works quicker to undermine your intentions than excluding someone. Group discussion fosters a free exchange of ideas. Choose a comfortable and private setting for this family meeting that is free from distractions.

The family is assembled, in a comfortable, private, space...then what? How do you actually start the conversation? A good way to start is to discuss your own plan. Discuss with your parents what your estate planning experience was like. Talk about what your estate plan contemplates. Another way to start the conversation is with an article or book on estate planning. If your parents are readers this is a terrific place to start.

Assuming that you have created an opportunity to talk to your parents about their "exit plan" you should discuss several different aspects. Remain focused on the fact that you are trying to help your parents maintain independence and control over assets that took a lifetime to accumulate. Focus on long term care: have they considered what would happen if one or both of them had to spend time in a nursing home? Nursing home costs can quickly eliminate your parent's life savings. Ask about what type of estate plan they have in place. Make sure the plan fits their estate. Explore whether their estate plan contemplates tax issues, probate costs, or beneficiaries with disabilities? Don't neglect to focus on lifetime planning. Make sure your parents have updated Powers of Attorney and Living Wills.

Remember, most parents want to discuss their estate plan with their adult children. Finding out that your parents have planned their estate will be very comforting. Finding out your parents have not made a plan is a great opportunity to help them get their affairs in order. Once you have had your initial conversation feel free to call my office and set up a no cost estate planning consultation, we can take your ideas and turn them into great estate plans. Call for a free consultation today 203-234-7400. Need a conversation starter? Guertin and Guertin is hosting an informational workshop on Trusts, "Coffee, Donuts and Trusts," on Saturday, April 7th, at 10am at our offices located at 26 Broadway in North Haven, Connecticut. Please give our office a call to reserve a seat.

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. Visit Guertin and Guertin, LLC on the web: www.guertinandguertin.com.

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

J. Chris Keinz
 Owner
 Lic. # 614767

203-488-1901
www.cnmlandscaping.com



CNM Landscaping LLC
 Mowing - Cleanups - Photo Landscape Design
 Planting - Trimming - Snow Plowing
 Licensed & Fully Insured
 Residential & Commercial
 Free Estimates

8 Brook Rd.
North Branford

KEENAN
 FUNERAL HOME INC.


ESTABLISHED 1898
 238 Elm Street
 West Haven, CT
 06516
 (203) 933-1217

PHILIP MALLEY APPELL, SR.
 Managing Partner
phil.appell@carriageservices.com
 Cell: (860) 575-0608

330 Notch Hill Road
 P.O. Box 767
 North Branford, CT
 06471-0767
 (203) 481-3217
www.KeenanFuneralHome.com

TOWNE
BARBER
SHOP

2400 FOXON RD.
NORTH BRANFORD
WWW.TOWNEBARBERSHOP.COM
MON - FRI 10AM-6PM
SAT 8AM - 2PM



A TRADITIONAL
BARBERSHOP
WALK-INS- ONLY

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.

Letters to the editor...

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

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

This paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

All letters should be addressed to :

The Editor

PO. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472



What Has Changed

The Florida shooting: an estranged young man shoots up a school... again. Why does this happen more often and how can we prevent it? First, examine the difference between our pacific past and the new age of dismemberment and discord.

Were legal firearms more or less accessible in the past? More than fifty percent of households lawfully possessed firearms in the 1970s. By 2014 that figure dropped to less than a third. (Trends in Gun Ownership in the US, Tom W. Smith & Jaesok Son). This decrease in access to legal firearms shows – if anything - that access to firearms is inversely proportional to the increase in mass shootings. There must be another reason for the increase in mass shootings. What has changed?

Is it inept law enforcement? Reports show that our FBI had no fewer than four chances to stop the Florida shooting. See something say something didn’t work. The best and brightest seem inept. Will someone explain this?

Some blame the increasing incidence of mental disorders. The potential reasons for this are frightening: dangerous substances in our food, water and atmosphere; violent video games; EMF from cell phones and computers; vaccines; and Hollywood’s desensitization of murder, sexual proclivity and deviancy.

To those inclined to solve this by somehow banning guns, the quintessential question: How can laws keep guns from those who intend to break the law? The Florida shooter, after all, intended to beak the law, whether with an AR-15, a semi automatic pistol, a pipe bomb or a 3000-pound car. How would banning firearms prevent fast and furious gun running across our borders? With illegal firearms at a premium – like liquor during prohibition - riches to be won by any given crime syndicate salivating over our unenforced borders. Rethink the wall?

Can we curb our desire to defend ourselves? Or should we diminish the deviant’s desire to do evil? As to the first question, I find it frightening to think that the government wants to render us docile and powerless in the face of those who would do us harm. As to the second, your guess is as good as mine. But to lump the innocent with the evil by blaming the implement is a fool’s errand, like blaming the car for the drunk driver’s manslaughter.

© D. Kirt Westfall 02/25/18 all rights reserved, permission to Totoket Times for republication.

Recycling News

North Branford Spring Leaf Collection

Spring into raking! North Branford residents can bring their leaves to the leaf drop off center located at the Public Works Facility on Route 22 from 9:00am to 3:00 p.m. on the following Saturdays this Spring: **April 7, 14, 21 and 28**. Follow the signs. Please place leaves in biodegradable brown leaf bags or empty them loose onto the ground.

As a reminder, we are always looking for volunteers to help out at the leaf drop off center.

For more information, please call the recycling hotline at **203-484-4091**

North Branford Scrap Metal Pickup April 16th through April 20th

The Spring scrap metal pickup will be collected the same day as your regular weekly trash pickup.

Please note: scrap metal should be placed at the curb up to a week before your scheduled pickup day; thank you!

For more information, please call the recycling hotline at **203-484-4091**

EARTH DAY EVENT AT WALL FIELD - SATURDAY APRIL 21st

The North Branford Hazardous Waste & Recycling Committee and local businesses will be displaying products and services of how our community is involved with earth friendly programs.

Stop by, watch the Little League opening day games and spend a few minutes with us to see what we are doing.

There is always something new with What’s In & What’s Out recycling.

Edward Smith Library Children’s Room

March 13th - Leprechaun cupcakes, March 21st - Collage Easter Eggs, **March 27th** - Bunny Cupcakes, (Ages 5 and up with the help of a parent or guardian.) Space limited. Please register in the Children’s Room or call: 203-484-0469

“Paws to Read” Stories with Mason at the Smith Library

Wednesday: March 21st and April 18that 6:30 pm

The Smith Library invites young readers (ages 4 & up) to improve their reading skills by reading to a licensed therapy dog. Choose to read together in our story circle or just to Mason. Space limited. Please register in the Children’s Room or call: 203-484-0469

Free Music Together Demonstration

Tuesday, April 3rd at 10:00 am. Call to register: 203-484-0469

Smith Library presents CPR Training

(for parents, grandparents and caregivers)

on Wednesday, April 11th at 6:30 pm

\$25 fee due at time of registration. Class size limited.

Please register in the Children’s Room or call: 203-484-0469 for more information.

Principal is Grateful to School District Members Dear Editor:

I wanted to take a moment to thank Mrs. Monica Watson-Cucchiarelli, Scott Schoonmaker, Hamlet Hernandez, TVES teachers and staff, and all of the district staff that came together to make last month’s North Branford Naturalization Ceremony a huge success. All the staff and individuals involved brought a personal touch to the experience that made it so special and memorable for all. Beyond this, each of you jumped right in even though it was a new and unknown experience for all of us. Your collective willingness to take a risk and share yourselves with me throughout this process helped us convey to all that North Branford is a true community, one that any citizen would be lucky to be a part of...and one that I am certainly proud to be a part of.

I was so proud of the over 500 students in attendance at the ceremony. They were so respectful, well-behaved, polite, and genuinely invested in the experience and it was a joy to watch. So many of the candidates commented to me about how kind the students were in greeting them and what a wonderful experience it was for them to interact with students after the ceremony in the reception in the band room. They also commented how wonderful the auditorium looked with flags, pictures, words of inspiration and recognition for each of them. They appreciated deeply the letters, flowers, and photograph opportunities that were presented to each of them and their families. So many candidates took extra effort to thank Scott, Hamlet, and me for the incredible experience. Many of them thought it would be a procedural and impersonal experience and they were genuinely overwhelmed with the personal touch the ceremony provided to them.

Regarding the ceremony they appreciated the words spoken from Judge Margolis and Hamlet Hernandez and they valued the experience to shake hands and be welcomed by all of us. They loved the pre-ceremony music from the NBHS Jazz Band, the NB Scouts presenting the colors and leading the pledge, the spirited National Anthem, and the moving choral rendition of God Bless America. They adored the reception, the food, the cake, and the kindness demonstrated by our students, and how much our students wanted to learn about them and from them. Most touching to all of them was the standing ovation they received from our 600 students and staff in attendance.

As I reflected on the experience I felt pride to have our community be so appreciated by visitors. I felt pride to see such respect, kindness, and leadership in all our students. But perhaps most deeply I felt blessed to have experienced the emotion and beauty of this experience...to be reminded of risk, work ethic, perseverance, freedom, and the American Dream and how fortunate each of us is to have the lives we do. I remain changed from this experience and the respect I have for our immigrants and citizens has deepened tremendously.

To summarize it all, the words of a fourth grader who shared with me her thoughts of the day: “Those people were so kind and so happy to be a part of America, I sure hope everyone in our country is always kind to them”. No truer words could be spoken!

Again, thank you for all the staff and the North Branford community for making this event amazing. It could not have happened without each of you. I am honored to work with each of you, and I am grateful to have the trust, collaboration, and creative support that I do in this community. Like all of you, I feel blessed to have been a part of this experience.

With sincere gratitude, Carter Welch

Where are the instructions?

Dear Editor:Is it me or does there appear to be an element of "Smarter than thou" possessiveness associated with cell phones? Out of simple expediency and a sense that it was now a necessity I let my daughter talk me into getting one. The salesman took it out of the box and showed me all the plugs and whistles that go with. I asked if it came with a book of instructions and was met with an incredulous look.

He told me that they've been around so long now no one needs them anymore. "Just play with it", was his sage advice. Doing just that, I flipped an Icon off the screen and can't find it anymore. I could go back and ask but that's a long way out of the way just to find out all I need to do is press a certain button. If I had a book of instructions this whole thing might have been avoided. I mean, I've bought extension cords with pamphlets explaining more than I needed to know. Then along comes a device that that does everything except serve soft drinks and not one word of how to use it.

Returning to another outlet store to purchase an additional charger I was sold a device I actually didn't need at a whopping \$48.00. My daughter had to return it. Turns out, I could have gotten the same thing for about \$5.00. The thing was, I didn't know and could have found out if it had a book of instructions.

Unfortunately my daughter isn't home these days much so asking her has to be done at night. God forbid, I'm broken down on the highway and need to call for help.

Thanks for taking time to read this. Yours truly- Charles W. Atmore

Anastasia Goodman to Speak at Northford Women’s Club Meeting

Anastasia Goodman, author of Loose Ends and Death and Diamonds, both part of the Sasha Perlov Mystery Series, will speak at the monthly meeting of the Northford Women’s Club, GFWC. Anastasia Goodman writes mysteries that mix history, mystery and current events. The public is invited to attend. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 20th at 7:00pm at the Stanley T. Williams Community Center, 1332 Middletown Avenue, Northford. For more information about the event or about membership, please contact Michele at 203-717-2203, visit our website at www.northfordwomensclub.org or check us out on Facebook.

Jerome Harrison School Hosts Head Shaving Event



Jerome Harrison Elementary School will host a St. Baldrick’s Foundation signature head-shaving event to raise funds and awareness for lifesaving childhood cancer research on March 26, 2018 from 6pm to 9pm. With a goal of raising funds for childhood cancer research we are looking for participants to register to shave their heads to support the Foundation’s mission to *Conquer Childhood Cancers!* To register as a shave or volunteer, please visit our website at <https://www.stbaldricks.org/events/NorthBranford>. If you are unable to participate but would like to support our efforts financially, you can donate directly at this link as well. The event includes a free children’s area as well as a raffle.

Worldwide a child is diagnosed with cancer every three minutes, and one in five

children diagnosed in the U.S. will not survive. The St. Baldeirk’s Foundation is a volunteer-driven and donor-centered charity dedicated to raising money for childhood cancer research and funding the most promising research initiatives to find cures. As the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants, the Foundation hosts signature head-shaving events where volunteers collect pledges and then shave their heads in solidarity with children fighting cancer. For more information about the St. Baldrick’s Foundation please call 1.888.899.BALD or visit www.StBaldricks.org.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact Judy Bannon at (203) 484-0507

Photo courtesy of Dina Falcioni, Pictured is Enzo the top fundraiser for 2017

2018-2019 North Branford Public Schools’ PreSchool Applications Being Accepted

The North Branford School District was awarded a Smart Start Grant prior to the start of the 2017-2018 school year to establish a pre-kindergarten program for approximately 15 of the district’s youngest learners. The district is using that grant award to fund a Smart Start Preschool Program classroom at Jerome Harrison Elementary School.

The mission of the preschool program is to provide experiences that will promote social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive learning and development through a differentiated and integrated program. Superintendent Scott Schoonmaker describes the Smart Start Program as an entry point to North Branford’s coherent PreK-12 continuum- a continuous, sequential, progressive, aligned set of learning experiences designed to provide students with the foundational knowledge and skills that are ultimately necessary to be prepared for college and career and be a responsible 21st Century citizen of the world.

Children residing in North Branford born after January 1, 2014 and before January 2, 2015 are eligible to apply. This program meets 5 days a week at Jerome Harrison Elementary School (JHS) following the North Branford Public Schools’ Calendar (181 Days) and JHS school-day (9:00am – 3:25pm). The program is provided by the school district at no cost to parents.

Applications will be reviewed and considered according to Smart Start requirements:

Children in the following circumstances will be high priority for enrollment: poverty (children who are from families with incomes at or below 75% of SMI or receive free or reduced lunch), homeless, migrant, refugee, violence and neglect (DCF involved, in foster care), developmental delays, and/or challenging parental circumstances (teenage, incarcerated, in treatment for substance abuse, active military service).

After priority students are offered a required percentage of enrollment, any available enrollment will be determined and offered based on an application lottery system.



To be considered for this early childhood program, **an application must be completed and postmarked to North Branford Public Schools Attn: Tracy Wootton P.O. Box 129 Northford, CT 06472 OR hand-delivered to North Branford Public Schools CENTRAL OFFICE Attn: Tracy Wootton 1332 Middletown Ave Northford, CT 06472 by 4:00pm by March 23, 2018.**

More information on the NBPS PreSchool Program and Application Process can be found at:

- The district’s website www.northbranfordschools.org
- NBPS Central Office (1332 Middletown Ave. Northford)

If parents have any additional questions, after reviewing the available information, they may contact the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at 203-484-1477.

“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:

In March of 1921 Harry Houdini earned a US Patent (#1,370,31) for a safety Diver Suit for his underwater magic escape tricks.

Lee J’s Auto Sales & Service

1239 Foxon Rd. (Next to Big Y)
See Pictures at Leejsauto.com



No Dealer Fees

No Waiting at DMV. We have Plates Here!

This Week’s

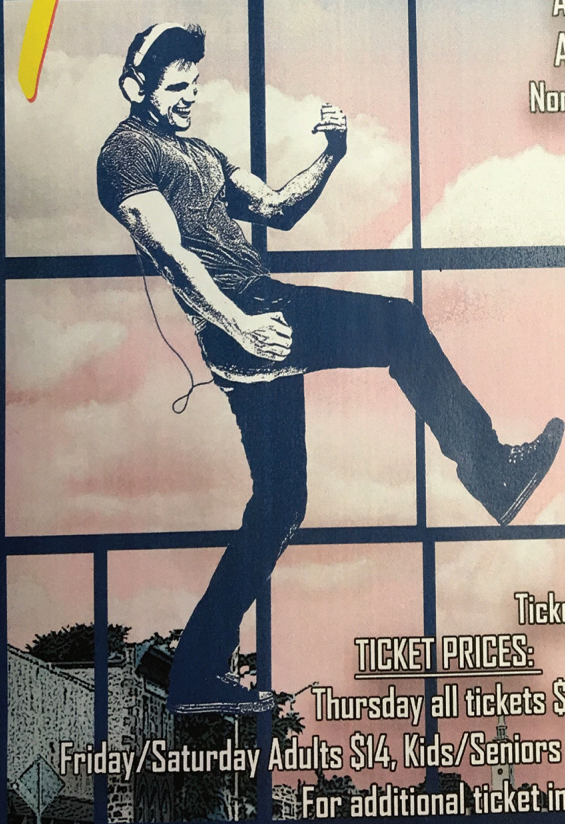
2007 Mazda 3 4DR SDN Manual S Sport	\$4,995
2009 chevrolet Colorado Cab 111.2	\$4,995
2001 Ford Ranger 4.0L XL 4WD	\$4,995
2004 Chrysler Sebring white Convertible	\$4,995
2004 Toyota Avalon XLS	\$4,995
2006 Honda Civic Coupe LX AT 85K	\$5,495
2002 Dodge Ram 1500 2DR Reg Cab 140	\$5,995
2001 Chevy Silverado 4x4 Ext. Cab	\$5,995
2009 Toyota Carolla S 5 Speed	\$5,995
2006 Honda Accord SDN EX AT PZEV	\$5,995
2008 Toyota Corolla 4DR SDN Auto LE	\$5,995
2011 Chevrolet Colorado Ext. Cab	\$6,495
2002 Chevrolet Silverado 4WD Ext. Cab	\$6,995
2006 Lexus IS 250 Loaded	\$6,995
2008 Honda CR-V 4WD 5DR EX	\$7,495
2006 Lexus GS 300 4DR SDN AWD	\$8,485
2006 Lexus RX 330 4DR SUV AWD	\$8,495
2006 Lexus GS 300 AWD 4DR SDN	\$8,495
2005 Toyota Sienna Limited AWD	\$8,995
2003 Dodge RAM 1500 Cab 4WD SLT	\$8,995
2003 Lexus GX 470	\$9,995
2013 Harley Davidson FLHX Y	\$15,995

Thank you for 20+ great years
Call today @ 203-484-7371!

NORTH BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS

Footloose

the musical



PERFORMANCES

APRIL 5TH AT 6:30pm
APRIL 6TH AT 7:00pm
APRIL 7TH AT 7:00pm
North Branford Auditorium

TICKETS ON SALE

3/19	4:30-6:30
3/20	4:30-6:30
3/23	2:00-4:00
3/26	4:30-6:30
3/28	4:30-6:30
3/29	4:30-6:30
4/2	4:00-6:00
4/3	4:00-6:00
4/4	4:00-6:00

Tickets also available at the door

TICKET PRICES:

Thursday all tickets \$8
Friday/Saturday Adults \$14, Kids/Seniors \$12 (advance \$12/\$10)
For additional ticket info
[contact dramamamas@gmail.com](mailto:dramamamas@gmail.com)

Read Across America



The theme of this year's Read Across America Day at Jerome Harrison Elementary School was space exploration. As a special nod to Dr. Seuss the day was entitled: "There's No Place Like Space!" Second grade teacher, Lisa Douglas wrote a grant for this fabulous day through the North Branford Education Foundation in hopes that the youngest of our elementary students could be immersed in a unique learning experience that opened their eyes to the wonder and importance of space exploration. It was a great addition to the STEM initiatives already in place at J.H.S. under the leadership of Principal, Beth Parker.

All students participated in a "Space Mission" which included not only stories, but experiences of real life physical activities and authentic learning stations that introduced them to what life beyond Earth is like. As our explorers traveled throughout the school, they earned stars on their official photo ID space mission cards. Both staff, J.H.S. Dream Teamers and the children dressed as either aliens or astronauts as they entered the school complete with a nine-foot NASA rocket in the lobby. Special thanks to Sisto Melillo for launching our school event with space-tactic balloons!

Students traveled through five highly interactive stations learning about how astronauts eat, sleep, work and problem-solve in space. 2017 CT Teacher of the year, Lauren Danner, welcomed recruits as she facilitated a Space School where students had an opportunity to eat astronaut ice cream, experience anti-gravity activities, and help repair her rocket with astronaut gloves on. She shared her experiences from the NASA Space camp and taught students the importance of space education. Students were even introduced to hydroponics! Sincere thanks to our friends at Abbatello Electric in Branford for helping to build "out of this world" astronaut glove boxes!

As a follow-up experience, second grade teacher, Judy Bannon, created The Great Space Coaster station where students were hosted by Gym teacher Brent Ramsey, in a colorful galaxy watching real astronauts in action! It was a great way to bring the ideas of Space School to life.

Artistic team Diane Remetta and Math Coach Meg Peterson, welcomed the children into their Gravity Station where students had hands-on opportunities to experiment and calculate their weight both here and on the Moon! Children even wore moon boots to experience anti-gravity!

Two perfect read-aloud books were selected thanks to teacher, Aimee Aiken and with the creative genius of teachers Rob Miceli, Kathy Esposito and Kathy Twombly, students and a community of guest readers were welcomed into the 1960's home of author and Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield to hear a story called The Darkest Dark. Hadfield's story inspired our youngest students to follow their biggest dreams.

Lastly, our Hostess with the Mostess, Galactic Girl (teacher, Amber Lake), invited students into her silver spaceship for a whimsical space version of the classic Three Little Pigs story. An alien dance called the "Martian Hop" was taught following story by our favorite Dance Studio, instructor, Sharon DeCrosta! Special thanks to both ladies for a day of hard work and non-stop energy!

J.H.S. ended their engaging day with a high-tech whole school assembly by the Prismatic Magic Laser Show! Mr. Matt demonstrated how laser technology is used in space and through lasers, art, and music taught students about the planets and the sun in a very exciting way. Children left their galaxy with opened eyes and coloring books filled with a narrative of their special day in space to share with their families. A tremendous thank you to JUST BUTTONS and the Leonard family for creating our banners, buttons, and our booklets. It was a spectacular event!

Students at Totoket Valley Elementary School were greeted on Friday, Read Across America Day, as they entered school by 44 North Branford High School students who lined the halls to motivate continued reading. These high school students, known as the Dream Team, are a group of mentors who work with the TVES during the school year. They support classrooms with small group instruction, character education lessons, whole school events, and generally motivating and inspiring our elementary students. At Read Across America Day, in partnership with high school teacher and Dream Team leader Mrs. Nicole Lacroix, these students took the lead after welcoming students.



The day opened with a whole school assembly/reading rally in the morning where Dream Teamers led students in a pledge to commit to reading. They also showed a video they created at their high school that introduced the "One School, One Book" campaign and inspired reading. This video introduced the book our students and staff will be reading and discussing in the coming weeks, "Fish in a Tree" by Connecticut author Lynda Mullaly Hunt. The assembly went on, under the direction of the Dream Team, to include poems and student presentations from TVES classes. The assembly concluded with another video detailing an original song created and produced by the Dream Team around the book "Fish in a Tree" and the themes of diversity, accepting differences, and overcoming adversity. Students and staff were impressed by the work of the Dream Team in leading the assembly.

The second part of the day included all 44 Dream Team students partnering with their TVES classes to teach a lesson about "Fish in a Tree", diversity, accepting differences, and overcoming adversity. These lessons were interactive, student-led and designed to get students excited about their whole school book. The "One School, One Book" idea developed by library teacher Ms. Carrie Seiden will mean that all students and classes and all adults (teachers and support staff) will read the book and share ideas and reflections during the coming weeks at school. Dream Team students will also be reading the book so they can share in the learning.

Finally, Read Across America Day at TVES ended with a whole school quiet sustained reading for 30 minutes. Students lined the halls and got comfortable with their books as did all staff members. It was a thing of beauty to see the whole school engaged with a book of their choice for 30 minutes, and it was a great way to honor Read Across America Day.

Principal Welch offered some words about the day at TVES. "I am simply blown away with the amount of time and preparation that went into today by Mrs. Lacroix and each high school student. Their commitment to our school continues to impress me, their service to their NB community is amazing, and their poise, leadership, and professionalism is second to none. Mrs. Lacroix and these students made the day here at TVES." Welch continued, "that the day was about learning and community and is a special event due to the connection among our students and the opportunity to have our high school students teach and mentor our elementary students." I am truly honored to be part of the learning, passion, and district collaboration by so many and our students are so lucky to be influenced by a community focused on care and learning."

Despres Gets Scholarship to University of Hartford



NBHS Senior Ethan Despres (pictured 5th from left) was awarded a scholarship from The University of Hartford where he will be attending this fall. Pictured with Ethan are his parents Jamie and Maria, his sister Kayla, and representatives (left to right) from the University of Hartford's Admission Office Kim Bigelow, Emily Daly, Zully Rodriguez and NBHS Guidance Counselor Carrie Esposito, Ethan's Guidance Counselor

Kim Bigelow, Emily Daly, Zully Rodriguez and NBHS Guidance Counselor Carrie Esposito, Ethan's Guidance Counselor



North Branford Hosts a Naturalization Ceremony

Written by Mrs. Thompson's Grade 4 Class at TVES

Students of North Branford Public Schools had the opportunity of a lifetime on February 6, 2018 to attend a Naturalization Ceremony at the North Branford auditorium. This live court-session ceremony was made possible by TVES/NBIS parent Monica Watson-Cucchiarelli and TVES principal Carter Welch. Approximately 500 students in grades 4, 5, 8, 10, and 12 from the North Branford Schools had the privilege of attending.

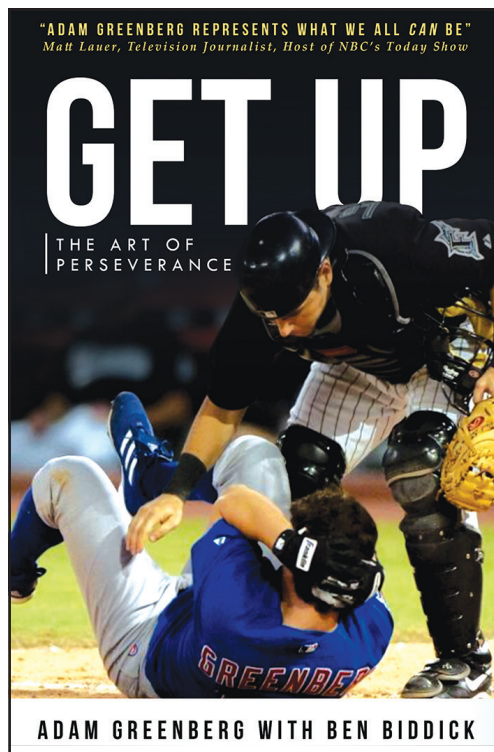
The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), which is reaching out to public schools, sponsored the ceremony for 30 immigrants who came from 18 different countries on five different continents. "Immigration is a giant thing because you walk into the Naturalization Ceremony and you are about to become a new citizen," said Gavin Leone, a fourth grade student from Totoket Valley Elementary School.

Judge Joan G. Margolis, United States Magistrate Judge for the District of Connecticut, presided over the ceremony which opened with patriotic songs from the North Branford High School Jazz Band. The North Branford Cub and Boy Scouts then carried the flags as the audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. The featured speakers were principal of Totoket Valley Elementary, Carter Welch, Superintendent of North Branford Schools, Mr. Scott Schoonmaker, and Superintendent of Branford Schools, Hamlet Hernandez. They talked about the educational value of the ceremony for students and famous immigrants who have made an impact on our country and world, and Mr. Hernandez who came from an immigrant family himself, spoke of the courage and bravery it takes to make a life in a new country.

One immigrant from Peru had trouble learning English, but she had to learn quickly to translate for her sister who was only five at the time. "And it didn't help that I was really shy," she reported. She was here for 19 years before becoming naturalized. Another Cape Verde immigrant got sick because of the colder climate here in Connecticut. Through the process students even discovered that their own bus driver was a naturalized immigrant from Russia.

The highlights of the ceremony included the Calling of Countries, the Oath of Allegiance, and the Awarding of Certificates. It ended with a reception in the auditorium for the 30 new citizens of the United States of America and their families. From that day forward, these immigrants will have the right to be free, to vote, to get a U.S. passport and enjoy all the other civil rights as Americans. The experience was amazing for students and immigrants alike. 203-484-1455

Former MLB Player & Author Visits TVES



As you may be aware, each month Totoket Valley Elementary School holds climate and community building assemblies to bring all students and staff together. These assemblies highlight student awards/recognitions, class presentations, and include all students, many family members and community members. Additionally, each month the assembly has a focus around a social-emotional or character trait that we as a school are working towards for that month. For the month of February our school focus was perseverance. Principal Welch wanted to make this assembly stand out given all their efforts with the "Growth Mindset" and he wanted to help students understand and internalize this trait in an authentic way. Welch

remembered the story of Adam Greenberg and Greenberg's recent book "Get Up". Through a mutual friend in coaching circles, Welch was able to secure Adam as a speaker for the February assembly at TVES.

The assembly started, as it always does, by inspirational words from TVES teacher David Lacroix, this time about perseverance and effort. Next, two TVES fifth grade students introduced featured speaker Adam Greenberg. Adam shared his story of hard work, dedication, set backs, fighting adversity, and true perseverance as detailed in his book. He included the effort and hard work it took to make the MLB and debut with the Chicago Cubs, and how on his very first major league at bat and in the very first pitch he ever faced, it all changed as Adam was hit with the pitch and suffered a devastating head injury. He went on to talk about all the setbacks and hard work he faced to battle back again and again to reach his goal of being in Major League Baseball. During his presentation Adam showed video clips from the events along the way, including his injury and the "One More At Bat" campaign that led to his return to MLB as a Miami Marlins player for one more at bat.

Students were mesmerized and engaged by the dynamic and entertaining presentation from Adam, and they got to spend time learning more about Adam through a question and answer session at the end of the assembly. In one of his final answers Adam reminded all students to not waste time playing video games, but to get out and experience life, be active, and be social with friends and your communities. At the end of the assembly, over 150 students got to meet with Adam in the library and talk more with him as Adam individually signed their copies of "Get Up".

TVES students, family members, and staff thoroughly enjoyed Adam's time at TVES and they were all moved by his presentation and story. There is no doubt we all learned more about perseverance and how to use it our own lives to reach our goals. TVES sincerely thanks Adam for what he brought to each of us.

Principal Welch hopes to continue his collaboration with Adam Greenberg at TVES and though his district roles in wellness, climate, and substance abuse prevention where he hopes to bring Adam to all North Branford students K-12.

Quellet Performs in UConn

First Chair Honor Band Festival

On Saturday, February 24th, Senior Collin Ouellet participated in the UConn First Chair Honor Band Festival. Collin plays Saxophone and is a member of the NBHS Band.

During the festival, Collin worked with the conductors of various UConn Ensembles, as well as the Assistant Director of the United States Coast Guard Band! He participated in a master class with the UConn saxophone instructor and met with current UConn Band Members. The day finished with a fantastic collaborative performance featuring the UConn Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, and the First Chair Honor Band!

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



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



Guilford Texaco

is now part of the fabric of our North Branford Community. A family run business since 1969, Guilford Texaco will now offer their full auto repair services to our North Branford Families.

2049 Foxon Rd. North Branford.

Stop in and let our family help your family.

All Offers Expire 3-31-18

FREE BRAKE CHECK

Not valid with other offers. For limited time only. Most cars & light trucks.

FREE

Check Engine Light Scan
May require additional diagnostic testing at additional charge.

Not valid with other offers. For a limited time only. Most cars and light trucks. Some vehicles & parts extra.

FREE TOWING

To our shop for any North Branford customer within 20 miles.

\$15 OFF any Flush Service

Not valid with any other offers. For a limited time only. Most cars and light trucks. Some vehicles & parts extra.

FREE WIPERS W/ANY PURCHASE OVER \$100.

Not valid with other offers. For a limited time only. Most cars & light trucks.

FREE TIRE ROTATION With any Oil Change.

LeQuire Sets School Record

On March 8th during a home CIAC Playoff Game, NBHS Senior Brett LeQuire became the all time leading scorer for basketball at North Branford High School, breaking 2000 Graduate Chris Tracz's total of 1872.

Brett totaled 39 points on the night with a win over Shepaug Valley of the Berkshire League. Brett has been a four year varsity player at NBHS and plans on attending ESCU next year as a member of the team. Brett's career total points currently stands at 1895 with an upcoming game at Canton HS.



North Branford Soccer Club Presents:

Spring 2018 Programs

Spring soccer begins in April 2018

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

EARLIER BIRD DISCOUNT FOR TINY FEET & IN-HOUSE UNTIL 2/28/2018

TRAVEL REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 3/4/2018

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

Tiny Feet

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



In-House

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



Travel Teams

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

Registration Now Open!

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

www.nbsoccer.com

"Never Go Through Life Without Goals"

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



Pictured with Brett are his parents and Head Coach David Parness

Photo by Nick DeLizio

Connecticut Sportsplex

"FAMILY FUN NIGHT"

SATURDAY NIGHTS

7:00 P.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Unlimited

Cyber Sport, Laser Tag, Playscape
Includes choice of Slice of Pizza or Hot Dog and Fries

Only \$20.00 per person!!
(Deposit and Reservation Required)

NEW DOME
COMING April 2018

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

North Branford Parks & Recreation and Senior Center

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

SPRING/SUMMER BROCHURE IS OUT! Your copy is in THIS paper!



REGISTRATION OPEN! Stop in or give us a call

Register and be paid in full by **April 27th** to be entered in a raffle to win a free week of camp! Includes before care, after care, lunch and the trip of the week!

WHO HAS THE BEST PIZZA IN TOWN?



TUESDAY APRIL 24

6:00-8:00PM

STW COMMUNITY CENTER

\$5 presale/ \$7 at the door

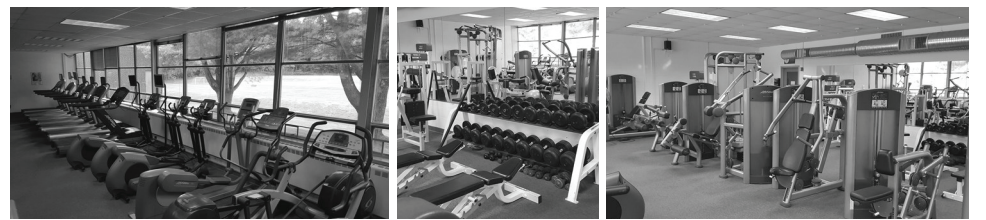
Ages 3 and under - FREE

FUN, FOOD, RAFFLES and MORE!

One lucky winner will be chosen as a guest judge for the specialty pizza category!

Must purchase a presale ticket to qualify

The Best Kept Secret in North Branford! DiLungo Fitness Room



Membership Options and Pricing

Resident:

Individual (Age 15+) - \$175

Family - \$275

HOURS:

Monday - Friday - 5:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday - 6:30 a.m. - 12:00

Family includes two adults in the same household & one child between the ages of 12 - 26. Under 15 needs to be accompanied by an adult.

Senior (Age 60+) - \$100

Non - Resident: \$10 additional fee



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.nbparkrec.com

Soup option now available for lunch!

Lunch orders must be placed by 10:00 am



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



Stop by the community center and pick up a copy of our monthly Senior newsletter for upcoming trips and activities!

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

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

AQUA TURF/ St Patrick's Day Celebration - Wednesday, March 21, 10:30, \$45 res/\$50 nr *PLEASE note that this is a WEDNESDAY. Enjoy traditional Irish fare and dance the afternoon away with music provided by The Maclean Avenue Band!

East Shore Self Care Group - Wednesday, March 21, 1:00, FREE Healthy Conversations - Men and women are invited to attend these East Shore Nurse Educators to facilitate conversations on various relevant health topics.

Wallingford Walmart and Lunch - Friday, March 23, 10:30, FREE Let's do some shopping at the Wallingford Walmart and then head on over to the 99 Restaurant for lunch!

Smith Library - Wednesday, March 28, 1:00, FREE Visit our local library, pick up some books, get caught up on current events and chat with our lovely librarians!

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

St. Ambrose Parish is a Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Hartford comprised of two church locations; St. Augustine Church located at 30 Caputo Rd in North Branford and St. Monica Church located at 1321 Middletown Ave. in Northford. The Pastor is Reverend Robert Turner. Weekday Masses are celebrated on Monday, 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.

Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, No. Branford. 203-488-7395 Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar. During the summer we will have a single 9am service of Holy Eucharist in our newly air conditioned sanctuary. In September we will go back to two services at 8 & 10AM. Healing Prayer and Compline 7PM, second Tuesday of the month. Two Safe Church trained babysitters available downstairs during the service. Visit our Facebook page or website at zionepiscopalchurch.org.

Saint Andrew Church Lenten Schedule

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, the white church on the hill in the heart of Northford, 1382 Middletown Avenue, will be celebrating Holy Week services as follows: March 29th, Maundy Thursday - agape supper at 6:30 (simple potluck supper), followed by Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m. Stripping of the altar and quiet prayer follows; March 30th, Good Friday - Holy Eucharist service at 6:30 p.m.; Easter Sunday - Holy Eucharist service at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. Please join us. For more information call Nan at 203-710-7005.

North Haven Congregational Church Book Sale

SPRINGBOOX, our yearly sale of used books, will be held on Friday, April 20 from 9am until 7pm, and on Saturday, April 21 from 9am until 1pm at the North Haven Congregational Church, 28 Church St. Over 30 categories of non-fiction books will be offered, all sorted by subject, along with fiction which is sorted by author. There is a separate room for hundreds of paperback books, and a special area for children’s books. CDs and DVDs, sheet music, talking books, and ephemera will also be offered for sale.

If you wish to donate books for our sale, they can be dropped off at the church between 9am and 1pm daily (M-F); we cannot use encyclopedias, textbooks, or condensed books. Call the church office to arrange pickup for large donations.

The church is conveniently located on the North Haven town green; there is ample free parking and the church is handicapped accessible. Any questions, call the church at (203) 239-5691; our website is www.northhavenucc.org. Come and stock up for your summer reading

Chicken Pie Supper

North Branford Congregational Church. Saturday, March 24
Seating is at 6:00 pm. Tickets - \$15 (no charge for children under age 5)
For tickets call Carol at 203.488.5746 or the church office at 203.488.8456
Please join us once again for our Annual chicken Pie Supper!

Church Belles Bring Valentines to

Twin Maples Health Care Facility



Missions taken up by members of Northford Congregational Church, “A Little Church with a Big Heart,” have included reaching out to the community to show thanks and appreciation to various groups of people.

In conjunction with that mission, the Church Belles, which is the women’s fellowship group, made valentines which they brought to Twin Maples Health Care Facility in Durham on Valentine’s Day to be given to all the residents. Some of the Church Belles display a few of their valentines. Seated in front, Aloha Mosier. From left in

back, Nancy Miller, Cappy Kopylec, Cindy Clarke, Carol Conrad, and Jan Finch.

The historic Northford Congregational Church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Route 22 and Route 17 in the Northford village in North Branford. Church office hours are Monday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Website: www.northfordcongregational.church. Email address: ncchurch@snet.net. Like us on Facebook.

Northford Congregational Church Holy Week

The Northford Congregational Church, “A Little Church with a Big Heart,” will hold a Palm Sunday traditional service at 10 a.m. on Sun., Mar. 25, followed by coffee hour in the social hall. All are welcome.

There will be an annual Maundy Thursday service on Mar. 29 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary, with a soup and bread dinner at 6 p.m. in the social hall.

There will be a Good Friday service on Mar. 30 at 7 p.m.

On Easter Sunday, Apr. 1, there will be an 8 a.m. reflection time followed by breakfast with a free will donation. The traditional Easter Sunday service will be at 10 a.m., and flowers will be added to a large wooden cross to welcome and represent the new life offered by the Easter promise. All are welcome. There will be no Sunday School class on Easter Sunday.

The historic church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Route 22 and Route 17 in the Northford village in North Branford. Church office hours are Monday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Website: www.northfordcongregational.church. Email address: ncchurch@snet.net. Like us on Facebook.

Flower Sale to Benefit Church

Northford Congregational Church, “A Little Church with a Big Heart,” will have an Easter weekend flower/plant sale to benefit the church on Sat., Mar. 31, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and on Sun., Apr. 1, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

In the event of inclement weather, the flowers/plants will be sold inside the church social hall downstairs.

The historic church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Routes 22 and 17 in the Northford village in North Branford. Website: www.northfordcongregational.church.

Northford/North Branford Heirloom Custom Throw Blankets

The Northford Women’s Club, GFWC, has designed a custom throw showing highlights of various locations in our town. The throws are 48” x 68” with fringe on 4 sides, 100% machine washable and dryable cotton and are made in the USA. There are 4 color choices available: Cranberry, Dark Gray, Hunter Green and Purple. We are currently taking pre-orders. The pre-order price is \$45. The price after the pre-order will be \$50. All proceeds will be used towards our charity budget which supports local programs in our town and surrounding areas. The cutoff date for pre-orders is April 20th. For more information, please email maryellen.nfwc@gmail.com or call Mary Ellen at 203-484-9079. You can also view our webpage at www.northfordwomensclub.org or check us out on Facebook. The Northford Women’s Club is a member of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs.

Order Form

Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Address: _____

_____ Blankets @ \$45 each = _____ Color Choice(s): _____

Make checks payable to Northford Women’s Club, GFWC and mail to P.O. Box 264, Northford, CT 06472.

Ask the Forester Quiz Program - Date Change

On Wednesday, April 4, 2018, at 6 pm, the North Branford Land Conservation Trust (NBLCT) is sponsoring a fun quiz program, Ask the forester: Fun Facts About Trees and Forests. Mike Ferrucci, Forrester, will host this free public event fashioned in part after NPR’s “Wait, Wait, Don’t Tell Me” radio program. Have fun and test your tree and forestry knowledge while figuring out what’s real and what we’ve made up. Bring your curiosity, and any real forestry questions you have, and we’ll try to provide a new way of looking at forests and trees. The event will be held at the Atwater Library followed by a short break for refreshments and socializing. The public is invited to stay for the NBLCT Board meeting at 7:00 pm.

Mike Ferrucci, a lifelong resident of North Branford, is a graduate of NB High School. He has a BS Degree in Forest Management from the University of Maine and a Master of Forestry Degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Mike works as a consultant on forestry projects throughout the U.S. and is a part-time Adjunct Professor at the Yale Forestry School.

NBLCT is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to acquire and maintain open space and to promote the conservation of land and natural resources within the Town of North Branford and environs. If you are interested in helping to preserve and protect open space in North Branford and for more information about NBLCT, go to www.nblandtrust.org or visit us on Facebook.

Free Music Together Demo
at the Atwater Memorial Library

Friday, March 23rd @ 10:00AM

Join the fun, innovative music & movement program.

For newborn - 5 years (and adults who LOVE them!)

Call or stop in to sign up 203-315-6020.

Registration is Required.



Remember, we are just a Hop, Skip and a Jump
away from North Branford

Easter Specialties

Easter Pies

- Ham Pie (9” Round 2” Deep) \$40.00
- Rice Pie 10” \$22.00
- Ricotta Pie \$25.00
- Italian Cream Pie (1/2 choc./1/2 van)\$22.00

Easter Brunch Gourmet Stuffed Breakfast Breads

- Bacon, Egg & Cheese \$10.05
- Sausage, Egg & Cheese \$10.05
- Sausage, Pear, Egg & Goat Cheese \$13.95
- California Benedict (Bacon, Avocado, Egg, Hollandaise) \$11.95
- Western -Pep., Onions, Ham, Egg & Ched. \$11.95
- Greek -Egg, Spin, Tom, Kalamata Olives, Feta \$12.95

Check out our Full Stuffed Breads
and Catering Menu

Roccosoffwooster.com

Remember, we still deliver to our friends
& neighbors in 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

\$.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.

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

Southern CT Restoration. Insurance Restoration & General Contracting Services. New construction,Remodeling, Kitchens, Baths, Roofing, Siding, Windows, Doors, Decks and Painting. Call Pat Zichichi @ 203-239-9600

PLUMBING

John DiMaggio Plumbing - Residential/Commercial repairs/remodeling. Big or small. Water Heater Specials! Licensed & Insured. Call 203 - 627 - 6826 or 203-484-4822. References available.

HELP WANTED

Twin Lake Children’s Center in Northford is looking for an afternoon caregiver to work with toddlers. The position is 1 to 6 Monday through Friday. Please email carol8615@sbcglobal.net or call 203-484-6700. If you want to make a difference in the lives of children, are dependable, and energetic we want to hear from you.

VENDORS WANTED

A Giant Tag & Craft Sale will be held on Saturday, June 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the North Haven Congregational Church, 28 Church Street, North Haven, CT. Up to twenty spaces are available outside on the church lawn and a limited number of spaces will be offered inside the building (first come, first serve). The cost is \$25.00 for a space (bring your own table). Set up will begin at 7:30 a.m. Please call the church office at 203-239-5691 for information and to sign up. No rain date.

National Stop-the-Bleed Day, March 31st

The Branford and North Branford Fire Departments are hosting a cooperative Stop-the-Bleed day of training for the residents of both towns. There will be two, 2-hour programs on Saturday, March 31st.

Where: Branford Fire Department Headquarters, 45 N. Main Street in Branford

When: Saturday, March 31st

Two classes: 10:00 – Noon or 1:00 – 3:00pm

Cost: Free to residents of either town.

Pre-registration is required because seats for the course are limited. Go to the following URL to sign-up: <https://sccems-soc.ticketleap.com/stop-the-bleed-branford-fd/> Although the recent tragedies in Sandy Hook, Las Vegas, and Florida emphasize the seriousness of mass shootings, a majority of severe bleeding injuries occur at home, at work, or on the roadways and involve only 1 victim. The skills learned in the Stop-the-Bleed training will help you be prepared to save the life of someone with a life-threatening wound. Applying a tourniquet and packing the wound along with direct pressure to control severe bleeding until EMS arrives. For more information regarding the Stop-the-Bleed initiative, go to: <https://www.stopthebleeday.org>

Ask about our One Month FREE Storage



SELF - STORAGE

RVs



BOATS



CAMPERS



TRAILERS



Budget® Truck Rentals

**Fenced in Yard for
Contractor Storage**

**Family owned business
79 Ciro Road, North Branford
(off Rte 80)
203-315-1225**



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

GALA WINE TASTING FUND RAISER

New Haven Sail & Power Squadron (NHSPS), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization dedicated to making boating safer and more enjoyable by teaching classes in seamanship, navigation, and related subjects.

A Gala Wine Tasting fund raiser will be held at Amarante's Sea Cliff, 62 Cove St., New Haven, on Thurs., April 19, from 6-10 p.m. Ticket donation of \$50.00 per person. Wine will be provided by Grand Vin. All wines will be 90+ rated. Deluxe social hour at 6 p.m., wine presentations at 6:30 p.m., full course dinner buffet 7-10 p.m. Cash bar, silent auction, and live music by Denise Parri's Three & Company.

For information and reservations, contact Past Commander Donna Ferrucci, at 203-215-0326 or d.ferrucci@snet.net. Payment deadline of Apr. 9. Make checks payable to: NHSPS. Mail to: Peter Jenkin, 32 Fieldstone Ct., North Haven CT 06473. Donations of silent auction items being accepted. Tax-deductible donations will help support the NHSPS education programs. For information on NHSPS, go to: www.nhsps.org.

Smith Library Receives Bench

from Plastic Film Recycling Program



On Tuesday, February 27, members of the NB Library Staff and Board took part in a bench presentation ceremony. The bench is the second one the Town earned as part of the Plastic Film Recycling Program. Smith Library was awarded the bench for having collected the most plastic film for the second half of 2017. NB Solid/Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee members Bill Savastano and Hank Petroskey made

the presentation. Please visit the library and enjoy sitting on the bench. Thanks again to everyone who participates in the Plastic Film Recycling Program. Please continue to do so and please put only acceptable items in the collection bins. That will help greatly when sorting the material.

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.

Library Staff and Board Members:

Front row (sitting on the bench): Library Board members Carol Davidson (Chair) and Virginia Fallon

Second row (standing): Library staff members: Helena Deegan, Amy Noble, Teresa Holabird, Fran McGinnity, Lauren Davis (Library Director)

Hike Saltonstall Ridge

with the NB Land Conservation Trust

Want to explore the border between North Branford and Branford on a family-friendly hike? Join us on Saturday, March 24. There are some moderate slopes.

Starting from Twin Lakes Rd (Twin Lakes runs between Rte 80 and Rte 139), turn up Summit Drive. At the t-intersection, bear right to stay on Summit Drive.

Then take the second right onto Lantern View Drive. Park at the end of the cup-de-sac, avoiding driveways, mailboxes, and basketball hoops.

Meet by 9:15 for step off at 9:30. Rain date 3/25.

NBLCT is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to acquire and maintain open space and to promote the conservation of land and natural resources within the Town of North Branford and environs. For more information about NBLCT, go to www.nblandtrust.org or visit us on Facebook.

Free Public Stargazing at Young's Park in Branford

The Astronomical Society of New Haven is hosting free family public viewing events during 2018. They start after sunset at Young's Park in Branford. Telescopes will be pointed at the planets, star clusters and nebulae. Members will also point out the constellations and galaxies. Dress for cool weather. Red flashlights are encouraged. Since white light causes a loss of night vision, please point white flashlights at the ground. ASNH can assist you with your own telescope or binoculars, New members are welcome.

The Saturday dates are March 17, April 21, May 5, June 9, October 6 and November 10. For directions, info and cancellations due to weather, go to www.asnh.org or call 866-808-ASNH. March 17th we will see the Orion Nebula and you will learn how to find it when you get home. There will be many beautiful star clusters including the Pleiades. It will be a dark night due to a new moon so there will be some nice deep sky objects to find through the telescopes



**999 Foxon Road,
North Branford
203-484-0330**

www.pastryfusions.com

EASTER MENU

Italian Cream Pie - Italian short crust filled with chocolate and vanilla Italian cream with chopped maraschino cherries \$22.50

Ricotta Pie - Italian short crust filled with ricotta custard \$22.50

Wheat Pie - Italian short crust filled with cooked wheat and ricotta custard \$22.50

Rice Pie - Italian short crust filled with cooked rice & ricotta custard. \$22.50

Ham Pie - Made with imported ham, prosciutto, provolone, hard salami, and basket cheese 10" \$60.00 8" \$40.00

Coconut Cream Pie \$15.50 - Banana Cream Pie \$15.50

Chocolate Cream Pie \$15.50 - Coconut Custard Pie \$14.50

Chocolate Lemon Pie \$14.50

Cannoli Chip Platter - Cannoli chips with a tub of cannoli cream. Small serves 8 \$20.00 Large serves 16 \$40.00

St. Joseph Zeppola - Chocolate, Vanilla or Ricotta

Assorted Italian Pastries

Breads

Italian Sweet Bread with a sugar frosting \$10.00

Hot Cross Buns \$1.00 each

Snowflake Dinner Rolls \$5.00/doz

Assorted Stuffed Breads:

Antipasta - \$11.50

Pepperoni & Cheese, Spinach & Cheese, Eggplant Parmesan or The Veggie. \$10.00 Each

Full Stuffed bread menu is also available to order.

**To ensure availability,
please place all orders by Thursday April 13th.**

Holiday Hours:

**Friday, March 30th, 7:00 - 5:00. Saturday, March 31st 8:00 - 4:00
Sunday, April 1st Closed**