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Volume 31 No 11, February 21, 2025

CELEBRATE SMALL BUSINESSES



SUPREME SEAFOOD CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

Congratulations to Supreme Seafoods' owners, Robert Marcarelli and Jared Schulefand, as they celebrated alongside former owners Vinny Amendola and Ralph Caprio, North Branford's Mayor Rose Angeloni, Town Manager Michael Downes, Assistant Town Manager Rory Burke, and members of the Shoreline Chamber President Dee Jacob, Membership and Operations Manager Diane Laffitte, Ambassadors Andy Verderame (Cancion Ultra-Premium Tequila), Denise Mangano (East River Energy), and Michele Moore (Branford/Guilford's Neighbors).

A wonderful celebration of both tradition and continuity! Congratulations to Supreme Seafood and everyone involved!



Welcome to Mariana's Boutique and Gifts!

The Town of North Branford and the Shoreline Chamber of Comerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to welcome Mariana's Boutique and Gifts to town! Mariana's is a terrific addition to Northford Center at 855 Forest Rd.

Pictures feature Mayor Rose Marie Angeloni, Councilor Marie Diamond, Town Manager Michael Downes, Asst. Town Manager Rory Burke, Shoreline Chamber President Dee Jacob, along with boutique owner Rita Cretella and her family.

Mariana's Boutique and Gifts brings a unique shopping experience to the area, offering carefully curated pieces perfect for any occasion. Whether you're searching for a thoughtful gift or a special treasure for yourself or a loved one, this charming boutique has something for everyone!

Stop by and see what makes Mariana's Boutique and Gifts so special!



Knights of Columbus Council 6801 Saint Joseph Lasagna Supper

Saturday, March 15, - 6:00 Saint Augustine Church Hall \$25.00 per person, children under 12 free. Lasagna, Salad, coffee and Vinnie Candelora's famous Zeppole di San Giueseppe





For tickets Call Wayne at 203-410-3885



TOTOKET TIMES

Deadline		Publication Date	
February	28	March	7
March	14	March	21
March	28	April	4
April	11	April	18
April	25	May	2
May	9	May	16
May	23	May	10

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NOTICE For issues that are not mailed you can

pick up your Totoket Times at any of the following locations. This is a great chance to get out and meet some of your local businesses and neighbors!

North Branford

Atwater Library Patco Station Town Hall Post Office North Branford Barbershop Hair Designs

Northford



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Calling all mini mommies for princess tea time with dolls and friends! Join us in the Venue for a fancy morning of shopping, playing + a Rapunzel visit!

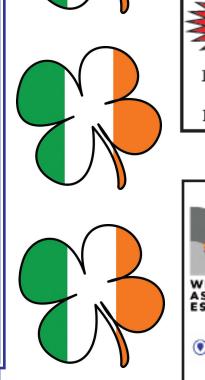
Kids \$38 Adults \$15 XAONX Includes: • Tea +Tiny Bites Tea Party Hat making station A Handmade bow from Nifty Napping Visit with Princess Rapunzel from 11am-12pm



Pop-Up Shop Handcrafted Children's Fashion by Nicole Lambert

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EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL

State Representative Vincent Candelora



No, Governor Lamont hasn't issued a new mandate forcing you to buy an electric vehicle—at least not yet. While some of my Democrat colleagues in the legislature might be disappointed, he's put that controversial policy on pause for now.

But Connecticut *does* have an electric vehicle mandate problem.

In 2022, Democrats passed a law requiring the state to transition *half* of its vehicle

fleet—2,400 cars and light-duty trucks—to electric by the end of this fiscal year. That's 1,200 vehicles by June 30.

So far, the state has acquired just 43.

Yes, you read that right.

And what happens now? Absolutely nothing. There's no penalty, no accountability. The only requirement? The Department of Administrative Services must report back to the legislature on why it failed to meet the goal.

The excuse? A lack of charging infrastructure.

Sound familiar? It should. Republicans warned Democrats about this back in 2022. We argued the mandate was unrealistic, but our concerns were ignored. Instead, majority lawmakers pushed forward—because for them, virtue signaling was more important than sound policy.

And now, taxpayers are on the hook. This mandate forces the state to purchase expensive electric vehicles with costly maintenance needs, while also requiring a massive—and expensive—build-out of charging stations.

That's why I, along with my House Republican colleagues, have introduced legislation (H.B. 5373) to repeal this pie-in-the-sky mandate.

Given our electric grid's limited capacity and the sky-high rates Connecticut residents already pay, this push for forced electrification is reckless.

Perhaps the worst part? Majority legislators misled the very environmentalists who fought for this mandate. They made promises they knew they couldn't keep—then patted themselves on the back for their so-called climate leadership. Now, those advocates, including our friends and neighbors, are left disappointed and betrayed, used for political theater instead of real progress.

It's time for Connecticut to move past empty messaging and focus on *real solutions*.

Rep. Vincent Candelora -House Republican Leader 86th District – North Branford, Durham, East Haven, Guilford



LETTER LATER

The Law Office of

AT LAW

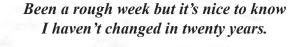
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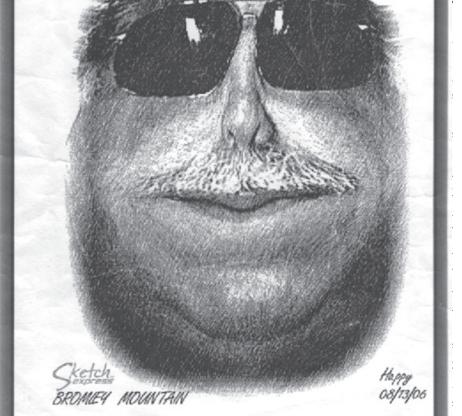
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR

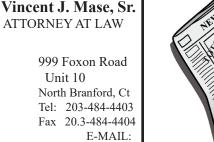
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Mase_attoreny@sbcglobal.net

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Letters to the editor...

This paper encourages all readers to voice their opinions and comments. The Totoket Times is not responsible for erroneous information or statements in letters to the editor. Letters should be as brief as possible. All letters must be signed. A telephone number should be included and no personal attacks. This paper reserves the right to edit all letters. All letters should be addressed to : The Editor P.O. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472

NEW DATE FOR PORCHETTA DINNER

Join old friends or make new ones as The North Haven Sons & Daughters of Italy celebrate. Saturday, March 29, 2025, 6:00



- Porchetta
- Stuffed Shells
 - Vegetables
 - Salad
 - Desserts
- & Coffee or Tea
- Bottled Water



\$25.00 for members \$30.00 for non members

Hope Christian Church Hall (ALCHOHOL FREE) Montowese Avenue North Haven.

> Entertainment by Jon Condie

For tickets call Frank at 203-410-4254





SCHOOL

Snacks for Veterans The North Haven Sons and Daughters of Italy, Lodge 2805 recently held

a collection of single serving snacks to benefit the patients of the West Haven VA Hospital. The drive was very successful, and members of the Community Outreach Committee delivered these snacks to members of the Dept. of CT VFW Auxiliary, who in turn will distribute them to patients at the WHVA on a regular basis. The Lodge was proud to partner with the VFW Auxiliary for this mission. Thanks to all our Lodge members for the generous donations.



Photo left to right: Linda Fedun and Noella Mott (Senior VP and President, respectively - VFW Auxiliary Post 8075 Prospect), Kathy Fleischauer (President, Dept of CT VFW Auxiliary), Ralph Casciello (Officer of North Haven Sons and Daughters of Italy).



Dasies Collect for Diaper Drive

Daisies from Troop 61191, collected diapers and filled the diaper drive donation bin at the NBPD. They are pictured above with a representative for the North Banford Police Department





North Branford Robotics Team Aims for World Championship!

Being in Vex Robotics is not just about building a robot—it takes teamwork, strategy, and problem-solving. The Olliebots, a robotics team of middle schoolers from North Branford have been practicing all these skills and more this season.

They have competed against over seventy teams from Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts, proving they are one of the best teams. So far, they have won seven awards including three teamwork awards and others for innovation, creative thinking and design. Their success has already earned them a spot at the State Championship and they might even get the chance to compete at the World Championship in Dallas, TX!

The team is made up of Alex Babu, Caden Giacomarro, and Cassidy Anderson. They all take part in designing, programming, and competing with their robots. Meeting twice a week, they use STEM skills like problem-solving, critical thinking, and collaboration to keep improving. The Olliebots' hard work is not just earning them awards-it is inspiring other students in North Branford to get involved in robotics and innovation! Submitted by Cassidy Andeson



Tues, 8:30 - 5:00 Wed 8:30 - 5:00 Thur 8:30 - 5:00 Fri, 8:30 - 5:00 Saturday 8:30 - 2:00 - WALK - INS ONLY -

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North Branford High School Period II Honors

<u>High Honors – 12th</u>

Allen, Noah Amendola, Ashley Anderson, Kyle Ardito, Lily Bigio, Gabriella Chopus, Justin Danner, Nathan Dell'Aquila, Vincent DeLucia, Ryan Dion, Gabrielle Esposito, Benjamin Falcioni, Alexa Famiglietti, Nico Giovanni, Anthony Guerrero, Aleksander Hanna, Mary Higgins, Joshua Hills, Adriana Keil, Jordan Krebs, Marley Lamot, Joanna Melillo, Samantha Nay, Emilyn Nuzzo, Megan Onofrio, Isabella Onofrio, Julianna Patel, Preet Penna, Addison Perrelli, Ava Raynor, Catherine Regino, Nicolette Rizzuti, Aaliyah Scalia, Matthew Schmidt, Alivia Spanier, Sofia Torowus, Calyncia High Honors – 11th Bliven, Gary Brockett, Jack Budd, Michael

Carusone, Justin Ciampi, Luca Cioffi-Smith, Chase Connelly, Tyler Crane, Abigail DePino, Payton Haeckel, Jason Heffernan, Tyler Ianniello, Gianna Lacroix, Cameron Navarrete, Cassidy Papa, Samantha Pienkosz, Olivia Poston, Jacob Preiss, Emma Sarenas, Benjamin Sigel, Anthony Sorrell, Sophia Sudusky, Kyle Tang, Meghan Traill, Gavin Urbina, Mateo Venturini. Leo Vitarisi. Lauren Warren, Isabella Westefeld, John HH - 10th Grade Ahmed, Afran Cameron, Peyton Chasanoff, Ella Dolzani, Steven Dowson, Marina Duggan, Finn Esposito, Ava Forgione, Matthew Johnson, Samantha Kilstrom, Mason Kleckner, Kayla Kundrath, Brianna LeBeau, Autumn Magazzi, Marcus

Martone, Alia Miller, Craig Nargi, Joseph Paolini, Natalia Patel, Vedi Peterson, Leif Podzikowski, Siena Rish, Aesop Sigal, Alexandra Sigal, Michael Wang, Natalee Weld, Aubrey Wojciechowski, Emma Wright, Carly Zulawski, Katheryn <u>High Honors – 9th</u> Grade Acampora, Justin Allan, Taylor Altland, Gabriel Anderson, Matteo Behrens, Greta Biolzi, Sadie Camarco, Logan Castro, Lance Cereni, Mariela Chittenden, Shelby Collins, Andrew Connelly, Kylie Cronan, Alexander Kirmali, Layla Knoob, Tyler Lorenti, Olivia McDermott-Miliano, Gabriella Merry, Jacob Pavic, Marin Redman, Colby Smith, Broden Traill, Ian

Vitale, Liliana Wyatt, Adilyn Honors – 12th Grade Cahill, Olivia Cole, Riley Cosgrove, Jason DeFrancesco, Alexa Farina, Natalia Fortier, Aidan Franco, Willie Galasso, Gregory Giardina, Jayden Godoy, Noah Hannan, Catherine Izzo, Tanner Kamienski, Daytona LaCerva, Giuseppe Lin, Tina Mellilo, Karma Minnocci, Brody Monde, Jack Perez, Yamil Piccirillo. Gennaro Pitcher, Madison Sinski, Kyla Trindade, Michael Virginelli, Adam Wray, Denise Honors - 11th Grade Aiken, Bree Beecher, Zachary Berardesca, Ashley Brindisi, Marcus Brittell, Avery Brustman, Leah Carbone, Santino Cenotti-Green, Jasmine Esposito, Alexa Estrada, Nylis Falconi, Jair

Gage, Sebastian Jara, Wilyan Leone, Gavin Marino, Alyssa Nastri, Jamie O'Brien, Charles O'Rourke, Ashlyn Piercey, Christopher Raymond, Caleb Sargent, Brock Savo, Myrissa Valente, Jonna Honors - 10th Grade Balliu, Jayden Biehler, Aiden Carbone, Armani DeWitt, Charlotte Famiglietti, Gabriela Ferraro, Myles Gauvin, Cameron Guerrero, Gabriel Harper, Mallory IIitli, Semih Jara, Javier Keil, Brianna Lahun, Baindu Marashi. Edmira Martone, Santino McCullough, Joseph Montero, Justin Nargi, Emma Perrelli, Mya Pinette, Eliza Plano, Luca Ramage, Mae Rivera, Luis Rosado, Haylee Spinelli, Valentina Troqe, Iris Urbano, Mario Velasco, Matthew

SCHOOL

Honors 9th Grade

Abanoz, Eda Amendola, Sophia Beisaw, Mia Brindisi, Nadia Brockett, Emma Cicarella, Gianna Cook, Quinn Dagliere, Gracie Daley, Erin DeFrancesco, Ava DeMetro, John DiStefano, Mason Dudek, Cooper Farquhar, Dominic Fryer, John Gagnon, Logan Galasso, Matthew Gambardella, Lilah Getman, Lyllianah Hortillo, Ethan Jaracy, Jake Kingsbury, Riley Lake, Evan LaRock, Monnique LeClaire, Isabella Luangsay, Natalie Lucibella, Dessa Maider, Isabella Mann, Emily Martinez, Andrew Murphy, Ryan Negron, Ellexis Parisi, Francesca Patel, Dhanvi Patel, Risha Pelczar, Carson Pitcher, Payton Vander Wyk, Noah Virginelli, Sophia Walston, Joshua

NBHS is Superior

The North Branford High School literary magazine "Kaleidoscope" has been selected to receive recognition as a "Superior" publication from the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) through their Recognizing Excellence in Art and Literacy Magazines (REALM). This prestigious designation means that "Kaleidoscope" is exceptional in its content, design, and ability to inspire a love of writing. This proud accomplishment was only bestowed upon 10 public and private high schools in Connecticut.

Kaleidoscope is run by faculty advisor, Chelsea Dodds and student leaders Sabrina Lin and Noah Allen, however the entire production represents the collective work and inspiration of many students and the entire English Department at North Branford High School. Ms. Dodds, an accomplished writer herself, continues to inspire students and their creativity in many ways across NBHS. We are so proud of all involved in this great recognition and it represents yet another way our NBHS students staff continue to show their talents and leadership across so many activities and content areas.

North Branford High School Class of 1975 50th Class Reunion

Save the date: August 22, 2025, 6 to10pm Amarante's, New Haven, CT

For more information and updates: Facebook group **NBHS Class of 1975** Please send your contact information (name, address and email address) **NOBranfordhsclassof 1975gmail.com**Please share this information with other classmates.



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North Branford Intermediate School Period II Honors Romano, Luca

Grade 8 HH

Adhikari. Ashmi Alves, Mya Lyn Anderson, Nico Bernardo, Bella Mia Brigance, Evangeline Brochu, Landen John Burke, Siobhan Caffalette, Avery Camejo, Hannah Corso, Gianna Rose Criscuolo, William Dagliere, Ellie Reese DeLucia, Tessa Lyn Demiroz, Ekin Diaz, Max Avery Downes, Alexandra Dowson, Lauren Freeman, Sophia Fusco-Cuneo, Lucy Giannotti, Brinleigh Gwiazda, Macey Hannon, Carli May Heon, Nora Jane Horotan, Alfred Jaracy, Jack Thomas Karim, Fatima Kavanaugh, James Levix, Caroline Rose Lucibello, Tessa Macauley, Jack MacDougall, Kendall Malkin, Riley Manning, Avery Manske, Gunner Marino, Gia Caterina Mazzucco, Gianna Pantano, Mason Podzikowski, Sophia Poston, Tyler Mason Potocsky, Addison Rolston, Brielle

Salvati, Gianni Salz, Arianna Isabelle Sandagata, Luciano Savo, Lucas Dominic Spanier, Elisia Belle Toto, Lia Morgan Tracz, Tanner Asheton Yanza-Rivera, Jaquelyn Sciuto, Abbey Lynn Grade 7 HH Altland, Noelle Ames, Eden Maci Aneiro, Hayden Bayreuther, Harrison Bernardo, Talia Rose Bonaldo, Brooke Brown, Aubrey Brown, Randall Budd, Lillian Mary Calvo, Allison Rose Ciancola, Tyler Claude, Mason Noah Como, Michael Alcide Connelly, Emma Constantinople, Isabella Brown, Adriana Cook, Owen Paul Coplin, Rya Nicole Cretella, Sofia Doughty, Eli Joseph Duggan, Cashel Sean Elliston, Aden John Ercolani, Aubrey Marie Cousino, Giulianna Ferraro, Madelyn Frani, Gabriella Furtak, Lilliana Hurley, Aishlyn Izzo, Leon Paul Kleckner, Zoey Leete, Norah Shea Lucibello, Amalia Martinelli, Nathaniel s

Morrell, Reagan Murphy, Madeline Pelczar, Anna Ramage, Brody James Reding, Alexander Saccu, Mason Joseph Saja, Austin Martin Salvati, Isabella Anne Sorensen, Benjamin Swanson, Kevin Robert Tobias, Julia Isabelle Toti, Giuliana Lidia Troge, Joni Erdet Velasco, Samantha Venturini, Nino Wheaton, Mara Wyatt, Coltyn Jason Grade 6 HH Arabolos, Isabella Bayusik, Hailey Bernier, Ava Bevilacqua, Mariachiara Verzi, Mitchell Allan Brindisi, Livia Buontempo, Mila Byrd, Jeremiah Robert Cahill, Cooper Flynn Camp, Geneviese Rose Cifaldi, Madison Connellan, Emma Crane, Jackson Donald DeMartino, Logan Dotson, Natalie Estrada, Valentina Falcigno, Luciana Falconi, Erick Slayder Farotti, Jackson Parker Forsyth, McKayla Ann Fusco-Cuneo, Gavin Girardi, Taylor Sutton

Green, Evan Viktor Gularte, Emma Victoria Guercia, Oakleigh Horn, Aubrey Claire Kokorus, Alexander Mazzucco, Jason Melillo, Anderson Peterson, Tristan Davis Piekarski, Hayden Lee Rapuano, Topanga Romano, Ella Marie Sciuto, Brooke Helen Sermabekian, Victoria Sherwood, Logan Shove, Carter Michael Skinner, LilyAnn Smith, Mason Allan Sommo, Louis Michael Sorrentino, Nicholas Stadolnik, Peter John Stavrides, Eva e Taylor, Jeremiah Walsh Tracz, Bennett Reide Weld, Emmy Bree Wenzel, Isabella Wood, Fiona Elizabeth **Grade 8 Honors** Apuzzo, Jake Thomas Atwood, Caden Balg, Will Mahoney Bello, Brynn Amerling Brustman, Owen Ryan Caso, Caisey Jenna Collins, Natalia Vivian Conroy, Jesse James Cucinotta, Jackson Davino, Olivia Carol Deleo, Maddox John DiMeo, Jaxson John Duffy, James Pasquale Dynderski, Marlie Gilkes, Blake Patrick

Grimes, David Thomas Gauvin, Presley Jude Hansen, Emma Rose Iamunno, Santino Knowlton, Benjamin Leigh, Ava Scott Loomis, Ana Marie McLain, Jerimaiah Montero, Christian Morales, Alaysia Muravnick, Ashlyn Onofrio, Christian Oyanedel, Emma Page, Gavin Arthur Pascale, Sophia Louise Reep, Brian John Rodriguez, Maya Rubino, Leah Marie Sabine, Ariel Isabella Santiago, Giana Nicole Saulino, Nicolas Scasino, Marie Beth Smith, Jade Sativa Speringo, Gabriella Stavrides, Nicholas Timario, Nathan Albert Tynes, Jason Antonio Zolnik, Gavin Smith Garde 7 Honors Allen, Cameron Sean Blotney, Cooper Cardenas, Toby Iker Carolla, Giuliana Marie Karbowski, Kaci Rose Carter, Liviana Casella, Matteo Gaetano Reding, Jacqueline Casteel, Jerimiah Cerrone, Santino Cleary, Molly May Cramp, Matthew DiLungo, Gennaro Esposito, Lily Amelia

COMMUNITY

Gularte, Madison Sofia Haggerty, Richard Krebs, Trey Maxwell Lavoie, Brooklyn Maturo, Robert Anthony Maybury, Myla Blake Mendez, Angelise Mullen, Liam Muratti, Luciana Nargi, Olivia Marie Nocereto, Brooke O'Donnell, Ronin Michael Pizarro, Liangeliz Nicole Richardson, Breanna Ritter, Joseph Russell Roen, Teigan Joel Rosado, Isabella L Sekelsky, Jakson Jace Vissicchio-Kelly, Mia Voos, Allison Summer Walston, David Joseph **GGrade 6 Honors** Anderson, Rocco Sean Barraco, Lillian Grace Caffalette, Preston James Keith Camp, Madison Rose D'Aria, Carmelina Flynn, Christian Sean Fryer, Avery Carol Jara, Nicolas Mateo Ranz, Anastasia Mae

Rodriguez, Alicia Tracz, Parker Weldon Tripp, Nicholas Vitale, Michael Wilson, Payton Sophia Yarnall, Travis Kella

THEY MAKE US PROUD

Martinez, Emma

Michael Urrata was named to the Dean's List at Champlain College in Burlington, VT.

Lauren Dodge wa named to the Dean's List at Central Connecticut State University.

Jaiden Sorrell took the Nursing Oath at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Kyle Nichols, Ezra Nierenberg, Dhruvi Patel, Lauren Ackerman; Elais Defaranos and Alec Johnson were named to the Dean's List at the University of Hartford.

Women's Club, GFWC Is Accepting Scholarship Applications

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

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

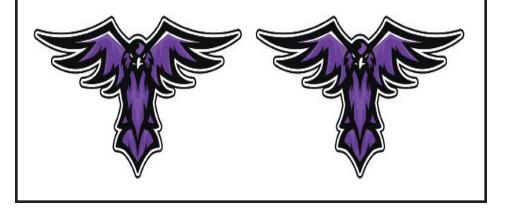
The Phipps scholarship has a maximum award of \$1,000. Candidates must have completed two or more years on undergraduate work in an accredited institution

Noelle Small was named to the Dean's List at the College of Charleston in Charleston, SC.

Catie Dow was named to the Dean's List at Clark University in Worcester, MA

Lisa Munck and Christian Perrotti were named to the Dean's List at Goodwin University in East Hartford.

Nicholas Beecher and Samantha Franceschi were named to the Dean's List at Salve Regina University in Newport, RI



with a 3.0 average or higher toward a bachelor's or post graduate degree.

Completed applications, including general and personal information, a financial statement, instructor/employer references, official transcript of at least the most recent two years of undergraduate or graduate work must be received by February 10, 2025.

The application may be obtained by visiting the Northford-North Branford Women's Club website at www.northfordnbwomensclubgfwc.org. For further information, contact Rose Lynch at 203-483-8395.

Applications Available for North Branford Scholarships

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 beginning March 1st. Graduating high school seniors living in North Branford regardless of what school they graduate from are eligible. Applications must be in by March 28st,2025. 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 me at 203 483-1311.

CHURCH

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Branford Bible Chapel. 212 Branford Rd., corner of Twin Lakes Rd. 203-488-3586. Sunday morning : 10:00 - 10:30 Worship & Lord's Supper, 10:30 11:00 Announcements and Music Minity, 11:00 -11:45 Ministering of God's Word & Sunday School. . Nursery provided. Vacation Bible School, missions & outreach programs. www.branfordbiblechapel.org

Community Baptist Church. 53 Hopson Avenue, Branford, CT. Pastor Jon Bickel. Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 a.m. and Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Nursery is provided. Adult bible study and prayer meeting, and children's clubs on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. For more info.: 203-488-8581; <u>info@cbcbranford.org</u>; <u>www.cbcbranford.org</u>

Hope Christian Church (we are an Assemblies of God affiliated church) 211 Montowese Ave., North Haven CT <u>www.hopeag.com</u>. Sunday Service 10:00 AM, Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM. Follow us on Facebook. "realpeople realhope reallife" (203) 234-7328

The North Branford Congregational Church, NACCC, 1680 Foxon Road, North Branford CT. Join us for meaningful worship and Bible based teaching every Sunday at 10 am. Sunday School for children during service. Communion on the first Sunday of the month. We offer Bible study, choir, lunch bunch, 2nd Sunday brunch, charity work, book club, praise team, men's fellowship and more. Our pastor is the Rev. Wendy Tarry. To contact our church: Office hours are Wednesday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Phone: 203.488.8456, email: <u>nobdcong@sbcglobal.net</u>, website: www.northbranfordcongregational. org Come grow in faith with us! **Northford Community Church.** 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: <u>northfordcc@gmail.com</u>. Office Hours: Tuesday 9am-1pm; Other days by appointment. John Vigneri, Pastor. Catherine Klouda, worship leader. 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 <u>www.northfordcommunity.church</u>.

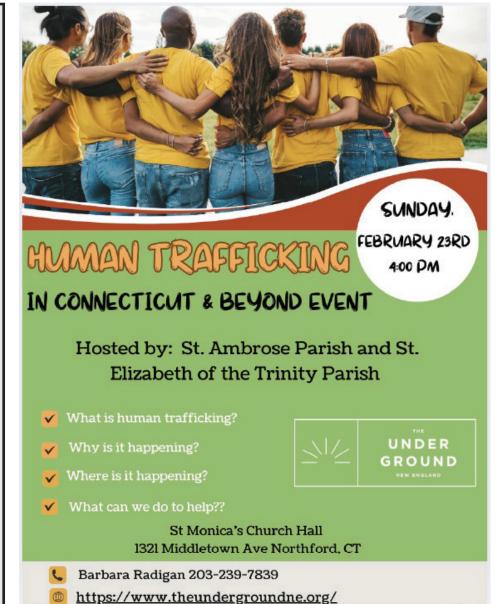
St. Ambrose Parish – Roman Catholic Parish with two church buildings, St. Augustine, located at 30 Caputo Rd. North Branford and St. Monica, located at 1321 Middletown Ave. Northford.

The pastor is Rev. Robert L. Turner. All are welcome and invited to join us for Mass! Summer Mass times include: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 9:00 AM at St. Augustine. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4:30 PM at St. Augustine (English Ordinary no incense used), Sunday at 9:00 AM at St. Monica (English Ordinary, no incense used) and on Sunday at 11:00 AM at St. Augustine (Latin Ordinary with use of incense). The sacrament of Reconciliation is offered a half hour before all Masses, excepting Sunday, and on Monday evenings from 5-6 PM during Adoration. The parish office is located at St. Augustine Church and is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-1. You can access the bulletin and staff emails at NBcatholics.org. If you are new to the area and looking for a wonderful parish or homeschool co-op to join, please visit us or give us a call!

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, the white church on the hill in the heart of Northford, has been an integral part of Northford since 1763! Worship services are held Sundays at 10 a.m., except during the Summer are held at 9 a.m.(from June through Labor Day). Refreshments and fellowship always follows. Please join us - we'd love to get to know you! All are always welcome!! St. Andrew's supports many community programs. The Food Pantry of North Branford is located in the lower level of St. Andrew's Parish Hall. St. Andrew's annually contributes to the North Branford Scholarship Program; North Branford Social Services Thanksgiving Basket Share and the Christmas gift and food basket share programs; Back-to-School backpacks; clothing donations (donation shed located at the back of the church parking lot); and more. A number of fundraising events are held throughout the year to help us help our neighbors, such as a Rhubarb Fest, Ice Cream Socials, and Harvest Supper. Also, the Parish Hall is available for rent for birthday parties, showers, receptions, etc. The Rev. Bryan Spinks is St. Andrew's priest; Nan Monde is Sr. Warden. For more information please contact Nan at 203-710-7005."

Please join us for worship at **St. John's Episcopal Church** at 129 Ledge Hill Road in Guilford, CT 06437. Our services are at 10 am each Sunday with Youth Spiritual Foundation for ages 5 and up every first and third Sunday. Coffee hour after our service in our parish hall. See our Facebook page St. John's Episcopal Church, Guilford CT. 203-457-1094. check our website at <u>www.saintjohnsguilford.org</u>

Shoreline Community Church located at 9 Business Park Dr., Units 1-4, Branford, CT. Call us at 203.481.8919. Sunday Services at 8:30 and 10:00 AM (Children and Jr. High activities meet during our 10 AM service). For more information, check out ur website www.sccbranford.org. SCC is a diverse community that is dedicated to Making the Invisible God Visible. United Methodist Church, Branford 811 East Main St, Branford (Route 1, across from Bill Miller's Castle). www.umcbranford.org or (203) 488-0549. Sunday service 9:30am - both in-person and live on our website. "The Church on the Rock," led by Pastor . We invite you to discover the power of faith in Jesus Christ bringing God's love to the world. Join us to worship, experience God's word, and stay connected. Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. While we are in transition, we continue to hold services of Morning Prayer following Rite 2 in the Book of Common Prayer, and do have services of Holy Eucharist when we are fortunate to get a supply priest. At this time, we have a single service at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday morning. Refreshments and fellowship to follow service in the parish hall. Please visit our Facebook page or our website zionepiscopalchurch.org. Zion is an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ. 203-488-7395



Lenten Walk 2025

North Haven: Join us for the Lenten Walk as we gather for the Stations of the Cross beginning on March 25th, Tuesday's at 5:00pm (also April 1st, 8th, and 15th) at the All Saints Cemetery Mausoleum-700 Middletown Avenue. The Walk will continue for 4 weeks ending the Tuesday of Holy week. Please mark your calendar to SAVE THE DATES. There is no registration required. Please wear "weather-appropriate" clothing. This event will take place outdoors. Walking is of moderate intensity. We will be walking up and down hills and stopping to stand at each Station to pray. Those interested in taking on a more responsible role, please reach out to Barbara at 203 780-8418 or email her at bgode@ccacem.org. Visit our website often for any scheduling updates at www.ccacem.org

Night of Prizes at Saint Anthony's Come join the fun at ST. ANTHONY SOCIETY's 46th annual Night of

Come join the fun at ST. ANTHONY SOCIETY's 46th annual Night of Prizes, (formally known as the Card Party) to be held at St. Anthony Parish Center, 70 Washington Ave., New Haven on Friday, April 25, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:15 pm. Food and beverage available for purchase or you can bring your own. Admission ticket is \$10.00 which includes coffee, Italian pastry and chance for door prizes. Raffle tickets for sale that night for fantastic prizes and there will also be a 50/50 raffle. For information or tickets please call Anna Simeone 203-710-5004. No admission tickets will be sold after Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

Northford Community Church



Hosts:

Common Ground Connecting our Town This is a North Branford wide community discussion that is open to everyone. We will be discussing the challenges around housing affordability and will have some opportunities to have a meaningful conversation. Sunday, February 23rd 2025 @ 1pm-3pm Coffee, Tea, Water and Snacks will be available Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend Hosted at Northford Community Church 4 Old Post Rd, Northford, CT 06472

COMMUNITY

The North Branford Rotary is seeking nominations for the Service Above Self Awards.



The North Branford Rotary's **Service Above Self Awards** are a wonderful way to recognize those who go above and beyond to serve the community. These individuals are often the unsung heroes who make a lasting impact through their compassion, dedication, and service. If you know someone who exemplifies these qualities, now's the time to nominate them.

Why should you nominate someone?

Recognition like this not only acknowledges their hard work, but it also inspires others in the community to get involved and make a difference. It's a way of saying, "We see you, and we appreciate you." By nominating someone, you're helping to inspire the entire community to continue working together for positive change.

The nomination process is easy. Simply visit NorthBranfordRotary. org or via the Service Above Self post on our Facebook page: facebook. com/northbranfordrotaryclub where a nomination form can be submitted online. Be sure to provide as many specific details as possible about the nominee's contributions and how they've made an impact on the community.

Don't wait—nominations are due by April 25, 2025!

If you've nominated someone before, even if they weren't chosen, don't hesitate to nominate them again. Your efforts could help shine a light on someone truly deserving.

The awards ceremony will take place on Thursday June 26, 2025 at 6:00pm at Woodwinds.

Should you have questions regarding the form please do not hesitate to reach out via email to northbranfordrotary.org or call Melinda Fonda @ 203-988-0883.

Nominations Are Due By April 25, 2025

ARE THE KING'S HORSES EQUINE RESCUE

501c3 non-profit Connecticut Horse Rescue

Please join us for a magical afternoon to help rescue horses find their ...



Sunday, March 16, 2025 11:30a-2:30p Connecticut Carousel Museum 95 Riverside Ave, Bristol CT

Recycling News

If you do not have the 2025 Recycling/Trash card, there will be copies at both libraries, public works, STW Community Center and Town Hall. You can also download a copy from the town website or from the North Branford Community Pride Facebook page.

The Electronic Waste Drop-Off will be on April 12th. We will be taking most electronics, mattresses and propane tanks. Bulky Waste pick up will be the week of April 14th.

North Branford's Plastic Bag Recycling Program

ACCEPTED: grocery bags, newspaper sleeves, produce bags, bread bags, dry cleaning bags, ice bags, wood pellet bags, salt bags, zipper bags, plastic wraps from water bottle cases, diapers, bathroom tissue, and paper towels, as well as bubble wrap and shipping pillows. Plastic bags with recycling symbols Number 2 or Number 4 are accepted.

NOT ACCEPTED: Food, Plastic Water Bottles, pet food

bags, plastic bags with recycling symbols Number 5 or Number 7 (i.e., salad and grape bags), snack bags (potato chips, popcorn, and candy), frozen food bags, and any bags with food residue.



The North Branford's Solid/Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee

is looking for new members.

\$50 Adult/\$20 Child Ticket price includes:

A Delicious Brunch Art Show, Silent Auction, Raffles Admission to explore the Carousel Museum Unlimited Carousel Rides (under age 12/less than 100lbs) Learn about the Rescue ~ Our Horses and Our Mission

For More Information & to Purchase Tickets Gee our Facebook Page or use link below



kels Thanks to our sponsors Gengras Ford Law Offices of Mark & Salomone & Morelli High Tide Commodities Jim's Stump Grinding, Strides of Hope, LLC Radiant Wealth Management, Hidden Kitchen Rachael Ortiz, LLC, Steady Photography We are an advisory committee to the Town Manager. Our goal is to develop and implement environmentally sound solutions and best practices for solid waste disposal and recycling management on behalf of our town. We are always looking for people with fresh ideas to join us. Please call the Town Manager if you are interested.

For more information about recycling in North Branford you can check out North Branford's Recycling Committee's website: townofnorthbranfordct.com/government/boardscommissions/hazardous-wasterecycling-committee.aspx or our Facebook page: North Branford CT Hazardous Waste & Recycling Committee

Thank You

COMMUNITY

Save Money on Energy Costs

NORTH BRANFORD- HeatSmart North Branford is launching! The Town of North Branford is partnering with the South-Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) and grassroots environmental action group People's Action for Clean Energy (PACE) to launch HeatSmart, an energy efficiency and heat pump outreach program. This opportunity will empower our town to progress toward a cleaner, more sustainable future through increased energy efficiency, while saving residents money on their utility bills.

The HeatSmart program provides local community groups, nonprofit organizations and municipalities with resources to promote adoption of efficiency measures and educate residents on potential savings. North Branford is working alongside Hamden, Woodbridge, and Meriden to build on the success of similar programs in Branford, East Haven, Guilford, North Haven and several other towns in the area.

HeatSmart North Branford connects residents with utility-authorized contractors who provide a Home Energy SolutionsSM (HES) assessment and service. The HES has a \$75 fee (waived for qualifying income eligible customers). During this visit, technicians:

- evaluate the home's energy performance
- run a safety check of the current heating system
- add weather stripping, seal air leaks, and, if desired, add faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads

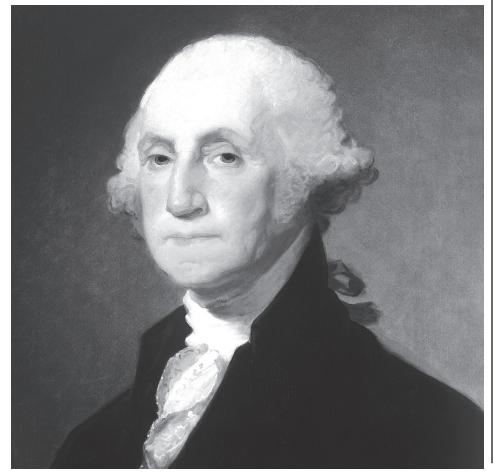
During the HES assessment, technicians provide written recommendations for deeper energy-saving measures such as insulation, high-efficiency heating and cooling, water heating, windows, and appliances. The HES contractors can advise residents on available rebates for weatherization and heat pumps. Income-eligible residents often qualify for deeper discounts or may even receive services and equipment at no cost. The HES contractors will help determine whether residents are income eligible and facilitate obtaining the highest available incentives.

The program is supported by North Branford Town Manager Michael Downes: "At a time when utility bills have increased dramatically in the past several years, we strongly encourage residents and business owners to take advantage of these low-cost assessments that can lead to serious savings on their utility bills."

"We have seen time and time again that residents benefit from energy efficiency. PACE is proud to partner with multiple towns in our outreach and education program. Our goal is to have every home in Connecticut be comfortable, safe, and efficient," says Bernie Pelletier from PACE.

Residents will also help the community by participating in HeatSmart. Our contractors, New England Smart Energy and Home Comfort Practice, will donate \$25 for each completed HES visit to the community food pantry (or non-profit of your town's choosing).

The Town of North Branford strongly encourages residents to take the first step towards saving money and energy. Get more information and sign up today for HeatSmart by visiting HeatSmartCT.org/North Branford, calling New England Smart Energy at (203) 292-8088 (mention "HeatSmart"), or clicking the QR code below.



Energize ConnecticutSM eesmartsTM Student **Contest Celebrates 20 Years of Energy Efficiency Education**

Connecticut teachers and students encouraged to submit creative energy efficiency solutions in the 20th annual contest; registration deadline March 21

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. - Registration is now open for the 20th annual *eesmarts*TM Student Contest, presented by the Energize ConnecticutSM Sponsors, Eversource and Avangrid, Inc. subsidiaries United Illuminating (UI), Southern Connecticut Gas (SCG), and Connecticut Natural Gas (CNG).

For two decades, eesmarts has encouraged Connecticut students in grades K-12 to discover how energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainable solutions can impact our world through grade-level-appropriate prompts. This year, in addition to student entries, teachers are invited to showcase their creativity by making a video or song alongside their students addressing why saving energy is important.

"Education is the foundation for a sustainable future, and by encouraging students to expand their knowledge about energy efficiency and clean energy through the *eesmarts* Student Contest, we are fostering a generation of innovators and leaders who will drive meaningful change," said Eversource Director of Business Operations and Support, Stephen Bruno. "The contest has celebrated the creativity and vision of students and teachers who are building a brighter, more energy-conscious world for the last 20 years - one idea at a time."

"From community projects and playwriting to posters and public service announcements, the *eesmarts* Student Contest has received thousands of entries since its inception in 2005, but despite the varying prompts, one theme has remained constant throughout all of the student submissions - small habits or changes can make a big impact," said Erik Robie, Director of Customer Programs and Products, including Conservation & Load Management, at UI, CNG, and SCG. "That theme is one our teachers incorporate daily in their classrooms, which is why I look forward to seeing their proposals on how we can save energy and be more energy conscious."

Student prompts for Grades K-8 include a poster (Grades K-2), limericks (Grade 3), outdoor billboard (Grade 4), fictional story with an energy-saving character (Grade 5), persuasive letter (Grade 6), comic strip (Grade 7), or social media post (Grade 8).

High school-age students, Grades 9-12, are asked to produce a persuasive image in words or pictures, such as a short poem (125 words or less) or cartoon strip (12 cells or less) that advocates for an energy-saving topic. Entries will be evaluated based on scientific validity and concise and convincing imagery.

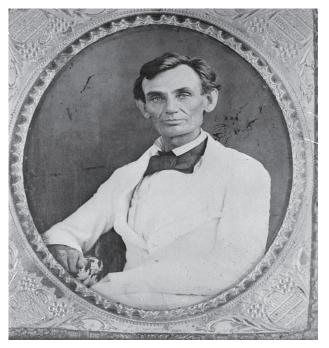
Contest registration is open until March 21, 2025. Project submissions are due on March 28, 2025. All work must be completed by the individual submitting the entry. No group projects will be accepted.

Finalists in all categories and grade levels will be honored at a special awards ceremony to be held in May 2025 at the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford. Winners will receive a certificate and an Amazon gift card.

For more information about the contest, please visit EnergizeCT.com/ student-contest.

About Energize Connecticut

Energize Connecticut helps you save money and use clean energy. It is an initiative of the State of Connecticut, the Connecticut Green Bank, Eversource, UI, SCG and CNG, with funding from a charge on customer energy bills. Information on energy-saving programs can be found at EnergizeCT.com or by calling 877.WISE.USE.



RECREATION

RECREATION



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Founded in 1990, the Sibling Support Project is the first national program dedicated to recognizing, promoting and addressing the lifelong and ever-changing concerns of millions of siblings of people with developmental, health, and mental health concerns. We are best known for helping local communities start **Sibshops**—lively peer support groups for school-age brothers and sisters of kids with disabilities and health concerns.

For the adults who run them and for the agencies that sponsor them, Sibshops are evidence of their loving concern for the family member who will have the longest-lasting relationship with a person who has a disability. However, for the kids who attend them, Sibshops are lively, pedal-to-the-metal events where they will:

- Meet other sibs (usually for the first time);
- Have fun;
- Talk about the good and not-so-good parts of having a sib with support
 - needs with others who "get it";
- Play some great games;
- Explore how other siblings handle sticky situations sometimes faced by sibs;
- Laugh;
- Learn about the services their brothers and sister receive; and
 Have some more fun!

North Branford Parks, Recreation & Senior Center is proud to be offering the first in the series of Sibshops for 2025. Please save the date for **Sunday, February 23 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm** for our first Sibshop in partnership with **Beyond the Horizon** and **Mary Amter of Mary's Culinary Classes, LLC.**

leprechaun hunc

There once was a leprechaun with a pot full of gold!

He's been spotted in these woods – so we've been told.

If you try to catch him, he will surely duck.

Take a coin for your pocket – it will bring you good luck!

Please be polite and only take one, Leave coins for others to join in the fun! LOCATION AND DATE TO BE DETERMINED!

TENNIS AT NORTHFORD PARK 🥏

Due to the overwhelming success of our Tennis Program last year we are excited to offer it again!

Join us for 5-week Introduction to Tennis program at Northford Park! Lessons will be offered with Guilford Racquet Club Pros once a week for 45 minutes and included age appropriate skills and drills! Lessons include a Racquet!

Meet our Instructor: Austin is a certified USPTA tennis teaching professional and worked at Fairfield County Tennis and Milford Indoor Tennis before landing in Guilford and North Branford. He played high school tennis at Brookfield High School and college tennis at Western Connecticut State University, where his teams made the playoffs every year. When he's not teaching tennis he can be found playing tennis, as he belongs to several USTA league teams.

INTRO TO TENNIS

Ages 11-13 • 5:00-5:45pm • April 23 - May 21 Ages 5-10 • 6:00-6:45pm • April 23 - May 21



-SENIOR CENTER-BOCCIA

Tuesdays at 12:30 - STW Gym/Cafe

Like to play bocce but can't stand the cold? Come learn how to play boccia! Like bocce, boccia is a game of skill, strategy, and accuracy. Played on a smooth indoor court, competitors use throws or rolls to outmaneuver their opponents. Boccia can be played solo, in pairs, or in teams of three.

Whiskers & Wellness - The Therapy Minis Friday, March 7, 2025 - 1:00-2:00pm STW Gym/Cafe

Enjoy a visit from Lollypop, an adorable mini-pony who provides therapeutic support, especially for seniors! Visit, take pictures, give pats, and learn about Lollypop's life as a therapy mini! We are offering this program for free

donations are encouraged. Register by 3/3

ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON Thursday, March 13th \$10 dine in \$12 takeout

Lunch served at 12:00pm *Registration closes on 3/7*

Ol' Fashion Corned Beef, Cabbage



Join Mary Amter in this unique, hands on culinary experience that will engage children in preparing delicious creations. They will explore, create, and learn basic cooking techniques! Grades 3-5 at STW Community Center **EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS** 1:00 - 3:00pm Cost \$40 res/ \$45 non-res per class

WEDNESDAY APRIL 9, 2025 APRIL FOOL'S MEATBALL CUP CAKES & HAMBURGER COOKIES



Take out meals are limited- please speak to the staff if you are in need of a meal to go

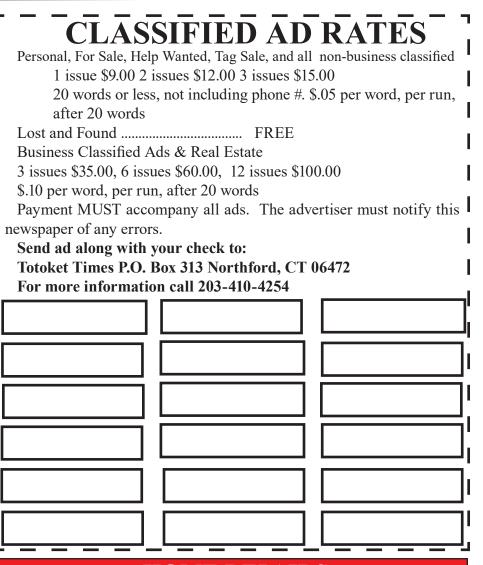
Senior Center Appreciation Breakfast at NBHS Thursday, March 20, 2025 9:30 a.m. at North Branford High School Cost: \$5 per person cash - paid at NBHS Registration required. Please call the Senior Center at 203-484-6017 by Friday, March 14, 2025 if you plan to attend.

The Totoket Chapter of the National Honor Society of North Branford High School would like to invite you to join us for breakfast. After breakfast we will be treated to a sneak peak of some musical numbers from their spring musical, Pippin!



12

CLASSIFIED



HOME REPAIRS

Interior/Extrerior Repairs. Walls, ceilings, trim, water damage, porches, decks, doors, and windows. Free estimates, insured. Call Bill at 203-901-2136.

PLUMBING

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Call 203 - 627 - 6826. References available.

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"Keenan Funeral Home was truly amazing and very attentive to all of our needs. Thank you Keenan, for being there in our most painful time."

"I truly cannot say enough how grateful my family and I are to Keenan for their exceptional service. From the moment we met to make arrangements to the actual service, they were great. There was no financial pressures, our limits were respected, and everything was said outright."



"Beautiful and peaceful space, staff was very kind and sympathetic... Their kindness will not be forgotten."

BRANFORD COMPASSION CLUB AND THE GREATER NEW HAVEN CAT PROJECT INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR "PURR-ONI DINNER"



Wednesday, March 26th

Christ & The Epiphany Church 39 Park Place, East Haven, CT

Doors open at 5:30pm, dinner served at 6:30pm

Insured.

REAL ESTATE

Need to Sell Your House Fast? No Realtor? We buy houses cash – Close in as little as 7 days! Cash ffers or Creative Financing. No Repairs Needed.Fair, Fast & Hassle-Free Process. Call (203) 824-5775 for a FREE offer today!

Kathleen Titsworth to speak at National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association monthly meeting will be held Monday, March 3, 1:pm, at the North Haven Congregational Church, 28 Church St. All active and retired federal workers are invited to attend. The guest speaker will be Kathleen Titsworth, Banking Education Coordinator, CT Dept of Banking, who will present Protecting Yourself from Financial Fraud. Learn important tips to protect your personal information and being safe online. NARFE is dedicated to protecting and preserving the earned benefits of federal workers and retirees. Info: <u>http://www.narfe.org</u>



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: CHRISKAT32@AOL.COM