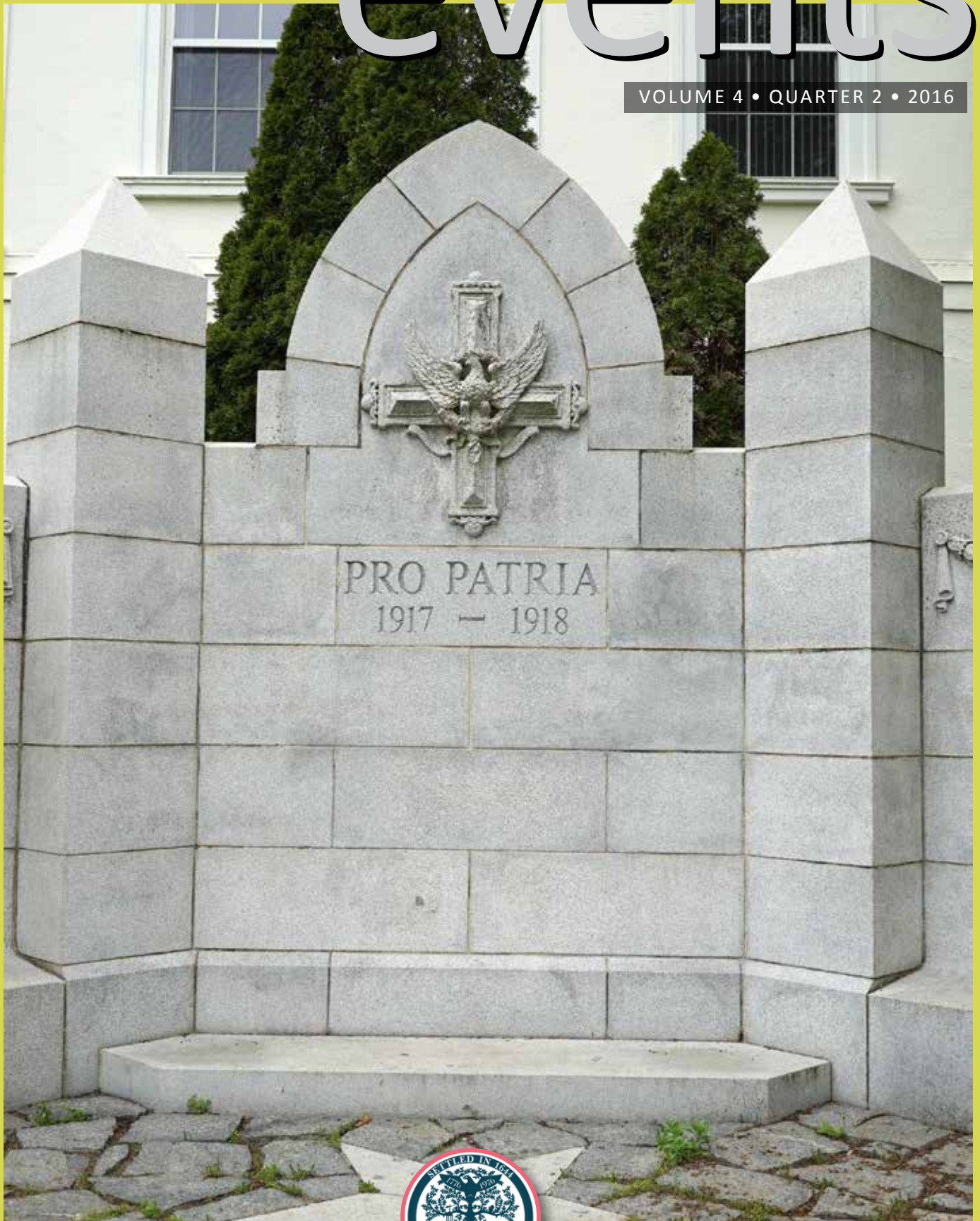


Branford events

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First Selectman's Corner

The arrival of summer is always a sign that the town has finished its budget work for the next fiscal year and that we are ready to launch a variety of projects to keep Branford the ideal place to live, work, and play. The repair and replacement of our roads and sidewalks and planning for significant infrastructure projects has begun including replacing the Harbor Street bridge over Mill Creek, expanding Walsh Intermediate School, and moving forward with Senior Center/Community House facility renovation and expansion project. State projects include finishing the Branford train station expansion, construction of a new state boat launch on the Branford River, and finalizing the design for a new Sybil Creek bridge in Indian Neck. These and other projects are part of an ongoing effort to provide the best services and programs to our residents and businesses.

We want to say "Happy 1st Anniversary!" to Stony Creek Brewery and congratulations for being named as one of Connecticut's top destinations. We also want to congratulate Core Informatics for being named by the Hartford Business Journal as one of the best places to work in Connecticut. And as always, we welcome the many new businesses that have opened

around town and encourage you to visit and explore their new offerings, products and services that are available.

And since there's nothing better than summer on the shoreline, it's time to enjoy everything that our town has to offer its residents and visitors. We are fortunate to have a very high quality of life that includes access to beaches, parks, trails, museums, and a summer full of concerts and entertainment.

So be sure to mark your calendar to be on the town green to help kick off the 32nd annual Branford Festival on June 17th; join thousands of runners and spectators for the 37th annual Father's Day Road Race; hear some of the best jazz musicians on the planet every Thursday starting June 23rd during the eighth season of jazz-on-the-green; watch the spectacular annual Branford Fireworks on the 25th; and, find a bargain at the annual summer sidewalk sale July 21st through the 24th in the Town Center.



First Selectman
James B. Cosgrove

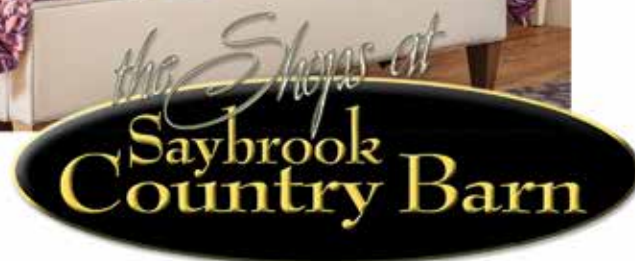
Continued on page 2

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You will find details on many of these events in the following pages, along with information on many other topics and issues of interest.

Although there's a lot going on all around our community, it's easy to keep up on all the activities and progress with your

summer issue of "Branford Events", by checking the Town's website at www.branford-ct.gov, as well as by tuning into BCTV channels 18, 19 and 20.

Best wishes to everyone for a happy and safe summer.

James B. Cosgrove

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Upcoming Branford Land Trust Events

Join the Branford Land Trust for these upcoming events, which are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.branfordlandtrust.org.

June 4

CT Trails Day Hike: Hammer Woodlands & Sliney Family Property. Saturday, 9:30 am - 11:00 am. The 26-acre Hammer Woodlands and Sliney Family Property includes a pond, traprock ridge, and a meadow. Expect one moderately steep stretch. Park in parking lot behind Jalapeno Heaven Restaurant at the corner of North Main St. and Cherry Hill Rd. (Rain Date: June 5, 9:30 am) Expect moderate terrain, with sloping trails and inclines, and rocky underfooting. Bring water. Walking sticks welcome.



June 4. Nature Explorer Program: Flora Walk. Saturday, 2:00 pm. Lauren Brown will lead us on a June walk on Vedder to see and identify native plants and flowers. Meet in Stony Creek at the far end of West Point Rd. which is across from the Willoughby Wallace Library. Expect moderate terrain, with sloping trails and inclines, and rocky underfooting. Bring water. Walking sticks welcome. For details, call 203-415-1571.

June 25

Our Useful Neighbors, The Horseshoe Crabs. Saturday, 3:30 pm.

Led by Martha Rice. Come to Love's Beach and learn about some of Earth's oldest creatures, their spawning and birth on Killam's Point beaches and how their blood makes our vaccines safe. Co-sponsored by the First Congregational Church of Branford. Held at Killam's Point on Shore Drive just west of the Orchard House Adult Day Care Center. Please drive SLOWLY to the end of the road to the parking area. For details, call 203-747-4184.

To learn more about the Branford Land Trust or to become part of this important local organization, be sure to visit our booth at the Branford Festival on Saturday, June 18!



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Branford Economic Development Commission

At its April meeting the Branford Economic Development Commission presented **Pat Munger Construction, Co.** with its "Business Recognition Award". The EDC periodically



presents the award to a Branford business that is a leader in its field and that contributes to making Branford a better place to live and work.

Founded in 1968, **Munger Construction** is a leader in commercial construction along the shoreline. In 1992 Dave DeMaio became president and CEO of the company, securing LEED AP certification and establishing "SOLAR mungergreen" in 2009. Munger's work can be found from Greenwich to Rhode Island, has rendered them the Mellon Award of Excellence. Two prominent Munger projects include the **Stony Creek Brewery**, completed last year, and **American Polyfilm's** state-of-the-art facility on East Main Street, a major U.S. manufacturer of poly film products. Both buildings were designed by local architects, Joe Sepot and Tony Terry, respectively, and have put Munger Construction in the "Hall of Fame" for steel construction. Pictured are [l to r] EDC

chairman Perry Maresca, Pat Munger Construction, president Dave DeMaio, vice president Pam DeMaio, and First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove. Photo courtesy of Bill O'Brien

The EDC continues to support a variety of development projects across town, including the "**Atlantic Wharf**" project, the transformation of the 7½ acres former Atlantic Wire property into a transit oriented, mixed-used complex of residential units and ground level commercial space. Other development projects underway include the expansion of Stony Creek Brewery's production capacity, American Polyfilm, Inc.'s new state-of-the-art advanced manufacturing facility on Route 1, and medical device manufacturer **DefibTech** move into town.

We are also looking forward to marketing and business consultants **Acara Partners** arriving at its new town center location at the corner of Main Street and Harrison Streets, as well as to **Polished Boutique's** expansion into the former **Merle Norman Cosmetics** space next to **Home Restaurant**. Merle Norman can now be found not far away at the **Vincent Palumbo Salon** on North Main Street. And on the heels of the success of the 4th annual Branford Restaurant Week, **Café Fiore** has joined Branford's stellar array of restaurants at its new location on East Main Street. All of these enterprises are part of the Town's diverse collection of restaurants, shops and boutiques, enhancing the appeal of our Town Center as a destination for residents and visitors alike to live-shop and play.

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Branford Garden Club Events

Hopefully everyone in town attended the Memorial Day Parade and saw the great presence The Branford Garden Club made. Laurie Van Wilgen drove one of the Van Wilgen tractors pulling a wagon of members and WWII vets all decked out in flags and flowers. Many members who could not fit in the the wagon walked alongside.

Bonnie McKirdy, President of the Garden Club, will present a \$1,000 scholarship check to a Branford High School senior on Awards Day, June 7th. This is given by the Garden Club every year for a student who will be pursuing a course of study consistent with the Garden Club's goals.

The Garden Club will again have a presence at the Branford Festival. Please come by our tent and learn more about us, and how to become a member. This year we are featuring and talking about the importance of planting native trees for the health of our environment.

Our Baskets on the Green should be blooming and beautiful in June. There are 32 Baskets that we plant and maintain every year. This is something the merchants and residents let us know is very appreciated.


The Garden Club will be collaborating with Branford Arts and Cultural Alliance on "Art in the Garden". This is a tour of beautiful gardens in Branford, each featuring art by a local artist and will be held Sat., June 25 and Sun., June 26. If anyone would like further information, please call Eunice Lasala at 203-488-6063.

We have hired a large bus to go to the Newport Garden Show in RI on June 24th. Anyone interested in joining us for this all-day excursion, please call Maureen Dendas at 203-4830-0476.

The Branford Garden Club has many other events for its members including in-house flower shows, monthly luncheon meetings with a speaker, design classes, day trips, monthly horticultural displays, etc. If you would like further information or to come to a meeting as a guest, please contact our Membership Chairman, Nancy Iannotti, 203-483-7735. Many people do not realize that this is one of, if not the, largest and most respected Garden Clubs in the state.



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Brian's Hope – Stopping the Progression of ALD

Newborn Screening for Adrenoleukodystrophy is Saving Lives in Connecticut

All babies born in CT hospitals are screened for 52 selected genetic and metabolic disorders, usually within the first 48 hours of life. Now ALD is included in that list. The CT Department of Health implemented newborn screening for ALD in October 2015. In January, our first CT baby with ALD was identified. Because ALD is genetic and passed to boys from their mothers, this infant's 2-year-old brother was tested a few weeks later. He too tested positive for ALD. There is a silver lining here. With early detection, treatment can be promptly initiated to prevent complications and irreversible problems. The children will be monitored and cared for according to an established protocol. These words are from parents Autumn and Sam Ford, "It's news we didn't want to hear. A reality we didn't want...but since it is our reality, we are thankful we got the news. Our boys have ALD. This is our life now. And we have a fighting chance because of the screening. We are blessed it was added to the newborn screening." It was bittersweet to have the diagnoses, but at the same time very rewarding to know the system is working and lives will be saved.

Brian's Hope has been working towards this for several years. New York and Connecticut are the only states currently testing

for ALD. New York has identified over 40 infants since January 2014, which does not include other family members who might be affected. California will begin screening in June. However, this is not good enough. All US babies should be tested.

In an effort to realize that goal, there is currently a federal bill proposed in DC. New York Senator Schumer introduced the bill in March:

Senate bill S.2641 and House of Representatives bill H.R.4692. We encourage all of our supporters to reach out to CT Senators Blumenthal and Murphy, as well as your local representatives, to ask them to sign on and co-sponsor this bill. Please tell them that there is a reliable screening process, and with early detection we can treat ALD. Time is of the essence; we need to pass this bill out of the Health Committees to keep the process moving. Sending



Our precious CT babies diagnosed with ALD through newborn screening in 2016

Continued on page 9



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BRIAN'S HOPE...continued from page 8

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<https://www.murphy.senate.gov/contact/>

The next event for Brian's Hope is our annual Branford Lions & Brian's Hope Golf Tournament to be held June 6th on the Robert Trent Jones golf course at Lyman Orchards. It's not too late to join us "fore" some fun. If you are thinking about participating in our 20th Hammerfest Triathlon, you have 110 training days...plenty of time!

Many thanks for your continued support.

For further info contact jeankelley@brianshope.org or visit our website: www.brianshope.org. Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/BriansHopeForALD. Follow us on Instagram: @BriansHope.

Assessor's Office

This is a gentle reminder that the Town of Branford is currently in the process of doing building permit inspections for the **Grand List of October 1st, 2016**. In order to complete this process we are doing a great deal of field work and inspections.

You most likely will see individuals in the field working on different phases of inspections. They will be reviewing properties that have been sold, inspecting building permits, taking photos of parcels to update field cards and reviewing building permit work or doing requests for inspections.

All individuals will have a letter from the Assessor's Office, a photo identification badge and the vehicles used are Town of Branford vehicles. Individuals in the field are staff members from the Assessor's Office.

If you have recently taken out any building permits and/or have received an inspection letter from the Assessor's Office to schedule an appointment please anticipate an inspection from the Assessor's Office.

Inspections are done to update your property record card with the most recent data based on building permit work, sales verification data, photographs and requested inspections.

Please telephone the Assessor's Office if you have any questions or are requesting an appointment between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm Monday through Friday at (203) 488-2039.



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Upcoming Activities of The Rotary Club of Branford



The Rotary Club of Branford is an organization of 70+ women and men representing a cross-section of local business and professional

people, living and/or employed in Branford, who work as volunteers on a variety of local and international projects to improve the quality of life in their home and world communities. Visit branfordrotary.org for further details.

Friday-Sunday, June 17-19: "Read And Feed" With The Branford Rotary Club At The Branford Festival. Branford Green, Town Hall Drive, Branford. The Branford Rotary Club is hosting its annual food tent at the Branford Festival on June 17-19. The legendary All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast is on Saturday, the 18th, and Sunday, the 19th, from the hours of 7:00 am to 12:00 noon. The breakfast provides pancakes or French toast, sausages, coffee, and juice. Tickets are available from members of Branford Rotary or at the tent. The Rotary pancake breakfast has been a traditional event in town for more than 40 years.



The onset of the Festival 20 years ago has seen the Rotary Club expand from just breakfast to providing a variety of foods served during the afternoons and evenings. This year's menu includes lobster rolls, chicken tenders, curly fries, pretzels, hot dogs, steamship round, and strawberry shortcake. Food prices range from \$5 to \$15. Beverages are also available. Rotarians will gladly wrap food items for take-out purposes. Anthony Terry (203/481-6424) is chairing the Rotary Festival Food Committee.

In addition, the Branford Rotary Club also operates a USED BOOK SALE at the Festival. The proceeds of this event are

Continued on page 11

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directed to the Branford Rotary Foundation, which finances scholarships and other educational endeavors. Tables layered with hundreds of volumes for sale can be perused. Titles include bestsellers, fiction, nonfiction, hardcover, and paperback at reduced prices. This event is a book lover's dream and will provide many a summer read. DVDs and CDs are also available. Items may be donated during the operating hours or in advance. Donations are tax deductible, and receipts are available upon request David Kozma, 203.641.9485, chairs the Used Book Sale.

The Branford Rotary Book Sale will be operating on Friday, 5:00-10:00 pm; Saturday & Sunday, 7 am to Festival closing.

Sunday, August Or September Tbd: Rotary Classic Car Show. Van Wilgen's Garden Center, 51 Valley Road, North Branford. Noon-4 pm. Enjoy a stroll past various vintage automobiles made by different manufacturers, both domestic and international, and appreciate over 150 of them on display. Chat with owners about the uniqueness and restoration of

their vehicles. Music and food trucks will round out your experience. Admission is free; donations suggested.

The club is currently looking for sponsors to the event. Proceeds will benefit Branford Rotary Club charitable events and organizations that honor and support veterans. A donation of \$10 is suggested per show car with raffle prizes and trophies being awarded. Please join in on this great family event. For more information visit Carshow@branfordrotary.org.

Resident Stickers Now Available

Resident Stickers valid for the next two years are available at the Tax Office in Town Hall. The stickers allow you access to parking at Parker Park (Branford Point) and Foote Park, and use of the Transfer Station. Stickers are for residents only and not for commercial use.

Please bring your valid driver's license and vehicle registration. These are required to obtain a resident sticker. The cost is \$5

(cash only please) and residents 65 and older are free. If you are a part-time/seasonal resident, in addition to your license and registration, please also bring a utility bill (cable, electric, gas) showing service in your name at your Branford address. Please call the Tax Office at 203-315-0672 if you have any questions.

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Branford Parks And Recreation Summer Happenings

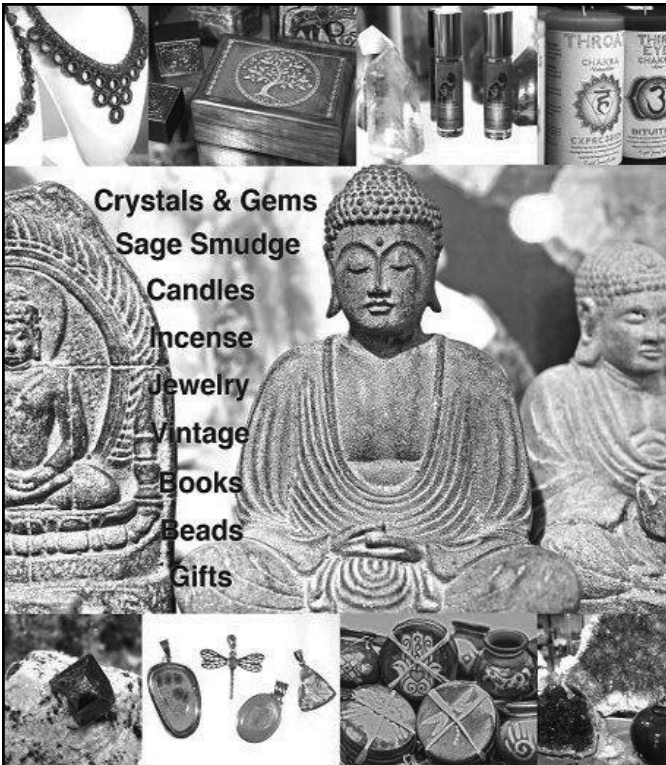
In continuing to support its philosophy of "Recreation....Where the benefits are endless", the Branford Parks and Recreation Department dedicates itself to running programs, both active and passive, to promote a positive and healthy lifestyle for all.

Two major summer events that will take place are the "Summer Camp Playground Program" for Branford boys and girls ages 6 thru 12, or have completed Kindergarten and "Teen Travel" for those that are in grades 7 and up as of September of 2016. The Summer Camp Playground program runs from July 5 to August 12 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The cost for this camp is \$400 for six weeks. There is a before care that starts at 7:45 am until 9:00 am for an additional \$125 and an extended care from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm for \$175. Camp Locations can be found at Hammer Field, Veteran's Park, Stony Creek and Foote Park. Teen Travel starts on July 5 and runs until August 4th on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. This program is designed for teens to fill their summer with excitement, exceptional trips and spending time with their friends. Teens are supervised by an experienced staff and trips include Brownstone Discovery Park, Six Flags, Lake Compounce, Sheer Madness in Boston, and much more. Cost for this program is \$500. The Counselor In Training Program (CIT) for ages 14 and 15, will help strengthen the individual in a variety of areas, leadership, social skills, being a good role model and more as part of the Branford Recreation Department Summer Camp Playground Program. The goal is to have the CIT one day become an effective counselor. Each applicant must submit a paragraph on "Why you would like to be a C.I.T. for the Branford Recreation Summer Camp?" The Junior Counselor In Training Program is for those children age 13 by July 1, 2016 to be part of the camp experience in a capacity which bridges the gap between a camper and becoming a Counselor In Training.

Adults can also enjoy the Branford Recreation Experience by signing up for one of the many offered programs including: Adult Tennis Lessons (Beginner and CAPP and Adult Cardio Tennis), Tae Kwon Do, Adult Swim Lessons (Beginner/Advanced Beginner and Advanced), Yoga for Every-BODY and Aqua Aerobics to name a few.

The Branford Recreation Department offers a wide variety of sports clinics and camps ranging from field hockey (grade 4 to 9) and wrestling (6 years of age and up) to volleyball (grades 5 to 8), girls' basketball (grades 3 & 4), girls' and boys' lacrosse, tennis lessons (ages 5 to 8), softball camp (ages 9 to 14), baseball camp (grades 3 to 9), golf lessons (ages 6 to 14), and the ever

Continued on page 13



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popular Slamma Jamma Hoop Camp for ages 5 to 14 years old. In addition to these programs, our annual summer swim lessons program will be held at the Walsh Intermediate School Swimming Pool for ages 6 months thru American Red Cross Levels 5 & 6.

Swimming at the Hospice Pool on Double Beach Road will be available to those in the town during the summer. Passes are sold at the Branford Community House for \$120 (Family Pass), \$60 (Individual Pass), \$40 (Senior Citizen Pass), \$10 (Day Pass) and \$5 (Guest Pass – Each Limited to Four). Children's Swim Lessons will also be offered with an upcoming schedule soon to follow.

The Branford Jazz Series on the Branford Town Green will once again take place starting on Thursdays nights, 6:30 -8:30 pm, from June 23rd to August 18th. Scheduled to perform are:

June 23-The Steven Kroon Latin Jazz Sextet; June 30 - Atla and Matt DeChamplain; July 7-Opius Bliss Featuring Michelle Walker; July 14-Steven Cole; July 21-Lonnie Gasperini Organ Trio; July 28- Vandell Andrew; August 4-Dr Joe & Friends Featuring Elisa Cardinale; August 11-Saxtet Under The

Direction of Darren Litzie; August 18 - Tizer Quartet. For more information or to make a "Get Jazzed" donation, visit www.branfordjazz.com.

For any additional information on these programs or others, please call the Branford Recreation Department at (203) 488-8304 or log into our website at: www.brandfordrecreation.org.

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries provide food and fellowship to those in need. Serving the towns of Essex, Chester, Clinton, Madison, Old Saybrook, East Lyme, Lyme, Old Lyme, Killingworth, Westbrook and Deep River.

Learn how you can help at:

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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Branford Community Foundation

BRANFORD Community Foundation

Thanks to the generous support of our donor/investors and careful financial management, the

Branford Community Foundation (BCF) maintains over \$2 million in endowed funds and will invest over \$100,000 into the community in 2016 through grants, scholarships and leadership initiatives.

Our mission is to connect people who care with the causes that matter to them. As a permanent local charitable endowment, the Branford Community Foundation helps to build a healthy and successful community by supporting everything from basic needs and health services, to local environmental issues and education, to the arts and other programs.

BCF holds 40 named legacy funds that have been established by those who care about Branford and want to ensure that resources exist forever to address the community's needs. These individual funds are pooled and invested wisely with professional guidance, and proceeds from the investments are used to support local needs. Recent grants include \$10,000 to the Community Dining Room to support hot meals for those in need, \$5,000 to the VNA Community Healthcare to develop

BCTV programming, and \$1,500 to Shoreline Arts Alliance to enhance their Shakespeare programming this summer.

While BCF is proud to support these important efforts, our work is more than about grant making. For example, BCF recently partnered with the Guilford Foundation and the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce to create the Shoreline Nonprofit Workshop Series to provide high quality professional development training to organizations serving Branford. These workshops have been a wonderful success, averaging over 40 attendees from more than 20 organizations.

In addition, BCF was thrilled to partner with the Branford Historical Society to help them purchase the Harrison House. We provided a \$35,000 Challenge Grant over two years to incite local contributions, and they raised the funds within twelve months.

BCF is thrilled to celebrate 35 years of growth and impact in Branford, and we look forward to continuing to respond to the community's needs for the next 35 years and beyond. For more information, including ways to apply for a grant or how to give, go to www.branfordcommunityfoundation.org.

Liza Janssen Petra, Executive Director
lpetra@branfordcommunityfoundation.org

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Stony Creek Museum

The Stony Creek Museum invites you and your whole family to visit us this Summer. Our new exhibit is called "THE WORKIN' BOATS OF STONY CREEK." There will be photos of many vintage boats from the golden era in the Thimbles. We also have an exhibit featuring the "Wasp," a Hudson River Sloop used to transport granite to various sites including the Statue of Liberty.

Our permanent exhibits include The Thimble Islands, the Granite Quarries, an original drug store, interviews with interesting "locals," the Fife and Drum Corps, etc.

There are always plenty of activities for the children. Come see our salt water aquarium, weigh and measure granite, build your own monument or try your hand at old fashioned penmanship.

Summer hours: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1 to 4 pm. Located at 82 Thimble Islands Road - Free Admission. For more information: 203-481-9369.

James Blackstone Memorial Library

Summer Reading June 10 – August 19

There are programs for all ages every summer at the James Blackstone Memorial Library. Highlights of what we offer are listed below; please visit blackstonelibrary.org for the complete calendar of events and registration links. If you prefer to register for programs by phone, please call 203-488-1441, ext. 318 for adult programs, or ext. 323 for children's and teen programs.

Our summer reading program is made possible by generous donations from the Guilford Savings Bank, Allan Louis Loeb Foundation, and Friends of the James Blackstone Library.

Romance & Erotic Writing for Fun & Profit. June 4 & 11 @ 10 am - 12 noon. Bestselling author Jamie K. Schmidt will show you how to use your creativity to get words down on the page in this two-part course.

Spices of the World. August 10 @ 6:30 pm. Learn the differences between herbs and spices, how to store them and which ones work well together. This is a hands-on class with samples.

Programs for Children

Move it OR Lose it. June 15 @ 2 - 3 pm.

The Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center presents leaping lizards, slithering snakes and soaring eagles! For K-4th grade.

Get Active with Jump Rope. June 21 @ 2 - 3 pm. Create your own jump rope out of recycled materials, then participate in a mini-competition outside. 5th grade and up.

Ecosystems Everywhere. June 27 @ 1 - 2 pm. A multi-station, inquiry-based lab to observe live plant and animal specimens, presented by the Stamford Museum and Nature Center. Grades 3-5.

Power Up: Build Your Own Game. June 30 @ 2-3:30 pm. We will use high and low tech components to create different types of games. Choose Spolder.com, Code.org or traditional games with provided materials. 5th Grade and up.

Electricity and Magnetism. July 8 @ 3 - 4 pm. An electrifying presentation by the Children's Museum in West Hartford. Live demonstrations of energy and magnets plus hands-on experience. 4th grade and up.

Continued on page 17



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JAMES BLACKSTONE MEMORIAL LIBRARY...continued from page 16

Cooking Wars for Teens. July 12 & August 16 @ 6 - 7:30 pm.

ShopRite presents a "Top Chef" competition where teens create a dish on the "fly" with a series of mystery ingredients! Previous cooking experience is not required. 5th grade and up.

Fitness Fun. July 23 @ 1 - 2 pm. With Guilford CrossFit owner and professional storyteller, Erin Zeidenberg. K-4th grade. Dress comfortably.

Waterworks. July 26 @ 3-4 pm. Learn to connect water quality to watershed protection. Presented by the Stamford Museum and Nature Center. For grades 2-4.

All About Plants. August 2 @ 2-3 pm. Hear a story about gardening adventures, then talk about the role plants play in a healthy environment. Everyone will then get a chance to dissect a live flower and learn to identify its parts. For grades K-3. Presented by the Children's Museum of West Hartford.

Get Active with Photography. August 10 @ 3-4 pm. Make your very own motion inspired bookmarks/magnets with photos that you take and edit. For 5th grade and up.

Branford Taxes Due July 1st

All Branford residents and businesses are reminded that motor vehicle taxes as well as the first installment of real estate and personal property taxes for the 2015 grand list year will be mailed in June and are due July 1 and payable by August 1 without penalty. Payments made after August 1st will accrue interest of 1½ % each month dating back to the original due date. If you do not receive a bill, please call us as failure to receive a bill does not preclude your liability for the tax and any interest incurred. If you escrow your real estate taxes, your lender will receive your real estate bill instead of you.

Payments may be made:

- On line at www.branford-ct.gov. Click on "View and Pay Taxes," put your last name, a space, and first initial (no punctuation), click "Search" and your bills will come up. You can pay your taxes by clicking on the green shopping cart. Convenience fees are 2.95% for payments made with a credit card, or \$.95 cents for those made with a check (ACH).
- At the Tax Collector's office at Town Hall 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. We do not accept credit cards in the office, but payments can be made by check, cash, or money order.
- By mail. Checks should be payable to "Tax Collector Branford" and mailed to Tax Collector, PO Box 136, Branford, CT 06405.

Questions concerning your tax bill should be directed to the tax collector's office at 203-315-0672; questions concerning your assessment should be directed to the assessor's office at 203-488-2039.

Joanne Cleary, Tax Collector

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Veteran Additional Exemption Program Income Based

This is a reminder for Veterans to apply for an Additional Veteran Exemption based on Income. The exemption is based upon certain income levels and marital status. There are two programs available to veterans. One is a State Program §12-811 and reference in subsection b under §170aa and the other is a Local Option Veteran Program §12-81f.

Application for the state additional exemption and the local option additional exemption are filed with the Assessor's Office in the Town of which the veteran resides. The filing period is from **February 1st through October 1st of 2016**. Once a veteran is approved for the additional exemption he/she must submit an application on a biennial basis. Income received by both a husband and his wife is considered in determining the eligibility of married persons for the exemption. If a person

is legally separated pursuant to CGS §46b-40, as of the December 31st, 2015, he or she is treated as single for purposes of this program.

Under these additional exemption programs provided by subsection b under §12-170aa, §12-811 and § 12-81f, a veteran must meet several requirements to qualify for these additional exemptions. The Veteran must have filed a DD214 or other proof of eligibility on the Land records by September 30th, 2016 as stated in §12-93 and meet the requirements under §12-81 subsection 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24. All income received in the calendar year of 2015 must be filed in the proper manner with the Assessor at application time. The Veteran and/or spouse's domicile, must be where they reside and located in the Town of Branford for the exemption to be applied. If the Veteran does not own real estate in the Town of Branford, the veterans domicile must be in the Town of Branford and have their Motor Vehicles registered in the Town of Branford.

Please telephone the **Assessor's Office** for additional requirements and any questions between **8:30 am and 4:30 pm** Monday through Friday at **(203) 488-2039**. Before applying you may want to telephone to learn the information that must be provided to make application.

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The Branford Arts & Cultural Alliance (BACA)

The Branford Arts & Cultural Alliance (BACA), a non-profit group, will be sponsoring its second annual (FREE) Plein Air event on the Branford Town Green on Saturday, June 4th (rain date, Sunday, June 5).

Plein Air (painting outdoors): between fifteen and twenty-five (or more) artists will choose locations around the green, set up their easels/pads/canvases, and paint a scene of their choosing. Visitors can stroll around our beautiful green, watching art being created. (The completed works will be on display at the Branford Art Center, 1229 Main Street, Branford, CT during the month of July.)

While at the green, be sure to stroll over to the Academy on the Green (small church-like building behind Trinity Church) to view another BACA-sponsored event/

exhibit: Art in 3D. All works will be for sale.

The Branford Arts & Cultural Alliance (BACA), a non-profit group, will be sponsoring "Art in 3D" June 3-5, 2016 (FREE) at the Academy on the Branford Green (small church-like building behind Trinity Church). There will be a wine and cheese reception on Friday, June 3rd from 4-7 pm (public invited). The exhibit will be open Saturday, June 4, and Sunday, June 5 from 12-5 pm. Branford artists working in various art mediums will be exhibiting pottery, glass, sculpture and fiber. Lisa Carlin, Jayne Crowley, Owen Luckey, Ray Mathews, Pat Miller, Jane Novic, Leslie Prodis, and Pat Rist are among the artists exhibiting.

For further information: Richard Blacher
dblacher@snet.net

BCTV'S 2nd Annual Tour De Branford

Branford Community Television (BCTV) is our town's own television station, in operation for over 30 years, and providing informational, educational and entertainment programming about our dynamic shoreline community. On Comcast channels 18,19 and 20 or on Frontier channel 99, it covers political events such as elections, and RTM and Board of Education meetings. At its production facilities on Kirkham Street, BCTV also offers free training to students and Branford residents, providing an opportunity for them to learn how to produce or host their own original television program, which can be aired on BCTV.

BCTV is hosting our 2nd annual **Tour de Branford** bicycle ride on Sunday morning, September 25th, 2016! Our inaugural ride last year attracted over 200 riders from over 40 CT towns.

Riders can choose from two routes, fifteen-miles or forty-miles, which explore various scenic areas of Branford and the shoreline. Both routes will begin and end at the Stony Creek Brewery on the banks of the Branford River. It promises to be a festive and exciting event.

As a Branford based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, BCTV is active in the community and relies on fundraising efforts for equipment purchases and maintenance. **Tour de Branford** funds will help continue and expand the many important services BCTV provides to our town. For more information about the event and to register, please see www.branfordtv.org. If any questions, please contact BCTV by e-mail at tour@branfordtv.org or by phone at 203-481-3232.

Community Forest Commission

The mission of the CFC is to protect and increase the number of native trees in Branford via education and a tree planting program. The Department of Public Works (DPW) plants trees every year and there is a commemorative tree program whereby one can pay for a native tree that DPW will plant on Town property. Native trees support our insects, birds and mammals whereas non-native plants may not support any wildlife. For example, a native oak supports over 500 species whereas the Bradford pear (native to China and Vietnam) supports essentially zero. Per Dr. Douglas Tallamy: "Foreign plants dominate our landscape: over 3400 species of non native plants are out-competing native plants in every ecosystem in North America." Our birds have little to eat since 90% of their diet are native insects which are not adapted to foreign plants.

The presence of trees improves human health and trees help clean our streams and rivers, prevent soil erosion, conserve

energy in the winter, cool buildings, sidewalks, etc. in the summer, combat global warming, decrease noise pollution, increase property value and have many other benefits.

A mature tree usually has a significant monetary value. Proper care includes regularly watering a newly planted tree deeply to keep the soil moist (for several years) and mulching correctly: a ring several feet from the tree with NO mulch next to the tree trunk, otherwise the bark can become diseased.

Current members of the CFC are: Louise LaMontagne, Nancy Mancini, Shirley McCarthy, Joann Minicozzi, Chris Woerner and ex officio: Tom Brennan (DPW Director) and Diana Ross (Tree Warden and Environmental Director of Inland, Wetland and Natural Resources).

"Beauty and the Beast" – The Round Table Players

The Round Table Players and the First Congregational Church of Branford proudly present Disney's "Beauty and the Beast." Music by Alan Menkin; Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice; Book By:Linda Woolverton; Originally Directed By: Robert Jess Roth; Originally Produced by: Disney Theatrical Productions. Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

The Round Table Players are back to team up with FCCB. Join us on our journey into a tale as old as time as we spin the story of a prince who is transformed into a hideous beast as a punishment for his cruel and selfish behavior, and an adventurous young woman whom he imprisons in his bewitched castle. Can the prince change his ways and earn

Belle's love before time runs out and he is doomed to remain a beast forever?

Performance Dates: August 19, 20, 26 and 27 at 7:00 pm; August 21 and 28 at 2 pm.

Tickets are \$10 advanced sale and \$15 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance in Pilgrim Hall on Saturdays between 11 am and 2 pm beginning July 23rd, or through a cast member.

All performances are held at The First Congregational Church of Branford – Pilgrim Hall: 1009 Main Street, Branford.

The Round Table Players is a community theater company based out of the New Haven area. For more information contact us at rtplayersct@gmail.com.

BRANFORD TOWN HALL DIRECTORY

www.branford-ct.gov

Department	Name / Title	Phone (203)	Email
Animal Shelter	Laura Burban - Director	315-4125	lburban@branford-ct.gov
Assessor's Office	Barbara Neal - Assessor	488-2039	bneal@branford-ct.gov
Building Department	Anthony Cinicola - Building Official	315-0674	acinicola@branford-ct.gov
Canoe Brook Senior Ctr.	Dagmar Ridgway - Director	481-3429	dridgway@branford-ct.gov
Counseling Center	Peter Cimino - Director	481-4248	pcimino@branford-ct.gov
Economic Development	Terence Elton - Special Projects Manager	315-0637	telton@branford-ct.gov
Engineering	Janice Plaziak - Town Engineer	315-0606	jplaziak@branford-ct.gov
Finance	James Finch - Finance Director	315-0626	jfinch@branford-ct.gov
Fire Headquarters	Tom Mahoney / Fire Chief	488-7266	tmahoney@branford-ct.gov
Gen. Gov't Buildings	Otto Berger – Lead Tradesman	315-3365	oberger@branford-ct.gov
Harbor Master	Bob Lillquist – Harbor Master	315-0634	harbormaster@branford-ct.gov
Human Resources	Joyce Forte – H.R. Director	315-0613	jforte@branford-ct.gov
Information Technology	Debi Caron - IT Director	315-0617	dcaron@branford-ct.gov
Inland Wetlands	Diana Ross - Enforcement Officer	315-0675	dross@branford-ct.gov
Planning and Zoning	Harry Smith - Town Planner	488-1255	hsmith@branford-ct.gov
Police	Kevin Halloran-Chief	481-4241	khalloran@branford-ct.gov
Probate	Frank Forgione – Probate Judge	488-0318	fforgione@branford-ct.gov
Public Works	Tom Brennan – Director	488-4156	tbrennan@branford-ct.gov
Recreation Center	Alex Palluzzi – Director	488-8304	apalluzzi@branford-ct.gov
Registrar of Voters	Marion Burkard – Registrar [R]	483-3998	mburkard@branford-ct.gov
Registrar of Voters	Dan Halley – Registrar [D]	483-3998	dhalley@branford-ct.gov
Selectman's Office	James B. Cosgrove – First Selectman	488-8394	jcosgrove@branford-ct.gov
Social Services	Peter Cimino - Director	481-4248	pcimino@branford-ct.gov
Solid Waste/Recycling	Dan McGowan - Supervisor	315-0622	dmcgowan@branford-ct.gov
Tax Office	Joanne Cleary – Tax Collector	315-0672	jcleary@branford-ct.gov
Town Clerk	Lisa Arpin -Town Clerk	315-0678	larpin@branford-ct.gov
Willoughby Wallace Library	Alice Pentz - Library Director	488-8702	apentz@branford-ct.gov
Water Treatment	Dan Gregory - Superintendent	488-3125	dgregory@branford-ct.gov
Blackstone Library	Karen Jensen - Library Director	488-1441	kjensen@blackstonelibrary.org
East Shore Health	Michael Pascucilla - Director	481-4233	mpascucilla@esdhd.org
Board of Education	Hamlet Hernandez - Superintendent	488-7276	hernandez@branfordschools.org

The Branford Food Pantry, Inc.

Hunger Doesn't Take a Summer Vacation

While barbecues and beaches are top of mind this time of year, many of our community's children are worrying about having enough to eat. It's hard to believe that in our prosperous community 25 percent of school-age children qualify for subsidized meals. When the summer comes, many of these families rely on the Branford Food Pantry to lend a helping hand.

The Branford Food Pantry, located near the Town Green, provides groceries to Branford individuals and families in need. In addition to groceries, children are provided a snack package. And, during the school year, Feed Branford Kids provides weekend food when subsidized school meals are not available; these meals are distributed anonymously by the schools. A 100% volunteer organization, the Branford Food Pantry distributes nearly 200,000 pounds of food to our community annually.

How You can Help This Summer

Organize a food drive: Contact A.J. Milici (203-627-3369 or office@branfordfoodpantry.org) to let us know about food drives that your organization is planning. Please call 203-481-3663 to schedule drop off items you have collected.

Volunteer: Join us to sort, organize and distribute food to our neighbors. Call today (203-481-3663).

Donate: Your financial support is needed to continue our mission to provide groceries to families in need. Cash donations are welcome and critical; make checks out to the Branford Food Pantry and mail them to 30 Harrison Avenue, Branford, CT 06405.



To Obtain Family Assistance

The Food Pantry provides groceries to Branford individuals and families who qualify for assistance using U.S. government guidelines. To qualify for support, simply call the Town of Branford Social Services Department at (203) 488-5404.

Hours

Families in need can pick up groceries once a week on:

Tuesday or Friday morning between 8:30 – 11:00 am

Tuesday evening between 4:30 – 6:30 pm

To pick up groceries, go to 30 Harrison Avenue, lower level on the right side of the building.

Branford Historical Society



The Branford Historical Society cares for and maintains the historic Harrison House Museum at 124 Main Street Branford.

The Harrison House will open for the season in June, for guided tours on Saturdays 1-4 pm or by appointment.

Visit and experience a step back in time. The circa 1724 saltbox house and barn features period furnishings, Branford artifacts, and exhibits of early Branford industry including MIF, Branford Lockworks and Atlantic Wire Company. The charming back yard includes a colonial flower and herb garden beautifully maintained by the Branford Garden Club.

At the Branford Festival on June 18th we will be serving our traditional Strawberry Shortcakes. Our legendary shortcakes are made with fresh, hand-hulled sweet strawberries and real cream, whipped on location! Visit us on Montowese St., next to Trinity Church, Saturday only.

On Wednesday July 13, 7 pm at the Blackstone Library, Ted Braun will present and speak on his new book titled *The*

Barkers of Branford, Snapshots of Life in America through a Local Lens. His book is based on the Diaries of Llewellyn Barker (1850-1937) who started his diary at the age of 14, and continued for 72 years. It gives a revealing perspective of local Branford life, as well as national and world events during this time frame from Lincoln to Roosevelt. Refreshments will be served. This program is sponsored by the Branford Historical Society. Donations will be accepted and appreciated in support of the Harrison House.

Stay in touch through our Website at www.Branfordhistoricalsociety.org for other upcoming events. Become a Member. Like us on Facebook.

What is 2-1-1? It is

Connecticut's free information and referral service. By dialing 2-1-1, a toll-free number throughout CT, callers can reach knowledgeable, multilingual staff and get information, referrals or seek help in a crisis. 2-1-1 operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year. TDD access is available.

Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library



WILLOUGHBY WALLACE
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

146 Thimble Islands Road, Stony Creek

The Summer Reading Kickoff

Friday, June 17 at 1:30. **On Your Mark, Get Set . . . READ!**

Summer Reading events include:

- Story Character Relay Race
- Reading time with Rosie, the Therapy Dog
- A StoryWalk on the Trolley Trail
- Afternoon movies
- Bingo Night
- Crafts

- Sandcastle building day
- Gallery read in
- And of course – *Spinning the Wheel for Reading prizes.*

Registration begins on June 13 for a summer of reading fun. Call the library to register children at 203-488-8702. Check the library website: www.wwml.org for the schedule of events. The library offers many Connecticut museum and park passes for family summer adventures. We also provide Passport and Notary Services.

Monthly Art exhibits in the Keyes Gallery. The Stony Creek Art Show is in August. Please stop by and visit this summer.

Safe & Free Disposal of Household Chemicals

Household hazardous waste comes from everyday products used in the home, garage, yard or garden. These products are corrosive, flammable, toxic or reactive.

Alternatives to toxic products may be available. Visit our website at www.rwater.com/hazwaste or call the HazWaste office at 203-401-2712. A visit to HazWaste Central is quick, easy and free. Participants never have to leave their cars, and the waste is off-loaded by professionals. The checklist helps identify products by rooms in a home. HazWaste Central serves residents in its 15 town region, including Branford.

Regional Water Authority's Headquarters. 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, I-95 exit 46 and follow signs to the RWA.

Open Saturdays – 9 am to Noon - May 14 through October 29.
Closed holiday weekends of May 28, July 2, and September 3.

What To Bring To Hazwaste Central - Residential Waste Only

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Batteries*
Swimming Pool Chemicals
Small (1 Pound) Propane Cylinders
Fluorescent Bulbs (Including CFL Type)*
Mercury & Mercury-Containing Items

Kitchen & Bathroom

Aerosols
Floor Care Products
Metal & Furniture Polish

Oven & Drain Cleaners
Bathroom Cleaners
Tile Cleaners, Disinfectants
Toilet Bowl Cleaners
Nail Polish Remover

Garage & Workshop

Bug Sprays
Gasoline
Auto Batteries
Brake & Transmission Fluid
Used Motor Oil*
Antifreeze
Auto Body Repair Products
Other Oils/Cleaners
Latex & Oil-Based Paints*
Paint Thinner & Stripper
Varnish
Photographic Chemicals

Do not mix or remove Items from their original package.

Small Businesses:

Call 203-401-2712
for Disposal Information

* Local disposal options are available. Please check with Branford's Transfer Station webpage <http://www.branford-ct.gov/content/143/179/default.aspx> or the following resources:

Batteries: call 1-800-8-BATTERY or log on to www.call2recycle.org (excluding alkaline and auto batteries).

Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) Bulbs: call 1-800-CLEANUP, or log on to www.earth911.com.

Paint: Visit the Connecticut page of www.paintcare.org to find a drop-off location for household paint.

Registrars of Voters

Presidential Election Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Are you a United States Citizen?

Are you Registered to Vote in Branford?

Have you changed your Name and/or Address?

Are you 17 years old and will be 18 by Election Day?

IMPORTANT! Keep your voter record up to date.

The Registrars of Voters office is looking forward to a very busy November Presidential Election. Our office would like to inform you of a few easy ways for you to register and/or keep your voter record up to date:

1. In Person in the Registrar of Voters Office at 40 Kirkham Street any Tuesday or Thursday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm or in the Town Clerks Office Monday thru Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.
2. By requesting a Mail In Application from the Registrar of Voters Office at 203-483-3998

3. By visiting The Town of Branford's website Branford-ct.gov under Town Departments Registrar of Voters page.
 - a. Click on Mail-In Voter Registration Application to print out the application. Mail it to Branford Town Hall, P.O. Box 150, Branford Ct 06405.
 - b. Click on the Link "ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION" it will take you to the Secretary of The State of Connecticut's website. You can register to vote for the first time, or update your voter information change your name and/or address.

For either the Mail-In Application or the Online Registration You are not a voter until your application is approved by the Registrars of Voters. You will receive an acceptance letter from the Branford Registrar of Voters Office also notifying you of your polling location.

For further information you can Click on "STATE VOTER LOOK UP" to check your current voter registration status at any time.

Don't miss out **REGISTER EARLY, THEN VOTE ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016.**

Should You Work with a Financial Professional?

Navigating the investment world can be a daunting task if you're going it alone. So, get some help. A financial professional can benefit you in many ways. You might want to retire at age 60 and buy a vacation home - but do you know how much money you'll need to reach this goal? And do you know what sort of investment return you'll need to accumulate those savings?

Because it's their business, financial professionals stay current on changing investment rules - and this knowledge can pay off for you. For example, you might not have known that your 401(k) contribution limits went up in 2015 - but your financial professional likely did.

A qualified financial professional has the tools and experience to help you answer these and other key questions. Furthermore, once a financial professional is familiar with your individual situation, he or she can help tailor an investment portfolio for you.

Ask your friends and relatives whom they use for financial guidance. Then, interview several candidates. Remember, you're looking for someone to help you reach your most important goals - make sure you get the right person.

Provided by David Laughran, Financial Advisor for Edward Jones

When it comes to your to-do list, put your future first.

To find out how to get your financial goals on track, contact your Edward Jones financial advisor today.



David E Laughran
Financial Advisor
158 Montowese St
Branford, CT 06405
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Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut

The Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut is Connecticut's leading source of information for the thousands of people who have epilepsy. Founded in 1982, the Foundation works to ensure that people with epilepsy are able to participate in all life experiences through information, education, recreation, advocacy and support.

"There are approximately 60,000 people in Connecticut who have epilepsy and an estimated 50,000,000 worldwide. Epilepsy is the most common neurological disorder in the United States and is equal in prevalence to cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease combined," said Linda Wallace, Executive Director.

A seizure is an abnormal electrical discharge in the brain. Seizures can be caused by head injuries, lack of oxygen at birth, brain tumors and other health condition. People often think of

seizures only as jerking and shaking uncontrollably; however, not all seizures are convulsions. There are many different symptoms of seizures, which can include eye fluttering, staring and laughing. Recurring seizures can be a sign of epilepsy.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut has many programs to offer those living with epilepsy. In particular, we offer seven support groups throughout the state. Our newest group is meeting in Guilford for adults living with epilepsy and parents of children with epilepsy. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Guilford Parks & Recreation, 32 Church Street, Guilford, Connecticut.

Those interested in attending meetings are asked to please RSVP, to the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut by calling 800-899-3745 or emailing Allison at Allison@epilepsyct.com. Offices are located at 386 Main Street, Middletown, CT.

CT Agriculture Fairs

Middlesex & New Haven County 4-H Fair

August 5, 6 & 7

Durham Fairgrounds, 24 Town House Road, Durham, CT

www.4-Hfair.org, 203-407-3158

Hamburg Fair

August 19, 20 & 21

2 Sterling City Road, Lyme, CT

www.hamburgfair.org, 860-908-4906

Chester Fair

August 26, 27 & 28

Kirkland Terrace, Chester, CT

www.chesterfair.org, 860-526-5947

Cheshire Grange Community Fair

August 27 & 28

44 Wallingford Road, Cheshire, CT

www.cheshiregrange.org, 203-537-5213

Haddam Neck Fair

September 2, 3, 4 & 5

26 Quarry Hill Road, Haddam Neck, CT

www.haddamneckfair.com, 860-267-4671

North Haven Fair

September 8, 9, 10, 11

290 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT

www.northhaven-fair.com, 203-239-3700

Guilford Fair

September 16, 17 & 18

Stone House Lane, Guilford, CT

www.guilfordfair.org, 203-453-3543

Orange County Fair

September 17 & 18

152 Orange Center Road, Orange, CT

www.orangefair.com, 203-430-6044

Durham Fair

September 22, 23, 24 & 25

24 Town House Road, Durham, CT

www.durhamfair.com, 860-349-9495

Berlin Fair

September 30, October 1 & 2

430 Beckley Road, East Berlin, CT

www.ctberlinfair.com, 860-828-0133

The Branford Exchange Club Hosts K-9 Vest Fundraiser at Bill Miller's Castle



Left to right: Exchange President Elect Terry McAvoy -CT State Rep Lonnie Reed, Officer Luigi Amasino, XC committee member Glen Newell State Rep Sean Scanlon, Exchange Secretary and Vest Chairman Jack Mushin, Exchange Committee Member Al Mahan



Officer Luigi Amasino and Joker at Branford Exchange Club Vest Fundraiser.

The Branford Exchange Club held a fundraiser on April 10 at Bill Miller's Castle to raise money for a bulletproof/knife resistant vest for Branford's K-9 Hero "Joker." The Exchange club raised enough money to not only buy a Bullet proof Vest, but also a Training Bite Suit and a Badge.

Branford Police Chief Halloran made the following statement after Joker's Event: *"On behalf of the men and women of the Branford Police Department I would like to thank the Branford Exchange Club and all of its members for the terrific job they did tonight on the fundraiser event at Bill Miller's Castle. This organization exemplifies citizenship, friendship and helping others. Thank you to our community for supporting the Branford Police and our K9 team! Your generosity at this fundraiser was tremendous and in addition to the bulletproof vest the Exchange Club will be donating a training bite suit and a new badge for Joker! Also a special thank you to State Representatives Lonnie Reed and Sean Scanlon for always supporting our department. What a great night! Thank you all."*

Branford's 2016 Top Dog Licensing Contest

An important reminder to all dog owners...June is dog licensing month! **Did you know...?** Every dog 6 months and older is required by law to be licensed annually in the State of Connecticut.

Each dog licensed in Branford during the month of June (Town Clerk's Office at 1019 Main Street) will be entered in a special drawing. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required. The winning entrant, picked at random on July 1st, will receive a gift basket, and the distinction of wearing

The Branford Exchange Club, making communities a better place to live is carried through It's Programs of service:

Americanism, Youth programs, and Community Service-as well as its National Project, the Prevention of Child Abuse. The Branford Exchange Club recently donated funds to the Branford Girls Swim Team, Branford's Model Congress, and the Branford Girls Field Hockey Team. We also donated funds to Bristol hospital for their Child Abuse Center and 4 High School Scholarships.

Come visit us at our Fried Dough Booth at the Branford Festival this June 17-19 where we raise money for our community projects. For further information about the Branford Exchange Club and its programs please contact: art.promotions1@gmail.com or Phone 203.901.7982. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Like us on Facebook: Branford Exchange Club (community organization).

Tag #1 for the year as Branford's 2016 "Top Dog!" Also included will be a special photo opportunity at Town Hall. Visit www.branford-ct.gov and click on the Town Clerk's web page for further details. Good luck and see you soon!

New this year – Condominium board of directors may call to schedule a special licensing event at your condo complex. Inquire today.

Lisa E. Arpin, Branford Town Clerk

Shoreline Chamber of Commerce

The Branford Festival, June 17 – 19

Enjoy the 32nd Branford Festival on the green! Saturday, June 18th is sponsored by the Shoreline Chamber and welcomes over 200 vendors to this ever popular event. Drawing over 4,000 participants makes this craft/vendor show one of the most popular events of the Festival weekend. This family friendly event includes great shopping, information from vendors covering a huge range of services, several food trucks for lunch or snacking, face painting and much more!



Annual Lobster Clambake, July 20

Wednesday, July 20th is the date of our 11th annual Lobster Clambake, held at the Owenego Inn, 40 Linden Ave., Branford. Dinner includes lobster (or steak) with all the fixings, including dessert. This fun-filled event includes games for the kids, music and dancing for the adults. A great time, for \$48 pp (\$25 for lighter fare; \$15 for kids 12 and under). Please call the office for more information or for tickets: (203) 488-5500.



Taste of Guilford, Sunday August 21

Sunday, August 21st brings Taste of Guilford back to the Guilford Green. Delicious food from local restaurants and food trucks compliment the vendors that gather on the green from noon – 5 pm. Another fun filled family event, enjoy lunch, a snack or early dinner on one of New England's most beautiful greens. No entry fee. Please call the office for more information: (203) 488-5500.

Travel. The Chamber is planning two exciting trips this year- Havana, Cuba departing on October 11, 2016 and Pompeii and the Amalfi Coast departing on October 16, 2016. Please contact Kathy@shorelinechamberct.com or call (203) 488-5500 for further information.

Vista Starlight Benefit



Nearly 250 people enjoyed an evening as “castaways on a desert island” at the Water's Edge Resort and Spa on April 16th for the Vista Starlight Benefit, an annual spring fundraiser and social event for Vista Life Innovations - an

organization that provides programs and services to individuals with disabilities.

This year's event stands to net over \$100,000, making it the most successful Starlight Benefit to date. Funds raised during the event go toward enhancing Vista's many programs and services, including art programming, employment services, life skills instruction, recreation and more.

The event honored Branford philanthropist Charlie Steinberg, owner of Branford Jewelers. The 2016 Starlight Benefit was presented by Andi Barouh, the Matthew Seaman Family, Essex Printing, the Malhotra Family, the Rajiv Malhotra Memorial Fund, and Select Fence & Guardrail.

Your Photo Becomes Our Cover



Take a photo capturing the spirit and beauty of one of our **Events** towns and it could be selected to be on the cover. We will be selecting a prize winning photo from the entries in this year's **Chester Fair Town Photo** category. (see www.chesterfair.org for contest rules)

East Shore District Health Department Working To Make Branford Waters Cleaner

Long Island Sound: we boat in it, we swim in it, we fish in it, and it is a major source of commercial shell fishing in Connecticut. The East Shore District Health Department (ESDHD), along with the Bureau of Aquaculture and its partner shoreline health departments, test waters of the beaches during the summer months and year-round test the waters of the shellfish beds for contaminant bacteria levels.

The waters of the Sound come from streams and rivers mixing with the waters from the Atlantic Ocean. The major source of pollution is from these streams and rivers and what the health department calls non-point source pollution, or run-off. This non-point source pollution can have high bacteria levels as rain or snowmelt carry vehicle pollutants (oil, grease), pesticides, litter, and fecal matter from various animals from roads,

rooftops, parking lots, construction sites, lawns, and other surfaces.

This summer the State and Local Health Departments will test the waters of the streams and rivers in an attempt to determine what the source of the pollution is and whether we can reduce or eliminate it. ESDHD will be collecting samples and have them tested not only to find out what bacteria lie within the waters, but also the source of the bacteria. By testing the DNA of the bacterial contamination, we will be able to tell whether the pollution is from humans, animals, or water fowl. Once the source of the pollution contamination is determined, a plan of action can be implemented.

The monitoring of the beach waters can save us from swimming related illnesses. Although unpleasant, swimming related illnesses are usually not very serious -



they require little or no treatment and improve quickly if treatment is needed, and no long-term health effects. The most common illness associated with swimming in water polluted by sewage is gastroenteritis. It occurs in a variety of forms that can have one or more of the following symptoms: nausea, vomiting, stomachache, diarrhea, headache or fever. Other minor illnesses associated with swimming include swimmers itch, ear, eye, and nose and throat infections.

ESDHD urges our residents to observe any beach closure, advisory, or safety hazards signs. Have a happy and healthy summer.






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WoofStock!

On August 13 from 12 pm until 6 pm, Branford will be having its Annual WoofStock on the Branford Green. This is an all-day free music festival to raise awareness and donations for the Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter in Branford!

Guests are also encouraged to bring Bleach, Clorox Wipes, Paper Towels, Tissues, Hand Sanitizer, Wet and Dry Kitten Food, Raw Hide Chew Bones, Timothy Hay, Used Soccer balls and Footballs and Bedding for Animals at the animal shelter. They can be dropped off at our "DONATION STATION" on the Green this day.

Guests will be treated to:

- 4 Bands - soundboard run by Branford's Dennis Nardella
- Special Guest MC John "Cadillac" Saville
- WoofWalk (a walk to raise money for homeless animals)
- Hippie Dog Costume Contest
- Family Fun and Entertainment for all ages!
- Children's Area
- Doggy Swimming Pools
- Food Trucks



- Raffles
- Games, contests, and FUN
- And other Surprise Guests!

If people are interested they can go onto "Branford Woofstock" on Face Book or visit www.branfordanimalshelter.org – they will find all the info.

For info to sign up as a vendor or Sponsor and to sign up for Woofwalk call the shelter 203-315-4125 or email lburban@branford-ct.gov.

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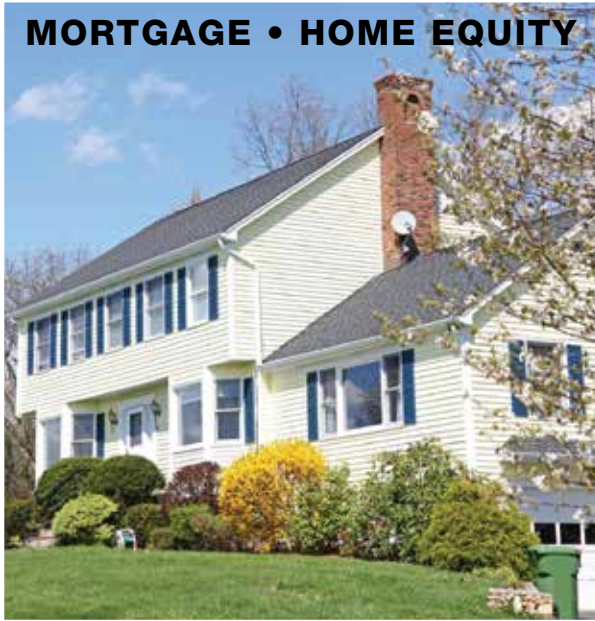
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