

# Branford events

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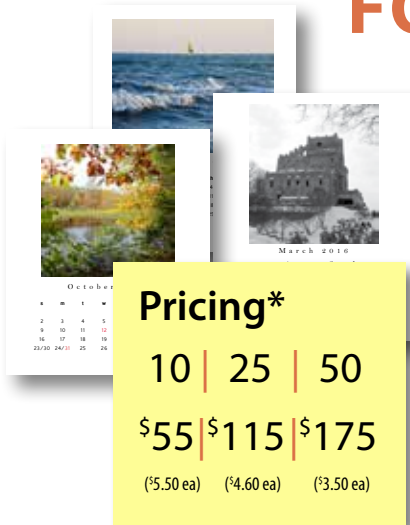
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# First Selectman's Corner

With the holidays approaching, I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. To kick off the holiday season, please plan to attend our annual Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting scheduled for Saturday, November 28th. The parade steps off at 6:00 pm and will follow the traditional route from Branford High School along East Main and Main Street to the green, where Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive by fire truck to light the tree. Please bring a non-perishable food item or unwrapped toy to the parade with you. The Branford High School Football team will be collecting the items along the parade route to benefit Branford families. We hope you, your family and friends plan to attend.

In addition to the parade, and new this year, plans are underway for a "Luminary Night" and "Holiday Stroll" along Main Street in early December. This will be another way for Branford residents to celebrate the holidays, enjoy our town center, and support our local businesses. Please watch for details on these events as they develop.

The town is also moving forward with the next generation of Walsh Intermediate School. DTC / Perkins Eastman has recently completed a feasibility study that evaluated the existing school facility and addressed its suitability to renovate to an "as new" facility, building a new school on site, and a hybrid option which renovates some of the existing building, and adds a new academic wing. Working together with the BOE we will be engaging the community to determine the model that best suits the needs of our children and their educational needs.



James B. Cosgrove

Another long awaited project that is moving forward is plans for a new senior facility. An assessment was conducted by Arbonies King Vlock of current senior resources, programs and services to help identify a preferred planning approach to serve the needs of our seniors. That assessment determined that the best location to meet all the needs of our community was the current Community House. The town has engaged the services of Quisenberry Arcari Architects, LLC to conduct a site evaluation and develop a concept design plan for the proposed Senior Center/Community House Renovation and expansion project. These first steps are critical in bringing a new facility to meet the needs of our community.

These and other programs, events and activities are easy to follow by keeping your quarterly issue of "Branford Events" on hand, by checking the Town's website at [www.branford-ct.gov](http://www.branford-ct.gov), or by tuning into BCTV channels 18, 19 and 20.

Happy holidays, and stay safe and healthy this winter.

Sincerely,

James B. Cosgrove  
First Selectman

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# Branford Historical Society

PO Box 504, Branford, CT 06405  
www.branfordhistoricalsociety.org



The Branford Historical Society actively maintains the historic circa 1724 Harrison House Museum at 124 Main St., Branford. The Harrison House is closed for the winter months, but is available for tours by appointment. Please email us at [info@branfordhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@branfordhistoricalsociety.org).

On Friday November 20, 7:30 pm at the Baptist Church on the historic Branford Green, the Musical Art Society of Branford will host a concert by the West End String Trio. This event will benefit the Branford Historical Society's campaign to purchase and save the Harrison House. There is no charge, but donations are welcome and appreciated. Refreshments will be served.

On Sunday Dec. 6, from 1pm-3pm, we will hold our Annual Open House Christmas Party. Join us for an enjoyable afternoon of merriment, with refreshments, entertainment, and decorations, in the historic Harrison House Museum. This traditional

annual event is intended to get everyone into the Holiday Spirit! Guides will welcome you as you tour the House, the Barn, and our current Exhibits. There will be raffles, including the decorated Christmas tree. Sing along with classical guitarist Bob Wood as he plays traditional holiday favorites.

Stay in touch on our website at [www.branfordhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.branfordhistoricalsociety.org) for other upcoming events, or information about our society and the Harrison House Museum.

## Home for the Holidays



Sponsored by HOME RESTAURANT to Benefit the Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter. Monday, November 23rd, 5:30-9:30 pm. Hors d'oeuvres, Drink Specials and Raffles. \$20.00 tickets in advance can be bought at 749 East Main St Branford, CT 06405. Or \$25.00 at door at Home Restaurant the night of event. Tickets can also be purchased via [www.branfordanimalshelter.org](http://www.branfordanimalshelter.org) - click donate and follow paypal.

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## Annual Tree Lighting & Parade on Branford Town Green

As the holiday season approaches, the Branford Recreation Department invites everyone to the Annual Tree Lighting & Parade on the Branford Town Green, Saturday, November 28th, starting at 6:00 p.m. (Rain Date, Sunday, November 29th). The parade starts off at Branford High School and marches down Main Street, concluding with the tree lighting on the town green.

All are welcomed to line the parade route and march through to the center of town. To help the Branford High School Football Team fulfill its wish of helping the Branford Food council, those attending the parade route are asked to bring a non-perishable food item or an unwrapped toy to benefit Branford and fill the carts.

Schedule of events:

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Holiday Shopping  
6:00 p.m. - Parade Starts  
6:45 p.m. - Tree Lighting  
6:45 p.m. - Visits with Santa, Mrs. Claus and Rudolph

Bring your cameras! Special thanks go out to the Branford Recreation Department, the Branford Public Works Department, the Branford Police Department, the Branford Fire Department, the town of Branford and the many volunteers for making this a wonderful holiday community festivity. For further information, please call the Recreation office at 203-488-8304 or visit [www.branford-ct.gov](http://www.branford-ct.gov).

# Holiday Wrapping Paper Program

The Solid Waste and Recycling Department is excited to continue the very successful Holiday Wrapping Paper Recycling Program for this upcoming holiday season. The program annually results in an additional 18 tons of materials being recycled that otherwise would be burned as trash! Many thanks are due to Etta Hanlon, a Branford High School student, for her continued hard work in bringing her concept to fruition.

Specially marked bags will be available at various locations throughout town, including Town Hall, the Senior Center, our Libraries, Community House and the Transfer Station for collecting your recyclable holiday paper. Simply fill your bag as you open your gifts (please see below for a list of acceptable materials). Then place your filled bag(s) out with your normal recyclables for collection, or bring them directly to the Transfer Station. If you do not have one of the specially marked bags, your holiday paper can still be recycled by placing it in the same bag/ bundle as your newspapers and magazines.

We must stress that only paper products can be placed in

these bags. Wrapping paper made of foil or plastic (Mylar) are not acceptable. Neither are ribbons or bows that are not made of paper. A good rule of thumb is, "If it rips, it fits."

ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS:	UNACCEPTABLE MATERIALS:
Paper wrapping paper	Any non-paper products
Paperboard / gift boxes	Plastic, Foil or Mylar wrapping paper
Tissue paper	Bows or ribbons
Holiday cards and envelopes	Styrofoam or Plastic Packaging
	*Corrugated cardboard

\*Please recycle your corrugated cardboard along with your other recyclables; just not in this bag\*  
Remember that recycling not only saves our environment, but our tax dollars too! For every ton of trash that is recycled, the Town saves over \$100. Please recycle.

Dan McGowan, Solid Waste Supervisor  
dmcgowan@branford-ct.gov

# Holiday Happenings at Canoe Brook Center

11 Cherry Hill Road, 203-315-0687  
[www.branford-ct.gov/canoebrook](http://www.branford-ct.gov/canoebrook)

The theme of Senior Center month was LIFE (learning, independence, friends, energy) and is embraced every day throughout the year at Canoe Brook. Classes are held, friendships made, food is served, and there is a great deal of positive energy!

We have an abundance of opportunities for people to join us, celebrate, and connect during the holidays. For a daily listing of all activities follow our Facebook page or check out Canoe Brook Connections, our monthly newsletter posted on our webpage at: <http://branford-ct.gov/CanoeBrook>. Here are just a few of our holiday related activities:

- 11/18 - Chanukah Dinner with Holiday Shoppe
- 12/1 - Newcomer's Breakfast; contact Nancy at 203-315-0684 to sign up.
- 12/2 - Not So Pro Musical Jammers Holiday Performance



- 12/3 - Mini-trip: Milford Post Mall
- 12/3 - Trip to New York Botanical Garden
- Holiday Train Show
- 12/4 - Lunch and a Movie (comedy): "Christmas With the Kranks"
- 12/4 - Holiday Shoppe, (boutique quality items at reasonable prices)
- 12/7 - Readers Theater Group performs at Murphy School
- 12/10 - Annual Rotary Holiday Dinner for Seniors, mmmm good!
- 12/14 - Mini-trip: Festival of Lights, Holiday Shoppe Open
- 12/16 - Canoe Brook Holiday luncheon at Donovan's Reef
- 12/30 - Midnight at Noon, a daytime New Year's party

Pre-registration is required for all activities. We are located at 11 Cherry Hill Rd. and open Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing you!

Dagmar Ridgway, Director  
Canoe Brook Center  
203-315-0683  
dridgway@branford-ct.gov



# Branford Art Center



## FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

Yvonne Gordon of the Branford Art Center (BAC) and BACA were happy to showcase 33 regional artists under the Big Top on the Branford Green Sept 19th, 2015, as part of Mary Halley's Branford Reads Function. This was the first time an art festival has occurred under the tent and it was a huge success. Patrons,



guests and artists were entertained by the smooth cool live Jazz of Dr. Gary Grippo, John Brasil and friends, which really made this special event a happening. The Community Gardens Display also enjoyed a steady flow of visitors brought in by the festival. We look forward to participating again next year.

## BAC WINTER EVENTS

Branford Art Center is keeping busy this season and has several public events planned for the winter months.

**November 14th** 7-9 pm - We will host a Holiday Opening and show of original small works by more than 20 artists. The theme is the shoreline. As at all of our events complimentary refreshments will be served.

**November 28th**, Sat 5-7 pm - The evening of the Branford Tree Lighting, we will host an Open House with hot chocolate and cookies with our own tree lighting.

**December 3rd** 7-10 pm - We will Have our Holiday "Champagne and Black Tie" fundraiser featuring Dr. Gary Grippo, John Brasil and Friends playing live cool jazz and lite buffet provided by the Shoreline Café. A limited number of tickets are available. Contact Yvonne for information.

## BAC CLASSES

Also, classes are available in photography, acrylics, watercolor, figure drawing, acting, jewelry making, process painting, as well as children's lessons. Like us on facebook to get the current listings.

Yvonne Gordon

Branford Art Center and YMG Wellness LLC  
1229bacgallery@gmail.com / 860-334-4642

# The Branford Garden Club



We are sure everyone enjoyed the beautiful Baskets on the Green this year. Our First Selectman, Jaime Cosgrove, also deserves thanks from everyone. While the Garden Club supplied all the labor and flowers for the Baskets, Mr. Cosgrove contracted with SARAH to keep them watered for 10 weeks this summer so the ladies could have a break! In October the flowers were removed from the Baskets, and in November the Garden Club will fill

them with greens and big red bows for the holiday season and winter. Hopefully families came to the Green and enjoyed the Scarecrows. This is an event the Garden Club, under the leadership of Rodney Hayes, has been doing for many years. Many local businesses compete and get very creative with their displays.

In December the Garden Club is having a cocktail party and pot

luck dinner in Van Wilgen's Greenhouses among the poinsettias for members and spouses. We do not meet in January, but will be back at work in February. Our committees and areas of interest include (but are not limited to): Conservation, Horticulture, Youth Activities, Festival on the Green, Daffodil Project, Telephone/Cheer, The Branford Green Committee, Garden Therapy (Orchard House, Community Dining Room) Civic Maintenance, Baskets on the Green, Floral Design, Scarecrows on the Green, Membership, Hospitality, Residential and Commercial Garden Awards, Archival History, Educational Programs, Yearbook, Town Beautification Projects, etc. Anyone interested in membership or coming to a meeting as a guest, contact Nancy Iannotti (203-483-7735 or iannotti9@comcast.net).

Branford Garden Club is the largest garden club in the state. Currently we have 140 members with a day and evening division. We are affiliated with Federated Garden Clubs of CT and National Garden Clubs.

Bonnie McKirdy, President  
The Branford Garden Club



# James Blackstone Memorial Library

Winter is the perfect time to rediscover the James Blackstone Memorial Library. Everyone in your family will find something to tickle their interests and satisfy their needs.

**Homework Resources** – from books to documentaries, historical photos and records, a wide range of databases that cover science, biography, literature, and more.

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**Bestsellers (and Classics)** in Fiction and Nonfiction - catch up on your reading with the latest great books or some classic favorites, available in print and audio (or downloadable from our website).

**Language Learning** – With your Blackstone Library card, you can use Mango

Languages from the comfort of your own home to learn over 60 languages, including ESL support. We also have a variety of language learning kits that you can borrow.

**Travel** – If you're learning a language for an upcoming trip, don't forget to borrow a travel guide for your destination. We even have books on fun & adventure in CT – make a great vacation right in your own backyard!

**Programs for Adults** – sign up for our monthly events email at blackstonelibrary.org, and stay informed about all the fantastic programs we have each month for the whole family. Come in to use our printing/copying/fax services, or take advantage of free document scanning - email or save scanned documents so you have them at your fingertips.

**Have a business?** Try out our subscription to AtoZdatabases and get sales leads, mailing lists, and more.



Blackstone Library has something for everyone, from baby story programs to art & history lectures to books & movies to access to technology. Come explore! Photo by Katy Dillman, Blackstone Library.

This winter, make the Blackstone a part of your weekly routine - with programs and materials for babies to businesses! To see all of our events and learn more about what Blackstone has for you, visit us at blackstonelibrary.org, call us at 203.488.1441, or drop in to pick up an events calendar.

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## The Community Forest Commission

The Community Forest Commission is composed of Peggy Carpenter, Louise Lamontagne, Nancy Mancini, Shirley McCarthy and Chris Woerner and Town officials Diana Ross and Tom Brennan.

Its primary mission is to preserve and increase the number of trees in Branford via a planting program as well as educating our citizens on the value of trees: Trees renew our air supply by absorbing carbon dioxide and producing oxygen (one tree produces nearly 260 pounds of oxygen each year). Tree roots stabilize the soil, prevent erosion, and improve water quality; trees reduce storm run-off and the possibility of flooding. Shade trees can make buildings up to 20 degrees cooler in the summer. Trees decrease noise pollution, functioning as sound barriers. Trees are critical food and shelter for wildlife. Proper care includes not mulching up against the tree trunk and any pruning should be conducted by a knowledgeable person, such as an arborist. The death of one 70-year old tree would return over three tons of carbon to the atmosphere. Trees are the longest living organisms on earth.

This year, Branford's Department of Public Works will plant approximately 40 native trees. Native trees and plants help our ecosystem. A native oak supports well over 500 species whereas a non-native Bradford pear supports none.

The Commission also has a commemorative tree planting program. It is a great way to honor a loved one with a living gift. One can donate a tree and it will be planted by the town on town property. For more information and to process your request please email the commission at ll26@ymail.com or pegregcarp@yahoo.com. Once we hear from you, the Community Forest Commission will then contact you.

## Branford Arts & Cultural Alliance (BACA)

The Branford Arts & Cultural Alliance (BACA) will sponsor a show of Branford artists during the month of November at the Blackstone Memorial Library. Works will include oils, watercolors, sculptures, ceramics, etc.

Artists represented include: Jay Babina, Terry Bogan, Sally Brown, Maryann Cook, Frank Dormer, Pat Driscoll, Barbara Fenton, Leona Heckendorf, Laura Kaiser, Delia Kropiwnicki, Val Kropiwnicki, Jane Novick, Juliemar Ortiz, Jean Polka, Marta Reisman, Juliana Roy, Mary Murphy Taylor, DL Wang, and Maureen Wilkinson.

For more information, contact Jay Babina at jbabina@snet.net or Richard Blacher at dblacher@snet.net.



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## Branford Land Trust - Walk at the Van Wie Preserve



Join the Branford Land Trust's NATURE EXPLORER PROGRAM for our Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Walk at the Van Wie Preserve, Sunday, November 22 at 1:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and the refreshing fall weather! The walk will be led by Bill Horne. Meet at the trailhead at 87 Red Hill Road. Directions: From Exit 56 on I-95, go south on Leetes Island Rd. for 0.1 mile, and turn left (east) onto Red Hill Rd. Proceed to #87, which is on the right, and park on the right side of the road.

For more information call 203-415-1571. The event is free and open to the public.

The mission of the Branford Land Trust is to preserve open space in Branford, and to promote our community's appreciation of Branford's diverse natural features.

For more information about these efforts, please visit [branfordlandtrust.org](http://branfordlandtrust.org).

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# Branford Economic Development Commission



Pictured above are [l to r] EDC chairman Perry Maresca, EDC member Joe Gordon, Skip Birbarie, and First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove.

The Commission continues to work closely with a variety of businesses and commercial interests on a number of development projects. It is pleased to report that the Planning and Zoning Commission has approved the application by Bausch+Ströbel, a major pharmaceutical packaging manufacturer, to construct a new 58,000 s/f facility on Rte. 139, and that site plans for Atlantic Wharf are moving forward P&Z's approval of the development's master plan.

And as part of the commission's ongoing effort to attract more bioscience and high tech businesses, the EDC co-hosted a CURE bioscience "clubhouse" at the Stony Creek Brewery. EDC Chair Perry Maresca joined CURE President and CEO Susan Froshauer, State Representative Lonnie Reed, and Connecticut DECD Commissioner Catherine Smith in welcoming more than a hundred and forty industry professionals to talk about the industry's

growth and expansion. Presentations on recent developments were made by several Branford companies including Core Informatics, Mt. Sinai Genetic Testing Laboratories, and this was the latest in a series of events that the commission has held with CURE, the state's association for the bioscience industry. Also, at a recent meeting the EDC presented Birbarie Marine "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. For almost 70 years Birbarie Marine has provided the shoreline with boat sales and service, marine supplies and accessories, repairs and winterization, as well as slips and storage on the Branford River at their Indian Neck Avenue marina. Skip Birbarie and his sister, Mindy Birbarie Kahl, are the second generation to operate the family business.

The EDC is pleased to welcome mAbChem Laboratory, a new biotech operation, and Gennaro Restaurant on Shore Drive in Short Beach, to the Branford business community. It also extends congratulations to Pat Demaio and the Munger Construction team on receiving the Gordian Group's "Harry H. Mellon Award of Excellence" for its outstanding and innovative uses of Job Order Contracting (JOC). Other business activity in town includes plans for Bausch+Ströbel to construct a new 58,000 s/f manufacturing on Rte. 139, the construction underway by Virginia-based Artis Senior Living to build and operate a 60-bed memory care facility on Rte. 1 near Evergreen Woods, and facility and operational expansions at Core Informatics, Thimble Island Brewing, and Zero Gravity Marketing.

## Tax Office

All Branford taxpayers are reminded that the second installment of real estate and personal property bills are due on January 1, 2016 and payable until February 1, 2016 without interest. We do not mail bills for the second installment as the bill you received in June consists of coupons for both the July and January payments. If you would like to pay before January 1st, you may pay in advance at any time before then.

Supplemental motor vehicle bills will be mailed at the end of December. You will receive a bill if you registered a car in Branford after October 1, 2014 and before September 30, 2015. That bill will be pro-rated from the time the car was registered up to September 30, 2014.

Payments may be made on line at [www.branford-ct.gov](http://www.branford-ct.gov) (there is a fee for this service), by mail to Tax Collector, PO Box 136, Branford CT 06405, or in person at the Tax Office.

Please note we do not accept credit or debit cards in the office. As always, if you have any questions regarding your bill, please contact the Tax Office at 203-315-0672. We will be happy to assist you.

Joanne Cleary  
Tax Collector

# Branford Community Foundation Celebrates 35 Years of Community Investment

35 years after its founding, 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 \$90,000 into the community in 2015 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 over 30 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 \$3,000 to the Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter to support 2015 summer camp programming and scholarships, \$5,000 to the new Branford Alps Farmers Market for start-up costs associated with accepting SNAP (food stamp) benefits, and \$5,000 for "Feed Branford Kids."

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 initiate high quality professional development training to organizations serving Branford. Details of the curriculum are currently under

development but the workshops and related assistance will launch in January 2016. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of all our local providers who provide critical services to our community.

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, go to [www.branfordcommunityfoundation.org](http://www.branfordcommunityfoundation.org).

Liza Janssen Petra, Executive Director  
[lpetra@branfordcommunityfoundation.org](mailto:lpetra@branfordcommunityfoundation.org)

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## Brian's Hope



Progress! August 27th was a day of celebration for the ALD community. At NIH in Rockville, Maryland, the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children's voted 13-1 to approve the addition of X-linked Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), to a list of disorders on the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel for newborns. This victory was the culmination of a 3-year effort on the part of ALD researchers, practitioners, and patient advocate foundations. Jean and Kathleen Kelley were there to provide testimony. We are waiting for final approval from the Secretary of Health and Human Services; the deadline happens to

be right around Christmas. The Recommended Uniform Screening Panel is a list of conditions that the Committee compiles as a guideline for newborn screening. The RUSP is not a law, as each state sets their own policy regarding newborn screening, however being named as part of the RUSP demonstrates that more and more people are recognizing that ALD is a serious yet preventable disease when precautionary measures put in place.

Once Secretary Burwell makes the formal addition, CT, CA, NJ, TN, and IL will implement testing. RI is also planning to move forward and is putting their infrastructure in place. NY has been testing for 21 months and has identified 32 babies with ALD. This early detection enables monitoring and lifesaving treatments for boys and identifies girls who could go into their childbearing years with the potential of passing the genetic disease to their unborn children.

Thank you! We had a very successful Hammerfest Triathlon and are grateful to be the beneficiary of the Branford Lions Golf Tournament and The Hook and Slice Tournament at Pine Orchard. On-going support from donors has enabled Brian's

Hope to fund a program that will continue to provide ALD-positive boys with Lorenzo's Oil. This is another vital component of our effort to stop the progression of ALD. On behalf of all those boys and their families, thank you!

Brian's Hope is also supporting a study at the Kennedy Krieger Institute, a center of excellence for ALD, to pursue an exciting, multi-stage research project targeting ALD. The investigators are exploring a new nanotechnology approach for ALD using targeted delivery of drugs in a mouse model and in a Petri dish model of this disease. This will further our understanding of the disease, while potentially supporting the development of a new therapeutic approach for patients.

Hope Runs Deep! We believe that education, newborn screening, early intervention, and medical research can eventually, drastically limit the number of children who will suffer from the devastating neurological disease of ALD, a progressive disorder that results from myelin degeneration. For more information on Brian's Hope, please visit the website at: [www.BriansHope.org](http://www.BriansHope.org).

## Branford Folk Music Society



The Branford Folk Music Society will close its 2015 concert season on Saturday, Dec.

12 with a night of dynamic fiddling and melodious singing from New Englander Lissa Schneckenburger, accompanied by the inventive guitar stylings of Bethany Waickman. It will be the Branford Folk debut for the duo and a holiday treat for the audience.

The concert will take place at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the First Congregational Church of Branford, 1009 Main Street on the Branford Green. Admission is \$15 for the general public, \$12 for society members, and \$5 for children age 12 and under. Light refreshments are served. For more information, call 203-488-7715 or access the society's web page at [www.branfordfolk.org](http://www.branfordfolk.org). New England's traditional music can be

as warm and comforting as a winter fire or as potent and exhilarating as a summer thunderstorm. Lissa is a master of both moods, a sweet-voiced singer who brings new life to old ballads and a skillful fiddler who captures the driving rhythm and carefree joy of dance tunes. Raised in a small town in Maine, Lissa grew up with music. She began playing fiddle at the age of six, inspired by her mother's interest in folk music and a family friend who was a professional violinist. By the time she reached high school she was performing concerts on her own, specializing in the sprightly New England dance tunes that combine influences from the British Isles and Quebec with homegrown twists that have been evolving since Colonial days. Another of her major influences was the

diverse musical community that she found at fiddle camps, where she had the opportunity to play with and learn from a variety of musicians including noted Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser. She graduated in 2001 from the New England Conservatory of Music with a degree in contemporary improvisation. Early in her professional career, Lissa began closely studying the roots of the Downeast traditional music that she first heard as a young girl. The study resulted in a pair of albums dedicated to reintroducing some wonderful but largely forgotten songs and tunes from New England that she uncovered through archival research. Her album "Song" contains ten timeless ballads that go back as far as the 18th century that she set to carefully crafted modern arrangements,

while "Dance" features fiddle tunes. Lissa will be joined by longtime accompanist Bethany Waickman, who is well known in contradance, square dance and Irish music circles. Bethany, who is Boston-based, also plays with the groups Firefly and Anadama.

Branford will start its 2016 concerts on Jan. 16 with Fiesta del Norte, a Connecticut-based mariachi bands that plays music of Mexico and other Latin American countries.

Submitted by Steve Winters, Secretary of the Branford Folk Music Society and host for 42 years of "Profiles in Folk" on WSHU Public Radio (91.1 and 89.9 FM) in Fairfield.

## Shoreline Greenway Trail

### Who we are....

Shoreline Greenway Trail is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to building a 25-mile continuous path for bicyclists, walkers and hikers on the Connecticut Shoreline from Lighthouse Point in New Haven through East Haven, Branford, and Guilford to Hammonasset Beach State Park in Madison. The Shoreline Greenway Trail is a large, long-term project funded by local, state, and federal grants, as well as contributions from



corporations, foundations, service clubs, and individuals. The goal is for the trail to eventually become a part of the East Coast Greenway, running from Maine to Florida, and in Guilford to connect to the 200-mile north-south New England Trail that originates in New Hampshire and continues through Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Volunteers play a large role in managing trail development, maintaining the trails, leading the walks, etc.

Continued on page 14



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3



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Cannot be combined.  
One per customer.



**\$16.95 + tax**

1 Large Cheese Pizza, 10 Wings  
& (1) 2 Liter Soda

Cannot be combined.  
One per customer.

## Shoreline Greenway Trail ... continued from page 13

We are always in need of volunteers. If you wish to volunteer, please visit our website at: [www.shorelinegreenwaytrail.org](http://www.shorelinegreenwaytrail.org).

The organization hosts free First Saturday walks held year round in a different town each month (East Haven, Branford, Guilford and Madison).

### FIRST SATURDAY WALKS

Saturday, December 5th, 10:00 a.m.

Branford: Tabor Property Walk. Let's get our children out into the fresh air. Let's enjoy, with them, the Shoreline Greenway Trail at Branford's beautiful Tabor property and take in the magnificent view of Long Island Sound at Branford's new Ecology Park! Directions: Take exit 54 off I-95, go south to end. St. Mary's Church will be in front of you and the Blackstone Library will be on your left. Turn left, then quickly

bear right at the fork onto Rte. 146. At the stop sign, go right, continuing on 146, which is called Montowese Street here. Follow this road across the bridge, then make first left on to Tabor Drive. Park in church lot at bend of road. Contact: Leo Cristofar, 203-214-5824.

## The American Diner

What does Wendy's, McDonald's, Denny's, and Arby's all have in common? They are all linked to the history of the modern American diner. Diners as we know them began well over one hundred years ago. They established roadside eateries which were in existence long before drivers began ordering food from drive thrus while utilizing speaker boxes as they are sitting in their cars.

The origin of the American diner actually began with Walter Scott in Providence, Rhode Island. He worked as a pressman for the Providence Journal and became interested in becoming a street

vendor. He forged the way for today's diners and ever so popular food trucks. Walter Scott actually made it all happen! Instead of standing on the street and having workers come to him to purchase food, he purchased a horse drawn carriage and actually delivered food to the working people. As his popularity increased and he became successful, other people in Providence also established similar food delivery businesses, catering to factory and office workers. Time progressed, and stationary diners began.

Today's diners cater to a variety of different people. Community organizations such as the Rotary Club hold their meetings there. Social groups meet their for great meals and good conversation. Regulars come in frequently and enjoy being seated at their favorite tables. Orders are adjusted to accommodate the customer. We hope to welcome you at our award winning diner.

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# Shoreline Chamber of Commerce

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Did you know the Chamber actively supports the community in a continually evolving role?

Following are some examples of community support:

- Gold Sponsor at the Branford Festival
- Sponsor of the Branford Jazz Series
- Through Chili Challenge for a cause: donation to the Liver Foundation
- Through Chowder Challenge for a Cause: donation to the Marisa Meritolo Foundation for Cancer
- Sponsor of the Rotary Golf Tournament
- Scholarship for high school student
- Donation to the Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter
- Campaign for Toys for Tots at holiday time.

## Branford Buck\$!

Get the perfect gift for that special someone - purchase from the Chamber in denominations of \$10, \$25 and \$50. We are located at 764 East Main Street (Rte 1), Branford. Branford Bucks works like a check - just present it to a participating member when paying for your purchase. The recipient of your gift will be able to shop in over 40 Branford locations. A great way to let them choose what they want, while keeping your purchase local.

## EVENTS

### Dancing with the Stars

Enjoy a delicious dinner, followed by great music, our fabulous "Dancing Through the Decades" dancers, plus open dancing for everyone after the contest. All are welcome! Saturday, November 14 / 6 - 10:30 pm. Foxon Country House,

990 Foxon Road, East Haven, CT 06513  
Admission: \$50 per person.

## Branford Holiday Tree Lighting

Branford tree lighting ceremony is located on the Branford Town Green and takes place on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

## 5 Chamber Business After Hours Holiday Networking

Hundreds of attendees join Chambers of Commerce representing Clinton, Madison, Guilford/Branford, North Branford and East Haven for networking in a holiday setting at Bill Miller's Castle. Tuesday, December 8 / 5:30 - 7:30 pm  
Bill Miller's Castle, 834 East Main Street, Branford. \$15.00/pre-registration; \$20 at the door.

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# Branford Lions Club

Chartered in 1951, the Lions Club of Branford has been active in serving the people of Branford through their many charitable functions and donations. Meeting dates are on the 1st Monday of

each month, 7 pm at La Luna Ristorante, 168 North Main Street. Membership is open to individuals and families who work or reside in Branford or North Branford. Interested parties may contact Lion Vice

President Brad Olt, Membership Chairman, at [olty23@gmail.com](mailto:olty23@gmail.com) or Lion President Steve Burke at 203-640-9329 [sburke@weichertshoreline.com](mailto:sburke@weichertshoreline.com)



## LIONS OKTOBERFEST

Reminiscent of the Branford Lions Bavarian Beer Festivals, that was a staple in the 1970s, the Club held their first -which will be annual- Oktoberfest at Stony Creek Brewery on October 4th. Those that attended enjoyed a German dinner from Lynn's Deli, Pretzels from Whole G Bakery (G-Cafe), fabulous entertainment by Dave Gocłowski on his accordion, and of course, freshly brewed craft Stony Creek Beers. The standing room only event was historic. Chaired by Lions Jim Dornfeld, Perry Maresca and Jim Mendillo, and assisted by many of Branford Lions members, the event was not only fun for all, it also generated a great sense of accomplishment for the community as a whole. "It was our intention from the beginning, to make this a community event, to benefit the town as much as possible" said Maresca, who is also Chairman of Branford's Economic Development. "We purposely reached out to businesses in the community to participate as our

vendors". "And we gave right back to the townspeople." added Mendillo. "We pledged 50% of the net proceeds from the Oktoberfest to go to the Community Dining Room. After the event, the Board elected to give the remaining 50% to the Branford Food Pantry. The money generated from the entire event went directly to help those in need of food." he continued. "We can't thank everyone enough," said Dornfeld, "for making this event such a success in its inaugural year. We've already booked next year!" If you would like to participate, save the date: 10/1/16.

## STOCK THE PANTRY

This fall, the Branford Lions Club has initiated a new food drive for the Branford Food Pantry. Local businesses in town have agreed to save a prominent spot for the empty grocery bag to be filled by employees and patrons of their store. Caron's Corner, Stop & Shop, and Big Y have donated the grocery bags. K&G Graphics have supplied the signs. Each week, the Boy Scouts of Troop #428 will pick up the filled bags, in coordination with the Lions Club, who will then deliver to the food pantry. Please keep an eye out for these displays and donate non-perishable food items as often as you can. This is an ongoing project that will be in place all year long. You can find these bags anxiously awaiting to be filled at places like Towne Pharmacy, Village Express, Planet Fitness, K&G Graphics, and many others. Please check our facebook page for a location near you: [facebook.com/Branford/Lions/Club](https://facebook.com/Branford/Lions/Club).

# Branford Solid Waste & Recycling

Curbside leaf collection will continue thru the week of December 14th. For the leaves to be collected, they must be in a brown paper leaf bag, or loose in a garbage can.

Do not use plastic bags; the Town will not pick up leaves in plastic bags. Leaves should not be raked into the streets, piled at the curb, placed in wetlands, streams, storm drains, or onto Branford Land Trust Property.

Your leaves will be picked up on the same day as your regular recycling collection, though by a separate truck. Residents are reminded not to include branches and also to keep the leaves free of litter and other materials which will not decompose. These materials contaminate the compost which your leaves are turned into at the Transfer Station and which is available to Branford residents for free.

Brown paper leaf bags can usually be found at the following Branford stores: Big Y, Branford Building Supplies, Caron's Corner, Richlin's, Stop & Shop, Walgreen's and Wal-Mart.

For more information regarding leaves, pick-up schedules, or composting please visit our website at [www.branford.ct.gov](http://www.branford.ct.gov) or phone (203) 315-0622.

# Branford Parks and Recreation

## WINTER HAPPENINGS

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

Starting in January, the department provides movement and rhythm classes and music classes for Toddlers ages 12 months to five years of age Tuesday to Friday mornings. Branford Recreation also stands behind its afterschool youth activities, ranging from Tae Kwon Do and Field Hockey Clinic for Grades four and five and grades six thru eight, to Beginner Horseback Riding/Horsemanship class, to Sports Squirts for ages three to five on Mondays (4:00-4:45 p.m.), to the ever popular Spelling Bee for boys and girls in grades three thru the Adult Division, and gymnastics for walking age to 10 years old, Learn To Swim Lessons (ages 4 and up), American Red Cross Babysitting Class, Wrestling Clinic for grades K thru Five, and the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest for boys and girls ages 10-14 in January.

For adults, a wide variety of programs are featured including: swim lessons, Taw Kwon Do, Aqua Fit/Aqua Aerobics and Senior Yoga. In the winter, holiday programs highlight the Recreation Department's event festivities. All Branford children who are

registered can expect calls from Santa or can send a letter to Santa. Those who are in the decorated spirit can enter the Holiday House Decorating Contest and win prizes.

The town's Tree Lighting Spectacular on the Branford Town Green is held Thanksgiving Saturday. All toddlers can visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus in conjunction with the Branford Recreation Department's Toddler Class.

The 28th Annual Branford Sports Hall of Fame Induction Dinner honoring: Victor V. Amatori, Jr., David Bowman, Dan Cudgma, Eva Esposito, Ray Falkoff, Paula Rembac Miller, Erika L. Newell, Alex and J. Palluzzi, David Redden, Larry Viera and the 1988 & 1989 BHS Girls Field Hockey State Championship Teams will take place on Friday, November 20th at WoodWinds Restaurant, 29 Schoolground Road in Branford. Tickets can be purchased at the Branford Recreation Department by contacting Andrea Steady at (203)488-8304. 5:30 p.m. is Cocktail Hour and 6:30 p.m. is the start of the dinner.

For any additional information, you can call the Recreation Department at (203)488-8304 or log into our website at [www.branfordrecreation.org](http://www.branfordrecreation.org). Registration for winter classes will commence on December 3rd for Branford residents, and on December 10th for non-Branford residents.

# Branford Food Pantry

The Branford Food Pantry, Inc.  
30 Harrison Ave., Branford, CT 06405  
[www.branfordfoodpantry.org](http://www.branfordfoodpantry.org)

The Branford Food Pantry provides groceries to Branford families in need. In addition to family groceries, children are provided a snack package that can be used for school days. A new program, Feed Branford Kids, provides weekend food when school subsidized meals are not available; these meals are distributed anonymously by the schools. A 100% volunteer organization, the Branford Food Pantry distributes over 230,000 pounds of food to our community annually.

## TO OBTAIN FAMILY ASSISTANCE

The Food Pantry provides groceries to Branford families who qualify for assistance using U.S. government guidelines as determined by the Branford Counseling Center (203-481-4248, 342 Harbor St, Branford). After approval, groceries may be picked up once per week, either on Tuesday or Friday morning, from 8:30 a.m.

to 11:00 a.m., or Tuesday evenings from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at 30 Harrison Ave, lower level on the right side of the building.

## HOLIDAY TURKEY DINNERS

We provide delicious groceries and turkeys for a complete holiday dinner for Branford families during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. If you need a little extra help from your neighbors this holiday season, please call the Branford Counseling Center at 203-481-4248 by: November 18 for Thanksgiving (delivered on November 24). December 17 for Christmas (delivered on December 22).

## HOW TO HELP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

**Turkeys and non-perishable food items:** An important element of our holiday groceries are donated turkeys. We need at least 500 12-20 pound turkeys! If you or your business would like to help, you can drop off turkeys at our site during open hours (after October 1, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays,

right up to December 18); or if you would like to donate a large number of turkeys, call Jay Webb at 203-215-3533 to make special arrangements. Please help! On two recent years we ran out and had to give out chickens because turkeys in volume are not available at the last minute. Non-perishable food donations, either personal or from food drives, can be dropped off at our location during open hours or call for special arrangements.

## VOLUNTEER

If you would like to volunteer to help during our holiday distribution days, call today (203-481-3663).

## DONATE TODAY

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 Ave., Branford, CT 06405.

# Shoreline Arts Trail

**Shoreline Arts Trail:  
2015 Open Studios Weekend  
It's Handmade! It's Art! It's Local!**

The Shoreline Arts Trail's 14th annual Open Studios Weekend happens right in your backyard - at 31 studios in Branford, Guilford, and Madison, Connecticut. Held Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22, the ArtsTrail is supported by 39 shoreline artists and 12 local business sponsors, as well as the Guilford Art Center and Zip06.

This juried event gathers some of the finest, award-winning artists on the shoreline whose work must reflect mastery of methods and materials, originality of concept, and be hand-made by the artist in his/her studio.

- What you'll find... one-of-a-kind, quality-made items in a wide range of media including jewelry, sculpture, fiber, paint, glass, pottery, metal, and textiles.
- What you'll experience... a chance to talk one-on-one with artists and explore their studios as you weave your way around 50 miles of scenic shoreline.
- What you'll do... support local artists and the shoreline economy by supporting our arts community, purchasing great art made right here in Connecticut, and visiting our sponsors which include unique shops, renowned restaurants and picturesque inns.

This year, the Shoreline ArtsTrail welcomes three new member artists: painter and jeweler Laurie Flaherty (Guilford), and painters Linda McCarthy (Branford) and Suzanne Siegel (Guilford).

Returning to the ArtsTrail are artists Terry Bogan, Richard Carleton, Lisa Carlin, Christine Chiochio, Alice Chittenden, Anne Coffey, Jayne Crowley, Margaret B. Dean, Laurie Douglas, Eileen Eder, Susan Gillie, Carol Grave, Anita K. Griffith, Lisa Hess Hesselgrave, B. Joan Hickey, Sharon Hosley, Phyllis Lynch, Laura C. Lyons, Megan Mangum, Dayna Mankowski, Molly S. McDonald, Jackie McGuire, Jane Strauss Novick, Estelle Nussbaum, Robert Parrott, Steve Plaziak, Leslie Prodis, Pat Rist, Barbara Shulman-Kirwin, Marjorie Sopkin, Sandra Spahr, Catherine Steinberg, G. Scott Tabar, Martha Link Walsh, Sid Werthan, and Diane Wright.

Our 2015 Sponsors include Guilford Art Center, Zip06, DaSilva Gallery, Flutterby, Friends & Company Restaurant, Greene Art Gallery, Home Restaurant, Luckey Redo, Madison Wool, Mix Design Store, Tidewater Inn, Tommy Sullivan's Café, Wall Street Gallery, and Words by Jen.

The Shoreline ArtsTrail was started in 2002 by a small group of shoreline artists. Their intent was to create an annual open studios event to allow local residents and weekend visitors to interact with artists and experience the creative process first-

hand. Three years later, grants from the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism and from the towns of Branford, Guilford and Madison, dramatically accelerated the project. The number of artists almost doubled, as did the types of media, which now includes jewelry, sculpture, fiber, paint, glass, pottery, metal, and textiles. With the invaluable support of the Guilford Art Center and participating Open Studio artists, the ArtsTrail received the 2007 Compass Award for Excellence in Partnership from the Greater New Haven Visitors' Bureau.

Now in its 14th year, the Shoreline ArtsTrail is a collaborative effort that includes hundreds of volunteer hours from member artists, an ongoing partnership with the Guilford Art Center, and the support of numerous community sponsors.

During Open Studios Weekend, the colorful "Open Studio" signs point you to all of these artists and studios. For specific locations and more information, pick up a copy of the Shoreline ArtsTrail map, available in libraries, town halls, Connecticut welcome centers, and visitors' centers in Branford, Guilford and Madison, as well as at the Guilford Art Center and the various studios. Contact Martha Link Walsh at (203) 481-3505 or visit [www.shorelineartstrail.com](http://www.shorelineartstrail.com), and its companion blog or Facebook page, for more information.

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# 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	jcogrove@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 Rotary Club

*The Branford Rotary Club was chartered in 1928 and has a solid history of supporting the community. The Rotary Club of Branford is an organization of women and men representing a cross-section of local business and professional leaders, 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.*

Thursday, November 26

## THANKSGIVING DAY ROTARY/Y-RUN & WALK

Francis Walsh Intermediate School, 185 Damascus Road, 7:30-11:00 am. Registration fees range. Join the Branford Rotary Club at the Rotary/Y RUN & WALK on Thanksgiving morning on a 5K-race/walk certified course, which runs through Branford's beautiful Pine Orchard section. T-shirts will be given to all registered participants and first 100 race day entrants. Awards go to top three race finishers in each division. Age Groups: Men & Women, 12 & under, 13-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80+ and Wheelchair. First male and female Branford residents also receive awards. Registration forms are available at [jbsports@snet.net](mailto:jbsports@snet.net) or call 203/481-5933 for further information.

Proceeds from this event help support the Branford Rotary Foundation that is the charitable branch of Rotary providing scholarships, funds for scientific study, literacy supplies for the Blackstone and Wallace Libraries, and health projects. Also benefiting are the Soundview Family YMCA initiatives.

Saturday, Dec. 5

## BRANFORD ROTARY CHIMES FOR CHARITY



Branford Rotarians, Alpha Coiro and Robert Carmody

Assorted locations, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. The Branford Rotary Club is conducting its annual ringing of the bells and supervision of traditional red collection kettles of the Salvation Army at strategically placed locations near Branford merchants. The stations throughout Branford are as follows:

Stop & Shop, Leete's Island Rd., Branford Book & Card, Main St., Wal-Mart on Commercial Pkwy, and Starbucks, North Main Street. The Rotary Club of Branford volunteers will sound the hand bells on Saturday, December 15, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Rotarians will each work 2-hour shifts to raise money, which, in turn, is forwarded to Social Services at the Branford Counseling Center. All donations collected will service only Branfordites.

Jack Srebnik, again serving as Rotary committee chairperson, stated, "For the past 25 years during the Christmas holidays, Branford Rotarians have helped the Salvation Army ring bells and raise money for citizens in the Branford community who need special help. Branford Rotary has been successful in raising over \$6000. Despite these lean economic times, we hope to increase our previous efforts and aid the less fortunate." For further information about this program or the Rotary Club of Branford, contact Jack at 203-481-7331.

Thursday, December 10

## ROTARY HOLIDAY DINNER FOR SENIORS



Dagmar Ridgeway, Director, Canoe Brook Center;  
Rotarians Bill Van Wilgen and Elissa Jenny

First Congregational Church, 1009 Main Street (brick church on Green). 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Celebrate the season with a home-cooked meal at the modest charge of \$2.00. Branford Rotarians prepare the entire supper using fresh ingredients in the kitchen of the church. This is a sit-down meal served by club members. Included are crudités, beverage, hot fresh vegetables, roasts, and dessert. This special holiday treat is limited to the first 175 members who signup. Registration may include individual and one guest. Look forward to being musically entertained and experiencing a visit from Santa! Arrive wearing the colors of the season. Contact the Canoe Brook Senior Center to make arrangements for transportation both to the event and to the Center. Payment is made by cash or checks (no credit cards). Checks are payable to: Canoe Brook-Town of Branford, [branford-ct.gov/senior.htm](http://branford-ct.gov/senior.htm). Call Nancy at 203-315-0684 to register. Bill Van Wilgen, 203/488-2110, coordinates this annual Rotary festive event.

# Musical Arts Society



## MUSICAL ART SOCIETY UPCOMING WINTER EVENTS

The Musical Art Society of Branford is a cultural arts group that was founded in 1920 by Alice Collins and a group of local music teachers. (In 1919, Alice married Jeremiah J. Collins who was an owner of the Collins & Freeman Hardware Store in Branford, where Alice resided until her death in 1972). The original group met monthly in members' homes for their own musical entertainment. In past years, auditions were required for membership, but in recent years the group has expanded to include not only musicians but all music lovers, and auditions are no longer held. New members are always welcome and can join at any concert or by contacting a member. The mission of the group is to promote and support excellence in music in the community. They occasionally meet in private homes for concerts and musicales, but most often present diverse artists in public spaces such as the Blackstone Library and various churches and concert halls in town.

The group gives a music scholarship each year to a graduating high school senior planning to study music at the college level, funded by members' dues, donations, and an annual scholarship fundraiser concert. In addition to the scholarship, MAS sponsors several free concerts each year which are open to the public, presenting music of many genres. Past years have included jazz, classical, bluegrass, choral, folk, Celtic, et al.

## UPCOMING CONCERTS / OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**November 20** (Friday) at 7:30 pm

West End String Quartet

First Baptist Church of Branford, 975 Main Street, Branford, CT  
Freewill donation to benefit the Branford Historical Society purchase of the Harrison House

Info: Chris Cohen (203) 453-0287

**January 24, 2016** (Sunday) at 2:00 pm / FREE

(snow date January 31, Sunday)

Showcase of High School Talent and Scholarship Auditions  
Blackstone Library Auditorium, 758 Main Street, Branford, CT  
Info: Martha Medford (203) 481-6952

**February 26, 2016** (Friday) at 7:30 pm

(snow date March 4, Friday)

Alice Collins Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser  
The Legacy Theatre Presents a Broadway Cabaret with Keely Baisden Knudsen and Greg Nobile  
1st Congregational Church, 1009 Main Street, Branford, CT  
Tickets: \$15 (Members \$12, Students \$6)  
Info: Joe Naylor (203) 481-0701  
Tickets: Carol Titcomb (203) 488-3088

**April 8, 2016** (Friday) at 7:30 pm / FREE

Big Band / Little Band with the Branford Town Band and the WIS Jazz Ensemble  
Branford Evangelical Free Church, 231 Leetes Island Road, Branford, CT

Info: Chris Cohen (203) 453-0287 or Carol Titcomb (203) 488-3088

**May 19, 2016** (Thursday) at 6:30 pm

Annual Dinner Meeting  
Entertainment by MAS Scholarship Winner  
Shoreline Café, 1247 Main Street, Branford, CT  
\$25 per person  
Info: Cathy Hall (203) 488-2753

Further info: Barbara Shaw (203) 481-2819 or MAS website:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/musicalartsocietyofbranford/>

# Town of Branford Snow Removal Policy

## HELP US, HELP YOU!

With winter upon us, the Town of Branford Public Works Dept. is asking for your cooperation in assisting to provide maximum service to all our residents in helping us keep our roads safe.

## PARKING

During snow storms there is "No Parking" on the even numbered side of the road by Town Ordinance (sec 223-1 & sec 223-2). Vehicles parked on the even side of the road will be asked to move so snow plows can get down the roads. Failure to move a vehicle could result in having it towed at the owner's expense.

## PARKING BAN

During a substantial snowfall a parking ban may be enacted which would require no parking on both sides of the road. Parking bans announcements will be made through the local media.

## SIDEWALKS

Town ordinance states that property owners are responsible for cleaning all snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their property within eight hours of the end of the snowfall or precipitation (sec 216-42). The Public Works Department suggest that residents wait until Town plows have pushed back snow to curb line before clearing sidewalk areas. This generally happens after snow has stopped.

## ROAD HAZARDS

Residents and private contractors should take note that Town Ordinance prohibits snow to be placed on any public highway in such a manner as to impede or inconvenience travel on any roadway. (sec 216-42b).

## CONTRACTORS

Residents are also responsible for their contractor's actions. Residents or private contractors will also be held responsible for any curb damage done as a result of plowing snow across roadways.

## DRIVEWAYS

Residents should also keep in mind that snow plows are designed to remove snow from the roadway to the edge of the road. It is likely that the plow will leave behind a windrow of snow in front of the driveways. Residents are responsible for removing the snow.

## MAILBOXES

The Public Works Department suggest residents make certain their mailboxes are at least 42 inches above the roadway and set back slightly from the edge of the road so that postal carriers can reach it, behind either the face of the curb or the edge of the road. Our department does not replace mailboxes that are displaced by snow or slush from plows. If contact with a plow can be shown, then it would be replaced.

## STORM DRAINS

This department strongly urges each homeowner to keep the storm drain in front of or close to their home free and clear of any leaves or debris causing the drain to become clogged and not drain properly.

Thank you for assisting us, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Public Works Department at 203-488-4156.

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# Local Parkinson's Exercise Program

## Exercise Program Shows Great Results in Helping People with Parkinson's

The Orchard House Adult Day Care Center is hosting classes by Beat Parkinson's Today, an exercise program designed specifically to improve Parkinson's symptoms. There are presently 15 classes per week in 5 locations in CT with 60 Parkinson's clients ages 40-86 years old participating. Results have been astounding. Clients have improved gait, balance, fine motor control, explosive movement, attitude, self-image, and fatigue. Some have lowered their dosage of their medications.

BeatPD Today has classes for people of all ages and all stages of the disease. BeatPD Today is a program developed through personal trial and error by Michelle Hespeler, who said: "these classes were born out of the desire to offer People with Parkinson's a way to feel better - both physically, and emotionally. We've found that, in addition to the endorphins that are generated, the results are incredibly positive. As a person with Parkinson's, I can attest to that personally. Exercise has made a huge difference for me."

The BeatPD Today program is an affordable exercise class based on national research around the benefit of exercise to alleviate Parkinson's symptoms and slow the progression of the disease. Every workout is scalable to each individual within the group class. The BeatPD Today program focuses on full functional body movements that we use in everyday life.

Our sessions use a variety of basic equipment such as ropes, TRX, kettle bells, BOSUs, weights and medicine balls. We create work-outs in each session specific to the group's needs. The classes will encourage brain stimulation, challenge balance and stability and teach proper technique and form - all in an encouraging group setting. Classes are every Tuesday from 2 pm-3 pm in Branford at the Orchard House, 421 Shore Drive. Pre-registration is required by calling 860.463.3747 or email [info@beatpdtoday.com](mailto:info@beatpdtoday.com). Rates vary depending on number of classes purchased. See our web-site for details about the program: [www.beatpdtoday.com](http://www.beatpdtoday.com).

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# The Branford Exchange Club - Honoring Shoreline Heroes



The Branford Exchange Club Honored Shoreline Heroes from the Branford, Guilford, and North Branford Police and Fire Departments. The event took place at the Woodwinds on Sept. 30th. Over 250 attended. Dr. Henry Lee, and Bikers against Child

Abuse (B.A.C.A.) spoke. The Yale Alley Cats, and the Emerald Society Pipe and Drum Band also performed in the opening festivities. Besides the Award from the Branford Exchange Club, the Firefighters and officers received special certificates from US Congress Woman Rosa DeLauro, US Senators Blumenthal and Murphy, State Senator Ted Kennedy, Jr. and Ct Representative Sean Scanlon. Retired Branford Fire Chief Jack Ahern and Retired Guilford Police Chief Tom Terribile were awarded a Distinguish Service Awards.

The Departments look forward to participating in 2016. Thank you to committee members Cindy Cartier, Andonia Bakis, Glen Newell, Al Mahan, Bob Aceto and chairman Jack Mushin for organizing this worthwhile event to honor our HEROES.

Those honored :

Branford: Firefighter Eugene Hayes, Deputy Fire Chief Timothy Murray, Officer Josef Herten, and Officer Marc Herten.

Guilford: Fire Captain Michael Shove, Deputy Fire Chief Robert Auger, Detective Martina Jakober

North Branford: Firefighters Kyle Conklin, Alexander Shamp, Officers Brian Hannon and Mario Bernardo



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## How to Get Noticed!

By the time we reach our 40's many of us find ourselves applying more than one product to get the desired results that used to come for free when we were in our 20's. In order to get the best results from your anti-aging products, they should be applied in a specific order.

Cleansing is an important first step. You should be using a cleanser that is specifically designed for your face and not any old thing that you have in the shower. Some cleansers that contain ingredients like glycolic and salicylic acids might be too harsh for over 40 skin.

If you use a good facial cleanser, you should not need a toner. And when it comes to drying, please put down the hand towel. Reach for a tissue and pat your skin dry. By the age of 40 all women should incorporate a serum into their daily routine. Moisturizing is essential for hydration, but a serum can help repair damage. My personal favorites are serums that contain growth factors.

You should wait for a few minutes for your serums to dry before applying a moisturizer. So use that time to do something - brush your teeth, dry your hair. Just something so you won't notice the time. If you're new to layering products, it will make your new routine much easier.

Your next step is a sunscreen. This is the most important step and is often neglected. You should be in the habit of wearing a separate sunscreen every day, not only in the summer months.

Many women seek out moisturizers that have an SPF and think that they have adequate protection from harmful UV rays. While this is a good first line of defense, it is not enough protection. You should be using a separate sunscreen that contains either Zinc or Titanium Dioxide for maximum protection.

Aging is a complex process and one product or procedure rarely gives the desired result. Most skin rejuvenation plans include more than one topical treatment and tightening or volumizing procedures to enhance the results. Start making a plan now! Call for a free consultation.

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Kathryn Katz, winner of the Events Magazines Cover Photo Award at the 2015 Chester Fair, holds the cover image of Essex Events, 4th quarter, 2015.

Kathryn Katz of Essex has been a photographer since 1985.

Her photography focuses on landscapes, cityscapes, nature, architecture, and people. As a long time member of the New Haven Camera Club, Kathryn has won many awards over the years, including Best Image of the Year.

The Cover Photo was taken Fall, 2014 at the foot of Main St., Essex. When not consulting with ConnectiCare, Kathryn is a Board Member of the Essex Land Trust; a choir member and Stephen Minister Leader at the Westbrook Congregational Church; a choir member of the NYC Threshold Choir; a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliariist; and a Masonicare Hospice Volunteer.

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# Branford Compassion Club

The Branford Compassion Club is a volunteer-run, non-profit, feline rescue organization founded in 1997. Its shelter, which opened in 2011, celebrated its milestone 1,000th cat adoption in October. Buddy Jr. (BJ), is the November Cat of the Month. A handsome red & white 3 year old who likes attention and loves being petted. He enjoys treats and catnip, and is very fond of soft cozy beds. Buddy is a quiet cat that doesn't meow much. He loves people, but would prefer to be the only cat in the household.

Boris is the December child. Although he is five years old, Boris plays like a kitten. His favorite toys are balls and his special catnip carrot. Boris has a unique look, as his ears are sort of folded down and crumpled. He may look like a prize fighter but he's as sweet as can be. He loves head butts and scratches. Boris gets along well with other cats and would be a



Buddy, Jr. November Cat of the Month

very affectionate companion. All adoption applicants are fully screened, with two references required, before being approved to take home a cat or kitten. All cats are tested, neutered and vaccinated prior to adoption. Branford Compassion Club Feline Rescue & Adoption Center, located at 2037 Foxon Road, North Branford, is open for adoptions on Saturdays from 11am to 3pm. For more information about adopting Buddy Jr. or Boris, please call 203-483-6369 or email [contact\\_us@branfordcompassionclub.org](mailto:contact_us@branfordcompassionclub.org)


### Winter Fundraisers

Annual Holiday Cookie Walk on Saturday,




Boris, December Cat of the Month

December 5th from 11a.m. to 3p.m. at BCC Feline Rescue and Adoption Center, 2037 Foxon Road, North Branford. Second Annual Gift Card Fundraiser in January. Unwanted holiday gift cards can be dropped off any Saturday during the month of January at BCC Feline Rescue and Adoption Center, 2037 Foxon Road, North Branford. Fifth Anniversary Party and Winter Food & Supply Drive on Saturday, February 27 at BCC Feline Rescue and Adoption Center, 2037 Foxon Road, North Branford. Refreshments will be served.



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