NORTH BRANFORD PARKS AND RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER

DECEMBER 2026

STW COMMUNITY CENTER NEWSLETTER

1332 MIDDLETOWN AVE NORTHFORD, CT 06472 | (203) 484-6017 | NBRECREATION.COM

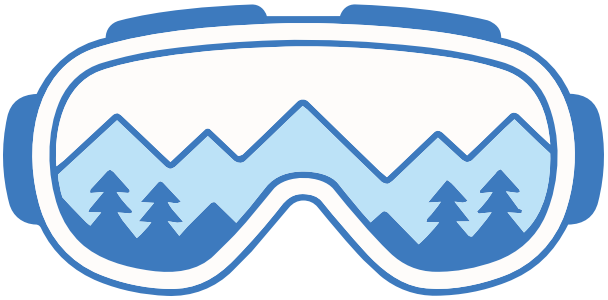
Come celebrate the holiday season with North Branford Parks, Recreation & Senior Center!

Join us on Friday, December 4 from 6:30-8:00pm for our Annual Tree Lighting on the PoCo Grounds, our Sensory Friendly Santa event on 12/6, our Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt at Northford Park on 12/10 & our townwide holiday decorating contest – Light Up North Branford on 12/16!

The Senior Center also has many festive activities, a Holiday Mingle with the NBHS students on 12/9, the Annual Holiday Luncheon on 12/16, Gingerbread House Decorating Contest on 12/17, and an evening trip to Hubbard Park's Festival of Lights on 12/29! Also, we are thrilled to be partnering with Beyond the Horizon and Special Strong to offer adaptive, inclusive fitness on 12/8 and we will be hosting an indoor Winter Market Series beginning Saturday, December 19 at STW - hope to see you there!

Wishing you a wonderful Holiday Season!

- North Branford Parks, Recreation & Senior Center Team



SKI CLUB

at Powder Ridge

January 6 - February 3

4:15 - 9:00pm

Enjoy 5 weeks of skiing at Powder Ridge! Supervision as well as roundtrip school bus transportation included. More details to come!

Mary's Culinary Classes

Join Mary Amter in this unique, hands on culinary experience that will engage children in preparing delicious creations. They will explore, create, and learn basic cooking techniques!

Grades 3-5 at STW Community Center

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS*

1:00 - 3:00pm Cost $40 res/ $45 non-res per class

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16, 2026

ROAST BEAST SLIDERS AND
GRINCH TREE CUPCAKES

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13, 2027

SNOWMAN BAGEL BOMBS AND
HOT CHOCOLATE LASAGNA







NORTH BRANFORD PARKS AND RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER

AFTER SCHOOL R.E.C Crew

Recreation • Education • Creativity

REGISTRATION IS BY THE MONTH (Space is limited)

Students are walked over from TVES or take the bus from Jerome Harrison School.

Grades K-5

JEROME HARRISON (JHS)	TOTOKET VALLEY (TVES)
5 DAYS A WEEK - $312/month	5 DAYS A WEEK- $312/month
3:25pm-5:30pm	4 DAYS A WEEK- $251/month
1:40pm-5:30pm - Early Dismissal	3 DAYS A WEEK- $188/month
Enrollment closes 2 business days prior to the start of the new month. If your child(ren) are not enrolled by then, they will not be able to attend After School R.E.C. Crew.	2 DAYS A WEEK- $125/month
	2:45pm-5:30pm
	12:55pm-5:30pm - Early Dismissal

Our program provides a safe environment where kids can..

- Receive homework support
- Engage in recreational activities
- Enhance social/emotional development
- Most importantly HAVE FUN!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Annual Tree Lighting

Friday, December 4th

Augur Property 290 Forest Road, Northford - Parking at Wall Field

6:30 - 8:00pm - *snow or Shine!*

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NORTH BRANFORD ROTARY CLUB

Ice Sculpting
Marshmallow Toasting
Hay Rides
Hot Chocolate & Cookies
FIREWORKS!
And Santa!



LETTERS TO THE NORTH POLE

Mail a letter to Santa, Mrs. Claus, or your favorite elf or reindeer!

Find the template On our website nbrecreation.com

Marshmallow toasting sticks provided by:

SMORSTIX
The Perfect Marshmallow Roasting STIX

FOOD TRUCKS:

DOUGHBOY MINI DONUTS · KETTLE CORN CO. CALANDRELLI · Repicci's Real Italian · FIRE IN THE KITCHEN · ARCHIE MOORES

Santa's Little Helper Raffle

Help Santa Light the Christmas Tree!



Purchase a raffle ticket for a chance to light the town tree at the Annual Tree Lighting on Friday, December 4th!



Tickets can be purchased for $1 per ticket (cash only) at the STW Community Center during regular hours until end of day on 12/2. The drawing will be held on 12/3 and the winner will be notified.

NORTH BRANFORD PARKS AND RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER

Gifting Tree



Year after year, our Gifting Tree program helps bring extra holiday cheer to Senior Citizens in our community. Kindly remove an ornament tag from the tree and purchase a gift card to either Big Y, Walmart, Walgreens, or Dollar General and return the tag with the gift card to one of our Gifting Tree locations by 12/11/26. Recommended denominations, $20-$40

Find our Gifting Trees at:
STW Community Center -1332 Middletown Ave. Northford
Atwater Memorial Library -1720 Foxon Rd. North Branford
Edward Smith Library - 3 Old Post Rd. Northford

Winter ARTISAN MARKET

SHOP LOCAL. SUPPORT ARTISANS. INSPIRE COMMUNITY.

Join us for a Winter Artisan Market Series, a charming celebration of local creativity, craftsmanship, and all things handmade!

The 3rd Saturday of the month
Dec 19, Jan 16, & Feb 20
8:30am - 11:30am
STW Community Center

Come share your craft, connect with shoppers, support local small businesses, and help us create a warm and welcoming cottage-inspired market.

$20 Table Fee per event

Table and chairs provided
register at nbrecreation.com

PROGRAMS

FLASHLIGHT CANDY CANE HUNT!

Thursday, December 10th
Northford Park—$5 ***$2 off sibling discount***

Join us for our annual Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt at Northford Park!

Participants will use flashlights to find candy canes hidden at Northford Park.
There will be 3 times slots for 3 separate age categories.

Ages 2-4 - 4:30 - 4:45pm
Ages 5-7 - 4:50 - 5:05pm
Ages 8+ - 5:10 - 5:30pm

At each time, candy cane hunters will have the opportunity to find tagged candy canes which can be redeemed for a special gift!

Please bring a flashlight & bag to collect your candy canes!
Please register by 12/4 at nbrecreation.com

North Branford Parks & Recreation - 1332 Middletown Ave, Northford CT
www.nbrecreation.com (203) 484-6017

Light Up North Branford

HOLIDAY LIGHT DECORATING CONTEST

Wednesday, December 16th
6:00 – 10:00 p.m.
FREE

Get into the holiday spirit with a fun and festive competition!

REGISTER TO GET YOUR HOUSE ON THE MAP!

A map of display locations will be available on our website on December 14th.

PRIZES
Best Overall Display
Brightest Display
Most Original Display
Classic Display

Winners determined by a panel of judges
Registration required by 12/10

JOIN US ADAPTIVE INCLUSIVE FITNESS

FREE TRIAL CLASS.
Ages 7 and up.
Parent/ Caregiver must be present.

PROVIDED BY: SPECIAL STRONG

Special Strong is an inclusive adaptive fitness program designed for individuals of all abilities. Through fun, supportive activities, participants build strength, improve coordination, develop motor skills, and grow confidence in a welcoming environment.
Every ability. Every body. Stronger together!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8
6:30PM- 7:15PM

STANLEY T WILLIAM COMMUNITY CENTER
1332 MIDDLETOWN AVE, NORTHFORD

Registration Required!
Reserve your spot-
www. nbrecreation.com

HEALTH & WELLNESS CLINIC

LOW COST!
LOW COST!

Dec 18th

10AM - 1PM
Stanley T. Williams Community Center
1332 Middletown Ave.
Northford, CT 06472

Register by Dec 15th to Reserve Your Spot (Limited to 25)
(Cash/Check Only)

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

$60 per pet for qualifying Seniors and Veterans
$100 per pet for all others

Register Online at:
VetCareEverywhere.org
Or Call: 203-484-6017

INCLUDED SERVICES:
+ Wellness check
+ Rabies vaccines
+ Basic deworming
+ Heartworm testing (dogs only)
Free + Distemper combo vaccines
courtesy of petco love
* Additional services such as nail trims and non-core vaccines (Lyme, Lepto, Kennel Cough) available for added fee

ATTENTION -
- All cats must be in carrier and all dogs must be leashed
- No litters of puppies or kittens
- Prior proof of rabies required for 3 year rabies certificate

VCE
VETCAREEVERYWHERE.ORG

PROGRAMS

DRONE TRAINING CLASS

NIGHTOWL OVERWATCH

Begin your adventure with support tailored for new hobbyists and recreational pilots. Our flagship course "Introduction to Drone Operations" builds your confidence through a combination of classroom and hands-on lessons that make learning to fly straightforward and fun. Recreational FAA drone certification included.





INTRODUCTION TO DRONE OPERATIONS

December 1st

STW Senior Room - 5:00 - 7:00pm - $20

MARY'S HOLIDAY COOKIE BAKE!

Join Mary Amter for a festive, hands-on baking workshop for Adults/Adult and child where you'll make (and take home!) a holiday-inspired tray of 5 different cookie varieties.

* Candy Cane Shortbread * Ricotta Anginettes
* Oreo Truffles * Lemon Crinkle * Cream Cheese Snickerdoodles

December 13
9:00am-12:00pm
STW Kitchen - Ages 12+
$65res / $70 nr



BABYSITTER'S CERTIFICATION

TUESDAY, DEC 29, 2026
STW GYM/CAFE

9:00 - 2:00PM $65 RES/$70 NR
AGES 12 - 15
Please register by 12/18

Girls & Boys Welcome! Ideal class for current and future sitters. This training gives you the knowledge, skills, and confidence to care for infants and school-aged children. This course addresses safety issues, preventing injuries and illnesses, and basic childcare. Students learn by doing and will be required to demonstrate the skills to be certified by the American Pediatric Association. (Bring a lunch)
Instructor: Ambulance Co. #4

Winter Break PARK & REC DAYS

Winter Break just got a little bit COOLER! Come join us for 3 days of fun! Each day will offer a different theme with corresponding games, activities and crafts! Full details on our website!

Monday December 28, 2026
Tuesday December 29, 2026
Wednesday December 30, 2026

8:30am - 4:30pm - $35 per day
STW Community Center
Lunch included! Register by 12/21

A SENSORY FRIENDLY SANTA EVENT

This event is in partnership with Beyond the Horizon for individuals in our special needs community and Kim Inglis Photography.

Sunday December, 6th
10:00-12:00pm
STW Classroom - FREE
Please register for a photo time slot.

Pictures with Santa will be emailed to each participant.
This is a free event, however cash donations will be kindly accepted for Beyond the Horizon. *Register by 12/4*

ELF ON THE SHELF 12 DAYS OF Christmas KITS

$20

Is your Elf back in action this season? Our Elf on the Shelf kits provide 12 days worth of fun, easy ideas for your Elf. These kits include directions and most of the materials you'll need!
Register by 12/4 at nbrecreation.com
You can pick up your kits the week of 12/7.

SENIOR CENTER | NB CLUB 55!

COFFEE TALK

Join us for coffee and catch up with friends while we trim the tree! Learn about what we've been doing at the Senior Center and offer suggestions for trips or programs.



December 3, 2026
STW Senior Room 1:00-2:00pm
Register by 12/1



MOHEGAN SUN BUS TRIP

Monday, December 14 - 8:00am - 4:00pm
$20 res / $25 nr
If you are meeting at the STW Community Center, we will be leaving at 8:00 a.m. Departs Mohegan at 2:30pm
Please register by 12/11

SR CENTER ARTS & CRAFTS

Holiday Gift Tags Craft
December 9, 2026
12:45 - 2:00pm
STW Art Room - FREE
please register by 12/7



DOUBLE BINGO!

Double Bingo - 12/17/26
STW Senior Room 10:30-11:45am
Please register by 12/16

Christmas Double Bingo - 12/22/26
STW Senior Room 1:00-2:00pm
Please register by 12/21



PLEASE JOIN US FOR SOME FUN HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES!



SENIOR TREE DECORATING

Thursday Dec 3, 1:00-2:00pm Senior Room

Help us make the Senior Room festive for the holiday season! Enjoy holiday music, hot cocoa & eggnog as we decorate.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

Thursday Dec 17, 12:00-2:00pm Senior Room

Join us for our Gingerbread House Decorating Contest! The houses are pre-made, decorating supplies will be provided. Prizes will be rewarded, come prepared for creative holiday fun!



SENIOR CENTER SILVER SNEAKERS MOBILITY & BALANCE FUSION

A gentle, mobility-focused class designed to keep you moving with confidence. This class blends seated and standing flexibility work with balance drills that help improve posture, joint mobility, and fall-prevention skills.
Instructor: Christina Murphy

Mondays Dec 7 - 28
10:00 - 10:45am - STW Yoga Room

Mondays Dec 7 - 28
11:00 - 11:45am - STW Yoga Room
Free for Silver Sneakers Members
$10 per session for non-members

SENIOR CENTER SILVER SNEAKERS FIT FOR LIFE CIRCUIT

Stay strong, energized, and challenged in this fun, rotating-modality circuit class. All exercises can be modified, making this class accessible and fun for all fitness levels. Instructor: Christina Murphy

Wednesdays Dec 2 - 30
10:00 - 10:45am - STW Yoga Room

Wednesdays Dec 2 - 30
11:00 - 11:45am - STW Yoga Room
No class 11/11
Free for Silver Sneakers Members
$10 for the session for non-members

Fridays Dec 4 - 18
10:00 - 10:45am - STW Yoga Room

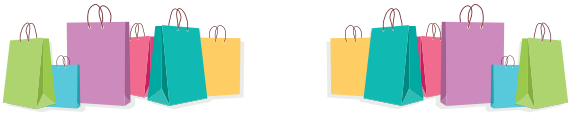
Fridays Dec 4 - 18
11:00 - 11:45am - STW Yoga Room
Free for Silver Sneakers Members
$10 for the session for non-members



SHOPPING TRIPS

Georgies, Boscov's, Spirit of Christmas Store

Friday December 11, 2026
Departs: 9:30 am— Returns: 2:00 pm
Register by: 12/8



SENIOR CENTER | NB CLUB 55!

SENIOR CENTER HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Wednesday, December 16, 2026

FREE

A special thank you to the POCO Committee for sponsoring the main course!
And thank you to the NB Rotary for sponsoring dessert!

(space is limited to the first 100 people)

Join us for a traditional holiday luncheon and a special visit from Santa!

Menu:

Stuffed Chicken Breast
Scalloped Potatoes
Soup, Vegetable
Holiday Dessert

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

Lunch served at 12:00 pm

Resident only registration open from November 20 - December 4

Non-residents are welcome to register after December 4th
Please register by 12/11

Hubbard Park Festival of Lights

Let's have some hot chocolate while we tour the Festival of Silver Lights at Hubbard Park in Meriden, CT!

Tuesday December 29 - FREE
Trip departs STW at 4:30 pm
Register by 12/23

HAND AND FOOT CARD GAME

STW Senior Room
Dec 3, 2026 - 1:00-2:00pm
Dec 10, 2026 - 1:00-2:00pm
Dec 17, 2026 - 1:00-2:00pm
Registration required

SENIOR CENTER NOON YEAR'S EVE LUNCH

Let's celebrate the new year together with a Noon Year's Eve Party!

January 5, 2026 $5 (register by 1/4)

CHAIR YOGA

Tuesdays Dec 15 — Feb 09
(no class 12/22)
STW Yoga Room - 10:30—11:30am
$50 res / $55 nr

Instructor: Sharon Bailey
Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is done while sitting and using a chair for support. Chair yoga helps build strength, improve coordination, and promotes relaxation, reduces stress.

Holiday Mingle w/ NBHS Student Council & Chamber Choir

December 9, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
STW Community Center

Join us for a special Holiday Mingle with the North Branford High School Student Council & the NBHS Chamber Choir!

The NBHS Chamber Choir will do a special performance!

FREE - Please register by 12/4

DAILY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY
Grocery Shopping 10:00 am
Cards — 1:00 pm
TUESDAY
Cornhole — 10:30 am
WEDNESDAY
Cards — 1:00 pm
THURSDAY
Bingo — 10:30 am
Hand and Foot — 1:00 pm
FRIDAY
Grocery Shopping 10:00 am

GROCERY SHOPPING

MONDAYS & FRIDAYS

You must be able to put your bags in your seat area. We ask that you purchase only what you can carry.
Pickup begins at 9:30am

MONDAYS	FRIDAYS
	December 4 - Big Y
December 7 - ShopRite	December 11 - Big Y
December 14 - Stop & Shop	December 18 - Big Y
December 21 - Walmart	December 25 - Closed
December 28 - Aldi	

GOODSPEED OPERA HOUSE

Annie the Musical Dec. 2, 2026
Departs 11:00am Approx. Return 5:00pm
$145 res / $150 nr
Enjoy lunch at the Gelston House and a show at the Goodspeed Opera House!

AQUA TURF

Holiday Classics with the Cartells!
December 8, 2026- $62res/$67nr
Departs 10:15 am Returns: appx. 5:00 pm
Register by: 10/30 Payment is due at time of registration

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, & THURSDAYS
10:00am—2:00pm
Appointment time must be within this time-frame
Curb to Curb Service

A 2-week notice is preferred; however, we will try to accommodate last minute appointment changes. Please let us know if you need wheel chair services when you call. Please call the office at (203) 484-6017 to schedule your medical transportation.



DECEMBER



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Regular lunches cost $4** **Please call in by 9:00am** **203-484-6017** ***Menu subject to change	**1** **10:00** Matter of Balance **12:00** Lunch – Sausage & pepper subs, pickle & dessert	**2** **11:00** Goodspeed **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Ground beef in gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, roll & dessert	**3** **10:30** Bingo **12:00** Lunch – Kielbasa, cabbage & noodles, beet salad, roll & dessert **1:00** Hand + Foot card game **1:00** coffee Talk + Tree trimming	**4** **9:30** Big Y **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Pastina soup, finger sandwich & dessert
7 **9:30** Shoprite **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch - Chicken caesar wraps, chips, pickle & dessert	**8** **10:00** Matter of Balance **10: 15** Aqua Turf **10:30** Cornhole **12:00** Lunch – French toast casserole, sausage, hashbrowns & dessert	**9** **10:00** NBHS Holiday Mingle **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch - Open face turkey w/gravy, stuffing, veggies, roll & dessert **12:45** Holiday Gift Tags Craft	**10** **10:30** Bingo **12:00** Lunch – Baked ziti, salad, roll & dessert **12:30** Birthday Club Celebration **1:00** Hand + Foot card game	**11** **9:30** Georgies, Boscov's, Spirit of Christmas Store **9:30** Big Y **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Hot dogs, sauerkraut, salad, pickle & dessert
14 **8:00** Mohegan **9:30** Stop & Shop **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Beer battered cod, fries, pickle & dessert	**15** **10:00** Matter of Balance **10:30** Chair Yoga **10:30** Cornhole **12:00** Lunch – Stuffed cabbage, rice, veggie, roll & dessert	**16** **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Holiday Luncheon– Soup, Stuffed chicken breast, scalloped potatoes, vegetable, & Holiday dessert Register by 12/14	**17** **10:30** Double Bingo **12:00** Lunch – Shepard's pie, salad & dessert **12:30** Gingerbread house decorating contest **1:00** Hand + Foot card game	**18** **9:30** Big Y and Food Pantry **10:00** Vet Care Clinic **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Pizza, salad & dessert
21 **9:30** Walmart **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Chicken cutlets, potato, veggie, roll & dessert	**22** **10:30** Double Bingo **10:30** Cornhole **12:00** Lunch – Bacon cheeseburgers, fries, pickles & dessert	**23** **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Quiche, soup, roll & dessert	**24** **1/2 day** **Senior Center Closes at 12** **No Lunch**	**25** **CLOSED** 
28 **9:30** Aldi **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Swedish meatballs over noodles, veggies, roll & dessert	**29** **10:30** Chair Yoga **10:30** Cornhole **12:00** Lunch – Blueberry pancakes, hashbrowns, sausage & dessert **4:30** Hubbard Festival of Lights	**30** **10:00** Silver Sneaks **11:00** Silver Sneaks **12:00** Lunch – Grilled cheese w/ham, New England clam chowder & dessert	***CAUTION*** Individuals with food allergies please take notice. Food prepared by this establishment may have been cooked with or come in contact with the following allergens:	Milk/ dairy, eggs, wheat, soy/soybean, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, sesame