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Daytime Gardeners Receive National and State Awards



Pictured: Nan Merolla, President, Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc., presents two state awards to Sally Brockett, President, Daytime Gardeners of North Haven.

North Haven: The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc. (FGCCT) held their Annual Awards Banquet on Oct. 21, 2026, at The AquaTurf Club to recognize the achievements of garden clubs across the state. The Daytime Gardeners were the recipients of two National Garden Clubs Certificates of Commendation, one for a Beautification Project for their work with Habitat for Humanity Landscape Design and Planting, and another for Permanent Roadside Beautification at the Main Intersection with an Ever-Changing Roadside Display.

The Daytime Gardeners also received the following five awards from the Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc.:

- Club Civic Citation for their holiday JOY! exhibit at the main intersection in town
- Club Environmental Citation for the Earth Day Wind Power exhibit
- Memorial Award of Excellence for Aurialian's Dawn Redwood Tree planted at Kickapoo Nature Trail on Clintonville Road
- Club Horticulture Certificate of Achievement for Habit for Humanity Landscape Design and Planting
- Luckner Youth Club Citation for the Library Reading Festival.

The Daytime Gardeners appreciate the cooperation and participation of the community members which adds to the enjoyment of these projects and activities. *Photo by Tina Franco*

North Haven Announces Annual Season of Giving Program

The Town of North Haven Department of Community Services is now accepting registrations for its Annual Season of Giving Program, which helps local families experiencing financial hardship provide holiday gifts for children age 18 and under and ensures income-eligible families have food for a holiday meal.

Residents must call the Department of Community Services at (203) 239-5321, ext. 8500 to register.

Holiday Toy Program: The holiday toy selection program is available to North Haven families experiencing financial hardship with children ages 18 and under. Appointments will be available December 14-18.

Parents/guardians must present a driver's license, birth certificates for each child in the household, and proof of hardship. Acceptable documentation includes, but is not limited to, Social Security benefit letters, Connecticut Connect cards, HUSKY cards, SNAP benefit letters, and Care 4 Kids letters. This program is intended for parents, guardians, and direct caregivers only.

Holiday Food Distribution: The holiday food distribution will take place on Fri., December 18, from 10-11am in the gym at the Recreation Center, 7 Linsley St., next to the Town Hall Annex.

Requests must be received by 4pm on Mon., December 14. This program is intended for income-eligible North Haven families.

Food Donations Needed: The Department welcomes monetary donations and donations of the following food items: Instant mashed potatoes, stuffing, turkey gravy, cornbread, canned cranberries, canned yams. Turkey and ham donations are also welcome but must be delivered on Wed., December 16, between 9am-4pm due to limited storage space.

All food donations may be dropped off at the Department of Community Services, Town Hall Annex, 5 Linsley Street, Monday-Friday, from 9am-4pm, through Wed., December 16. An Amazon wish list will be available closer to the holiday season.

Toy Donations Needed: The Department welcomes donations of new, unwrapped toys, with a particular need for items appropriate for tweens and teens. An Amazon wish list will be available closer to the holiday season.

Toy donations may be dropped off at the Department of Community Services, Town Hall Annex, 5 Linsley Street, Monday-Friday, from 9am-4pm, through December 18.

For registration, additional information, or questions about the Annual Season of Giving Program, please contact Community Services at (203) 239-5321, ext. 8500.

Are You Looking for a Rewarding Volunteer Tutor Job?

New Haven: If so, become a tutor at Springs Learning Center in New Haven. We are an educational Center supported and established by the Dominican Sisters of Peace. We provide a holistic literacy program for underserved adult learners with an emphasis on English as a Second Language.

The overall goal of the Center is to provide individual tutoring in basic literacy skills. The commitment is one hour a week. All training and materials are provided.

To reach the Center, please call (203) 787-1025 or email annemarie.chuckrey@opeace.org for further information.

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We The People.....

To The Editor: November 4, 2026

It is the morning after the election, and as a life-long Democrat, I am pleased with the Blue Wave that swept across the Country yesterday, giving democrats firm control of the U.S. Senate and House. Many democrats ran "anti-Trump" campaigns, with a focus on improving the economy. We, the People, gave democrats a decisive victory, but now, we need action, no more talk and no more campaign promises, but real action that will help the millions of Americans who are struggling with energy, health care and food costs. We need help now.

Please don't waste valuable time impeaching Trump for a third time; although, in my opinion, he deserves to be removed from office. A long, headline-grabbing impeachment proceeding will do nothing to lower the price of gas or milk. Yes, it takes only a simple majority in the House to impeach; however, you need two-thirds of the Senate to convict and remove from office. That would require about 12 Republican Senators to vote to convict. That will never happen.

We the People gave Democrats their political victory on November 3rd. We the People do not need the perceived political victory of another impeachment which will accomplish nothing. Please, I am asking Congress, now fully controlled by Democrats, to take all steps necessary, immediately, to help the American people who put you in office. History should tell you not to take our continued support for granted. I studied the U.S. Constitution in great detail in law school. The Founding Fathers put the Legislative Branch first, in Article I, believing Congress would be the most powerful branch of our Federal Government. If you really want to fight Trump, use every and all legislative power at your disposal. We the People need effective congressional action now.

Respectfully submitted, Sally J. Buemi, North Haven

Veterans Honor Guard Seeking Volunteers

The Veterans Honor Guard of Meriden is looking for Honorable Discharged Veterans, male or female, to volunteer in Veterans Burials. It is a great way to honor your fallen brother or sister by giving them the honor they deserve. So, if you can spend a few hours to volunteer, please contact Clark Doehr at (203) 223-3338 or Ray Bednarz at 860-690-5833.

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WANTED: Military items - swords, daggers, bayonets, helmets, knives, patches, medals & more, U.S. & Foreign; call (203) 494-2496, Bill •

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