

North Haven Garden Club Elves Busy Making & Delivering Mugs, Tins & Arrangements



Pictured Top: Maria Yankura, Dianna Ramadei, Donna Migosa and Alice, receptionist. **Bottom:** Sandy Ginter & Fran Notaro delivering mugs to Twin Maples Healthcare, and receptionist Kim Carelton and Fran Notaro.

North Haven Garden Club members made 98 Christmas mugs and tins before and during the clubs Holiday Gathering on December 12th at North Haven Congregational Church. Members shared greens, bows and decorations while socializing with each other. No two tins or mugs were alike. At the gathering members were asked to bring in an ornament for the Ronald McDonald House Christmas Tree. Over 20 ornaments were collected.

North Haven Garden Club Healing, Therapy, and Senior Gardening members Laurie Falco, Wini Collieran, and Deb Armitage created 6 larger arrangements for the 6 housing complexes in town which were delivered to each complex.

On Friday December 13th members of the Healing, Therapy, and Senior Gardening Maria Yankura and Dianna Ramadei delivered 44 mugs/tins to Whitney Manor in Hamden to Donna Migosa and recep-

tionist Alice. The ladies loved the mugs/tins and were very excited to have decorations for their patients.

Another 44 mugs/tins were delivered to Twin Maples Healthcare Facility in Durham by committee members and Sandy Ginter and Fran Notaro. They were received by Kim Carelton, receptionist at the facility. This brightened up the patients bedside tables.

The remaining arrangements, 3 were delivered to Mike Freda's office, 6 arrangements went to Town Hall Annex Building, and 1 was delivered to Parks and Recreation Center all by club member Laurie Falco.

Don't forget to check out The North Haven Garden Club on Facebook for lots of useful and entertaining information and pictures of all our club does in our great town of North Haven! For membership information please email Italia at italia_a@comcast.net.

North Haven Garden Club is a member of The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut Inc., New England Garden Clubs Inc., and The National Garden Clubs Inc.

Article by Cindy Golia, photos courtesy of Sandy Ginter and Maria Yankura.

North Haven Garden Club Announces National Garden Clubs Sculpture Contest

The purpose of this contest is to encourage our youth to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving the environment.

- All children in 4th-8th grades are eligible to enter, with a local garden club sponsor.
- Sculptures must consist of recycled, reused & reduced materials.

• The sculpture is limited to a size that will fit sitting on an 8½"x11" sheet of paper; height should be proportionate.

• A list of materials used, and a brief description of the sculpture should be included on the entry form.

• Entry form may be found on NGC website at www.gardenclub.org.

• Entries will include (2) 4"x6" photographs printed on the back of the entry form.

• Chairman should make photos of entries to provide as requested from the NGC website.

• Club entries must be sent to your State Chairman by your state's deadline.

• SCR winners will be sent to NGC by March 1.

• If your state does not participate in this contest, your entry may be sent directly to the SCR Youth Sculpture Chairman.

Scale of Points

- Creative use of materials and self-expression -- 60%
- Description of sculpture and materials used -- 30%
- Craftsmanship and Technique -- 10%
- Total -- 100%

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Upcoming Reunions

**NORTH BRANFORD H.S.
CLASS OF 1975**

Save the Date: August 22, 2025 from 6pm-10pm - The North Branford High School Class of 1975 will hold their 50th Class Reunion at Amarante's, New Haven.

For more information and updates: Facebook group **NBHS Class of 1975**. Please send your contact information (name, address and email address) to NoBranfordHSClassof1975@gmail.com.

Please share this information with other classmates.

**NORTH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1975**

North Haven High School classmates of 1975, come join us in celebrating our 50th Year Class Reunion of the maroon & white. Dining, dancing, connecting with old friends, and celebrating our youth.

Save the Date: Saturday, September 20, 2025; 6pm-10pm at Terrace on the Green at Traditions Golf Club, Wallingford.

We are looking to reach as many of our classmates as possible. We need your help to make this a night to remember. Please contact: Elaine - erjiano@aol.com; Bruce - ktzman@aol.com; Patti - patti-mac@comcast.net; Dan - Daniel.fiasconaro@yahoo.com with your information.

Pass this "save the date" information along to your friends so they can contact us too. Follow our Facebook page: North Haven High School 50th Reunion for updates.

Come join in the fun, enjoy reminiscing our memories and creating new ones. Formal invitations will follow. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

New Haven Sail & Power Squadron

**CONFIDENCE IN DOCKING
AND UNDOCKING:
SLOW SPEED MANEUVERING**

New Haven Sail & Power Squadron, part of America's Boating Club, will hold a 2-hour seminar for boaters who need information about confidence in docking and undocking: slow speed maneuvering.

Docking can be one of the most stressful tasks you can perform, especially if you are a new boater. Learn how to control your boat at slow speed in close proximity to other boats and fixed objects. Learn how to approach the dock in a variety of conditions and safely secure your boat. Learn how to depart the dock in any situation. Understand the use of spring lines, how to safely fend off, and other techniques.

Class will be held from 9-11am on Sat., Jan. 25, at Indian Neck Yacht Club, 87 Harding Avenue, Branford.

All students must sign up by Wed., January 22. People can sign up online and charge it to a credit card. The class costs \$10 per person. To register and pay online, use the Zeffy link that follows: <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/dockingundocking-seminar>. There is no processing fee. Or, contact Squadron Education Officer Peter DePascale at (203) 671-2420 and leave a message, or email him at bathworksinc@gmail.com.

New Haven Sail & Power Squadron (NHSPS), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization dedicated to making boating safer and more enjoyable by teaching classes in boat handling, navigation, and related subjects.

For information on NHSPS, go to: www.nhsp.org.

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I WAS JUST THINKING.....

By Sally J. Buemi

Selectman, Town of North Haven

I was just thinking about the Special Town Meeting held on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 6 PM in the upstairs conference room at Town Hall – a venue that comfortably seats about 40 spectators. I'll bet that many of you were unaware of this Town Meeting. I'll also bet most of you were unaware of the proposed garbage collection change that was discussed at this meeting.

I will do my best to tell you what happened. First, some background. This Town Meeting was called to discuss three separate bonding authorizations, to borrow money for the following: First, \$2.8 million for milling and paving of roadways including design work for Sackett Point Road from the new Quinnipiac River Bridge west to State Street. Second, \$450,000 for repairs to various town buildings. Third, \$1,250,000 to purchase two 96-gallon refuse containers (one for regular garbage, one for recycling) for each house in town. These containers will have a special metal bar enabling a mechanical arm to lift the cans and dump the refuse into the truck. We already have trucks equipped with the mechanical arms.

For several years, Public Works requested the purchase of these new containers during budget season, but to no avail without much discussion. The first meaningful discussions of this major garbage collection change took place only recently. The Board of Finance (BOF) recommended all three bonding authorizations on Nov. 20th. The Board of Selectmen had discussions on Dec. 4th and the Town Meeting was arranged.

Here is what happened. First, I commend Mike Freda for separating these three bonding authorizations thereby allowing a vote on each one individually. About 50 citizens packed the meeting, with a cluster of folks forced to stand shoulder to shoulder in the back corner.

The first two bonding authorizations passed overwhelmingly (but not unanimously). I supported both. The real action, and the reason why people showed up on a very cold night, was the third question about the new garbage collection system. Mr. Freda explained rising worker's comp. costs, and that using a mechanical arm would cut down on injuries. I liked the much larger recycling container. There was concern that the garbage container was not big enough for larger households. Older folks, living alone, had concerns they were too big. Nancy Barrett, a BOF member, voiced concern that there was no press coverage about this major change.

With this new system, the one large container for garbage is all you will get. The mechanical arm cannot and will not take those black garbage bags many of you currently put out in addition to your cans. People are accustomed to putting everything and anything at the curb. That will end. All garbage will have to fit in one large container and the lid must be closed. The large recycling container should be sufficient. We will still have bulk pick-up 4 weeks a year.

People who were aware of this proposal approached me in the weeks prior to the Town Meeting. They were mostly opposed; however, usually only those against something speak up. I am sure Mr. Freda also heard from many citizens. Some people, especially older folks, complained about the timing of the meeting, in mid-winter, and that they don't drive at night.

I anticipated that this was going to be a difficult decision. There are good arguments pro and con. I will tell you my exact thought process. I thought of the folks who don't drive at night. It was freezing cold. There was no newspaper coverage. But most importantly, I thought that not everybody uses the library, not everybody swims at the pool, but everybody uses the Town's garbage collection service every week. We need to publicize this proposal.

So here is what I did at the meeting. I made a motion to postpone this matter. This will allow more time to educate people on the details of this system. Perhaps we can come up with a compromise plan. After some discussion, Mr. Freda supported my motion to postpone. I commend him for his leadership and his ability to read the room. My motion to postpone passed by a vote of 25-19.

So here is what should happen. We must discuss this proposal further, and have newspaper coverage. And you guys need to pay attention. Our Town Meeting form of government relies on citizen participation. You will decide this issue. I will keep you updated, but you must do your part and learn about this proposal. Hopefully, in a few months, we will have another Town Meeting, at the high school, and an informed decision will be made.

Happy New Year! You may contact me at sbuemi5@comcast.net.

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