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Please Note: Because of Space Limitation, There is a 350 WORD LIMIT on All Letters and ★Endorsements Submitted for Publication★

Brandi Mandato - An Advocate for People Who Need a Voice

To The Editor: July 29, 2026

Every month seems to bring another bill that costs more than the month before. Electricity. Groceries. Insurance. Housing.

Working families are doing everything right and still finding it harder to get ahead.

That's why affordability is a priority for me in this election.

Brandi Mandato understands that families are feeling squeezed from every direction. She is talking about the issues that affect everyday people: lowering utility costs, addressing housing affordability, and ensuring Connecticut works for working families rather than just the wealthiest among us.

I don't expect any elected official to solve every problem overnight. But I do expect them to recognize what families are experiencing and fight for policies that make life more affordable.

Brandi has spent her career advocating for people who need a voice. I believe she will bring that same commitment to Hartford.

For voters who are worried about rising costs and wondering who is paying attention, I encourage you to learn more about Brandi Mandato.

Sincerely, Heather Tolisano, North Haven

Vote for Josh Elliott in Aug. 11th Primary

To The Editor: July 29, 2026

Over the last 8 years, Governor Ned Lamont has made many visits to North Haven…Maine, the lavish island town where many folks with generational wealth go to golf and vacation. It sounds nice, but back here in North Haven, CT where folks are finding it harder and harder to afford getaways, even those of us involved in Democratic town politics have scarcely seen the Governor.

I get it. Being the Governor is a tough job and there are 168 other towns in CT demanding his attention at any given time. However, by way of contrast, Lamont's primary opponent Rep. Josh Elliott has always shown up whenever I've asked. Josh is quick to make time via coffee, text, or even appearances at events like this year's North Haven Pride flag-raising.

Lamont has been a decent, competent Governor through some difficult times. However, I find this contrast illustrative of a man whose wealth and privilege keep him at a distance from the issues affecting working families every day in Trump's America. Josh, on the other hand, understands that a system where consumer costs and property taxes are holding most households back while the wealthiest in our state are seeing phenomenal gains shouldn't be our best or only option.

Josh knows that the current model of underfunding our schools and overburdening homeowners is not a solution. He will reform the broken ECS state funding formula and create a more equitable tax structure that shifts the burden onto millionaires who can afford to pay little more. He will unleash the full power of our regulatory bodies, who year-after-year concede double digit insurance and energy rate increases, to keep these large corporate providers in check, and provide competitive public option counterparts to both. He will empower labor to have the tools they need to push back against giant companies looking to force starvation wages and subpar benefits onto their workers. And he will ensure that everybody who wants to live in Connecticut can afford to stay in Connecticut, especially our seniors and folks on fixed incomes.

Josh's candidacy is grassroots. He's the first gubernatorial candidate in a generation to qualify for public financing, and there's a reason his message is catching on. I urge all North Haven registered Democrats to vote for Josh Elliott in the primary on August 11th. An early voting option is also available August 3rd through the 9th, and absentee ballots are available to every Democratic voter right now.

Tim Gabriele, North Haven DTC Chair







First Friday Chess Social

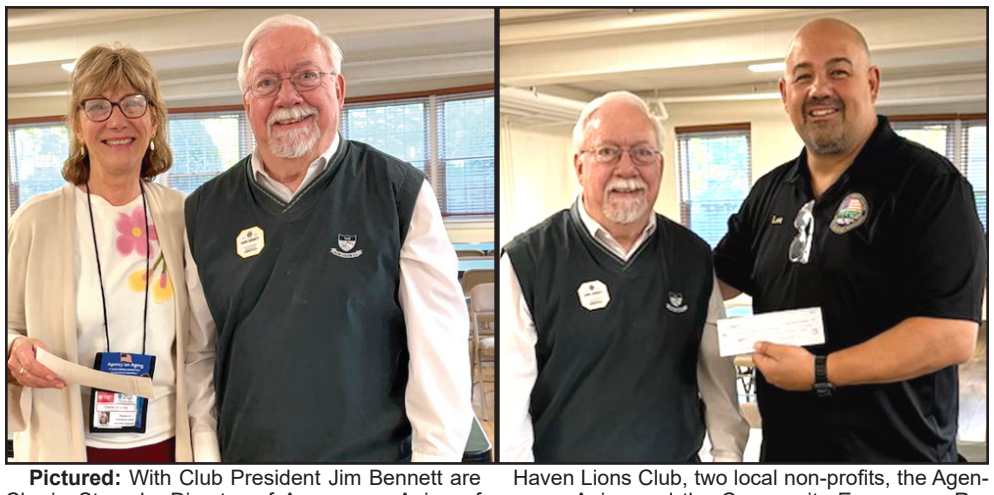
Hamden: Unwind from the week with fellow chess enthusiasts on Friday, August 7 from 5:00-6:30PM at Play More Chess Academy, Home of the Hamden Chess Club, 1227 Whitney Ave.

Rousing games on the big screen, music, free cookies; and sodas/water/juice available for $1.

Open to all ages and chess levels - Whether a casual player or serious competitor this is a great space to meet new people, test your skills, and enjoy a shared love of the game.

FREE - just show up - no registration needed.

North Haven Lions Recognize Two Local Non-Profits



Pictured: With Club President Jim Bennett are Cherie Strucaly, Director of Agency on Aging of South Central CT's AmeriCorps Senior Volunteer Programs; and Lou Coppola, Manager of North Haven's CERT Team.

North Haven: At a recent meeting of the North Haven Lions Club, two local non-profits, the Agency on Aging and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) were recognized for their outstanding contributions to North Haven, and each organization was awarded a $1,000 donation from the club.

NHHS Sports Hall of Fame Athletes to be Honored

North Haven High School Sports Hall of Fame proudly announces the following individuals who will be honored at the 25th Awards Ceremony and Lunch on Saturday, October 24 at The Woodwinds in Branford:

Frank LaMonaca - Athlete, Class of 1975

Christopher LeGates - Athlete, Class of 1987

Steven Niles - Athlete, Class of 1989

Max Joyner - Athlete, Class of 1991

Brittany Nelson D'Andrea - Athlete, Class of 2006

Mark Zurlis - Athlete, Class of 2012

Ticket information will be available on our website NHHS Sports Hall of Fame - NHHS Sports Hall of Fame - North Haven Athletics later this summer!

WANTED: Collector wants to buy early historic New Haven County related items, maps, books, engravings, paintings, paper items or actual products; (203) 915-7662 •

FOR SALE: Coins Liberty V nickels, pre-1913, 10 different dates $15, bold dates; (203) 527-4200 •

FOR SALE: John Deere tractor, 48", for parts $300; (203) 215-9582

July National Cherry Day



Pictured (L-R): Members Camille, Donna, Alec, Jean, Kim.



Pictured (L-R): Members Jo Ann, Eva, Lousia.

North Haven: At the North Haven Senior Center many members went to celebrate National Cherry Day making mini delicious cherry trifles. Cherries have been enjoyed for centuries dating back to ancient Greece around 300BCE, and the Roman Empire. Everyone had fun making their own dessert and enjoying their delicious cherry trifle.

Story by activity coordinator Mary Higgins, and Jo Ann Buccetti, photos by Mary Higgins.

