



# Totoket Times

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For Our Town From Our Town

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Volume 29 No 13, January 20, 2023

## Sons of North Branford Serving Our Country



STEPHEN ADAMCZYK

On December 1, 2021 the USS Harry S. Truman aircraft carrier deployed from Norfolk, VA as part of the 6th fleet area of operation in the Mediteranean Sea. The Truman had approximately 5000 sailors and the CVW 1 Carrier Air Wing, consisting of four Fighter jet squadrons, 2 Helicopter squadrons, 1 Growler squadron and 1 E2 squadron.

The Truman teamed with NATO to launch maritime exercise Neptune Strike 22. The strike force operation is to maintain maritime stability and security, and defend U.S., allied and partner interests in Europe and Africa.

Stephen Adamczyk and Kurt Casanova from North Branford served 9 1/2 months deployment with the Truman.

Adamczyk, is a 2020 graduate of North Branford High School and is in the Navy, assigned to the USS Harry S. Truman in Damage Control, stationed in Norfolk VA. He is the son of Carol Adamczyk and brother of Lauren.

Casanova, is a Petty Officer 2nd Class AT2 Aviation Electrician assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron Fighting Checkmates stationed in Virginia Beach, VA. He is the son of Marrk and Beth Casano



KURT CASANOVA

## Let's Be "Frank"

Well brother, it's January. The holiday season is behind us, baseball hasn't started and the weather is cold and damp so it gives me a lot of time to contemplate. Too much time on my hands just aggravates me. So it's time to vent. This almost always gets me in trouble. So to those who agree, that's fine and to those who don't agree that's okay too. So here are a few items that really aggravate the hell out of me.

**Change.** I don't like it in my pocket, I don't like it just for the hell of it. I don't like it when it's not thought out and just thrown against the wall to see if it sticks.

**Health insurance.** Our system is a joke especially for those over 65. They cause grief, stress and illness when they make decisions based on finance and not medical needs.

**Total transparency.** When someone goes out of their way to talk about total transparency you just know they are hiding something. It's like starting a conversation with "with all due respect". You know that whatever will follow is not going to be respectful.

**Stupid people.** I'm no rocket scientist but when people around me have no common sense I become a Rhodes Scholar. I do a lot of talking but hopefully when I'm not an expert I try to listen. I remember an old saying, "It's better to keep your mouth shut and make people think you are stupid than to open it and remove all doubt".

**Customer service.** Or should I say lack of it. No one seems to give a rat's tail about helping you. They act as though it's a burden for them to help with your problem and it often makes me wonder what they think they are there for. If they don't like their job it's not my fault. While on the subject, if people are supposed to be fluent on the phone, they need to speak English. I'm not being racist, but I wouldn't hire a piano player with no fingers or

a singer with no voice.

**People who don't get it.** After twenty one years there are still people who think the town owns the Totoket Times and I work for the town. I (Frank Mentone) own the Totoket Times. This newspaper is a vehicle to bring news to the town. If your business is lucky enough to be thriving, remember the people who patronize you and give them something back by supporting the local newspaper that keeps them informed.

**People who play let's make a deal.** This isn't the days of our parents where everything is a negotiation. People work hard to put out their products. Discussing a price reduction is insulting, and cheapening respect for their craft. I am often amused by people who think that because it's a newspaper they shouldn't have to pay for ads. They use the paper for any free publicity they can get but when it comes time to reciprocate with a paid ad, they disappear.

**Professional sports attire.** I get a kick out of people who wear replicated uniforms of pro athletes. You're a grown ass adult. Don't you feel stupid wearing a Tom Brady or Aaron Judge shirt? What does it prove when you are a walking billboard for those athletes and institutions. Take the money and buy yourself some adult clothes and give the difference in those overpriced items to charity.

**Hypocrites.** It really turns my stomach when I hear people brag about all the wonderful things they do for humanity and the number of hours they spend in prayer and worship. Yet those same people are judgemental and self-serving.

**Skinny People.** Yes, skinny people aggravate me. In many cases I watch them eat much more food than I do and yet their metabolism allows them to look like a stick figure. And I on the other hand for whatever reason gain weight just looking at a dish of macaroni (not pasta).

Well that's it for now. Thanks for listening and I'll see you soon.

### TOTOKET TIMES

Deadline		Publication Date	
January	27	February	3
February	10	February	17
February	24	March	3
March	10	March	17
March	24	March	31
April	7	April	14
April	21	April	28

Totoket Times  
Voluntary Payment  
Venmo  
Frank-Mentone - 1

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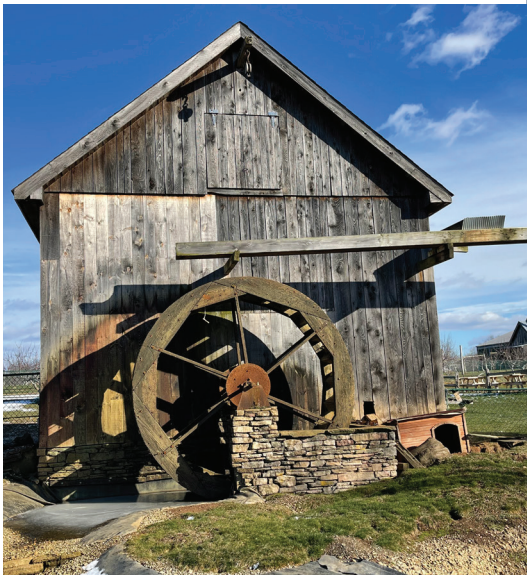


LEGAL NOTICE  
OFFICE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR  
TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

Taxpayers, residents and non-residents of the Town of North Branford are hereby notified that the second installment of Real Estate, Motor Vehicle, and Personal Property taxes on the October 1, 2021 Grand List for the Town of North Branford, are due and payable on January 1, 2023. Payments will be received up to and including February 1, 2023 without interest. Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax bills pursuant to Section 12-71B will be due and payable in one installment on January 1, 2023. Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax includes vehicles registered between October 2, 2021 and July 31, 2022. Taxes are considered delinquent as of February 2, 2023, unless POSTMARKED FEBRUARY 1, 2023, and will be charged 1½ % interest per month, from the due date, or a minimum of \$2.00. All delinquent Motor Vehicle files will be sent to the DMV for non-renewal of their registrations. You may pay your tax bill in person at the Tax Collector’s Office at the North Branford Town Hall, 909 Foxon Road, North Branford. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tax Payments on Real Estate, Personal Property, Motor Vehicle and Supplemental MV can also be made with credit card, debit card or an electronic fund transfer from your checking account by going to the Town of North Branford’s website, [www.townofnorthbranfordct.com](http://www.townofnorthbranfordct.com), and go to the link for online services or in the tax office. There is a fee for this service. If payments are made by mail and a receipt is required, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope along with the tax bill and check made payable to the Tax Collector, Town of North Branford. Mail must be postmarked no later than midnight February 1, 2023. **Postmarks after February 1, 2023 are considered late and will be charged interest from January 1, 2023.** If you have misplaced your tax bill, call the Tax Collector’s Office at 203-484-6011. Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or any interest that may accrue per State Statutes 12-130 and 12-145.

Michael Downes Town Manager  
Dated at North Branford December 16, 2022

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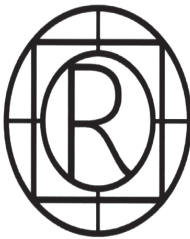
Tuesday 1-5 PM

Wednesday - Friday 9AM - 5PM

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State Representative Vincent Candelora



Two weeks of the legislative session have passed and lawmakers, as well as members of the public who know where to look, are starting to get a clearer picture of the individual priorities of those who have been elected to serve in the House and Senate.

Given that there are 151 state representatives and 36 state senators, branding the (growing) list of bills “eclectic” would be an understatement.

Proposals range from prohibiting the sale or barter of products made from dead kangaroos to a requirement that entities that sell subscriptions in Connecticut allow their customers to cancel those subscription in the same manner they signed up for them.

Regardless of our opinions on the value or impact of specific proposals, the freedom that Connecticut’s legislative process provides for dialogue and the exploration of ideas is among the elements of serving in the General Assembly that I appreciate most.

In odd-numbered years—the five-month “long session”—there will be upward of 2,500 bills submitted. In the end, roughly 250 of those will become Public Acts.

Visit my website, [repcandelora.com](http://repcandelora.com), and click on the “legislation” link in the menu to see some of the concepts I’m pursuing this year.

They, too, run the gamut on subject matter.

I’ve proposed to reduce the filing fee small businesses must pay to the Secretary of the State. I’ve submitted several proposals related to crime, including increasing the penalties associated with motor vehicle theft and crimes involving firearms. I’ve offered a fix for the state’s new program that automatically erases many criminal records, proposing that convictions for offenses against children, revenge pornography, and threatening police should be excluded.

Other bills I’ve offered include: ensuring there’s a dedicated line at DMV branches that car dealers can use for same-day vehicle registrations (it takes way too long right now), development of a coordinated strategy to fight opioid abuse, and the establishment of a statewide virtual school for children who can’t attend in-person due to medical condition or vaccination status.

The General Assembly’s website ([cga.ct.gov](http://cga.ct.gov)) offers a variety of tools to search for and track bills by subject matter and the legislator who introduced them. In the main menu, at the top of the page, choose “bill info.” Additionally, there are guides that spell out the process and the jargon used within the legislative ecosystem.

As always, feel free to contact me about any question you have about a bill proposal you come across—whether it’s mine or someone else’s.

Rep. Vincent CandeloraHouse Republican Leader  
86th House District  
North Branford, Durham, East Haven, Guilford



From the lens of  
Roving  
Photographer  
Nick Carlino.  
Boat stuck in the  
ice at Stony Creek.



Stair case at the  
Yale Art Museum.



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Dine with Friends

JOIN THE NORTH HAVEN  
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AND JROO'S WILL DONATE 10% OF THE TAB  
TO OUR ORGANIZATION!



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The publisher assumes no responsibility for typographical errors. In the event of an error, the publisher will issue a credit adjustment on only the incorrect portion of the advertisement, as well as a retraction in the next issue.

Letters to the editor..

This paper encourages all readers to voice their opinions and comments. The Totoket Times is not responsible for erroneous information or statements in letters to the editor. Letters should be as brief as possible.

All letters must be signed. A telephone number should be included and no personal attacks.

This paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

All letters should be addressed to :

The Editor

P.O. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472





**(203) 488-5693**



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Scott Schoonmaker, Superintendent of North Branford Public Schools, announces that Kindergarten registration for North Branford residents with children eligible to enter school in the fall of 2023 will be as follows:

This year registration will be completed **solely online**. Registration will be open from February 1 – February 10, 2023.

PLEASE NOTE: Registrations will not be considered complete until all information on the registration form is verified and all required documents are provided and verified including proof of residency, birth certificate, immunization records and health assessment records (HAR-3). You may be required to bring in your child’s original birth certificate as well as your proof of residency documents.

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, please visit our website <https://jerome.northbranford-schools.org/> and click on the “Kindergarten Registration” button. Here you will see detailed directions on the registration process.

In order for a child to be registered in Kindergarten, the following requirements must be met:

1. Child must be five (5) years of age on or before December 31, 2023.
2. The original birth certificate, with seal, has been uploaded and examined by the principal or designee.
3. Your child must have a current physical exam; **one that was completed after September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**. The physician and the parent must complete the State of CT Health Assessment Record. The form must be **on file** with the school nurse **prior** to the first day of Kindergarten unless alternative arrangements have been made with the building principal.
4. The child must physically reside in North Branford/Northford.

Proofs of residence have been uploaded, examined and approved by principal or designee such as: deed to home or dated rental agreement, escrow papers or signed mortgage commitment, current utility or telephone bill, and/or notarized letter from landlord or owner acknowledging parent/guardian’s and student’s residence.

If you have any questions, concerns or problems during the registration process, please call 203.484.1235.

In addition, if you have specific concerns about your **preschool** child’s development, please call 203.484.1235 for information.

The North Branford Board of Education policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability (including pregnancy), or gender identity or expression, or against homeless children and youth.

**Northford-North Branford Women’s Club, Accepting Scholarships**

The Connecticut Federation of Women’s Clubs has announced two scholarships that are available to Connecticut women pursuing advanced courses of study at Institutions of higher learning. Awards are granted on the basis of future promise, scholastic ability and financial need.

The Dorothy E. Schoelzel Memorial Scholarship has a maximum award of \$2,000.00. Candidates must have completed three or more years of undergraduate work in an accredited institution with a 3.0 average or higher in the field of Education.

The Phipps Scholarship has a maximum award of \$1,000.00. Candidates must have completed two or more years of undergraduate work in an accredited institution with a 3.0 average or higher toward a Bachelor’s or post graduate degree.

Completed applications, including general and personal information, a financial statement, instructor/employer references, official transcript or at least the most recent two years of undergraduate or graduate work must be received by February 10, 2023.

The application may be obtained by visiting the Northford-North Branford Women’s Club website at [www.northfordwomensclub.org](http://www.northfordwomensclub.org). For further information contact Rose Lynch at (203) 483-8395.

**THEY MAKE US PROUD**

**Karina Jassil, Ryan Nuzzo and Dominic Scalia** were named to the Dean’s List at the University St. Joseph in West Hartford, CT.

**Paul Zumbo** was named to the Dean’s List at American International College in Springfield, MA.

**Erik and Brian Lawson and Gerald D. Camp** were named to the Dean’s List at the University of New Haven in CT.

**Robert Mullins and Jordan Regan** were named to the Dean’s List at Assumption University in Worcester, MA.

**Joshua Pearson** was named to the President’s List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, NH

**Catherine Pollack and John Pollack** were named to the Dean’s List at Nichols College in Dudley, MA

**Regan Leete** was named to the Dean’s List at Lehigh University in Bethlehem. PA.

**Jazzmine Gargano and Marissa Montesanto** were named to the Dean’s List at the University of Bridgeport.



**North Branford Public Schools**



**Preschool Application Period to Open**

The North Branford Board of Education will be presenting a virtual informational session introducing the North Branford Public Schools Preschool Program and the Family Resource Center Preschool.

In an effort to offer flexibility with challenging schedules and maximize attendance, this informational session will be offered via Zoom\*. The session will be hosted by Dr. Carter Welch, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Sara Alberti, Director of Special Services and Ann-Marie McCarthy, Supervisor of the Family Resource Center.

The program will be held on **Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** If you are interested in participating, please email Sherry DelGaudio at [sdelgaudio@northbranfordschools.org](mailto:sdelgaudio@northbranfordschools.org) to register and receive the Zoom link.

The online preschool application will be made available to all in attendance at the close of the session and then will be made available to the public on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, on the North Branford Board of Education Preschool webpage. Note that you must be a resident of North Branford/Northford to be eligible. For more information about the program and to access the application, visit: <http://bit.ly/jhs-preschool>

*(All Smart Start requirements and restrictions as noted on the website apply. Applicants must be a resident of North Branford/Northford.)*

*\*Zoom is a free digital video conference platform.*



Did you go to NONH as a child and have a great time?

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Do you want your child to have some socialization time with other children their age?

Are you ready to let your child explore the world outside of your home?

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For more information about recycling in North Branford you can check out North Branford's Recycling Committee's website: [rthbranfordct.com/government/boards-commissions/hazardous-wasterecycling-committee.aspx](http://rthbranfordct.com/government/boards-commissions/hazardous-wasterecycling-committee.aspx) or our Facebook page: North Branford CT Hazardous Waste & Recycling Committee

**Thank You for Your Participation**



# NORTH BRANFORD PARKS AND RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER

## NORTH BRANFORD PARKS, RECREATION, AND SENIOR CENTER

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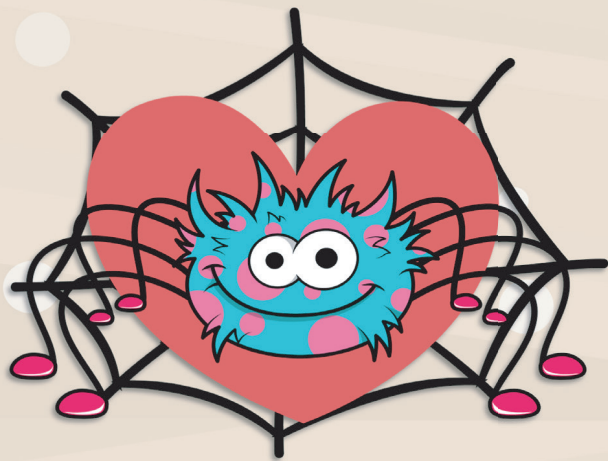
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Roses are red, violets are blue.  
The **DoodleBug** has something special for you!  
He's doodled everywhere— from coast to coast,  
but our town is the one he loves the most!  
The **DoodleBug** will soon be coming your way  
with a craft for you this Valentine's Day!  
Keep it for yourself or give it to someone dear.  
Help the **DoodleBug** spread love and cheer!



To register your child to receive a Valentine's Day  
craft in the mail, please register by February 6th at  
[www.nbrecreation.com](http://www.nbrecreation.com)

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Give a sweet treat to your  
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Get 3 fresh baked chocolate  
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**\$5 for pickup \$7 for delivery**

Register for a delivery date or pickup date  
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Tuesday, February 14

**Registrations must be in by 2/12/23**

Register on our website [nbrecreation.com](http://nbrecreation.com)  
Deliveries are limited to North Branford  
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## — SENIOR CENTER —

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**Mondays & Fridays Feb 24—April 3**  
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This is a high energy, low impact exercise class with up-beat  
music. This class is for the more active adult. This class will get  
you moving and feeling good.

### GET FIT

**Wednesdays Feb 1—April 5**  
**10:30—11:30am \$20 res / \$25 nr**

Instructor: Vicky Struck

Whether you've joined other group fitness classes or you are  
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meet your individual needs. Improve your strength, mobility,  
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to target all your  
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Instructor: Jillian  
Temple

Ages 18+  
STW Classroom

**Mondays**  
6:00-6:45am  
Jan 23 - Feb 13  
\$60 res/\$60 nr

#### TODDLER/ PARENT FITNESS

Introduce your child  
to a variety of fun  
fitness activities! We  
will practice running,  
playing with different  
obstacles and work on  
proper development of  
motor skills!  
Instructor: Jillian  
Temple

Ages 18 mos - 3 years  
STW Classroom

**Mondays**  
9:30-10:00am  
Jan 23 - Feb 13  
\$50 res/\$55 nr

#### PRE/POST NATAL FITNESS

If you recently had a  
baby or are currently  
pregnant you are  
welcome to join! This  
class is designed to  
safely keep you and  
your baby strong!  
Includes cardio,  
strength, flexibility and  
balance!  
Instructor: Jillian Temple

Ages 18+  
STW Classroom

**Mondays**  
6:00-6:45pm  
Jan 23 - Feb 13  
\$60 res/\$65 nr

### 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!

**Ages 5-14 at STW Community Center**  
**5:00 - 7:00pm (Please note the new time)**  
**Cost \$40 res/ \$45 non-res per class**

**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2023**  
**HEART SHAPED FRIED DOUGH AND CHOCOLATE**  
**RASPBERRY HEARTS**

**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2023**  
**HEART SHAPED CALZONES AND VALENTINE**  
**CHOCOLATE COVERED OREOS**

**THURSDAY MARCH 2, 2023**  
**CHICKEN MILANESE AND CHOCOLATE**  
**SNOWBALL COOKIES**

**TUESDAY MARCH 14, 2023**  
**BROCCOLI AND CAVATELLI AND OVER THE**  
**RAINBOW CUPCAKES**



### St. Patrick's Day Celebration AQUA TURF CLUB

**Tuesday March 14, 2023**

*Bus departs STW: 10:15am Returns: Approx 4:00pm*

**\$57res \$62nr**

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