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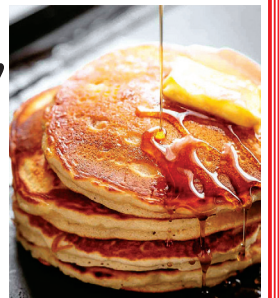
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Publication Date

October	30	October	23
November	13	November	6
November	27	November	20
December	11	December	4
December	18	December	11
January	8	December	31
January	22	January	15

Deadline

October	23
November	6
November	20
December	4
December	11
December	31
January	15

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CONTENTS

Editorial	Page 3, - 5, 6 & 9
School	Page 6 & 7
Society	Page 8 & 9
Church	Page 10
Recreation	Page 11
Classified	Page 12

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"Though the 2020 legislative session was cut short, during this period you steadfastly held your commitment and supported public education as well as the fundamental rights of workers to collectively bargain. Additionally, you were consistently accessible and took the time to answer our questions committing to supporting our issues going forward." *CEA



Vincent



CANDELORA

★ **STATE REPRESENTATIVE** ★

Hi, I'm Vincent Candelora, and it's been an honor to serve as your voice in our state legislature.

This year posed tremendous challenges for all of us, and much of my time has been dedicated to helping constituents secure unemployment benefits while also helping local business owners navigate the state's guidelines on how to reopen their doors. Our state's economy, already struggling, has been hit hard by the pandemic. I hope that on November 3rd you will join me in making Connecticut more affordable for all of our families!



Endorsed by those who Protect:

- Connecticut State Fraternal Order of Police
- North Branford Police

"Proud to be endorsed the Connecticut State Fraternal Order of Police...Here in Connecticut, the men and women who protect and serve our communities were let down over the summer by legislative Democrats who passed a 'police accountability' bill that, simply put will chase the good officers out of the profession while making our cities and towns less safe. I look forward to getting back to Hartford in January, when I hope we'll be able to start undoing some of the bad parts of this controversial legislation,"

State Representative Vincent Candelora

Special Session In September



September 29, the legislature began and ended a special session to address various pieces of legislation that could not be accomplished because of the pandemic. Many of the items could have waited until next session; however, I think the legislature accomplished some good things.

We reformed Connecticut's Transfer Act from a title-titled based system to a release-based system. The new law will require the state to regulate the cleanup and transfer of real property based upon actual spills of hazardous materials rather than who owns the land. The law also allow for private licensed environmental professional to assist in certifying the suitability of cleanup and remediation of polluted property. These changes were a long time coming since Connecticut was one of the last states to modify these laws, and I am hopeful that we will see better utilization and redevelopment of brownfields.

The General Assembly also tackled energy reform. In short, the bill institutes performance-based measures to help determine electric rates and storm outage performance and provides for greater penalties if the electric companies fail to meet these standards. The bill also allows for reimbursement to customers for lost food and medicine if power is out for more than 96

hours. While I believe many of the reforms in this bill are good, we will undoubtedly need to revisit the changes to make sure that they don't ultimate result in rate increases for everyone.

The House and then Senate also acted to confirm a State Supreme Court justice and three appellate court judges. Because of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis the Capitol has been shut down to the public since March. The legislature has had two special sessions in that time but only limited staff and lawmakers were on hand.

House members largely voted from their offices in their offices in the legislative office building using a new computer software program.

Members of the public and lobbyists have not been permitted. It remains unclear when that will change. We are trying to make the best of a difficult situation, and because of these changes, communication and dialogue is more important than ever.

Let's Be "Frank"

When I was young, I used to asked my father when we could partake in a particular activity that I knew he wasn't interested in. His answer was always the same. "When Columbus throws the ball down Brown Street," he would bark. I'm sure you remember (my brother) as do many who grew up in that neighborhood, that was a standard reply from many fathers. The statue of Christopher Columbus was erected in 1892 in the Wooster Street green. The large monument of Columbus holding the globe, faced Brown street. That was the old man's way of telling me it would never happen.

As Catholic children of Italian/American heritage, we grew up with the image of Columbus as our example of a leadership. He was a hero who faced immeasurable odds but still did great things. Like every other human in history he made some bad decisions but he was always an example of what a good Italian man should follow.

I remember from the day school started in September we at Saint Anthony's, practiced three times a week and even more when it got closer to the day of the Columbus Day Parade. We proudly donned our school uniform and banners and marched down Chapel Street for what seemed like hundreds of miles, to the grandstand in front of the statue. Like dozens of other Catholic schools, we stayed in line with the hopes of taking home the trophy for being the best of our division. It was always a part of our history as we would also learn in class of the navigation and successes of our Italian hero.

We learned songs about the discovery of America. We heard the comic tune of Lou Monte with the crew begging Columbus to "turna the ship around". Again, it was part of our history.

Years later when we moved to North Branford with our youngsters, our new neighborhood had many Italian families. With schools out and many parents having the day off, the rest of us would take the day off and celebrate our heritage with a big party. Steaks, clams on the grill, wine and liqueurs from the different regions of Italy. The adults played bocce and the kids celebrated with their own games.

As is always the case from time to time, a group of malcontents rises and points out mis truths and exaggerated faults of the man to discredit his accomplishments.

According to the missionary Bartolomme de las Cesars, Columbus came to the new world in search of gold to fund trips to bring Christianity to the natives. He did not own slaves. They were already there and he did arrest some for violating natural law such as human sacrifices and cannibalism.

The anthropologist Carol Delaney added that Columbus goal was to evangelise the natives. He truly believed he had an obligation to teach the Christian concepts as to pave the way for the return of Christ.

As I write this letter to you, it is the day we always celebrated the life of this great man. I am saddened by what is taking place and disappointed in myself and others for sitting back and allowing this history to be taken away from future generations.

What is totally discouraging in New Haven is that many neighborhood leaders joined and supported the committee to take down the monument that had been in the green for more than a century. Forgetting their own heritage and the Italian community that supported them and helped them create their successful businesses. They approved of the eradication of our history. Politicians and business people alike were not there to fight to maintain a reminder of their ethnic customs. They turned their backs on the community and bowed to political pressure to appease a small group of people.

It's sad my brother. That statue should have never came down. When the pressure came from this particular group to remove the statue, the answer should have been a simple one. "We will take the statue down when Columbus throws the ball down Brown Street.

Take care my brother and I'll see you soon.

Editor's Note. Next issue will be the last one before the election. If you chose to send a letter to the editor, please make it as brief as possible, contains no vicious attacks and give first and last name and phone number. Your phone number is just to check information if it it needed.

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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



Sen. Christine Cohen



Since being sworn into the legislature, I have been working on changes to a decades-old piece of legislation that – while well-intentioned upon its passage – has only proven to hamper economic development, create environmental justice issues, and not address the clean-ups it set out to remediate.

This law is referred to as the “Transfer Act,” and together with my colleagues on the Commerce Committee, we have been working to overhaul this law to provide both environmental protection and

a prosperous opportunity for Connecticut.

Connecticut’s Transfer Act was developed in 1985 with the goals of addressing environmental pollution and encouraging the economic redevelopment and re-use of those properties. The law has been amended seven times in 35 years, and Connecticut remains one of only two states in the country that uses this type of mechanism to investigate and clean up such affected establishments. While several positive changes have been accomplished, including the passage of modifications in 2019, a complete revamp is clearly necessary.

Unfortunately, the clean-ups for properties that fall under the Transfer Act can be costly and cumbersome. Oftentimes properties who never had a spill end up within the confines of the law because of their proximity to another implicated facility. Rather than property clean-ups being seen to fruition and transfers taking place, owners often abandon these locations for lack of practicable remediation methods due to the absence of clear regulations or because they’ve become tangled in red tape. As a result, more than 4,000 properties have made their way into the Transfer Act, with only about a quarter seeing their way out and an estimated \$175 million in lost, potential tax revenue from those sales.

Most states have what is commonly referred to as a spill-based standard. We have the opportunity to align with 48 other states for the good of our economy and our environment! Spill-based remediation is the future, where – to put it simply – if you spill it, or you find it, you clean it up. The results in other states have proven that more environmentally hazardous releases are remedied and there are not the same levels of encumbrances encountered upon the sale of properties.

On September 17, we held a joint informational hearing of the Environment and Commerce committees (for which I serve as chair and co-chair, respectively) for the public to weigh in on this important legislation. We have been meeting with key stakeholders on an ongoing basis, as well as our Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Department of Economic and Community Development to get this right.

It is not often that I get to meld my two favorite topics – the environment and business growth – in one consequential piece of legislation, but I’m hopeful this bill will garner bipartisan support and get us moving ahead on economic revitalization while protecting our soil, water and air at the same time!

“I Enthusiastically Endorse... Christine Cohen”

Dear Editor:

Christine Cohen knows that listening and working together is the secret to success in Hartford. Over the course of her first term she has worked across the aisle to protect the environment, make Connecticut more business friendly and ease many burdensome costs to our citizens. I enthusiastically endorse her bid for re-election.

Christine founded and co-chairs the bipartisan Coastal Caucus, a group of legislators dedicated to protecting our shoreline communities. The unique challenges that these towns face require innovative and collaborative solutions. Christine stepped up to the plate to ensure there is a mechanism in place to focus on these needs. Christine also passed a bi-partisan clean energy bill that will put Connecticut as a nationwide leader in renewable energy and will create thousands of green jobs.

As a small business owner herself, Christine knows first-hand the challenges these businesses face. She ended the business entity tax and has been working hard to connect local businesses with the much needed pandemic assistance during these tough times.

Working together with Democrats and Republicans, Christine fought back against the Grocery Tax which would have disproportionately affected our elderly and low income communities. She voted to cap out-of-pocket insulin costs and helped write legislation to create a public health care option, an affordable alternative to costly private insurance.

Christine knows the hardships her constituents face, she works to bring people together and most importantly - gets results. I look forward to casting my vote for Christine and I hope you join me.

**Thank you,
Ruth Cook**

Town Council Looking to Put Lipstick on a Pig

Dear Editor:

I am writing not only as a concerned parent of a North Branford High School sophomore and a NBIS 8th grader, but as a concerned tax payer as well. While I’m quite confident that even if the new High School comes to fruition, neither my son nor my daughter will ever see the inside of that school before they graduate, this school is long overdue. The deteriorated infrastructure of NBHS is an embarrassment to this community. As a parent of two student athletes, I can tell you that when I walk into a competing school, the first thing I look at are the conditions of the school. I shudder to think of what opposing schools think when they walk into ours.

Twelve years ago my family moved here as to not send our children to school in a neighboring town. We wanted a good school system in a tight knit community. We found all of that in North Branford, or so we thought. As young parents of toddlers, naively you tend not to look beyond the immediate future. We were looking at the quality of Jerome Harrison and TVES. But as my children have grown, my husband and I have questioned our decision more and more. This is not because of the education they are receiving, but rather the environment in which they are receiving it.

How can a child concentrate when it is so cold that they are wrapped in winter coats and blankets? How does a child learn while sitting in the sweltering heat in the summer? How do you think these children feel about their environment as black sludge comes up through the floors and pour down the walls from the ceiling? How do these kids get the most out of their education when they’re missing valuable class time in search of the lone bathroom that is operational which is clear across the school? Then, once they finally find a bathroom, they have little to no privacy due to the broken doors that the kids lock by using their used gum! Do you not think that this type of environment does not only have a negative effect on their health but their self esteem as well? This is a disgrace!

While I do not know the demographics of the Town Council and who has school aged children and who does not, I do know that the members were elected to make sound decisions on behalf of the town. That includes the children of this town. I realize that there is an argument amongst those who do not have children in the town because they are against an increase in taxes. A small gradual increase in taxes is a small price to pay for the education and futures of our children. We all know that the key to this towns economic health is highly dependent on the quality of our school system. I view it as a sound economic investment as it will only bring our property values up. I keep hearing those against the new High School site our “aging & shrinking community”. How do you not realize this aging and shrinking community is because of the widely publicized deplorable conditions at our school? Who would move to a town where they know their children will be sent to a high school that looks as though it should be condemned? With little to no commercial business, thus high taxes and a school that is literally crumbling before our eyes, what growing family in their right mind would move here? At this point, what do we have to show for our high taxes? Weekly trash pickup? As families leave and less families come here because of these conditions, property values will go down. This “school problem” has now become EVERYONES PROBLEM.

At the recent Town Council meeting that took place on 10/6, I could not believe what I was hearing when a Town Council member suggested not only to NOT rebuild, but to cap off renovations at “new windows, a wall, and to renovate some bathrooms”. I’d love to know if Councilman Goad’s house was crumbling to the ground if he’d remedy this with a nice bathroom renovation. This is the equivalent of putting lipstick on a pig!

Furthermore, to hear Councilman Goad’s latest excuse to put the brakes on this by citing COVID because “we don’t even know what the future of schools look like”, and that schools may be all remote in the future is absurd and insult to the intelligence of the people of North Branford. I hate to point out the obvious to Mr. Goad but we are currently in the height of COVID and our kids are attending school in person, full time. The COVID situation will only improve as time goes on, schools are not going anywhere... but nice try.

Members of the Town Council, you have been elected by the people of North Branford to serve in the best interest of the town. That includes our children. They deserve more than a few new windows and some new toilets. They deserve an environment where they can learn and thrive. We the parents of North Branford beg you to do the right thing.

Thank you

Dina Falcioni

More letters on pages 5, 6 & 9

“I would not continuously blame the other party”

Dear Editor:

Hi, my name is Vincent J. Mase Sr. and I am a candidate for State Representative for the 86th District and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the residents of North Branford and Northford.

I grew up in the Fair Haven Section of New Haven. I met my wife in 1967 and we started “going steady” (That is what we called it back then I don’t know what it is called today). We dated for several years and then got married.

After our three children were born, my wife and I decided to move out of Fair Haven and into the suburbs. We were fortunate to move into Northford in 1984 and we have lived here for 36 years. Our three children have all attended the North Branford School system with each graduating in 1991, 1993 and 1997 respectfully.

I consider myself to be a “family man” and my wife and I are very fortunate to have eight grandchildren with two of them in the North Branford School System currently.

The education my children received in the North Branford School System allowed each of them to attend college as well as them earning graduate degrees in their respective fields of study. That is one of the reasons why I wanted to be a member on the North Branford Board of Education. This gives me an opportunity to give back to the community and hopefully other students will be afforded an opportunity to earn college degrees and graduate degrees if they so desire or allow those students who do not want to go to college an opportunity to earn a vocational education.

I started working for the United States Postal Service in 1974 and received a career appointment in 1976, retiring in 2005, 30 years as a Letter Carrier. I am a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) AFL-CIO. I have served as a union shop steward for many years and currently serving as the President of Branch 19, NALC for the past fifteen years. In my role as shop steward and union president, I have been involved in the grievance-arbitration process, contract negotiations and performing arbitration hearings on behalf of the members.

While I was employed as a Letter Carrier for the United State Postal Service, I was fortunate enough to get accepted to Quinnipiac University School of Law in 1999 and graduated with a law degree in 2003. I have a sole proprietor law practice, I am a member of the CT Bar Association, a member of the New Haven County Bar Association and a member of the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association. I am also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Council 3300.

I believe my 46 years of public service, union representative and legal training provide me with the necessary skills to serve as your State Representative for the 86th District.

Normally, a my candidacy would list all of the campaign promises to convince you to vote for me. My campaign ads and campaign literature on Education, Health Security, Equity and Fairness and Economic Recovery are the basis for my platform. Instead, what I would like to do is to earn your vote by explaining all those things I would not do as your State Representative.

As your State Representative writing articles in the Totoket Times I would not continuously blame the other party for all of Connecticut’s financial problems. For too many years what I have read in most articles concerning our state seems to blame only one party for doing everything wrong. I disagree. We should work as legislatures and not just

as Democrats or Republicans. We absolutely need and deserve some positive news from time to time.

As your State Representative I would not be absent from such important meetings like the bulk propane issue a few years ago in North Branford. Although I live in Northford, I heard the pleas of the residents surrounding Ciro Road. I attended those meetings and agreed with those residents over concerns about safety for them and their families, the safety of the schoolchildren at Jerome Harrison and the loss of their property values if a bulk propane company was granted approval. As your State Representative I would not be absent.

I would not be absent from such an important meeting surrounding the issue of moving the North Branford Police and Emergency Dispatch. As your State Representative I would be there to support our residents and communities.

I would not be absent from such an important meeting concerning the issue of a new High School for our children in North Branford and Northford. I think it is important for your State Representative to be present and attend meetings of this nature to support the children, parents and grandparents of our communities.

I would not vote a resounding “no” to a bill to bond \$687 million dollars, knowing that \$11 million dollars was destined to “Small Town Economic Assistance Programs” (STEAP) and towns like North Branford, Northford, Guilford, Durham and Wallingford would benefit from state grants to improve our towns. I would not vote “no” just to illustrate a point, that is not in the best interests of our residents in all four towns.

I would not vote “no” to House Bill 5518, PA 20-1, An Act adjusting Bonds for Connecticut for Capital improvements in Connecticut including the “Small Town Economic Programs (STEAP) as these bonds improve our communities and can put unemployed workers back to work.

I would not derail a partnership with private philanthropists who wanted to invest \$100 million dollars over a five year period with Connecticut as partners, especially when part of that program was to furnish thousands of Connecticut school children with computers who could not afford them. Even if I, as your State Representative, was right in arguing that the partnership involved Connecticut tax dollars and under the Freedom of Information Act the state legislature had the right to know under the FOI Act how its tax dollars are being spent. As your State Representative I would have wanted to have a meeting with all of the parties involved to try to fix the problem instead of watching the philanthropists walk away from the partnership. Those computers would have come in handy at this unprecedented time to those thousands of students who could not afford computers

Everyone knows these are difficult financial times for all of us. As your State Representative I would not just side with landlords because tenants may be behind on their rental payments. I would not criticize the Governor for extending the “no eviction order” because many tenants are unemployed and cannot pay their rent. What we do not need is to place thousands of Connecticut tenants; men, women and children, evicted out of their apartments, nor can we have many home owners have their homes foreclosed on at this time. What we need is to bring all parties together to work out these financial issues instead of ending up in Housing Court with evictions.

I would not label the Governor as a “dictator” because he extended the Emergency Powers. Through his leadership, he and his administration have been able to make Connecti-

Continued on page 6



Vince Mase:
A 2020 Vision
for Our Future

As our State Representative, Vince will restore the values of hard work, honesty, and integrity to state government. His priorities include:

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES that promote healthy schools, access to technology, and lower costs for higher education under current conditions.

HEALTH SECURITY so people aren’t afraid of losing health coverage or access to providers and ensuring the safety of those on the front lines of the pandemic.

EQUITY AND FAIRNESS by reforming our system of property taxes and relieving the burden placed on working families who are struggling to make ends meet.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY that puts our state back on track and moves us out of our current crisis by supporting small businesses, farmers, and new investment.

VOTE FOR CHANGE NOVEMBER 3
Vote Democrat Vince Mase for State Representative

www.Mase2020.com

"I am Offended"

Dear Editor:

I am offended by Christine Cohen's assertion in her campaign flyer that Covid 19 is more prevalent in Black communities due to systemic racism. Blacks, especially living in the North, due to the pigment in their skin are unable to effectively synthesize Vitamin D which leads to a host of medical issues such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, hypertension, including the ability of the body to fight respiratory infections. (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16549493/>). Low vitamin D levels are also a problem in nursing homes as well. The AMA's (American Medical Association) analysis of the data of 10 of the largest cities shows severity of Covid infections are not entirely explained by income as evidenced by the resilience of the homeless in sunny Los Angeles living in conditions worse than refugee camps. Why not stick to beneficial science versus divisive, gratuitous virtue signaling and poisonous destructive race-baiting?

Additionally, Christine Cohen's support of the Black Lives Matter manifesto, which one of the tenets is the rejection of the traditional western nuclear family. BLM states: "We disrupt the Western prescribed nuclear family structure requirement by supporting each other as extended families and villages that collectively care for one another, especially our children, to the degree that mothers, parents, and children are comfortable". (Note that the title "father" is missing from this declaration). How is this good for the black community as black families are plagued by out-of-wedlock births and fractured families and these factors are known to be responsible for perpetrating the cycle of poverty, drug abuse and criminality. Does Christine Cohen think driving businesses out of the state by consistently voting for anti-business legislation does anything to increase economic opportunity for black people or anyone else?

Pastors in the Black churches are understandably troubled by Ned Lamont's request that they encourage their congregations to break down barriers of justifiable reticence and be among the first to receive the Covid 19 vaccine. Christine Cohen backs the Governor 100% and votes in lockstep with the Democratic Party 100%. Black Civil Rights attorney Tricia Lindsay gave a powerful speech at the Hartford Capital on 9/13/20 in opposition (<https://youtu.be/Pj74zAH-Dpny>) to Lamont's proposed infiltration of the black community (from which Lamont historically has been absent) to promote a largely untested vaccine that has not even come to market. Most recently in February 2020 just about every Democrat on the Public Health Committee voted for mandates even for people who objected to vaccines made from aborted fetal tissue and empowering themselves to be the final arbiters of all new requirements for hundreds more vaccines. Black people are right to be afraid of the Democrats whose apparent allegiance is to Big Pharma interests.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Farnsworth

Mase, continued from page 5

Powers. Through his leadership, he and his administration have been able to make Connecticut one of the safest states in America. According to the United States Postal Service, there have been approximately 16,000 New Yorkers who have moved into Connecticut since the Pandemic. That speaks volumes as to the safety of our state due to the Governor, his emergency orders and his administration.

I want the voters of the 86th District to know that I am not in search of a title in the State Legislature. I have enough titles already. I am proud to be the President of Branch 19, NALC representing the Letter Carriers in New Haven County; I am proud to be a "knight" in the Knights of Columbus; I am proud to be Nancy's "husband;" I am proud to be "dad" to my three adult children; and I am especially proud to be "pop-pop" to my eight grandchildren.

Additionally, I would certainly be proud to be your "State Representative" for the 86th District.

Sincerely,
Vincent J. Mase Sr.

Ed Foundation Helping with Outdoor Classroom

The Outdoor Classroom that received a generous grant from the Education Foundation is currently being used as classroom and lunch space for the children throughout the day. The space is occupied at all times throughout the day to accommodate the children in order for them to return to school under safe conditions. The kids enjoy class time surrounded by a newly planted butterfly garden, wooden rounds made from a red cedar tree with the letters of the alphabet scorched into them, sunflowers, cherry tomatoes and eggplant are currently being harvested and beautiful Fall mums are blooming all around. The area is used as two separate classroom spaces each complete with its own white board for visual assistance. Coming soon, and anxiously awaiting the green light for safety are several hands-on items that were purchased with the help of the grant. This includes: two discovery tables that will house

fossils, geodes, shells, feathers and other tangible items for touch and discovery using magnifying glasses if needed; wooden blocks that are made from trees and shaped to resemble wood a child might find while taking a nature walk or hike, bug catcher scissors to safely capture and examine an insect and release it, wooden alphabet rounds, magnatiles, magnetic letters and numbers, child-sized garden tools, a balance beam shaped as an old log for testing out their strength and balance and a water trellis for learning the eb and flow of water. A rolling bookshelf was also purchased with a growing library complete with books about the outdoors and all things nature. We are looking forward to rolling these items out and seeing the true vision of the JHS Outdoor Classroom in the very near future.

Melissa Gionfriddo

North Haven Sons & Daughters of Italy Fostering & Teaching Italian Heritage!

Check out the newly designed website for the North Haven Sons & Daughters Of Italy. You don't have to be a member. The site is filled with Italian cultural items, videos, columns and recipes of Ital-

ian origin.

This month features a wonderful video on Christopher Columbus and his many contributions to our country.

Go to northhavenlodge2805.club



Branford Compassion Club Feline Rescue & Adoption Center

**Celebrates all October 2020
with Virtual & Online Fundraisers!**

Blessing of the Animals – a Drive-Through Event on Oct. 4, 1-30 p.m.

Held at North Branford Congregational Church
1680 Foxon Road, North Branford
(personalized framed blessings will be sold online)

Silent Auction Online Oct. 16 - 18

Bid on Great Items!

Nick's Wicks Soy-based Candles Oct. 1 - 31

Selling Online and at Select Local Stores

Pet Memorial Leaves Oct. 1 - 31

To Decorate our Giving Tree of Life Mural at the Shelter

Pet Food & Supply Drive Oct. 1 - 31

Order Online and Ship to BCC



For more details and information on these events, please keep watch on our website!
www.branfordcompassionclub.org

Please see next page showing our generous sponsors!
We are SO appreciative of our sponsors who support BCC's mission!
We ask that you support them, too!

TVES -Story of Full Re-Opening

As schools reopened a few weeks ago in North Branford, some things were very different at TVES like wearing masks all day, keeping socially distant, not sharing materials, limited partner and group learning, outdoor learning, cohorts with limited socialization, and a more traditional approach to classroom environment and instruction. However, some core values remained deeply prioritized such as attending to the whole child, focusing on relationships, and academic structures and instruction to promote thinking and reflection. It is true that our sense of community and school climate may look different in the COVID era, with families and community members not allowed to visit our school, but TVES staff have worked hard to ensure these foundational elements of what make TVES amazing remain strong.



Grade 4 Math Workshop Outdoors

It has been amazing to watch the dedication, effort, and creativity of our teachers and staff as they have bridged gaps from the virtual learning and absence from physical school that occurred for 6 months prior to our reopening. They have created structures like morning meeting, restorative circles, and class charters to ensure a safe, supportive, and engaging classroom community for all learners. They have created daily opportunities to conference with students about their social and academic needs. They have ensured that during morning meetings, circles, mask breaks, lunch, conferencing, and lesson planning that relationships are created and deepened. They have created virtual classrooms, presentations, forums and meetings so that families remain informed and engaged with what is happening in the classrooms. And they continue to plan daily for in-school learners, remote learners, and for the type instruction and technology that may be needed if our instructional model shifts.



Outdoor Learning and Relationship Building

As a staff we are modeling being present for students and families, we are modeling sharing about ourselves and learning about each student, and we are taking opportunities to establish trust and care for our students so they remain engaged academically and socially. As a staff we have established the routines and structures to close academic gaps, have students show their thinking, and

ultimately build their love of learning through reading, writing, problem solving, and investigating. And as we have done this, we have continued to ensure students feel safe and healthy at school, always stopping to ensure they can express emotions, worry, concern, or questions. This is no simple feat, and comes with hard work, planning, being available and reflecting and working as a staff.

I would be remiss if I did not mention our students and families in helping us get to this point. Our students have worked so hard to meet health and safety expectations, to be available for new learning, and to adjust to new ways of doing school. Their commitment and perseverance are a reflection of their families, our community, and them as individuals, and we are so proud of them. Our families have trusted our staff to take care of their children, to keep them safe, and to restore them to a sense of normalcy in a time nowhere near normal. They have supported our work and provided for us along the way, and their gratitude has allowed us to keep pushing.



TVES Community Garden-Outdoor Space...created by Families/PTO

The story of reopening at TVES is a story of trusting the process and the individuals leading it. It is a story of our school climate and sense of community leading us through challenge. We continue to rely heavily on each other, our students, our families, and our community to help us through. And we know with our hard work and focus on social emotional learning and academic success that we will continue to strengthen the reputation of TVES as being a caring school community committed to the success of each individual student academically, socially, and emotionally. We thank you all for your support and we look forward to continuing to tell and show our story in these unprecedented times.

Carter Welch, Ed.D. Principal - Totoket Valley Elementary School



NORTH BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

31st ANNUAL NORTH BRANFORD COMMUNITY ROUND UP

Each year, on the last Saturday of October, the North Branford community celebrates *Make a Difference Day* by holding a food drive. For the last thirty years students and parents from NBPS have gone through the community collecting nonperishable food items and monetary donations which were then gathered, sorted, and sent to our town's food bank.

The food bank distributed the items to our neighbors in need of a little help maintaining nutritious meals for their families. Over the years, thanks to the support of our students, their families, and the staff of North Branford Public Schools, the food pantry shelves have been able to support the needs of our town members.

This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is not prudent to carry on with the traditional food drive. For the 2020/2021 school year, we are changing *Make a Difference Day* to *Make a Difference MONTH!*

For the entire month of October, we are asking for donations of gift cards to supermarkets such as Stop N Shop, Big Y, ShopRite, Aldi's or T&J Market for the food pantry to purchase needed items. Donation boxes will be located throughout our schools for you and your child to drop off the gift cards.

When making a donation, please make sure the monetary amount is listed clearly. Donations will be accepted throughout the month. At the end, all donations will be given to our food pantry for their use in supporting those in town who need them.

Now, more than ever before, we need to pull together to support each other. Now, more than ever before, we need to come together as one neighborhood, one community, one people socially distant yet united in heart.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support! Stay safe and stay healthy!

Thank you for your generous support!



Wee Care of North Branford, Inc. Daycare and Preschool

Wee Care of North Branford, Inc. all day preschool is available for children ages 3-6 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Some of the highlights of the program are:

- Two licensed Preschool Teachers
- Curriculum and disciplinary procedures aligned with local kindergarten classes
- Teacher directed learning centers
- Morning lessons reinforced by afternoon activities
- Extracurricular activities at no extra cost including Yoga, Music, Library visits, and Science classes

Openings currently available.

1680 Foxon Road (Rt. 80)

North Branford, CT

203-481-3909

www.weecarenb.com



Connecticut Sportsplex

Fieldhouse Family Fun Center

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PIZZA • BURGERS • HOT DOGS • FRIES • NACHOS

SOFT SERVE - ICE CREAM • FOXON PARK SODA

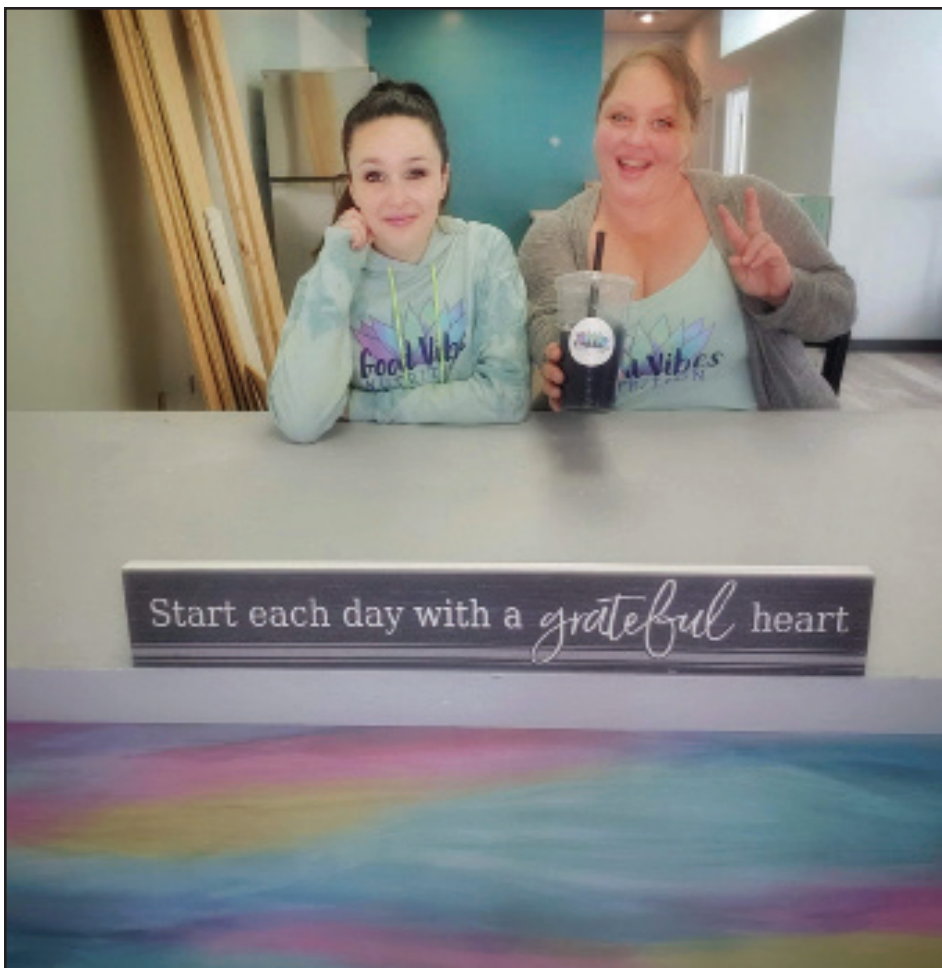
AND A WHOLE LOT MORE

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LASER TAG • PLAYSCAPE • SPORTS PARTY

For more information

Call 203-484-4383 or visit www.ctsportsplex.com



Good Vibes Coming Soon

When Sam Pepe and her younger brother lost their dad 6 years ago at the young age of 41 years old they were devastated. It dawned on Sam and her mom that an “unhealthy lifestyle and poor nutrition” were the main cause of his death. This lit a fire under Cindy and she decided to change the way she and the kids ate and went on to lose 131 lbs herself because she did not want her children “growing up without any parent in their lives.”

Knowing what Good Nutrition can do for their bodies combined with a desire to help others feel better too, thus was born the idea to open a Healthy Spot in North Branford, “Good Vibes Nutrition.” With the help of friends who also own “Healthy Spots” in different communities throughout Connecticut, the two put their heads together to come up with some great menu items and secured a location “with a spirited community.” Cindy and Sam both agree “We want people to feel Good Vibes when they come into our spot and feel better when they leave then when they first walked through the door!”

The menu will consist of healthy smoothies, energy boosting teas, hot and cold protein coffees with some kid friendly choices, as well as, caffeine free, gluten free and vegan options.

You can come in and place your orders and have a seat or choose to utilize their pandemic friendly service that will feature a walk up window and call in orders.

Good Vibes will be opening soon in the Key Bank Plaza at 1717 Foxon Road (Route 80). They plan to be there Monday through Friday from 7am to 4pm and Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 2pm.

“We are excited to shop from local businesses to decorate our store as the seasons come and go.” “We are also planning on featuring a business of the month to enable them show and sell their products in our business corner,” added Cindy. They will also feature special discount /deal days to thank first responders, teachers and North Branford teams and clubs!

Cindy & Sam can be reached at the store at 203.481.2323. Please follow them on Instagram and Facebook for updates on their opening date and for specials and more after they open @Goodvibesnutritionct

WHY ADVERTISE?


During these times of economic stress, it is easy to write advertising expenses out of your budget. It is recognized in your expense budget as a savings and doesn't show up in your revenue budget.

Or does it? In times of economic stress advertising not only should be continued, it should be increased. During this pandemic it is important to let people know your business is still operating and has been altered to handle the needs of your customers.

Regular advertising in the Totoket Times gets your neighbors the word that you are still around and ready to serve them. It also helps bring the newspaper to the community, keeping your friends informed on the activities of their community.

Finally, advertising in the Totoket Times puts you in our Directory of Advertisers in the website, which is available to our online readers.

To Advertise in the Times, call Frank at 203-410-4254, or visit the website at www.totokettimes.com. You can also e-mail totokettimes@comcast.net.




Operation Warm

ROTARY

CLUB OF NORTH BRANFORD, CT

www.northbranfordrotary.org

More Than A Coat



North Branford Rotarians have begun once again raising funds for the annual “Clothes for Kids” project. For many years this fund has provided coats, hats, gloves and other items for the children of North Branford in need of warm clothing. Last year Rotarians were able to provide a shopping trip for over 100 North Branford children. This year the need is expected to be even larger. Please consider making a donation! Any donation is appreciated, but those who donate at least \$25 will receive an “Operation Warm” lawn sign delivered by one of your favorite Rotarians for you to proudly display on your front lawn.

If you are interested in making a donation? You may visit the North Branford Rotary Club Facebook page to pay on line. Or, you may forward a check made payable to the North Branford Rotary Club Foundation, to North Branford Rotary Club, P.O. Box 993, North Branford CT 06471. Please indicate that it is to go to the Clothes For Kids project. Signs will be delivered as soon as we receive your donation!

Displaying your sign helps to get the word out even more!

If you are interested in hearing more about how you can become a part of the North Branford Rotary Club visit the web page: www.northbranfordrotary.org or our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/northbranfordrotaryclub.

Enhance your Landscape Photography

On October 27th at 7pm the North Haven Camera Club will present ‘Enhance your Landscape Photography’, an online presentation by ‘John Slonina.’

This program will provide several techniques on how to take your Landscape Photography to the next Level. John will explain how to get great depth of field and compositions to make your photos stand out. He will help you understand the light and how to use it to your advantage and how to shoot in special weather conditions like fog, rainbows and storms. John will also discuss strategies for photographing lakes, rivers and oceans.

His presentation will cover which equipment to buy or skip and which filters to use and how and when not to use them. There will be a demo on common cell photo apps and software that predict the milky way, sunrise, sunset, tides, and moon rise/set and direction of light.

North Haven Camera Club holds monthly presentations and competitions. For more information or to sign up for this online event contact the North Haven Camera Club at northhavencameraclub@gmail.com. The North Haven camera club allows a maximum of three guest visits.

NORTH BRANFORD BARBERSHOP



HAIR CUTS

MEN \$12.00

SENIOR &
KIDS UNDER 10
\$10.00

TUES. 8:30 - 5:30 WED. 8:30 - 5:30
THUR. 8:30 - 5:30. FRI. 8:30-5:30
SAT. 8:30-3:30 CLOSED SUN. & MON.

~ WALK-INS ONLY ~

OWNER- ROBERT VIGLIONE
1179 FOXON RD, NORTH BRANFORD | (203) 484-6789

Vin Candelora: a Light in a Dark Storm
Dear Editor:
Regardless of one’s leanings, anyone who has followed politics this last year has reason to feel frustration, disgust, and lament. These recent “debates” have been nothing more than the latest additions to the manure pile. Partisanship has become bitter. Public officials have moved away from informed discussions about today’s issues to mudslinging, procedural charades, and assaults on character. Having worked for the state on policy issues over the past year, I can say, regrettably, that some of our legislators have given into this trend. Through this smog of political dysfunction, however, Vincent Candelora stands out as one of the last, shining examples of honest public service.
As a high-ranking member of the Republican caucus in a time of Democrat control, Vinny *could* easily submit to the vicissitudes of today’s politics. He *could* spend his days launching partisan barbs at the majority or attacking the motives of the other side. But he doesn’t. Instead, Vinny takes the higher ground. He pursues opportunities for bipartisan consensus. He celebrates the state’s successes. He is humble enough to listen to and engage with others in the room. When he does criticize the “other side,” his remarks are measured, thoughtful, and respectful (e.g., his Sept. 18 *Totoket Times* editorial). All the while, Vinny remains faithful to his core values: transparent governance, support for small businesses, and steadfast care for our state’s youth.
At a time when our society’s political fabric is tattered, we need officials who put the wellbeing of our residents above sensationalist headlines. For the sake of our town, our state, and our posterity, I implore you to vote for Vincent Candelora.
Sincerely,
F. V. Augur (speaking only in his personal capacity)

“It’s time our Town Council works for us”
Dear Editor:
I can’t believe we are still having a discussion about building a new high school. At this point our school is beyond repair and an embarrassing blemish on our town. The time and money spent on even discussing putting a bandaid on a flooded, mold filled building is a joke. We all know a new school has to be built. If not we won’t see new families coming to town, we will lose current families, and people will send their kids to private schools. Our children and our staff deserve to be in a safe and healthy building.
It is time our Town Council works for us! Let’s all remember the lack of decisions they have made for our kids when they are up for re-election.
Thank you,
Victoria Lanza

To the North Branford Community
Dear Editor:
These unprecedented times demand for us to unify together. As we are navigating through this pandemic, we must stick together and help each other—that is the North Branford way. There is nobody who does this better than our State Representative Vinny Candelora. Vinny has been dedicating his time helping businesses navigate the new guidelines, as well as assisting local residents secure unemployment benefits. Vinny has collaborated with local farmers to ensure that families can have food on their tables and has continually updated residents with what is happening in Hartford. Vinny has always been there for us; now it is our time to support him.
Sincerely,
Cindy Rice

“Vinny Candelora is Second to None”
Dear Editor,
When it comes respected leaders, Vinny Candelora is second to none. Vinny Candelora has gained respect from both Democratic and Republicans alike and has made it very clear that throughout his career that his deepest loyalty is to the interests of the people who he represents. Whenever Vinny is up in Hartford, I am convinced that he is working to make sure that our voices are heard properly, and he is legislating for our best interest. Join me in voting for Vinny Candelora on November 3rd!
Sincerely,
Gregg Hannan

Send Lettters to the Editor to
Totokettimes@comcast.net

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK,
“Fire Safety in the Kitchen!”
About Fire Prevention Week
In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance, making it the longest-running public health observance in our country. During Fire Prevention Week, children, adults, and teachers learn how to stay safe in case of a fire. Firefighters provide lifesaving public education in an effort to drastically decrease casualties caused by fires.
Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the first week of October in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8, 1871, and caused devastating damage. This horrific conflagration killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2,000 acres of land.
Importance of fire prevention
In a fire, mere seconds can mean the difference between a safe escape and a tragedy. Fire safety education isn’t just for school children. Teenagers, adults, and the elderly are also at risk in fires, making it important for every member of the community to take some time every October during Fire Prevention Week to make sure they understand how to stay safe in case of a fire.
Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen
As this year’s theme for Fire Prevention Week. North Branford Fire Department focus on cooking fire safety comes in response to home cooking fires representing the leading cause of U.S. home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; unattended cooking is the leading cause of these fires. Most of these fires are preventable. This year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign works to better educate the public about where potential cooking hazards exist and basic but critical ways to prevent them. As you and your family may continue to avoid restaurants and opt instead to do more cooking and entertaining at home, the potential for home cooking fires will likely increase as well.
Key messages around this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen” will include the following:
Keep a close eye on what you are cooking; never leave cooking unattended
Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels, or curtains — at least three feet away from your stovetop.
Be on alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, do not use the stove or stovetop.
Make and Practice an Escape Plan
Consider this scenario: its 2 o’clock in the morning. You and your family are fast asleep when you awaken to the smoke alarm sounding and the smell of smoke. What do you do? If you and your family don’t have a plan in place, it could jeopardize your safety, or even prove deadly.
In a typical home fire, you may have as little as two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. That’s why home escape planning is so critical in a fire situation. It ensures that everyone in the household knows how to use that small window of time wisely.
Developing and practicing a home escape plan is like building muscle memory. That pre-planning is what everyone will draw upon to snap into action and escape as quickly as possible in the event of a fire.
Home escape planning is one of the most basic but fundamental elements of home fire safety, and can truly make the difference between life and death in a fire situation.
North Branford Fire Department offer these additional tips and recommendations for developing and practicing a home escape plan:
Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can’t help them.
Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
Close doors behind you as you leave — this will slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.
Make sure you have working smoke detectors on every floor of your home.

Fire fatalities are often preventable through education and the use of working smoke detectors.

Any questions or concerns, call or email us @ 203-484-6016 or deputyfiremarshal@townofnorthbranfordct.com

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Branford Bible Chapel. 212 Branford Rd., corner of Twin Lakes Rd. 203-488-3586. Sunday morning : 9:15 - 10:30 Worship & Lord’s Supper, 11:00 -12:15 Ministering of God’s Word & Sunday School. . Nursery provided. Awana for kids, vacation Bible School, missions & outreach programs. www.branfordbiblechapel.org

Hope Christian Church “A Place to Belong”. 211 Montowese Ave., North Haven, CT. www.hopeag.com Sunday services 10AM. Coffee served every Sunday 9:00 am. Church open for prayer Tuesdays noon to One. Thursday Bible study 7:00 PM. Like us on facebook.

North Branford Congregational Church, UCC. 1680 Foxon Rd., North Branford, CT, 203-488-8456 or nobfdcong@sbcglobal.net or www.northbranfordcongregational.org. Office Hours: Wednesday through Friday, 9:00 - 1:00pm. We worship every Sunday at 10:00am. Nursery care available. Get to know us by joining us for Coffee Hour following Services. The second Sunday of every month is Family Sunday when the children remain with their parents during the Service. This is followed by our second Sunday Brunch. Holy Communion is on the first Sunday of every month. Church School through grade 8 meets during worship. All are welcome no matter who you are, no matter where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.

Northford Congregational Church. United Church of Christ. Church is located on Old Post Rd., (corner of Rte 17 and Rte 22), PO Box 191 Northford. Phone 203-484-0795, Fax 203-484-9916.. email; northfordcc@gmail.com Office Hours: Tuesday 9am - 1pm; other days by appointment. Rev. Robin Blundon, Acting Pastor. Jane K. Leschuk Minister of Music. Worship Service 10am. Join us for coffee hour following worship. Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Like us on Facebook. Our website is www.northfordcongregational.church

St. Ambrose Parish is a Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Hartford comprised of two church locations; St. Augustine Church located at 30 Caputo Rd in North Branford and St. Monica Church located at 1321 Middletown Ave. in Northford. The Pastor is Reverend Robert Turner. Weekday Masses are celebrated on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday at 9:00am at St. Monica Church, Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4pm at St. Augustine Church and 5:30pm at St. Monica Church and on Sunday at 9am at St. Monica Church and 11am at St. Augustine Church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday afternoon from 3:00 to 3:30 at St. Augustine Church or by appointment by calling the parish office at 203-484-0403. If you are new to the area and are looking for a parish family to join, please visit us! The office is open M-F from 9am-1pm at 30 Caputo Road in North Branford.

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 1382 Middletown Avenue - the white church on the hill in the heart of Northford (at the intersection of Rtes. 17 & 22). We celebrate the Holy Eucharist every Sunday at 10:00am. Coffee and fellowship always follows. All are welcome. Please join us - we’d love to get to know you! St. Andrew’s is the proud home of the Food Pantry of North Branford - a vital community resource serving families in need in Northford and North Branford. St. Andrew’s also partners with St. Pauly Textile in a broad outreach program to help people in need here in the U.S. and around the world. Donations of usable clothing, shoes, belts, purses, sheets, blankets and stuffed animals may be made at the donation shed in the church parking lot. We are a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry. The Rev. Jim Bradley is Missioner In Charge and we have rotating clergy serving the parishes of St. Andrew’s as well as Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Killingworth and St. James Episcopal Church, Higganum. Visit our website at <http://standrewsnorthford.org>. Like us on Facebook - St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church of Northford, CT. For more information contact us at 203-484-0895; Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-710-7005; MACM office, 860-345-0058; or Rev. Bradley, 203-525-6846.

Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Road, North Branford. 203-488-7395 Rev. Lucy LaRocca, Vicar. In June we begin with single summer service of Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m.. The first Sunday in September we return to two services of Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 a.m. Music and two safe church certified babysitters are available for childcare during the 9 a.m. service and at the latter service September – May. Healing prayer is offered after each service on the second Sunday of each month. Please visit our Facebook page or our website www.zionepiscopalchurch.org. Zion is a registered Integrity Episcopal Believe Outloud Congregation, a designation earmarking Zion as an open and affirming congregation for those seeking a safe place to worship and grow in Christ.

St Andrew’s Accepting Donations to Replace Harvest Supper

October Harvest moon. Harvest season. Pumpkins and cornucopias. Now is the time when there is typically alot of preparations going on at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, “the white church on the hill in the heart of Northford”, as we prepare for our annual Harvest Supper. St. Andrew’s has been celebrating Fall with the Harvest Supper every year for many, many decades. Gertie Heath, one of St. Andrew’s long-time parishioners, said she remembers it being prepared and served in the church’s undercroft when she was a little girl, long before the addition of our Parish Hall, where we have been holding it since the mid-60’s. Between the amazing smorgasbord buffet offered, and the raffle tables overflowing with prizes, the Harvest Supper is always well-attended and enjoyed, and is St. Andrew’s biggest fund-raiser of the year. The proceeds help St. Andrew’s fulfill our commitments to our community outreach programs, as well as help with operating expenses. Sadly, there will be no Harvest Supper this year, due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. Inasmuch as we live in a loving, caring and close-knit community, lots of folks have been asking about this.

If anyone wishes to make a donation in lieu of the Harvest Supper, checks may be made payable to St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, and mailed to P. O. Box 96, Northford, CT 06472.

All donations would be great appreciated. Any questions, please contact Nan Monde at 203-710-7005.”

Rosary Walk 2020 No. Haven

NEW AUTUMN TIME

All are welcome to join us every Tuesday afternoon at 3:00PM at All Saints Cemetery (rain or shine). The Rosary Walk will continue until Nov. 3rd. Park and meet by the Crucifix in front of the main building. If inclement weather, please meet in front of the Mausoleum instead.

We are following CDC guidelines to ensure proper distancing between all walkers. If you wish to wear a mask, please bring your own. Disposable programs are provided for your convenience.

If you have questions, please call Barbara at 203 605-9845 or visit our website for additional info. and photos at www.ccacem.org.



Bereavement Support in North Haven

A Remembrance Service: We Remember and Give Thanks- will be offered for 1 evening on November 10th from 6PM until 8PM. Complementary materials, coffee and snack will be provided.

Preparing for the holidays can be difficult especially after the loss of a loved one. We are here to help. A small adult support group is being offered in preparation for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Our group offers the right amount of connection, understanding and spiritual support all within an atmosphere that is non-judgmental and confidential.

Seating is limited due to social distancing and safety guidelines. Please contact Barbara, if interested, with questions and to register at 203 605-9845, 203 780-8418 daytime office or email her at bgode@ccacem.org

THANKSGIVING BASKET SHARE

The Thanksgiving Basket Share Program will take place on Friday, November 20th, 2020.

For those that need some assistance with their Thanksgiving Dinner, you only need to call the Office of Social Service and request to be a recipient in the Thanksgiving Basket Share. The only requirement is that you are in need, and that you reside in Northford or North Branford. Your information is protected, and your name will not be disclosed. You must be able to pick-up your basket or arrange for someone to pick it up for you. We are unable to deliver or bring it to your car.

For those wishing to donate a basket, you only need to call the Office of Social Service and express your desire to donate a Thanksgiving Dinner Basket or a grocery store gift card. You may choose the family size you would like to adopt. You may choose to do this alone, or as a group, with neighbors or co-workers.

Although names are not disclosed, a number will be given to both the recipient and the donor. This is used to identify which family is the recipient. All commitments by the donor and recipients will receive written confirmation.

The Thanksgiving Basket Share is scheduled for Friday, November 20th, 2020. Should you have an interest in being a recipient or a donor please call the Office of Social Service at 203.484.6006 by **November 6th, 2020.**

Death Notice

Donald R. Paduano, 71, of Northford, passed away peacefully on October 10, 2020 at Yale New Haven Hospital after a long illness with heart disease with his wife and children by his side. He was the adored husband of 48 years to Linda Varaljay Paduano. Donny was born in New Haven on January 2, 1949 and was the son of the late Louis and Rose Cusano Paduano. He had worked as a steamfitter until his retirement as member of Local 349, currently Local 777 and worked on many local projects throughout his career in the New Haven area. Don enjoyed trips to Mexico and the beach. His greatest joy was spending time with friends and family, especially being “Pa” to his five grandchildren whom he loved unconditionally. Incredible father of Craig (Maria) Paduano, Debbie (Mark) Lucibello and Cari Paduano. Awesome Pa to Natalia, Tessa, Maci, Michael and Sunny. Brother of Peter Paduano and the late Linda Paduano Pacelli. Also survived by Anthony Pacelli and Heather Frazee. He was the center of his family and lived to make them happy. Don was full of life, laughter, fun and will never be forgotten.



**North Branford
Parks & Recreation and Senior Center**
STW Community Center 1332 Middletown Ave Northford
www.nbcreation.com • call (203) 484-6017
Follow us on Facebook! @NBParksandRecreation

TRUNK OR TREAT EXPRESS

A DRIVE-THRU TRICK OR TREAT EVENT

Drive-thru the STW/ Community Center parking lot and visit BOO-tifully decorated trunks in the comfort of your car. Register how many treaters will be in your vehicle at www.nbcreation.com

Saturday October 24
3:30 - 6pm
Rain Date Sunday, October 25

Follow our Facebook Event to participate in our VIRTUAL COSTUME CONTEST!

DECORATE A TRUNK

Visit nbcreation.com to register your vehicle
Best decorated trunk will win a prize!

PIRATE ADVENTURES

Ages 3 - 4— Virtual

When: October 21
Time: Wednesday, 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Fee: \$15
Instructor: Elena Bigio, Kidscapades

Calling all pirates of both genders! Our adventure takes us to create a one of a kind treasure box, a pirate ship and sword. The adventure concludes with a treasure bottle eruption! A Zoom link and materials list will be emailed.

SPOOKY SCIENCE

Ages 5 - 8— Virtual

When: October 21
Time: Wednesday, 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Fee: \$15
Instructor: Elena Bigio, Kidscapades

Science is super fun ,especially during Halloween! Get into the spirit and fun of both by conjuring up a witches potion, make a ghostly bubble concoction and create a haunted light show! Ghosts and goblins will have so much fun, they won't realize they are learning too! A Zoom link and materials list will be emailed.

Look for our offerings on TOTOKET TV

Totoket TV Public Access Television:
Available on Comcast channel 18 or 1070 Frontier channel 6004

STRONGERCIZE - Mondays & Fridays at 9:30 am
GET FIT - Wednesdays at 10:30 am
SENIOR CHAIR YOGA - Tuesdays & Thursdays - 1:00 pm
ART WITH KAREN - Mondays & Wednesdays - 1:00 pm
Enjoy doing crafts with Karen from your home.
We have all the supplies needed to participate, just call us for pick up or delivery!

*Please check the Totoket TV program schedule for additional watch times and programs.

SCARECROW Contest

Make it as simple or elaborate as you like! Fun for families, clubs, or businesses!

Voting will take place on our Facebook event for Trunk or Treat on October 24th. The scarecrow with the most votes will win a prize!

Display your scarecrow at the Town Hall Green beginning October 16th

Mary's Culinary Classes

Join Mary Amter in this unique, hands on culinary experience where children can explore, create, and learn basic cooking techniques. From over Mummy Puffed Pizza to Rice Krispie 'Turkey Legs' these exciting new classes will engage children in delicious creations.

STW Community Center • Tuesdays 5:30 - 7:30 pm • Ages 5-14
Cost \$40 res/ \$45 non res per class

October 20, 2020	ADDED SESSION!	Jack-o-Lantern Pizza & Spider Cookies
November 10, 2020	1 SEAT LEFT!	Pumpkin Alfredo & S'mores Cups
November 17, 2020		Turkey Chili & Rice Krispie 'Turkey Legs'
December 1, 2020	WAITLIST	Skillet Lasagna & Hot Cocoa Cookies
December 15, 2020	1 SEAT LEFT!	Stuffed Shells & Holiday Lights Cupcakes

These in person classes will be limited to a maximum of 4 participants to ensure safe distancing.

THE NORTH BRANFORD SENIOR CENTER WILL RESUME LIMITED TRANSPORTATION FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020.

For everyone's safety and in order to meet the current COVID guidelines, transportation services will be conducted differently.

Rides will be by appointment only, first come first served, with a maximum of 3 passengers at any given time. Transportation times will be decided once we determine the need. Since safety is our top priority, these are the new steps required for Senior Center transportation:

- Driver will take temperatures and ask basic health questions
- Masks must be worn
- You will be assigned a seat for safety purposes
- You will be responsible your own belongings or groceries, drivers are not allowed to assist with bags to maintain proper protocols
- Passengers are allowed an aide if assistance is needed

Big Y grocery shopping is available to North Branford residents on Monday's Northford residents on Tuesday's

Medical appointment transportation for well visits is available on Wednesday's from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Currently, we are unable to transport for sick appointments. Additionally, if you are experiencing any COVID symptoms, have recently been in contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID or traveled outside the area, please stay home and stay safe. We are happy to reschedule your transportation. Please call the North Branford Senior Center with any questions at (203) 484-6017.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Personal, For Sale, Help Wanted, Tag Sale, and all non-business classified
1 issue \$9.00 2 issues \$12.00 3 issues \$15.00
20 words or less, not including phone #. \$.05 per word, per run,
after 20 words
Lost and Found FREE
Business Classified Ads & Real Estate
3 issues \$35.00, 6 issues \$60.00, 12 issues \$100.00
\$.10 per word, per run, after 20 words
Payment MUST accompany all ads. The advertiser must notify this
newspaper of any errors.
Send ad along with your check to:
Totoket Times P.O. Box 313 Northford, CT 06472
For more information call 203-410-4254

ELECTRICIANS

TJC Electrical Services - No Job too small or big. Service upgrade & Generator Specials. Call Tom Cassella at 203-619-2823. Licensed & Insured.

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Southern CT Restoration. Insurance restoration and general contracting services. New construction, remodeling, kitchens, baths, roofing, siding, windows, doors, decks and painting. Call Pat Zichichi @ 203-239-9600.

TREE SERVICES



Tree Service - A Better Cut, Tree Service - Local, full service tree company - we provide tree removal and trimming, chipping, and grinding. Please call for a free estimate - Contact Pat Zichichi (203-945-1808

LANDSCAPING

J & M Landscapes LLC.Complete Lawn Care { Mowing , Edging , Weed whacking & Blow off } Tree, hedge & shrub Pruning - Property cleaning & debris removal - Landscape Design { Mulch, shrubs & flower beds} - Stone, Gravel & Mulch delivery -Install Stone shed foundations - Small Backho { excavation work } - Driveway sealing - Power washing - Spring & Fall Yard clean-ups. Gutter Cleaning. Winter Snow plowing. Vet & Senior discount. For a free quote call John (860) 349-8135.

PLUMBING

John DiMaggio Plumbing - Residential/Commercial repairs/remodeling. Big or small. Water Heater Specials! Licensed & Insured. Call 203 - 627 - 6826. References available.

HELP WANTED

HAIR STYLIST WANTED: Chair rentals also available. Experienced. Choose your own hours & days. Call Capello Salon at 203-488-8594. Serving the Shoreline for more than 20 years.
Drivers - Week days & week ends. Call for interview at Petals 2 Go 203-484-7800.
Ice Cream Servers. 6-11 AM, 11-4PM, 4-9PM. Weekends a must. part/ full time. Call Leigh at 203-815-8472.

FOR SALE

Oak Hutch - Glass Shelves, 4 Doors across top and base. \$300. Plus 1935 (year) National Geographics. \$200. Call 203-484-0761

STEVEN J. ELZHOLZ

Certified Public Accountant
Certified Information Systems Auditor
More than 45 Years Experience
Accounting & Bookkeeping Services
Computer Consulting, Training & Support
Tax Planning & Preparation for
Individuals & All Business Entitites
Estate & Trust Tax Preparations
54 Deforest Drive North Branford, Ct 06471
email - selzholz@snet.net
203-488-8649 (FAX) 203-488-1970

Recycling News

Simple Recycling Weekly Curbside Collection Will End on April 6, 2021

Residents must call and schedule curbside pickups at 1-866-835-5068 or email Info@SimpleRecycling.com now through end date

North Branford Fall Leaf Collection

North Branford residents can bring their leaves to the leaf drop off center located near Public Works Facility on Route 22 from 9:00am to 3:00pm on the following Saturdays this Fall:
October 17, 24, 31 and November 7, 14, and 21.
Please place leaves in biodegradable leaf bags (no tape please) or empty them loose onto the ground.

Bulk Pickup is twice a year (no longer weekly)
Next pickup is week of November 9, 2020

Please do not place curbside until that week -No home cleanouts-

Can't wait for the next bulky waste pickup in November?
Then consider:

Craig's List to advertise "free stuff" - newhaven.craigslist.org
North Branford & Northford free items - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1647630532048934>

1-800-GOT-JUNK? Full-service junk removal company
Bradley Street Bicycle Co-op - bsbc.co - donate a bike
(you can also buy a used bike or learn to repair your bike)
Vietnam Veterans of America vva.org/pickup-locations/connecticut/

HazWaste Central Open Saturdays 9 to noon until October 31st

- o All HazWaste Central participants are required to pre-register online. Paper forms will not be available.
- o Household hazardous waste items must be accessible in the trunk or truck bed of your vehicle.
- o Participants are asked to wear a face mask while at the HazWaste Central facility and to stay in their vehicles.
- o Containers used to transport waste items will not be returned. Please bring items in disposable containers.

For more information go to www.rwater.com, call 203-401-2712 or email ask.hazwaste@rwater.com

"Please Don't Feed the Storm Drain"

Storm drains are designed to only carry rainfall runoff from our streets into our local waterways. Anything but water can contribute to water pollution and drainage issues.
Please remember to keep loose leaves, pine needles, grass clippings, tree and yard debris out of the street to prevent debris getting washed or blown into storm drains, causing flooding. Pesticides from treated lawns and gardens can also end up in your drinking water, threatening water quality.

Due to Health Crisis
Plastic Film Drop Off Still Suspended
Please save plastic film at home until further notice.
Updates soon on program restart.
Thank You!

Advertise in the classifieds
for as little as \$3.00 per week.
Call today.
203-410-4254