



Totoket Times

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For Our Town From Our Town

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Volume 27 No 17 February 5, 2021

Keep up the Good Work!

We're doing a good job keeping our heads above the water. Like any other business the Totoket Times is feeling the pandemic crunch. However, our readers and advertisers are making it work. The February 19th issue will not be mailed. It will be dropped off to our local businesses, and the full edition can also be found on our website (also listed below).

From time to time we are forced to do this because of postage costs and you have responded by picking up the papers and visiting our merchants, as well as checking us out online.

This is not the norm and we will continue to mail to your homes with the March issues. Thank you for your help and keep up the good work.



North Branford

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RV Variety & Cafe - Patco Service Station
Cumberland Farms - Atwater Library
Hair Designs - MT Cobbler - Good Vibes - Town Hall

Northford

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Smith Library

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Valentine's Day Products at JCakes! Cakes, Cupcakes, Chocolate Dipped Strawberries, Hot Cocoa bombs and Chocolate Breakable Hearts with Truffles!
www.jcakes.com/shop-online



Let's be "Frank"



As a kid, I always looked forward to Valentine's Day. Although there was little money, mom always found a way to get us some candy. Those confectionery hearts with the messages on them were hard to chew, bitter and tastefully bad. But there was always a few chocolate hearts which were my favorites.

For ten cents, mom would also buy us a box of cards to give out to the kids at school. They were wonderfully assorted by size and message. Some of them were macho for our male friends and some "daintier" for those special ladies. It was always a challenge to pick out who got which one, especially saving the best for my favorite girls.

As I got older and started dating or trying to date, the challenge grew. Picking out the perfect card, box of candy or flowers for that special girl or hopefully soon to be special girl, was stressful. There was also that unique gift for mom (always my favorite lady). That became even more of a challenge when she was diagnosed with diabetes.

As the future became the present, the day became frustrating. Many schools decided "You have to give everyone in the class a card and they all had to be similar. The "macho" cards and "special romantic cards" had to be toned down. They now had to be equal for all and gender nonspecific. Apparently, the old school way was harming the children's development. It was considered bullying to omit kids or give special gifts to your favorite friends.

So now we are faced with a society of entitled people. They are insulted if Mary gets a better card or a bigger box of candy. Everyone gets a trophy and everyone is a winner even if they lose.

This seems to be more confusing than being the kid who doesn't get a card. It takes away the challenge of choosing just the right gift and the bigger challenge of figuring out why you didn't get a card, and where you might have to improve to get on the better gift list.

Oh brother things have definitely changed and in my opinion not for the better. Well, say hello to the rest of the clan and I'll see you soon.



Northford Coffee & Ice Cream will be back!

Leigh Dwyer has been fighting to get back to business for three months. He recently sent this picture from his convalescing therapy and vows he will be back soon.



Publication Date	Deadline
February 19	February 12
March 5	February 26
March 19	March 12
April 2	March 26
April 16	April 9
April 30	April 23
May 14	May 7
May 28	May 21

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“Here we go Again”

Dear Editor,

Here we go again . Nancy Pelosi who is blinded by her hatred for President Trump and her own vindictiveness is willing to spend millions of taxpayer dollars as she did with the last impeachment attempt and failed.

She is the one who should be impeached, or asked to resign or censored. She is too old and becoming senile.

Nancy and Chuck Schumer are so afraid that the President will run in 2024, they are putting aside important issues facing our country, like opening up the country so people can get back to normal.

They are out to ruin him at all costs. We the American people do not count in their eyes.

Sincerely,
Alice W. Lehr

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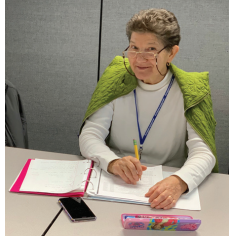
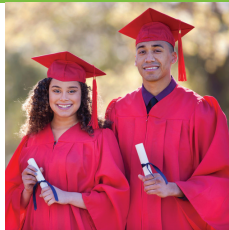
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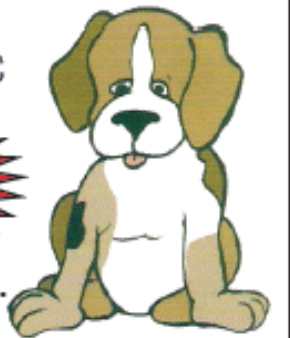
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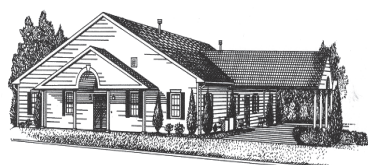


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State Representative Vincent Candelora

Taxes, Whales, and Legislative Enlightenment



Last week, one of my colleagues, while advocating for a new statewide property tax, told the news media that Connecticut needs “better” and “more enlightened” tax policy.

While I agree that our state does need a different approach on taxes, my path to enlightenment looks different than the road preferred by Democrats who control the legislature. We

need to make Connecticut more affordable. Installing new taxes, whether it's a soda tax, a surcharge on capital gains, or even that statewide tax on so-called “mansions,” isn't going to help.

The statewide property tax proposal highlights an overall difference in philosophy between the minority and majority parties at the capitol, with the latter apparently intent on using the 2021 legislative session to achieve ideological goals rather than tackling the day's most critical issues.

During this virtual legislative session, which poses hurdles for both lawmakers and the public, would the majority of Connecticut residents rather their representatives spend time prohibiting the breeding of whales and dolphins or instead replenish the unemployment compensation fund? As legislators during a pandemic, should we work to extend voting rights to prisoners? Or is enhancing domestic violence and mental health resources for the vulnerable more pressing? I think you know how I feel.

Under normal circumstances, the beauty of the legislature's deliberative process is that it provides room for synchronous work on many subjects. But these are unusual times—perhaps the most challenging we've experienced. The economic, educational, and societal impacts of this pandemic will be felt for years to come. The scope of our work should reflect that reality.

Legislators often introduce bills to start public debate. Now is no exception. While such proposals rarely get far, they're often successful in their goal—generating headlines. Whether it's a new tax on ammunition or studying how our food choices affect climate change, we simply don't have time for such ideological dalliances right now. Not when so many people are out of work, and certainly not when state government has yet to stabilize its vaccine distribution efforts.

Last week, a so-called conversation-starter bill captivated social media. A Fairfield County legislator wants to fine residents \$20 if they fail to explain to state government why they didn't vote.

Again, not my brand of enlightenment.

Record voter turnout in 2020, it seems, wasn't good enough—he sought to ignite discussion about his passion for our civic duty. The news media took notice.

The proponent of the \$20 fine admits his bill is going nowhere. Thankfully, we won't have to debate the part calling for two hours of community service for those who can't afford the penalty. Instead, I hope we'll use that time to pass legislation to give employers more notice before executive order restrictions affecting their business become effective. Or to pursue ways to make state government more transparent at a time when people feel less connected to their government than ever.

For me, that's the “more enlightened” path.

Rep. Vincent Candelora

86th District North Branford, Guilford, Durham, Wallingford

2021 SUPER BOWL

Dear Editor:

The most highly anticipated day in football is quickly approaching. While gatherings for the Big Game might look a little different this year, you can still count on football fans across the country to whip up their favorite snacks and cheer on their favorite team with a cold one in their hand.

Whether your game day plans involve cracking open a Bud Light or Bud Light Seltzer, remember to hydrate between beers, plan ahead for safe rides homes and drink responsibly. If you plan to go out, designating a driver, calling a rideshare service, or taking public transportation are all great ways to make sure that you and your loved ones make it home safely.

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Exit Stage Left

Is the Left Liberal; are Liberals Leftists? The answer to this question is important to me because I was a Liberal, working as a civil rights and criminal defense lawyer for more than 20 years. I fought many a time alongside the ACLU and NAACP, proudly waging the battle for our Constitutional rights and liberties. What follows are my thoughts on this issue, guided by and paraphrasing some of Dennis Prager's words from back in 2017.

In the 1960s Liberals marched proudly with MLK under banners proclaiming race insignificant. Liberals demanded that we judge not by skin color. Liberals were passionately committed to racial integration. Leftists now push for black-only dormitories. It's astonishing to think that Leftists at the University of California now consider the phrase “there is only one race, the human race” racist.

From the 1930s through the 1950s Liberals produced, directed and acted in movies that venerated and celebrated America. A Liberal understood that America wasn't perfect, but agreed with Abe Lincoln that it's “the last best hope of earth.” Today, Leftists insist America is a racist, sexist, violent, homophobic, xenophobic and Islamophobic country.

American Liberals passed laws grounded in Judeo-Christian morality, laws like the Civil Rights Acts of 1866 and 1964. By 2008 Leftists announced that they would “fundamentally transform” that very same America and chastised us for “clinging to our guns and bibles.” Today Leftists revel in their contempt for America and Americans, claim that America is not exceptional and declare that it was never a Christian nation.

Liberals revered free speech and freedom of religion. The ACLU fought thousands of court battles for our First Amendment rights. Today, Leftists take offense to Christianity and would ban the free exercise of it if they could. Leftists insist on suppressing any speech that might damage the delicate psyche of Leftists. From words we can't say to those we must, in universities, on the Internet, in social media and in almost every institution, Leftists seek to silence anyone who opposes them.

Liberals distrusted big corporations and believed in the power of the individual and family. Leftists now rule through 7 megalithic media corporations, control our thoughts through Google, Facebook and YouTube, and support their political vortex with donations from corporations larger than many countries.

Liberals fought for liberty of the individual and against the dark gray mass of the collective. Obama repeatedly spoke of “the surest route to our common good” and argued that the “stale political arguments” of America “no longer apply.” In 2021 Leftists demand some sort of collective through “unity” and threaten to banish anyone who opposes that unity. Leftists now bow to the Globalists, a collective ruled by shadowy figures we've never seen.

The Left snuck up on Liberals when they weren't looking. They appropriated the term “Liberal” to a very different cause, snaring half of America in a fatal noose of indoctrination and Marxist dogma.

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invested more than \$1 billion in responsible drinking marketing efforts. As a local beer distributor, Dichello Distributors, Inc. is working alongside Anheuser-Busch to promote responsible drinking habits before and after the Big Game.

So this Sunday, don't fumble the ball. Binge drinking and drunk driving are 100 percent preventable, and together we can ensure everyone ends the day with a win.

Sincerely, Tony Lota
Alcohol Awareness
Coordinator
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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



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KIDS WATER SCIENCE! ZOOM with the North Branford Libraries and the RWA

Join your friends for a fun time with our ZOOM water science programs!

Wednesday mornings @ 11:00am

Feb 3 ~ *The Water Cycle*

Feb 17 ~ *Invasion of the Aliens*

March 3 ~ *Problem with Pollution*

*A ZOOM link will be emailed 24 hours before each class
(any supplies needed will be provided by the libraries)

*for ages 5 and up

South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority Water Science Educator
and RWA's 2020 STARS employee of the year,
Mrs. D., will present.

Register by emailing us at childrensroom@nbranfordlibraries.org

For more information call:
Atwater - 203-315-6020
Smith - 203-484-0469

<https://nbranfordlibraries.org/>

North Branford Public Libraries Presents: *Sydney Sherman: An Overview of "Auras" and "Using Your Senses to Connect With Your Loved Ones"*

Saturday, February 27th (10 am)

From childhood, Sydney has had an awareness of the energies around her and around all of us.

Yes, Sydney Sherman sees dead people. "I have never been alone. From as far back as I can remember, I have had the ability to interact with people (peeps) that others could not see. or me it is not scary; it is a natural part of my everyday life."

As Sydney's sensitivity has grown over the years, she has been able to guide others to open themselves to their own spirits – to make those energies a part of their lives.

Sydney began teaching people they have everything that they need to connect with their loved ones....WITHOUT her. That's right! Sydney will provide education on our Auras, what they mean, how they protect us and how they can be used to connect with your loved one's energy.

Sydney will discuss and demonstrate the ways in which we can use our very own senses to feel, smell, hear and see those who have passed. Most people are unaware of how our loved ones feel now. It's not what you think! Understanding this allows you to communicate with them and heal.

Sydney says "Anyone can do what I do. It's not meant for a fortunate few. It's always been an ability we all have. Now, let me help you start the conversation."

Email (tholabird@nbranfordlibraries.org) or call (203) 484-0469 to register for this FREE program.

An email link will be sent prior to the program. We look forward to sharing this program with you!

North Branford Public Libraries Presents: *Donna Katsuranis- Active Dreaming* Tuesday, February 23rd (6:30 pm) Zoom Program

The work I do is called Active Dreaming. It is a technique developed by Robert Moss, with whom I worked for quite a few years. His book "Conscious Dreaming" is by far the best work on the subject.

Active Dreaming is a method of dream sharing which synthesizes modern Dreamwork and ancient shamanic practices. It views dreams as Experiences, and inspires folks with powerful tools to explore dreams. At the heart of Active Dreaming is one basic tenet: The dreamer is the final authority on the meaning of their dreams. As such, my work is not Dream Analysis per se (or, heaven forbid, dream "interpretation"). It is an introduction to a way of sharing dreams that empowers the dreamer and gives some options for what to do with the information they have uncovered. Sometimes this leads the dreamer to the meaning behind the dream. Sometimes it leads to far more.

The core technique of Active Dreaming is the Lightning Dreamwork process. This is a quick, fun and respectful way to share dreams, receive non-intrusive feedback, and move toward creative action to honor dreams and bring their magic into our lives.

*This program is FREE and available to anyone who is able to access Zoom. Register by email (tholabird@nbranfordlibraries.org) or by phone (203) 484-0469. A zoom link will be sent to your e-mail within a day of the program.

One more time to Pickup at Stores

The February 19th issue of the Times will not be mailed. Please use this opportunity to visit one of your local merchants or peruse our website (www.totokettimes.com) for the complete issue.

It can be found at the following location:

North Branford



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RV Variety & Cafe - Patco Service Station

Cumberland Farms - Atwater Library

Hair Designs - MT Cobbler - Good Vibes - Town Hall

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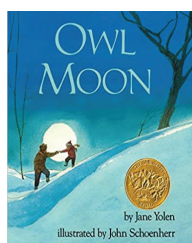
Take the Library to Your Child Day!

February 2021

Let's celebrate
the 10th Anniversary of
Take Your Child to the Library Day
by bringing activities and ideas
from the library to you at home
and outdoors in the community!

Look for these activities:

- A Storywalk featuring *Paperwhite* by local author, Nancy Elizabeth Wallace!
(Look for the pages along the tennis court fencing at Stanley T. Williams Community Center, 1332 Middletown Ave., Northford, CT 06472)
- "Take and Make" craft kits that include the supplies to grow a paperwhite bulb at home and to make your own no-sew valentine pillow! ❤️ ❤️ ❤️
- ZOOM Storytime Program with Christine's Critters.
After reading the story, *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen, Christine will teach us more about birds of prey with Cypress the Barred Owl, one of her LIVE animal ambassadors.
Saturday, February 6th at 10:00 am
*REGISTER ONLINE: Childrensroom@nbranfordlibraries.org



North Branford Public Libraries - nbranfordlibraries.org
Atwater Memorial Library: 203-315-6020 Edward Smith Library: 203-484-0469
**Contact the library to request books for curbside pickup!

North Branford Public Schools

Preschool Role Model Screen - February 12, 2021

Project PRIDE is a special education preschool located at Jerome Harrison School, North Branford, CT. The program incorporates children without disabilities to model appropriate social, language and play skills within preschool activities. This program meets four days a week (Monday through Thursday) with two sessions (morning 9:00-11:30, afternoon 12:30-3:15). The program is seeking three and four-year old children with typically-developing skills to serve as role models in our classes for the 2021-2022 school year.

To be enrolled as a role model peer, children must pass a preschool screening which assesses cognitive, speech-language, motor and social skills. Role model peers must be toilet trained. If parents are interested, please contact Mrs. Rienzo at

203-484-1235, to schedule a screening appointment. The screening will take approximately 30 minutes.

The names of children who pass the screening will be placed in a lottery that will take place in February. Parents will be notified by phone in February if their child is selected. Children who are selected will participate at no cost. However, transportation must be provided by the parent.

The Northford/North Branford Women's Club Is Accepting Scholarship Applications

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. 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. Candidates must have completed two or more years on 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 of at least the most recent two years of undergraduate or graduate work must be received by February 10, 2021.

The application may be obtained by visiting the Northford Women's Club website at www.northfordwomensclub.org. For further information, contact Rose Lynch at 203-483-8395.



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THEY MAKE US PROUD

Jessica Cirivello, Ryan Stephens, Sydney Hogan and John Pellegrino were named to the Dean's List at Western Connecticut State University in Willimantic, CT.

Jillian Damiani, Alyssa Diaz, Anthony Lucibello, Emily Neubig and Caterina Teodosio were named to the Dean's List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI.

Nicole Yeager and Marie Zampano were named to the Dean's List at Lasell University in Newton, MA.

Ryan Gries earned the NECC 2019-20 winter/spring season Academic All-Conference Team Award. Ryan is a Criminal Justice major at Becker College in Worcester, MA.

Madison Sullivan, SiannaMarie Milone & Jacob Montanaro were named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire in Durham, NH.

Ian Covell was named to the Dean's List at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY

Brian R. Lawson was named to the Dean's List at the University of New Haven. Brian is majoring in Computer Science



Wee Care of North Branford, Inc. Daycare and Preschool

At 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.

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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, 30 Caputo Rd. North Branford and St. Monica, 1331 Middletown Ave. Northford. The Pastor is Rev. Robert L. Turner. Temporarily all Masses are being held at St. Augustine during the pandemic to accommodate as many parishioners at each Mass as capacity allows. Weekday Masses are celebrated at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Weekend Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 5:00 P.M. (English Ordinary, no incense) and on Sunday at 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. (Latin Ordinary with use of incense). The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered 30 minutes prior to all daily Masses and by appointment by calling the parish office. The parish office is located at 30 Caputo Rd. in the parish center and is open M – F from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. Mass is live streamed each Sunday morning on our St. Ambrose Facebook page. You can access the parish bulletin and staff emails on our website at NBcatholics.org. If you are new to the area and are looking for a parish family to join, please visit us!

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 1382 Middletown Avenue, Northford (at the intersection of Rts. 17 & 22). “The White Church On The Hill In The Heart Of Northford.” St. Andrew’s is a member of the Middlesex Area Cluster Ministry (MACM) Network, along with Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Killingworth and St. James Episcopal Church in Higganum. Rev. Jim Bradley is Interim Priest-In-Charge. Due to the COVID pandemic, Sunday services currently are on-line via Zoom, and may also be viewed on St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church of Northford, CT Facebook page. St. Andrew’s is also the proud home of the Food Pantry of North Branford, located on the lower level of the church’s parish hall. And, the Community Dining Room, which serves South Central shoreline CT, utilizes St. Andrew’s kitchen and parish hall to prepare and deliver meals for the homebound. Two vital community resources serving families in need in Northford and North Branford. Like us on Facebook: St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church of Northford, CT. For more information contact Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, at 203-710-7005, or MACM Network office at 860-345-0058.

United Methodist Church, Branford 811 East Main St, Branford (Route 1, across from Bill Miller’s Castle). www.umcbranford.org or (203) 488-0549. Sunday service 9:30am - both in-person and live on our website. “The Church on the Rock,” led by Pastor Kent Jackson. We invite you to discover the power of faith in Jesus Christ bringing God’s love to the world. Join us to worship, experience God’s word, and stay connected.

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.

FOOD AND FIREWOOD BOX

Northford Congregational Church, “A Little Church with a Big Heart,” has a food box and a firewood stand in front of the church to help people in need. Non-perishable food is in the food box and firewood is on racks in the stand. People can “take what they need, and leave what they can.” Please do not leave items with expired dates in the box. Since it is cold and temperatures can be below freezing, no canned food, jars, or bottles that could freeze or expand should be put into the box. Items that contain liquid will need to wait until warmer weather. Donations of items such as rice, pasta, cereal, and diapers are welcome.

Thank you to members of the community who have helped with the food box, firewood stand, and cash donations. Thank you also to people who have responded to requested items listed on our signs by putting donations into the blue mission box near the social hall side door.

The historic church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Route 22 and Route 17 in the Northford village in North Branford. Church website: www.northfordcongregational.church. Email: northfordcc@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook.

Lenten Walk-The Way of the Cross

Join us as we pray, reflect and walk *The Way of the Cross* at All Saint Cemetery at 3:00 pm (the hour of Mercy) beginning every other Tuesday during Lent. Mark your calendar for the following dates:

Feb. 16th (week Lent begins), March 2nd, March 16th, March 30th

All are welcome to meet by the Mausoleum main entrance located at 700 Middletown Ave. CDC guidelines safe distancing will be followed. Please dress accordingly for the weather. If inclement weather, we will cancel. Please check our website often for scheduling updates or call our Outreach Coordinator, Barbara at 203 780-8418 or email her: bgode@ccacem.org.

Bereavement Support Group

Grief is a normal part of loss, but it can become complicated. Has it been at least 3 months since the loss of your beloved friend, relative, Spouse? Are you having a really difficult time coping? Perhaps our small-sized adult support group can help you. Our group can provide the right amount of connection, understanding, emotional and spiritual support in an atmosphere that is non-judgmental and confidential. Our 10-week **Bereavement Group begins on April 6th, 2021** (Tuesday evenings) from 6:00pm until 8:00 pm and ends in June.

All are welcome. *Seating is limited.* Please register by going to our website or contacting our Facilitator, Barbara at 203 780-8418 or emailing her: bgode@ccacem.org. This program is sponsored by Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Archdiocese of Hartford. CDC guidelines will be practiced at all meetings.

Tackle Hunger at UMC Branford’s
Drive-Thru “Souper Bowl of Caring”
Contactless Canned Soup Collection
To Benefit Local Food Pantries

Branford, CT: The “Church on the Rock” in Branford invites the community to tackle hunger during the **Souper Bowl of Caring on Saturday, February 6, 2021!** The annual event is going contact-free this year with a canned soup collection from 11:00AM to 2:00PM in the church’s parking lot on Route 1 in Branford. Volunteers will take your donations right from your trunk – and in return, will send you home with a delicious bowl of chili!

Swing by the goalpost, where we’ll have a soup pot for each of the two teams playing in Super Bowl LV, and help us predict the winner by placing a monetary donation in your favorite team’s pot! The “winner” will be announced on the church’s Facebook page on the day of the big game (<https://www.facebook.com/umcbranford>).

All proceeds from the collections will benefit local food pantries.

United Methodist Church, Branford is located at 811 East Main Street (1 mile east of Chowder Pot on Route 1), Branford, CT 06405. For more information, please contact Pastor Kent Jackson at (203) 488-0549 or umcbranford1966@gmail.com

Sons & Daughters of Italy Website!

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, Italian trivia, biographies and recipes.

Go to northhavenlodge2805.club

“Security Systems are best when installed by a professional not the internet.”



(203) 288-1000

355 Sackett Point Rd North Haven, CT 06473

Did you know:

Coca Cola was Originally Green



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

Sweets for your Sweet



Since you can't mail a hug, this is the next best thing!
Send a sweet treat to your "Sweet" during
the month of February.

For \$5 you get 3 fresh baked chocolate
chip cookies with a personalized note
wrapped and delivered with love
by our **Love Bus**

Monday-Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm.
Please give us 48 hours notice.

Register on our website nbrecreation.com
Deliveries are limited to North Branford
and Northford addresses

Valentine Drive-Thru

We welcome our North Branford Senior
Citizens to this FREE event at the STW
Community Center parking lot

**February 12, 2021
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

*Enjoy a smile, card,
cut flower and
a sweet
treat!*



Parents' NIGHT OUT!

Leave the kids with us at STW Community Center and
have a night to yourself. These evenings will include
games, activities, and a cheese pizza dinner.

Space is limited so sign up early!

**February 12th
5:00pm ~ 9:00pm
Ages 5-12
\$20/child Sibling discount \$35**

For an additional fee add on Craft classes By Re-Loved Designs
String Art \$15 | Dream Catchers \$16 | Button Art \$18
See our website for more craft details

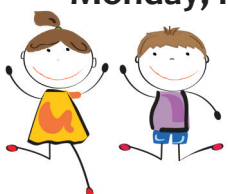
IMAGINATION STATION

Ages 2 - 3 — STW Community Center

Monday, February 22 - April 19, 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

No Class 4/12

\$35 res / \$40 nr

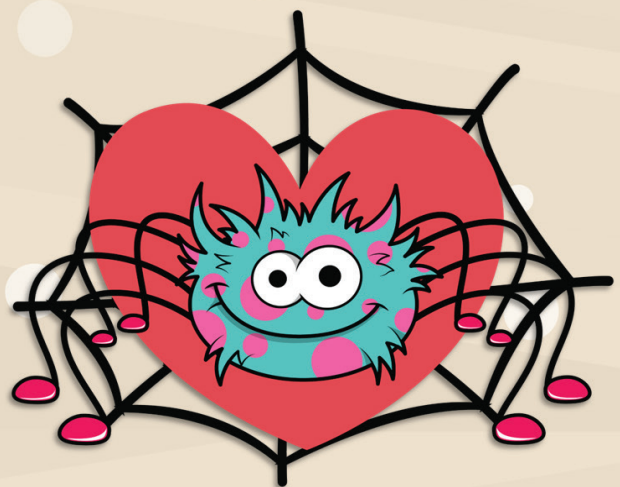


Instructor: Sharon DiCrosta, Owner of The Dancer's Studio
Imagination Station is a creative movement class that introduces
children to the joy of movement and music. Basic motor skills will
be challenged as we develop rhythm and imagination in an
atmosphere of fun!

The Valentine DoodleBug

**FOR ALL NORTH BRANFORD BOYS AND GIRLS
IN KINDERGARTEN THRU FIFTH GRADE.**

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 8th at
www.nbrecreation.com



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.

PAINTING

WINTER SAVINGS! Banish those winter blues with a freshly painted room or two. Sole proprietor so NO worries about a house full of strangers! Celebrating 36 years. BBB A+ rated!
Trimworks Painting, Lic. #0619599 (203) 484-9181

PLUMBING

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

HELP WANTED

Drivers & indoor help positions available at Petals 2 Go in North Branford. Call Dave at 203-484-7800.

FOR SALE

Nine decades age to stop driving? Hard to part with my charming dependable friend. Volvo S60, 100K miles, Call 203-488-1897.

To Place a Classified ad
Call 203-410-4254 or
fill out the application
on this page.

STEVEN J. ELZHOLZ

Certified Public Accountant
Certified Information Systems Auditor
More than 45 Years Experience
"Accounting, Bookkeeping & Tax Planning Services"
"Estate & Trust Accounting & Tax Services"
"Computer Consulting, Training & Support Services"

ALL TAX RETURNS PREPARED

Federal & State Electronic Filing for FAST REFUNDS
Federal & State Tax Audit Representation
Day, Evening & Weekend Appointments

54 Deforest Drive North Branford, Ct 06471
email - selzholz@snet.net
203-488-8649 (FAX) 203-488-1970

Recycling News

Simple Recycling Pink Bag 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

Reduce Contamination and Wishecycling

Help our town reduce the 2% to 5% contamination of our recycling to avoid fines!

- Do not mix designated recyclables with trash
- Leave metal caps and lids on glass jars and bottles
- Empty and rinse all containers
- Reduce the single-use items you bring into your home and try to reuse or donate them where they can be used.
- Learn what can and cannot be recycled.

If in doubt, "check before you chuck" using the RecycleCT Wizard: <https://www.recyclect.com>

Type in the name of an item to learn how to recycle or dispose of it properly.

Thank you for recycling responsibly

Got new or reusable unwanted items? Please consider:
North Branford & Northford free items – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1647630532048934>

Children's books: Read to Grow <https://readtogrow.org>
Professional attire: Save a Suit <https://saveasuit.org>
Winter coats: Button Up Connecticut www.buttonupconnecticut.org
Musical instruments: Horns for Kids www.hornsforkids.org
Medical equipment: Charlie's Closet <https://givct.org/charlies-closet>

Backyard Compost Bin & Rain Barrel Sale

Discounted prices for residents on Composters, Rain Barrels and accessories by
The South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG)
800-842-0527
<https://scrcogcompostersale.company.site>

reduce waste – enhance soil quality – reduce carbon footprint – conserve water

Bulk Pickup is twice a year (no longer weekly)
Next pickup is week of April 19, 2021
Please do not place curbside until that week
-No home cleanouts-

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!