



# Totoket Times

www.totokettimes.com

*For Our Town From Our Town*

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Volume 27 No 21 April 2, 2021

## Totoket TV Receives Grant from State of Connecticut for New TV Equipment at Stanley T. Williams Community Center, Town Hall and Studio



Totoket TV, North Branford's Community TV Station, recently received a grant of \$150,000 from the State of Connecticut for the purchase and installation of new TV broadcast equipment at the Totoket TV Studio, Town Hall and the Stanley T. Williams Community Center. The grant, from the Public, Educational and Governmental Production Equipment Technology

Investment Account (PEGPETIA), allows both community TV stations and educational institutions throughout the State, the ability to apply for funds to replace aging and/or broken production equipment. Of the \$150,000 grant, \$60,599.41 was used to purchase and install new TV equipment at the main meeting room and adjoining control room at the Community Center. The main meeting room houses all Board of Education Meetings, additional Town Meetings and other Town activities.

"We're thrilled to have garnered this grant, and to help improve the quality of Town meetings, Board of Education Meetings and other events at the Community Center, as well as at Town Hall, and programs at our new studio at 1675 Foxon Road," said William Choti, Totoket TV President. "Being able to accomplish this further enhances Totoket TV's goal of becoming a critical information resource for the community, as well as furthering our TV production internship program for students." "Working with the Board of Education, North Branford Public Schools and Superintendent Scott Schoonmaker has been very positive and productive," added Choti.

The new equipment, including robotic, high-definition cameras, allows for live-streaming to various platforms such as Facebook and YouTube, as well as transmitting a live feed to Totoket TV's channels on Comcast and Frontier.

"The Board of Education is thrilled to be able to collaborate with Totoket TV and be able to live stream for the North Branford community," said Scott Schoonmaker, North Branford Superintendent of Schools. "We look forward to continued opportunities that will continue our abilities to bring many exciting happenings into your homes." All Town meetings and other local content is also available, on-demand at Totoket TV's You Tube page. For more information, visit TotoketTV.org

**Photo: Totoket TV's new equipment in the TV control room at Stanley T. Williams Community Center.**

*Photo and story compliments of Walter Mann*

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### Publication Date

April 2  
April 16  
April 30  
May 14  
May 28  
June 11  
June 25  
July 9

### Deadline

March 26  
April 9  
April 23  
May 7  
May 21  
June 4  
June 18  
July 2

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**NORTH BRANFORD MARKET WATCH**

<b>Average Days on Market</b> February 2021 <b>37 Days</b> ↓ 11.6% February, 2020	<b>Year-to-Date Homes Sold</b> January- February 2021 <b>17</b> ↑ 41.7% (12) from YTD, 2020
<b>Average Price per SqFt</b> February 2021 <b>\$140</b> ↑ 11.7% February, 2020	
<b>New Listings</b> February 2021 <b>11</b> ↓ 47.6% (21) from Feb, 2020	<b>Percentage of Asking Price</b> February 2021 <b>93%</b> ↓ 3.7% from February, 2020

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated. data per ctmls 3.721

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102B Broad Street

### Let's Talk Recycling

The Town and your Solid/Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee need the help of NB residents.

For the last several months, when our weekly recycling is processed at the MIRA plant in Hartford, a number of loads have been getting rejected due to excessive contamination.

When that happens, our hauler, John's, has to go back to Hartford, pick up the unacceptable items and bring to the Hartford incinerator to be burned as trash. John's bills NB for that extra trip and the contaminated recyclables are processed by MIRA while charging NB \$90 per ton rather than processing these recyclables for free.

Those costs, as well as, fines from MIRA, are passed on to NB, which can adversely affect our taxes.

How can you help you might ask?

If you are one of the residents that collect their recyclables in your house in a plastic bag and then just drop that bag in your recycling tote, we need you to empty the contents directly into the blue tote. When the load gets sorted at the recycling facility, all plastic bags and their contents automatically get rejected as contamination, no matter what may be in them. No inspection of the plastic bag's contents is done even though the bag could be full of acceptable recyclables.

Most blue totes came with a stencil on the lid showing acceptable recyclable items. Please place only those items in the blue tote.

If you are not sure if an item is recyclable, we ask that you put the item aside and contact us for guidance. Or, you can view the yearly Recycling & Trash information card on the Town website or visit [www.recyclect.com](http://www.recyclect.com).

**Hair Care for Men & Women!**

**Hours of Operation**  
**Tuesday 1-5 PM**  
**Wednesday - Friday 9AM - 5PM**  
**Saturday 9AM - 3PM**

**1717 Foxon Rd. (Rte 80) - North Branford (in The Keybank Plaza)**  
**203-488-6959**

**Good Vibes Nutrition**  
*In Hosting*

**North Branford Thunderbirds Baseball Fundraiser**

**Date:** Saturday, April 24 & Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM

**Where:** Good Vibes Nutrition  
1715 Foxon Road, North Branford

Bring this flyer with you or mention T-Birds Baseball when you place your order on April 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> and 20% of your purchase will be donated to support the team!

- There will be 50/50 raffle tickets that can be purchased between April 1 & April 25!! Winner will be drawn on the 25<sup>th</sup> after we close! All house proceeds donated!
- \$2 for 3 tickets
- \$4 for 5 tickets
- \$10 for an arms- length of tickets
- We will also have 2 \$50 gift cards for local businesses (tbd) that you can buy raffle tickets to with all proceeds donated. Winners drawn on the 25<sup>th</sup> after we close!!
- \$5 each
- \$12 for 3 tickets

**CASH ONLY FOR ALL RAFFLES, THANK YOU!!**

**Good Vibes Nutrition,**  
1715 Foxon Road, North Branford, 203-481-2323

*Like us on instagram & Facebook @goodvibesnutritionct*

**GUERTIN AND GUERTIN, LLC**  
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North Haven, Ct. 06473  
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[WWW.GuertinandGuertin.com](http://WWW.GuertinandGuertin.com)

**Connecticut Sporting Arms, LLC**

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## State Representative Vincent Candelora

### Slide Up the Dimmer Switch: Restoring General Assembly's Influence Isn't an On/Off Proposition



Back in September, after a special committee of legislators contemplated the first extension of Governor Lamont's emergency powers, a reporter fired off important questions:

"At what point does it stop, what's the cutoff, when do you take the power back?"

Six months later, we're still waiting for the real answer.

The state's House of Representatives last week voted to extend Gov. Lamont's broad authority a third time. Majority party Democrats took this action a month before it was necessary, ignoring objections from Republicans—I'm among them—who contend lawmakers should work toward restoring the balance of power in state government rather than further his stay in the driver's seat to May 20.

As it stands, the General Assembly remains under the thumb of the governor. At any time, he can act to bypass the work of our body—to modify or suspend statutes as he sees fit.

Since the start of the pandemic, Gov. Lamont has issued some 90 executive orders affecting roughly 300 statutes or regulations. Last week, as we have for months, Republicans proposed a bipartisan process to analyze those orders to determine which of them should remain in place as our state wriggles free from the pandemic's grip. We know some of those orders, including those related to telehealth or vaccine administration, will remain valuable for some time. But others, such as those that give state agencies wide-ranging control over how business operate, deserve fresh perspective.

Unfortunately, our colleagues across the aisle see things differently—for them, the light of co-equal decision-making is a switch to be turned on or off. Right now, it's definitely off.

With the Legislative Office Building closed to the public, the statehouse's majority party is pursuing pet policies in the impersonal if not murky world of virtual government.

Ahead of their vote to extend the governor's powers, we offered a request backed up by amendment: Take a weeklong pause from the quest to install a new gas tax, government run healthcare, and election "reforms" and instead focus on restoring the General Assembly's standing in this pandemic. To reach common ground, we offered a more modest extension—to May 1—of the governor's powers to provide time to conduct that review of his orders. We proposed a change to how emergency declarations are installed, too, demanding a legislative vote while also requiring more frequent renewals.

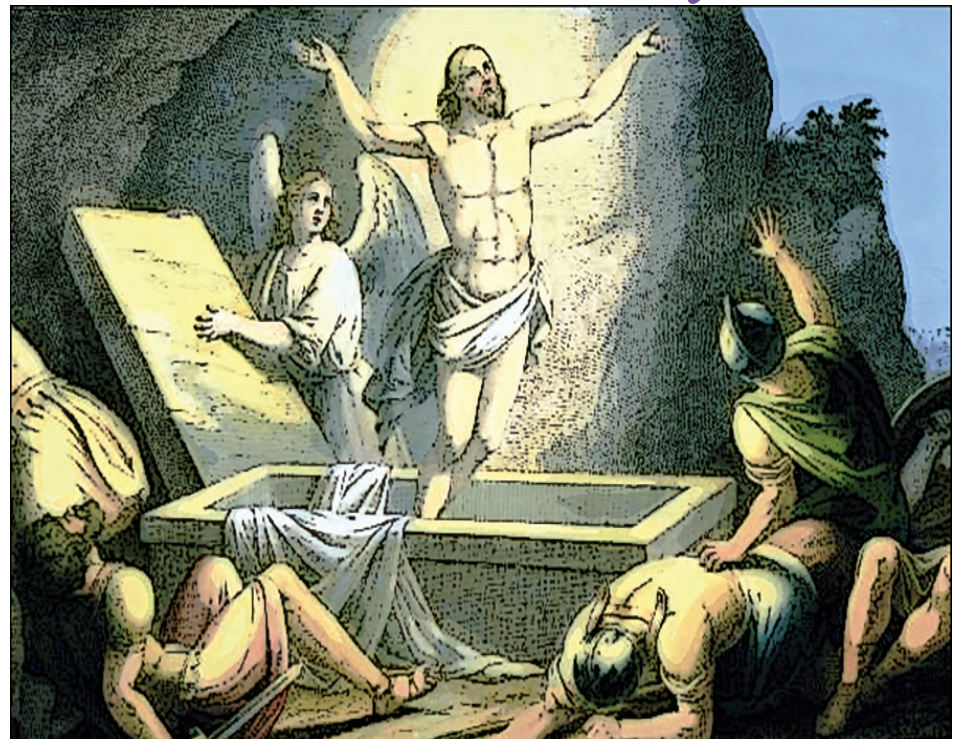
Our definitive path forward ([cthousegop.com/rebalance](http://cthousegop.com/rebalance)) failed in an 89 to 50 vote. By the time you read this column, it's likely the state senate will have voted for the longer extension too.

Back in September, the majority party senator who answered the reporter's question boasted that restoring the legislature as a co-equal branch would be the "first priority of business" in January. Now, it's abundantly clear that was never the Democrats' intention. I fear that if we don't break from their calculated complacency, if we don't chart government's way back to normalcy, it will become increasingly harder to toggle the General Assembly switch back to "on" mode.



**Mark your calendars for the Annual Rotary Shredding Event on Saturday, May 1st at the NB Town Hall from 9AM - 12PM. \$10. PER BANKING BOX.**

# HAPPY



# EASTER

## NB Rotary Club seeks FINAL Nominations for the Community Service Award.



**Just a reminder!** The deadline is fast approaching. **Nominations must be submitted by April 1st, 2021.** The North Branford Rotary Club would like to recognize individuals

who have made a difference to the North Branford community. The club is requesting nominations from individuals in town who know someone deserving of the Service Above Self Award. The award represents individuals in our community who actively help others, demonstrate meaningful humanitarian service, and have made an impact to the community as a result of their efforts. While volunteer efforts are preferred, recognition for paid

employees for outstanding achievement for the benefit of the community will be considered. The club also welcomes posthumous nominations to be recognized.

**We have a new date!** The club will be holding an outdoor recognition event on **Thursday June 10, 2021, at Woodwinds of Branford**, where the awards will be presented to individuals who represent the ideals of Service Above Self in the community.

Nominations can be made by going to the North Branford Rotary website or Facebook page where a nomination form can be submitted. For questions about the award or nomination process you may reach out to [NorthBranfordRotary@gmail.com](mailto:NorthBranfordRotary@gmail.com), the Committee Chair Alex Casella at 203-433-3415, or Club President Melinda Fonda at 203-988-0883. **Please hurry we want to hear from as many as possible!**

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**PUBLISHER - FRANK MENTONE JR.**

*founders - Bert Bunnell Jr. & Anthony Esposito Jr.*

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

## Letters to the editor...

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

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

This paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

All letters should be addressed to :

**The Editor**

P.O. Box 313, Northford, CT 06472





Matt in the Minors



Finally getting into a rhythm with training down here. Every day is wake up at 8, eat, go workout, come home, eat, watch spring training games on tv, go train again, eat, go to bed, repeat. Comfort is everything. You want to be comfortable enough to where you are confident but never content on where you are at. You want to keep moving up the ladder. We’ve been introduced to some guidelines as an organization to keep us safe. The main idea is that we continue to be smart about what we do outside of the ballpark. What we do inside the ballpark

has been tremendously safe.

Scrimmages start April 20th and real games will be beginning of May depending on where we are placed. I would like to guess where I would start but another player already gave me the advice “don’t play GM (general manager)”. I have no control over where they think I will succeed so why worry about that. Just have to prove myself wherever I go anyways.

It’s as much of a grind as people say it is. They do feed us three meals a day, house us in a hotel a few miles from the field, and have a shuttle running all day. You could not ask for much more. The on field work is hard but it’s what we all signed up for. If you are in good physical shape it’s nothing to be too worried about. Just take care of your body and more importantly your mind. Practice in the morning, play at night. Excited to start playing real games. Until next time. -Matthew Chamberlain

### Taste of North Branford Raffle Fundraiser for PoCo

Every raffle ticket purchased gives you a chance to win a "Taste of North Branford." At the PoCo, we love our local and as COVID has had such an impact on restaurants, we wanted to do our part to support them. We will be purchasing gift cards from our local restaurants, delis, and eateries to create some amazing prizes! As an added bonus, Country Paint & Hardware – a long-time supporter of PoCo – will also be contributing to the prizes!

**GRAND PRIZE:** 32 \$50 gift certificates to restaurants in town  
**SECOND PLACE:** 32 \$25 gift certificates to restaurants in town  
**THIRD THROUGH 35TH PLACE:** \$25 gift certificate to a restaurant in town

**\$20.00/ticket**  
[www.nbcreation.com](http://www.nbcreation.com)

SCAN ME WITH YOUR CAMERA TO BUY TICKETS!

Facebook live drawing on 4/20/21 @ North Branford Potato and Corn Festival  
For info, email [potatofest@townofnorthbranfordct.com](mailto:potatofest@townofnorthbranfordct.com)

## North Branford Solar Sunflower Project<sup>3.0</sup>

Places to get seeds:

Town Hall  
Atwater/Smith Libraries  
Park and Recreation Center  
Outside The NBHS Greenhouse

the **SUNFLOWER PROJECT**

[www.destinationnorthbranford.com](http://www.destinationnorthbranford.com)

A PROGRAM OF THE NORTH BRANFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Recycling News

**Plastic Film Drop Off Program Restarting April 5th**  
4 convenient drop off sites: Town Hall, Atwater and Smith Libraries and Park & Rec  
\*\*\*\*\*

**North Branford Spring Leaf Collection**  
North Branford residents can bring their leaves to the leaf drop off center located at the Public Works Facility on Route 22 from 9:00am to 3:00pm on the following Saturdays this Spring: **April 3, 10, 17 and 24.** Follow the signs.  
Please place leaves in biodegradable brown leaf bags or empty them loose onto the ground.

**NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ALLOWED**  
For more information, please call the recycling hotline at **203-484-4091**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**North Branford Scrap Metal Pickup**  
**April 5<sup>th</sup> through April 9<sup>th</sup>**  
The Spring scrap metal pickup will be collected the same day as your regular weekly trash pickup.

**Please note:** scrap metal should be placed at the curb up to a week before your scheduled pickup day; thank you!  
For more information, please call the recycling hotline at **203-484-4091**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**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](mailto:Info@SimpleRecycling.com) now through end date**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**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-**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Reduce Contamination and Wisecycling**  
Help our town reduce the contamination of our recycling to avoid fines and increased taxes!  
*Recent contaminations included: paint, construction debris, auto parts, dog waste, plastic bags*  
Do not mix designated recyclables with trash  
Leave metal caps and lids on glass jars and bottles  
Empty and rinse all containers  
Do not shred, box, bag or bundle recyclables  
**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.*  
Please put these common non-recyclable items in the trash:  
garden hoses, paper take-out food containers, styrofoam cups and containers

Thank you for recycling responsibly

### Local Beer & Wine Raffle Fundraiser for PoCo

At the PoCo, we love our local and as COVID has had such an impact on the restaurant industry, we wanted to do our part to support them. We will be purchasing gift cards from local breweries and wineries, including those who have supported us at our Beer & Wine Tent in the past – to create some amazing prizes!

**GRAND PRIZE:** 20 \$50 gift certificates to area breweries & wineries  
**SECOND PLACE:** 20 \$25 gift certificates to area breweries & wineries  
**THIRD THROUGH 22ND PLACE:** \$25 gift certificate to an area brewery or winery •  
\*Third through 22nd place will choose from gift cards available in order drawn.

**\$20.00/ticket**  
[www.nbcreation.com](http://www.nbcreation.com)

SCAN ME WITH YOUR CAMERA TO BUY TICKETS!

Facebook live drawing on 4/20/21 @ North Branford Potato and Corn Festival  
For info, email [potatofest@townofnorthbranfordct.com](mailto:potatofest@townofnorthbranfordct.com)





## IDS Continues Syrup Making Tradition

The Independent Day School continued one of its most recent, yet cherished, traditions of maple tree tapping and syrup making over the past few weeks. The activity has proven to be a highly educational and entertaining activity for students (and even parents!) of all ages at the school.

"Tapping Season," as it is affectionately referred to in New England, is the time of the year towards the end of winter when temperatures begin to creep above freezing during the day, but return to below freezing temperatures at night. This mixture of warming and cooling is considered the perfect time to begin tapping into maple trees, as those conditions allow for the most sap to emerge from the trees.

Fortunately, IDS has almost 30 maple trees right here on its sprawling campus, making it a perfect, nearby tapping site for maple syrup lovers and environmental enthusiasts.

"When the maple sugaring operation was first proposed, we knew we had some sugar maple trees at IDS," remarked Director of Facilities Jim Rumberger, "but when we took a closer look we found that along 'Old Durham Road' we had over 30 sugar maples in close proximity. This has afforded us a unique opportunity to harvest high-quality sap, right here on campus." The entire process of maple syrup making takes place right on campus, both during and after school hours. Multiple grades of children assisted Rumberger and Lower School/Early Childhood Science teacher Xander Lowery in the tapping process.

After a few days passed, students were in action again helping with the collecting and storing of the tree sap by taking the filled buckets and placing them in a secure, outside storage unit where the sap could remain chilled. Once enough sap had been collected, Rumberger and parent volunteers began the long and tedious process of boiling the sap in a massive "cooker" which eventually turning the sap into delicious syrup.

"The sugaring process touches multiple topics across our science curriculum," said Lowery. "This includes tree identification, such as structure and function, photosynthesis, global seasonality, and states and properties of matter just to name a few."

After weeks of hard work, careful planning, and countless great learning opportunities, IDS ended up with almost six gallons of sweet maple syrup to be shared with the community in various ways!

## Spring is here!

We are excited to share with you our list of Lawn Games now available for checkout with your library card. The Lawn Games are located at the Edward Smith Library in Northford. We ask that you checkout and return them to this location. Please do not return lawn games in our book drop.

Great idea for parties, picnics, showers, etc. Games circulate for 7 days. Call us (203-484-0469) or stop by (Mon.-Fri. 10-5, Sat. 9-12) to borrow these:

**Bocce \*, Capture the Flag, Cornhole, Croquet, Disc Golf, Horseshoes, Kan Jam, Ladder Golf, Lawn Darts, Pickleball, Potato Sacks (also includes eggs/spoons, three-legged race bands), Spikeball, Tumbling Timbers Yard Dice**

- \*The North Branford Recreation Department now has courts available for each of these!

## THEY MAKE US PROUD

Deborah DeFelice graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts minor in Accounting, from Southern Connecticut State University.



### NORTH BRANFORD BARBERSHOP



**HAIR CUTS**  
MEN \$12.00  
SENIOR & KIDS UNDER 10 \$10.00

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

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## 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.

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.**

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[www.weecarenb.com](http://www.weecarenb.com)



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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](http://www.branfordbiblechapel.org)

**Hope Christian Church "A Place to Belong".** 211 Montowese Ave., North Haven, CT. [www.hopeag.com](http://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](mailto:nobfdcong@sbcglobal.net) or [www.northbranfordcongregational.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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 - The White Church On The Hill In The Heart Of Northford (at the intersection of Rtes. 17 & 22). 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. Bryan Spinks is Priest-in Charge at St. Andrew's. Due to the COVID pandemic, services are currently held on-line via Zoom, and may also be viewed on St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Northford CT Facebook page. St. Andrew's is 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 utilizes our kitchen and parish hall to prepare and deliver meals to the homebound in Northford and North Branford. These are 2 vital community resources serving families in need in our community. 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 located in the church parking lot. Like us on Facebook: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Northford CT. For more information contact Nan Monde, Sr. Warden, 203-710-7005; or MACM Network office, 860-345-0058; or Rev.Spinks, 860-304-5266.

**United Methodist Church, Branford** 811 East Main St, Branford (Route 1, across from Bill Miller's Castle). [www.umcbranford.org](http://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](http://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.

## DEATH NOTICES



**Gerald Roger Mulligan, Sr.,** 85, of Northford, formerly of New Haven passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Connecticut Hospice, Branford. He was the beloved husband of 59 years to Anna Milano Mulligan. Gerald was born in West Haven on October 22, 1935 and was the son of the late John G. Mulligan and Dorothy Githens Mulligan. Father of Gerald Milligan, Jr. (Laura), Brian Mulligan (Dawn) and Cheryl Onofrio (John). Grandfather of Colleen, Melissa, Sean, Kayleigh and Connor Mulligan, John, Lindsey and Julianna Onofrio. Also survived by several nieces and nephews. Gerald worked for Metro North Railroad as an Accounting

Auditor for many years until his retirement on January 9, 1996. He was an avid duckpin bowler and enjoyed spending his retirement years watching his grandchildren play their multiple sports.



## EASTER BUNNY TO HELP AT ANNUAL FLOWER/PLANT SALE

The Easter Bunny will be helping Northford Congregational Church. "A Little Church with a Big Heart," with their Easter weekend flower/plant sale to benefit the church. Rain or shine on Apr. 2-3 from 10-5, and Apr. 4 from 9-1. In the event of inclement weather, the flowers/plants will be sold inside the church social hall downstairs.

Masks and social distancing will be required for everyone's safety.

The historic church (203-484-0795) is located at 4 Old Post Road at the corner of Routes 22 and 17 in the Northford village in North Branford.

## Holy Week and Easter Services



*Come Worship With Us!*

### ST. AMBROSE PARISH

St. Augustine Church, 30 Caputo Rd., North Branford

St. Monica Church, 1321 Middletown Ave., Northford

**Temporarily all service and activities are being held at St. Augustine during the pandemic. St. Monica will be reopened when social distancing guidelines are updated.**

**Please bring a mask, maintain social distancing, and stop in and join us anytime!**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION AND PENANCE** will be offered on Friday April 2 from 2-2:45p and Saturday April 3 from 12-1p.

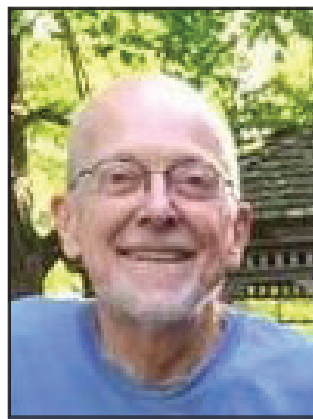
### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Holy Thursday Mass**– April 1 at 7p followed by Adoration until 10p

**Good Friday Liturgy** – April 2 at 3p

**Holy Saturday Vigil** – April 3 at 8p

**Easter Sunday Masses\*** - 9a and 11a (\*advanced reservations required for Easter Sunday)



**Stanley C. Close** of Northford passed peacefully Thursday March 11, 2021 at the Hospital of St. Raphael Campus at Yale-New Haven Hospital. He was the husband of the late Dorothy Goddard Close. Stanley was born in Branford March 4, 1936 son of the late Lewis M. and Mary Sokolosky Close. He was a highly skilled and proud Union Machinist with Pratt & Whitney for 45 years until retiring in 2002. In his younger years, he was drawn towards anything mechanical (his pride and joy was his 1957 Chevrolet Convertible), he played softball, was an avid bowler and

was often cheered on by his growing family. He enjoyed antiquing with his wife Doffy and his model train collection. He especially loved his many family vacations to Maine. In his more recent years, Stanley looked forward to our annual trips to the Casino to survey and undoubtedly reminisce the overpriced vehicles at the Barrett Jackson televised Auction. Stanley is survived by his children, Lisa Close of Northford, Michael Close (girlfriend Kelly Cox-who has given her undeniable love and support to the entire Close family for more than 2 decades) of Northford and Mead Close (girlfriend Michele Parks) of Norwich; his grandchildren, Kelsey Tamulevich, Mead Allen Close, Jr., Joshua Cove, Mathew Olander and Michele Cove, Angela Hao and Jamerson Cox. He was predeceased by his brother Lewis M. Close, III. Survived by his sister-in-law Marsha Boutilier of Maine.





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

## APRIL VACATION CAMP

**April 12-16, 2021**

STW Community Center  
 8:30am - 12:30pm  
 Grades 1 - 6 • \$75

**This half day camp will include games, activities, crafts, & lunch!**

*Masks must be worn for indoor activities at this time and space is limited to ensure safe distancing.*

Register today at [www.nbrecreation.com](http://www.nbrecreation.com)

## DOG OBEDIENCE - BASIC LEVEL

Ages 18+ — STW Field

**Wednesdays, April 21 - May 26, 6:00 - 7:00pm**

**Instructor: Puppy Paw Training LLC**

\$95 res/ \$100 nr

Come teach your dog simple, basic commands and manners. This class will be stress free, fun, informative, and will help you form a stronger bond with your dog. This class is for dogs

4 months - 2 years old.

**PLEASE** provide proof of Rabies vaccination and **PLEASE** have a training collar & 6 ft. non-retractable leash.

\*We also suggest the Kennel Cough Vaccine for your pups as well!

## FEELING LIKE YOU NEED A GETAWAY?

**Check out the great opportunities**  
**On our website!**

**Europe, Bahamas, we have it all!**

[northbranfordct.myrec.com/info/activities](http://northbranfordct.myrec.com/info/activities)

**Department Info -> Trips - Grand American Cruises**



**KIDS**  
**PARKS AND**  
**RECREATION**  
**CAMP**

**NOW HIRING!**

**We are looking for Summer Camp Counselors for North Branford Parks and Recreation Kids Camp!**

Head over to [www.nbrecreation.com](http://www.nbrecreation.com) to download the employment application.

**Please return to STW Community Center by April 16th**

*Camp begins June 28! (Must be 16+)*

## WHO HAS THE BEST PIZZA IN TOWN?



## DRIVE-THRU PIZZAWARS

**Tuesday, April 27**

**5:30-7:00pm**

**STW Community Center Parking Lot**

Support the North Branford Senior Center with a new take on an old tradition!

Pizza samples will be packed to-go and handed to you while in the comfort of your car.

**\$5 per person**

**Registration Required by April 19.**

[www.nbrecreation.com](http://www.nbrecreation.com)

## FALL PREVENTION AND HOME SAFETY

Jeff Piscitelli from Care One Security will offer a 30-minute ZOOM program covering Home Safety and Fall Prevention, in and around the house. Included in this program will be: 6 steps to prevent a fall, 18 steps to fall proof your home, and how falls impact your quality of life.

that is going to discuss home safety and fall prevention in and around the house via zoom. Please call to register ZOOM link will be sent via email.



## OUTDOOR BINGO!

**Friday, April 9th & 23rd at 10:30am, FREE!**

Come join us for outdoor Bingo! It may not be the way we used to play Bingo—but it's sure to be fun! Kindly register in advance! And don't forget to pack your own snacks and a jacket! Transportation may be available on a very limited basis due to Covid-19 restrictions.

## VIRTUAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

**Wednesday, April 14 - \$15**

Instructor: Elena Bigio, Kidscapades

**Flower Garden Play Dough Sensory**

**Ages 3-4, 10:00-10:30am**

A multi sensory activity incorporating measuring, mixing, cooking! We will make dough with our easy, microwavable recipe and "planting" a beautiful "flower garden". \*adult participation/supervision required

**Spring into Science**

**Ages 5-8, 4:30 -5:00pm**

Can you predict how flowers, milk and a baggie will be used for science experiments? Discover how as we spring into a super fun science class!





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

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3 issues \$35.00, 6 issues \$60.00, 12 issues \$100.00

\$.10 per word, per run, after 20 words

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Send ad along with your check to:

Totoket Times P.O. Box 313 Northford, CT 06472

For more information call 203-410-4254


CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

**ANF Construction.** residential or commercial remodeling and new construction kithcens, baths, decks and more. Call for free estimate. **Artie,** 203-927-5275.

**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.

ELECTRICIANS

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

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.

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

IT'S FREE

**FREE LAZY BOY COUCH.** SEVEN FEET LONG. 39 INCHES DEEP. ALL 203-645-3120.

CASH IN ON OLD JEWELRY

**Wanted Gold, Silver scrap jewelry.** Fair Prices offered. Call 203-627-6826 or 203-376-1249

HELP WANTED

**Drivers and designers needed** at Petals 2 Go Florist. Call Dave AT 203-484-7800.

North Haven Camera Club

North Haven Camera Club will present ‘Photographing Families & Children’ with Marcie Reif on Tuesday, Apr. 6th at 7pm. Marcie will share her ideas and tricks for photographing kids and families. Learn tips for working with children and how to keep the family having fun during a family

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*Did you know:*

At any given time there are 1,800 thunderstorms in progress over the earth’s atmosphere!

Branford Compassion Club Prepares for Kitten Season



It’s kitten season and Branford Compassion Club needs your help! Nothing can chase the COVID blues away more than the sweet faces of kittens. While kittens are adorable, the large numbers of moms and babies coming into our shelter, places a great financial burden on our already limited resources. Each momma cat and kitten needs to be vetted, vaccinated, and spayed or neutered, greatly increasing our veterinary bills over the next few months. Since we are still unable to hold indoor fundraising events, we are asking for donations to continue our mission of caring for homeless felines.

Donations can be sent via our website at [www.branfordcompassionclub.org](http://www.branfordcompassionclub.org) or by mailing a check to Branford Compassion Club, P.O. Box 768, Branford, CT 06405.

photo session. Marcie will explain what to do when things don’t go quite as planned. You will learn her secrets for creating joy infused and connection filled images.

Marcie speaks several times a year at conferences around the country, leading other photographers by giving them the confidence and tools to create strong portraits of family and children, as well as motivational strategies on building their photography community. Her work has been featured countless times by industry-leading companies and has appeared in multiple highly-acclaimed magazines.

North Haven Camera Club meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month for presentations and competitions. Non-members are welcome to attend this online presentation. Contact [northhavencameraclub@gmail.com](mailto:northhavencameraclub@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.northhavencameraclub.com](http://www.northhavencameraclub.com) for more information.