



# Totoket Times

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*For Our Town From Our Town*

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Volume 27 No 5 August 21, 2020

## Chat n Chew

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#### Publication Date

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| September 4  | August 28    |
| September 18 | September 11 |
| October 2    | September 25 |
| October 16   | October 9    |
| October 30   | October 23   |
| November 13  | November 6   |
| November 27  | November 20  |
| December 11  | December 4   |

#### Deadline

**Petals2Go Florist**  
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195 Foxon Road, Rte. 80, North Branford

**Part Time Driver. Must  
have good driving record.  
Call store for interview.**

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## PoCo To - Go - A Huge Success

Thank You for Making PoCo To-Go a Success!

The PoCo Festival Committee would like to thank everyone who came out to our PoCo-To-Go Event! Although we could not have a weekend full of events and food and fun, we hope we made you smile while picking up your free corn from "The Corn!" A huge thank you to Willie and Cecarelli's Harrison Hill Farms for donating the corn. Also a big thank you to the volunteers who helped at the Poco-To-Go event.

During the PoCo, you would often hear announcements of our generous donors and sponsors that make the festival possible. Although we missed the names of some people who donated, please know we thank you very much for your generosity. We raised more than \$1,000! (Our apologies for any misspellings!).

We always welcome new volunteers and ideas! Stay tuned to North Branford Potato & Corn Festival on Facebook for meeting announcements. For questions or information, email [potatofest@townof-northbranfordct.com](mailto:potatofest@townof-northbranfordct.com).

With gratitude,

Ashley Joiner (volunteer), Jenn McCulloch (coordinator) & the entire PoCo Fest Committee

Jeannie Salzo, Andrew Seward, Bruce Lane, Eileen Casey, Jessica Carafeno, Mandy Lucibello, Jackie

Harper, Joe Tork, Joe and Nicole Gagne, Barbara LaFrance, Chris Canning, Emily Larson, Bones, Hoskins Family, Charlie Lilly, Mark Lillie, Cleary Family, Brendan and Amy Blakeslee, Amanda Osgood, Corey Rudolph, Mike Gargiulo, John Dora, Lindsay DiMartino, Ashley Mase, Daniel Salz, Ken Zercie, Joanne Polzella, Andrea Liquori, Angela Milewski, Emily DeSarbo, Jennifer Seiden, Sarah Brown, Ashley Fernandez, Melissa Zulawski, Angela Perrotti, Mary Humby, Susan Hottin, Mies Family, Victor Ribera, Rosiak Family, Marie McDermott, Sergeant Family, Juniver Family, Rita Smith, Nancy and Sid Clow, Toni Bunnell, Mike McDermott, Wendy Flynn, Vinny Candelora, Mike Paulhus, John DiMaggio, Victoria Lanza, John O'Brien, Amy Gambardella, Melissa Celano, Massimo Piroli, Hank Petrovski, Brian Meillo, Dave Roden, Ann Laterra, Jennifer Lundgren, Anthony Esposito, Mike Prodoti, Erin Moore, Mr. & Mrs. Schreiner, Mr. Vollano, Dave Pinette, Raffone Family, Simon and Barbara Hale, MaryEllen Hammil, Andy Romaniuk, Ken Valente, Stephanie Palasiewski, Travis & Jessica Gale, Messoro Family, Mouna Weaver, MaryAnne Wilson-Feyer, Anna & Glenn Gaffield, Anonymous.



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## State Representative Vincent Candelora Peak 2020? Don't count on it!



Members of the legislature, and Connecticut residents, have seen so many different issues crash land on their doorsteps recently that it would be tempting to say that we've reached peak 2020—that it would be impossible for the list of challenges we face to grow longer and more complex.

But then again, this is 2020—the year that, so far, has delivered seven straight months of stress.

Since I last wrote, roughly a million Connecticut utility customers endured power outages caused by Tropical Storm Isaias. For hundreds of thousands, the outages lasted days. The outrage is justified, and upcoming legislative and utility regulatory hearings will examine the preparation and response efforts of both Eversource and United Illuminating. Those hearings will look at rates, too. The state's utility regulatory agency, PURA, suspended an Eversource rate increase its board approved earlier this summer, and it also suspended indefinitely a similar increase requested by United Illuminating. Visit [repcandelora.com](http://repcandelora.com) for hearing details.

For many communities, the Aug. 11 party primaries were a headache. Secretary of the State Denise Merrill's decision to use a vendor to mail absentee applications and ballots was a debacle. Ballots went out late, some not at all. When Secretary Merrill pulled the plug on the vendor, she left local officials to scrambling. Her office, according to a published report, mixed up Cromwell and Cornwall's applications. There were other problems, too. Her failures left local officials to counting absentee ballots two days *after* the polls closed.

In Stamford, site of a major backlog, a registrar of voters said, "what is needed is a clear-eyed acknowledgement of the mistakes that were made and how to ensure they don't happen again."

Unfortunately, Secretary Merrill has shown no desire to acknowledge the problems. I supported recent pandemic-driven legislation that expands absentee voting for this November, but Secretary Merrill should not mail ballot applications to all registered voters.

Conversation over unemployment benefits during the pandemic continues, and Gov. Lamont recently stated his opposition to a Trump administration plan to provide an extra \$400 a week in benefits that requires states to cover \$100 a week. The governor worries about the cost, and while I don't disagree, his position is notable because he offered little resistance during the controversy over \$130 million in state employee raises that kicked in last month.

I'll end with a note about reopening schools. Gov. Lamont has made a media push to promote his desire to get kids into the classroom, with famed infectious diseases expert Dr. Anthony Fauci lauding Connecticut's efforts to position itself for reopening. Generally speaking, I agree with the governor's view. But recently, after the governing body for high school sports decided to go forward with a fall season, the governor's administration signaled concern.

For me, that sends a mixed message to parents—particularly since so many young people have spent the summer mixing it up at camps and in sports leagues.

The last thing anyone needs right now is more angst. But I worry that the governor's administration, by even contemplating a top-down order on sports after promoting school reopening and leaving districts to make their own plans, will contribute to our shared anxiety.

## Let's Be "Frank"

Well brother, a few things have occurred these past few weeks that have really gotten me to think. SueAnn just retired (earlier than expected but at a great time) and she has been looking forward to it for a few years. Some people go on vacation and relax. My wife bought a new weed whacker, tested it for four hours and shampooed the only carpet we have in the house. She also touched up scratches on the paint due to casualties of her mom's walker.

She did take a day to accompany Gina on a three hour drive to Pennsylvania to hike a mountain. Gina, who works out extensively came home with shin splints and sore calf muscles. SueAnn came home ready to change the bed linens and do a couple of loads of laundry.

This is what started me thinking. Perhaps we can do an exercise plan for some of the young people who spend countless hours in the gym only to be in less than favorable condition, often pulling the muscles they work so hard to tone. My idea would be to call it "Meema's keys to good health".

This plan would not involve a daily workout other than a daily walk for 45 minutes to an hour. The rest of the regimen would have to be performed during the course of a full week. It would involve the following: Eight loads of laundry carried up and down to the lower level of the home, folded and put away. Cook at least 8 meals per week. Vacuum eight rooms every week. Dust and clean those same eight rooms. Tend a garden involving planting, weeding, watering and raking as needed. Weed whack at least one hour per week. Baby sit for two very active boys at least once a week and often more. Get on your hands and knees five times a week to scrub tile floors and grout. Take out the trash to the walk and if you haven't retired yet, don't let a forty hour work week curtail these activities.

You'll notice this plan involves no weight lifting or yoga or running. It might not be the scientific work out of our youngsters but it avoids cramping up on those leisurely activities like kayaking and hiking and it also helps to maintain a perfect weight.

My astute readers are probably asking. "If she's doing all this, what's her husband doing?" That would be a conversation for another time.

I'm intrigued by some of the ridiculousness that is spewed during this virus. I probably fear this thing more than most but it doesn't mean I can't step back and chuckle at some of the comments by supposed scholars.

First there is the Church. The Catholic Arch Diocese allowed churches to open more than a month ago (with restrictions). They also announced that the requirement to go without risk of sin would not start until September 6th. So I'm thinking. If you went during the past few weeks, can you change some of those Masses for Masses in September? If you went to most Masses during the past month but skipped one for no apparent reason, does that absolve you even though you had no good reason for not going to Mass? If the virus scares you and you do not return to Mass on Sundays after September 6th, how do you go to Confession to confess missing Mass, if you are afraid to actually go to Mass.

I was once told by a close personal friend (a priest) that the good book says "remember to keep holy the Sabbath". Nothing there says go to Mass every Sunday. "You can keep the Sabbath holy in many ways he explained". Although I am obviously not a Theological scholar, I do believe that is a simpler answer than guilt-tripping people into having to go to Mass due to an arbitrary date picked by the experts.

The recent ping pong game being played by the CIAC in regards to fall sports at high schools is laughable. Yes this is serious stuff but to change decisions from one day to the next, is not fair to kids, families, coaches and schools. It's difficult to make the choices based on the unknown, but someone has to stand up and make a decision and live with it good or bad.

I do believe parents have to lead their children with some character. Yes this is a bad blow to student athletes. But as a long time coach and just an old guy who has been around, I've seen students have to cut their athletic careers short due to injury, family crisis, personal crisis, the need to work, difficulty with grades and a host of other reasons. This was devastating to all these youngsters but it didn't end their lives. It was a decision forced in favor of the greater good and in most cases it made them stronger.

Finally, while discussing the needs for a new bed I was advised to go to a place where you lay in the bed and it electronically evaluates your body to suggest what type of bed you need. My printout advised, a coffin.

Well that's it my brother. Take care and I'll see you soon..

**Remember, if you misplaced your issue or didn't receive it in the mail you can always go to [www.Totokettimes.com](http://www.Totokettimes.com) for the full issue as well as a directory of our advertisers.**

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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





## 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](http://www.totokettimes.com). You can also e-mail [totokettimes@comcast.net](mailto:totokettimes@comcast.net).

## "BLOOD CLOT AWARENESS"

### Support Group Meeting

The purpose of this group is to share our experience after suffering a blood clot, as well as information & support to each other.

Our next meeting will be

**Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6:30PM.**

This will be an outside meeting with mask and social distancing. Please bring a chair to North Farm Park, 251 North Branford Rd. If it rains, we will sit under the outside pavilion.

For more information please contact Debbie at 203-483-0646.

# TAG SALE



**August 29, 2020**

**Saturday  
8am - 2pm**

I love  
to shop



**Rain or Shine**

184 Stone House Lane, Guilford, CT

Accepting donated items to sell  
(for drop off 8/27 or 8/28) but must  
call or text Patty first 203-996-8391.  
Items CANNOT be brought to the shelter.

All proceeds benefit  
Branford Compassion Club  
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& Adoption Center



<https://branfordcompassionclub.org>

## Recycling News

**Simple Recycling Weekly Curbside Collection Program restarted our town's pink bag pickup program June 1st.**

*Thank you for your continued support of this program!*

\*\*\*\*\*

### New Homes in Town

**Owners: you may contact John's Refuse directly at 203-484-0281 for your new trash and recycling totes**

*Welcome and thank you for recycling responsibly!*

\*\*\*\*\*

### ReStores by Habitat for Humanity

**If you cannot wait for the next bulky waste pickup in November, check out ReStores!**

**ReStores is a donation based retail store open to the general public. All proceeds from the ReStore benefit Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven.**

Check their website for more information:

<http://newhavencountyrestore.org>

Some acceptable items for donation and purchase include: tools and gardening items, appliances, doors, windows, cabinets, lighting, plumbing items, upholstered and wood furniture, flooring, hardware, lumber, home décor and more.

\*\*\*\*\*

### HazWaste Central Open for the Season

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

For more information go to [www.rwater.com](http://www.rwater.com), call 203-401-2712 or email [ask.hazwaste@rwater.com](mailto:ask.hazwaste@rwater.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Keep Your Neighborhood Cleaner and Safer

*Please store totes away from street and sidewalks after pickup.*

#### Unacceptable Curbside Waste Reminder

**Construction debris (such as toilets, concrete blocks, roofing material), propane tanks, TVs, monitors, printers, home cleanouts may not be placed curbside.**

**These items will not get picked up; please dispose/recycle properly.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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!**

## Farm River Survey

**Press Release:** Over the next month, volunteers from the North Branford Land Conservation Trust, will be joining with others from Branford and East Haven in surveying the entire length of the Farm River.

What will they be doing? They will be walking upstream in the river and checking things like river width, erosion, type of river base and water flow, to name a few.

It's all part of the initiatives of Save the Sound and ConserveCT to help ensure healthy watercourses.

So, if you hear some voices in the river near your property, that's what's happening. Feel free to stop by and say hello to the volunteers and share any information you have.

The mission of the North Branford Land Conservation Trust is to acquire and maintain open space and to promote the conservation and enjoyment of land and natural resources within the Town of North Branford.



## Schools set to Open September 8th

Schools are scheduled to open on September 8th and Superintendent of Schools Scott Schoonmaker and his staff are preparing for the safest venue possible. In keeping in compliance with the Board of Health as well as state and federal mandates, the district has posted school guidelines on the district website.

All Schools will have touchless sanitizer and staff has been added to clean and sanitize classrooms and rest rooms throughout the day. Lavatory use will be limited as well as class sizes, whenever possible. After each class, all desks and seats will be sanitized before another group enters the room. Face masks will be mandatory for all teachers, employees and students. Hallway traffic will be designed for one direction and students are advised to carry their daily needs in a backpack so there will be fewer visits to their lockers. Most classes will be set up facing the same way so students aren't facing each other.

At NBIS and Jerome Harrison Elementary, students will eat lunch right in their classrooms to eliminate mixing classes in the cafeteria. Also, recesses will be arranged by class so there will be limited interaction with other students.

According to Schoonmaker, expenses are being supplemented from aid from the CARES Act as well as another appropriations bill to offset out of pocket items which were not budgeted for. To date they have received \$64,000 and the Town is also applying for aid.

He added, "we are excited to return our students to school to begin the process of returning to normal...whatever that may look like. Each day that passes with separation and lack of structure further complicates the process."

For information on individual school regulations visit the district website at [www.northbranfordschools.org](http://www.northbranfordschools.org).

## Fall Sports put on Hold

Recently after much deliberation, the CIAC voted to proceed with high school athletic Fall Sports, with several restrictions, while also making provisions for individual schools to add to the requirements, all for the safety of the student athletes and their families.

One day after the decision, the Connecticut Health Department issued some concerns about the startup of sports. The two groups then went back to the drawing board, with the CIAC announcing new restrictions, leaving the Fall Sports in limbo.

Conditioning which has been going on for a month without any publicized threats of the virus, has now been halted till at least August 24th. The original plan had scrimmages starting on September 18th but that has also been currently put on hold.

This decision came the day after the Board voted unanimously to continue with the original plan for Fall sports. On social media, fans and students were not happy with the roller coaster ride of decision making that seemed to be confusing and frustrating. One football coach commented, "We told our kids they had to follow certain requirements as well as condition programs and they did all that. Now we are supposed to tell them they might not play. Football has always been a decision made by parents and families and it's not fair to take that decision away from this group. It means a lot to them," he added.

North Branford Superintendent of Schools Scott Schoonmaker was quoted in the New Haven Register as saying, "To say frustrated would be an understatement. I think we're all looking for guidance, direction and consistency and it's just been all over the place. We're just tearing kids' hearts out."

At presstime more meetings were to follow to come up with a final decision.

## Edward Smith Library Offering Outdoor Games

Although we are limited in our activities this summer, there is no limit on creative ways to fill your family time! Lawn games are now available at the Edward Smith Library (3 Old Post Rd., Northford). Games may be checked out on your library card for one week and must be borrowed (and returned) to the Smith Library.

**Tumbling Timbers** is perfect for indoor or outdoor events such as BBQ's, tailgating, camping and much more. The game includes fifty-six - 1.5 in. x 2.5 in. x 7.5 in. pieces and 19 rows of tumbling timbers. Players take turns removing a block (using only 1 hand) and placing it on the top. The object is to be the last player to successfully stack a wooden block without knocking down the tower. This timber game stands 2.5 ft. tall to start and depending on your level of experience can reach a height of 5 ft.

**Ladder Toss** is an outdoor game played between two teams who take turns attempting to throw a bolo made of two golf balls connected by a rope at a ladder. Each ladder rung is worth varying point values of 1, 2 or 3 points. In order to win the game, a team must score exactly 21 points.

**Croquet** is a classic lawn game ideal for barbecues, picnics and more as it's easy to understand for players of almost any age. The object of the game is to use a mallet to hit your ball(s) through the course of hoops (wickets) in the right sequence and finish by hitting them against the center stake. The first player to successfully navigate through the course wins.

**Horseshoes** is a [lawn game](#) played between two people (or two teams of two people) using four [horseshoes](#) and two throwing targets (stakes) set in a [lawn](#) or sandy area. Players alternate turns tossing horseshoes at stakes in the ground, which are traditionally placed 40 feet apart.

**Cornhole** is a classic bag tossing game that is fun for all ages. Players take turns throwing their bags at a raised platform (board) with a hole in the far end. A bag tossed in the hole scores 3 points, while one on the board scores 1 point. The game can be played with 2 or 4 players.

**Kan Jam** is a 4-player disc game, similar to bean bag toss, played with a flying disc that uses teamwork to score. The object of the game is to score points as a team by throwing the disc in the goal ("kan"). You and a partner work together to get the disc to do one of three things: hit the kan, go inside the kan through the top opening or, best of all, through the kan's slot opening for an Instant Win. One player throws the disc toward the kan and the other can redirect it.



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ACTIVITIES

TENNIS CAMP

**Who:** Grades 3 - 9  
**When:** August 24 - August 28  
**Time:** Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
**Where:** Memorial Park Tennis Courts  
**Fee:** \$150  
**Instructor:** Phillip Guliano  
**Description:** Grab your tennis racket and get ready to play! Whether you're a beginning, an intermediate or an advanced player, this program will improve your game and help you get more enjoyment from tennis. Our tennis programs focus on skill refinement as well as practice and match play to develop consistent, well-rounded tennis players. Each player is given personal attention and taught through repetition in an enjoyable, lively atmosphere.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**FOR A BACK TO SCHOOL**  
**DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT**

**Saturday September 12, 2020**  
**8:00pm at the PoCo Festival Grounds**  
*Details to follow*

Thank you to all that came out to

**AN EVENING WITH**

**Li Liu**

Cosponsored by:  
North Branford Parks and Recreation & North Branford Public Libraries

With all the challenges we have been facing, it was such a wonderful opportunity to get out and experience an incredible acrobatic performance by Li Liu. All of our guests, from children to our senior citizens, were in awe of Li's abilities, life accomplishments and culture. Special thanks to the North Branford Public Libraries for partnering with us on this fabulous event, we are looking forward to many more!

**Look for our new offerings on**

**TOTOKET TV**  
NORTH BRANFORD  
*- Community Media Center -*

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**

Whether you've participated in group fitness classes or you are trying it out for the first time, you can customize this class to meet your individual needs right from the comfort of your own home. Improve your strength, mobility, flexibility and balance in an easy-to-follow workout.

**SENIOR CHAIR YOGA - Tuesdays & Thursdays - 1:00 pm**  
This class can be practiced either sitting or using chairs for support in various postures and is designed to mindfully increase range of motion while meeting students where they are. Please welcome Pat Velleca as she instructs this new program!

**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.**

**Return this survey to be automatically entered in to a raffle!**

**North Branford  
Senior Center  
Reopening Survey**

The health and safety of our seniors is our top priority. We are working alongside the East Shore District Health Department to determine when we can resume programs at the Senior Center. We will only open when we have all safety measures in place. Once we can reopen, we will notify our members via mail, email and on our social media pages. Please fill out this survey and return it to Senior Center, 1332 Middletown Ave., Northford, CT 06472.

1. How worried are you about the impact of coronavirus on you personally?

☐ Extremely worried

☐ Very worried

☐ Somewhat worried

☐ Not so worried

☐ Not at all worried

2. Would you return to the Senior Center before there is a vaccine for COVID-19?

☐ Yes

☐ Maybe/need more information

☐ No

3. Would you attend outdoor program(s) offered by the Senior Center?

☐ Yes

☐ Maybe/need more information

☐ No

4. Would you attend indoor program(s) offered by the Senior Center?

☐ Yes

☐ Maybe need more information

☐ No

5. Would you participate in program(s) if you are required to wear a mask?

☐ Yes

☐ Maybe/need more information

☐ No

6. How do you feel about getting your temperature taken before participating in program(s) at the Senior Center?

☐ I think temperatures should be required

☐ Neutral

☐ I will NOT participate if temperature checks are required

7. How likely are you to visit our Senior Center understanding that there be social distancing requirements, capacity restrictions, and increased cleaning and sanitation efforts?

☐ Not likely

☐ Undecided

☐ Likely



## 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.northfordcongregationalchurch](http://www.northfordcongregationalchurch)

**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](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 NOTICE



**Sandra "Sandy" Lee Popp**, a resident of Northford, passed away peacefully after a long battle with Alzheimer's on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at the age of 72 while at home surrounded by loved ones. Sandy was born in Bridgeport on August 22, 1947 and was the daughter of the late William and Evelyn Shaw Sorensen, was raised in Stratford. Sandy was a devoted mother, wife and friend. She was a talented seamstress for most of her life and enjoyed all things sewing, quilting, crafts and butterflies. She loved traveling the National Parks with her parents and

husband and being at the family cabin in Vermont on their annual trips. She especially loved spoiling her grandchildren. She was a second mother to all who knew her, and always welcomed her heart and home to everyone. Sandy is survived by her beloved husband of 51 years, Kenneth Popp. She was the mother of Michelle Cook, Brian (Tippi) Popp, Michael Popp, and Nicole (Brian) Santamauro. Grandmother of Matthew Edwards, Sarah Cook, Makayla Popp, Riley Popp, Samuel & Max Santamauro. Sister of Richard (Nancy) Sorensen, Sr. and Ronald Sorensen. She is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and countless dear friends. Her passing leaves its mark on many lives.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Alzheimer's Association of CT, 200 Executive Blvd., Suite 4B, Southington, CT 06489.

## The World Is Grieving

The world is grieving. The Covid-19 pandemic has created fears that many never before experienced. The loss of loved ones, ones own health issues, loss of job, financial, security and freedom. We grieve for many reasons and, with these can come stress, sadness and depression.

The healing process is one that requires proper intervention. Fear is the number one deterrent for moving ahead. Once a person seeks help, they will soon realize there is hope. Many people are experiencing complicated grief. Grief that is different from anything we have ever known. Isolation, loss of independence and quality of life are all key factors in experiencing depression and a sense of hopelessness.

Today's bereavement programs are no longer "one fits all" We are dealing with very complicated and unfamiliar issues. Due to the pandemic, many who have lost loved ones confined to hospitals and other nursing facilities, were unable to say their "Goodbye." Adding to their loss and prolonging their grief, funeral arrangements cannot be conducted in the same manner prior to Covid-19. This only exacerbates the grieving process.

In normal times, one first feels shock followed by a period of grieving. Covid-19 has changed this. Extended grief has taken on a new meaning...."lingering grief." For many, without seeking support, lingering grief may lead to problems not previously experienced with the loss of a loved one.

Covid-19 has brought many changes to our lives now and for years to come. We are on a new journey on an unfamiliar road never before traveled. Support through family, friends and professional intervention is vital to moving ahead. Keep in mind that there is light at the end of the tunnel. We cannot change what has happened but rather accept what it is and, with good judgment and support, work toward a happy and productive life for ones self and fellow human beings.

If you are experiencing any of the above, please seek support. There is help and hope through church, bereavement programs and private intervention.

**Jean M. Hadley (Bereavement Program Facilitator)**  
Northford, CT - 203-433-4552

*Join us for Mass at*

## St. Ambrose Parish

**30 Caputo Rd. North Branford**

We've done a great job following protocols to ensure everyone a safe worship space. Keeping within the civil and church guidelines it's great to see so many return to Mass and feel safe to do so! For those who are sick, homebound, or caring for others who are in vulnerable health, we livestream our Mass on Sunday. Visit [facebook.com/nbcatholics](https://facebook.com/nbcatholics) or [vimeo.com/nbcatholics](https://vimeo.com/nbcatholics)

To accommodate as many for seating as we can,  
**we are holding all Masses temporarily at St. Augustine.**  
**Daily Mass:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday  
9:00AM

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM (English Ordinary, no incense)

Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM (Latin Ordinary, using incense)

I will continue to keep our community in my prayers. I know that these days are a cause of concern for all and as we adjust to the "new normal" it's important we remember God's continual love for us. He has not left us orphans. Please let me know if I can be of service to any of you. God bless you!

**Rev. Robert L. Turner**

## Rosary Walk 2020 No. Haven



All are welcome to join us every Tuesday evening at 6:00 PM at All Saints Cemetery (rain or shine). The Rosary Walk will continue until Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> with a time change in October. 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](http://www.ccacem.org).



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  
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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

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mowing, trimming, edging, mulching and other lawn maintenance. we are  
licensed and fully insured. Call Mike at 203-640-5317 or Joe at 475-201-  
7041 for a free estimate.

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

HELP WANTED

Part time Driver with good driving record. To apply, call Petals 2 Go at  
203-484-7800.  
Chat n Chew is hiring a 2 days per week cook. Call Leigh at 203-815-  
8472.  
Northford Coffee n Ice Cream is hiring for the 6:00 - 11:00 AM shift  
and the 4:00 - 9:30 PM shift. Call Leigh at 203-815-8472.

STAY  
SAFE!

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



North Haven Camera Club is Back!

Welcome back to the North Haven Camera Club's new season! The club's  
online meeting will feature our very own Bill Dillane presenting Photojournal-  
ism and Event Photography. This will be a discussion about photojournalism  
and storytelling with pictures. Bill will explain what works well for him as an  
event photographer for groups, families, and activities. He will explain what he  
chooses for story-telling compositions. This presentation will include a Q&A,  
and participants can share what they do or would do with a composition.

North Haven Camera Club has presentations online on the 1st Tuesday of the  
month and competitions on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. If you are interested  
in attending a meeting or in joining our club please email: [Northhavencameraclub@gmail.com](mailto:Northhavencameraclub@gmail.com). or visit our website at [www.northhavencameraclub.com](http://www.northhavencameraclub.com).

American Legion Post 176 at the North Haven Green. Photo by Bill Dillane,  
North Haven Camera Club.

Fire Department Receives \$510,750 FEMA Grant

Press Release.The North Branford Fire Department was notified by the  
Federal Emergency Management Agency that is will be receiving \$510,750.  
on behalf of the department of homeland security under the 2019 assistance  
to firefighters grant(afg)program.

According to fire chief William Seward, III, the department filed the FY  
2019 application based upon a strategy that will improve radio communica-  
tions between firefighters and dispatch as well as ensure effective communica-  
tions with mutual aid departments and hospitals. This funding will cover the  
acquisition of new rugged portable radios and related accessories. Each riding  
position on fire/ems.

Units will be equipped with new P25 compliant portable radios. This new  
equipment will also allow the department to expand its communications system  
without impacting the local budget. The grant award will permit the department  
to re-purpose older radios to be used by the town for non-emergency operations.  
The AFG awards are very competitive between fire services, EMS organizations  
and state fire training organizations. Awards are further categorized by career,  
combination and volunteer fire departments. Funding is calculated based upon  
population served, the north branford award is 95% federal with a 5% match of  
local funds. Hence, the full valve of the fire department's award is \$536,287.55.

Mr. Ed Prunier, chairperson of the board of fire commissioners would like to  
thank not only the chief for filing the comprehensive application but also the  
town manager, members of the Town Council and Mayor for their continued  
support, and our federal legislators for the assistance they provide in the quest  
for external funding sources.

According to Chief Seward and commissioner Prunier, without the financial  
benefit which arises from the AFG, the cost of purchasing new portable radios  
would be borne by taxpayers. The current radios are 14 years old, no longer  
manufactured and do not permit interoperability between mutual aid partners.  
They both indicate that the safety of our firefighters is and always will be our  
number one priority.