

Orange Town News



Orange's Exclusive Newspaper
Mailed Free To Every Home & Business in Orange

VOL. 16 – ISSUE 1

CIRCULATION 6073

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021



Amity Superintendent Addresses 2019 Budget Surplus

Amity School Supt. Dr. Jennifer Byars had the following comments regarding the surplus at the end of the 2020 school year, "Many school districts (if not most) had significant surpluses at the end of the school year last year because we were closed for a quarter of the school year and many programs were not operating," she wrote.

It should also be noted that the District returned close to \$2 million to the member towns, as follows:

Bethany\$358,085;
Orange\$992,321;
Woodbridge\$600,371;
Total\$1,950,777

The Amity Finance Committee and Board of Education approved the transfer of \$495,482 (1%) of the FY20 budget surplus into the Capital and Non-recurring account. "School districts are permitted to maintain a

capital non-recurring account for larger projects and statutorily, regional school districts may designate funds remaining at the end of the school year to that account to pay for capital improvements," Dr. Byars wrote. "This helps taxpayers because those improvements can be paid for without the need to take out bonds and pay interest."

Regional school districts are permitted to put no more than 1% of the unspent funds into the capital non-recurring account.

According to a memo from Amity Finance Director Theresa Lumas, end-of-year purchases (EOY) of \$515,077 included the following:

Self-Insurance Fund (\$229,311)

- The suspension of routine exams, diagnostic tests, dental appointments, and non-emergency surgeries reduced

See "Amity Budget" On Page 2

Welander Leaves Orange Board of Ed for Hartford

BY MELISSA NICEFARO
ORANGE TOWN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

After three years on the Orange Board of Education, and leaving a trail of praise behind her, Mary Welander is giving up her spot on the board for a seat with the Connecticut State Representatives. She served her last meeting December 21.

"Her obligations up there in Hartford, as well as being a mom is pretty immense, and as is Mary's character, if she can't do something 100%, she doesn't do it," said Board Chairman Bill Kraut. "I'm proud of her for making this decision and for what she's accomplished."

The Board of Education is commonly known as the board that requires the most time and dedication.

Superintendent of Schools Vince Scarpetti said he's not happy to see her go, but he understands. "Having three children is time consuming, and in addition to that, she is also the PTA president at Race Brook School. The time that she has dedicated and made herself available to the school and myself – I have to say that it is going to be a loss for our district. I appreciate all of the time that she's dedicated and it impacts all of our students in all of

our schools," he said.

After letting her fellow board members know of her intent to give up her seat, she wanted to address the community during the meeting to explain the reason behind what she called a bit-

tersweet decision. "Before and after my election to the General Assembly of Connecticut, it had been my full and genuine intention to remain until the end of my term to fulfill my responsibility to the board, the town and the families who entrusted me until next November," she said. When her general assembly assignments were finalized, she realized she would have to give the board of education up.

She will serve on the regulation review committee, which meets year-round, the education committee, and as vice chair of the children's committee.

"I will not be able to meet the time and attention needed to serve on the Orange Board of Education as a responsible member of good standing," she said. "I have great respect for the board and the work that we do, advocating for the children of our town,

See "Welander" On Page 4



Mary Welander

RealLiving®
Wareck D'Ostilio
RealEstate
www.WDSSELLS.com
New Haven • Milford • Woodbridge
Branford • Old Saybrook

The market is HOT and our team is on FIRE! Listings needed. Selling? Call us!



ORANGE | 773 Orange Center Rd | \$549,000

Cape Cod-style home w 3 BRs, 2 full baths, 1 half bath and approx 2043 sq ft. Loc'd on 1.37 acres, updt'd kitn w/new SS appls, new counters, backsplash, & flooring. FR/den, form LR w/fpl, DR. Hdwd flrs in most rooms. MBR and FR have new carpeting. Newer roof. Public water, oil-burning boiler for radiator heat. Lrg unfin'd bsmt area. Commuters dream for YALE, Fairfield County and NYC.

Ross Cotjanle 203-401-1993



ORANGE | 334 Narrow Lane | \$399,000

Cent loc'd multi lvl home w/spac form LR open to lrg FR w/wood burning corner fpl. Two steps down from FR leads to vlt'd great room w/skylights. Priv lyl yard and blt-in pool. Kitn is the heart - pretty oak cabtry, tiled backsplash, granite cntrs, newer appls. Second level; 2BRs and an office, and steps up to a priv MBR. 2 year old roof, 5 year old furnace w/4 heating zones, city water, c/air

Regina Sauer 203-494-3421

An Independent, Owned and Operated Franchisee of Real Living Real Estate, LLC



ORANGE
438 Howellton Road
SOLD 97%
of Listing Price

Buddy DeGennaro 203-710-2548



This winter, take comfort in our care.

The right respite care makes all the difference.

Introduce your loved one to a community that feels like home, knowing they'll be comfortable and engaged. Trust Benchmark to care for and connect with your loved one, no matter how long they stay with us. Our short-term respite care* is perfect for seniors who need a little extra help this season.

Today, we're humbled to see our response to COVID-19 earn high remarks – 87% of our residents and their families say their opinion of Benchmark is as high or higher than it ever was. See how we live up to our name.

Coachman Square
at Woodbridge
21 Bradley Road,
Woodbridge

Schedule a short-term **Assisted Living** or **Mind & Memory Care** tour today!
Call **203-693-9135** or visit **CoachmanSquareAtWoodbridge.com**

*Please check with the community for any residency requirements.



“Amity Budget” From Page 1

the medical claims for the final quarter of FY20. It is anticipated that once the State reopens the missed procedures will be scheduled, as well as those of age and need for the current year, and in a worst-case scenario claims could rise due to COVID-19 treatments as the District reopens.

By raising the medical insurance fund, the district increases its reserve from a 25% threshold of claims to 30% on a temporary basis for one year. If funds are not needed, the reserve will be reduced back to 25% and the funds will be utilized to offset the budget request for fiscal year 2021-22.

Preparing for virus protection

- The district purchased personal protective equipment such as masks, gowns, gloves, and face shields to prepare for reopening schools in the fall of 2020,

recognizing none of these items were anticipated in developing the FY21 budget. Thermal security cameras were purchased to register temperatures and perform a mask check of staff and students arriving at main entrances of all three schools.

Laptops for high school teachers were purchased to prepare for remote instruction upon reopening.

Cafeteria (\$100,000) - The District's fund to support the school lunch program has been running a deficit for three straight years. The ongoing repair and maintenance of aging equipment contributed to the deficit and the State's change in eligibility status determination increased free and reduced lunch status. Next year appears to be even more challenging in the COVID-19 environment as we will have to change how service is provided, food is served, and food packaging.



ATTENTION ORANGE RESIDENTS!

Have an Upcoming Birth Announcement, Anniversary, Engagement or Wedding?
Send it to us with a photo and we will publish it FREE.

Orange Town News, P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477
Email: edit@orangetownnews.com



Best Flower Shop in Milford Since 1985

Family Owned & Operated • All Products 100% Guaranteed • Full Service Florist & Gift Shop
DELIVERY TO NEW HAVEN COUNTY • SAME DAY DELIVERY TO ORANGE!



ZERO CONTACT DELIVERY • CURBSIDE PICKUP • SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS • OPEN 7 DAYS

325 New Haven Ave. • Milford, CT 06460
(203) 878-3717 • www.beachwoodflorist.com



Tarry Lodge
278 Park Street

ENTER TO WIN
A FAMILY STYLE
TAKEOUT DINNER!
TheShopsatYale.com/Dine

South Bay • Tarry Lodge • Basta Trattoria • Harvest Wine Bar & Restaurant
Claire’s Corner Copia • Maison Mathis • Ivy Wok • Pacifico • Pokémoto Hawaiian Poké
Sherkaan Indian Street Food • Anchor Spa • Tropical Smoothie Cafe & more!

Thank you for wearing your face mask! 

The Shops at Yale

Find family style takeout menus at TheShopsatYale.com/Dine

The Chapel Street Historic and Broadway Districts in downtown New Haven.



New year, new home.

Ring in the New Year by saying “bye-bye”
to housework and “hello” to doing your
own thing. Whether it’s socializing, traveling,
exercising, or just relaxing, you can have your
style of fun at The Linden at Woodbridge.

Call (203) 350-3260 to schedule your
complimentary lunch and tour.

Take advantage of our January incentive:
Pay just \$99 for your first month’s rent!

(Assisted Living & Opal apartments.
New residents only. Must sign by January 31st, 2021.)



A Whole Lotta Heart
.....
330 Amity Road • Woodbridge
(203) 350-3260 • TheLindenAtWoodbridge.com
 A LEISURE CARE COMMUNITY

THE LINDEN
AT WOODBRIDGE



THE LAW OFFICES OF
JOHN J. CARANGELO, LLC



JOHN J. CARANGELO
ATTORNEY AT LAW

- WRONGFUL DEATH ACTIONS
- ESTATE PLANNING
- RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE CLOSINGS
- DIVORCE LAW
- CRIMINAL DEFENSE
- PERSONAL INJURY LITIGATION
- PROBATE LAW
- COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS
- FAMILY LAW
- CORPORATE LAW

ORANGE
501 BOSTON POST RD.
UNIT #23
ORANGE, CT 06477
P: 203-397-1808
F: 1-203-306-3322

MILFORD
64 CHERRY STREET
MILFORD, CT 06460
P: 203-878-5600
F: 203-878-5610

LEGAL
EXPERIENCE
YOU CAN
COUNT ON

“Welander” From Page 1

that I could not, in good conscience, give less than my very best effort.

“While not an easy decision at all, this will allow me to be a stronger advocate for our schools in the long run,” she said. She will represent Orange, Woodbridge and Derby in the position that was held by Themis Klarides for over 20 years.

“I will be counting on each and every one of you for your experience and understanding as I work to serve our district,” she says, wishing the entire Board of Education and the school system all the best in the future. “I will genuinely miss working with each one of you,” she said. “I hope everyone knows that not every board is as supportive of each other as this board is – this willing to set aside differences and do what is best for the children.”

After Welander addressed the board and administrators, her fellow board

members chimed in to thank her and wish her luck.

“Mary’s dedication, her intelligence, her attention to detail has made her an incredible board member,” said Susan Riccio.

Betty Hadlock thanked her for her passion and compassion. “Whether here or in Hartford, we know you’ll still be working for all of our students,” said Hadlock.

Kimberley Browe remembered a day when Mary stopped by her house before the election. “I’m not sure if Mary knew I lived there or not, but she asked if she could put a campaign sign on my lawn and I said yes. It wasn’t about party affiliation for us, it’s about what’s best for children, families, the town of Orange and the residents of the state of Connecticut. I am proud to have served with you and I will miss your voice on this board, but I know that we’ll have someone who’s acting on all of our behalf in Hartford.”

Orange Town News

CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR AD SPACE!

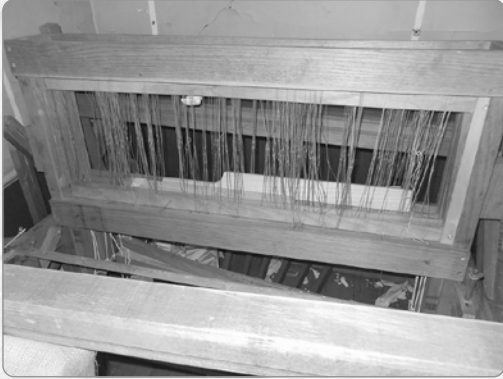
Display ads start at only \$110 per issue.
Call 203-298-4399 to place your ad!

www.OrangeTownNews.com

The Orange Historical Society

Below are just a few of the wonderful things for sale that can be seen
Saturdays from 10-3 at 605 Orange Center Road.

Come browse in the museum and the “furniture barn” out back.



For information call 203-795-3106



Orange’s Exclusive Newspaper
Mailed Free to Every Home & Business in Orange

Circulation of 6,073.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477
Phone: 203-298-4399

Publisher Rocky Salperto
Editor Marlene Silverstein
Production & Design J. Michael Kriz
Correspondents Melissa Nicefaro | Bettina Theil
Contributing Writers Roberta Nestor | Ginny Reinhard

To Submit News Articles/Local Events contact 203-298-4399
or Email: edit@orangetownnews.com

For Advertisement Information call 203-298-4399
or Email: ads@orangetownnews.com

To Submit a Letter to the Editor mail us
or Email your letter to: letters@orangetownnews.com

To Submit a Bulletin Board Event
Email us at: bulletinboard@orangetownnews.com

All articles, photographs and letters must include your name, address and daytime telephone number for confirmation. The Orange Town News reserves the right to reject any advertisement, article, photograph or letter. Letters to the Editor must be unique to the Orange Town News.

Contact us:
Rocky SalpertoRocky@orangetownnews.com
Marlene SilversteinMarlene@orangetownnews.com
J. Michael KrizMike@orangetownnews.com
Melissa NicefaroMelissa@orangetownnews.com
Bettina TheilBettina@orangetownnews.com

www.OrangeTownNews.com

RESERVE YOUR AD SPACE TODAY. CALL US AT 203-298-4399.

MICHAEL J. PAOLINI, CPA

PERSONAL AND BUSINESS TAX RETURNS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
IRS AND STATE REPRESENTATION
TAX PLANNING
BUSINESS FEASIBILITY STUDIES
NON-PROFIT EXEMPTIONS

174 CHERRY STREET · MILFORD, CT 06460
PHONE 203-876-0445 · FAX 203-874-7498
mpaolinicpa.com



Below are the next three issue dates & deadlines of the Orange Town News.
Thank you for your submissions to Your Home Town Newspaper.

Upcoming Issue Date	Issue Deadline
February 12 Valentine’s Day Issue.....	February 5
March 12 St. Patrick’s Day Issue.....	March 5
April 2 Easter and Passover Issue.....	March 26

Note: Copy due by 4:00p.m. Thank you.

FROM OUR READERS

Tractor Parade of Lights an Uplifting Experience
In this year of Covid 19, we are all looking for an uplifting experience, which this pandemic has taken from us. On Sunday December 6th, 2020, beginning at 4:30 PM; however, that cycle of anxiety and despair was at least temporarily removed.
Our family would like to thank Mr. Don Foyer of the Highway Department

and all of the wonderful individuals that participated in the Tractor Parade of Lights. There cannot be enough praise for all the people that made this wonderful event possible, and brought smiles and joy to both the children and adults alike. The hard work and dedication to bring this event together on such short notice, is what makes Orange the incredible place that it is.
Dr. Lawrence Messina



OTN LETTERS POLICY

Submit your letters for our "From Our Readers" section to:
Orange Town News, P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477
or email: letters@orangetownnews.com.
Please limit letters to 500 words and include a daytime phone number in case we have any questions. Letters must be exclusive to the Orange Town News for publication. We reserve the right to reject any letter.

BULLETIN BOARD

Donate your car, truck or van and help raise funds for a local private school. FREE, FAST, TOW AWAY. Running or Not Running. Can be used for a charitable tax deduction. Call Charter Oak Education dba Sterling Education at 860-643-1100. Charter Oak Education (now dba One School Global) is a small non-profit private school and is dedicated to helping children.

Zumba Gold Classes At Congregation Or Shalom, Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7 p.m., Congregation Or Shalom, 205 Old Grassy Hill Road, simple and easy routines to follow, designed for people of all ages and no experience is needed. If interested, call Robin at 203.314.8176 or temple office

at 203.799.2341.

Orange Historical Society Academy Antique & Gift Shop Museum, open Saturdays, 10:00am-3:00pm. For information call 203-795-3106.

Fairfield University Art Museum Announces By Design: Theater and Fashion in the Photography of Lalla Essaydi, January 29 – May 21, 2021, Fairfield University, Walsh Gallery in the Quick Center for the Arts; online lecture by exhibition curator Cynthia Becker on January 28, 2021. Due to COVID-19 precautions, in-person viewing is not available; viewing is available through the museum’s website as a 3-D tour; www.thequicklive.com.



DID YOU KNOW?

We're Expanding in 2021

We are excited to tell you that we have merged Floman DePaola, LLC (FD) with the law firm Wiley, Etter & Doyon (WED). The merger is effective January 1, 2021. The principals in WED are Matthew Wiley, Bryan Etter, and Trevor Doyon. We have known each other for many years, have brainstormed ideas about legal issues and business planning, and have learned that our cultures, processes, and commitments to our clients have much in common.

As you know, we intentionally have limited our practice areas to estate planning, long-term care planning, asset protection/Medicaid planning, and estate administration. WED's practice areas cover these same topics, but they also include business transactions and litigation. This will allow us to expand the scope of our services, and add skilled, talented and young members to our team.

You will continue to find us accessible, available, welcoming and warm. You also can continue to count on us for carefully drawn legal documents that protect what's important to you, plenty of plain language translations of what they say, and easy to understand explanations of complicated legal issues.

We will have two office locations. We will keep our office in Orange. Some of you know that Steve has been practicing in Orange since 1977 and Allison has been practicing in Orange since 2009. Staying in Orange is important to all of us. WED's office is located in North Haven. We hope you will feel comfortable meeting with us at either location, but if you prefer to meet with us in Orange, we will be here!

We have not decided on the final name of the merged law firm. For convenience, we will use Wiley, Etter & Doyon (we hope you'd agree that Wiley, Etter, Doyon, Floman, Depaola-Droz is a mouthful). We are working on developing a more generic firm name that describes the legal services we provide, instead of who we are; one that would be flexible as we plan to add more attorneys in the future.

We look forward to continue to write to you and seeing many of you in 2021. Feel free to reach out to either Steve or Allison if you have questions about our merger.



Steven P. Floman, Allison M. DePaola-Droz, and Nicole Camporeale of the law firm Floman DePaola, LLC are the authors of this article. This article has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute legal advice or to create an attorney client relationship. Readers should not act upon the information contained in this article without seeking advice from an attorney regarding the specific facts and circumstances of your case.

Floman  DePaola
Attorneys & Counselors At Law

Protecting what's important to you

Estate Planning | Estate Administration/Probate

Medicaid Planning | Special Needs Planning

Questions? Call us to set up a no-charge, no-pressure meeting.

P.O. Drawer 966 | 378 Boston Post Road | Orange, CT 06477

P: (203) 795-1211 • F: (203) 795-1215

www.flomandepaola.com • office@flomandepaola.com

DOLLAR\$ AND \$EN\$E

Putting Your Finances
First in the New Year

BY ROBERTA L. NESTOR

In years past, New Year's resolutions have primarily revolved around our health. Whether that means increasing your fitness, weight loss or adding more meditation – resolutions to be healthier are number one. After a year like 2020, health has become even more important, but what about your financial health? According to "Fidelity's 2021 Annual Resolutions" study, the top three financial resolutions were to save more money, pay down debt, and to spend less. Financial resolutions are gaining popularity and becoming a necessity.

The impact of COVID in 2020 has made its mark on people's finances. More than two-thirds of Americans experienced a financial setback. From job loss, unexpected non-health emergencies, unexpected financial assistance for family and friends, and health emergencies, the myriad of problems seemed to pile on. Just how much impact did COVID have in 2020? Of the 68% that experienced a financial set-back last year: 23% lost a job or household income; 18% had to provide financial assistance to family or friends; 20% had an unexpected non-health emergency and 16% experienced a health emergency in their family.

Although those numbers give a grim outlook, 38% of Americans stated that they will be focused on the day-to-day as they try to get themselves through the new year. On a positive note, at least 72% expect they will be better off financially in 2021 than 2020. Individuals are motivated to make financial resolutions primarily for greater peace of mind, being able to live a debt-free life, eliminating financial worry due to unforeseen expenses and getting control of daily expenses. People want less stress and worries when it comes to money. So where to start?

Saving is key. Many Americans were able to bear the financial burdens of 2020 because they had a solid savings cushion. For 2021, you can arrange for automatic withdrawals from your checking account and have it placed into your savings every month. There are also several apps that can round up the cost on each purchase and save those extra cents. If all else fails, the old-fashioned way—putting all loose change and dollars in a jar—can be great way to save for a rainy day.

Budgeting is another great way to ensure you stick to your costs and put away what you can. Laying out monthly expenses ranging from bills to groceries and the allotted "fun" category, you can easily see where your money is going and how much you can save in the bank or even a retirement account. Even today, the typical rule is to have 3 to 6 months' worth of essential expenses covered in savings. Now more than ever, it is crucial to have this financial safety net because we have all learned how disruptive life can be.

Once you have the near-future covered, then it is time to think far into the future. More Americans want to increase their annual retirement savings contributions—another easily accessible goal. It is a myth that you need to have a large amount to start retirement savings. Most investment plans have minimums as low as \$50 a month for ROTH or traditional retirement plans. Systematic savings is painless and flexible. Over time, you can increase the amount you set aside each month. It all adds up. Also know that all retirement plans have special catch-up provisions once you are over age 50 and will allow you to put in more for retirement.

Getting rid of debt may soon become the most popular goal for the younger generations. There are two different ways you can tackle debt—one balance at a time or by the one with the highest interest rate. Either way, it's important to put that into your budget. Even for baby-boomers, to get the most out of their retirement, they should work towards starting off that new-phase of life debt-free.

Resolutions are not meant to be done easily and quickly; they are something you have to work at each day. In Fidelity's study, they found that 77% of people with a financial professional were able to stick to their financial resolutions in 2020 compared to those without a financial advisor (only 50% of them managed to stick to their goals). The other reasons for success: the joy of making progress, clear goals, and realistic resolutions meant for the long haul.

While no one can be certain what will happen in 2021, you can alleviate some of that worry by paying yourself first, stick to your plan and be prepared to adapt to unexpected changes. Many of us have heard about taking care of ourselves both physically and mentally, but we should also be thinking financially, too. Create Financial Resolutions for 2021 and make it your best financial year yet.

Roberta L. Nestor is a financial advisor practicing at 759 Boston Post Road in Milford, CT offering retirement, long term care, investment, and tax planning services. She offers securities and advisory services as a Registered Representative and Investment Adviser Representative of Commonwealth Financial Network – a member FINRA/SIPC and a Registered Investment Adviser. Fixed insurance products offered through Nestor Financial Network are separate and unrelated to Commonwealth. Commonwealth Financial Network or Nestor Financial Network does not provide legal or tax advice. You should consult a legal or tax professional regarding your individual situation. Roberta can be reached at Nestor Financial Network, 203-876-8066 or roberta@nestorfinancial.com.

ORANGE EDUCATION ROUNDUP

Open Registration For OCC Nursery School

Orange Congregational Church Nursery School is now accepting applications for fall 2021. Our nursery school has served the community for more than 55 years, and is open to all faiths. Our school day runs from 9-1, with 3-year olds attending twice a week, and 4-year olds three days. We also offer a five-day program for returning students.

For more information about the school, or to schedule a visit with your child, please email us at ocns@yahoo.com.

Kindergarten Registration

If your child is turning five on or before January 1, 2022, it is time to register for kindergarten!

Please register by February 28th on our website: www.oess.org - there may be multiple pop-ups so please click on the pop-up for: "Kindergarten Registration".

After you have completed the initial registration process, there is no need to send in any paperwork until you receive an introductory letter in April. At that time, details, dates, and further instructions will be provided to you.

STUDENT NEWS

Achievements
Quinnipiac University

North Haven, CT - Connor Smith of Orange, Connecticut was recently inducted into Alpha Eta, the national honor society for the allied health professions, during a virtual ceremony. Smith is studying Radiologic Sciences. To be eligible for induction, undergraduate students must have a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher and graduate students must have a GPA of 3.8 or higher and be in the top 20 percent of the graduating class. All inductees must show a capacity for leadership and achievement, show promise for their profession and be recommended by a faculty member or dean.

Dean's List
Southern Connecticut State University

The following Orange students were named to the Dean's List for Fall 2020: Khizer Ali, Abigail Allen, Taylor Bova, Paige Bullock, Steven Butler, Lindsay Carloni, Gabriella Caruso, Arianna Centore, Lydia Cooper, Angela Duro, Lauryn Giuliano, Kylee Gustafson, Tyler Holloway, Kiersten Ignatowski, Noor Khalid, Jillian Martin, Isabella Martinez, McKenzie Mcdermott, Gia Mentillo, Kaitlyn Paradis, Romi Patel, Gunnar Poulimas, Aidan Reilly, Sarah Santini, Jared Smith, William Steinbrick, Jing Wang, Ze Wei Weng, and Garrett Yocher.

English Language Tutors To Local Immigrants Wanted

Literacy Volunteers Offer Tutor Training to Help Local Adults

Make a difference in someone's life! Did you know there are more than 15,000 people in Milford and Stratford without a high school diploma? Did you know there are more than 1,600 adults who are not fluent in English? Did you know there are 46 non-English languages spoken in these cities? (Data taken from the Milford and Stratford School District Strategic School Profile, 2012-2013.)

Virtual TUTOR TRAINING classes will be held on ZOOM. Classes will be held at 9:30 am January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021. Classes will be recorded for others to watch at their own pace.

Volunteer tutors will learn techniques to assist ELL (English language learners) students with dialogue, listening comprehension, oral fluency, phonics, reading comprehension and writing skills. No previous teaching experience required! All prospective tutors will be interviewed in advance. For further information, call the literacy office between the hours of 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at 203-878-4800 or email director@lvsct.org.

Literacy Volunteers is part of the ProLiteracy network of adult basic education and literacy programs. ProLiteracy works with its member agencies to raise awareness of available ELL services.

"Non-English speakers in the U.S. can fall behind in education or employment in an already challenging job market," said David C. Harvey, president and CEO of ProLiteracy. "Language barriers can also prevent them from understanding important financial, educational, health care, employment or legal rights issues. By raising awareness of our members' ELL programs, adults in need will know where to find resources that can help them gain skills to address everyday matters."

For more information on Literacy Volunteers of Southern CT's ELL and other volunteer programs, visit www.lvsct.org, email director@lvsct.org or call 203-878-4800.

ProLiteracy, based in Syracuse, New York, champions the power of literacy to improve the lives of adults and their families, communities, and societies. It works with adult new readers and learners and with local and national organizations to help adults gain the reading, writing, math, computer, and English skills they need to be successful. ProLiteracy advocates on behalf of adult learners and the programs that serve them, provides training and professional development, and publishes materials used in adult literacy instruction. ProLiteracy has 1,200 member programs in all 50 states and the District of Columbia and works with 125 nongovernmental international agencies. For more information, please go to www.ProLiteracy.org and www.NewReadersPress.com.

CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR AD SPACE!

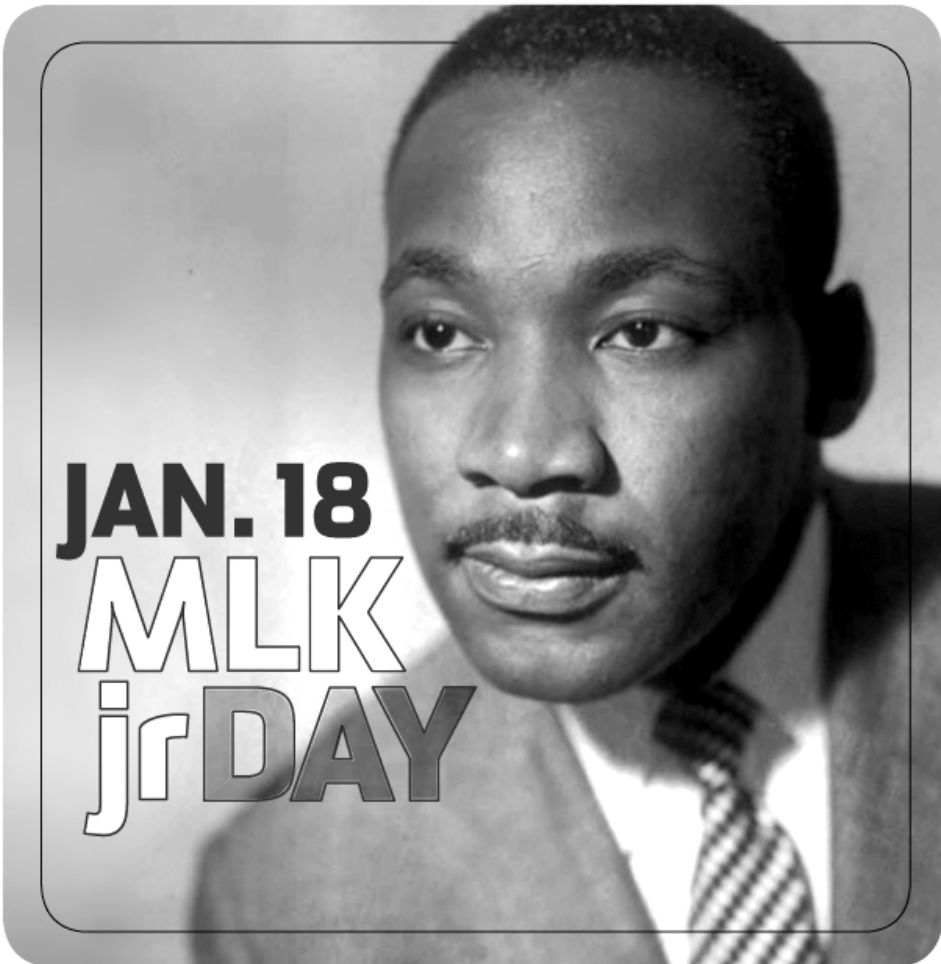
Display ads start at only \$110 per issue.
Call 203-298-4399 to place your ad!

Attention Teachers!

We want to know what's going on in your classroom!
Let us know about any fun activities or holiday projects.

You can also send us your pictures.
(Parental consent required)

Orange Town News
P.O. Box 1126, Orange, CT 06477 • edit@OrangeTownNews.com





Orange Community Juniorettes were spreading joy to two Orange families this holiday season. Orange Community Juniorettes is a parent-run, civic group under the Orange Community Woman's group which teaches the importance of giving back to our communities, fosters leadership skills, and offers enrichment programs to 5th-8th grade girls in Orange. Learn how you can get involved by emailing orangecommunityjuniorettes@gmail.com.



Pictured above left to right are Council Coats for Kids chairman John DeFeo, Council Grand Knight Gordon Parmelee and Council Coats for Kids co-chair Nelson Rivera.

Knights of Columbus Make Donations

Milford Knights of Columbus Council #14546 Santa Maria Council (Precious Blood Parish) donated 12 new winter coats to the ST. Mary's Kids Closet located at the Margaret Egan Center in Milford, CT on December 9th. These coats will help to provide warmth to those children in need during the winter months. In addition, the

Knights donated a new wheelchair to the Wheelchair Foundation providing aid to those that lack the freedom of mobility. If you are interested in joining the Knights and the Santa Maria Council in Milford, please contact Membership Director Bud McEntee at 917-907-6189.

LOCAL SPORTS



THE TRENTON THUNDER ARE THE 2020 ORANGE LITTLE LEAGUE EASTERN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Coach Jim Windsor, Coach Todd Szymaszek, Coach Carlos Duarte, Team Manager Eric Jadach. Front Row Left to Right: Silas Hill, Logan Jadach, Timothy Russo, Ryan Windsor, and Jack Higgins. Back Row Left to Right: Lucas Szymaszek, Connor Duarte, Milin Patel, Nate Ramos

Orange Town News

Submit Your Local Sports Photos, Articles & Schedules

Email edit@orangetownnews.com

Look Who is Turning 95!

Edna (Nana) Casolino was born during a cold and blustery snowstorm back on January 24th, 1926. She has been a long-time resident of Orange, CT for nearly 60 years. She grew up in historic New Haven on Chapel street and often talks about her wonderful childhood memories on the green. From New Haven she then went on to raise a family of 4 children (David, Thomas, Elizabeth, and Andrew) with her late husband Philip. During this time, she co-owned a charming Lingerie store in town (Saxon Kent) with her sisters, Anita and Marion until 2000. She is celebrated today by her children and grandchildren (Nathan, Jenecke, Jes-



Edna "Nana" Casolino

sica, Michael, Alyssa, Christa, Nicola & Francesca) who love her dearly!

DEATH NOTICES



Raymond R. O'Connor

Raymond R. O'Connor, of 674 Lambert Road, Orange, CT died on December 29, 2020. He was the husband of Diana W. O'Connor. Ray was born in New Haven on February 24, 1933, the son of the late John P. O'Connor and Hannah Leahy O'Connor.

He lived in Orange for the past 50 years. Prior to his retirement, Ray was a Vice President of the Empire Insurance Group and its Director of Internal Audit. Previously he had his own accounting practice and had been Director of Special Audits at the Olin Corporation. He was a life member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Connecticut Association of Public Accountants. Ray graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1960, after serving four years in the United States Air Force. Ray served for several years as Chairman of the Orange Water Pollution Control Authority and during the construction

phase of sewers of the Post Road. Ray was a member of the University of Connecticut Alumni Association and a parishioner of Holy Infant Church.

Besides his wife Diana, he leaves a daughter, Patricia Ann O'Connor (Huston Dawson) of Brooklyn Heights, New York and twin granddaughters, Riley and Hallie, a sister Mary O'Connor (Peter) Mongillo of Cheshire, and sisters-in-law, Gwen O'Connor of North Branford, CT, Barbara O'Connor of Grasonville, MD, Agnes O'Connor of Omaha, NE and Dr. Barbara A. Cummings of Henderson, NV as well as twenty-one nieces and nephews. Ray was predeceased by brothers Captain John E. (Dorcas) O'Connor of Wakefield, RI, Captain Joseph (Agnes) O'Connor of Old Lyme, CT, Robert F. (Barbara) O'Connor of Grasonville, MD and Harold (Gwen) O'Connor of North Branford, CT.

Arrangements were handled by Keenan Funeral Home, 238 Elm Street, West Haven, CT on Sunday, January 3, 2021. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, January 4, 2021 at Holy Infant Church, 450 Racebrook Road, Orange, CT. Interment followed at Orange Center Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Ray's name can be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Donation Processing, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD, 21741-5014, <https://www.michaeljfox.org/donate>.

To leave an online condolence or tribute, please visit www.keenanfuneralhome.com.

DEATH NOTICES

The Orange Town News will publish Death Notices for Orange families free of charge as a service to our readers. Family members please email notice (limit 250 words, please) to: edit@orangetownnews.com

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS



Pop The Trunk Food Drive – An Overflowing Success!

Cars were lining up and opening their trunks well before the starting time. Car after car arrived overflowing with canned fruits, vegetables and tuna, boxes of cereal, pasta and rice, jars of peanut butter and jam and huge quantities of toilet paper and paper towels. The event, promoted by the Orange Clergy Thanksgiving Appeal as Orange's first annual "POP-THE TRUNK" food drive, took place on Sunday December 6th at the High Plains Community Center.

As the cars arrived, a group of Boy Scouts led by Jonathan Glassman, Assistant Executive/Chief Operating Officer at Boy Scouts of America, greeted

the drivers with big, grateful "thank-you's" as the young men hauled the donated items into the Orange Food Pantry. Some of the volunteers reportedly arrived with wheel barrows, which must have come in handy! Denise Stein, Director of the Orange Food Pantry, explained that many families in town are facing a difficult winter, owing to the high unemployment rate brought about by the COVID pandemic. "This outpouring of love in the form of literally thousands of pounds of food will make such a big difference to our families in need!" she exclaimed; "thank you to all who supported this successful event, and thank you to our town's Clergy!"

LOCAL BUSINESS

Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio Expands in Old Saybrook

Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio Real Estate proudly announces the opening of its newest office on 101 Main Street, Old Saybrook on January 1, 2021. "Opening in Old Saybrook puts us closer and in a more convenient location to many of our existing customers and prospective clients that are working on the Shoreline. We are proud to expand our brand, recognition and footprint and gain a real foothold on central CT and the eastern shoreline," said John Wareck.

Greg Robbins and Rhonda Young, partners in the company's Branford location headed the effort to open this newly renovated Old Saybrook office together. Realtors Barbara Erni, Mim Beardsley, and Shawn Powers have joined the Old Saybrook office. Barb and Mim are founders and partners at the highly respected Harbor Light Realty which they have operated for dec-

ades at the 101 Main Street location.

"We are so pleased to welcome these fine Realtors to Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio. We are so thankful to have the decades of experience that Barb and Mim bring into our company," said Robbins.

"We continue to focus on growth with our company and our expansion to the Old Saybrook location fits well with our business strategy for the future," added Frank D'Ostilio, Partner and Designated Broker.

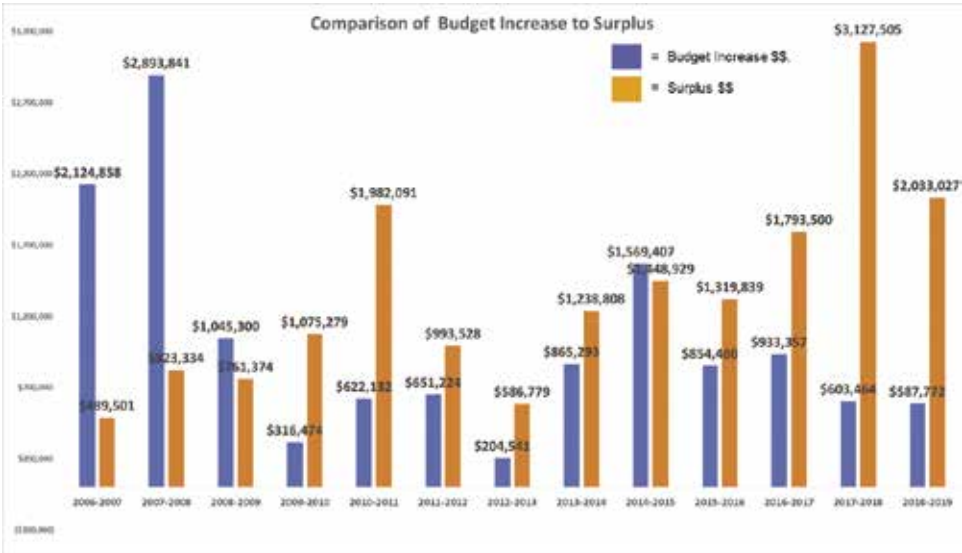
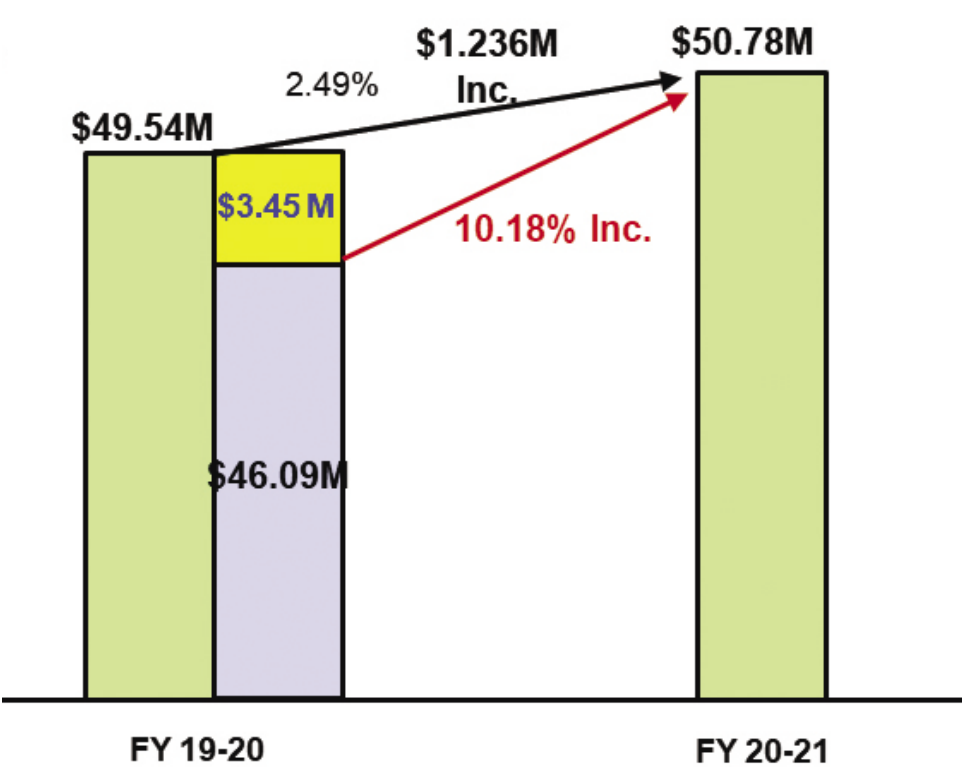
"We will be hiring more agents to accommodate clients as the company continues its record growth," said Young.

Real Living Wareck D'Ostilio Real Estate has offices in Milford, Woodbridge, New Haven, and Branford and part of The Real Living Network of Home Services of America, a Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate.

TOWN DEPARTMENTS & AGENCIES



The Orange Clergy thanks the residents of Orange for their generous response to the Pop-the-Trunk Thanksgiving appeal which benefited the Orange Food Pantry. Two rooms at High Plains Community Center were filled to overflowing with grocery items. Denise Stein, Orange Community Services Outreach Worker was “overwhelmed” by the kindness of our neighbors.



Town of Orange Meetings for the Month of January 2021



(Subject to Change, Check with Town Clerk’s Office, 203-891-4730)

19th	Orange Board of Education	7:00 pm	Mary L. Tracy
	Town Plan & Zoning Comm.....	7:00 pm	Town Hall
20th	CERT	7:00 pm	HPCC
	Recycling Cmte	7:00 pm	HPCC
21st	Case Memorial Library Comm	7:00 pm	Case Mem. Library
22nd	Emergency Management.....	8:00 am	Police Station
25th	Family Counseling.....	9:00 am	HPCC
	Board of Finance.....	7:00 pm	Town Hall
	Youth Services.....	7:30 pm	HPCC
27th	Park & Recreation Comm.....	7:30 pm	Town Hall
28th	Water Pollution Control Authority.....	6:00 pm	Town Hall

BOF Unanimously Supports a 0.47% Budget Increase for Amity

LONG-STANDING OVER-BUDGETING ISSUE REMAINS

BY JIM LEAHY
VICE-CHAIRMAN, ORANGE BOARD OF FINANCE

At its January 4th meeting, the Orange Board of Finance (OBOF) unanimously approved a motion to support up to a 0.47% budget increase for Amity in FY 21-22. Moreover, this motion also declared that all surpluses in the current budget (FY 20-21) be returned to the member Towns as per the agreement with prior Administrations.

This vote came after a thorough review of the budget details for FY 19-20 in which Amity had a \$3,449,000 surplus, a mind-numbing 6.96% of its budget. From there, the OBOF reviewed the 10 categories of items—totaling \$1,498,223 – not in the FY 19-20 budget that the Amity Board spend as “End of Year” (EOY) purchases. These EOY items included over \$250,000 on items that had already been cut from the 2.49% increase for FY 20-21 budget.

Due to the pandemic, the FY 20-21 Amity budget increase of 2.49% did not get approved by taxpayers at referendum; it was simply approved

by the Amity BOE itself. Moreover, in discussion at the Orange BOF meeting, I compared the ACTUAL \$\$ spent in FY 19-20 to the budgeted amount in FY 20-21: it was an astounding 10.16% INCREASE. (see graph)

In a high budget surplus environment, the proper way to view Budget increases is to compare ACTUAL budget to the planned budget in the following year (10.16%), not compare budget-to-budget amounts (2.49%) as is often and – in my view – wrongly done.

“The most important thing is that Amity had almost a \$3.5 Million surplus in FY 19-20 – that is the key to our 0.47% increase,” stated OBOF Chairman Kevin Houlihan. “Taxpayers need to know we are not gutting them. We are expecting Amity to budget for what they need and not continually over budget.”

For years overbudgeting at Amity has been commonplace. At the meeting, the OBOF Team reviewed 10+

See “Budget Increase” On Page 11

TOWN DEPARTMENTS

OCC Reminder of Bike Rules for Racebrook Tract

Orange Conservation Commission (OCC) decided in 2016 to restrict bicycle riding on the trails at the Racebrook Tract from November 1 to May 1 each year. This will allow the unauthorized trails that have sprung up throughout the area to re-establish new growth and return to their natural condition.

As a reminder, Racebrook Tract is currently closed to all bicycle riding. When it re-opens on May 1, 2021, the OCC reminds users that bike riding is only permitted on OCC-designated trails. Unauthorized trails have caused erosion, destroyed sprouting undergrowth, and harmed the overall beauty of this piece of Orange Town Property.

It is the hope of the OCC that this closure, along with more thoughtful use of the area in the future, will allow this valuable piece of Open Space to recover.

The OCC ask all users of Racebrook Tract, as well as other Town Open Spaces to continue to be good stewards of these beautiful pieces of land by staying on OCC-designated trails, picking up litter, cleaning up after your dogs, and notifying the OCC of fallen trees or other trail obstructions. Please see us on Facebook –Orange Conservation Commission, leave a voice mail at 203-891-4768 or contact any member of the Commission with your observations or concerns.

Youth Services

BY JESSICA SIMONE, MSW, ORANGE YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR

Thank You Volunteers!!!

Orange Youth Services is beyond grateful for the 27 high school student volunteers that have offered a total of 111 hours of their time to assist in organizing the food bank. With numerous food drives/donations during the Holiday Season, we would not have managed as efficiently as we did without their help and dedication. Thank you, thank you!!

“Budget Increase” From Page 10

years of data: the actual Amity budget compared to the actual amount spent, with the difference being a surplus. In the last 4 years alone, there has been over \$10,000,000 in budgeted money – YOUR TAXES – that have been surplus. That’s an average ANNUAL amount of \$2,613,000 in each over the past four years that people in member Towns have been supporting with their taxes.

Not only that, as you can see in the

graph below, the SURPLUS each year dwarfs the amount of the requested budget increase. Which means that in each year, you could have budgeted a 0% increase and STILL had a Surplus!


“The National & local economy are soft and shutdowns remain possible,” emphasized long-time OBOF member Kevin Moffett. “And State revenue support of Towns is uncertain. With these factors in mind, we need to ensure that all budgeted amounts truly reflect actual planned expenditures.”

Chuck Yeager

1923 - 2020

The Pilot Who Broke the Sound Barrier

“Rules are made for people who aren’t willing to make up their own.”



brandyartworks.com

MERRILL OIL

203-833-1911

CHECK FOR DAILY LOW PRICE AT:

www.MerrillOil.com

facebook.com/MerrillOil



C.O.D. Delivery Only
To Keep Prices Down!

Family Based Business
In Woodbridge Since 2015

HOD 1128

The UPS Store

WISHING YOU THE BEST IN 2021
from all of us at The UPS Store 5292!

We Offer:

Mailboxes

Printing

Packaging

UPS, USPS, DHL

Notary

Shredding

Passport Photos

Office Supplies

Check in on Facebook at
our store and receive 10%
OFF your next shipment!

The UPS Store 5292

554 BOSTON POST RD

ORANGE, CT 06477

In the Trader Joe’s Plaza

(203) 799-0433

store5292@theupsstore.com

www.OrangeTownNews.com

We Provide Reliable
Homecare Assistance

Home Health Aides • CNAs • Companions • Homemakers • And More







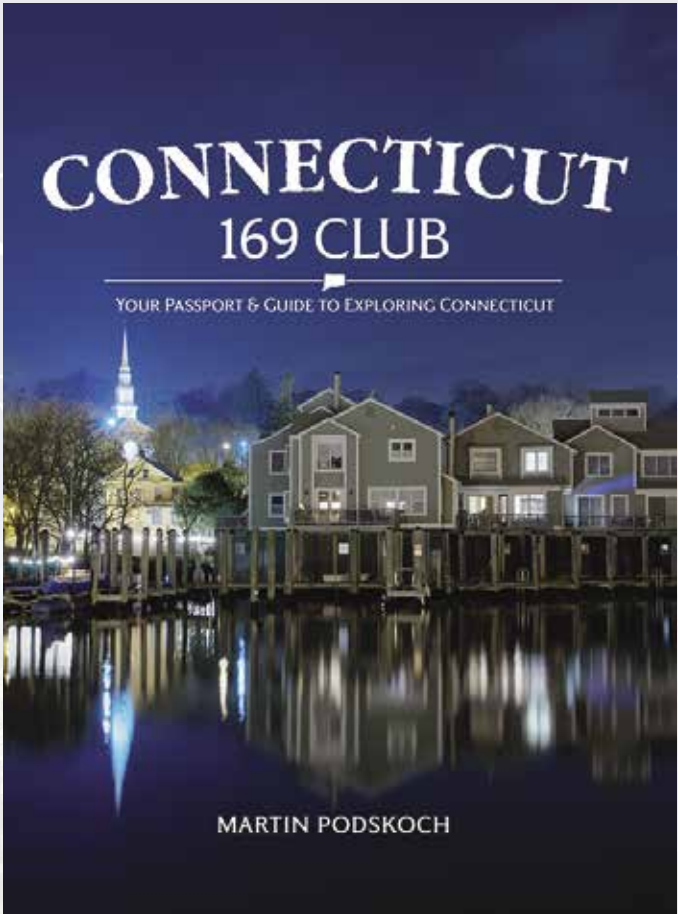
Aides
&
Companions

203-777-1234

Serving Woodbridge, Orange, Milford
and Greater New Haven

CALL US FOR FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION

Licensed - Bonded - Insured



The 169 Club book is available at the Academy Museum at 605 Orange Center Road on Saturdays from 10-3.

Ask the author of the Orange page to sign it for you.



Orange Community Nursery School 4s class enjoyed a fun day in the snow.



Students from Orange Community Nursery School 5s kindergarten readiness class did a virtual holiday performance for families.

RESERVE YOUR AD SPACE TODAY. CALL US AT 203-298-4399.

Call Shelly to schedule your furnace tune up today!

Apple Oil Company

7/24/365

A Full Service Oil Company Providing *Bio Fuel* and *Heating Oil Plus!*



AUTOMATIC OR SAME DAY DELIVERY. CALL IN WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD.

Serving You is Our Core Business



We Install and Service All Brands

Boilers
Furnaces
Hot Water Heaters
Oil Tanks

(203) 934-FUEL (3835)



Buy from your Local Neighbor

Sam Livieri – **Woodbridge** (Owner) • Tony Ferranti – **Orange** (GM)
Ken Crepeau – **Milford** (Service Mgr)
Bob Gambardella – **Orange** (Sales Mgr) call direct at 203-530-6439

Like us on:  

WWW.APPLEOIL.com

S1-0302987
HOD 374

FROM THE SENIOR CENTER

BY DENNIS MARSH
All senior center activities, classes are limited, and trips are canceled. Please check the senior center website at www.orange-ct.gov/782/community-services for further information. Or feel free to call the senior center office at (203) 891-4784.

New Software

During the Covid quarantine we stayed busy. Orange Community Services installed new software. So, come by and receive a key tag to use at the new kiosk which will be in the HPCC front lobby. You will use the key card to sign in for classes, activities and volunteering and other activities.

Virtual Classes

If you would like to participate in David Chandler's Tai Chi via Zoom—call the office with your email and we will ask the instructor to email you an invite.

If you would like to participate in Chair Exercise while at home, visit the Town Website at Orange-ct.gov and under Departments you will see a link to the Senior Center. There you will find the Chair Exercise video, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xk-1I-X6K7jc>. Chair Exercise has resumed Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays at 11:00am. Details are subject to change as warranted.

Classes

In order to begin to reopen the senior center for activities we must adhere to state guidelines. At this point in time, we must wear facial coverages and practice 6 feet of social distancing. All classes must be signed up for in advance in the senior center office. Some classes are coming back, and others are planned to be back:

- **Afghan Ladies** 4th Monday at 1:00pm in Senior Lounge. Next meeting is January 25;
- **Bocce** on hold for the winter;
- **Chair Exercise** Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 11:00am with Anne in the Gym;
- **Fitness** Tuesday at 8:30am with Danielle in Café;
- **Laughter Yoga** meets Wednesday at 11:00am;
- **Yoga Monday** with Andrea at 9:00am in room 3 & 5;
- **Yoga Wednesday** with Andrea at 9:30am in room 3 & 5.

Arts & Crafts with Suzanne

Join us for a fun filled Holiday Arts & Crafts class with Suzanne Anderson on Monday, January 11 at 12:00 noon. Class size is limited to 10 people.

Pre-registration is required. Call 203-891-4784 to sign up.

Book Club via Zoom

The monthly Book Club meeting has moved onto Zoom. If you wish to participate, email Paula Samuel for a Zoom invite at Paula.Samuel7@gmail.com.

Movie of the Month

January 15 at 1:00pm, join us for "Secondhand Lions." A coming-of-age story about a shy, young boy sent by his irresponsible mother to spend the summer with his wealthy, eccentric uncles in Texas. Prepackaged Smartfood will be served. Due to COVID, space is limited to 11. Social distancing and facial covering guidelines must be observed. Call 203-891-4784 to register.

Frozen Meals

There is a special meal program consisting of a box of 5 frozen meals during the COVID-19 pandemic. We can deliver the meals, or you can come by and pick the meals up. Delivery is only available to Orange residents. Call the office to complete an application. A suggested donation of \$3 per meal would be greatly appreciated.

Community Services has an Emergency Food Bank available for Orange residents in need. Call (203) 891-4788 for assistance.

AARP Safe Driving Courses

AARP announced that all in-person AARP activities have been canceled through the end of 2020. AARP Smart Driver online course is an alternative, especially for those who need to renew their car insurance discount. AARP has extended its special 25% off discount through the end of the year. Website: www.aarpdriversafety.org.

Legal Clinic

We are resuming our Legal Clinic services. Attorney Floman DePaola's office will conduct appointments via telephone on the first Wednesday of the month. Appointments will be for 1/2 hour beginning at 9:00am. Please call the senior center at 203-891-4788 to schedule an appointment. We will forward the schedule to Floman DePaola's office who will then contact you at the scheduled time. Please be home for the appointment.

AARP Tax

AARP Tax Program will return starting the first week of February. We will host 2 days: Wednesday and Friday from 9:00am to Noon. Be sure to bring with you last year's tax return.

Clients will go to room 2 and the tax preparers will come in to gather your information and process your return in another room. They will bring the return back to you prior to submitting. Due to AARP COVID requirements clients and volunteer tax preparers are to remain separated.

Remember, we will be maintaining social distance and wearing facial coverings. Seating is limited due to COVID so you will need to register for an appointment at (203) 891-4788.

Trips

It is very hard to predict trips for 2021 with COVID concerns. But I would like to be optimistic that things will be more normal. I would like to offer the members some of the trips that Lilly Tours has to offer.

- **January 19, 2021** — Virtual: Boston Freedom Trail — Friendship Tours — Virtual from home
- **March 22-29, 2021** — America's Music Cities — Collette Tours — Considerable walking
- **May 8, 2021** — New York Food Trip — Lilly Tours — Some Walking
- **June 15, 2021** — Roaring 20s Mystery Trip — Friendship Tours — Minimal walking
- **July 25, 2021** — Baseball Hall of Fame — Lilly Tours — Consider-

- able walking
- **August 10, 2021** — Dancing Dream — ABBA Tribute @ Aqua Turf — Friendship Tours — Minimal walking
- **August 19, 2021** — Switzerland, Austria, Bolivia — Collette Tours — Considerable walking
- **September 1 or 2, 2021** — Amaranthe's Endless Summer — Friendship Tours — Minimal walking
- **September 20, 2021** — Painted Canyons of the West — Collette Tours — Considerable walking
- **September 24, 2021** — Niagara Falls — Lilly Tours — Considerable walking
- **October 6, 2021** — Newport Playhouse Surf & Turf — Lilly Tours — Minimal Walking
- **October ?, 2021** — Oktoberfest @ Kruckers — Friendship Tours — Some walking
- **November 10, 2021** — USO Tribute Show @ Grand Oak Villa — Friendship Tours — Minimal walking
- **December 4, 2021** — Sturbridge Village Christmas by Candlelight — Lilly Tours — Considerable walking
- **December 8, 2021** — Edwards Twins Holiday Show @ Aqua Turf — Friendship Tours — Minimal walking



OVNA
ORANGE
Since 1934

Orange Visiting Nurses Assoc.
Over 80 Years of Service

Recuperate from surgery while receiving physical therapy and nursing services in the comfort of your own home.



Remember to request the Orange VNA upon discharge from the hospital.

- Skilled Nursing
- Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy
- Medical Social Worker
- Home Health Aides
- Wound Care Consultant
- Registered Dietician



A state licensed, town Municipal agency providing cutting edge homecare with a personal touch. Medicare, Medicaid and most major commercial insurance plans accepted.

2017 TOP 25
HHCAHPS
Fazzi

2018 TOP 25
HHCAHPS
Fazzi

605A Orange Center Road, Orange, CT 06477
Phone: (203) 891-4752 • Fax: (203) 891-2169

TOP 100
2016
AGENCY

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

Congregation Or Shalom Events

“OPEN MINDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN DOORS – WHILE KEEPING SOCIALLY DISTANT!”



Congregation Or Shalom

To register for a Zoom event, please see the event information below.

Join Us for Our Weekly Services Morning Minyan

- › Sunday 9:00 AM – Zoomed
- › Monday 8:30 AM – Zoomed
- › Thursday 8:30 AM – Zoomed

Shabbat Services

- › Friday 7:30 PM – Zoomed
- › Saturday 9:30 AM – Zoomed
- › On the first Saturday of the month, we offer an in-person service with limited attendance. It will also be available via Zoom (please call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341 to find out more information).



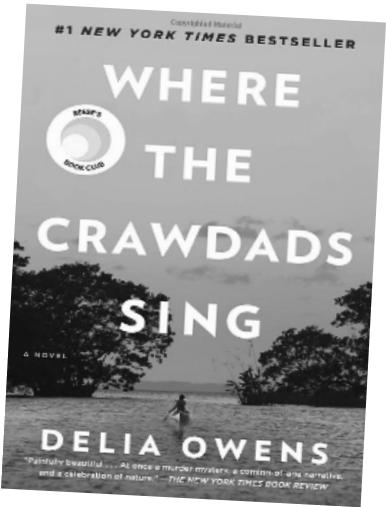
Virtual Learning This Month ZOOM & LEARN!

“MOSES THROUGH THE EYES OF MIDRASH & ART”

Wednesdays, 11–12 Noon. This is a continuing series.

Through the ages, the powerful stories of the Bible have been illuminated in legend and on canvas. In this class, Rabbi Alvin Wainhaus will discuss dramatically different artistic and folkloristic takes on Moses. All Are Welcome!

Please email Coshalom@sbcglobal.net or call the office at 203-799-2341 to register.



Join a New Book Group in 2021!

“Where The Crawdads Sing” by Delia Owens

Thursday, January 14th @ 7pm

Led this month by Prof. Joyce Saltman, our local “Professor of Laughter”. “Where The Crawdads Sing” is an ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. It reminds us that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps. It’s not necessary for participants to

have read the book to enjoy our discussion. Visit our website www.orshalomct.org to register.



Celebrate Tu B’Shvat!

January 28th, @ 7:00 pm

Celebrate with Rabbi Marisa James, Director of Social Justice Programming at Congregation Beit Simchat Torah, NYC. Tu B’Shvat takes place at the full moon as Israel’s almond trees blossom! Learn about the universal message of this little-known holiday with our own Rabbi Marisa James. Rabbi Marisa, who celebrated her Bat Mitzvah at Congregation Or Shalom, has been leading our High Holiday services as our Visiting Rabbi and Cantor. Visit our website www.orshalomct.org to register.

Social Action OR SHALOM SUPPORTS YALE’S COVID FRONTLINE STAFF

As we all know, the rising COVID-19 rate is taking an increasing toll on healthcare workers.



Congregation Or Shalom’s Social Action Committee has therefore begun to reach out to our front-line heroes at Yale New Haven Hospital’s “COVID Floor.” We’ve “adopted” a conference room on

that floor to serve as a drop-off point for fruit baskets, donuts and pizza gift-cards. Each of these expressions of support comes with messages of deep appreciation from our Hebrew School children. If you would like to be involved in this “Mitzvah”, please call the synagogue office at 203-799-2341.

Our Mitzvah Of The Month is collecting school supplies. We will be donating the supplies to JUNTA in New Haven. If you would like to donate, please contact the synagogue office 203-799-2341.

Activities ZUMBA GOLD AT OR SHALOM – Zoomed

Congregation Or Shalom announces the continuation of ZUMBA GOLD. ZUMBA Gold is an easy-to-follow dance movement program that incorporates music from every decade to create an upbeat and fun exercise class. Burn lots of calories, meet new friends, and have a blast. It’s perfect for active older adults who are looking to dance and have a good workout while increasing balance, range of motion and coordination.

Tuesday nights at 7 PM. Contact Robin at zumbarobin@gmail.com or call 203-314-8176 or the synagogue office at 203-799-2341. No experience needed and classes are on a drop-in basis.

Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:15 AM with Danielle Pettit. 10 class punch card/\$70, drop-in class/\$8. Email daniellepettit@yahoo.com or call 203-509-3683 (cell).

205 Old Grassy Hill Road • Orange, CT 06477 • 203-799-2341 • www.orshalomct.org

Congregation Beth El – Keser Israel Events

Children’s Services

Children’s outdoor services, open to families with kids of all ages, are held “Pop-Up Style” on Saturday mornings, weather permitting. To receive the email newsletter that provides updates, email Youth and Family Programming Director Annie Norman-Schiff at anormanschiff@beki.org.

Indoor Services

- › Fridays 6:00 pm inside the main sanctuary

Outdoor Services (weather permitting)

- › Saturdays 9:30 am
- › Sundays 9:00 am**
- › Mondays 5:45 pm**

** also available via Zoom, like other daily services

Blood Drive

On Monday, January 25, from 9 am to 5 pm BEKI hosts a Red Cross blood drive. A free COVID-19 antibody test is included for every donor. Strict health protocols will be in place. Sign up at <https://www.redcrossblood.org>.

Wednesday Schmoozes

January 20 is the first of two programs for Tu BeShevat, the new year of the trees, a conversation about the powerful connections between environmental sustainability and ethical Jewish life. Speakers will be Nigel Savage, President & CEO of Hazon,



Nigel Savage

the Jewish lab for sustainability, and Shamu Sadeh, Managing Director of Education at Hazon’s Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center, located on 400 acres in Falls Village, CT.



Gavriel Savit

On January 27, the guest speaker is Caroline Scanlan from New Haven’s Urban Resources Initiative. URI is the

See “BEKI” On Page 15

HOUSES OF WORSHIP EVENTS

Our Building Is Closed, But Our Community Is Open!

Please join us live on Zoom!
To register for a Zoom event, please
call the office at (203) 389-2111.

Happening This Weekend Friday

- › 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat - on Zoom and live stream only

Saturday

- › 9:00 am Bread & Torah - on Zoom
- › 10:00 am Shabbat service - on Zoom and live stream only
- › 5:30 pm Havdalah Harmonics - Join us on Zoom for this new twice/monthly gathering.

Sunday

- › Sunday School classes on Zoom

Upcoming Classes & Events

Sunday, January 17 at 10:00am on Zoom
Commemorating Martin Luther King, Jr. 2021: A Year of a Criminal Justice Reform? The Top 10 Trends Driving Change



Michael Lawlor, J.D.

CBJ presents Michael P. Lawlor, J.D., Professor of Criminal Justice at University of New Haven, former prosecutor, CT state legislator, and Governor's Criminal Justice advisor. Lawlor's discussion will explore central themes found in two award-winning

films, "13th," and "Just Mercy". Viewing of both films is recommended prior to attendance.*

"13th," director Ava DuVernay's documentary about the U.S. prison system, examines how the country's history of racial inequality drives the high rate of incarceration in America. "Just Mercy," based on the work of civil rights attorney Bryan Stevenson, tells the true story of Walter McMillian, who, with the help of young defense attorney Stevenson, appeals his murder conviction. A widely acclaimed expert, Lawlor has served on numerous national criminal justice reform commissions and led the push for CT's same-sex civil union legislation. His current focus is on researching, writing, and collaborating with students on policy reforms. We are fortunate to be able to learn about Lawlor's work and how the nation might carry Dr. King's democratic vision into the future.

*"13th" is streaming on Netflix. "Just Mercy" is streaming on Amazon Prime.

Saturday Evening January 23
and Sunday January 24
Power of Ten



This year, our popular Power of Ten fundraiser will return on Zoom. We hope you will enjoy the diversity of the schedule and the opportunity to choose multiple offerings in four different time slots.

Sunday, January 31, 2021
at 10 am on Zoom
Covid 19 Update

David Banach, MD, MPH

Dr. Banach, an infectious disease specialist and epidemiologist, is a Lecturer in Epidemiology at the Yale Schools of Medicine and Public Health, Associate Professor of Medicine and the Head of Infection Prevention at UCONN Health, as well as co-chair of the Science Subcommittee of the state's Vaccine Advisory Group which makes vaccine distribution recommendations to Governor Lamont. Please join us as Dr. Banach discusses current issues in combatting the pandemic.

Wednesday, February 3,
2021 at 7 pm on Zoom
James Baldwin's The Fire Next Time

Discussion Led by Sami Ginzberg

Sami Ginzberg will lead a discussion on this critically acclaimed book as part of a series on anti-racism. Sami Ginzburg is an English teacher at Wilbur Cross High School and is completing her 6th year certificate in Education with a focus on Social Justice.

Thursday, February 11, 2021
at 7 pm on Zoom
What is Jewish Poetry? A discussion based upon original poems

Barry Zaret MD

Barry Zaret's third book of poetry "A House of Many Rooms" will be published in 2021. Dr. Zaret will read and discuss several poems containing Jewish themes, liturgical/text references, and metaphors. The poems will be drawn from Dr. Zaret's first two books as well as unpublished works from his new book. The poems will be distributed before the session. The two earlier books "Journeys" and "When You Can't Do Any More" will be avail-

able for sale at the Congregation B'nai Jacob gift shop.

CBJ Winter Coat Collection for Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen (DESK)

-All sizes welcome. Coats should be in good, clean condition.

-A collection box is located between the doors, outside the synagogue office, for contactless drop-off during CBJ office hours.

-If you would like to donate other winter gear, please check the DESK website for guidelines.

-THANK YOU for your generosity and compassion!

CBJ Continues Support for the Homeless During COVID: Helping the Homeless of Columbus House

During the month of January CBJ is partnering with United Church on the Green to collect funds for Columbus House, since the COVID19 pandemic prevents us from hosting the men in Abraham's Tent. Please open your hearts and give generously so that we can help those who are homeless, especially during these freezing winter months.

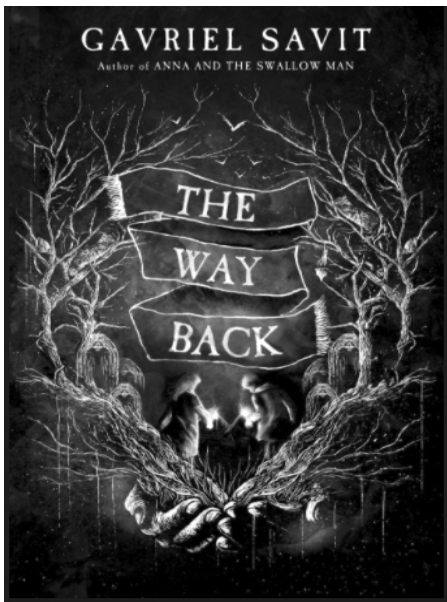
Please donate online or send a check to the synagogue.

ZOOM SCHEDULE of weekly services and classes:

- › Morning Minyan at 7:45am
- › Evening Minyan at 6:00pm (Sunday-Thursday)
- › Shabbat Shmooze at 6:00pm Friday
- › Kabbalat Shabbat at 6:30pm Friday
- › Bread & Torah at 9:00am Saturday
- › Shabbat Morning at 10:00am Saturday

203-389-2111 info@bnaijacob.org/BnaiJacob.org • Congregation B'nai Jacob, 75 Rimmon Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525

"BEKI" From Page 14



Steve Werlin

university not-for-profit partnership that plants free street trees and creates park areas all over New Haven.

On February 3, Gavriel Savit, a

New York Times Bestselling author, will talk about his newest Young Adult novel, "The Way Back," which is a National Book Award finalist. The story follows the spooky adventures of two 19th century Jewish kids, Bluma and Yehuda Leib, as they travel from the little shtetl of Tupik deep into the Far Country, the land of Death and demons.

On February 10, Steve Werlin, Executive Director of Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen [DESK], will talk about feeding people during this pandemic and about DESK's plans for its new three-story building on State Street.

From 8 to 9 pm on Zoom, BEKI Schmoozes include a presentation and

time for questions. To request the link, email office@beki.org.

Purim Celebration

On Thursday, February 25 from 4:00 to 5:30 pm, BEKI will host a Costume Parade and Car-Nival in the parking lot. There will be prizes, surprises, and a chance to pick up Shalach Manot orders. The reading of Megilat Esther will be at 6:30 pm in person and on Zoom, beginning with "spotlights" of costumes, and will be repeated at 7:00 am Friday morning, February 26. For details, email office@beki.org.

Located at 85 Harrison Street (corner of Whalley Avenue - Route 63 - in Westville)

CASE MEMORIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

The Case Memorial Library is here to serve the community. Library doors are open as follows:

- › Monday through Saturday: 10 a.m. to 12 noon
- › Monday and Thursday evenings: 5-7 p.m.

Masks are required at all times while you are in the building. Study and meeting rooms are not available and there is limited seating. We ask everyone to observe social distancing.

We are currently providing the following services:

- › Our public computers may be used on a first-come, first-served basis when we are open. At other times, they may be used by appointment. Call 203-891-2170 or email reference@casememoriallibrary.org to make an appointment. Time slots for computer appointments are Monday through Saturday, 2-3 p.m. and 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- › Holds can be placed on library materials through our online catalog, by phone, or by email. When the items you request are available, we will call you to schedule a curbside pickup or you can come in to pick up the items. Hours for curbside pickup are Monday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- › Printing is available.
- › Copiers are available.

We have online programs that are free and open to the public.

EVENTS FOR ADULTS
Virtual Author Talk
Free the Beaches: The Story of Ned Coll and the Battle for America’s Most Exclusive Shoreline
Monday, January 25, 7 p.m.

Free the Beaches by Andrew W. Kahrl is the story of a controversial protester who fought decades ago to open Connecticut’s beaches for out-of-towners, including minorities and

the urban poor. Ned Coll’s legacy illuminates how our nation’s fragile coasts have become more exclusive and also suffered greater environmental destruction in the process. Join us for a talk with Andrew Kahrl on Zoom – please note that registration is required, as for online security reasons only registered attendees will be able to attend this event. Registered attendees will receive a Zoom link via email before the event.

Online Mystery Book Discussion
Thursday, February 11, 1 p.m.

Join Librarian Samantha Jasulavic for an online discussion of *Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz. This discussion will take place on Zoom — please note that registration is required, as for online security reasons only registered attendees will be able to attend this event. Registered attendees will receive a Zoom link via email before the event. The registrant’s name as displayed on Zoom must match the name used for registration in order to guarantee admission. Please call the library or contact Samantha to place a hold on a copy of the book.

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN
Magnetic Field Sensory Bottles
Wednesday, January 27

For children in grades 1-3. Make a mesmerizing sensory bottle with the magic of magnet science! Participants must supply their own duct tape. Please note: participants’ skin may come into contact with MICR toner. Also, this activity requires the use of neodymium magnets, which are extremely strong. Adult supervision is necessary. Registration is required.

Tween Take and Make: Hot Chocolate Mug Cake
Wednesday, January 27



176 Tyler City Road, Orange, CT 06477
203-891-2170 • www.casememoriallibrary.org

For tweens in grades 4-6. Make your own personal-sized cake in your microwave! We’ll provide the mug, the recipe, and the dry ingredients. Please note that the cake contains flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking powder, milk, and the flavorless oil of your choosing.

Take the Library to Your Child Day: Take & Make Bread in a Bag Kits
Saturday, February 6

For children of all ages and their families. Don’t spend Take the Library to Your Child Day “loafing” around! Register for a Bread in a Bag kit and follow our kid-friendly recipe for a freshly baked treat. Registration is required and will open on Saturday, January 16 at 7:00 a.m. Adult supervision is required for the entire duration of this activity.

Online 3-5-Year-Olds Storytime
Mondays, January 25, February 1 and 8, 10:30 a.m.

For children ages 3-5. Preschoolers are invited to join Ms. Michelle for stories, music, and movement! Registration is required. Please note: All registrants with a valid email address will be sent a link for storytime. For security reasons, we are unable to ad-

mit non-registrants to this program.

Online Lapsit Storytime
Tuesdays, January 19 and 26, February 2 and 9, 10:30 a.m.

For babies and toddlers up to two years old. Little ones and their caregivers are invited to this virtual storytime with Ms. Michelle! We’ll play with puppets, sing our favorite songs, explore books together, and more. Registration is required. Please note: All registrants with a valid email address will be sent a link for storytime. For security reasons, we are unable to admit non-registrants to this program.

Online 2-Year-Old Storytime
Wednesdays, January 20 and 27, February 2 and 9, 10:30 a.m.

For children ages 2-3. Experience music and movement, dive into picture books, and sing your favorite songs with Ms. Michelle! Registration is required. Please note: All registrants with a valid email address will be sent a link for storytime. For security reasons, we are unable to admit non-registrants to this program.

The Library will be closed Monday, January 18, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Starting A New Tradition

The Friends of the Case Memorial Library, volunteers dedicated to promoting the library in the community, have come up with a Library Resolution for 2021. Everyone acknowledges that familiar New Year’s resolutions, like diet and exercise, are destined to falter after one or two months. The Friends of the Library propose an alternative healthy resolution which has lifetime benefits. Start a new tradition. Incorporate the library into your life. The library offers enjoyable and enriching opportunities to exercise your brain, excite your curiosity, embrace new ideas or expand your horizons... and it’s all free!

The first lending library was opened in Petersborough, New Hampshire in 1833. It consisted of a collection of books owned by clerical or educated residents which could be freely borrowed by all inhabitants of the town. During the Depression, the library was often credited with being the peoples’ university.

Today, libraries continue to house collections of books, periodicals and audio-visual materials for circulation to the public. Computer networks are available for job seekers; informational and entertaining programs, as well as book discussion groups, are offered for adults. Craft workshops and music


programs engage young adults and story time enthralls children. Participation in these programs provides opportunities for meeting residents of other neighborhoods and making new friends. Libraries have also evolved into cultural community centers. They provide meeting rooms for local organizations, after school tutoring or ESL instruction.

To support special programs, the Friends solicit gently used books for book sales held several times a year. Looking for an interesting and rewarding organization to join? Go to the library website at <http://www.casememoriallibrary.org> and become a mem-

ber of the Friends’ group or consider joining the Friends’ Board.

Due to the pandemic, the library is currently open abbreviated hours, 10:00-12:00 noon Monday-Saturday. Most of the activities posted above are now on hold, but library participation may be kept active by checking the website for programs offered via Zoom or checking out new books and media acquisitions. During library visits, thank the dedicated staff for their creative endeavors to continue to inform, educate and entertain patrons during the pandemic. Libraries are such a grand and benevolent tradition. Become part of it in 2021.

SERVICE DIRECTORY



SUSAN NOONAN
Justice of the Peace

Weddings, Vow Renewals & Civil Union Ceremonies

66 Derby Avenue, (RT 34) Orange, CT 06477
Cell: 203.376.8941 Office: 203.397.1616
snoonan66@optonline.net

OFFERING HOME CARE



I can provide personal care, transportation to doctors, shopping etc. Light housekeeping, meal preparation & medication reminders. Companion and overnight care.

For more information call Kathy at 203-808-9640

You Call, We Haul, SAME DAY!

TAMARO
Oil Corporation

38 MARSH HILL RD., ORANGE, CT 06477



Orange's oil company

TAMAROIL.COM 203-795-FUEL(3835)

Orange Historical Society
The Academy Museum
Antique Shop



Open Saturdays 10-3
www.OrangeHistory.org
605 Orange Center Rd.
203-795-3106

GT REMODELING LLC.

REPAIRS - WINDOWS - DOORS - DECKS

LUKE O'BRIEN
(203) 526-7925
CONNREMODELING@GMAIL.COM

LICENSED & INSURED - HIC. 0615342

Orange Town News

Orange's Exclusive Newspaper
Mailed Free to Every Home in Orange
Mailed Free to Every Business in Orange & Milford

YOUR AD HERE
Call Today: **203-298-4399**

DONALD F. OLIVER
HOME IMPROVEMENT, LLC



SPECIALIZING IN
VINYL SIDING • ROOFING • WINDOWS • ADDITIONS
Four Generations of Experience

175 Surrey Drive • Orange, CT 06477
203-795-4404

LICENSE #873494 FULLY INSURED

J.M. Kriz DESIGN • PRINT • WEB



J M K R I Z . C O M



Sharon Hine
Landscapes, llc

CT HIC-0639623

Landscape Services & Perennial Gardens
Design & Installation • Property Maintenance

Clean-ups • Mulch • Lawns • Trees • Shrubs • Fences • Stone Work
NOFA/Organic Land Care • Free Consultation • Insured • References

203.668.6315 sharonlandscapes@gmail.com
www.sharonhinelandscapes.com

Business Cards Ads As Little As \$30 Per Issue

2 Issues for \$80 or 5 Issues for \$150 • Reach Every Home and Business in Orange!

Send Your Card &Payment to: Orange Town News, P.O. Box 1126 Orange, CT 06477 or pay online at www.OrangeTownNews.com



OLL 2021 SPRING SEASON REGISTRATION
TEE BALL, BASEBALL, CHALLENGER and SOFTBALL

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! GO TO
www.OrangeCTLittleLeague.com

2021 REGISTRATION FEE

Tee Ball	\$160*
Hardball	\$200*
Softball	\$180
Challenger	\$ 50

*Early Bird Discount of \$20 for Tee Ball (\$140) and Hardball (\$180) if paid before 2/1/2021.
Complete the online registration and pay by credit card.
NEW REGISTRANTS must provide a copy/ image of the player's birth certificate.
Large families only pay registration for the older two players.
2021 season starts in April – based on weather conditions and state health regulations.

NOTE: THERE IS NO WALK-IN REGISTRATION OR REGISTRATION ACCEPTED AFTER THE EVALUATIONS FOR BASEBALL OR SOFTBALL (Early March TBD for players Age 9 and above)
Every effort shall be made to maintain the number of leagues & the age makeup of Leagues based on the local rules. Player assignments are made with considerations of age, player skill, and parent requests, however the Player Agent, in consultation with Vice President may (based upon annual registration numbers) propose adjustments to the number of Leagues and player assignments.

www.OrangeCTLittleLeague.com

Questions? Email Lauren Blair at: ollctweb@gmail.com

The COVID Vaccine Is Coming for Vets

The COVID vaccine is currently being distributed to 37 VA locations around the country. The logistics to move 300 million doses to where they need to be (Operation Warp Speed) are overwhelming, but the Department of Veterans Affairs has plans in hand for us.

The first thing to remember is that you likely won't be first in line to get the vaccine. Until you get the two shots (spaced weeks apart), your job is to stay healthy. Just because you get the first shot doesn't mean you're in the clear. And depending how things are going in your area, you'll likely need to keep wearing a mask and doing social distancing, even after you've had both doses.

The order of vaccination is still being organized, but it will likely start with medical staff and residents of long-term care facilities, and those with high-risk medical conditions.

Once they move down the list, the vaccines will be available to all veterans who get VA health care. The fine print says they'll contact you when it's available, but it can't hurt to check with your health team to make sure they have your info. If you're not signed up for VA health care, you can apply online with VA form 10-10EZ.

Other tidbits:
If they come out with multiple vaccines, no, you won't be able to pick which one you get, at least not initially when there are shortages.

If you haven't had a flu shot but plan to get one, do it now. You likely will not be able to take the COVID vaccine too soon after getting a flu shot. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is still deciding about this.

For more info on the vaccines and VA, go to www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine. Scroll down for lots of information and resources.



by Freddy Groves

ARTS & LEISURE



Amity Regional High School Student Photography Featured

Amity student, Riley Palazzo of Orange, received some fantastic news on December 10! She is the first Amity Regional High School student who has ever been chosen to have her work shown in The 2020 Drexel University High School Photography Contest Exhibition. There were over 2100 photographs received, 771 individual students submitted, 348 schools represented and work submitted by 39 states. This year the whole exhibition is online at www.drexelphotocontest.com.

Her teacher Lisa Toto says, “I was beaming with pride when I realized Riley’s accomplishment and the students in the Photo III Class cheered with excitement for their classmate! The kids somehow always rise to the top and teach me more than I teach them. It’s just an amazing thing to realize and I feel its importance often.” Please take the time and look at Riley’s photography along with many other students from across the country. Congratulations, Riley Palazzo!

Did You Know?

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, excessive alcohol consumption is responsible for one in 10 deaths among working-age adults in the United States. The Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which are produced jointly every five years by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Agriculture, advise adults about healthy alcohol consumption. According to the guidelines, women should consume no more than one drink per day while men should limit their consumption to two drinks per day or less. Consuming more alcohol than the guidelines suggest can prove fatal, as the CDC notes that binge drinking is responsible for almost half the deaths related to excessive alcohol consumption.

According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 250 million preschool children are vitamin A deficient. That’s a significant concern, as children who are not getting enough vitamin A are at greater risk for severe

visual impairment and blindness. Vitamin A deficiency also increases a child’s risk of severe illness, and even death, from common childhood infections, including diarrheal disease and measles. The WHO notes that breast milk is a natural source of vitamin A and urges mothers of infants to breastfeed to ensure children get ample amounts of vitamin A. Parents of older children can look to various healthy foods to make sure youngsters are getting enough vitamin A. The National Institutes of Health notes that foods such as sweet potatoes, carrots and fortified cereals typically contain substantial amounts of vitamin A. The U.S. National Library of Medicine reports that various animal products, including meat, fish, poultry, and dairy products, also contain significant amounts of vitamin A. Parents can speak with their children’s pediatricians to determine the healthiest, most effective ways to ensure their youngsters are getting enough vitamin A.

Tom Fatone has spent most of his youth and adult life, traveling around Connecticut in search of the **Signs of Connecticut**, that adorn the lawns of Town Halls throughout our state. Each location was researched, finding some abandoned in basements and closets of town buildings, long forgotten. The book is a delightful addition to the **Connecticut 169** which gives a detailed description of the 169 towns in Connecticut. Tom’s book is easy and enjoyable to read giving a brief history of each town. Both books can be purchased from the Orange Historical Society on Saturdays, 10-3 at the Academy Museum, 605 Orange Center Road.

The Orange Historical Society wishes to thank all of the granting organizations, individuals, local organizations and foundations who, in 2020, have generously donated to help us follow our mission as a historical society. For this year we thank the Fred A. DeLuca Foundation, The Orange Community Women, The Orange Foundation, Spectrum Associates of Milford, Connecticut Humanities, The Great Give and the Book of Remembrance donations and the State of Connecticut for the STEAP Grant.

The Academy Antique Shop Is Open

605 Orange Center Road

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES,
DOLLS, CHINA, BOOKS, ETC.

Time to get out and shop the small store, safety precautions in place.

For information call 203-795-3106
Open every Saturday 10-3.

Check out our website: www.orangehistory.org.
Make us your charity on <https://smile.amazon.com>.

HISTORY CORNER

BY GINNY REINHARD

Connecticut in 1812...

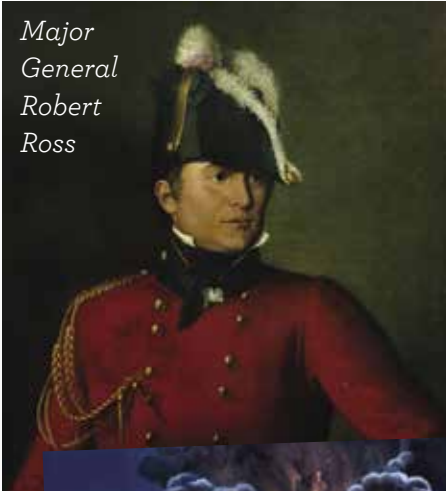
The mention of the War of 1812 resounded in the halls of the Senate on the evening of January 6, 2021, a day that should have been one to rejoice that the nation's voters' word would be heard as each state electoral college vote would be read and a new president confirmed. So, what was the War of 1812? This is known as a conflict fought between Britain and the United States, each having allies taking sides.

In Europe, Britain, a naval power, and France, the land power were at war with each other with each one trying to cripple the economy of the other with blockades and confiscation of trade goods. In the meantime, the United States was trying to stay neutral having been at war quite recently with the Revolution. Britain declared orders to treat, as an enemy, any ships that tried to enter a French port without first stopping at a British port to pay a fee and get a license. America felt that Britain was attempting to control all of their commerce and that its independence was in jeopardy.

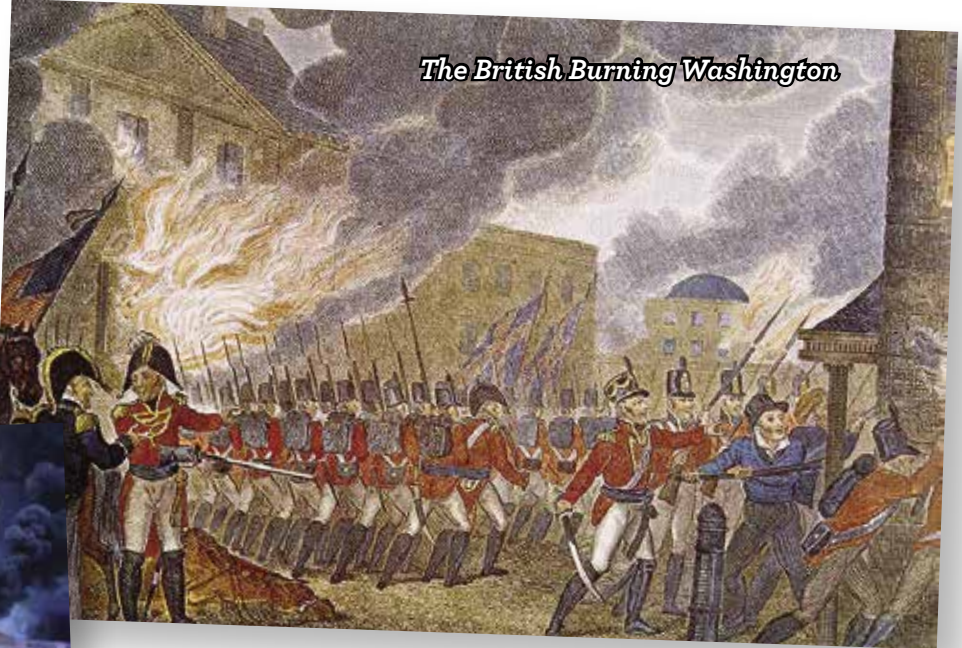
The United States retaliated with the Embargo Act forbidding trade with any foreign nation which obviously adversely affected all regions resulting in a depression all but paralyzing our economy. Smuggling along the Canadian border flourished. Impressment, which involved the right to search commercial ships for British deserters, was the most egregious of the issues between the two countries. Because of poor food, hard work and harsh discipline aboard the English ships, sailors were deserting, ending up in America. Although England did not search American Navy ships, she did claim the right to search private vessels which America deemed as an insult to their sovereignty.

Since the division of land, after the American Revolution, was not resolved to everyone's satisfaction, Canadian and British merchants were displeased with the loss of trade routes in the Ohio River valley. The area became the home to a large indigenous population many of whom had helped the British during that war. Britain maintained that a state be created south and west of Lake Erie, to which the United States refused fearing that they would lose their future farming lands. Eyeing Canadian farm land, land-hungry farmers called for the conquest of Canada.

All of this resulted in the eruption of a small yet persuasive political faction known as the War Hawks, led by Henry Clay of Kentucky, elected to Congress in 1810. The War Hawks demanded war with Britain. In common with general New England sentiment,



Major General Robert Ross



The British Burning Washington



The Capitol in 1814

the entire Connecticut Congressional delegation voted against declaration of war denouncing "Mr. Madison's War." A quote as follows is a bit chilling, one of the scathing denunciations from the press and pulpit:

"Come on then, fellow citizens, cheerfully submit to the total destruction of your commerce, cheerfully submit to war taxes, gird on your swords, fight manfully, the immortal honor of Madison & Co. is the stake you contend for." So, in June, 1812, the United States declared war on Britain.

When James Madison issued a call for the use of militia troops against Canada, CT Governor Matthew Griswold refused to permit its militia to leave the state, stating that the declaration was unconstitutional. The governor and assembly did all they could to hamper Madison's administration. However, 1800 officers and men were in the Regular Army which the assembly considered to be local defense with a large militia alerted for duty. The war did not affect Connecticut directly until April 1813 when a strong British fleet established a tight blockade of Long Island sound. In June of that year an American schooner, Eagle, was outfitted as a torpedo vessel with her decks looking innocently like a trader allowing itself to be captured while the crew escaped. Three hours later, it blew up killing and injuring the British sailors.

Connecticut's trade was severely reduced as the British ships carefully watched every river although one packet,* the Juno, successfully ran from New York to New London without detection throughout the war. The risk of capture was high as accounts of American vessels being seized by British

ships was extremely hazardous. Only two attacks were made in Connecticut, one up the Connecticut River where twenty small ships were destroyed in April of 1814 and the other against Stonington in August of that same year. The ship's Captain Hardy sent a message to the townspeople saying he did not want to hurt them, giving "an hour to get out of town."

The town possessed two 18-pound cannons and one 4 pounder but lacking more than that, the citizens still chose to resist. They burned tar barrels as a signal to the Connecticut militia who summarily repulsed the British landing attempt resulting in three days of furious bombardment from their five ships, a total it is said to have been at least 60 tons of metal! Connecticut continued to be involved in this war so much so that in 1815 a three-week convention was convened, vigorously condemning many Madison administration policies, restating New England's grievances and recommending certain remedies, including individual state control of defense. One of the 7 proposed amendments to the Constitution was to limit the president to one term, forbidding any state to provide two successive presidents.

The war years of 1812-1815 saw New Haven sharing the experience of the decline of international shipping and the slow-down of coast shipping under the pressure of British blockades. New Haven built harbor fortifications against the fear of enemy raids but none came about. Ships were rotting in every cove while British warships

maintained a relentless patrol of Long Island Sound, seizing packets as the dared to try a run from New Haven or New London to New York. On June 29, 1813, The Register reported that a man had been apprehended and committed to goal (jail) in New Haven on the charge of having supplied the enemy with provisions.

So, what about the United State's Capitol building? How did or does it fit into the War of 1812? On August 24, 1814, as the War raged on, invading British troops, led by Major General Robert Ross, marched into Washington and set fire to the U.S. Capitol building, the President's mansion (White House), the Treasury Building and the Department of War, leaving most buildings in ruins. The fire damaged the Senate wing, the oldest part of the building which had wooden floors and housed combustible collections of books and manuscripts of the Library of Congress located there. The heat was so intense that the chamber's marble columns were reduced to the lime in their contents. James Madison arranged for Congress to meet temporarily in Blodgett's Hotel when the session returned. Luckily, the members were not in attendance at the time of the burning. The business of Congress continued uninterrupted, holding future meetings in a brick building built to house them temporarily. After major reconstruction, the Capitol Building once again stood on the hill in 1819, just 202 years ago.

*a ship traveling between ports at regular intervals.



SIMPLE AND RELIABLE.

CT HOD. 142

Our experienced service technicians are never on a sales commission. Our delivery drivers will treat your property as if it were their own. Our family takes pride in providing the best customer service in our industry.

We are Tamaro Oil Corporation, and we've been serving Orange for Four Generations. Call today to discover how our family can earn your trust in business.

203-795-FUEL

TAMARO
Oil Corporation

TamaroOil.com